

# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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Photo courtesy of Worldwide Photos Ltd

**Captain Graham Want of the Salvation Army surveys the remains of the Newcastle Workers' Club**

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## **Quake City**

**On 28 December at 10.28 am an earthquake hit Newcastle, NSW, registering 5.5 on the Richter scale. Newcastle is still reeling from the shock and the city looks more like a town in Lebanon than in Australia.**

**How have the people of Newcastle coped?**  
**Story page 3**



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## Guest Editorial

# What's Happened to Christian Leadership?

by Morrie Munyard

I am quite astonished at the evidences of Christian leadership that is being displayed these days. I hear of Christian counselors giving outrageous and totally unscriptural advice to young married couples moving through the trauma of breakdown.

I hear of Christian leaders walking out on congregational meetings because that which has been agreed to by the membership does not meet with agreement by the leader.

I hear Christian leaders express a selfishness that causes me to ponder their call into God's work. I see the standards of the world being so readily accepted into the lives of Christian leadership and I wonder what next will we hear Christian leaders doing and participating in. I think to myself, where has the standard for living gone that once we could expect in the life of the Christian leader? I think to myself what's happened to the absolutes that once we lived by? (If there are no absolutes we have an exceedingly decadent society.) It seems to me that in Christian leadership we have forgotten about the lordship of Jesus (generally speaking).

Moses, the Old Testament leader, chosen by God to be the leader of the Children of Israel, is even today amongst Orthodox Reformed and Conservative Jews, considered the greatest leader in Israel's history. In Hebrews 11:24-29 we find the qualities of leadership found in him: v24 faith, v25 commitment to god, v26 vision, v27 knowledge of god, v28 obedience, v29 love for people. Other outstanding OT leaders are all shown to be men of god, unafraid to carry out God's will at all and every cost.

We are brought to realise that God chooses men to be his leaders, for his people. Always he is searching for leaders.

In this New Testament era in which we live Jesus gives us the best example of leadership. His leadership was a sacrificial, humble example, "not to be served but to serve". Jesus made it brilliantly obvious that true leadership has as its base ingredient a love for people.

He didn't stand in power and authority over them as the Gentiles did but served



people because he wanted people to have the best from god. Matthew 20: 25-28.

If you are a Christian leader are you one because it is demonstrated that you love people and want to serve them? Is your ambition to honour and glorify Jesus your Lord through service or do you want power to push people around? If it's the latter, then I think you need to look again at your purpose in leadership and your part in submitting to the lord-

ship of Jesus.

There are three obvious priorities to be found in Christian leaders. The first is our commitment to the lordship of Jesus. He is the Lord and the Christian's responsibility is to be submissive to him. Secondly, there is to be a commitment to the church for which Christ died. Relationship with God and church members are sometimes made and, sad to say, broken within the church. What a strong word it is that John gives to us when he says, "See how they love one another." What far-reaching affects and results that love for one another can have. And thirdly, our commitment in accomplishing the task God has given to us. So often we discover a procrastination in Christian leadership. The importance to getting the task accomplished is not seen. Hence sometimes the church languishes in its progress or its administration etc. because a leader didn't do what was expected. I don't understand how people can believe they can be Christian leaders and not display the lordship of Jesus over their lives, not be committed to their church and not be committed to the tasks assigned to them. Are these the reasons why the church is not as progressive as it should be?

• Morrie Munyard is part of the ministry team at Noarlunga Centre, SA, where he has been for 13 years. He is married to Florence and they have four boys and one girl, all married except one. Before entering the College of the Bible Morrie conducted a building business in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. He has had a ministry at Black Forest, formerly Forestville, SA. He recently completed the Graduate Diploma in Ministry course at C.C.T.C.



## Quake City Recovers

Newcastle is still reeling from the shock of the earthquake that hit the city on 28 December.

International experts indicated an extraordinary effort by the city took place to get some normality moving again and its attempts to cope and organise the community. Within an hour of the earthquake police had mobilised personnel to every part of the city, and the Royal Newcastle Hospital evacuated 600 patients in 27 minutes.

At first the damage was overestimated and then it was underestimated as officials tried to handle a completely new experience, all the while feeling disbelief and confusion. The assessment of the damage is around \$1.5 billion.

It is believed the reason why Newcastle has coped so well, in spite of inexperience, is that the main area of devastation was located in one small area and emergency services were able to concentrate on that one area.

The Salvation Army gained immediate access to areas behind the barricades because of their uniform and were able to work with the government and the community. They supplied meals and refreshments at all hours and helped convey displaced persons. They are to be commended for their co-ordinated effort and response to the crisis.

It was difficult for Churches of Christ to discover an immediate role but there is now a need for counselling and personal care. Bill Flett, the minister of the Hamilton/Georgetown churches, has been a representative of Churches of Christ at civic functions.

Damage to Churches of Christ property was minimal compared to other churches. The Hamilton church suffered damage assessed at \$14,000. The foyer wall collapsed and crunched the back pews, the forces sending them through the carpet and floorboards. Minimal damage was also suffered by the Mayfield Units of the NSW Community Care De-

partment. The damage is covered by insurance.

A Uniting Church close by has damage assessed at \$600,000. A Pentecostal church had to be demolished. It was insured for \$1.5 million but to replace the theatre, which was a landmark in Newcastle, to a look-a-like building would cost \$6 million. A number of churches are meeting in halls.

It has not been possible for zealous Christians to claim any dogmatic theology in the crisis because houses of iniquity have come down as well as places of worship. More importantly, it has been an opportunity for ministry to a city that has become more acutely conscious of its mortality.

It has also been a time to give thanks to God for what didn't happen rather than make cheap swipes at what did happen. Many thousands could have been killed if the earthquake had happened in school hours, during worship times or during a concert planned at the Workers Club.

Six families in membership at the Mayfield church experienced damage to their homes and the NSW Churches of Christ Community Care Department is standing by to assist where requested. This and other financial assistance may be required as clearer details come forward.

The people who will find it the hardest will be the aged. One media photographer with tears in his eyes explained how he saw a house with its front walls collapsed exposing the whole inside of the house to the street. Inside he saw a lady of about 70 who was sweeping the passageway as if that is what she always did at that time of the day and who may have even been oblivious that her front walls had gone.

The City of Newcastle is one of the most therapeutic places to be in at the moment because people are talking about themselves and getting the experience off their chests. This will go on for a long time.

The Hamilton Ministers'

## Knights of Healing



Left to right—Max Hall (Salt Ash), Ray Hawkins (Maitland), Bill Flett (Hamilton), Steve Downie (Mayfield)

The Hunter Valley Churches of Christ conducted another successful series of combined meetings in November on four consecutive Wednesday nights.

The theme for this series was "Knights of Healing" and was held in the Mayfield church.

Each week a fellowship tea at 6.30 pm was provided by members at Mayfield. Approximately 115 enjoyed a meal each week. All together attendances at the praise and study time averaged 135.

At 7.15 a praise time was taken by the young people. At 7.30 one of the ministers would present a message on the appointed topic. Following this Leanne Threadgate led in song. Sometimes she was accompanied as a duet by Melinda Gill from the Salt Ash church.

Opportunity was given for those who desired prayer for particular matters to meet with the ministers and elders for prayer.

John McCosker and Tom Frasers shared their experiences, which were greatly appreciated.

The subjects of the series were: "Healing of Memories"—Steve Downie, "Healing of Conflicts"—Ray Hawkins, "Healing of the Body"—Max Hall, "Agents of Healing"—William Flett.

If anyone would like a copy of the sermon notes or an audio cassette they could contact S. Downie at 9 Meldon Close, Rankin Park 2287.

The "Knights" series have been an unqualified success and there will be two more this year.

Fraternal hosted an open air service on 14 January amid the barricades and rubble to give thanks to God for his mercy and to pray for the bereaved and injured.

It is a wonderful moment for the churches to exercise some incarnate theology and contextualise their properties.

An earthquake can bring the best out of people and it can bring to the light of day the scandals of religion. On the whole denominations have come together as a united Christian community and are sharing buildings (for example a Baptist church has opened its facilities to the Assemblies of God) and standing together

shoulder to shoulder in Christian solidarity, but there are examples of movements untouched and isolated. One Pentecostal Church a few kilometres from the Pentecostal Church demolished had no information of their brethren three weeks after the earthquake.

The cause of the earthquake was about geology, not theology. Theology has been important to direct people to hope and faith, to show care in the midst of suffering and to announce a theological judgement on self-righteousness and silence.

—Steve Downie,  
Norm Flett and others



## HCJB Radio Studio Operating in Australia

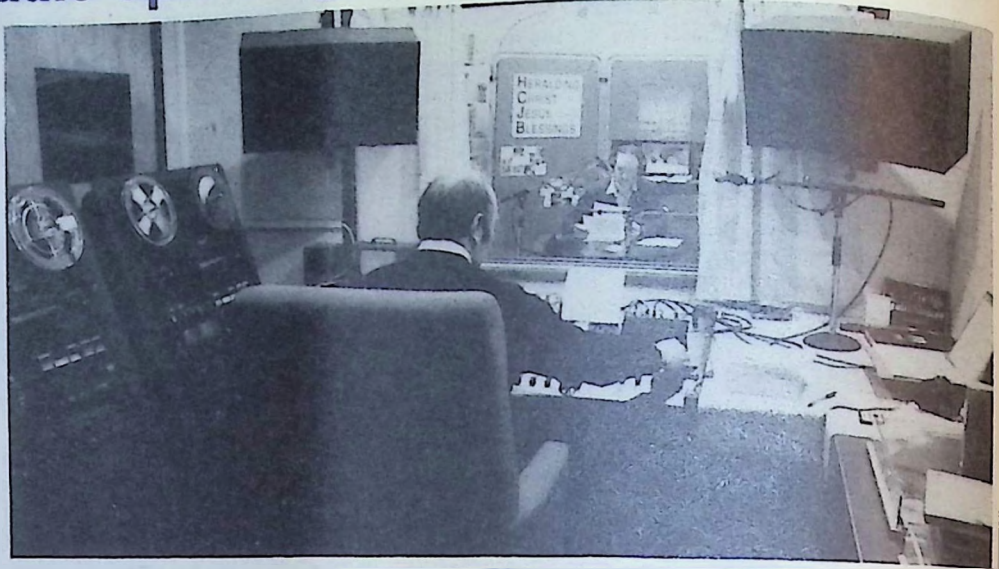
HCJB's Australian studio, located at Park Orchards, Melbourne, continues to see growth and expansion in its ministry. It has just completed its second year of operation and about 20 programs are now being produced each week. These are then sent on tape ready for broadcast over HCJB and many local radio stations in Australia and New Zealand. Some programs are being produced for the sister radio missionary organisation, Trans World Radio. Six Macedonian programs are also being produced weekly and other languages may be added to the production schedule.

During the past year Malcolm Shipley was appointed the full-time producer. Malcolm comes with a wide experience in the field through commercial and Christian radio involvement.

Also during the year major modifications were made to the production studio due to the growth of the work and demands for increased capacity and flexibility.

The purpose of the studios is to assist HCJB's worldwide broadcasts and then production of programs for local radio around Australia. One program is currently being aired on 86 commercial stations plus a number of Christian stations.

The studio is also available for use by Christian organisations involved in audio productions. Contact the studio on (03) 879 0488.



**HCJB's radio studio in Melbourne**

HCJB Australia is involved in the project "The World by 2000", which has the goal of reaching the world by radio. The project is in its third year and already 12 languages have been added to broadcasting schedules. There are around 300 languages spoken by at least 1 million people. Of these 130 are not yet being reached by radio.

HCJB has targeted 40 of these languages. The rest will be targeted by the other Christian radio organisations.

A comprehensive list of all unreached languages can be obtained by writing to HCJB World Radio, GPO Box 691, Melbourne 3001. Phone (03) 870 3175.

## Aborigines Mission Reunion

If you have been a missionary with the Federal Aborigines Missions, if you have been a voluntary helper at any of the missions, or if you are an interested, praying friend of the FAB, you will not want to miss this first ever reunion. People have been invited from far and wide.

The reunion, a WA Conference Centenary event, is being held on 17 March at the Seventh Day Adventist Camp site, 345 Kalamunda Rd, Maida Vale (Perth) commencing at 2 pm. There will be a time of tea (bring your own with barbecues available) to be followed by a gospel concert at 6.30 pm,

which will feature Aboriginal artists.

