



Personal Details

Full NameRichard Francis James
 Date of Birth.....12th September 1958
 Marital Status.....Married to Judy
 ChildrenSarah 32 (Tristan, Rowan 3, Leon 10 weeks),
 Matthew 30 (Rosalind), Peter 30 (Josie)
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 Websitewww.GreatChurchWedding.com

Education

Newington College Stanmore - H.S.C. 1971 - 1976
 Sydney College of Chiropractic - D.C. (Diploma of Chiropractic)..... 1977 - 1980
 Moore Theological College Sydney - B.Th. (Honour's 2nd Class)..... 1984 - 1986
 Moore Theological College Sydney - Dip.A.Theol. 1987

Employment

Wedding Evangelist - St. Thomas' North Sydney2009 - 2020
 Rector - St. David's Forestville 1997 - 2009
 Evangelistically Focussed Priest - St. John's Shaughnessy, Vancouver, Canada..... 1993 - 1997
 Associate Minister - St. George's Engadine..... 1990 - 1993
 Assistant Minister - St. John's Parramatta 1988 - 1989
 Chiropractor - Wollongong 1981 – 1983
 Student Worker (PT) Wollongong University..... 1983
 Spinal Unit "Patient Care" - North Shore Hospital 1981
 Taxi Driver (PT) - Sydney Deluxe Cabs 1978 - 1980
 Milkman home delivery (PT) - Balgowlah..... 1977 - 1979
 Retail Gentlemen's Clothing (PT) - Fletcher Jones Warringah Mall..... 1975 - 1977

Relevant Experience

Wollongong

Student Worker - first Anglican Student worker at Wollongong University (PT) Primarily training students in one to one walk up evangelism.

Engadine

Baptism Ministry - developing B.E.V. (Baptism Evangelistic Visitation) and training others in evangelising the many baptism enquiries.

D Day - A parish wide Major Event attended by our Bishop - outlining the parishes 'Directions for the Decade' - with 95% attendance of Parishioners.

Vancouver

Minister - Evening Service (growing to 500 attendees)

Teaching - Evangelism as guest lecturer - Regent College, Vancouver

Liturgical Committee - member of the diocese of New Westminster

Forestville

Rector - By God's grace during 12 years as rector, the church grew fourfold, and from 1 to 4 full time staff. - (2 Clergy, Youth Minister and Rector's PA/Office Manager)

Ministers Fraternal - revived, hosted and chaired the Forestville's Minister's Fraternal for 11 years.

Drive Thru Church - pioneered Australia's 1st Drive Thru Church on the main arterial road to the city from the Northern Beaches. 10,000 cars passed the church in the 3 hours of the morning outreach for 3 days at a time. Cars would drive into our circular driveway, receive a tape, and continue to work. The tapes were some of my evangelistic talks. This significantly raised our visibility to 1000's of non-church goers. Established a team of 30 parishioners to man street signs, produce and package tapes (later CDs), a prayer team and a refreshments team for the volunteers.

Church Fete Evangelism - Our fete drew over 2000 people. I started a 10 member Evangelism team to share the gospel with visitors during the fete. We used a number of creative ways to provide opportunities for gospel conversations.

Police Chaplain - Northern Beaches - for 10 years

Invaluable opportunities included

1. Having my finger on the pulse of the many issues of the local community invisible to most which enhanced my ministry to the non-Christians in my parish.
2. Providing confidential counsel for police officers, for 'tragedy' and 'critical incidents' debriefing. Being 'in confidence' they could talk about, and confess things they could not, or feared to raise with their fellow or senior officers.
3. Liaising with the LAC (Local Area Commander) providing insights and feedback on the state of his command. Further, eventually gaining his confidence and providing him advice and counsel.
4. Attended the Annual Police Chaplains conference at the Goulburn Police academy learning skills and networking with over 60 chaplains of every denomination.

Anglican Media board member for 20 years - supporting and advising the CEO. We pursue the best methods of communication with Parishes, representing our Diocese, navigating the secular Media and Journalists, and managing any diocesan or societal crisis.

Northern Region Council member for 12 years chaired by our regional Bishop.

