

# NEW DIRECTIONS



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Bringing news, views and inspiration to the Presbyterian Church of Queensland



Ruth and David Jones will take up ministry at Ann Street PC in March

## IN THIS ISSUE ...

Central Church Ipswich reaches out to homeless P. 3

Freely ye have received, freely give P. 5

An Adventure with God P. 11

150 years of ministry on the Darling Downs P. 12

Children's moving tribute to Bruce Harrison P. 13

Presbyterians driving down Ann Street through Brisbane would have noticed over the last few years a new building being developed next to the Ann Street Presbyterian Church. The building of thirty floors is now complete. On the first floor, it houses the church hall, various meeting rooms for use by the congregation, as well as the offices of the Ann Street Presbyterian Church Trust and the Peirson Memorial Trust. The latter provides assistance to young people and their families in the Bundaberg area.

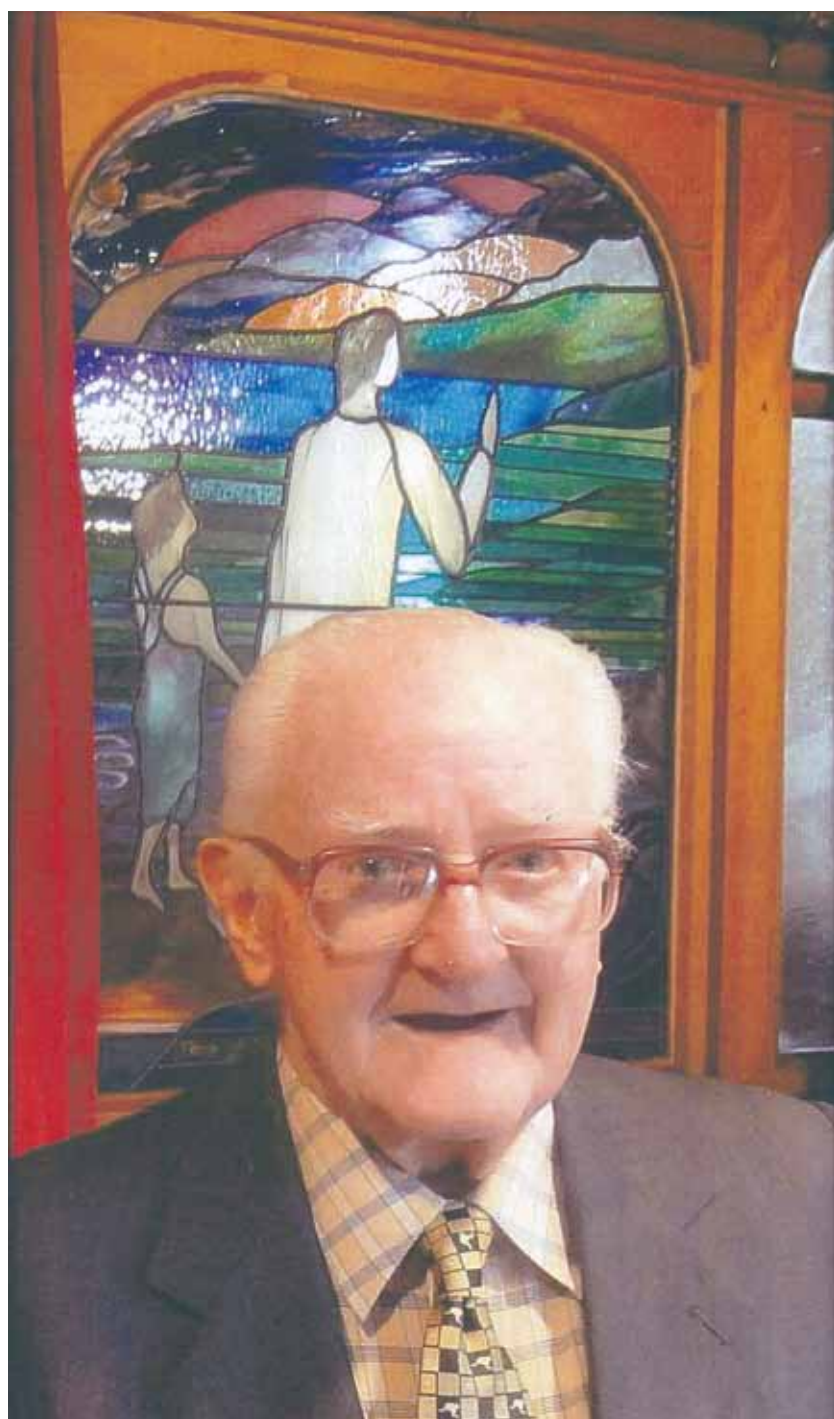
The church is directly linked to the tower building on two levels and the congregation enjoys secure car parking in the basement. An important feature is the building forecourt between the church and the tower. It serves as the street access to the church and tower building and is used most Sundays for after-service morning teas. Wedding cars and hearses are able to park in the forecourt.

The hall on the first floor features a semi-commercial kitchen and a substantial terrace along the back boundary. The interior decoration of the new building is in progress and there is still much work to be done in and around the church building to complete the project. The church is to be air conditioned and the grounds are to be landscaped. Static and electronic signs will play an important part in identifying the church and providing information about events.

Since Rev. Archie MacNicol's demission early in 2011, Ann Street has been vacant with Rev. Ron Clark acting as Interim Moderator. We are grateful to our Lord that during this time church attendance has remained strong. In 2013 Very Rev. David Jones, past Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and Minister in Hobart, accepted a call from Ann Street. Members are now looking forward in happy anticipation to his arrival in early March.



# Ann Street farewells three prominent Presbyterians



**Bruce McCabe Sharpe: 02.01.1917–24.06.2013**

ON 3 July, Ann Street commemorated the life of Bruce Sharpe, a member at Ann Street since November 1933.

Bruce came from Casino and moved to Brisbane with his family in 1932, at the age of fifteen.

After attending Valley Presbyterian, St Andrew's Presbyterian and Albert Street Methodist, he decided to join the Ann Street congregation.

He quickly settled in and commenced serving. In 1934 he joined the Youth Fellowship and in 1935 the Church Choir.

In these early years Bruce became interested in missionary work in outback Australia and overseas.

He corresponded with Nance Smith in the New Hebrides (Vanuatu) who made him aware of the dire need of support for a bright child who could not afford school books.

Bruce read the letter he received to the choir and a fund was established to support the child through her schooling. That interest in missionaries continued and in later years he organised fundraising events for the Helen Margaret Young Memorial Missionary Fund.

In 1946 Bruce married his beloved Evelyn (nee McGinn) and they had four children, Graham, Allan, Merrill and Wendy.

Bruce was elected to the Committee of Management in 1961 and was inducted as an Elder in 1962. In 1981 he became a Trustee and served

as Chairman in 1987 and 1988. He also served as Church Officer, being appointed in 1982. His organisation of working bees is legendary.

Bruce will be remembered as a faithful Elder who served his Lord and the congregation selflessly.

On the Trust, he took a great interest in the Heytesbury Home, offering love and support to the children housed there. He and Evelyn were very popular with the children, being affectionately known as Ma and Pa.

Bruce had a varied career. He worked in clothing manufacturing as a cloth cutter; he owned a grocery shop; and eventually retired as supervisor of insurance agents at T & G. He diligently provided for his family. Evelyn died in October 2011 and Bruce missed her very much in his last years.

Bruce jokingly always said that he had two main wishes in life, to see Queensland win the Sheffield Shield and to see the development of the Ann Street property. He saw both, albeit the completed development of Ann Street in photos.

We salute this man, diminutive in size but huge in stature. He served his Lord, his Church and his community with love and without self interest.

In the words of Elder Ron Pilkington, "Well done good and faithful servant".



**Hon Bruce McPherson CBE: 23.09.1936–07.10.2013**

The Hon. Bruce McPherson, long-time member of Ann Street, died on 7 October.

Bruce McPherson was born at Melmoth in South Africa and was educated at the Universities of Natal and Cambridge.

Migrating to Australia in 1960, he became a Lecturer in Law at the University of Queensland, earned the first PhD awarded by the University for research in law, and later, in 2004 for services to the law, was awarded an LLD by that university. He authored three books on various aspects of law and wrote numerous articles covering a range of legal subjects.

Admitted to the Bar in 1963, he practiced as a barrister and was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court in 1982 and an inaugural member of the Court of Appeal in 1991.

He retired in 2006 and continued to serve as a Judge of Appeal in both Fiji and the Solomon Islands.

Bruce was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1988. He also served in many capacities, for example as Senior Puisne Judge, Chairman of the Queensland Law Reform Commission and Chairman of the Judicial Conference of Australia at various times. Notably he also was a President of the Christian Lawyers Society.

His association with Ann Street extended over many years, having married his wife Jackie in 1975 in the Ann Street Church. He had three sons from that marriage.

Bruce was elected a Trustee of both the Ann Street and Peirson Memorial Trusts in 1988 and was also appointed Chairman in that year. He

served in that capacity until his death. Naturally, he brought his extensive legal knowledge to the work of these Trusts and guided both Trusts through many complex situations. He will be especially remembered for his guidance and leadership in completing the lease agreement over the new building, Westminster Hall. His contribution was invaluable and the building is a visible legacy to his efforts in the development of the Trust property.

Bruce also had a fine sense of humour. Once, when asked whether a photo of him could be published, he responded "only if I am not smiling", because the press loved to publish photos of smiling judges after they had passed a heavy sentence on someone. Our photo shows Bruce (left) with Rev. Norm Barker – Bruce is smiling.



**Agnes Petherick: 13.09.1923 – 20.10.2013**

Agnes' life centered around the Presbyterian Church as a gifted musician and organiser. She devoted her life to the church she loved and served.

Graduating as a teacher in both Domestic Science and Academic work, she served in state schools at Woolloowin, Pomona, Charleville and Gatton.

Wherever she went, she soon was appointed to use her skills both in church and community.

Married to Stan in 1944, she served with him at Gatton Agricultural College until Stan retired in 1982. She had a profound influence on students at the College where she was actively involved for nearly 40 years and is affectionately remembered.

Naturally, she linked up with women's work both in the church and community, also serving on the Board of St. Andrew's Hospital at Toowoomba, involvement with St. Andrew's War Memorial Hospital in Brisbane and for 14 years was a member of the PIM Committee.

Her main love centered around the Presbyterian Women's Association. She was the President of the Ann Street PWA for many years. She was very active in local, state wide and interstate work – meetings, conferences, visiting groups – encouragement was her forte.

Her family of three children was never neglected, ensuring all children received a university education. She was keenly interested in all the academic and sporting activities of her children and grand-children.

She is the only lady to be awarded Life Membership of the PWA in Queensland – a richly deserved honour.

For a few years, declining health curtailed her involvement but did not affect her continued interest.

Following a few months of intense suffering she has now entered her rest.

## Calling all ADF Chaplains (past and present)

AS PART of centenary celebrations to mark the formation of the Royal Australian Army Chaplains' Department, Chaplains marched on Anzac Day 2013 as a formed body in many capital cities. Following a successful march in Brisbane, the Anzac Day March Committee has generously granted permission for Chaplains to march each year as a formed body in the parade. All serving and retired Chaplains are invited and encouraged to participate in this year's march. For further information please contact CHAP David Niven via email at padre.dave@live.com or on mob 0422 968 828.



# Central Church Ipswich reaches out to the 'Homeless'

by Anneke Bull, Chair, Ipswich Assist



AS A city church, Central Church Ipswich comes face to face with homelessness every week. That's why we undertook hosting a community event aimed at empowering homeless and at-risk people to get the help and support they need.

Central Church, along with Ipswich Assist (its benevolent ministry arm), has identified a need to connect with the homeless and the needy. It has been noted over time that the homeless and needy are hungry for Christ.

This led us to host the annual 'Streetlinks' event on 2 October, previously run by the Ipswich City Council. Ipswich Assist Chairperson, Anneke Bull, said, "God has blessed us by giving this opportunity, as the Council could no longer host this event, due to budget cuts".

The aim of this year's event was threefold:

- (1) to share the love of God and demonstrate the Gospel in action to all who came on the day;
- (2) to provide information and assistance to the homeless and high risk population of the Ipswich area; and
- (3) to give local agencies the opportunity to network.

The church has been able to share God's love through serving and connecting with various service providers, both Government and non-government.

There were 37 agencies on the day, all of whom appreciated our willingness to serve. Over 130 people in need also attended and were loved by the greeting team who looked after all the guests.

We received wonderful support from PresCare, who catered for everyone with a mouth-watering morning tea and lunch. The Ipswich City Council provided a grant to assist with the cost of the day. DrugArm provided tea and coffee for all. We were also thankful for donations made by our wider church community.

About 10% of the church members volunteered for this event. They did this through prayer, making contacts with service agencies, liaising with Councillors, Members of Parliament, the Council and PresCare - plus dropping of leaflets, sorting out donations (2 can appeal), preparing the stalls, registration, reception, assembling greeter's bags, being greeters, serving meals to the stall holders and guests, and the manning of the church and Ipswich Assist stall.

We were very aware of the work of the Spirit of God on the day as volunteers in the Prayer Chapel were approached with many prayer requests and were able to pray for us as the day progressed. We also had a number of people making enquiries about the church. And let's not forget that the free Bibles went quickly.

After reviewing the feedback from the stall holders and volunteers it was evident they felt welcomed and supported, and would like to do it again next year.

Right: Advertising for Streetlinks

## STREETLINKS

A day to link up with services, access information and resources while enjoying community, free meals and other activities.

**EVERYTHING IS FREE**

**WEDNESDAY  
2 OCTOBER '13**

10 am to 2 pm  
Central Church Ipswich  
Cnr Limestone & Gordon Streets  
Ipswich (across from Coles)

**LINK UP WITH...**

- Medical Information
- Accommodation Information
- Legal Information
- Clothing
- Emergency Relief
- Employment Services
- ...and lots more.

For further information or to help bring some hope and joy into the lives of people in need, contact Paul Blake on Phone (07) 3413 1070 or Email [manager@ipswichassist.org.au](mailto:manager@ipswichassist.org.au).  
Presented by Ipswich Assist and Central Church Ipswich

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

IT'S THAT time of year again.

We're going to lose weight, exercise more, get out of debt, stick to a budget, stop smoking, save for the future and spend more time with family.

We make resolutions because we want to bring change to bear on our circumstances. We want to improve ourselves and our quality of life. And the top resolutions, for most people, tend to revolve around the same three poles: money, health and family.

But what would a set of New Year's resolutions look like for you and your church, your role as a leader, or simply as someone who wants to live a life of strategic Kingdom investment?

Though many more could be added, here are 15 to consider:

1. **Pray more.**  
So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD ... 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit', says the LORD Almighty (Zechariah 4:6, NIV).
2. **Invest in my spiritual gift(s).**  
Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress (I Timothy 4:14-15, NIV).
3. **Get more intentional about evangelism.**  
I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some (I Corinthians 9:22, NIV).
4. **Care for myself spiritually.**  
Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me (Philippians 3:12, NIV).
5. **Make the tough decisions I know are best.**  
And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. However, I consider my life worth

nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me — the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace (Acts 20:22-24, NIV).

### 6. **Confront debilitating patterns of sin.**

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us (Hebrews 12:1, NIV).

### 7. **Do the hard work needed to build community.**

If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over (Matthew 18:15, NIV).

### 8. **Keep in touch with contemporary culture.**

From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders. All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take (I Chronicles 12:32, NLT).

### 9. **Quit comparing myself to other Christians, other leaders and other churches.**

Turning his head, Peter noticed the disciple Jesus loved following right behind. When Peter noticed him, he asked Jesus, "Master, what's going to happen to him?" Jesus said, "If I want him to live until I come again, what's that to you? You — follow me." That is how the rumor got out among the brothers that this disciple wouldn't die. But that is not what Jesus said. He simply said, "If I want him to live until I come again, what's that to you?" (John 21:20-23, Msg)

### 10. **Read more.**

Timothy, please come as soon as you can. When you come, be sure to ... bring my books. (II Timothy 4:9,13 NLT)

### 11. **Prioritize my family.**

A leader must be well-thought-of, committed to his wife, ... attentive to his own children and having their respect. For if someone is

unable to handle his own affairs, how can he take care of God's church? (I Timothy 3:2-5, Msg)

### 12. **Refuse to use ministry to satisfy my personal ambition.**

Should you then seek great things for yourself? Seek them not (Jeremiah 45:5, NIV).

### 13. **Love people, not just crowds.**

If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate. If I speak God's Word with power, revealing all his mysteries and making everything plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, "Jump," and it jumps, but I don't love, I'm nothing. If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love (I Corinthians 13:1-3, Msg).

### 14. **Be more open to change.**

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? (Isaiah 43:19, NIV)

### 15. **Stay focused on the vision.**

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:42-47, NIV).

James Emery White

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## NEW DIRECTIONS

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Fax: (07) 3852 1564 Phone: (07) 3251 4100

Email: [newdirections@pcq.org.au](mailto:newdirections@pcq.org.au)

Please note: If quoting other people's work, that work should be acknowledged in your article.

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## Letters to the Editor

We would encourage all who contribute to Letters to the Editor to do so in the spirit of Christian love and grace and to deal with issues involved, not personalities. The Editorial Committee reserves the right to decide which letters to publish. Please limit letters to 500 words and send to [newdirections@pcq.org.au](mailto:newdirections@pcq.org.au).