Should anyone have photographs of the missions (the children in particular) that are no longer required the FAB would like to be able to make these available to the mission children who are now adults. Many do not have any photos of their early years and would be thrilled to receive them. Please put details on the back, including the place and year, if possible, and send them along with any inquiries to the WA Aborigines Committee, c/o Mrs D. Moyle, 98 Glengarry Dve, Duncraig 6023. Phone (09) 448 4837.

### Opening—New Complex—Stage 1 Gisborne Church of Christ

Saunders Road, New Gisborne  
**Saturday, 3 March, 1990 at 2.30 pm**

Sunday services, 4 March 1990:

10 am Worship Service

7 pm Gospel Outreach

For further information phone (054) 28 3378



### The Bible Society in Australia Aerial Field Day

on  
Saturday, 10 February  
1-5 pm

at the Launceston Airport (just past the main entrance in the hangar with the Bible Society sign)

Hear the Flying Bible man, Laurie Edwards, speak at a rally at 3.30 pm

There will be afternoon tea and videos will be shown  
Joy flights will be available—\$15 adults, \$8 children

For more information phone (003) 26 1906,  
(003) 26 3943, (002) 47 7044 or (004) 25 5059





## Farewell Splinter



**Splinter's swag rests on his coffin**

When Neville "Splinter" Woods' coffin was lowered into the ground in Wangaratta, Vic, last year all his worldly possessions—his bed roll, tucker bag, water bottle, billy and a few other bits and pieces—went with it. Inside his last wooden bed, Splinter was in the same gear he had worn for 50,000 km through heat and dust, mud and misery, as he had tramped from one bush town to another.

There were only a few people who had known and liked him at the funeral, held at the Wangaratta church. Minister Carl Clayden knew and liked Splinter, and accordingly was able to speak warmly and sincerely of the nuggety rough diamond

of a man. The minister and the swagman had been good mates, sharing meals at the Clayden table and keeping the church grounds neat and tidy. Splinter had made the church's friendship centre a regular calling point, coinciding with lunch. He would breeze in from nowhere and, stirring the possum, would challenge people with, "What's the matter, don't I smell too good today?"

Splinter had taken off from an orphanage at Rockhampton while only a boy and had for most of the ensuing 30 years traversed the roads of Australia. He had tried coal mining, cane cutting, fettling and spruiking at a travelling

sideshow. He became a past master at persuading bush people that he was in need of something to eat. In 1987 the Social Security Department stopped paying him the dole because he had no permanent address—so he sent them a hand drawn map of Australia with arrows pointing to where he did from time to time reside.

A few days before he died he sent to his sister his diaries and notebooks in which he had recorded his impressions of the people he had met on his way. He then walked into the Wodonga Hospital where he died alone and unknown.

—Photo and story courtesy of the Albury Border Mail

## Doctorate

A number of our ministers, missionaries and members are involved in studies that are available through Fuller Theological Seminary. Until now Fuller Seminary, based in Pasadena, California, has been operating courses towards the DMin at the Bible College of South Australia when the college students are in recess.

Fuller has sponsored the course by flying lecturers from California to Australia. Intensive study and research work demands at least nine months commitment each year for any one major course. It is mandatory to do at least one course at Fuller itself with a minimum of two weeks living on campus.

Living close to BCSA, Arnold and Alice Caldicott enrolled for the DMin course from the inception of the first lectures. Arnold received his DMin at the summer graduation of students in 1989. His dissertation theme was that of preacher recruitment, updating his book *Why Not Be a Preacher?*

### Kellor East Church of Christ

**Induction Service  
RON SCHEPIS**

**Sunday, 4 March  
10.30 am**

**Guest Speaker:  
Dr Gordon Moyes**

### Church of Christ Gardiner

**cnr Malvern Road and  
Scott Grove  
Sunday, 18 February  
3 pm**

**PSA and  
Afternoon Tea  
to welcome our alive,  
alert and enthusiastic  
new minister  
Paul Creasey  
Be there!!!**

### Vic-Tas Ministers' Association

A bring-your-own lunch is planned at Sunshine church on Tuesday, 13 February, to welcome new ministers and their spouses.

**12.30 pm Fellowship luncheon followed by guest speaker Gil Cann, author of *Liberating Leadership***

### Invitation

to all who have helped in the ministry of the  
**Church of Christ Seven Hills (Sydney)**  
to the

**100th Anniversary on Sunday, 2 September 1990  
Speaker:  
Gordon Moyes**

### South East District Womens Conference 30th Anniversary

Naracoorte, SA  
**Wed, 23 May, 10 am**  
Any ladies associated with this conference are invited to share in this special day  
Further information:  
Mary Simons  
122 Jenkins Tce  
Naracoorte 5271  
Phone (087) 62 1656



## Cantata at Lyons



**Movement Group**

The Lyons, ACT, church presented the Christmas cantata "Born a King" by John Peterson on 9 and 10 December.

All soloists and the movement group who participated were members of the Lyons church.

Peter Harper was the tenor soloist, Lyn Bower the soprano,

Alison Gniel alto and Norm McKay and Jock Scott baritones. The chorus included singers from Lyons and Belconnen churches. Judie Fergie was the pianist, Colin Miller (Ainslie) conducted the cantata and Pat Wright narrated.

The success of "Born a King" was due to the drive and initia-

tive of Lyn Bower, who led the practice sessions over six months. Carol Caulton choreographed the movement that portrayed the feeling of the various parts of the cantata.

Many people from all over Canberra experienced a sensitive performance, which added admirably to the spirit of Advent.

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## Induction at Tuggeranong

During a period of joyful worship, Don Herbert and his family were welcomed into the Tuggeranong, ACT, church. Then Don was inducted as the first full-time minister of the church by ACT Conference President Peter Nelson.

Greetings were received from the Federal Conference Executive and from representatives of the Canberra churches (Ron Fergie from Lyons, Peter O'Loughlin from Belconnen and Ray Stephens from Ainslie).

After prayers for Don a Bible was presented to him to highlight his task as a servant of the word of God. Don responded by pointing out three emphases of his ministry. The first is to develop worship in which God is honoured and his presence experienced by his people. The second is to encourage the

gifts of believers so that the church may be built up to maturity and the third is to minister to men, enabling them to be the leaders, husbands and men God intends them to be.

Over 100 were present at the service, which gave great heart to the young congregation.



**Don Herbert**

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## Mission at Magill



### New Connexions

The Magill, SA, church has been greatly encouraged through a 10-day mission with Bill Gaunson (missioner) and

Colin Beavis (song leader).

The long-term planning provided an opportunity to develop contacts with people

in the community and then to share in the mission program.

Musical items were mainly provided from the array of talent within the church—"New Connexions", praise group, solos, duets etc.

Bill's message each evening was challenging and compelling. The church is rejoicing with the seven people who made their decisions for Christ and the 10 who made a rededication.

This brings to 12 the number who have made decisions and who are involved in discipleship lessons and are preparing for baptism.



Colin Beavis and Bill Gaunson

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## Model Church

At the Rosevale, Qld, church recently after the morning service the congregation gathered at the cemetery grounds where the original chapel was erected in 1896.

The purpose was to dedicate a replica of the original chapel to God and in memory and honour of the pioneers who commenced and carried on the work in the early days.

Ralph Bennett, minister, spoke a few opening remarks as to the reason for the gathering.

David Kickbusch read from Matthew 16.

John Christensen then brought a prayer of thanksgiving.

Les Lobegeiger gave a brief resume on the commencement of the church in the district.

The original building measured 25ft x 18ft and cost £38 (\$76) to erect.

Ralph Bennett then spoke of the foresight of the pioneers in erecting a building for worship, and how many went out from Rosevale to ministries elsewhere, including E.C. Hinrichsen.

He spoke of the progress of the church in the district and the purpose of the church in the world.

Noel Leitch closed with a prayer of dedication.

Rosevale's centenary takes place in 1991.



The replica of the original Rosevale church in the cemetery grounds



# Letters to the Editor

## Letters are limited to 200 words

### Healing and Miracles

To the Editor,

The question of healing and miracles is more an open subject than 30 years ago.

We were once told that the divine motivation of healings was to authenticate the message or the messenger (Matthew 11:1-6, John 10:38, John 14:11 or 2 Corinthians 12:12). It was said that as we now had the New Testament this was no longer necessary. People generally do not believe the Bible any more than the people in Jesus' time accepted the prophecies.

If miracles were needed in the first century to authenticate the message, we need it more so today.

I believe it to be an insult to our Lord to say that he needed miracles to authenticate himself, but we don't need them today.

Nowhere in the Book does it say that healings and miracles would cease.

1 Corinthians 13:10 says, "But when perfection comes, the imperfect will disappear." The only perfect thing to come to this earth will be the Lord Jesus Christ. When he comes healings and miracles will be a thing of the past.

The main purpose of healings was so that the Son could glorify the Father, or the Father the Son (Luke 7:16, Luke 5:26 and Acts 3:9,10).

People who teach against healing are robbing the Lord of glory.

One motivation of healing is to open the door to evangelism (Acts 9:35 and 36).

God heals out of compassion (not to prove himself) (Matthew 14:14, Matthew 9:36, Mark 1:41 and Luke 7:13).

God will never violate our prejudices.

—J. Olsen  
(Merrylands, NSW)

### Penfriend Wanted

To the Editor,

I have a Christian friend in New Zealand who is inquiring about a penfriend for her 13-

year-old daughter. She would like to write to a girl 13-14 years old. Her daughter Annette's interests are music (she plays piano, violin, guitar and flute), ballet (jazz, modern and classical), worship dance, babysitting, reading and porcelain dolls.

My minister, Graeme Foon, suggested that I write to you as you might be able to advertise this need in *The Australian Christian*. I hope you can assist in this regard.

The address of the girl in New Zealand is: Miss A. Rutherford, RD Otaki, North Island, New Zealand.

—Judy Berends  
(Dandenong, Vic)

### Sin and Forgiveness

To the Editor,

I see that Elsie Morton takes me to task ("AC" 16 December) regarding my letter ("AC" 18 November) for what I said of Carol Caulton's liturgical dancing. No, I have not seen it, but I have not been born yesterday. I know today's Christians.

If I asked her, "Are you a sinner?", the answer would be "yes". But God does not even listen to the prayers of sinners. (John 9:31, Isaiah 59:2). Carol and Elsie would do better to learn what it is to be "born again". Which is: "If what you heard from the beginning abides in you." (1 John 2:24) Don't lose it, don't sin. See 1 John 3:3, 6 and 9. God forgives our sins once: "Repent—no sinning—and be baptised" for the forgiveness of past sins (Romans 3:25). After that you are punished for every sin you commit. See Hebrews 10:18 and 26-29.

If you do that then God will hear you. Then, whenever an occasion arises, tell your hearers that the Christian church is in WCC and ecumenism, which are satanic organisations, furthermore she is ruled by Freemasons, which is another satanic organisation. Tell them to get out.

If you achieve this, then you will have reason to dance.

—Joseph Troy  
(Rockingham, WA)

### Victorian Youth Camping

To the Editor,

On the front cover of the 2 December issue is a photograph of the youth camp held at Kyneton 1939-40. It is stated, "It was one of the first camps conducted by the Young People's Department in Victoria."

My memory tells me this is out by some 15 years or so.

William Gale and my father, Harold Patterson, organised and conducted the first such camps of the Department. I would need to consult records but I think the first was at Geelong in the early or mid 20s. Camps were held each year. Other venues included Ballarat, Castlemaine, Dimboola, Nagambie and Warragul.

The Department was known as the Bible School and Young People's Department. William Gale was secretary of both that Department and the Home Missionary Department and I think was Conference Secretary

as well. He quite often visited our home at Ascot Vale when the planning for the camps was on and he was always friendly to us.

I also recall my mother was "camp mother" for a couple of those earlier camps.

I am sure not a few of your present older readers participated in and remember those camps. These were certainly well before Keith Jones was appointed in the mid/late 30s as Youth Director.

—Ken J. Patterson  
(North Beach, WA)

### About Priests and Gurus

To the Editor,

Jesus warned his disciples not to accept the title of spiritual father for it belongs to God alone.

Gavin Simpson, writer for religion in *The West Australian*, on 16 December suggests that Anglican women extend their drive for equality to "freeing the church of a hierarchical

## Letters from Tertius

### Bottoms on Seats

To the Editor,

I can easily get trapped into clichés. They sound so right and they don't require much thought.

One that got me in goes something like this... "The church's job is not to get bottoms on seats but to go out into the world to serve people." It was bandied round our small groups as the latest wisdom, especially by those of us who find it easier to be practical do-gooders than to introduce people to the gospel.