Relevant Experience - continued

North Sydney

Marriage Evangelism - started a fulltime evangelism ministry to non-Christian couples wanting to be married in a church. This became self-funding exclusively from the couple's wedding fees. Effectively they paid me to evangelise them, and then over our 11 years invited an estimated 65,000 guests to preach the gospel to.

Wedding Evangelism Liturgy - over time, faithful to the prayer book, adapted the whole service to communicate the gospel.

Teaching Courses - for all couples in groups in our home

Marriage Course - 600+ couples in our home (5 weeks)

Closer to God Course - 500+ couples in our home (6 weeks)

I have developed my Closer to God Course over 30 years. It involves teaching from the Gospel of Mark and allows for any and every question a person wants to ask.

It operates on the acceptance that everyone comes from a different faith and at various of varying 'Closeness to God'. (included many Catholics, Agnostics, Atheists and some Moslems, Hindus, Buddhists, Jews,)

I use visual aids, tell many stories, and include a good dose of humour.

Both courses are held in our home. Couples have greatly appreciated the 'home' rather than 'church hall' context.

We provide warm and generous hospitality. (my wife's home cooking is awesome)

Discipling - New Believers - primarily young men to establish them in their faith

Mentor - I have befriended and mentored a number of clergy as they navigate the complexities and discouragements of full-time ministry. I encourage

1. the 1st priority of a faithful and daily devotional life
2. loving their spouse and strengthening their marriage
3. prioritising love of their children before parish demands
4. *then* discussing their ministry issues.

Web Master - I created and maintained www.GreatChurchWedding.com

Database - I created an extensive and comprehensive Couple's database. Maintaining and updating content daily, ensuring accurate records of all details.

Desirable Character Attributes

Work

1. I value a work ethic which aims for professional and user-friendly practices
2. I am a reliable, hardworking, self-starter, who completes all tasks on time
3. I approach my work with initiative, enthusiasm and a passion for what I do
4. I am a natural lateral thinker and enjoy creative problem solving
5. Being punctual is important to me and always a priority
6. I am good with administration, finding tasks easy and enjoyable
7. I can Initiate, Execute, Develop and Administrate complex ministry endeavours
8. I respond to all appropriate communication the same day or within 24 hours.

Relationships

1. I have a warm, friendly, and positive personality
2. I am able to disarm, earn trust, and befriend most people
3. I have a lighthearted and engaging sense of humour
4. I work well within teams having been on staff of 3 large multi-staff churches
5. I enjoy sharing the gospel with anyone, of any faith, and at any stage of understanding
6. I love teaching the bible with clarity, relevance and realistic applications to everyday life
7. Having dealt with so many couples, I believe my emotional intelligence and insight have matured significantly

Some life Highlights

A School Prefect	1976
RSM (Regimental Sargent Major) of an 800 boys cadet corps.....	1976
Winner - GPS Regatta 1 st Eight.....	1976
Winner - National Rowing Championship Eight	1976
Rotary Youth Leadership Award.....	1978
Evangelist for 4 years in Canada's largest Anglican Church	1993 - 1997
New Inventor Award - British Columbia Inventors' Conference	1996
Pioneering Australia's first Drive-Thru Church.....	1997 - 2006
Pioneering Australia's first Fulltime Wedding Evangelism Ministry	2009 - Present
Developing a self-funded Christian 'Business Model' for Evangelism.....	2009 - Present

Interests

My marriage to Judy, regular getting together with immediate family, and very close friends
 'Fixing things' / inventions / engineering / machines
 Power of advertising, television, movies, social media and their societal influence
 Study of cultural change globally and within Australia
 Current world news/events and Modern History
 Modern Technology and Computers – I am highly proficient with Apple Macs/iPhones/etc

Referees

The Revd. Canon Simon Manchester - Rector St. Thomas (retired) North Sydney
simon@simonmanchester.com 9420 3661

Mr Peter Ryan - Nominator St. David's Forestville - Director Cornhill Training - Moore College
peter.ryan@cornhillsydney.com.au 0400 476 343

The Revd. Dr. John Woodhouse – Locum North Sydney – Former Principal Moore College
jww@moore.edu.au 0400 476 343

The Revd. Canon David Kenneth Short - Rector St. John's Vancouver
david@sivan.org 0011 1 5584400