What has happened to the church? "The Church and its message is irrelevant to today's society" is a statement frequently heard in many places.

This and similar statements have challenged me to prayerfully examine the situation. Certainly the environment in which we live is not only non-Christian but is frequently in open rebellion against God. In discussions in the media of social and environmental issues He is rarely mentioned. The "salt" and "light", which our Lord Jesus called His church to be, is making little impact. Has the salt lost its savour? Is the light overshadowed by the world's darkness?

Of course God is always at work and is calling men and women to Himself, but is the church proving to be any more effective as His instrument than was Israel in Old Testament times? As I prayerfully consider the situation, I feel very much like Nehemiah as he wept over Jerusalem. Its walls, which were a testimony to God's salvation, were broken down and its gates, a testimony of praise to the Almighty, were burned with fire. (cf Isaiah 60:18).

Several things can be said about the church today -

**We no longer believe the Bible nor consider it to be the inerrant Word of God.** We're willing to say and believe that "it contains the Word of God" but we are the judges of what is and what isn't His Word. We treat our Bible as being what man says about God rather than as God revealing Himself and speaking to man. I was taught that and believed it when I committed my life to Christ. But God intervened and revealed the Truth to me. The satanic attack on the Bible starts at the very foundation - Genesis 1. "In the beginning God". He proceeds to tell us how He created the universe in six days and He alone was there. Creation is no concern of "science". It is theological (Hebrews 11:3). We either believe Him or we don't. If we do not believe Genesis 1-11, we have no grounds for believing the resurrection of Christ or any other part of the Bible. We need to heed Revelation 22:18-19.

The late Dr James Montgomery Boice, who led the devotional sessions of the PCQ Assembly in 1999, focused his ministry on giving all glory to God. Romans 11:33-36 was the theme of

his life work and he believed that the means of giving all glory to God was to know and obey His Word. "Living by the Book" is the title of his exposition of Psalm 119 and surely if God is going to accomplish anything through us we must **live by the Book**.

**We no longer trust God to provide the resources for His ministry.** Somehow we've moved away from prayerfully seeking God's will, placing our full dependence upon Him and trusting **Him** to supply what is needed to accomplish His will.

We act as though we don't really need Him because we have enough of our own intelligence to work things out for ourselves. So we press ahead with our plans. We train people in fundraising and then we ask God to bless our plan. We ignore Proverbs 3:5-6, "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths*".

Anyone who does not agree with what we are planning, and the way we do things, is muted and moved aside, often in an unsavoury manner. Even the experience and God-given wisdom of retired ministers are no longer valued, even though God, who gave them the gifts of ministry, continues to use them in His own way for His glory.

Support of missionaries is a good example of how WE do things. A local church recognises the calling of God and the Spirit-given gifts, and recommends the candidates' acceptance by the relevant mission board. Instead of accepting the candidates as members of the congregation's pastoral team and undertaking their financial support, the candidates are then told to raise their own support to the required level before they can go forward. I am yet to find any Biblical support for this policy. Do we ask ministers to find their own support before they take up a call? Years ago Hudson Taylor said, "God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply". God is still the same today, and in 60 years of ministry, 40 of them as a missionary, I can testify that Taylor's words are true. GOD has NEVER failed.

**The Holy Spirit is a leader, not a follower!** "*Unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain who build it*" (Psalm 127:1).

We must ask ourselves the question

**- Do we really believe that God is sovereign or do we require that He conform to our rules?**

The hymn says:

*"The Lord is King! Who then shall dare resist His will, distrust His care Or murmur at His wise decrees Or doubt His royal promises!"*

Can we not go back to the days when a praying congregation clearly sees the will of God, moves forward as He directs, claims His promises and trusts Him to supply all that is needed from within that church family, instead of following the world's practice of wanting everything at once and going into huge debt?

What has happened to Sunday School superintendents and teachers, youth leaders, musicians and others who gladly glorified and served God by volunteering their time? Why do we replace them with paid workers? Surely, a very important role of church leaders is to help Christian members of their congregations to recognise their God-given gifts and to help them develop those gifts.

Yes, I am an octogenarian, a "has been", a sinner far from perfect. I can say with the Psalmist, "*I have gone astray like a lost sheep, seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments*" (Psalm 119:176), but I know my Lord and trust Him with my whole heart. I am available for whatever He wants of me. My heart bleeds for people seemingly or ignorantly happy at the prospect of spending eternity in hell.

Let us Church people fall down and humble ourselves before our God, confess our sins and ask Him to help us separate from the world, to restore our saltiness and light. There is never a place in the church for legalistic structure, for politicking or pragmatism. We have the message the world so desperately needs. Christ's return seems imminent and we don't have much time!

**If the church and Christ's message of salvation through repentance and faith, the Gospel He preached, are to again become relevant to a world speeding to destruction we need to listen to God, to honour His Word, to seek His will, to make ourselves unreservedly available to Him and trust Him to accomplish HIS plan.**

Keith Black



# GRASS-ROOTS REFLECTIONS

## The X-Factor of church life

Most of us agree that hand-written letters, home-cooked meals, and hand-crafted products have a special 'x' factor that their machine-derived counterparts simply cannot replicate. But what is this 'x' factor?

In preparation for our Christmas Carols night, a number of the talented ladies in our church devoted an inordinate amount of time and energy making hand-crafted gifts, as a means of fundraising for a particular ministry. I must say that I was greatly impressed by the quality of their labors, and many of the customers at the Carols night were more than delighted with their acquisitions. But, when the material and time input costs were taken into account, the profits only marginally outstripped the cost of production. Any self-respecting accountant would consider such an exercise 'unprofitable'—even futile! In fact, I was beginning to believe it may have been more 'efficient' to sell pre-made Chinese products or even donate the money directly. Maybe the 'x' factor was superfluous when taking into account the greater objective of God's kingdom. After all, if an efficient outcome for God's kingdom is the goal, then surely we must take the most the efficacious route available?

Most Christian churches genuinely want to present the gospel in the best possible light, and as such they desire to convey it in a manner unimpeded by cultural 'cringe factors'. However this 'desire' to engage the culture on its own terms, makes a subtle provision for the message's authenticity to be disempowered by the method.

This was recently drawn to my attention when a friend related to me her experience at a Christmas Carols event, organized by a large neighbouring church. The well-intended leadership, believing they had to compete with the many other well-run carols events in the area, decided to employ professionals to run major elements of the event: professional musicians, fireworks experts and commercial catering contractors. Although the event appeared to run seamlessly and the crowds were doubtless entertained, my friend could not help feeling something was missing—something raw, something authentic. If all the necessary ingredients of a good outreach event were included in this beautifully orchestrated event, why then did my sincere Christian friend feel so disenchanted? Could it be attributed to that elusive 'x' factor again?

According to Moore's Law, the power of technology doubles every 18 months; allegedly fuelled by the desire to be more efficient, profitable etc. With the growing trend to interface technology with human functions, the divide between humans and the mechanistic systems they create is becoming increasingly blurred. As such it would be naïve to think that this increasing reliance on technology has no effect on humanity's perception of reality.

As early as the 1920s, the philosopher Martin Buber had identified the consequences of this emerging trend. In his 1923 book 'I-thou', he offered a penetrating critique of the issues at stake. Buber identified two kinds of human relationships: I-thou and I-it. The I-thou is an authentic concrete existential encounter between two 'persons' (divine or human). The I-it is a relationship with oneself through the medium of a non-personal object, the 'it'. The problem arises when humans confuse the 'thou' with the 'it', which inevitably results in other people becoming 'its', or objects, which exist for the benefit of the 'I' self. Personhood is no longer valued; the other human self is realistically viewed as an object which simply becomes a means to an end; even if the means is validated by divine ends. Buber argued that this paradigm not only devalued human existence, but the meaning of all existence itself! Of course, more than eighty years on, the increasing reliance on technology only serves to exacerbate this.

I fear that many well-meaning church leaders uncritically, and therefore unwittingly, adopt methods or practices that depersonalize people. When terms like efficiency, viability, profitability and excellence (that nebulous standard to which we must all aspire) tend to drive the agenda of church life, a subtle devaluing of relationships is potentially inclined to follow.

However, when I reflect on the fundamental principles of Christian existence and Church life as set forth in the Scriptures, I witness the highest and most excellent virtue of 'love' animating the logic and life of Christianity (1 Cor 13). I suspect that the 'x'-factor which makes hand-written letters, home-cooked meals, and hand-made products more special than their machine-produced counterparts, is not some mysterious element at all; it is love—raw and simple. These things, crafted with the human touch, bear the marks of love; they have been created by love, with the intention of becoming instruments of love. Love is the essence of God, and by extension love is the essence of all authentic relationships. Love may not always be efficient, viable or profitable, but in Paul's words it is a 'more excellent way'—God's way!

Rowland Lowther



## Do you have any early photographs?



Thank you to Harry Curtis from Millmerran for sending in this photograph of Rev. David Henry for Church Archives. If anyone has any photos or documents relating to the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, the Archives would be happy to receive them. Any names and dates which would help identify them would also be appreciated. Copies or good quality scans can be sent or we have the facilities here to scan and return them.



# Freely ye have received, freely give

by Deac. Dianne Parker, Archives

IT IS over eighty years since the death of W. R. Black. Many people in our church today may not have heard of him, or know much about him, although they may have heard his name in connection with various Church projects.

The entire Queensland Church has been blessed by his far-sighted generosity and since Church Union the Uniting Church has also benefited greatly. W. R. Black lived out the truth of the verse in the heading above which he acknowledged as the motivation for his generosity which was intended to be an example to encourage others to give too.

The Editorial in the September issue of "The Presbyterian Outlook" 1930 opens as follows:

*The Presbyterian Church of Queensland has lost from her militant ranks a man whom many generations will call blessed. There is a word which fits the Presbyterian character and describes its devotion to tasks delegated to it by constituted authority. The word is "Diligence". We can think of none better as we fumble feebly amid the shadow that has fallen on our Church for something by which to epitomize the spirit and service of the late William Robert Black. He was diligent almost to the point of obsession in gathering wealth, and he succeeded by scrupulously honourable and painstaking methods.*

The legacy which W. R. Black left to the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, both financially and by his exemplary life, reflects the truth of these words penned at his death. He is the only person with a black granite gravestone erected by the Presbyterian Church of Queensland and this remains an imposing sight in the Toowong Cemetery. The inscription reads:

*Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.*

*The righteous sheweth mercy and giveth.*

He arrived in Maryborough (Queensland) from Cookstown, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland as an assisted immigrant on the ship *Silver Eagle* in 1880.

Like many migrants, before and since, he took the only work available to him - the hard physical labouring tasks of timber felling and fencing.

However the fit young farmer brought, along with his work ethic, copious amounts of energy, determination and a vision for what he as a young man could achieve if he worked hard.

Within five years of his arrival in Australia he went to Brisbane where he initially worked for a coal delivery merchant. Through sheer determination, after twelve months he bought his own horse and dray and began business for himself. Fifteen months later there were fifteen horses and drays.

His next step was to buy lighters and launches to carry coal on the river and he ended up with six steam launches and twenty coal lighters at work. Mr Black said that he had no difficulty in getting trade, but financing his constantly enlarging business and requisite plant was difficult. He understood the difficulties of raising needed finance.

His next step up the business ladder was to buy 1600 acres of land at Bundamba where he opened a colliery which was set up with electric haulage, fans, pumps and coal cutting machinery. His output increased to 600 tons per day - the largest output in any single colliery in the State. He later bought the Caledonian and Abermain collieries and spent 8,000 pounds on a new railway siding and

40,000 pounds on a new shaft and machinery. He cared for his staff and made sure that their working conditions were as good as they could be.

His own needs were modest and there is no evidence of the trappings of wealth in the simple lifestyle which he led. At one point the electoral roll indicates his sister kept house for him but his later years were spent in rooms.

He has been called a philanthropist and so he was, but his manner of life and his style of giving are nothing like the 21st century concept of one.

He always listened to requests made to him for help and if he gave money, it was always with the challenge that the people who requested the help do their own part as well. He believed that gifts on a pound for pound basis, or other ratios of giving, created a wider circle of interest and attracted the support of others.

This was certainly borne out in the newspaper articles I have read which recorded his gifts to many and varied areas of need. His giving was done without fanfare.

It was when he decided to retire that his energies were focused on what he would do with his large fortune - his principle of responsible usage of God's gifts was applied even after his death. The bequest to the Queensland church was tied up for twenty one years to be invested and to be allowed to grow before the church could use it.

One story which was told in the *Queensland Prohibitionist* was that of the building of the Canberra Hotel which was opened on 20 July 1929.

The Prohibition League wanted an acceptable office space and their State Superintendent approached Mr Black for help to achieve this. Mr Black encouraged him to see about



William Robert Black – 1859-1930

purchasing the existing Temperance Hall and offered 10,000 pounds towards the purchase as well as a pound for pound subsidy on all funds raised.

The Hall was obtained for much less than that because of the terms of agreement drawn up.

In addition, because it came with adjacent vacant land, Mr Black issued a challenge to build a Temperance Hotel on the land, offering 15,000 pounds if the Treasurer of the organization would give 6,000 and others another 3,000. In the end Mr Black gave 50,000 pounds or almost half of the cost of erecting the Canberra Hotel.

It played a prominent part in Brisbane's life until it was sold and was the most successful hotel in Brisbane in its time. A gold key to the Canberra Hotel, presented to Mr Black when it was opened, is in the Archives collection.

In Mr Black's opinion the world's greatest treasure was its children and he wanted all children to have the opportunity to be equipped to fight the battle of life.

His generosity to local committees led to the opening of the Warwick schools of Scots and PGC, Fairholme College in Toowoomba and Thornburgh and Blackheath in Charters Towers. Sunday Schools throughout the State benefited from his generosity and a special Ministry to Youth department was established. Emmanuel College where young men studied for the ministry was endowed by W. R. Black as well.

Churches such as St Andrew's Cairns also benefited from his generosity as did the Australian Inland Mission and our own Home Missions Department.

In the Spring Hill area he supported Deaconess May Walker's ministry and funded the building of the Spring Hill Mission Hall on the corner of Fortescue Road and Wedd Street.

Deaconess Walker's ministry was to the destitute in the Spring Hill area, then a slum with many families in difficult situations, deserted wives, children at risk and prostitution. His concern for the widowed and orphaned resulted in the gifting of homes and land so that these vulnerable people could find a safe

place where they could be cared for.

The Salvation Army also received the generous gift of a farm, and money for its upkeep, from Mr Black.

These are only some of the causes he supported but it is obvious that he was as careful with the distribution of his wealth as he had been with its accumulation. Nothing was wasted nor was it spent on himself.

The residue of his estate, over 180,000 pounds (equivalent to \$6.5 million today) after various gifts had been made, went to the Presbyterian Church of Queensland and was to remain untouched for twenty-one years.

That money was to be used for something which was a passion of his - Church Extension, and other matters as decided by the Assembly.

In an article published in the *Outlook* of 1931, after the General Assembly received a Memorial Minute, this comment is recorded:

*Church Extension was little less than a passion with him and this sprang, not simply from loyalty to an institution in which he had been reared, but from his deep conviction that the Church is the Body of Christ, through which is to be achieved the will of Christ for the welfare and salvation of man, and against which the gates of hell shall never prevail. But his gifts to the Church for these varied purposes were not meant to make lighter for the rest of us the duty of supporting the Church's enterprises, rather he hoped that we should attain to a grander conception of the Church's function, and place ourselves and our means at its disposal with a readier mind. He felt that he was digging channels for the Church's more vigorous life, and revealing to others, especially to men of wealth, what splendid opportunities for serving God and man were open also to them.*

The language may be old-fashioned but the intent remains as relevant today as it was in 1931.

Where is our focus as individuals and as a church? Are we making sure of the foundations? Are we placing ourselves at His disposal?

We too have been given much - much is required of us too.

[Sourced from PCQ Archives and newspaper accounts of the day]

## Pray, Live, Serve .... but what about the things I will miss?

by Naomi Reed



Naomi Reed

TWO YEARS ago, Darren and I and the boys spent two months back in Nepal.

It wasn't a long time but it was long enough to re-connect deeply with our friends, our church, our community and the places we called home.

We loved it. It was also long enough to begin to miss certain things about Australia ... like lettuce and hot showers and the washing machine and electricity.

During our final week in Nepal, as we shopped in Kathmandu, visited friends and caught tuk-tuks through busy bazaars, our conversations included reference to the things we were missing.

"It will be nice to eat an apple again", said one of the boys.

"It will be nice to be warm again", said another, pulling his beanie down over his head.

"I'm going to go to IGA and buy bread and lettuce and ice cream", I said, thinking out loud and wondering whether I should splurge, and buy an avocado as well.

And then, of course, we arrived back home in Australia.

We unpacked five bags; we had a long hot shower; we used the washing machine and it was all very nice. Then we went to the supermarket and I did buy bread and lettuce and avocado, which was also very nice - perfect in a sandwich. Then we went back and bought Cadbury chocolate and ice cream, which was also very nice - perfect on a hot summer's evening on our back deck.

For about a week, everything tasted better - sharper, richer, sweeter and crunchier than it had before, purely because we hadn't eaten those foods for two months.

The electricity stayed on and we kept commenting on how bright the lights were. In Kathmandu, we had been using candles, while everyone else around us struggled through twelve hours of power cuts each day. So back in Australia, it seemed very novel and extravagant. Imagine having electricity all day!