The trouble is that one day I got to thinking about this cliché, and like so many others that I have traded with, it fell apart. For instance, can't we work at getting bottoms on seats and at social welfare and justice. And if we don't get a continuing supply of bottoms on seats there won't be enough people left to continue the church's ministry out in the world.

I happened to mention this to our minister and started him off on a flow of eloquence. "I don't knock bottoms on seats, Tertius," he said. I didn't take him literally. He went on to say that full seats are good for morale and morale is good for mission. He said that he preached better to people than to gaps, and that good preaching inspires people to be the church in the world.

He said that that if every member realised how important merely "keeping a pew warm" is, they would never stay away.

He went on and on, but he left me convinced that my wife is doing a Christian thing when she heaves the bedclothes off me at seven on Sunday mornings.

Yours faithfully,  
Tertius



## Letters to the Editor

system the historical roots and functions of which are questionable in the light of today's focus on the laity".

Regarding their ordination into priesthood he asks, "...why do women want to enter a patriarchal hierarchy when philosophically they would appear to be more at home with dismantling it altogether."

Bill Woff ("AC" 2 December) and Harold Hayward ("AC" 16 December) in seeing harmony and consistency between Galatians 3:28 and 1 Timothy 2:11-15 apparently favour a "patriarchal hierarchy" rather than the democracy Churches of Christ accept.

The day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit ordained both sexes and all races to proclaim the Good News, should be the seal of a free pulpit and Galatians 3:28 is Paul's verification of it. The 1 Timothy restrictions and recriminations are a denial of freedom and cast doubt on the efficacy of the blood of Christ.

Paul had to answer to the Judaisers—we do not. See Acts 21:20-27. Also 1 Corinthians 11:1-16 and 14:34. Here protocol (which differs from nation to nation) has crystallised and reverted back to the old Jewish law, obscuring Jesus as Christ.

—G.L. Butler  
(Bruce Rock, WA)

### CCTC Forms Links with Monash

To the Editor,

Your readers, especially those who have just completed HSC, may be interested to know that the Churches of Christ Theological College has recently concluded a special arrangement with Monash University.

From now on it will be possible for people to do a combined four-year course at CCTC and Monash leading to the award of both a BA (Hons) degree from Monash and a BTheol degree from the Melbourne College of Divinity (taught at CCTC). Some students doing this combined course may also be eligible for financial assistance through AusStudy.

This is a marvellous opportunity for Christians commencing university studies to have the best of both worlds. They can gain a solid grounding in the Christian faith while gaining two excellent qualifications (in the time it would normally take to complete only one of these degrees!).

Consequently, the Mulgrave campus of CCTC, which is a short seven minutes drive from Monash, is the ideal place for Churches of Christ tertiary students—not only those training to be ministers. For example, people intending to become Christian teachers, psychologists or social workers could benefit tremendously from this new arrangement.

For further details please contact our Registrar, Graeme Wigney, on (03) 790 1000 or at 40-60 Jacksons Rd, Mulgrave 3170.

—W. Tabbernee  
(Principal)

### Minister Required In NZ

To the Editor,

The Mairangi Bay Church of Christ, Auckland, New Zealand, is seeking a minister to lead them in the Lord's work from January 1991.

We would appreciate any names or other contacts of Australian ministers who could be interested in serving in a New Zealand church.

The Mairangi Bay church is a suburban church on the north shore of Auckland City. A full profile of the church would be sent to any who were interested.

Details and information to myself, Brian Yates, Convener, Minister Search Team, Mairangi Bay Church of Christ, cnr Maxwellton Dve and Noumea Place, Mairangi Bay, Auckland 10, New Zealand.

—Brian Yates

### American News

To the Editor,

I was sorry to see Jay Bacik ("AC" 2 September) seize upon an inaccurate news item in *The Los Angeles Times* in order to take the Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ) to task.

At the Disciples 1987 General Assembly, a resolution was submitted concerning salvation in Jesus Christ. For various reasons, it was not passed but referred to the church's Commission on Theology.

The Commission's report was sent to all congregations ahead of the 1989 Assembly and published in the Assembly's program. The national church paper carried articles on the issue between Assemblies. On the Sunday afternoon prior to the Assembly dealing with the report there was a three-hour open discussion on it attended by hundreds.

The church's General Board had recommended that the Assembly affirm that the report "expresses biblical faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour which this church affirms". Finally, one of the report's supporters and its chief critic jointly moved that it be recommended to the church for study as an—not the—expression of biblical

faith.

I would be glad to send a copy of the report to anyone requesting it: 6118 Terrace Drive, Johnston, Iowa 50131, USA.

See John Somerville's *Pamphlet Club No. 365* for the Disciples' statement of faith, which was reaffirmed by the 1989 Assembly.

—Ronald Graham  
(Johnston, Iowa, USA)

## ESSENDON

Church of Christ  
celebrate their  
75th anniversary  
on 4 March 1990

Guest speaker:  
Lindsay Croxford  
Followed by fellow-  
ship luncheon  
All past members and  
friends are invited

Inquiries: Secretary  
James A. Strack  
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### Family Law for Counsellors

Seminar on all legal aspects of separation and marriage breakdown to be held at our offices from 2 pm till 5 pm

Choose a date which suits you:

1. Wednesday, 14 March 1990
2. Monday, 19 March 1990, or
3. Monday, 26 March 1990

The seminars are intended to provide all those who work with people going through marriage and relationship difficulties with a better understanding of the legal issues which their patients/clients may be facing.

To book for one of our seminars please contact Genine Schumann of our office on (03) 898 0651. A charge of \$20 per person will be made to cover the cost of materials. Refreshments will be provided.



## Papers

### Changing Lives, Changing Communities

by Harriet Ziegler (Wesley Central Mission) \$2

Normalisation. It's the idea that underlies the trend in Australia away from institutional care for people who have disabilities, people who are ageing, people who are otherwise in need of help. Despite the importance of the concept it is widely misunderstood.

To help reduce the confusion this introduction to normalisation in "plain English" has been published by Melbourne's Wesley Central Mission.

A 12-page booklet, it is designed for use with staff, parents, volunteers and boards and committees. The booklet could also be used for discussion in parishes as the concept has particular importance for church people.

*Changing Lives, Changing Communities* is available for \$2 per copy from Wesley Central Mission, 148 Lonsdale St, Melbourne 3000.



## Books

### Jungle Etchings

by Stephen Curkpatrick (self-published) \$5 (includes postage)

Stephen and Virginia Curkpatrick were missionaries with the Overseas Mission Board in Papua New Guinea in 1985-86. As Stephen notes in the introduction this was a time of rapid church growth, which had an impact on village life and culture.

*Jungle Etchings* is a collection of 38 sketches made at that time on the development of the church and Christian life in Papua New Guinea. There are also several lessons to be learnt by us in Australia from these fascinating pictures of church life in a different culture.

Allan Avery visited the Papua New Guinea mission field during his 1986 Vic-Tas Conference Presidential year. He comments: "Stephen and Virginia entertained myself and our unofficial party in the home that he describes so aptly in his collection of stories *Jungle Etchings*. Stephen through his career as a missionary has always possessed a great ability to sum up what to some people might appear to be an insignificant incident and teach a great truth from it."

"To read *Jungle Etchings* is virtually to take a walk with Stephen along the jungle track and into some of his experiences as a missionary. If you don't read anything else, you must read at least his stories 'The Miracle of the Soccer Boots' and 'He Ain't Heavy, He's Their Brother'. To read these stories is to quickly transport me back to those days when I had the privilege to meet Stephen, Virginia and their many friends in their native habitat."

Many of these sketches first appeared in the pages of *The Australian Christian*.

*Jungle Etchings* is available from the Overseas Mission Board office, PO Box 320, Unley 5061, for \$5, which includes postage.

—CRA



### The World That Shaped the New Testament

by C.J. Roetzel (SCM Press)

This slim volume is packed with valuable information on the social, political and religious influences on the New Testament. The Hellenistic world in which the early church functioned and from which it derived its vision of a universal, united faith is fully explained, as are the influences of the Jewish sects of the day: Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes, Essenes and Qumran. The influence of the Temple and the Synagogue on early Christian worship is fully explored. The concepts borrowed from Greek democracy are highlighted, as is the competing concept of philosopher-king (lordship). The book concludes with a helpful explanation of the major theme in the scriptures of the struggle between good and evil; light and darkness. This is an extremely helpful book.

—B.McI

### Living Long and Loving It!

additional text by Stephen Lang and Adelaide Teninga (World Home Bible League) \$1

This is another of the devotional booklets produced by the World Home Bible League designed to be handed out by ministers and members to contacts in a variety of situations. This one is aimed at older people who are retired. Appropriate photographs blend with selected Scripture portions from the New International Version and poetry.

Available from the World Home Bible League, PO Box 464, Penrith 2750.

—CRA



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Invest in the poor and the needy  
the widow and the orphan  
the refugee and the sick  
the prisoner and the lost



## Indian Students



Some members of the Union Seminary choir who sang at the Churches of Christ Conference

Last year the Conference of Churches of Christ in Western India granted their first scholarships to women graduates wanting to do theological studies.

Reena Reed has a Bachelor of Science. Her father Peter was cared for as a baby at the Shrigonda Home. He is thrilled that his daughter is now able to study at Union Biblical Seminary.

Nileema Dhangar has a

Bachelor of Commerce. Nileema's father's parents were lepers. Her mother and father both grew up at the Churches of Christ children's homes at Shrigonda and Baramati.

The care, prayer and continuing financial assistance provided by Australian churches for the Churches of Christ in Western India enables people such as these young women to contribute much to the development of the church.

.....  
**IAN F. KNIGHT, LLB, BCom**

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## Christianity in Latin America

In an address to the Hampstead Gardens, SA, church in December, Peter Devereaux of Perth told of the influence as well as the continued oppression Christians are experiencing in Latin America.

Peter, en route to Perth following the completion of a two-year appointment with the Jesuit University in Managua, Nicaragua, told of how six highly respected Jesuit priests, along with their housekeeper and her daughter were dragged from their home in neighbouring El Salvador in the early hours of 16 November 1989 and killed by a "death squad". Press reports have later confirmed that an El Salvadorian government-supported military group were responsible for this incident. [During January a colonel, two lieutenants and six lower-ranking soldiers were arrested in connection with the murders, the highest-ranking soldiers ever arrested regarding "death squad" murders—Editor.]

At a special mass held in their honour at the Managuan University later that night, Peter said it was filled to capacity and included attendance by the President of Nicaragua and several Nicaraguan government ministers.

Of concern to Christians throughout the world is the continued support the US government provides to El Salvador at a rate of \$US 1 million per day as it continues to use "death squads" in acts of oppression amongst the poor of

the country.

Peter also pointed out that while the US brands the Nicaraguan government as pro-communist, it is in fact pro-Christian, with three key ministerial positions being held by active Christians. "What Communist government would elect to have a priest as its Minister for Education?" asked Peter.

Despite propaganda to the contrary, Christianity in Nicaragua is helping to establish a stable and meaningful government in the region. Australian Christians need to be supporting their brothers and sisters in Christ who continue to experience oppression in Latin America.

Peter has returned to Perth to research a project for the Anglican Church's Social Justice Commission and will be returning to Nicaragua later this year.

—Keith Ridge

Have you thought of helping

**"The Australian Christian"**

In its ministry among

Churches of Christ?

*Why not include us in your will?*

The following wording could be used in your will:

I give and bequeath \$ ..... (or a percentage of the total estate) to "The Australian Christian", the national journal of Churches of Christ in Australia, absolutely for the use and benefit of the organisation free from all debts, funeral and testamentary expenses.

**Jungle Etchings**

by Stephen Curkpatrick

A collection of stories about PNG

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Proceeds to Literature

for PNG pastors





# Happenings

In a recent survey for the Sydney City Mission 94% of respondents feel the Government is not dealing with child poverty, 74% felt that general poverty will get worse in the future and 90% fear that violence will be a chronic problem by the year 2000.

Exodus South Pacific, a coalition of Christian ministries in Australia and New Zealand for those seeking support as they change from a homosexual life style or orientation, held their annual conference in Melbourne recently. It was stressed that for too long the church had condemned the homosexual rather than recognising that we have all sinned. Another theme was our responsibility as Christians for those suffering from AIDS. Currently Exodus South Pacific has offices in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney and Christchurch, New Zealand.

Evangelist Alberto Mottes and his team concluded two weeks of intensive evangelistic outreach in Nicaragua on 3 December. They held crusades in 7 cities of the troubled Central American country. The cumulative attendance for the 2 weeks was 295,700 with 31,118 publicly giving their lives to Jesus Christ.

