



# *Preparing for Life Together*

**Anglican Parish of Hunters Hill**

***All Saints' Church***

Cnr Ferry & Ambrose Street's, Hunters Hill

***St Mark's Church***

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*“To get a driving licence now requires over 100 hours of preparation. So perhaps if we desire a marriage licence we should at least invest as much time as we would before we drive a car?”*

Marriage is a life-long commitment of not only being together, but learning how to be together.

Taking time before (or even after) we are married to ensure that we are able to do this is critical if we desire a marriage where each person is able to enrich and respond to each other, growing in tenderness and understanding.

The Anglican Parish of Hunters Hill desires that every couple married in our Parish has the opportunity to be well-prepared for their marriage—which is so much more than the day on which you say “I do”.

We provide two important options for preparation, which are included in the total package of your marriage.

### **1. Prepare / Enrich**

PREPARE/ENRICH is a customised couple assessment completed online that identifies a couple's strength and growth areas. Based on a couple's assessment results, a trained facilitator provides feedback sessions in which the facilitator helps the couple discuss and understand their results.

*“This was a really simple way for us to explore and understand our relationship. It gave us some tools to assist our communication, and importantly to deal with those areas of difference and disagreement” (John, 34).*

*“We weren't sure about going to a workshop, and were even afraid of what might occur! However after spending time with other couples, hearing their stories, sharing ours, and having the amazing guidance of Derek and Ellen, we were so glad we attended. It was probably the most sensible and practical thing we did in preparing for our marriage”*

*(Luke & Danielle 2015).*

### **2. Day Workshops**

Throughout the year our Parish hosts a number of one day workshops. Several couples attend this workshop where they spend time as a group, and as individual couples, reflecting on areas such as:

- Family of origin;
- Communication;
- Conflict;
- Expectations;
- Setting Goals.

Our Parish engages Derek and Ellen Yule to facilitate the day. Derek and Ellen have been married since 1973, and bring a wealth of experience and professionalism to the day, and have hosted numerous gatherings in their 30(+) years of facilitation.

In 2017 we are planning for days on 4th March, 12th August and 18th November. We meet at St Mark's Church Hall, Figtree Rd, Hunters Hill from 9:00am to 5:30pm. Lunch and morning tea are provided.

When you meet with the clergy you will have a chance to discuss these further, and choose to opt in to one or both of these.