And then slowly the novelty wore off. We stopped commenting on the electricity. It didn't seem so amazing. I stopped thinking about lettuce and I stopped being thankful for the washing machine. Everything was once again easy and attainable and unremarkable. There is a gift called 'need'.

Then, the following Easter Sunday, we celebrated the resurrection of Jesus in the Cathedral Cave at Jenolan Caves. Lyndal, Mel and I performed a drama, re-enacting the women at the tomb. It was the perfect setting for it.

But the thing that struck me the most was that the women were in need. They were in terrible, hopeless grief, starved of their Saviour. They were crying and wailing, thinking that they would never see Him again.

And then they did! They walked out of the shadows and the musty tomb and they saw Him ... they fell down on their faces before Him and everything was brighter and shinier and far more amazing than it had ever been before,

because He was there, because He was risen, because nothing would ever be the same again.

If missing things in Nepal does anything for me, it reminds me that my longing for God and for true rest in Him creates in me a need.

Most days I am starving and waiting and groaning - for time with God and for true intimacy and relationship and worship. And every day, I have glimpses of that, but one day I will have it completely ... and the novelty will never wear away.

[Naomi Reed is a returned missionary, author and speaker. Her five popular books and an audio book (*The Promise*) are available at good bookshops. For more information, go to [www.NaomiReed.Info](http://www.NaomiReed.Info) or join 'My Seventh Monsoon' on Facebook.]



Gold key to the Canberra Hotel





Those in attendance at QTC end of year service



Dr Gary Millar being inducted as QTC Principal by Moderator, Presbytery of Brisbane, Rev. Lesleigh Hall

## The wonder of Christmas



Carols Service with special guests, The Amen Choir

SADLY, AS one year follows another, there seems to be less and less awareness of Christmas and its meaning in the wider community – no star on top of the tree outside the civic centre, no lights in the trees on the main street, and banners up and down the Sunshine Coast which encouraged us to enjoy something vaguely called “the festive season”. Who knows – perhaps Christmas is becoming more and more “politically incorrect”.

If so, nobody has told us in the Caloundra Church. Every year it is wonderful to watch the cooperation of so many members as they prepare for our Christmas celebrations. 2013 was no exception. And everyone’s efforts came to fruition with our annual Carols Service in mid-December, and our Christmas Day service on the 25th.

Several men helped to decorate the outside of the church and the hall with lights. Last year we added a nativity scene; this year we added a star immediately over the manger. Both bear silent testimony to all who pass by that they are invited to join us for our Christmas celebrations.

The inside of the hall is decorated and each year some new feature is added to the life size nativity scene on the stage. Once again, the intention is to bear silent testimony to the many visitors who join us for our annual Carols Service, and who come to the hall for supper after the service.

At the beginning of December nine new, green Christmas banners on the walls of the church celebrated the words of Isaiah 9:6 in red and gold letters that proclaimed - “To us a child is born, to us a Son is given”.

Each of His names was celebrated on a banner and then explained by a verse from the New Testament. He is our “Wonderful Counsellor” because in Jesus “are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” [Colossians 2:3]. He is our “Prince of Peace”, because, as Paul’s words in Romans 5:1 remind us, “being justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”.

In preparation for the supper after the Carols Service, many of the ladies of the congregation provided sandwiches, savouries and a whole range of other goodies. A large cold drinks urn, big enough to hold at least 60 litres, was borrowed from the local

MacDonalds, ensuring that there was plenty of cold drink to satisfy the hundred plus people who came to enjoy supper after the service.

This year the Amen Choir were our special guests, a group of about ten men from various parts of Brisbane. They brought all their own sound and musical equipment and crowned our annual service with harmonies and melodies that brought delight to a full church in which there were almost certainly more visitors than members. And the congregation had plenty of opportunities to join in by singing the carols that we all know and love so well.

As people moved from the church to the hall after the service, each received a small piece of cake beautifully boxed in Christmas colours of red and green. And more than a few said that the evening was “as good as we have ever had” and that it was “too short – we should have gone for longer”.

Our Carols Service and its message of hope is our small annual gift to the people of Caloundra, and we were so glad that many joined us from the community. Our prayer is that we were able to introduce them to the Saviour who brought His gift of love, of light and of life into our sin-darkened world so that we might have eternal life.

It is no fairy tale. The message of Christmas is so enduring precisely because, unlike any fairy tale, it has a personal message for every one of us.

Charles Wesley said it well:

*“Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die;  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth”.*

Our prayer is that many in the congregation that evening received that “second birth”. If so it was all worth it.

Even if there were not, it was still worth it, because once again, in 2013, we were able to celebrate the wonder of the Christmas story and of the birth of the Saviour.

For some of us it was a reminder of the time when “how silently, how silently, the wondrous gift was given” to each of us as believers, as “the Holy Child of Bethlehem” descended to us and “cast out our sin, and entered in; and was born in us that day”.

How wonderful to be reminded of our “second birth” as we celebrated the wonder of the Saviour’s birth, and all that it means for us.

## End of one year, start of next ... at QTC



### QTC’s 3rd annual Preaching Conference promises to be the best yet!

A great line-up of speakers headed by Ray Galea (Multicultural Bible Ministry, Sydney) and Doug Green (Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia) will explore the challenge of preaching in Australia today so ‘that everyone might know His Name’.

We’ll look together at specific challenges including:

*Preaching to ‘Broken’ People:* Doug Green.

*Preaching to Women:* Carmelina Read

*Preaching to ‘Churchy’ People:* Luke Tattersall

*Preaching to the ‘Converted’:* Gary Millar

*Preaching to Blue Collar Australia:* Mike O’Connor

*Preaching to ‘Grumpy’ People:* Phil Campbell

*Preaching to Gen Y:* Derek Hanna

In addition, there will be eight seminar streams which will ensure that everyone has the opportunity to get set up for a fresh teaching series in church in 2014.

For more details and to register go to [www.qtc.edu.au/event-registration](http://www.qtc.edu.au/event-registration)

**MORE THAN JUST AN EDUCATION**

<b>Sunshine Coast Grammar School</b> Co-educational day school Preschool to Year 12 <a href="http://www.scgs.qld.edu.au">www.scgs.qld.edu.au</a>	07 5445 4444
<b>Moreton Bay Boys' College</b> Day school for boys from Prep to Year 7 in 2006 <a href="http://www.mbbc.qld.edu.au">www.mbbc.qld.edu.au</a>	07 3906 9444
<b>Clayfield College</b> Girls: Prep to Year 12 Boarding: Girls over 10 years. Preparatory to Year 5.	07 3262 0262 <a href="http://www.clayfield.qld.edu.au">www.clayfield.qld.edu.au</a>
<b>Somerville House</b> Day and boarding school for girls Preparatory to Year 12 <a href="http://www.somerville.qld.edu.au">www.somerville.qld.edu.au</a>	07 3248 9200
<b>Brisbane Boys' College</b> Boarding and day school for boys in Years 4-12 <a href="http://www.bbc.qld.edu.au">www.bbc.qld.edu.au</a>	07 3309 3500

A ministry of the United and Presbyterian Churches, providing excellence in education in a Christian and caring environment.

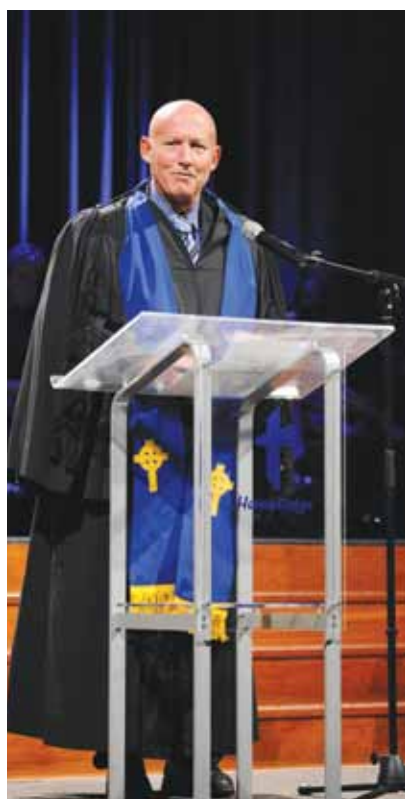


# Celebrating Successes

Fairholme celebrates the end of the school year at Presenting Fairholme 2013



Katherine Richards (Ordine Tertia), Hannah Donaldson (Proxime Accessit - shared), Mr Stewart Peacock (Head of Teaching and Learning), Mrs Linda Evans (Principal | Fairholme College), Jessie Wilson (Dux), Gabrielle Painter (Proxime Accessit - shared)



Hon. Greg Rodgers, Moderator

FAIRHOLME COLLEGE celebrated the end of its school year in style on Wednesday, 27 November through two separate presentation events.

In the morning, the junior school reflected on its academic, sporting, pastoral care, boarding and cultural activities for the year. Particularly, they farewelled and thanked their Year 6 cohort as they move from junior to middle school in 2014.

In the evening, 'Presenting Fairholme 2013' showcased the diverse achievements of the Fairholme middle and senior schools amidst outstanding performances from talented music students and staff.

The successes of the Year 12s were honoured and a hand-over ceremony between the 2013 and 2014 prefects concluded the evening.

Guest speaker, Jennifer Mohandass, Co-director of Mizpah Home, Ootacamund, India, inspired the audience with reflections on the life-changing work with orphans that she and her husband Mohan Thota have been doing in India for the past twenty-two years and the importance of hope in our lives.

The relationship between Mizpah and Fairholme was first established over six years ago through a chance meeting between the College Chaplain Richard Jessup and his wife

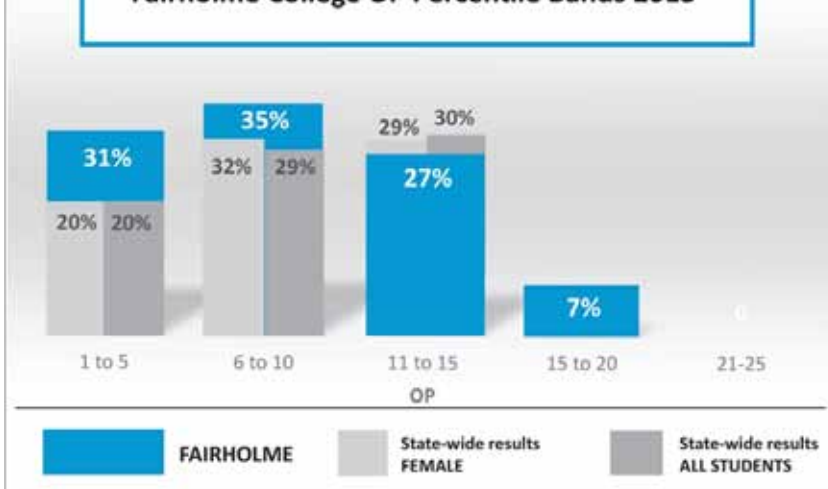
Kerri with the Mohandass family at the Hebron International School in Ootacamund.

The Principal, Mrs Linda Evans, in her address, also addressed the notion of service for the benefit of others. She left the seniors of 2013 with a challenge, "What will be the one defining thing you do in your life; the moment of courage and conviction where you challenge that which has traditionally been offered and seek to make a change for the better?"

A large number of the Seniors were recognised during the evening and the final announcements related to closely contested academic awards. Senior Jessie Wilson was named Dux; Gabrielle Painter and Head Girl Hannah Donaldson shared the Proxime Accessit Award; Katherine Richards gained the award for Ordine Tertia (third in cohort).



Fairholme College OP Percentile Bands 2013



The OP (Overall Position) score is used solely for tertiary education admission. It reflects each student's position in a Queensland-wide ranking order of overall achievement in Queensland Studies Authority-approved subjects. Overall positions range from an OP1 (the highest) through to an OP25.

## SCHOLARSHIPS 2015



## Fairholme College



TOOWOOMBA



Girls entering Years 7, 8 or 10 in 2015 are invited to apply for **ACADEMIC** and **GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS** at Fairholme College, Australia's leading independent day and boarding school for girls from Kindy to Year 12.

Applications can also be made for the following additional bursaries:



### MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Awarded to girls entering Years 7, 8, 10 or 11 in 2015, subject to audition and the results of the scholarship examination.



### PCQ 'START UP' BOARDING BURSARY

The Presbyterian Church of Queensland offers this bursary to external candidates entering the College as a new boarder.

Apply on line today for the Annual ACER Scholarship Examination to be held at Fairholme College **Saturday 1 March, 2014**

[www.fairholme.qld.edu.au](http://www.fairholme.qld.edu.au)

T 07 4688 4688 E [enrol@fairholme.qld.edu.au](mailto:enrol@fairholme.qld.edu.au)

Proudly a College of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland





Malcolm and Elmarie Buchanan, CMS missionaries in partnership with Australian Presbyterian World Mission (APWM), also presented at the CMS Summer School 2014 Mission Conference during their Home Assignment in Australia. With their children, Clara, Ian, Oliver and Rita, they have been serving in Tanzania where they will return in early May this year. Malcolm teaches science at St John's University of Tanzania (SJUT) from a Christian perspective. Last year, he introduced the 'Science, Faith and Culture' course which interests both Christians and Muslims and gives opportunities to introduce people to Jesus. Elmarie volunteers at Canon Andrea Mwaka School, runs Sunday School at SJUT chapel, looks after their four children, and shares the gospel with people.

# PWA recognises work of Agnes Petherick

by Heather Ross, PWA (Qld Unit) President

IT IS indeed a great honour to write this tribute on behalf of the Presbyterian Women's Association. When we look back on the life of Agnes Fraser Petherick we realize what a truly remarkable and gifted lady she was, and how privileged we were to have shared her friendship. Her love of family came first, but coming a close second was her love and dedication to the Presbyterian Women's Association and its members. Today it is not possible to list each of Agnes' achievements, there are just too many. She has held most Executive positions on the Queensland State Council, and became the State President of Queensland in 1984. Agnes played many active roles on the PWA Federal Executive and was a State delegate to the Federal Conferences for well over 30 years. She was elected senior vice President in 1985. In 1988 the Federal President was unable to preside over the Conference so Agnes, as Vice President, stepped into the role with less than 24 hours notice - such were Agnes' capabilities and her willingness to give of her great knowledge to ensure the Conference ran smoothly. At the local Branch level Agnes was the President of Ann Street PWA and their representative to State Council. She rarely missed a Council meeting. When the Presbyterian Inland Mission was domiciled in Queensland Agnes took a very active role on the Executive. She was a much-respected member of this Committee. In 1972, when the PWA was established in Queensland, Agnes attended that Inaugural Meeting and was appointed a Country Vice President. As Country Vice President Agnes travelled from Gatton to Brisbane to attend meetings, a long drive. At our State Conference in June last year we celebrated the 40th anniversary of that meeting of PWA in Queensland. How dearly Agnes would have liked to have been at the Anniversary Service; however her health prevented it. But she was well remembered on that day. In 1977, when the Uniting Church was formed, PWA became quite fragmented because of ladies who left the Presbyterian Church to join the Uniting Church. During this time Agnes was inspirational in holding the

fragmented PWA together, and she set it on a firm foundation on which the PWA grew in strength and stability. The ladies who are now on the Executive of the Queensland State Council were 'new girls' in the mid-1970s. We were in awe of Agnes, her knowledge of meeting procedure and her ability to conduct a meeting. She knew the rules and expected the meetings to be run according to the rules. Over the years Agnes guided and taught us, never losing her patience when we made mistakes, and believe me we made some big ones! But, with encouraging words, she helped us to understand the complicated meeting procedures and gave us the confidence and courage to step up and hold Executive positions on the Council today. Above all Agnes was a dear friend to each of us, giving of herself and her knowledge; she was a counsellor, a teacher, a mentor, always generous with her time and gracious with her words and her deeds. To honour the great contribution Agnes had made to PWA, not only in Queensland but throughout Australia, she was made a life member of the Queensland PWA in 2009. This was the first and only time the State Council had granted a life membership to a member, such was our admiration for Agnes and her many achievements. Agnes had high standards and values and she did not lower them to please people - she had the courage to stand firm for what she believed to be right. In 1988, with much grace and dignity, she and the late Mrs Marjorie Gordon addressed and then debated with the Queensland State Assembly an injustice which she believed had been done to the PWA members in Queensland. She showed great strength and courage and was not afraid to have her voice heard. Because of the loving friend Agnes was, she will be greatly missed. But greater than the sorrow from her death is the wisdom and grace she spread in her life which will remain with us. She affected our lives very deeply. Just as she guided each of us, her wisdom and love will continue to guide us - she has left for us a special legacy. Thank you Agnes.

# Nine to Get Ready

## Kenya Mission 2014

by Rev. Ian Mclver



Members of the Caloundra Congregation fundraising outside BCF Caloundra



Kenya Mission Team 2014: Front Row [left to right]: Margaret Kennedy, Erin Higgins, Irene Higgins. Back Row [left to right]: Ian Mclver, Joshua Shanahan, James Cran, Kirralee Shanahan, Rachel Cran, Norma Mclver.



Erin's fundraiser for Kenya at Fairholme College. She and the Fairholme College Middle School have managed to raise nearly \$2000 for the Agape Hope Orphanage in Nairobi.