The Council of Scripture Union Victoria has announced the appointment of Tom Slater as its new State Director. Tom joined the staff in 1969 as a camping specialist. In more recent years Tom headed up the SA Schools Department. Tom has been Victoria's Associate State Director for some time and has been acting State Director since August.

An award has been launched for poetry suitable for farewells and funerals, both secular and Christian. Poets are being asked to write about the emotions that are experienced when someone dies

and to affirm human values such as caring for others. The first prize is a minimum of \$1,500. There is no entry fee. Details and entry forms from the F.X. Roberts Poetry Awards, GPO Box 2171, Sydney 2001. Entries close on 31 May.

Six years since Uganda reported one of Africa's first AIDS cases it now leads the continent with at least 10,000 reported victims with full-blown AIDS and 790,552 with HIV infection.

Chinese students in Beijing are reportedly converting to Christianity virtually "by the dorm" according to 2 Chinese students who were in Hong Kong on a brief stopover en route to Australia, where they plan to settle. "Since 4 June the rate at which students are turning to Christ is literally a dormitory usually houses a total of 8 students). Some departments within certain colleges have changed their whole atmosphere because so many have become Christian."

China's government-backed Catholic Patriotic Association announced in October that it will begin publishing Bibles in 1990 after receiving printing equipment worth \$US675,000 from the West Europe Foundation, a Roman Catholic funding agency.

The John Wimber "Spiritual Warfare Conference" being held in Sydney 6-9 March has so far received 3,500 registrations with an anticipated 5,000 final registrations.

A dramatic fall in the numbers of Anglicans recommended for training in England in 1988 has left the Church of England facing a drop of 10% from present clergy levels.

A new political party, the Christian Democratic Union of Russia, was formed in Moscow during August. According to Keston Col-

lege, about 80 participants representing various Christian, social and political groups approved a statement of basic principles and elected a co-ordinating council, which includes the Russian Orthodox activist Aleksandr Ogorodnikov. The party aims to base its activity on the philosophical and moral principles laid down in the gospels.

Congregations of the United Church of Canada are voting on whether to modify the UCC Basis of Union to make baptism the criterion for church membership. Currently membership comes with a profession of faith. Thus younger baptised children are not considered members. Opponents of the change say it would move towards "sacramentalism" and "trivialise church membership".

Muslims in Great Britain launched their own political party in September, aiming initially at voicing views on foreign and domestic policy, but hoping later to offer candidates for office. About 1.5 million Muslims live in Great Britain. The new group hopes to number 250,000 in 5 years.

A US Labor Department study finds that people stay in the ministry longer than most other careers. The study found that the average length of time that ministers have been in their jobs is 15.8 years. Only barbers, farmers and railroad conductors stay longer. Barbers stay the longest—24.8 years. The typical career tenure is 6.6 years.

As a downtown church trying to compete with suburban rivals, First Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado, has implemented an old-fashioned grocery store technique: passing out coupons. First-time visitors to the church receive a coupon or gift book that entitles them to a free lunch on Tuesdays, free one-day parking (in the church's prime downtown parking

lot) and two reserved seats in the front pew. The plan has apparently worked: attendance has doubled since its inception.

an Charleson, who played Eric Liddell in the 1981 movie *Chariots of Fire*, died on 6 January of AIDS. Charleson's portrayal of the devout Scottish Olympic runner who refused to take part in the games on the Sabbath earned him international acclaim.

The proportion of British people who claim no religious adherence has risen to 34%.

The Nepal Supreme Court recently handed down decisions in 3 cases of Christian leaders who were arrested for preaching the gospel. They were all given 3-6 year prison sentences, bringing to almost 100 the number who are currently imprisoned in Nepal for their Christian faith. Nepal is a strongly Hindu country that prohibits evangelism and conversions from Hinduism.

Australian church authorities have expressed concern at attacks against Romanian Orthodox priests linked with unsubstantiated charges of their complicity with the discredited Ceausescu government.

The Australian Council of Churches has launched an emergency New Year appeal for 4 million facing starvation in the Horn of Africa. Since the famine of 1984 Australia's churches through the ACC have sent over \$2.5 million to Ethiopia and Eritrea. This was used for emergency food and medical supplies as well as long-term development projects like agricultural rehabilitation, health care and reforestation. Now the people of the Horn of Africa are again forced into dependency on international food aid for their survival. Poor rainfall and widespread drought have caused the failure of 90% of the crops.

John Smith, Executive Director of Care and Communication Concern and President of God's Squad Motorcycle Club is to write regularly for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. It is anticipated that 6-8 articles will appear each year.

Church growth experts who ignore the importance of youth ministry may be overlooking one of the most important factors of church growth, according to a survey by *GROUP* magazine. The report noted that 80% of the families surveyed say their church's youth ministry was an important reason they joined their current church. In fact, youth ministry was the number one reason cited by 20% of respondents; 74% say their church's youth ministry is very important to their remaining a member of their church.

Fascination with rock music, particularly heavy metal music, may be associated with teen drug use, premarital sex and satanic rites, according to a report released by a specialist committee of the American Medical Association. The AMA urged doctors to be alert to the listening habits of young people, saying musical preferences may be an indicator of emotional health.

Greg Law, a former missionary with Churches of Christ in Papua New Guinea, graduated in December from the University of Port Moresby as a medical doctor. Greg will be doing his 2-year internship at Goroka Hospital in the PNG highlands.

In California a Christian Science couple have been fined \$5,000 each and ordered to serve 300 hours in volunteer community service after being convicted of child endangerment for relying on prayer instead of medical treatment for their 8-month-old daughter, who died of meningitis in 1984.



# Passion Play tickets still available

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## Churches of Christ Theological College Graduation

The graduation service of the Churches of Christ Theological College held at Blackman Hall on 17 November was a celebration of ministry and a recognition of the commitment and years of study undertaken by the graduates. 800 people witnessed 23 students graduate. Of these 10 were ordained into ministry.

The Principal, Dr W. Tabernee, described 1989 as a milestone in the life of the College. He acknowledged the generous support of the churches and friends in raising \$1,000,000 towards the new campus at Mulgrave. He reported record enrolments of 163 students, 45 of whom were full-time students. He referred to the imminent retirement of K.J. Clinton and the significant contribution he had made to the college over 33 years. He also announced the appointment of G.O. Elsdon as H.G. Harward Lecturer in New Tes-



tament Studies to succeed Ken and announced the appointment of A.A. Niven as a faculty member whose main responsibility will be minister to the

Mulgrave church, which will commence on 4 February. He also noted the increasing course options and awards now offered by the College.

Graduating students were presented by I. Allsop, K. Clinton and G. Chapman:

Certificate in Christian Studies: Ruth Folland, Anne Webster

Associate Diploma in Lay Ministry: Roy Hope, Arthur Knight, Pieter Petrusma

Associate Diploma in Youth Ministry: Jane Fowler, Paul Clarke

Diploma in Ministry: Mark Elliott, Peter Lyne, Stephen McElwee, Bryan Mee, Keith Miller, Julie Simpson

Diploma in Ministry (with Honours): Michael Esbensen, Michael Folland, James Pearce, Kim Thoday

Diploma in Ministry (Youth Work): Alison Pitt

Graduate Diploma in Ministry: Allan Avery, Paul Downie, Neil Galbraith, Martin Goldup, Ronald Roberts

The testimonies of the students to the spiritual and personal development they had experienced during their years at College reflected the wisdom, pastoral care and patience of the faculty and the sustaining grace and provision of God to meet their needs.

"Quo Vadis?" was the title of the occasional address delivered by Dr L.A. Born. He directed his remarks not only to the graduates and ordinands but to the entire gathering emphasising the importance of mutual ministry.

The Ordination Service that followed was conducted by Clive Ward, the Victorian Vice-President of the Federal Conference. Those ordained into ministry were: Mark Elliott, Michael Esbensen, Michael Folland, Peter Lyne, Stephen McElwee; Bryan Mee, Keith Miller, James Pearce, Alison Pitt and Kim Thoday.

### Churches of Christ Theological College invites you

(No you don't need to become a minister!)

#### to apply for

#### 1. Short Courses for Lay People

(Each course offers six 2-hour sessions 7.30-9.30 pm)

- Pastoral Care (26 Feb; 5, 12, 19, 26 Mar; 2 Apr)
- Family Relationships (8, 15, 22, 29 May; 12 Jun)
- Family Violence and Sexual Assault (17, 24, 31 Jul; 7, 14, 21 Aug)
- Youth Leadership (1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug; 5 Sep)
- The Epistle of James (13, 20, 27 Sep; 4, 11, 18 Oct)
- Drama and Creative Expression (8.30 am-4.30 pm 18-29 Jun)

#### 2. Part-time Courses or Single Subjects

A wide selection of subject options for weekdays, evenings and/or Saturdays, including:

- Pastoral Care and Counselling (Saturday mornings)
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- Introduction to Theology (Thursday evenings)
- Early Christian Thought and History (Wednesday afternoons)
- Old Testament Survey (Tuesday evenings)

#### 3. Degree Courses

- Melbourne College of Divinity degree courses taught at our College cater for BTheol, BD, MMin, TheolM, and DTheol candidates from mainline churches.
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For further details:

Contact Graeme Wigney, Registrar, on (03) 790 1000  
 \*\*\*There are limited numbers for some courses, so pre-enrol to secure your place\*\*\*

40-60 Jacksons Road, Mulgrave  
 (opposite Gate 6 of VFL Park)

PO Box 629, Mulgrave North 3170. Fax (03) 795 1688

Registration Day

13 February 1990 between 9 am and 9 pm

## Garden Party



The College invites everyone to attend the annual Garden Party on 10 February.

Bring a picnic meal and share fellowship from 4.30 pm. At 6.30 pm the official program will be conducted when 16 new full-time students will be introduced and academic prizes for 1989 will be presented.



## Ken Clinton Honoured at Retirement Dinner



Over 150 invited guests shared in a dinner on 30 November to honour Ken Clinton on his retirement from the faculty of the Churches of Christ Theological College.

The function was arranged by the three organisations with which he had been most closely associated over 33 years: the Executive Committee of the Federal Conference of Churches of Christ in Australia, the Conference Executive of the Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania and the Faculty and Board of the Churches of Christ Theological College.

Sir Geoffrey Foot, presided over the gathering.

During the evening Tim Keating and Ian Beasey provided background music and Juliette Keating joined them to present a number of musical items.

Phyl Davis, President of the Vic-Tas Conference, summarised Ken's background, making reference to his involvement with CSSM, his service in the RAAF, his attendance at the Melbourne Bible Institute (now the Bible College of Victoria), his years of study at the University of Melbourne and later at the College of the Bible;

his student ministries at Croydon and Bett Bett/Dunolly, his ministries at Castle-maine/Harcourt Circuit, at Hampton and at Bayswater and his interim ministries at 11 churches, including 11 years at Noble Park, as well as his service on countless committees including 20 years as a member of the Confer-

ence Executive and 20 years as a member of the Department of Mission Education and Development.

She pointed out that it reflects something of Ken's commitment to God and his dedication and faithfulness to the Word of God and to the people to whom he ministered.

Speaking on behalf of the Federal Executive Clive Ward acknowledged the deep appreciation of the Conference for Ken's contribution to the training of our ministers and his involvement in writing, publishing and promoting Christian literature.

Of special significance was the presence of the three Principals of the College under whom Ken had served and each paid tribute to the qualities they had admired in him.

Principal Emeritus Williams described Ken as a genuine Christian, a gracious Christian, a committed Christian and a friendly Christian. Mr Williams also paid tribute, as did several other speakers, to the significant contribution of Ken's wife, Norma, who had been so supportive of Ken in every aspect of his ministry.

Dr Keith Bowes reflected on the impact Ken had had on him

personally as a student in gaining a deeper appreciation of the Old Testament.

He also referred with admiration to Ken's vision for our churches as outlined in the pamphlet "Strategy for the Seventies", his contributions to the Literature Department and the Historical Society, his ecumenical activities and his commitment to spiritual renewal.

Dr Bill Tabbernee expressed appreciation for Ken's ability to impart a love for the Scriptures and for his patience in teaching Greek to almost 1,000 students throughout his career.

Dr Tabbernee praised Ken's loyalty to Christ, to the church and to the people with whom he ministered.

He also paid tribute to Ken's enthusiasm and made special reference to his spirituality, which had had such an influence on the College, its students and the church at large.

Russell Williams, the Chair-

man of the College Board presented Ken with a cheque and three framed colour photographs of the College of the Bible buildings at Glen Iris, where Ken had served for three decades.

In response Ken expressed deep appreciation to everyone who had shared the evening with him and Norma. "It has been a tremendous privilege to share in the life of the College, the Conference, the churches and on the various committees and departments of the Conference of Churches of Christ and Norma and I express our deep and lasting gratitude to our living Lord for the grace, and love and faithfulness that he has bestowed upon us."

In conclusion Ken stressed the importance of us all discovering our personal unity with the Lord and with one another. "Then, I believe, the world will believe and the church will grow," he declared.

### Churches of Christ Theological College

invites you and your friends  
to a short course on  
**Pastoral Care**

presented by

Dr Lewis A. Born  
Senior Minister

Doncaster Church of Christ  
at the

**Mulgrave Campus  
on Monday evenings**

26 Feb; 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar; 2 April  
7.30-9.30 pm

#### Course Content

What Is Pastoral Care?  
Who Are the Carers?  
How to Care—Skills in Caring  
Caring for the Carers  
How Not to Care  
At the End of Caring

Registration Fee \$35

Contact: Graeme Wigney  
on (03) 790 1000



# Classifieds

## BIRTHS

**GAIRNS** Roslyn and David are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Hamish Alan Murphy on 11 December 1989 in Melbourne.

**HEATH (ALABASTER)** Colin and Helen welcome with love God's gift of a baby son, Jesse John, brother for Jared and Tamar, born Wednesday 27 December 1989. "We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19.

**KEATCH (CUDDY)** To Gayle and Jim a son, to Amy, Lauren and Catie a brother, Thomas James, born 3 January 1990.

## ENGAGEMENTS

**PITT-CROSS** Keith and Frances Pitt (of Parkdale) together with Robert and Diane Cross (of Wattle Glen) are delighted to announce the engagement of Raelen and Graeme (on 16 December 1989).

## SILVER WEDDINGS

**WILSON (JACKSON)** As Brian and Betty of Glen Waverley, Vic, approach their silver wedding anniversary they give thanks to God for the precious 25 years together since their marriage at the Swanston Street, Melbourne, Church of Christ on 13 February 1965, with Dr Lloyd Jones officiating. 6 Mott Court, Glen Waverley 3150.

## RUBY WEDDINGS

**MORFEW-HALL** Ray and Gwen are pleased to announce the anniversary of their marriage on 4 February 1949 at Hartwell church, Melbourne. The late Daniel Wakeley conducted the ceremony. The family, Geoff and Lynne, Doug and Michael, join in thanking God for

these years. Present address 4 Tranmere Road, Howrah 7018.

## GOLDEN WEDDINGS

**BURGESS-NEAL** Geoff and Gwen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 27 January 1990. The marriage took place in the Thornbury Church of Christ in 1940 the minister being the late J.E. Searle. Our loving wishes to you both on this special day from Sam, Jan and grandson Ian.

**PYNE-MEYER** It is with thanksgiving that Allan and Jean celebrate 50 years of marriage on 12 February 1990. Their wedding was conducted by Roy Raymond (now 99 years) at the Wembley Church of Christ. Love from their children David, Patricia and Carol and their families.

## DEATHS

**WAIT** James. Suddenly at his home, Laanecoorie, on 27 December 1989. Dearly loved husband of Hilda, adored father of Elizabeth (Norquay) and Debra, fond father-in-law of Dale and loved Grandpa of Melissa, Amanda and Joshua. Treasured memories.

## IN MEMORIAM

**GAIRNS** Alan James. 31.1.1988. Two years have passed but the cherished memories will live on for ever. Always in our hearts—your loving wife Phyl and family.

**LANGLEY** Harold Ernest. Treasured memories of my beloved husband and our dear father who was called home 12.1.79. Memories have such lovely ways of bringing back our yesterdays. When my life on earth is through I pray to God to take my hand and lead me straight to you.

Still missed, still loved and so very dear. Your loving wife Rene and family.

**LANGLEY** David Malcolm. In loving memory of our dear son and brother called home 24.12.65. Just as you were you will always be a special part of our memories. Still missed, still loved and so very dear. Your loving mother, sister and brothers.

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## CHURCHES OF CHRIST THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE GARDEN PARTY



You are invited to the College Garden Party to be held in the grounds of the Mulgrave Campus at 40-60 Jacksons Road, Mulgrave on Saturday, 10 February 1990 at 4.30 pm-7.30 pm

You, your family and friends are welcome to enjoy fellowship, tour the campus and meet the new students.

Bring along your picnic tea. Tea and coffee will be provided.



## Celebration—New Life

Local residents across Western Australia can expect two gifts during Easter 1990, as a part of the project "A New Way for WA". The project, being co-ordinated by the World Home Bible League, has the co-operation of all major churches in the state.

The first gift is a small pocket booklet "Who Cares?" and the other gift is a special Australianised Celebration New Testament.

"When things are going wrong, it's time to read the manual," said the Bible League's General Secretary, Winston Gauder, in announcing the statewide project to reach every home with a copy of the New Testament.

Recent research in the USA found that while people generally have a positive attitude to the Bible they don't seem to read it. The Celebration New Testament being offered through the project has been specially designed with 10 entry points to assist the uninitiated to find their way along lines that capture their interest.

Ron Allen, promotion officer for the project, says that "We have begun a people's



**Marlon Austin-Crowe (Kingsley Baptist Church), Winston Gauder (World Home Bible League) and Ron Allen (Kingsley Church of Christ) examining Celebration—New Life literature**

movement. We do not have big names on the Task Force. We simply rely on God's 'little people' who take the Bible seriously in their own lives and want to help their fellow men." Ron was converted about three

years ago and is a member of the Kingsley, WA, church.

Support for the project has been trickling in since the project was first announced. About 100 suburbs have churches that are gearing up for action. Coun-

try centres have also responded positively.

In Mandurah the 12 churches in the Ministers' Fraternal is taking steps to cover all 13,000 homes. The project will coincide with the council's celebrations in connection with their move to city status. The Ministers' Fraternal is planning a series of celebration concerts and family oriented events, over a 10-day period, in which all segments of society will share together.

A special project office has been set up at 5 Colombo St, Victoria Park 6102. Phone (09) 472 3314 or 272 3730.

## Belmore's End-of-Year Highlights



### Musical being presented

The Belmore, NSW, church held several end-of-year events including a kids-youth club musical presentation. The children and leaders presented a musical enjoyed by many fam-

ily and friends followed by a family tea. Guest soloist at a carols night was Isabella Sweeting from Newcastle. 120 attended this evening. An exciting Playgroup party was a

huge success with 65 children and babies and 40 mothers attending. The year climaxed with Christmas Day services, which a large number of visitors attended.

### INTEGRA INTRODUCTIONS



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## Ken's Ministry to Ministers

Ken Clinton takes up the appointment of Minister to Ministers in the Victorian churches commencing February.

Ken will be available to ministers, chaplains and their spouses for listening to concerns, sorting through issues, praying with them and generally providing pastoral support.

This position was first established at the Vic-Tas Conference in May 1986 with the appointment of Helen Chapman as the Minister to Ministers. Due to increasing demand Peter Burnham joined Helen in 1988 and together they provided a supportive ministry.

Having pioneered the work and provided counsel and spiritual direction for a number of ministers and families, Helen felt the need to finish at the beginning of 1989.

Peter continued on in the role alone until the end of the year when he too for health and work related issues decided to resign.

Ken comes to the task with a wealth of pastoral experience. He has acted as counsellor to students as senior lecturer of the Churches of Christ Theological College, Mulgrave. Ken recently retired from the college having ministered there and at its previous home, Glen Iris, for 33 years. He has also



**Ken Clinton**

ministered in churches in Victoria on a full-time and part-time basis.

Minister to ministers is a part-time position on a two-day-a-week basis. Victorian ministers look forward to Ken's ministry and the continued development of pastoral care for them and their families.

—George Warren

## Ministry Acknowledged

John Somerville has concluded an 11 years faithful ministry with the church at Wembley Downs, WA. The congregation after the morning service on 17 December expressed its appreciation of this ministry in a number of ways.

John with his wife Margaret and family came to the church when it was 10 years old and ministered to it during its teenage until it is now 21 years. It was an important time in the life of the church. Tribute was paid to John's personal integrity and his intellectual honesty. He called people to an enduring spirituality based on a sound understanding of the nature of the church and the responsibility of being a Christian. His preaching was characterised by willingness to grapple with difficult and at times controversial subjects as they arose in the selected read-

ings. He chose to confront the congregation with issues that needed to be considered and encouraged people to examine for themselves the various points of view. This was also evident in Bible study groups.

Active in Brotherhood affairs, John made a statesman-like contribution on various committees and his clarity of thought at Conference was appreciated. He contributed also to ecumenical activities and was well received in co-operative activities with other churches extending beyond the local community. John was much sought after by members of the community in times of crisis and bereavement.

Margaret played an important part in the ministry. In addition to caring for the family she undertook considerable voluntary work in the congregation and in the community.

John is a university engineering graduate and is also qualified as a librarian. With this background, as well as his training at the College of the Bible, he was able to encourage young people undertaking tertiary studies.

A cash presentation was made to John and Margaret and a special presentation to Margaret and the two daughters.

At present John has no commitment with a local congregation and is enjoying a well-earned rest.

L.M.C.T.  
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# Ken Geyer

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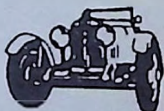
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## Institute Separate Identity

The Institute for Contemporary Church Leadership has indicated to the Board of the Churches of Christ in NSW Theological College that as from the beginning of 1990, theological and biblical courses will be taught at Wollongong and that the Institute wishes to be a separate identity from the College.

The Board has communicated to the Institute that all students who were part of the

College in 1989 (Carlingford and Wollongong) are offered the opportunity to complete their courses under the academic regulations that were in place during 1989 (the period the Institute and the College were together).

There remains a spirit of goodwill and support between the Institute and the College and a desire to work towards and support all efforts to expand the Kingdom of God.

## Kenmore Graduation



**John Houston, Dux of College, being presented with his prize by Professor Allan Wilson**

Seven students received diplomas from Kenmore Christian College at the graduation service on 17 November.

Diplomas in Ministry (four-year course) were awarded to John Houston, Graeme Scott, Stephen Smith and Ian Todd.

The two-year Diploma was awarded to Katrina Kickbush and Colette Bolton, and Diane Peterson received the one-year certificate.

John Houston was named

friends in the faith.

We had the opportunity to share many things together.

As a newly arrived minister, this was, and continues to be a great blessing.

So, to all those who help keep the vision and machinery of Christian Projects going, we want to say a most sincere thank you for helping to set a small church on a much firmer footing.

May God grant us all many more visions for ministry.

—Peter Bradley

Dux of the College based on the average over the four years of the course.

The service, led by Principal Don Spencer, was held in the Brisbane Baptist Tabernacle. Prizes and diplomas were presented by the Chairman of the Kenmore Board and President of Conference, Professor Allan Wilson. The address, "The Diploma of Faith", was given by Gabriel Babare, who has lectured at KCC for the past 18 months and who is to begin a ministry shortly at Mackay.

Prizes were also awarded to Andrew Barnes, John Adermann, Philip Kerr, Alison Woolfrey, Stephanie Palmer and John Houston.

Individual statements prepared by each graduating student were read during the service.

The four receiving Diplomas in Ministry have already begun their work: John Houston (Camp Hill), Graeme Scott (Caloundra), Stephen Smith (Inala) and Ian Todd (Pine Rivers).

## Vision Mowing



**Peter Bradley, George Cooze and Howard Whittaker of the Vision Mowing team**

It began as an idea.

The idea was to establish a lawn-mowing service operating from a local church.

Vision Mowing, as this service came to be called, was an outreach into the community as well as a self-help project to bolster finances of the small struggling Chadstone, Vic, church.

It became a reality when Christian Projects gave a gift of \$1,500.

Vision Mowing began in November 1987 and continued until December 1989.

In the two years the Vision Mowing ministry operated much was accomplished.

A vision does great things

for a church.

In our case it caught peoples' imagination.

They shared the idea with friends and neighbours. Some gave their time and money; others distributed leaflets.

It was a really positive uplifting venture for the whole church.

New people came to the church and became part of our little community as a result of Vision Mowing.

Many other positive contacts were made with folk in our immediate community.

The two retired gents (long live the over 60s!) who gave so generously of their time and energy have become very dear



# Malachi

by Chris Ambrose

**M**alachi is the last book of the Old Testament. Many commentators regard it as an excellent transitional link between the two covenants.