THERE'S A lot to do when a group of nine people goes on a mission visit to Africa. Fund raising to support compassionate ministries is one thing. Learning about the country to which the team is going is another. And getting to know each other is a third. In the last couple of months there has been plenty of all three. This year's team left in January 2014 so at present the team will be in Kenya. Over recent months, several team members have held a number of fundraisers. Joshua and Kirralee Shanahan and James and Rachel Cran have had many stalls at various locations around the Sunshine Coast. Erin Higgins, a Year 10 student at Fairholme College, has managed to raise over \$1100 through her stall at the College and in early December, members of the Caloundra congregation held a sausage sizzle outside the Caloundra BCF store. The timing was perfect as it was the first day of the BCF Christmas catalogue sale, so there were plenty of customers for both BCF and our BBQ, as a result of which we were able to raise over \$400 for the support of ministries in Kenya. Team members pay their own way so fundraising from within the church goes directly to ministry. So far in excess of \$15,000 has been raised for the support of ministries in Nairobi and the Rift Valley. Our team will need much wisdom to know how to utilise the gifts that we have received for maximum impact. Our time and talents, as well as our donations this year, will help to provide adequate toilet and shower facilities at the Agape Hope Orphanage in Nairobi. We are also supporting a primary school on the eastern side of the city, and a team visit to the area is planned while we are in Nairobi. Please pray for our team as we go because a visit to a slum area in Africa for the first time can be quite confronting. An all-day orientation program late in November gave the team background information on the geography and climate, the history and the tribes of Kenya, along with a brief summary of the history of Christian missions and the churches of Kenya. Among the largest of the Christian Churches are the Presbyterian, the Anglican and the Roman Catholic, each of which has several million members. Team members come from Toowoomba and various parts of the Sunshine Coast, so a team photo was taken after the first morning service on the last Sunday in November. We left for Kenya on 20 January so please include our team members in your prayers. For five of the team this is their first visit to Africa, even though two members, Joshua and Kirra Shanahan, have been on APWM work parties to Vanuatu a number of times. Their experience will be invaluable for our work in the Agape Hope Orphanage in Kenya. Thank you for your prayers.





# FEATURE TRACKS

An update from the PIM

## PROCLAIMING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BY WORD AND DEED

# MORE WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST FIELD

## Mungo Patrol (Vic/NSW) filled

The PIM Committee has appointed Colin Morrow to the Mungo Patrol. Colin and his wife Alison will be based in Mildura, to allow Colin to combine PIM ministry with home mission work in the Sunraysia Parish.

Originally from NSW, Colin from the Newcastle region and Alison from Armidale then Penrith, they moved to Melbourne with their six week old baby daughter, Sarah in 1989. Two other children soon followed, Emily and Lachlan.

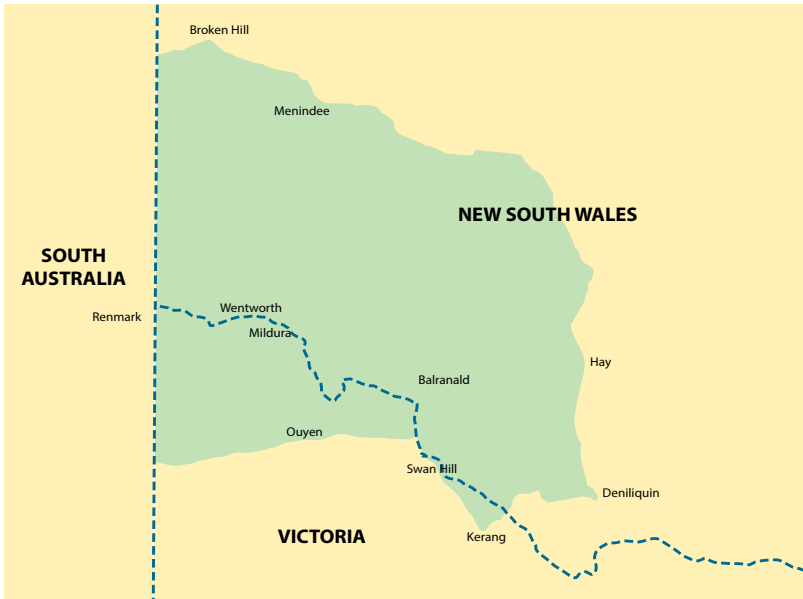
Colin has been a Certified Practising Accountant for over 30 years in various companies, both large and small. He is currently a member of the Session of the Donvale (Vic) congregation, has had wide ranging experience as a Sunday School teacher and has been involved at every level of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. He began preaching, when at the invitation of the Rev. Dr Paul Logan (Alison's uncle), Colin was asked to conduct a church service at Maitland (NSW). Over the years Colin has developed a

love for meeting people and hearing their life stories.

Alison has worked in raising their family of now 3 adult children. As the home based support for Colin, she has also been able to develop her own gifts in kid's, women's and seniors ministry. She has served in a voluntary capacity at playgroup, kinder and school and worked part-time as an integration aid for children who experience learning difficulties. As Alison's late father, the Rev. Bruce Logan had a great appreciation for the work of the Rev. Dr John Flynn and the Australian Inland Mission, she is looking greatly forward to being involved in the PIM and the visitation which forms the heart of patrol work.

Colin and Alison are a team - they are looking forward to travelling around their patrol area together, caring and sharing God's love and word to those scattered throughout the Mungo Patrol.

### MUNGO PATROL AREA



## MUNGO PATROL

### Your Support Needed

The PIM is very thankful to the Lord for our latest Padre Colin Morrow and for ministry of the Mungo Patrol.

This means that once again PIM will be able to offer to in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ the comfort and encouragement of God's presence in this remote part of our country. Colin and Alison represent the answer to many prayers for more gospel work and more gospel workers.

We invite you to be in prayer partnership with Colin and Alison (colinmorrow@pim.org.au; alisonmorrow@pim.org.au)

We also look for financial partnership with the Lord's people, as PIM seeks \$30 000 pa from the church at large to support this ministry. Can you give

a one off or a regular gift?

Donations can be made by credit card (Visa or Mastercard via RESPONSE FORM), direct debit (PIM Bank is Westpac, BSB 033 397Account# 21 3311 – Tag Mungo Patrol), PayPal go to PIM web page, Mungo Patrol and click PayPal button "http://www.pim.org.au/nsw\_mungo\_patrol.htm" or by cheque made out to Presbyterian Inland Mission.

By our prayers and giving let's move forward together in gospel partnership

Sincerely  
Stuart Bonnington  
– PIM Superintendent

## INTRODUCING COLIN AND ALISON

### From the suburbs to the outback

*ON TRACK spoke to the Morrow's shortly after their appointment*

**OT:** Colin and Alison, congratulations on your appointment. Why do you want to be part of PIM?

**CAM:** Thanks, We want to try to continue the work commenced by John Flynn over 100 years ago, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ one homestead and station property at a time. We want to share God's love with people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to know about it.

**OT:** Tell us a bit about your Patrol area

**CAM:** We have been appointed to the Mungo Patrol. It covers an area of around 44 000 square kilometres. It is the only PIM Patrol which includes part of Victoria within its boundaries. The majority of the patrol is in far south-western NSW. We will be based with and out of the



Colin and Alison Morrow

Sunraysia congregation in Mildura. We are very excited about the opportunities patrol work offers

**OT:** How can people stand with you?

**CAM:** The work of the PIM has always been dependent on the prayers and financial support of God's people. We are looking to build a team of supporters who can become an

essential part of our mission in the Mungo Patrol without leaving home! We would ask for prayer for those we are visiting and for us as we try to do this. Every dollar counts. We are looking for individuals, groups and churches to help support the work of the Mungo Patrol.

## JESUS DOETH ALL THINGS WELL

### Roger and Margaret Report In

We have had much on which to ponder as the year has progressed but let me say right at the outset, (and you will appreciate this more as you read on), I just love the words of Fanny Crosby, as we sang at Stephen's funeral ten years ago, "For I know, what'er befall me, **Jesus doeth all things well!**"

Our time in Mt Isa in January was rewarding in many ways. It was indeed a privilege to take services on the four Sundays. What we really enjoyed was the hospitality of the people and the chance to share time getting to know many individual families. How many times have we heard of "too many chiefs ...etc." Not in Mt Isa! The church has lots of good Indians. What they need is a good chief to lead and encourage them!

Immediately after our return from Mt Isa we flew to Sydney to meet with the PIM board and to attend the annual PIM Rally. It was a great opportunity to meet in person with many Board members and PIM supporters and to share with them some of the realities of life on the track. The Board also confirmed our appointment with PIM for a further four year term.

Our first big surprise for the year came shortly after our return from Mt



Isa. A new weigh bridge had been installed in town so when the cruiser was fully kitted out for patrol, with the two of us on board I satisfied my curiosity and put it over the aforesaid bridge...overweight! After checking it was found that the same was true of the South Australian patrol vehicle. Several options were considered by PIM and it was decided eventually that a 6.5tn Isuzu 4WD truck was the best way to go. After much negotiation one was purchased in Townsville and one in Whyalla (SA). PIM owes a debt of gratitude to David McDonald for his skills as a mechanic which contributed to us getting the

best "bang for our buck" in the overall deal. It was not until late May that we picked up the truck and some time again after that that the camper cab was fitted to the back and all the radios etc were successfully installed. One big plus with the new vehicle has been the added space on the back for two very large storage cupboards that allow us to carry much more gear with us as we travel. Several patrols gave us the opportunity to iron out any minor issues with the new rig. While the changeover was being organised there were various church and Distance Education activities, both in



JESUS DOETH ALL THINGS WELL continued

Charters Towers and Townsville to be attended and I even took time out to have my hearing tested, and yes, I now have hearing aids.

Margaret, in the meantime, was into the annual round of CWCI and KYB responsibilities. Three safaris were organised this year in the north of the state. Margaret was the leader on one of these safaris and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

From the contacts made during these safaris, one new KYB group is being established. Please pray that more such groups may be set up over time. For Margaret, another three year term as Safari Administrator is, Lord willing, about to begin. Margaret also spent some time back in Pittsworth to celebrate her brother's birthday and to spend some time visiting the family farm before it was sold. I was in

Brisbane in June for the Queensland Assembly. This is always a great opportunity to catch up with church leaders and to publicise the work of PIM.

We looked forward to our time in Townsville when the churches, as they have done for some years now, would come together to supply us with all sorts of things to take with us on our Christmas patrols. Again their generosity humbled us and it was with a sense of excitement that we headed off for our far northwest area in early November.

I had been feeling unwell for some time and a phone conversation from Croydon with our GP in Charters Towers saw us heading home immediately. Tests since then, culminating in a fortnight in hospital in Townsville have confirmed a

diagnosis of "Diffuse large B-Cell lymphoma."

Clearly this has turned out lives somewhat upside down. Our GP said, and I would agree, that your initial reaction is one of shock and it is something to which you will need time to adjust. It is for this reason that we have taken this time to go public on the situation. Half truths and bits of information could be blown out of all proportion in no time. I am happy to admit that I am curious, concerned, querulous etc et al, but I am not scared. Since the diagnosis the medical fraternity have been marshalling their troops and getting all their weaponry in position. In taking a tablet the first shot was fired in my defence. These tablets will continue till the chemo infusions begin. Each session is over two days



with a two or three week break in between. Many and varied are the potential side affects of chemo but from my standpoint, bring it on!!

Margaret and I both see this as an interruption to, rather than a cessation of, our time with PIM. Knowing the needs in our patrol area it would be easy to let our anger and frustration come to the surface but at such times we need to remember that God is sovereign and His plans for us are good and He will provide. As an example of this, Bill and Robyn Ray, friends from our early days in Toowoomba, have made the cottage, at the rear of their home, available to us for as long as may be required. We

can be contacted by email, or mobile on 0439 515 163. Mail can still be sent to PO Box 1691 Charters Towers. We would welcome visitors and if you call us first we will give you directions. Bill is now the Anglican Bishop of North Queensland and he shared with me a profound question that I would like to leave with you. "What is God wanting me to learn in all this?

May you know the wonder and the blessing of "Immanuel" – God with us!

With our love,  
Roger and Margaret.  
North Patrol, Queensland

## NT PRESBYTERIANS

*The desert shall rejoice and blossom*

**ALICE SPRINGS:**  
**Sunday 10 am**  
20 Parke Crescent, The Gap  
Keith Bell 08 8953 7748

**DARWIN:**  
**Sunday 10 am**  
Kormilda College, Berrimah  
**Sunday 5 pm**  
Palmerston Library  
Rob Duncanson 08 8945 7878

**www.pim.org.au**



## PIM THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS AND BEYOND

Please contact Robert Benn if your congregation, presbytery or church group in NSW would like an interesting and informative PIM presentation. **02 4757 4144 • 0431 062 853**

VIEWS BEYOND THE FURTHEST FENCE

To commemorate the founding of AIM in 1912, Stephen Dyer was commissioned by the PIM to bring together a collection of historical and contemporary photographs in a large format full-colour book entitled VIEWS BEYOND THE FURTHEST FENCE. Stephen was selected because of his photographic skills and his personal commitment to the PIM. Over the years he has visited sites of historical significance to the PIM as well as travelling though various Patrol areas. Stephen currently serves as an elder of the Kerang Presbyterian Church.

In addition to the magnificent photographs, VIEWS BEYOND THE FURTHEST FENCE contains an historical



account of the work of the AIM and the PIM written by Stuart Bonnington. Stuart has done research in church history, with a special focus the place of the Presbyterians in the Australian story. Stuart combines being the Superintendent of PIM with ministry at the Scots Church in Fremantle.

All profits from the sale VIEWS BEYOND THE FURTHEST FENCE will go to support the PIM. For bulk orders please contact the PIM Office.

### RESPONSE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

	Qty		TOTAL
Views Beyond the Furthest Fence		@ \$100	\$
Donation: Mungo Patrol – Morrows			\$
Postage & Handling (Book orders only)			\$10
DONATION			\$
TOTAL			\$

Payment details:

☐ Cheque enclosed (Payable to Presbyterian Inland Mission)

☐ Charge my Credit Card    ☐ Visa    ☐ Mastercard

Card No.                    Expiry date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return with payment to:

**PIM**  
**PO Box 4014**  
**Croydon Hills Vic 3136**

**Ph: (03) 9005 8256**  
**Fax: (03) 9876 1941**  
**email: admin@pim.org.au**

**For bulk orders please contact the office.**

### PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

www.pim.org.au

**NATIONAL OFFICE**  
PO Box 4014, Croydon Hills VIC 3136

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Mike Timmins **T:** 03 9005 8256 **E:** admin@pim.org.au

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Stuart Bonnington **T:** 08 9398 1304 **M:** 0423 257 645  
**E:** superintendent@pim.org.au

**CONVENER**  
Robert Duncanson **T:** 08 8945 7878 **M:** 0413 021 716  
**E:** convener@pim.org.au

**PIM PADRE TEAMS**

**Bert and Penny Pierce** **E:** bpierce@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0419 951 679 Mid West Patrol WA (Mt. Magnet PIM Church)

**Chris and Sandra Woonings** **E:** cwoonings@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0428 665 123 Southern Patrol WA (Denmark PIM Church)

**David and Gae McDonald** **E:** dmcdonald@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0438 218 551 John Flynn Patrol SA ('Smith of Dunesk' Beltana PIM Church)

**Greg and Janet Cripps** **E:** gjccripps@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0407 406 628 South Patrol Qld

**David and Kathy Alsop** **E:** dkalsop@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0408 786 898 Central Patrol Qld

**Roger and Margaret Crane** **E:** rcrane@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0439 515 163 North Patrol Qld

**Laurie and Gwen Peake** **E:** lpeake@pim.org.au Leichhardt Patrol Qld

**Colin and Alison Morrow** **E:** colinmorrow@pim.org.au;  
alisonmorrow@pim.org.au **M:** 0407 220 005 Mungo Patrol NSW/Vic

**PIM CHURCH WORKERS**

**Keith and Jenny Bell** **E:** kjbelle@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0438 719 956 Alice Springs PIM Church

**Rob and Jeanette Duncanson** **E:** convener@pim.org.au  
**M:** 0413 021 716 Darwin PIM Church



# Partnership

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION



81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood NSW 2134  
0421 366 720 • national@apwm.org.au • www.apwm.org.au

*The Australian Presbyterian World Mission exists to glorify God by facilitating the spread of the gospel to people overseas and Aborigines within Australia.*

## Forgotten Missionaries?

Not all missionaries serve overseas. Some, such as Graham and Sue Hammond, serve in Australia in ministry to Indigenous Australians. Graham and Sue are based in Darwin with Wycliffe. Sometimes missionaries who serve in Australia struggle to raise adequate Partnership Support because they are not seen as 'real' missionaries. Darwin has a very high cost of living and Graham and Sue's bills are very real!

Graham serves in maintenance, transport, and looking after the bookshop, the key distribution point for translated Scripture and literacy materials. Sue serves in providing literacy assistance to the local indigenous people, including those in Torres Strait and East and West Timor.

Their support level has dropped to 45%. Would you consider supporting them? For more details contact Wycliffe finance\_australia@wycliffe.org or phone (03) 9712 2777 or contact Graham 0430 320 166 or Sue 0430 320 155 graham-sue\_hammond@sil.org



Graham & Sue Hammond

## Andy & Rosemary Williamson

Andy and Rosemary Williamson serve as APWM Partner Church missionaries with the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu. Andy is Dean of Studies at the Talua Ministry Training Centre. Alongside local lecturers, they prepare students for the ministry of the Word by evangelising, discipling and equipping them with ministry skills.