Very little is known about who Malachi was. All we know is that he was a prophet of God to Israel (1:1). There is no other record of him in the Old Testament and there are no details about his life in tradition. This has led some scholars to doubt his existence. The name Malachi means either "my messenger" or "my angel" in Hebrew. The form of the name is unusual and not common for personal names in Hebrew, but after considering the many technical arguments I think it is most probable that Malachi is a personal name.

When did he live? Because of the period implied in the subject matter of the book Malachi was a post-exilic prophet. When the book is looked at closely it is apparent that Malachi is concerned with the same issues that affected Israelite society in the period of Ezra and Nehemiah. Because of the problems addressed and the way that some of these were dealt with by Nehemiah most commentators agree that Malachi was written in the period between the two visits of Nehemiah to Jerusalem. This places the writing of the book about 433 BC.

Malachi is acknowledged by almost all scholars to have an essential unity—the language and vocabulary of the book are uniform throughout. The He-

brew text is well preserved and there are very few problems with it. Interestingly, the Hebrew text treats what we have in English Bibles as 4:1-6 as a continuation of chapter 3 and so these verses are described as 3:19-25 in the Hebrew Bible.

Malachi is written almost entirely in prose. This contrasts with many of the other prophetic books, which have large amounts of poetry. Another interesting characteristic of Malachi is that it consistently uses what is called the "disputational method" in presenting God's message to the people of Israel: Malachi first quotes a word from God, then the people respond to that word, either doubting or contradicting God, followed by God's accusations or promises.

The most important question to ask is: "What is the message of Malachi?" Malachi's prime concern is with the covenant

that the people had with God. He is concerned that Israel has habitually and continually turned away from God's decrees (3:7). Malachi is concerned that Israel is giving second-rate service to God and that the ethical standards of God do not allow for a nominal, easy-going Judaism. The same could be said for the Christian church today. It too is in a covenantal relationship and it is easy to see parallels in our churches with the state of Judaism in the time of Malachi.

*This is the first of a new series of Bible studies in "The Australian Christian". Chris Ambrose will look at the text of Malachi, interspersed with studies by Dennis Nutt of the NSW Theological College on Paul's letter to the Philippians and studies on theological words and concepts of the Bible written by Greg Murphy of the Arana Hills, Qld, church.*

## Comment

# "In the Shadow of the Wall Still Standing..."

by Glynthea Finger

**A**s part of my study program with the Irish School of Ecumenics, I spent the first week of 1990 walking the roads of Belfast. Not your *Neighbours*-type roads, but roads that know violence and bloodshed, bombings and killings. Roads that for 20 years have known the screeching sirens of ambulance and fire brigade and the running feet of soldiers, police and mobs, followed by the measured tread of funeral processions.

Roads that have echoed not to the excited chatter of children at play nor backyard barbies but the shouts and cries of battle, of death and mourning.

I walked the laneways and alleyways and looked into the faces of Catholic and Protestant and saw the same expressions of fear, confusion, tiredness, pain, sadness and helplessness. I looked into the faces

of Nationalist and Unionist and saw the same lines of worry and ashen pallor, the same stare of hostility and helplessness.

I asked the same questions: "What is religion? What is political?" I received the same answers, a look of despair, "Does it matter any more?"—a shrug of the shoulders.

I walked two neighbourhoods—the Shankill, the Falls—the roads of two ghettos and saw one with curbing and signposts painted red, white and blue proclaiming one set of loyalties—allegiance to their God. And I saw the other with the tricolour green, white and orange—another loyalty and another God.

I looked down both sides of a divided West Belfast, either side of the Peace Wall, and saw poverty, unemployment, alcoholism and prejudice, and I wept for broken humanity. I looked into the youthful faces

of soldiers on patrol and security forces and heard stories of stress, suicide, drink and wife beatings, and I wept for the confusion and pain of a growing creation.

But in the midst of the chaos of barbed wire, soldiers and guns, men in black masks and clothing, buzzing helicopters with searchlights, memorial stones to martyrs of "The Troubles" and continued bombings, I witnessed committed Catholics and Protestants bringing meaning and purpose to their people confined to the ghettos, through employment projects, social services and pastoral care teams. I witnessed, too, ecumenical groups, Catholic and Protestant as one, working on special projects and programs for the reconciliation of a church, a society and a country and for a healing of their memories.

In the grey and fog of a win-

tery Belfast that chills to the bone with a cold that reaches beyond the weather, I thought of a sunburnt country I call home and I wondered:

What of our loyalties—are they confined to a particular denomination or to a God who calls us to live beyond the walls sharing love with one another?

Are we prepared to join in "unity" with "others" so that peace, justice, God's reign will be present amongst all?

Or, are we ruled by fear—living within our ghettos, behind our self- and human-made walls, throwing stones over to the other side as we need to in order to keep ourselves "safe/uncompromised"?

May the roads we walk this new decade lead us beyond the wall!

• Glynthea Finger is presently studying at the Irish School of Ecumenics.



# Radio Ministry—Is It for Us?

by Jeff Weston and Peter Hammat

**C**urrently it is estimated that Australians consume between 65–80 hours of media per person per week. Of all media radio is the most used, accounting for at least 60% of this time. Not surprisingly many churches and Christian organisations are looking to developing a media outreach, especially through radio.

As further encouragement, because of the recent expansion of stations brought about by the advent of both commercial and public FM radio, increasing opportunities now exist to break into radio. But where does one start? How do you go about securing air-time?

First, it must be realised that as with all ministry opportunities, there is a cost to be paid. Radio, no matter what style (commercial or public) requires a professional approach, which demands a high level of commitment. However, other costs must also be taken into account for organisations. For churches this cost may be expressed in a total re-orientation of its priorities for ministry. Things such as worship services, study programs, facilities and opportunity for ongoing counselling and education may all need to be reviewed and orientated to the non-Christian.

The greatest cost, however, is in the use of the minister's time. It takes a great deal of preparation to make effective use of air-time, both for talkback and brief spots. This will mean the minister may not be available for some maintenance tasks. This can be minimised by the use of a backup team who do research and follow-up. However, our experience has been even with such assistance, in order to be professional and effective a great deal of time is required by those who present the material.

If you believe radio is for you, where do you start? Prior to approaching a station for air-

time you must do a lot of homework. The key question at this stage is, "What is it that I'm hoping to do?" Who are you trying to reach, and with what message? Be aware that different radio stations appeal to different audiences. Your choice of station and best chance of acceptance will be determined by your potential audience. It would be a waste of time approaching a youth-orientated station with a proposal for a talkback program to reach the needs of the elderly!

Program format will also determine your choice of station. You need to note that some stations will have been granted a licence to broadcast a music format by the ABT, in which case they will not be interested in a "talk" program but maybe interested in a program that features the current contemporary Christian music releases.

There are many options currently being used effectively around Australia. A point to remember in planning what you wish to present is that some stations base air-time on 15-minute quadrants. This means that you may need to develop a program that either fits into a quadrant or passes through two or more quadrants.

Before you approach a station for time, do some research on it. What is the station's target audience? What type of format does it run? Is it already presenting similar types of programs? How successful are these? All of this is essential information as radio stations will not air programs that don't fit their on-air image.

Experience is important in radio. If you don't have any it may be advisable to enrol in a media or radio course. There are various courses conducted in most capital cities. These can cost a considerable amount of money and payment is usually expected up front. An alternative is the basic announcers course conducted by almost all

public FM stations. Remember, a commercial station is in the business of keeping listeners for ratings of audience share in the market. The industry uses these ratings to attract advertising dollars, so any "turn-off" factor is not tolerated for very long. To stay on air you must be consistently attracting an audience. In order to do so a polished professional approach is required.

All radio stations pride themselves on professionalism, so it doesn't pay to walk in off the street and expect to gain air-time without presentation. If you can access recording facilities it's worthwhile putting a "demo" tape together of your proposal on reel-to-reel or good quality cassette. The station can then assess your "on-air" sound.

Some stations, depending on size, have only one manager, who is responsible for all aspects of the station. However, most medium and large stations employ a program manager or director. An approach to gain air-time should be made to this person, who has the responsibility for the "on-air" sound. You will need to sell your program to this person on the basis that it will appeal to the existing audience, plus attract even more listeners. Another selling point is that radio stations are required by law to provide a certain amount of time each week to religious programming. By producing a quality local product you are offering to help the station meet this requirement. If you are planning a talkback/counselling format you have the bonus of being able to sell this as a community service program that is meeting local needs.

Take with you information about the intended audience and its needs. You will need to demonstrate that there is a market for this program. Back this up with information regarding similar programs in

other places. You will need to sell yourself, to prove that you have the ability to make this a success. This is especially important for anyone contemplating a talkback format. For talkback you will also need to demonstrate that you are not a "one man band" but have a backup team that can handle the ongoing commitment to people's problems.

Don't be disheartened by a refusal. Program managers are constantly reviewing their station's performance and although they may not use your program today, in a few months they may be prepared to try it. If you receive a refusal always ask why. There may be some fundamental flaw in your proposal that needs to be corrected before any future acceptance.

Radio offers a great mission field. If used well, the key, as with all ministry, is devotion to the task and thorough preparation.

• Jeff Weston is the minister of the Collins Street, Hobart, Tas, church. He has been involved in producing and presenting radio programs for over seven years. Prior to his move to Hobart he pioneered night-time talkback radio on Darwin's commercial station 8DN.

• Peter Hammat is a professional radio announcer on commercial station 7HO Hobart. In recent ratings 7HO had a 52.3% share of the Hobart listening audience, while Peter was the top-rating announcer with 67% share of the listening audience in the midday to 4 pm time slot. Peter, with wife Bronwyn and baby son Clifford, attend the Collins St Church.

Edited by Brian White, Field Director of the Vic-Tas Department of Mission, Education and Development and the Federal Board of Christian Education.



# Guiding Stars and Glasnost

by Alan Matheson

**C**hristmas once again was cancelled in Bethlehem and Beit Sahour.

"How can we celebrate," said the Mayor, "when our people are suffering?"

Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, and Beit Sahour, in whose fields the shepherds heard the news of his birth, are the homes of Christian Arabs.

Celebration and suffering were the themes of this year's editorials.

## Despair

"The year of the refugee," said one paper.

Yet with an eye on Europe, the same paper, noted that "for Christendom it is a season of goodwill like no other for a generation" (*Economist* 23.11.89).

But editorial after editorial contrasted this season of goodwill ("Peace on Earth? Not Quite!" *Herald* 22.12.89) with the reality of everyday life for

still too many people.

The road toll was picked up by some ("A tragic end to the year of freedom", *Sunday Herald* 24.12.89) understandably after a bus crash took 35 lives just before Christmas.

It was the *Melbourne Age* however that reminded its readers that "in terms of compassion toward the wretched of the earth, the festive season has tended to offer renewed focus on famine and poverty around the world" (24.12.89).

Or as another writer put it, "Space ships reach for the stars from the launching pads of wealthy nations while Third World people starve or perish from avoidable illness." (*Herald* 22.12.89)

## Secular?

The national daily, while affirming "the enduring relevance of faith to the destiny of the world", noted that in affluent Australia, Christmas has

"become mostly a secular holiday of feasting and fun" and "the power and prestige of religion have declined".

"Yet it is only a minority of the world's people," the editorial writer continued, "who live this way...for most of the world for communist societies, for Islamic nations of the Middle East and South East Asia, for mystical India, for Jewish people, for the impoverished Third World Nations of Latin America and Africa—religion remains a pervasive element of social and personal reality." (*Australian* 24.12.89)

## Hope

But it was the message of hope that was most striking. "Without doubt," went one editorial, "the guiding star of Christmas 1989 is glasnost. Wise men in the East have recognised it as a symbol of the birth of a new era. Foolish men, such as Romania's Ceausescu,

ignore its message and respond with brutality against their own people." (*Herald* 22.12.89)

It was the national daily, however, that probed the role of the church in the sweeping changes taking place in Eastern Europe.

"The role of faith—and of the churches—in the democratic fever of those countries is undeniable." (*Australian* 24.12.89)

Religion, noted the editorial, plays a double role in communist societies.

At one level they "heroically stuck to their practices and beliefs in the face of persecution".

And at the same time "the specifically religious message of the churches has given people the power of hope, the consolation that their suffering is not without purpose and their lives not without redemption".

For another editorial writer, the churches "helped create the climate for the reform movement now sweeping through Eastern European societies...the Spirit of God has been present within the Christian Communities, building resistance to tyranny, begetting faith and courage, keeping hope alive". (*Sydney Morning Herald* 23.12.89) Maybe a sermon there for 1990...and Australia!

• Alan Matheson is a member of the Camberwell, Vic, church.

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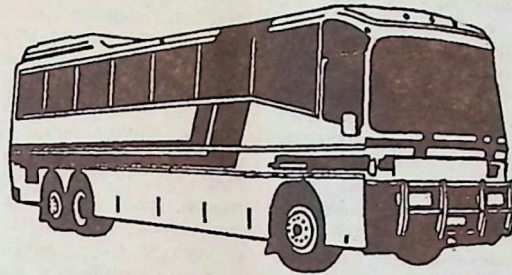
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## Growing Spiritually

# The Bottom Line or, The Cost of Discipleship

by Brian Mee



**J**ust recently I travelled from Queensland to Melbourne for graduation and ordination. My preferred mode of travel would have been by air, but due to such constraints as a "nonexistent" pilots dispute and, more significantly, my pocket, I decided to go by bus. I'd done it before and said never again, but time heals even the most painful memories.

My worst fears were fulfilled—the bus was full, all 58 seats!—therefore I couldn't even scrimp some extra room. But then our second driver was introduced, a Christian, Ron. He even had a fish on his tie. I chatted him up, and discovered he was an elder at the Bright Church of Christ. We chatted between 10 pm and 1

am. Subsequently, on my way home, via Sydney, imagine my surprise to meet Ron again.

I then got to thinking. Fortunately that portion of my anatomy didn't ache so much. Two things:

1. As Christians, do we really know what it is to suffer for our Lord? Thankfully most of us

can say no, we haven't been subject to harassment, torture or even death as some are. But then I wonder how much inconvenience we are prepared to take in our walk with Jesus. How loudly do we complain about hard seats, wrong hymns and other trivia?

2. How blessed it is to meet

other members of the Body of Christ in unusual circumstances. It really does underline the concept of true unity, that oneness in the Lord.

Next time I travel, I hope I can accept the discomfort more readily, since, let's face it, our Lord's journey was more painful, and look around with expectancy for fellowship on the trip. May we always remember first that the bottom line in our Christian journey is that no pain is unbearable if we are going in the right direction, and secondly that we have the ultimate expectation of fellowship—of seeing Jesus.

• *Brian Mee is the minister at the Nerang, Qld, church.*

## A Church ABC

**L**oxton, SA, is situated on the Murray River in the famous Riverland area, not far from the Victorian border. The town of 7,000 is situated in an irrigation area that produces citrus fruits, apricots, grapes and almonds. The surrounding mallee country supports farming, and the Riverland is also a high-profile tourist area. The Loxton church was established in a garage in 1951. The current building, L-shaped, and consisting of a chapel and a hall, was erected in 1959. During the 50s and 60s the church grew and had a thriving Sunday school and youth group, but by the 70s there came lean times and the church dwindled to only nine members. A recommendation was made to fold the church and unite with the Congregational church, but the members all decided to meet weekly for prayer and Bible study and the church began to grow again. The membership of the church

is now 114, but there has also been a large turnover—nearly all members have joined the church in the last five years.

The minister is John Kenway. In 1984–85 John was part

of a circuit of two ministers to five churches and spent only one-third of his time at Loxton, but in 1985 a new manse was purchased and he was invited to serve full-time from 1986. John came to the Lord at the Shepparton, Vic, church and trained at Carlingford. He is married to Anna, with four children, aged 10, 6, 3 and 1, the oldest two from his first marriage to Amanda, who was killed in a car accident in 1985.

## Focus on Loxton

The Loxton church has vibrant and dynamic worship services, involving a number of musical instruments, at 10 am and 6 pm. The worship is

charismatic in style. At evening services there is a focus on prayer for healing. There are numerous fellowship groups and the church has a very active prayer base. Over the past

few years a very strongly motivated leadership team has emerged, committed to growth. The church is free of debt and a church office has been established as an annexe to the manse, but with growth a new venue must be considered soon. Activities of the church include "Reach Out", a ladies group that meets weekly and invites speakers from the community on a wide variety of subjects, and that also holds prayer nights and seminars for wives and mothers. There is a men's prayer breakfast group which conducts Aussie-style barbecues on the banks of the

Murray. The church is associated with the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship and Women's Aglow.

The church has also established a Loxton Bible College, which offers part-time courses to all lay Christians. The youth of the church meet for fellowship with the Uniting Church young people. All-night prayer meetings, held every few months, are well supported.

The Loxton church very much seeks to build the kingdom of God in the town, and participates with other denominations in evangelistic outreach, for example the "Loxton Alive" bicentennial project, which involved the whole community for nine days.

The church encourages people to participate its ministry, finding God's calling for them to assist in practical and spiritual ways to share in the goal of reaching others for Christ. Evangelism is central to the life of the Loxton church.



## Obituaries

Obituaries are limited to 100 words

### Lindus, Beres

(5.12.89) Beres Lindus was responsible for her own funeral service—hymns, readings and thoughts. She was 64, wife of Kelth, mother of Ian and Paul, and grandmother of six. She grew up in Newcastle, NSW, lost her mother early and at 13 was attending functions virtually as the mayoress for her father. Recently she was a member of Maylands, SA, and active in its Friendship Centre. Dolls were a focal point of her life. She was founder of *The Doll Journal of Australia* and organiser of many doll and miniature clubs and exhibitions. Through them she raised \$45,000 for charity, mainly the Childrens' Medical Research Foundation.

—Richard Lawton

### Mottram, Henry Alexander

(2.1.90) The Maryborough, Vic, church sustained a loss in the unexpected death of Henry. Born at Havelock in 1913, he contracted polio at four. At 15 he was baptised by A.B. Withers at Bet Bet, immediately becoming active in youth work. He became a board member, serving as secretary for over 20 years. In 1937 he married Rose Sewell, living in Maryborough for seven years. After serving in World War II they moved back to Bet Bet. Harry was active in community projects and loved sport. He farmed until ill health forced retirement. Survived by wife Rose, sons Keith and Robert, daughters-in-law Glenda and Lynette, and six grandchildren.

—R. Will Marshall

### Rice, Charles Frederick

(11.12.89) The sudden death of Charlie Rice at 73 on his property was a great shock and loss to his church and community. At the Harcourt, Vic, church he was SS Superintendent for 40 years and served on the board. He was a prime mover and tradesman of the church building in the 40s. His work in the community, supported by his wife Lotte, was extensive: Rural Fire Authority (40-year medal), Football Club (life member) fruitgrowers organisations (president of Victorian Association for three years), Reserve Committee and Leisure Centre Project. Charlie's personal life was characterised by the theme: "He went about doing good."

—Eric Patterson

### Tilley, Thelma

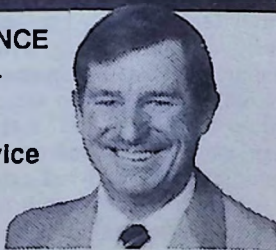
(31.10.89) Thelma Tilley, of Glenrose Court, SA, died at 81 years. She was the wife of Norm (51 years), mother of John (Portland, Vic) and grandmother of two. She had been a member of the Norwood, Cowandilla and Maylands churches, taught Sunday School, and part of Christian Endeavour and girls clubs. Thelma was a solid, salt-of-the-earth Christian. She loved to cook and many church events benefited from that love. With Norm she ran an open, hospitable home. When faced with the prospect of death, she acknowledged that she had had a long and happy life and marriage and was content.

—Richard Lawton

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## Church News

### NSW

#### BEXLEY NORTH (Ray Fitzpatrick)

1989 a fruitful & encouraging year for us all ... Successful marriage enrichment seminar conducted by Brian White. 10 couples attended ... Young people have formed a band to enrich worship services ... Tiny Tots Playgroup, Junior Scene & F Troop continue to attract numbers ... Looking forward to fruitful outreach ministry through 1990 led by Ray Fitzpatrick, assisted by Neale Meredith & Tom Quinliven, Carlingford students.

**MAITLAND (R.N. Hawkins)** Ray Hawkins spoke at year 10 & 12 farewells and presentation of prizes of Maitland Grossman High ... Excellent Carol Festival arranged by music team. Some from community present ... Mr & Mrs B. Zambra transferred from Kingsford ... Church surprised Mr & Mrs Hawkins with fellowship luncheon after church & presented with two sets of crockery to celebrate 25 years of marriage. Lovely cake cut & shared.

**ALBURY (Alex Wilson, Allan Blyth)** Highlight of Dec Good News Celebration—King's Kids drama ... Sausage sale raised \$1,500 towards loan ... Men enjoyed snooker night at Kellahan's ... A. Wilson addressed city carols ... 20 Borella House residents shared Dec communion service ... New Year's Eve prayer vigil a first, very uplifting ... Young Adults to host Swan Hill Young Adults Australia Day weekend ... La'el visiting.

**WAGGA WAGGA (R. Whan)** R. Whan released for 12 months to return to PNG as Principal of Churches of Christ Bible College at Momonup, subject to visas ... David Jones has accepted call to minister for 1990 ... Mae Reid, youth worker, goes to Wollongong for one-year Youth Workers Course.

**THORNLEIGH (Franklyn Elliott)** Cell Groups end of year function took form of buffet tea followed by meeting during which highlights of 1989 were shared ... At final Playgroup for 1989 opportunity was taken to recognise contribution of Mrs Dot Bishop over past 15 years. She has been leader for last three years & on & off for nine years. Presentation made & letter of appreciation from church read out.

**EPPING (Stephen Curkpatrick, David Moyes)** Many new people attending as result Christmas specials ... Over 300 attended Carols in the Park ... Frank Elsmore, David Moyes & youth built "Zac's Cafe" during holidays ... New Moyes manse has swimming pool & gym, ideal for youth activities ... Stephen

Curkpatrick's collection of PNG stories, "Jungle Etchings" published ... Col Wrigley co-ordinating variety of small groups for 1990.

**LIVERPOOL (P. Raymond)** Church saddened as Ralph & Irene Mitchell farewelled 3 December ... Looking to induction of Peter Raymond & commissioning of elders & deacons 25 February. Speaker Dr Keith Farmer ... Eight planning to go to Wimber Spiritual Warfare Seminar ... Church family camp held at Fitzroy Falls so successful (65 campers), another is to be planned ... Owing to development extra elders being called to improve pastoral care.

**THORNLEIGH (Franklyn Elliott)** Special features of Christmas—New Year were: Christmas Eve celebration, items presented by Bible School, Tim Hanna speaker; Christmas Day service "My Christmas Gift to the Lord" offering received—Christian Blind Mission & Outback Patrol, total \$1,704; New Year Eve Hawaiian Luau climaxed with Watch Night service, Franklyn Elliott speaker ... Evening service 7 January married couple came forward. Don Smallbone speaker.

### Qld

**BRIEBE ISLAND** Wayne Kirk, student assistant minister Pine Rivers, has accepted call to pastor Briebe Island church. State Conference President is conducting the induction on 19 February at morning service. Appointment necessitates sacrificial giving by church. Pray for guidance.

**BUNDABERG (A.G. Leane)** 25 Nov 66th anniversary of church. First anniversary of new chapel & location. Concert Sat night. Celebration services Sunday. Alan Leane speaker. Well over 100 at luncheon ... Bruce Leane & fiancée visited parents ... 2 Dec Sunday School picnic & barbecue. Gifts for children from Santa ... CWF break-up luncheon Capri Cove ... Five new families welcomed into fellowship ... Prayers requested for Mary Richmond, amputee, & Daisy Howden, major surgery.

**MARYBOROUGH (David Woodward)** Interim minister Ray Patterson & Wilma, youth leaders Lyn & Wayne Murray farewelled ... Induction of David Woodward by Professor Wilson, Conference President ... Five baptisms ... Beryl & Tom Peake, Faye & Gordon Ammenhauser welcomed in ... Boys' Brigade Founder's Day parade, family service, carol service well attended ... Australian & overseas camp in Brisbane. five of our Brigaders made decisions.