Andy & Rosemary Williamson

Andrew and Rosemary have had a key role in establishing the Bachelor of Ministry program. The strategic aim of this programme is to provide some Vanuatu pastors and lay leaders with degree-level education which will enable them to be better readers, interpreters, teachers, and preachers of the Bible. The church needs to train its pastors with courses such as the Bachelor programme so that it can clearly communicate and apply the message of the gospel in today's world.

Andy & Rosemary are currently in Australia for home assignment but cannot return to Vanuatu because their Partnership Support level is currently at 76%. If you would like to join their team of supporters, then please use the response form on page 4 of this newsletter.

## Student Scholarships

One of the most effective things that we can do in cross-cultural mission is train nationals to minister to their own people. APWM does this primarily through supporting theological education. Please consider sponsoring a student from one of the following countries.

**Bangladesh** We support the Presbyterian Theological Centre in Gazipur which is the Bible College of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bangladesh. The cost of a scholarship for a student is \$1200. Donations for Bangladesh scholarships should be sent to APWM NSW at NSW Presbyterian Church Offices, PO Box 2196, Strawberry Hills, NSW, 2012.

**Vanuatu** We support the Talua Ministry Training Centre, the Bible College of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, where the Connors and Williamsons serve. The four year Bachelor of Ministry program is Vanuatu's first indigenous Bachelor-level program. A full Bachelor of Ministry scholarship costs \$3000.

**Myanmar** We support the Reformed Bible Institute, the Bible College of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Myanmar led by the Rev Dr Thang Bwee. We are very grateful that through current sponsors, the cost of student scholarships has been met. The cost of a scholarship has been \$480, however this is likely to rise. We will have a clearer picture in March.

If you would like to sponsor a student or contribute toward a scholarship, then please do so by the beginning of the academic year in April-May. Please contact APWM National on 0421 366 720 366 720 (temporary) or email national@apwm.org.au

## UPDATES

### Missionary Movements

**David & Wendy Hall** (Penrith NSW Pioneers, Fiji) were recently approved as APWM missionaries and commissioned to serve with Pioneers in theological education in Fiji.

**Marilyn** (Finley NSW Interserve, East Asia) was recently approved as an APWM missionary.

**Nathan & Tomoko Stewart** (Browns Plains, QLD, APWM National) are currently raising partnership support to serve in Japan. They can be contacted at on 0422 853 800 or nathan@stewartfamily.id.au

**Yousif & Vivian Kunda** (Clayton, VIC, GRN Australia) were recently approved as APWM missionaries and commissioned to serve with GRN at its Sydney office.

**Keith and Elspeth Campbell** (Willows Townsville, QLD, Wycliffe Australia, ) were recently approved as APWM missionaries and commissioned to serve with Wycliffe.

**Vijai, Suchitra & Adiel Tagore** In late December we farewelled the Tagore family. Vijai has completed his Master of Theology at Christ College PTC Sydney. They have returned to the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Dehra Dun, India, where Vijai will resume lecturing. Thank you very much to those churches and individuals who made this possible through prayer and financial gifts. We are very grateful to the Revesby congregation which hosted the Tagores and lovingly cared for them while they were in Australia.

**Paul & Jenny Rayner** (Central Church Ipswich, QLD, Pioneers, South East Asia) have been accepted to teach at a school in South East Asia. They are now seeking to develop partnership support and can be contacted on 0413 451 140 or at therayners@internode.on.net



David & Wendy Hall



Nathan & Tomoko Stewart



Ben, Yousif, Ann, Mer, Vivian, & Beacky Kunda



Keith & Elspeth Campbell



Paul & Jenny Rayner



Vijai, Suchitra & Adiel Tagore

## South Sudan

At the time of writing South Sudan is on the brink of civil war. Our missionaries in South Sudan, Motor Yat and Rhys and Rhondda Hall, are currently in Australia on home assignment. Please pray that the situation in South Sudan will settle down so that our missionaries will be able to return. Motor's partnership support has reached 97% which means that he will be returning to South Sudan as soon as possible.



Motor Yat



Rhys and Rhondda Hall

## National Office

The theme for December at APWM is 'change'. First, we're sad to see our Office Administrator Tracey Evans leave us. We're grateful to God for what He has done for APWM through Tracey's keen administrative skills. We're glad to welcome Tracey's successor, Rob Falls. Rob and his wife Elena, attend Wahroonga Presbyterian Church. Secondly, our office is on the move. We're currently in the process of moving the National Office to its new home at the Presbyterian Theological Centre, Burwood NSW. From January 1, 2014, our address will be

81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood, NSW 2134. At the moment we're waiting for Telstra to give us our new phone number. If you do want to contact us, then please call us on our old number (02) 9792 1373 or try 0421 366 720. We praise God that amidst these changes, He does not change. He is faithful to His promises and so His mission continues! Thank you for your support.



Rob Falls

## Workpartners 2014

At the time of writing, our Workpartners team has just completed the building of a Presbytery resource centre at Liro on Paama Island, Vanuatu. We are now planning our next Workpartners team to serve at the Talua Ministry Training Centre, the Bible College of the Presbyterian

Church of Vanuatu. Are you interested in serving in 2014?

**Where?** Talua Ministry Training Centre, Vanuatu

**Dates** 5-21 July 2014

**Who can go?** Committed Christians, minimum age 16 years.

If you are interested or would like to know more, then go to <http://www.apwm.org.au/what-we-do/workpartners/> or contact APWM national@apwm.org.au

Please note that we intend to send a Workpartners' team to Talua in December 2014 with the tentative dates 5-22 December, 2014.





## Do you have a vision for theological education in the South Pacific?

APWM is recruiting people for service at Talua Ministry Training Centre, the Bible College of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu. **Please note that each position requires the raising of Partnership Support.**

### Dean of Studies *Commencing mid to late 2015*

The Dean of Studies

- has responsibility for the care and development of the Bachelor of Ministry program.
- maintains standards set by the Asia Theological Association.
- oversees the Registrar and Librarian.
- lectures in the Bachelor of Ministry program & communicates with sponsors of the B Min program.

### Qualifications:

- a PhD in a theological discipline or working toward obtaining a PhD.
- pastoral-evangelistic experience;
- cross-cultural experience (preferred) & training in education (preferred)

### Lecturer: Bachelor of Ministry program

*Commencing early 2015*

The lecturer will

- lecture full time in the Bachelor of Ministry program
- carry out responsibilities at the college determined by the lecturer's abilities and Talua's needs

### Qualifications:

- a Master's degree in a theological discipline, preferably a research Master's degree;
- pastoral-evangelistic experience
- cross-cultural experience (preferred)

### Head Teacher: 'English for Academic Purposes'

*Commencing mid to late 2015*

The head teacher will

- oversee the development of the Foundation Year and BMin students' academic skills, particularly in the area of English.
- have special responsibility for coordinating the Foundation Year program
- organise and oversee guest lecturers for English and academic skills.

### Qualifications:

- a Master's degree in Teaching English for Academic Purposes or equivalent.
- experience in teaching.

For more information, contact Kevin Murray at APWM 0421 366 720 or [kevinmurray@apwm.org.au](mailto:kevinmurray@apwm.org.au)

## PRAYER AND FINANCE Response Form

Please send to: **APWM**

81 Shaftesbury Rd, Burwood NSW 2134

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to support the following:

Missionary's Name \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send me the missionary's prayer letter.

☐ APWM ministry in a particular country \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate an amount

☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100

☐ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how regular your payment will be:

☐ one-off ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly

☐ half-yearly ☐ yearly

### Four Ways to Give

**1** Cheque (*made out to 'Australian Presbyterian World Mission'*)

**2** Credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expires: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first payment \_\_\_\_\_

**3** Direct debit

Your account name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

BSB \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_

Bank name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first payment \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Direct deposit

Account: **Australian Presbyterian**

**World Mission** BSB: 032-260

Account number: 151207

Please write your name and the

surname of the missionary you are

supporting in the description box.

Please also email [finance@apwm.org.au](mailto:finance@apwm.org.au) telling us that you have made a deposit and provide the name of the missionary that you are supporting.

### Enquiries

[finance@apwm.org.au](mailto:finance@apwm.org.au) (temporary phone 0421 366 720)

[www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance](http://www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance)



Andy Williamson & BMin students

## Missions Interlink Training Courses

Missions Interlink is an organisation made up of representatives from the different mission groups throughout Australia. In 2014 Missions Interlink is running a number of training events.

### Partnership Support Workshops: March 18-20 & March 24-26, 2014

Myles Wilson is coming to Australia to run his renowned Partnership Support Workshops. The 2 day workshop is for those needing to raise support, to learn how to build a strong network of supporters and advocates for your ministry, as well as practical tips on how to raise support for your ministry. The 3 day workshop is for staff from agencies who have a role coaching others in partnership support and incorporates the 2 day workshop as part of the training. These workshops are based on Myles Wilson's book, 'Funding the Family Business' and outlines the biblical principles of giving and receiving, and provides an opportunity to learn and share with others in similar positions to you. <http://www.missionsinterlink.org.au/events/partnership-support-workshops>  
**Melbourne:** March 18-20, 1330 Ferntree Gully Rd Scoresby, Sydney: March 24-26, WEC International 48 Woodside Ave Strathfield  
 Contact Rachel for more information and enquiries: (03) 9890 0644, [admin@missionsinterlink.org.au](mailto:admin@missionsinterlink.org.au)

**Transition Training** is a 10 day orientation program provided by



Missions Interlink. The course provides teaching and practical experience in many of the skills necessary for making an effective transition to another culture.  
**Dates:** 23rd June – 2nd July 2014  
**Venue:** Belgrave Heights Convention Lodge  
**Contact:** Kate Pocklington 0415 556 423

Brochure & Registration: <http://www.missionsinterlink.org.au/wp-content/uploads/TT-brochure-July-2014.pdf>

**Missions Interlink Language Learning (MILL)** is a 5 day pre-departure program designed to help develop the skills, techniques, methods and attitudes necessary to learn another language.

**Date:** Mon 16th – Fri 20th June, 2014  
**Venue:** Chestnut Hill Conference Lodge, St James Ave (off Glenhorn Rd), Kallista, Victoria.

**Brochure & Registration:** <http://www.missionsinterlink.org.au/events/mill-vic-missions-interlink-language-learning>

### Missions Interlink Short-term Training (MIST)

**MIST** is a 3-4 day weekend course designed to provide an environment in which participants are stimulated to think and learn more about the challenges of living and working as a 'short-termer' in a cross-cultural setting. MIST dates are yet to be confirmed for 2014. For more details see [www.missionsinterlink.org.au/training/mist](http://www.missionsinterlink.org.au/training/mist)

## GOSPEL OPPORTUNITY Mount Magnet, Western Australia

Mount Magnet, Western Australia, is a mining town located 6 hours drive north-west of Perth. It is a regional centre with a population of approximately 750 people.



The District High School has students from Kindergarten to Year 12. Eighty of the 113 students (over two-thirds) are Aboriginal.

Who will reach the people of Mount Magnet with the gospel? The Presbyterian Inland Mission has a patrol based in Mount Magnet. The current Patrol Padre, Bert Pierce, together with his wife Penny, are due for retirement. PIM has a church building and a residence. The only other Church in town is Roman Catholic.

The town has a significant Aboriginal population and for this reason, APWM has entered into a partnership with PIM to help fund the cost of a new Patrol Padre for Mount Magnet.

APWM & PIM recently interviewed Surendra and May'an Wesley for the position of PIM Padre at the Mount Magnet Patrol. Surendra was born in India and May'an was born in New Zealand. Both have lived in Australia for extended periods and have experience in a rural

environment. Surendra has just completed his theological studies in India.

The next step is to raise the needed support for this ministry. APWM has set a goal of raising \$30,000 a year in team support for the Mount Magnet Patrol ministry. Will you consider partnering with us in this ministry to Aboriginals who live in outback Australia?



Surendra, May'an and Gabriella Wesley

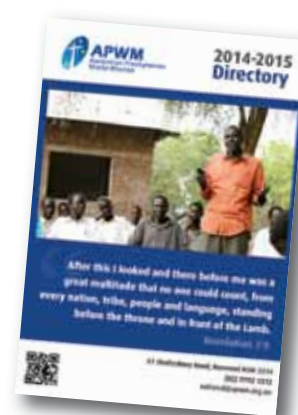
If you would like to give to this ministry or join the regular support team for Mount Magnet, then please forward your pledge or gift to our office using the form on page 4 of this newsletter.



Mount Magnet

## 2014-2015 APWM Directory

In early 2014 our new APWM Directory will be available. It will be distributed via churches so please look out for your free copy. The Directory is a great way of keeping up to date on who is serving with APWM and where they are located. It is a great aid to the APWM Email Update Prayer notes. Please note that the Directory will NOT be available in a digital format.



## AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION [www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au)

### NATIONAL OFFICE

81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood NSW 2134 **T:** (temporary 0421 366 720)

Rob Falls **E:** [national@apwm.org.au](mailto:national@apwm.org.au) • Bruce Campbell **E:** [finance@apwm.org.au](mailto:finance@apwm.org.au)

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR** Kevin Murray **M:** 0421 366 720 **E:** [kevinmurray@apwm.org.au](mailto:kevinmurray@apwm.org.au)

**FEDERAL CONVENER** Alex Shaw **T:** 0403 778 151 **E:** [alex\\_4\\_shaw@internode.on.net](mailto:alex_4_shaw@internode.on.net)

### STATE CONVENERS

**Qld** Nathan Stewart  
**E:** [nathan@stewartfamily.id.au](mailto:nathan@stewartfamily.id.au)

**Tas** Norman Shellard  
**E:** [shellard@tpg.com.au](mailto:shellard@tpg.com.au)

**NSW** Robert McKean  
**E:** [rpmckean@exemail.com.au](mailto:rpmckean@exemail.com.au)

**SA** Gary Ware  
**E:** [gjware@internode.on.net](mailto:gjware@internode.on.net)

**Vic** Phil Simmonds  
**E:** [convener@apwmvic.org.au](mailto:convener@apwmvic.org.au)

**WA** Steve Woods  
**E:** [macstevewoods@yahoo.com](mailto:macstevewoods@yahoo.com)





## WENDY HENRY TALKS WITH NAREE KEIGHLEY ABOUT HER STORY

**Wendy:** Welcome to Girl Talk, Naree! Although we've not actually met before, I've seen your name recently in connection with the M2W (Ministry to Women) course at QTC, which we've been talking about on Girl Talk for the past year or so. But more about that later .... It's always great to meet new people and find out about their stories. So let's start with your name ... Naree. It's unusual, and I'm wondering if there's a story behind that?

Naree: I like to joke that my parents were just bad spellers and couldn't spell Maree but they actually got the name off some friends of theirs. When I introduce myself, people often hear it wrong, so I end up getting called Maree and Mary a lot.

**W:** Now we've got that sorted, let's go back to the beginning and find out where you grew

up and where you are currently living.

N: I grew up in Kyogle. It's a small town but lots of people seem to have met someone from there. I left home at 18 to go to university. These days I'm living in Wynnum West.

**W:** And what kind of studies/work etc did you do along the way?

N: I studied Journalism at QUT and worked at a newspaper in Lismore for two years, then decided to go to Bible College. So I headed off to SMBC and did two years there.

**W:** What about your family ... tell us about them and what an average day might look like for you?

N: I'm married to Jeff; we met at SMBC and will have our 8th anniversary in January. We have a daughter Gemma who is 7 .... honey moon baby! Five days a week I drop



Gemma and Naree Keighley

Gemma to school in Woolloongabba, then drive around to QTC at St Lucia and work as the Events Co-ordinator and PA to the Principal. On Sundays you'll find us at Manly-Lota Presbyterian where Jeff is the minister.

**W:** So how did your becoming a Christian fit into all of this?

N: My parents are Christians. They really love Jesus, so I grew up knowing that God was real. There were a few 'lightbulb moments' along the way, when I realised I was a sinner and that following Jesus meant handing over my whole life, not just bits and pieces.

**W:** Did that change the way you lived your life? How did that work for you?

N: It made me very thankful that Jesus died for me. And it made me realise that my life is not my own; I was bought at a price. So I try not to live to just please myself but to think about pleasing God. (Like all Christians I am a work in progress.) I always remember something Elizabeth Ford said at a camp I went to, "Holiness doesn't happen overnight, but it does happen".

**W:** She could be right there. Who or what do you think helped or encouraged you most, as you grew to know Jesus more?

N: I've met some amazing Christians along the way. There were a bunch of people from surrounding towns on the North Coast that I used to hang out with in high school. They took following Jesus seriously and just watching their passion for prayer and Bible reading made me realise that I was a pretty lazy Christian. Then moving to Brisbane, I started going to Unichurch and heard some great teaching there and through AFES.

And then there are all the girls over the years who I have met with 1-1 to read the Bible and pray. That has been hugely encouraging and I still have a strong bond with a lot of them.

**W:** What challenges has life brought you?

N: Our daughter Gemma was born with a genetic condition. When she was a baby we were told that she was blind and had an intellectual impairment. That was pretty hard to take; we shed a lot of tears (and still do). Now that she is older she can actually see more than they thought she could, but she didn't learn to walk until she was four and she hasn't learnt to talk. A lot of my life's other challenges tend to pale in comparison to that one.

**W:** That certainly sounds like a huge responsibility for you. Has your knowledge of God and His Word helped you with this or any other challenges of life . either personally or in walking beside others? Do you have a favourite scripture that encourages you?

N: When we first found out about Gemma's disabilities we were really comforted to know that God is in control of everything. Having had this experience has certainly brought us into contact with people we wouldn't otherwise have met and led to some interesting discussions with other parents of disabled kids. A favourite verse of mine, even before Gemma came along, is 'Many are the plans of a man's heart but it is the Lord's way that prevails' (Proverbs 19:21).

**W:** How have others encouraged you in difficult times?

N: Usually not with words to tell you the truth! We've had Christians say some Biblically true but unhelpful words to us over the years. When

we were living in Ballina a group of ladies from our church saw that everything was getting a bit much for me and they set up a roster so that two people would come to my house three mornings a week. One would do some cleaning and one would do some physio exercises with Gemma or read to her while she was strapped in her standing frame. It was such a blessing. I love those ladies!

**W:** They sound amazing! And what do you like to do to relax after a tough day or just anytime?

N: I love to read and to cook sweet things. Unfortunately I also love to eat sweet things, so I don't cook very often.

**W:** Sounds like a plan! Finally Naree, can you tell us a little about what your role has been in the Ministry to Women course and what that's been like for you?

N: To tell you the truth my role is pretty minimal. As the Events Co-ordinator I generally promote things, so I send letters to churches telling them what a great course M2W is. And any emails from Fiona and Robyn that need to go out to the ladies enrolled usually get sent by me.

**W:** Well, now we'll know who you are if we receive any promotional material from you .... Thanks so much for encouraging us all by sharing your story.

See information for Ladies Bible Study retreat on the "What's On" page. The retreat will be held from 23-25 May at QCCC Brookfield and the guest speaker will be Beate Teale on the topic *The Unexpected Jesus*.

## WOMEN @ PRAYER ...

Jabez was more honourable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain". Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request.

*1 Chronicles 4:9-10*

- Praise God because He hears our prayers and answers them. Pray that in 2014 God might be pleased to bless us and enlarge our territories and areas of ministry to one another.
- Pray for the 2014 Ministry to Women course at QTC and that many women will be able to arrange their busy lives so that they can attend and be blessed by the teaching they receive. Pray for those organising the course and delivering the material that they will be confident, focussed and clear in their message of passing on the gospel.
- Pray for others who are facing new milestones in studying the Word, perhaps by attending a Growth Group for the first time, or reading the Bible with someone, one-to-one, or being involved in some other mentoring process in the model of Titus 2. Pray that they will be encouraged by those around them as they take new bold steps for the sake of the gospel.
- Give thanks for chaplains (in schools, hospitals and prisons), for Scripture Union workers, for those who teach scripture classes in schools, for AFES workers in universities. Pray for those who teach and care for the very young, that they might be as Jesus to them, always striving to model exemplary Christian behaviour.
- Pray for those who find themselves in challenging or painful situations – starting new jobs or studies, returning to difficult situations, Christians in secular workplaces, working mums, difficult family situations (eg blended families, special needs children, relationship struggles, caring for newborns, elderly, disabled, or those with mental health issues etc). Pray that God's hand will be with them and they will be kept from harm and pain.
- Pray that as we minister to those around us in our families, churches and communities, we would continually seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the right words to say and the best ways to reach out to them, so that they might be clearly pointed towards Jesus and so discover for themselves the hope He gives to those who trust in Him, as they deal with the challenges of life.
- Praise God for the encouragement of His Word and pray for opportunities to read it together in groups or one-to-one. Give thanks for Christian homes and schools, churches, youth groups and kids ministries where the Word of God is taught faithfully.
- Pray for WMPCQ as we start the new year with a revised vision, goals and plans to minister to the women of Queensland, and with a strong desire to work together closely with other ministries in our churches with similar objectives.



## MINISTRY to WOMEN

*A 12-week course for women serving in local churches*

Ministry to Women (M2W) is for women who would love to be equipped to serve Christ more effectively. The focus will be on understanding, teaching and applying the gospel of Jesus to ourselves and to other women in the context of one-to-one relationships, small groups, and evangelism to women.

The course will run on Mondays from 10am-1pm starting February 17 and will cost \$250 (including reading material).

For more information and a course outline visit [www.qtc.edu.au/ministry2women](http://www.qtc.edu.au/ministry2women)

To get an application form email [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)



QUEENSLAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



Be Connected with WMPCQ through the website + newsletter  
[www.wmpcq.com](http://www.wmpcq.com), or email [pcqwomen@gmail.com](mailto:pcqwomen@gmail.com).





'JESUS CHRIST has defeated death, don't be afraid, keep the faith' was the message at the CMS Summer School 2014 Mission Conference.

More than 650 people kickstarted their year at Tamborine by exploring the Book of Revelation and mission opportunities in Australia and overseas.

'It's divided Bible-believing generations, but Revelation is still very relevant today, especially to the persecuted church', said keynote Bible teacher Rev. Peter Rodgers, Federal Secretary of CMS Australia and former missionary to Indonesia.

"The message written to every church in every generation that is suffering is: victory is won through Christ!" Mr Rodgers said. "Most of the church, most of the time, suffer for their faith. That is normal. We are the exception."

Held from 3-8 January, the conference featured practical, informative seminars and electives on victorious Christian living, understanding Buddhism and Islam, ministry to international students, refugees and Indigenous Australians and developing a church mission program.

"It's exciting to see people from many different churches coming together eager to support God's work in the world", said Rev. Jeremy Gehrmann, General Secretary of the CMS Queensland with Northern NSW branch.

"One minister told me that he wonders if he is wasting his time in a suburban local church. What is the best use of his time to reach gospel-poor people? The needs throughout the world are so great.

"For many people, Summer School broadened their view of mission, by equipping them with ideas and solid biblical grounding to engage with



Rev. Peter Rodgers, CMS-Australia Federal Secretary, presenting at CMS Summer School 2014, Tamborine



Ros Barrett from Acacia Ridge Presbyterian Church leading the worship team at CMS Summer School 2014

people cross-culturally at a local level, as well as being partners in global mission."

Guest speakers at this year's conference also included Dr Kang-San Tan, Executive Director for AsiaCMS and official spokesperson for the World Evangelical Alliance on Interfaith Issues, and Richard Shumack, mission expert on engaging Muslims and member of Scholars with a Dream (coordinated by Ravi Zacharias International Ministries).

Missionaries also presented on how they are currently serving or preparing to serve long-term in

Tanzania, Japan, Nepal, Italy, south-east Asia and northern Australia.

CMS Queensland with Northern NSW has been holding the annual Summer School since 1963, made possible through the dedication of many volunteers committed to a world that knows Jesus.

CMS is a fellowship of Christian people committed to cross-cultural mission. CMS works with churches to set apart long-term workers who cross cultures to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

For more information about CMS, visit [www.cms.org.au](http://www.cms.org.au).

## Friends of Kingsford Terrace gather for morning tea



OVER 50 guests, including those who have already committed to the Kingsford Terrace community and lifestyle, attended a morning tea and presentation at the brand new Display Suite on site at Corinda in December.

This event was the second Friends of Kingsford Terrace gathering, but the first to be held in the newly-built Display Suite.

Attendees were eager to explore the suite and see for themselves the quality fittings and fixtures they'd heard so much about. Feedback was very positive, with guests commenting on the impressive high ceilings, European appliances and modern look of the display apartment.

Former CEO of Retirement Villages Association, Andrew Giles, was the special guest speaker and spoke about the benefits of community living and the emerging trends across retiring in Australia. Andrew advised his audience that they were the pioneers of retirement living in Australia, paving the way for future living trends for seniors. The lifestyle being created at Kingsford Terrace is the way of the future and one which is clearly appealing to many retirees.

*If you're interested in coming along to the new Display Suite on site at Corinda and seeing what this exciting new development will look like, please contact Kingsford Terrace on 1300 287 672 or visit [kingsfordterrace.com.au](http://kingsfordterrace.com.au) to register your interest.*

## Encouraging a real community atmosphere at Kingsford Terrace

WITH AUSTRALIANS living more independent, healthy and active lives well into retirement, the importance of communal recreational areas within a retirement village cannot be overstated.

Future residents of Kingsford Terrace will be encouraged to participate in the many interest and sporting groups and clubs that will be available from the moment they settle into their brand new apartment. The Concierge, responsible for facilitating day trips, competitions and general interest activities, will act as the catalyst in building the community spirit at Kingsford.

The concept for the Southern Cross Community Centre was simple; to create an extension of the residents' apartments, a place they feel belongs to them where they can relax with friends in the cocktail bar, take in a movie in the comfort of the theatre room, compete in a bridge tournament while overlooking the gardens, or simply do a few leisurely laps of the swimming pool.

There are so many features and facilities at the centre that residents can be as active or as laid-back as they choose. Facilities include a billiards room, library, games room, cocktail bar, café restaurant, function room, gymnasium, consulting rooms for health practitioners, a rooftop garden, hairdresser, indoor swimming pool and a chapel.

It is common practice for many new retirement villages to build their community centre only once all stages of development are completed. However, the facilities at the Southern Cross will be available for use from the first day residents move into Stage One of Kingsford Terrace.

# Celebrating 100 years of life



Ethel Priestly cutting her cake with her two children Bruce and Penny

MRS ETHEL Priestly, aged 100 years, crosses the extremely busy Warrego and Leichhardt Highway intersection at Miles (centre of Surat Basin coal seam gas) to her Presbyterian Church for morning worship.

Ethel was born Ethel Margaret Frier on 14 October 1913 in Geelong Victoria. The family attended the Noble Street Methodist Church at Newtown/Chilwell.

She was schooled at 'Neossia' Private School, Flinders State School and then Geelong High School. In 1935-1941 Ethel was involved with the choir and the Sunday School activities in the Darling Road Methodist Church. Returning to the Noble Street Methodist Church she 'reluctantly' led a junior boys' Bible class, later becoming the superintendent of the kindergarten for 14 years.

In 1956 Ethel married Robert Fraer Mellor, attending the Lorne Presbyterian Church from 1964 to 1974.

Moving to Queensland, they attended the Indooroopilly Presbyterian Church until 1977.

In 1980 they purchased the property of 'Wallen Park', 7500 acres near Miles and attached themselves to the Miles Presbyterian Church.

Ethel and Bob were blessed with two children, Bruce and Penny (Mrs Penny Heard and her three daughters). Bruce has helped to enhance the Presbyterian worship



Ethel arriving for the morning service at Miles

services with his outstanding musical expertise on piano and organ.

Sadly Ethel's husband, Bob, missed celebrating her 100th as he passed away in August at the age of 96.

Ethel's faith has been reinforced by teaching from Rev. Stuart Andrews, Rev. Jim Brown, the late Rev. Bruce Harrison, Pastor Harold Wills, Rev.

Walter Jones, Pastor Josh Acason and the local elders.

She has a faith which has a strong focus on missionary endeavours and support, daily family Bible readings and prayer time after breakfast - a foundation that has been exhibited in her lifestyle and is well respected in the Miles community.



# An Adventure with God

## Robyn Sansbury's Story

ROBYN SANSBURY, a member of the Caloundra congregation, worked for a number of years for one of the large supermarket chains in Caloundra. Increasingly, however, she wondered how she might more effectively serve the Lord through the gifts that He had given her.

Little did she know then what He had in store for her, or how He would use the agencies of the PCQ to provide a fruitful sphere of ministry for her in fulfilment of her desire to serve Him.

Four years ago Robyn's life took on a new direction and became something of an adventure with God, an adventure in which our own PresCare had a role.

As she began to explore what the Lord might have in store for her, Robyn found employment as a part-time pastoral carer with PresCare, based at what was then the new Kawana Office. Then three years ago she began further studies with Christian Heritage College in Brisbane.

On 6 December 2013, three years of hard work, and sometimes inconvenient travel to Brisbane, paid off when Robyn received her Bachelor of Social Science degree from Christian Heritage College. Her degree, and that of a number of other recipients, was capped off by a "Dean's Commendation" for a grade point average that was 6.0 or above.

It was a very special occasion, not only for Robyn and her husband Stan, but also for others who came in support of Robyn as she celebrated her achievement and that of about 200 other graduates that evening.

Among the two thousand or more people present were Alan and Di Pattemore, Michelle Taylor, PresCare volunteer Joan Grayson and Ian and Norma McIver, all from the Caloundra congregation, along with John Gilmour, Director of Chaplaincy, and Julie Hoffman, Volunteer Manager, both of whom represented PresCare, and Keith and Glenda Booker from Church Office and PresCare.

John and Glenda both played a major role in the practical assignments that were required as part of Robyn's degree course.

As part of her third year placement, Christian Heritage College required Robyn to spend time working in an aged care residential facility. John Gilmour suggested that she could do some work at Vela, PresCare's aged care facility in the Brisbane suburb of Carina, to fulfill this requirement. Glenda Booker, the Chaplain at Vela, acted as her mentor for the semester. Glenda is very experienced in her chaplaincy role so, by working with her, Robyn was able to learn a great deal about the practical issues of chaplaincy. Robyn is very grateful for the mentoring role that Glenda provided for her during her practical assignment for the College.

Her time at Vela also gave Robyn the chance to compare the differences and similarities of a chaplaincy role in a residential aged care setting. It also helped her to see that God had

entrusted her with an important ministry to fulfill in the community as a Pastoral Carer for PresCare, and that she needed to be totally dependent upon the Lord's wisdom and guidance to carry out that role in an effective and accountable manner.

Over the last several years it has been wonderful to see how the Lord has led Robyn in the development of her own particular talents for ministry.

Equally, it has been wonderful to see the way in which the Lord has seamlessly brought together Robyn's desire to serve Him within the Presbyterian Church, not only in her own local congregation at Caloundra where she has given so much, but also through the agency of PresCare.

For those of us who have been in the Presbyterian Church for any length of time, it is also wonderful to see how the ministry of PresCare has blossomed in recent years as our Christian commitment as a Church permeates our compassionate ministry in aged care.

Robyn's involvement with PresCare has provided her with a community within the wider Presbyterian Church where she has been able to hone her gifts and where she will, in coming years, Lord willing, be able to make an even greater contribution to the ministry of aged care that PresCare does so effectively on behalf of the PCQ.

At the same time her links with her local congregation mean that Robyn provides a vital connection between the local church and the wider work of PresCare through the monthly lunches for clients that are often hosted in the Caloundra Church Hall.



Robyn Sansbury

The link between PresCare and local congregations is important and needs to be developed.

The ministry of aged care in general, and of our own PresCare in particular, is set to grow enormously as the post-war baby boomers swell the ranks of the retirees and of an aging Australian population. The members of Presbyterian congregations will not be exempt from this aging process; nor from the need of care in advanced old age.

Thank you, Christian Heritage College for your vision for the application of Christian faith to all of life and for your contribution to Robyn's preparation for ministry.

Thank you, PresCare for your ministry of compassion on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland and for your support of Robyn as she worked towards the important milestone that her studies at Christian Heritage College represent. It's good to be part of an adventure with God, and to know that He is still very much at work in our Church and its institutions!

And above all, congratulations Robyn!



Glenda Booker, Chaplain at PresCare Vela, shares Robyn's graduation night

### BOOK OF FAMILY WORSHIP 2014



Orders for the 2012 Book of Family Worship can be sent to Church Supplies, PO Box 1508, Fortitude Valley. Cost will be \$1 per copy plus postage.

### PMSA announcement



Mr Mike Willis

THE PMSA Chairman, Mr Des Robinson, has announced that the PMSA Executive Director, Mr Mike Willis, will be taking an extended sabbatical break over coming months, and will not be returning to the role at the end of that break.

Mr Robinson said, 'Mike has served the PMSA well for over eight years but we acknowledge that it is time for him to take a well-deserved break, and move on to the next stage of his professional career. We give thanks for his important contribution to the PMSA and wish him every blessing for his future.'

'Mike's contributions to the PMSA's governance, strategic direction, financial health and employee relations, including his work on the PMSA's Quality Teaching Framework, have been significant.'

'As a result of Mike's departure, the PMSA Council is reviewing the structure of the PMSA corporate office to ascertain how it can best serve the future of the PMSA and its schools.'

'The PMSA Council appreciates the excellent work done by Mike as the first Executive Director of the PMSA and looks forward to building on his work in serving the purpose of quality Christian schooling.'



Rt Rev David Cook

A FRIEND gave me a copy of a book and in order to whet my appetite read the following paragraph:

*"What we must grasp is that the one tri-personal God, our God, operates as a team, all three persons within the divine unity, working together in full conjunction with each other to carry through a single, huge, mind blowing plan: namely to establish a multibillion strong community of redeemed human beings, each one an enormously complex entity in creational terms, within a fully reconstructed cosmos, with Jesus Christ the Mediator at its centre for all eternity... it is beyond us to conceive or imagine this glorious*

*from the Moderator General*

## Upcoming seminars

*transformation of our more or less disordered selves, living in our more or less disordered world, which is all we know at present".*

The book is "Taking God Seriously" by J. I. Packer.

In the book, Packer refers to the fuzzification of the faith and the growing Biblical illiteracy of the Western Church.

I recently heard a critic of denominational churches in Australia describing them as "moralistic, therapeutic and deistic", in which the primitive gospel of the Lord Jesus and the apostles is simply not known.

As a result, at the opening of the GAA in September, I said that I had asked David Jones and Peter Barnes to join me in conducting three day seminars for ministers, candidates and Metro students of the Presbyterian Church throughout Australia, initially at the three Presbyterian Colleges, in order to address this drift to theological fuzziness.

We have now finalized the program at which David Jones and I will

preach and speak about forming preaching clubs and preparing and critiquing sermons; Peter will talk about discipling and give three talks on the pastoral method of Baxter, Simeon and Spurgeon.

At the seminar we will be launching a book for group and private study, written at a devotional level, with study questions, on the basics of what we believe. We are currently working on what we hope will be a catchy title, however here are the contents:

- Chapter 1 The authority and integrity of the Bible**  
**Dr David Burge**
- Chapter 2 The reality of the Trinity**  
**Rev. Peter Hastie**
- Chapter 3 The reality of ourselves**  
**Rev. Neil Chambers**
- Chapter 4 The character and purpose of God**  
**Dr Greg Goswell**
- Chapter 5 The person and work of Christ**  
**Dr Bryson Smith**

**Chapter 6 The person and work of the Holy Spirit**  
**Dr Gary Millar**

**Chapter 7 The nature and process of salvation**  
**Dr Peter Barnes**

**Chapter 8 The church's place in God's economy**  
**Dr Ian Smith**

The GAA Christian Education Committee will publish the book.

I hope all ministers and candidates will come. The GAA Trustees are facilitating the seminars by budgeting money to help with costs.

The dates we have organized thus far are:

**PTC Sydney 17-19 June 2014**

**PTC Melbourne 17-19 March 2015**

**QTC Brisbane 18-20 November 2015**

We are prepared to travel to Tasmania, Western Australia and North Queensland if there are groups who would organize these visits. I can be contacted at [dac@damc.com.au](mailto:dac@damc.com.au).

Closer to the time, the Colleges will produce a brochure of the full seminar program.

As teaching elders it is vital that we keep ourselves fresh. I am praying that God will use these seminars to lift our love of God and His truth and rekindle our Holy Spirit filled passion to teach and pastor His people.

*"Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God which He bought with His own blood."*  
Acts 20:28



# 150 years of ministry on the Darling Downs



Rev. Peter Playsted, Mr John Strachan, Hon. Greg Rodgers, Rev. Rob Farr, Very Rev. Dr Ken Gardner



Commemorative plaque

1863 – 2013  
Presbyterian Church celebrating 150 yrs  
of Christian witness in the Darling Downs  
Unveiled on the 30th November, 2013  
by Hon. Greg Rodgers  
Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of  
Queensland

THE WEEKEND starting Friday, 29 November 2013, saw the beginning of a series of special events held on the Darling Downs to commemorate 150 years of continuous witness and work by the gracious hand of Almighty God through the Presbyterian Church of Queensland.

While this occasion was remembered by Presbyterian churches across the Darling Downs on that weekend, for many the centre of the activities was to be found in Toowoomba, the largest city on the Downs and a centre with three Presbyterian churches.

On Friday, there was a combined worship service held at Christ Life Presbyterian in West Toowoomba, where the theme was squarely centred on thanksgiving and praise to our glorious God for His faithfulness and provision throughout these last 150 years.

The Moderator of PCQ, Hon. Greg Rodgers, was the special guest speaker at the service, and there were short reports from a number of churches in the Presbytery of Darling Downs as to how God has led them over the years and what they see as His leading in the future.

There were wonderful musical items from a local chorale, the Helen Earley Ensemble, as well as great singing from those present as hymns and songs of praise expressed gratitude to our God for His mercy and loving guidance of us all.

At the conclusion of the evening, those present took the opportunity to catch up with others for a chat and some wonderful fellowship as we also examined displays set up by various congregations to share pictorially some of the highlights of church life in the past 150 years.

Saturday 30 November saw a



Anniversary cake

gathering of enthusiastic folks at St David's church hall to hear from local historian, Mr John Clement, who shared many interesting facts and tales regarding the various Presbyterian worship centres on the Darling Downs over the years. There was even a bus tour for those who wanted to see first-hand some of the things that John was telling them about.

One very significant event on the Saturday was the unveiling of a plaque by the Moderator, Hon. Greg Rodgers, commemorating the 150 years of continuous witness and work of God through the Presbyterian Church. The plaque was mounted on a cairn which was made to celebrate the 100th anniversary and erected on the site of the first Presbyterian church in Toowoomba.

The local member of Parliament, Hon. John McVeigh, accepted our invitation to join in the celebrations of a very memorable event in the life of the Church and also in the history of the Darling Downs.

Showery weather did little to dampen the enthusiasm of those present, as we sought to give God the glory for His faithfulness over the past 150 years in particular.

On Sunday, a special combined worship service at St David's, North Toowoomba saw other Presbyterian churches on the Darling Downs come together with the North Toowoomba Presbyterian congregation. The service was led by the Very Rev. Dr Ken Gardner and Rev. Peter Playsted with the Queensland Moderator bringing the message from God's Word, and the service included the sacrament of Communion around the Lord's Table.

After the service, the ladies of St David's coordinated a wonderful 'bring & share' celebration lunch. It was another great time of fellowship for Presbyterians from churches all over the Darling Downs and there was even a special 150th anniversary cake baked for the occasion. Of course, the Moderator did the honours and cut the cake for us.

All in all, it was a marvellous time of celebration and thanksgiving for us here on the Darling Downs as we truly thank God for, and seek to draw attention to, His unfailing grace, love, mercy and direction of His continuous work over the past 150 years in this area.

Our prayer is that should He tarry, He will continue to bless and keep us for the next 150 years and beyond; at least until He takes us all home to be with Him forever.

There are many who are deserving of special thanks, but I'm sure that all would agree that it is God alone that deserves the glory for the weekend and for all that He has done, continues to do and will do in the future – praise His glorious Name.



Hon. Greg Rodgers with long-standing members of St David's, Elva Turrell, Ailsa Poole, Joan Sheath and Hélène Dietz



St David's Toowoomba



Back row from left: Judy Putt, Alison Cox  
Front row from left: Narelle Auld (tutor), Kerry Riley, Meryl Young, Jayne Swift, Suzanne Wright, Jenny O' Hagan & Lyn Bohn

## Reflections from a new camper

by Judy Putt, Townsville

MY FIRST visit to the much talked about craft camp!!

I have never been in a position to attend the camp prior to this year due to time and distance so this year was it!! God willing, I would be able to attend.

Of course there was that added little encouragement from Jan who is ever on the lookout for new craft ideas. The truth of the matter is that Jan coopted my friend, Rosemary, from Atherton to be a tutor at the camp, which she agreed to, so I went along as support and possible helper.

The SDA venue at Dakabin, I must say, suited the needs of the campers very well. Accommodation was motel style (own amenities) shared between the three northern ladies. Transport to Dakabin was a little anxiety provoking given the venue was a distance away from the station but to the rescue came Edith, from Cairns, who organized with Jane to collect us all. What a blessing it was to have selfless people who made the weekend run so smoothly. Our thanks must surely go to Jan and her team of workers!!!! Of course the meals were excellent also (we always seemed to be eating!).

The speakers over the weekend were inspirational. For these women to share their joy and love of the Lord, after experiencing adversities throughout their lives, was a real inspiration and testament of God's grace and love.

Down to the craft. There was something for everyone (almost). What amazed me was the stamina some of these crafters had! After the evening activities, when I needed to go to bed, many were back in the craft room busy at their projects! Now that is dedication.

My craft of choice I must admit is mostly around the sewing machine but distance restricted being able to carry the equipment required so I stepped out of my comfort zone and tried a different medium - and what a great choice it was. Narelle, our excellent tutor (patience must be her real gift) instructed us to a point where we completed our artwork framed and all!! I would not say I have a natural gift for art but certainly the desire to learn more has been fed.

Overall, I would say the experience was well worth it. Would I recommend the camp to others? Most definitely!!!!!!



# Children's moving tribute to their father



Bruce Harrison

BRUCE JAMES Harrison was born on 11 February 1954, the eldest child of Jim and Elaine.

There was much drama, as they had to take him home during the only cyclone ever to hit Brisbane. They went home to the house that Jim had built at 90 Pembroke Street Carina, where Jim and Elaine have now lived for over 60 years. The house is located on the corner of Pembroke and Bruce Streets, which was a mere coincidence. In 1959 his only sister Lynette was born, who he called 'Net'.

Bruce started school at Carina State School when he was still four, soon to be five. He became a Scout because of his father's involvement as a Scout Master, and then Senior Scout Leader.

In 1966 he started high school at Camp Hill High School. He was the only one in his Junior class to fail English and pass German. Bruce graduated Senior with good marks in Physics and Technical Drawing, but again failed English. His goal of being an Architect was ruined, but he discovered that because of his good technical drawing marks he could do a civil engineering certificate. In Bruce's words, "The trouble with failing English is that everyone assumes you are thick as two logs and nobody wants to employ you".

While studying the Civil Engineering Certificate, he managed to get a job with Antony Todd and Partners as a cadet Draftsman. In his time there, he worked in the Civil Department, planning roads. Even though wanting to be an architect, he came to love being a Draftsman.

While working at Antony Todd, Bruce made some very good friends, John Mulder and Martin De Vries, but at heart he was still a 'lone wolf'. When he joined the QIT bushwalking club he would have many walking adventures at Lamington National Park with them, but just as many on his own.

His interest and love of caving also

started around this time at the caves in Texas, and then to Mt Etna at Rockhampton and later in Chillagoe in North Queensland.

At 18, he left the Senior Scouts and became a Rover Scout. In 1974, he organised an Easter trip to Carnarvon Gorge for the Rover Crew. While there he led what is known as a Scouts' Own, which was his first ever preaching experience.

In 1975, Bruce went to New Zealand with the QIT bushwalking club, where he walked the Milford Track, among many other great walks.

During 1976 and 1977, he went to visit his penpal in America twice, only his chance at romance was not successful. In his words, "Lost and lonely I went to a Presbyterian Church in San Francisco. I have no idea what the Minister preached; all I know is that he preached Jesus. I had always been confused about how Jesus came into it. I understood God, and this man opened my eyes to Jesus. I happened to walk into one church that preached the Gospel, preached Jesus. I became a saved Christian."

In 1978, he trained to be a pilot gaining his private pilot's licence and was able to fly out over Stradbroke Island solo. Working at Antony Todd and Partners was very stressful with deadlines. He often had to 'go bush' in order to de-stress.

In January 1979 Bruce moved to Cairns and got a job with the Mareeba Shire Council as a Draftsman. One thing he loved about living in Mareeba was how close it was to the Chillagoe caves. He eventually joined the Chillagoe Caving Club and many weekends were spent caving at Chillagoe.

After a year, he bought a 4 bedroom house at 20 Basalt Street in Mareeba. He had three mates boarding with him - Glen Park, Ian Pack and Ian Stoodley. Before the 4th bedroom was taken by Ian Stoodley, a man who wanted to stay with them came to dinner to check out the house. At

the dinner table, they all sat down and said grace. On the walls of the house were various Christian posters as the three of them were all Christians. They later found out through Ian Stoodley that this guy had thought they were a bunch of 'religious fellas' and he definitely wasn't interested in living with them.

At Easter 1980, Bruce went to a camp at Tinaroo, where he met a nice young lady from Cairns Presbyterian Church who took a shine to him. After going for a walk with her, she tried to hold hands with him. Dad thought she was a bit forward so Elizabeth found another boyfriend. In November, Bruce went to Cairns Presbyterian Church and found that same young lady sitting on her own, and single. So he asked her out. Most of their dates were bush walking or visiting old mining towns. Each time they went on a date, Bruce took her a red rose from his garden. (When he bought his house the front garden was covered in a vine. When he removed the vine he found that the previous owner had grown prized roses. This was a great way to win a girl's heart.)

In February 1981, after having dinner at 'Where People Can Eat, Meet and Greet in a Relaxed Atmosphere', Bruce took Liz to Bones Knob Lookout, where you could see the lights of Atherton, and asked her to marry him. She answered YES. Bruce said that it was exciting to drive along knowing that this woman would be at his side for his whole life. And she has been.

They were married on 26 September 1981 at Cairns Presbyterian Church. Marie Laird was their bridesmaid and mum's brother, David Riley, was their best man. For their honeymoon, they spent a couple of days at Bramston Beach and a couple of days in Sydney before going on to Tasmania. On their return to Mareeba, the old housemates had moved out of 20 Basalt Street so that his new wife could move in.

On 6 August 1983, their first child was born, Andrew Bruce. Bruce walked down the aisles of Mareeba hospital singing 'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow'.

On ANZAC Day 1985, Talitha Joy was born. Grandma and Grandpa Harrison came up for Talitha's baptism, and Grandpa also took Bruce up to see Gove where he served in the war.

During the next few years Bruce continued working for the Mareeba Shire Council. Many adventures were had around Mareeba and the surrounding areas with the two children, camping trips and a visit to Expo 88.

It was during 1988 that people started to tell Bruce that he may have talent for the ministry. He wondered if it was God calling him. One day Liz said to him, "Maybe it is God" and told him he should study, even though previously she had been very much against it. So Bruce applied.

Even though he had failed English, the Presbytery still said "it is amazing what can happen if God is in it" and sent him off to train.

Having plans of going to Europe on Bruce's long service, they had put off having any more babies. But after deciding to study instead of the holiday, Liz said, "I want my baby".

And little did they know when they moved from Mareeba to Brisbane just after Christmas, James had already been conceived. On moving to Brisbane they bought a house at Seventeen Mile Rocks.

At the start of 1989, Bruce started studying at the Queensland Theological Hall with two others in his class.

On 16 September 1989, James Douglas was born. The family moved to Miles after Bruce finished his study, and he was ordained as a Presbyterian minister in 1993. He was the Minister in the Presbyterian Church in Miles for six years.

He enjoyed many great friendships while living in Miles. While there, he was a member of the SES, which he really enjoyed.

In 1999, he took a call to the church in Springsure. Springsure is a place that he particularly loved because of the fact that the town was right below Mt Zamia where he loved to go and prepare his sermons. He always loved the bush and the mountains, so the fact that Mt Zamia and Carnarvon Gorge were so close to town was really great. In the time they lived in Springsure, the family went to Carnarvon Gorge more than 15 times. And they went up Mt Zamia countless times.

While in Springsure the family enjoyed a holiday to New Zealand for five weeks. Bruce had always wanted to take the family to walk the Milford Track like he had done years earlier with the QIT Bushwalking Club. The original plan was to go in the year 2000, but five weeks before leaving, James broke his leg. Because of travel insurance, the trip was postponed to a year later, even though Andrew had broken his arm three times in the eight months before.

In 2005 Bruce and Liz took the long service leave trip to Europe that they had always wanted. They flew first to England, and landed only a few hours after the London bombings.

In 2008 they also travelled to Italy and Greece visiting Patmos and Ephesus, and also to South Africa.

After ten years of ministering at the church in Springsure, Bruce felt it was time to move on and took a call to Gordonvale, moving back up to North Queensland - another place he really loved. It was here Bruce became ill but despite the fact that he was having chemo, Bruce and Liz enjoyed a cruise to New Zealand in December 2012.

Over the last year or so, even though Bruce was sick and his health was declining, he found it more important to spend time with his family than to get treatment in some cases. He definitely wanted quality of life, not quantity.

A life centred on family and ministry.



Bruce welcomed into ministry by then Moderator, Rt Rev Jack Knapp

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## \$10M affordable housing projects open for occupants in Rockhampton and Maryborough

MOVING INTO a brand new home for the first time in their lives has been made possible for a number of tenants with PresCare's \$10 million affordable housing projects in Rockhampton and Maryborough.

Residents moved into the two-bedroom units, which are located next to PresCare's Alexandra Gardens facility in North Rockhampton and Groundwater Lodge in Maryborough, in December.

Board Chairman Wayne Knapp says initial feedback from the residents has been positive, with one resident who had moved from public housing saying how impressed she was with the size of the unit.

"PresCare designed these units with senior living in mind", Mr Knapp says. "It was important these houses were not only aesthetically pleasing but also practical for older occupants. We have provided wider hallways, easier access to bathroom and kitchen facilities and as much light and space as is possible in a two-bedroom unit."

For several of the new residents, this is the first home they have lived in which is brand new.

"Seniors who struggle to find affordable housing in our communities often can't hope for anything more than cheap rent", Mr Knapp says. "We've not only been able to provide these units for 80% of the market rate, which in Rockhampton works out at \$240 a week and in Maryborough at \$160, but also make

some dreams come true in terms of having a nice new place to live."

Research shows many regional areas in Queensland are lacking in affordable rental accommodation for older people. Rockhampton is one of the fastest growing regions in Queensland. Over the next 20 years, Rockhampton's population will increase by over 14% and the over 65 age group will make up the largest proportion of this growth – over 20% of the local population. In Maryborough, the statistics are similar with expectations that over the next 25 years people 65 years and over will be the community's largest cohort.

PresCare sees NRAS-funded developments as a natural fit in its mission to care for older Queenslanders. Funded through the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) by the Australian Government in partnership with the Queensland Government, the 64 two-bedroom units have been built on land owned by the Presbyterian Church of Queensland.

Mr Knapp says PresCare is applying for further NRAS funding in the current round in regional areas and in south-east Queensland and hopes to announce further construction early in 2014.

Anyone over 55 years who is interested in the units should call PresCare on (07) 4999 3000.



NRAS development

## New digs for Fitzroy Community Services team



New premises for PresCare Fitzroy with expanding client base

THE FITZROY Community team moved into their new office in Bolsover Street Rockhampton just before Christmas, after their expanding client base meant they'd outgrown the old one!

PresCare Fitzroy was recently successful in taking over a package of Home and Community Care clients who were previously managed by Queensland Health. As this added 60 clients to the group, it was necessary to relocate to larger premises.

Now located in the Rockhampton CBD, PresCare anticipates it will be easier for clients and their families to contact and meet with the Community Services team.

Fitzroy Community Area Manager Wayne Snelson says that it's also about 'location, location, location'!

"Being centrally located now means our care workers have a place to come and catch up with each other, attend team meetings and de-brief."

"We now feel more accessible to the entire Fitzroy community, and we encourage anyone that is interested in information or needing assistance with advocacy on aged care issues to come in and chat to the team."

*The Fitzroy Community Services office is located at Unit 1, 160 Bolsover Street, North Rockhampton or call the team on 07 4921 7601.*

## Can you have your cake and eat it?



'Can you have your cake and eat it' information session held at Vela

PRESCARE VELA at Carina in Brisbane's south-east was proud to host an information session and networking event entitled 'Can you have your cake and eat it?' for around 60 aged care industry professionals in December.

The Heather Hill Pathways and Nursing Agency presented this session, with guest speaker Dr Anthony French talking to the group about new trends in diabetic management in the elderly.

Facility Manager Joy Cunningham said that she and her team really enjoyed having the event on site.

"Staff were given an opportunity to showcase our facility to industry

professionals", Joy says. "This resulted in many compliments on the facility itself and on the care and services we offer to our residents."

"We also found the session hugely educational, and it's important for us all to keep up our education so we can continue to provide the best possible service to those in our care."

Joy says that Dr French's presentation was very relevant to the group and gave them all a lot to think about in terms of how they approach the issue of diabetes and its treatment for the elderly and she appreciated the opportunity to network with her fellow facility managers and clinical nurse managers from across Brisbane.



## Day after day, month after month

WHEN PRESCARE first launched the 2013 Christmas Appeal there was much excitement.

A goal of \$50,000 was presented to help fund the implementation of a Social Isolation Program.

Although there has not previously been a formal initiative at PresCare to reduce social isolation in the communities in which we operate, over the years many caring employees, volunteers, members of the Presbyterian Church, family and friends have contributed their time to bring happiness into the lives of elderly people who are alone.

The time has now presented to ensure funding is available to formalise this program, a significant part of our commitment and dedication to our clients and their overall wellbeing.

Broadly scoped the program aims to develop a range of social activities for all PresCare clients to help overcome the disadvantage of loneliness, boredom, withdrawal and often depression which can result from being socially isolated, day after day, month after month.

There are three streams of development for the community activities – Friendship Clubs, Special Events and a Christmas Function.

All of these activities have identical objectives: to enhance the quality of life for elderly people at PresCare by reducing social isolation, increasing mobility and independence, educating clients, all under the umbrella of increased social interaction.

The key benefits to our clients are – to help them reconnect with their local community, develop and maintain social skills and enjoy greater social independence through sharing a meal, discussing the news of the day, enjoying beautiful music, swapping stories or going to a shopping centre and connecting with children. Enjoying the interplay of sharing knowledge, skills, ideas and stories means increased health and social wellbeing for everyone.

Everyone deserves that little extra bit of care when they live alone, especially at Christmas.

The last Christmas party held at Roslyn Lodge saw residents, their family and friends come together to celebrate over a delicious Christmas luncheon served by staff and volunteers. The event for 100 people was held in the main dining room, brightly decorated to add lots of visual fun to the occasion.

Many clients and residents suffer with dementia and depression. "A party brings out the joy in everyone", said Lorraine Nothling, Philanthropy Manager at PresCare. "It was such a pleasure for me to join with residents and their loved ones at Roslyn Lodge to share a meal and at the same time to feel the passion of care and love in the room."

"That's what philanthropy at PresCare is all about."

"It's about inviting people to make tax-deductible donations to help our PresCare teams present social activities that bring out the happiness, joy, fun and appreciation for the gift of life in everyone", Lorraine said.

The PresCare Christmas Appeal has raised just on \$20,000 towards the total goal of \$50,000. Throughout 2014, PresCare will continue to invite donations to reach the goal of \$50,000 to formally launch the Social Isolation Program.

To make a donation, you can go to the PresCare website and donate online – [www.prescare.org.au](http://www.prescare.org.au)

## A gift from above



Sharon Weir

SHARON WEIR says she doesn't believe it is simply good luck that she is now one of the new tenants in PresCare's Maryborough affordable housing development.

"I believe God had a hand in this", Sharon says. "I am so grateful that I was given the opportunity to live in this lovely new house."

"I've been house-sitting for the past 16 years as I couldn't afford to rent a house on my own, so now to have a place that's all mine is just an amazing

feeling."

Sharon says she loves the sense of space the high ceilings and wide entryways provide, and she is looking forward to putting her stamp on the place too.

"I've talked to PresCare about planting a vegie garden and some fruit trees, and they've been very positive about the idea. I love gardening and intend to ensure this lovely neighbourhood stays looking fresh and green."



# What's on ...

## Ladies Bible Study Retreat 2014

### The Unexpected Jesus

Guest speaker Beate Teale



5pm 23rd May to  
2pm 25 May, 2014.



QCCC Brookfield 179 Gold Creek Rd, Brookfield

*The committee of women responsible for the arranging of the Ladies Bible Study Retreat in May 2014 (formerly Be Nurtured) has been busy preparing for a great weekend of encouragement, fellowship and good Bible teaching. We have made some changes to how the weekend is conducted, and we think there is much to look forward to.*

*We pray that many of you will be encouraged to enjoy this time together as this is something we often say we wish for....time to really immerse ourselves in God's Word and fellowship together.*

*There's a lot more to this weekend than great Bible studies. It is one weekend of the year to step aside from the rush of life, to remove ourselves from the multitude of commitments we have to family and friends each day.*

*It's about taking a short time away with friends from church to really invest in our Christian lives, to put the time we often can't find into the relationships we care so much about.*

*Here is a brilliant opportunity to take a short break from that sometimes chaotic life, gather a group of friends that you 'love hanging with', and come to Brookfield, the bush in the city, and let's together dig deep into the scriptures.*

*Looking forward to seeing you there, Lorraine*



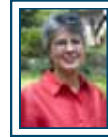
## What's on in 2014

### March 11-13: Preaching Week

*"That everyone might know his name"*

QTC's 3rd annual Preaching Week promises to be the best yet! A great line-up of speakers headed by Ray Galea (Multicultural Bible Ministry, Sydney) and Doug Green (Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia) will explore the challenge of preaching in Australia today so 'That everyone might know his name'. In addition, the 8 seminar streams will ensure that everyone has the chance to get set up for a fresh teaching series in church in 2014. See the website for more details

**August:** August will be packed full of great teaching as QTC partners with other Christian organisations to bring to you these world-class speakers.



**Kathleen Nielson : Date TBC**

Kathleen Nielson serves as director of women's initiatives for The Gospel Coalition. Author of the Living Word Bible studies, she speaks often at women's conferences and loves working with women in studying the Bible.



**Dr Michael Horton : August 23 : Talking Theology**

Dr. Horton has taught apologetics and theology at Westminster Seminary California since 1998. He has written many books, including *The Christian Faith: A Systematic Theology for Pilgrims on the Way*.



**Matt Chandler : August 25**

Matt Chandler is the lead pastor for teaching at The Village Church in Dallas, Texas. Chandler is involved in church planting around Dallas and across the world through The Village Church and other partnerships such as Acts 29.

### October 18: Children's Ministry Conference



It's anticipated that Colin Buchanan will join us at the Children's Ministry Conference next year. Colin has years of experience making God's word understandable and memorable for kids. He is, without a doubt, Australia's best-loved Christian children's artist. Colin began his working career as a teacher and has a proven track record for helping kids engage with ideas in the Bible, so this is sure to be a valuable conference to attend.

### 2015 Don Carson returns

Don Carson will be returning to QTC in July 2015 to conduct a series of lectures and speak at a citywide event.



Web: [qtc.edu.au](http://qtc.edu.au)  
Email: [events@qtc.edu.au](mailto:events@qtc.edu.au)

## briefly

### CHANGED ASSEMBLY DATES

The Assembly dates this year will be Celebration Rally, 28 June; Induction Service, 29 June; Assembly seminar and business meetings, 30 June-3 July. Mark in your diary and plan to come.

### UNIT TO LET

CALOUNDRA, beachside units, from \$300/week. For details contact Ray on 0427 990 161 or [rayandjean@hotmail.com](mailto:rayandjean@hotmail.com).

### TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES

Any charges wishing to make changes to their entry in the White Pages should contact Church Office on 3251 4100 or email [churchoffice@pcq.org.au](mailto:churchoffice@pcq.org.au)

### TIM KELLER/CITY TO CITY CONFERENCE

Check out the City to City Australia conference website at [www.citytocityconference.com](http://www.citytocityconference.com). It is full of information on all 4 events including detailed event descriptions, content and more. Online registrations are now being accepted for all events. If you haven't already registered for the Planters and Pastors Conference and Consultation, please do so soon as seats are filling up quickly!

## Darling Downs Easter Convention

APRIL 18TH—21ST  
2014

### DR. DON HARDGRAVE



Come and share a week end of challenging teaching on the book of ROMANS and learn how it is so relevant for assisting the Christian Community in its journey of life. Walking the walk and talking the talk. Learning to communicate the truths that are revealed in the Word in a way that is full of Grace, Dignity and Love.

Rev. Hardgrave has been sharing these truths for many years. He has taken part in the camping ministry challenging both high school students and young adults. He has served in pastoral ministry in both the Wesleyan Methodist and Baptist Churches. Don has also had the privilege of lecturing in both Switzerland and in the USA.

#### THE PROGRAM FOR THE WEEK END

DAY	TIME	TOPIC
<b>FRIDAY 18TH</b>	9.00 AM — 10.20 AM	PAUL'S CONFIDENCE AND CONCERN GOD'S MESSAGE THROUGH CREATION TO THE WORLD A FAITH THAT CHANGES US AND OUR WORLD THE PEACE OF GOD THAT FLOWS FROM FORGIVENESS
	11.00 AM — 12.15 PM	
	3.30 PM - 4.45 PM	
<b>SATURDAY 19TH</b>	7.30 PM — 8.45 PM	ASSURANCE OF SALVATION AND THE STRUGGLE WITH SIN FREEDOM OF LIFE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT MISSION SPEAKERS PASSION FOR LOST SOULS— EVANGELISM THE MARKET PLACE.
	9.00 AM - 10.20 AM	
	11.00 AM - 12.15 PM	
<b>SUNDAY 20TH</b>	3.30 PM - 4.45 PM	COMMUNION IN THE CHAPEL ATTENDING CHURCH SERVICES OF OWN CHOICE IN WARWICK MISSION SPEAKERS RENEWING THE MIND - LIVING GODLY IN A FALLEN WORLD
	7.30 PM - 8.45 PM	
	2.00 PM - 3.30 PM	
<b>MONDAY 21ST</b>	10.30 AM - 12.30 PM	THE DELIGHT OF DUTY - COUNTRY - GOVERNMENT—NEIGHBOUR— BROTHER.

PLACE: WARWICK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE SLADE CAMPUS  
70 HORSMAN STREET WARWICK

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE GO TO OUR WEB SITE. [www.ddcc.net.au](http://www.ddcc.net.au)

## EASTERFEST

18-20 APRIL 2014 TOOWOOMBA

### 2014 LINE-UP

AARON GILESPIE ♦ ALABASTER BOX ♦ THE ALMOST  
BEC LAUGHTON ♦ DJ MAJ ♦ EVERMORE ♦ HAWK NELSON  
THE IDEA OF NORTH ♦ JARS OF CLAY ♦ JIMMY NEEDHAM  
NEW EMPIRE ♦ OC SUPERTONES ♦ SAVING GRACE  
SHONLOCK ♦ SLIPON STEREO ♦ WHITEHEART ♦ YOUNG & FREE

**EASTERFEST.COM**

A STRING of yearly phone calls has seen Easterfest play first hand in bringing pop rock band *WhiteHeart*, of 80-90's fame, out of 14 years retirement. Lead singer Rick Florian insists they were done with band life forever, but a phone call from Easterfest Event Director Dave Schenk inspired the band to come together again to be headliners at Easterfest 2014. With God's hand at work, what started as a commitment to appear at Easterfest has sparked a mini-tour across the US and even work on a new album.

Easterfest's line up adds fuel to the pop culture resurgence of all things 90s, with ska band *The O.C. Supertones* reuniting for their first show since they hit pause on their career in 2005. Playing songs from the 90s along with music from their recent album 'For The Glory' they will cause a sensation for old and

new fans alike when they hit the Easterfest stage.

Multiple Platinum and GRAMMY-Awards winning band, *Jars of Clay*, will feel at home alongside the 1990s comeback as they emerged on the music scene in that era.

But the lineup is not all old school. New Zealand born but now Melbourne based band, *Evermore*, with their huge hits 'It's Too Late' and 'Light Surrounding You' will return to Easterfest in 2014. "We're excited to have *Evermore* join us next year, especially after they this year performed exclusively for Premium Ticket holders", says festival director Dave Schenk. "This time they'll be front and centre for all fans and will undoubtedly pack out our massive new undercover mainstage."

After touring this past year with bands *Owl City*, *Neon Trees* and *Good Charlotte*, *New Empire* from Sydney

will return as one of Easterfest's most requested bands with a new album 'In A Breath'.

Underoath spin off band, *The Almost* will join Easterfest's star-studded line-up. Amidst the bands thundering rhythms and massive riffs, vocalist Aaron Gilespeie promises to deliver a solo performance with the message that 'There's hope' - resonating with the Easter story.

Also joining Easterfest's diverse line-up is *Alabaster Box*, Bec Laughton, DJ Maj, Hawk Nelson, *The Idea of North*, Jimmy Needham, Shonlock, *Slip on Stereo*, *Saving Grace* and Sydney's hot new Youth-infused worship band, *Young and Free*.

These artists will join over 150 artists at Easterfest performing in over 30 venues throughout Queen's Park and Toowoomba's CBD from April 18-20. For more information and tickets Easterfest.com.



20 - 24 January	Propel (Darling Downs)
1 February	Kids Kickstart Training Mitchelton PC
15 February	Kids Kickstart Training Acacia Ridge PC
21 - 23 February	Kids Weekender North Brisbane
14 - 16 March	Kids Weekender Darling Downs
15 March	Gathering
21 - 23 March	Kids Weekender South Brisbane
7 - 11 April	NQ Launch
<b>24 - 27 April</b>	<b>ynet CONFERENCE</b>
24 May	Wide Bay/Sunshine Coast Training Day
30 June - 4 July	SQ Launch
1 - 3 August	Kids Weekender Wide Bay/Sunshine Coast
9 August	Gathering
19 - 22 September	Spring Camp
28 Sept - 4 Oct	Fun & Adventure
29 Sept - 4 Oct	NQxtreme
24 - 26 October	Kids Weekender
24 - 28 November	Jumpstart Schooles

FOR MORE INFO [WWW.YNET.ORG.AU](http://WWW.YNET.ORG.AU)



# New Beginnings at Jumpstart Schoolies 2013

by Russell Williams



Anyone for cricket?



Jevhan wins the final Stella award



Group photo



Time out for studies on rest

FOR THOSE of us living on the Gold Coast, Schoolies is usually associated with the arrival of masses of newly-graduated students anticipating far more fun than their time together often delivers.

But each year we return to Stradbroke Island with Jumpstart Schoolies, schoolies students consistently underestimate what a great time they have in store.

It all begins as we disembark from the ferry and head across the island.

As the buses round corners, schoolies begin to comment on the beauty of the area—especially those from Northern Queensland who can't believe how good the beaches are and can't wait to get in the surf.

Those who come with friends chat away, still celebrating the end of school.

But those who arrived on their own are already being welcomed into conversations that, they hope, will become life-long friendships.

Then, as we round the final corners and approach Point Lookout Surf Life Saving Club, a silence falls on the bus as, slack-jawed, each schoolie gasps at exactly where they'll be spending their week. Atop the rocky lookout that begins the long, long expanse of Stradbroke's eastern beach, the club offers breathtaking views—especially on our first day this year when a storm gradually approached from the opposite end of the island.

From that day on, schoolies revel in the freedom to do what they want with their time—be that going for a swim, sandboarding, four-wheel driving, snorkelling, learning to surf or simply kicking back with friends to watch a DVD or read a good book. There's always someone up for a game of pool or cards and a trip to the local gelato shop can become a much-enjoyed daily ritual.

But where the expectations of most schoolies are blown away is the relationships they experience during the week together.

This year, as is so often the case, it was the people who came on Jumpstart Schoolies that made the week truly memorable.

As Danny Mitchell helped us to see God's invitation in Jesus to truly rest, numerous conversations were triggered as we reflected on life, what's important, and what may lie in the years ahead.

As a way of finishing twelve years of study, Jumpstart Schoolies is rewarding. But as a way of beginning the rest of our lives, it was once again transforming.

Though our time together listening to God's Word seemed only a small fraction of the day, it was a huge encouragement for those that love Jesus and want to live life for Him.

And those schoolies who didn't know Jesus never felt left out and were often keen to be part of the discussion because they could tell that the relationships they were experiencing during their time away were exceptional. Not the bickering and deception that so often mars the experience of too many Gold Coast schoolies, but a group of people who have discovered forgiveness and welcome in Christ and who are learning to love and care for others as God has loved them.



Ocean kayaking



Surf's up

**Are you in Grade 12?**  
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