## Discipleship

•Graeme Matthews, Ian Watkins, Maylands, SA •Tracey Kinnear, Burwood, Vic •Johanna Bomhof, Chelsea, Vic •Pam Ward, Andrew Ward, Ivanhoe, Vic •Paul Fitzpatrick, Carla Durrant, Nicole Ulrich, Albury, NSW •Brenda Bates, Prospect, SA •Judith Tilbrook, Heather Tilbrook, Deanne Domaschensz, Sue Meyer, Bevan Looney, Campbell Holt, Greg Hester, Mark Ely, David Chandler, Swan Hill, Vic •Alecia Goodyer, Wally Haselwood, Doug & Christine Brooks, Michael Nelson, Murray Bridge, SA •Mrs Sally Haire, Deidre Bridgart, Springvale, Vic •Jess Davey, Joanne Franklin, Hampstead Gardens, SA •Kendra Plastow, Gail Clayton, Dianne Scott, Alison Eagles, Kerry Hollams, Warwick, WA •Nola Henry, Monique Rampono, Cameron Sutherland, Piers Woodley, Stefanie Woodley, Kalamunda, WA •Ian McDonald, Jenny McDonald, Rick Rigda, Balaklava, SA •Angela Groves, Scott Nussey, Mark Fanning, Sharon Cheate, Bob Russell, Blackwood, SA •Denis Fitzpatrick, Nunawading, Vic •Clint, Nyriel & Tyron Butler, Red Hill, Vic •Carolyn Foster, Launceston, Tas

## Marriages

•Heather Birkett to Leo Filippone, Burwood, Vic •Yvette Bloomfield to Bruce Campbell, Albury, NSW •Anne Cron to Duncan Mackie, Beta Cenit to Rogo-Bertos Comeros, Springvale, Vic •Joanne Bennet to Peter Hartley, Hampstead Gardens, SA •Robyn Carslake to Stephen Donnison, Roslyn Pyne to Russell Ward, Warwick, WA •Susan Trezona to Mark Ashby, Wembley, WA •Julie Moyle to Kym McPharlin, Balaklava, SA •Ann Kittel to Doug Clarke, Carmen Kruger to Brenton Morris, Jane Beard to David Grice,

Blackwood, SA •Margaret Boyd to Graeme Baldcock, Peel St., Ballarat, Vic

## Deaths

•Thelma Tilley, Beres Lindus, Maylands, SA •Bill Black, Blackwood, SA •Florence Angel, Launceston, Tas

## Changes

Griffiths, Lucy and Dargavill, Doug—St Bede's Vicarage, 2 Tiuna Grove, Elwood, Vic 3184. Phone (03) 531 6016.

Foothills: Minister—David Timms, 287 Hawtin Road, Forrestfield, WA, 6058.

Maryborough, Vic: Minister—Bruce Anderson, 235 Gladstone Street, Maryborough, Vic 3465. Phone (054) 61 3956.

Wembley Downs: Ministers—John and Eira Clapp, 1528 Colin Road, Wembley Downs, WA 6019. Phone (09) 341 6273.

Springvale: Minister—Peter Lyne, 112 Harold Road, Noble Park, Vic 3174. Phone (03) 546 3632.

Boronia: Ministers—Keith Milne, 16 Claremont Avenue, The Basin, Vic 3154. Phone (03) 761 1132.

Andrew Henley, 35 St Elmo Avenue, Ferntree Gully, Vic 3156. Phone (03) 758 2296.

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**St Bartholomew's Anglican Church, Brisbane**  
is seeking a  
**Youth Pastor**

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will have:

- specialist training in youth ministry
- min. 2-3 years full-time experience as a youth pastor
- vision for continued growth and discipleship
- ability to work with a ministry team of approx. 4 staff

The appointee will be a mature, strong, committed Christian with a desire to serve the Lord in this vital area of ministry.

Expressions of interest should be received by the Church Administrator, PO Box 275, Mt Gravatt 4122, no later than Friday, 19 February 1990.

The Council of the  
**Bible College of South Australia**  
invites applications for the position of  
**PRINCIPAL**

of the College, commencing 1 January 1991

The appointee should preferably be a proven team leader with pastoral and preaching/teaching skills, previous adult educational experience and a post-graduate qualification in a theological discipline.



For further information contact the  
Secretary, BCSA, 176 Wattle Street,  
Malvern SA 5061. Phone (08) 272 0188

## Curriculum Officer—Beliefs and Values

The Council for Christian Education in Schools  
is seeking a Part-Time Curriculum Officer

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Such a person should be a committed Christian who preferably is or has been a practitioner in Christian Education and who has kept up to date with current education practice in Australia generally and Victoria particularly.

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- teaching experience
- church experience and membership
- experience, if any, in curriculum development with special reference to Christian education
- other information considered to be relevant

Applications should be addressed to:

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Telephone: (03) 654 2211  
Applications close 28 February



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Experience in stock control and menu planning is essential. The successful applicant will be directly responsible to the Executive Director of ESA and Elkanah. A brief résumé of qualifications and/or experience together with the names of two referees should be included in the application. At least one referee should be able to comment on professional expertise.

Salary and commencing dates are negotiable, although it is anticipated that the successful candidate will commence no later than the end of March.

Elkanah Ltd is responsible for the Christian guest house "Mountain Manor" at Marysville. ESA Ltd runs a youth camp and conference centre on an adjacent property. Both organisations are responsible to interdenominational councils with a very strong commitment to the evangelical tradition.

Applications are to be in writing and addressed to the Executive Director, PO Box 50, Marysville 3779. Telephone queries can be made to Malcolm Sadler at (059) 63 3229 during office hours. It is desirable that applications should be forwarded so as to arrive before the end of February.



## Tas

**NUBEENA** (G. Henderson) 12 attended final youth night for year at Dunalley ... Church filled to capacity for Sunday School Anniversary ... 60 ladies attended their Christmas night function ... Christmas morning service well attended by 90 ... Averages for Dec—am 63, pm 23, communicants 49 ... Steve & Kay Shooter, missionaries-elect with SIM to Benin, West Africa, speakers. Steve to serve as dentist. **LAUNCESTON** (Rod Foster) 10 December church farewelled Lorraine Hor Kwong who acted as pastoral assistant for six months & 17 December John Rees commissioned as interim minister for six months & welcomed at family tea ... Brigades breakups well attended by parents & friends ... Yvonne Harrison re-elected chairperson of diaconate ... 10 small study groups resume 19 February ... Gwen Byard succeeds Barry Birtwistle as musical director ... One reconsecration 31 December.

## SA

**MAYLANDS** (Richard Lawton) Encouraging applications of the \$4,000 donation given to Tucson Churches Sanctuary Project ... Local board of management planning sessions for 1990 program reported to be most effective ... Church saddened by deaths of Thelma Tilley & Beres Lindus ... Heartened with the baptisms of Graeme Matthews, Ian Watkins & Alan Jones ... Friendship Centre luncheon & church Christmas dinner greatly appreciated.

**PROSPECT** (G. Payne) Ecumenical service with Australian National Brass Band in Barker Gardens & procession to Rosary Church ... Love in Action Christmas Tea. John Parker guest speaker ... Party working towards church centenary 1992 seeking help from past members for photos, history etc ... Camera Club final meeting walk around Gawler, barbecue & presentation of trophy ... Geoff Payne accepted challenge to minister at Northside, Sydney, early in new year.

**MURRAY BRIDGE** (Bill Bowden) The church under the leading of Bill Bowden has had a year of challenge & growth ... New board chairman Trevor Purdie, secretary John Goodyer, treasurer Ted Smith giving challenging leadership ... Five baptisms for year ... Sunday School under leading of Jeff & June Parker has had year of growth concluding with family service & luncheon ... CWF active in commitment serving its outreach under co-ordinator

Norma Cox & secretary Leoni Goodyer.

**HAMPSTEAD GARDENS** (Keith Ridge) Drama in worship group provided new dimensions to Christmas services ... Stewardship series conducted ... Combined with Enfield Baptist for Christmas musical and Carols in the Park ... Peter Devereaux gave insight of Christian activity in Nicaragua ... Robert Coombe (Mt Gambier), Bevan & Sally Parker (Canberra) returned to share musical talents in Christmas-New Year services ... Capacity attendance & two baptisms for Sunday School Christmas service.

**BLACK FOREST** (Allan Lochhead) 70th anniversary celebrations in November. Three special services—communion, PSA with the "New Connexions" & an evening service preceded by a tea with members of yesteryear. Photographs brought an added mind refresher. Concluded with an after church fellowship ... Recently appointed minister Allan Lochhead & his wife, Sandra, are actively involved in every facet of our church life & members responding to their personal approach.

**BALAKLAVA** (Graham Lawrie) "Endless Praise" gospel singing group presented musical evening in our chapel ... Christmas poster competition for children displayed in shop windows ... Graham & Judy Lawrie accepted five year extension to ministry ... CWF theme "Christmas Tree in Word & Song" much enjoyed ... Gifts sent to Community Care following Christmas break-up parties ... Church entered float in town Christmas Eve parade ... New photocopier, typewriter & shelving purchased.

**BLACKWOOD** (R.C. Combridge) Anticipating induction of Colin Dredge to ministry on 4 Feb ... Church acknowledges first ministry of Mike Folland to The Patch, Vic, entry into CCTC of Jon & Tricia Moore & conclusion of year of Dale & Jennie Martin ... Don Kittel, Malcolm Beard & Ron Todd all recovering from major surgery while illness of Beryl Jones causing prayerful concern ... Program for "street kids" growing in momentum following use of council provided "drop-in" bus.

**NAILSWORTH** (Daryll Telfer) Church farewelled Brian & Marion Trowbridge after five years of ministry at Nailsworth ... Daryll & Ruth Trowbridge commencing ministry ... Successful outdoor Carol service in December attracted almost 300 local residents ... Outreach to local community with the personal distribution of over 1,000 calendars.

## WA

**MORAWA** Three men, Ian Moysey, Frank Herbert & Charlie Latham, flew up from Perth to conduct morning service. Stayed on to Carols by Candlelight with combined services held in our chapel. Church filled to capacity. At the conclusion of the program Ian Moysey spoke on the hymn, "Jesus Is Standing in Pilate's Hall".

**WEMBLEY** (John Timms) 50th anniversary 18-19 Nov. Attendances excellent. G. Wood speaker am, J. Bond pm. SA Band Concert Sat. Sunday luncheon. A.D. Pyne compiled history ... Living Links, Bill & Rosemary Taylor back in Perth from PNG on 12 months furlough ... Carpark Carols by Candlelight great night with many visitors ... Sale of work raised \$2,750 Girls Home, India, Leprosy Mission.

**CARNARVON** (Don Bone) Don Bone asked to extend ministry to October 1991 ... Alan Day elected to eldership & Ron Jones re-elected ... Church families enjoyed picnic at beach ... Following Christmas Eve service congregation boarded bus to carol sing through town ... CWF presented Christmas program at Olive Laird Hostel and held wind-up luncheon.

**SUBIACO** (Graham Johnston, Terry Dorrington) Pastor/evangelist Graham Johnston welcomed from Leighton Ford Ministries ... Pastors & elders developing ministry strategy through goal orientation & task assignment ... Carols in Kings Park held with outreach program ... Nine left 23 Dec for two weeks Vanuatu lay mission project ... New faith promise giving year started & exceeded 1989 promise ... Elder board has added two new elders—Robert Price & Max Graieg. **ROCKINGHAM** (Keith Ware) Praise God for great year of growth in all areas ... Interim ministry while Keith Ware & family on holidays undertaken by John & Margaret Pendlebury, preparing for Bible College ... Plans progressing for Vocational Bible School last week in April ... Growth in youth work ... Carols & CWF New Year social well attended.

**WARWICK** (G.B. Carslake, B.A. Eagles, R.L. Mason) Christmas services very well attended with bagpiper as surprise feature ... 22 of 44 campers at Binningup Youth Camp were from Warwick ... Strong support & attendance given to NYC ... Two of the 19 basketball teams won the grandfinals ... 15 received certificates in the Bethel course & another 18 completed the Person to Person course ... Stuart Dinnen was the speaker at the Missionary

Convention.

**KALAMUNDA** (John Thornhill, Mark Proud, Paul Sanders, Guy Roberts) Guy Roberts appointed to serve part-time with pastoral team ... Church enjoyed fellowship with students returning on holidays from various Bible Colleges ... Large numbers gathered for Christmas services & also Watch Night service New Year's Eve ... Home Fellowship groups in recess, holiday Bible reading meetings continued through January ... Summer outreach program continues with film in Stirk Park early February. **WEMBLEY** (J.T. Timms, M. Wilson) Church celebrated 50th anniversary Nov 89. George Woods & Jack Bond speakers ... 24 Dec Nancy & Alec Innes 50th wedding anniversary. First wedding Wembley ... Over 200 celebrated Carols by Candlelight in open-air carpark service ... Five new rooms to be added onto building in new year ... Membership now over 150 with 29 additions 1989 ... Marriage of Sue Trezona to Mark Ashby Dec 1989.

## Vic

**NUMURKAH** Chris Wingard welcomed in by transfer & baby dedicated ... CWF meeting held each month averaging 13. Corresponding with three missionary families ... Hamper parcel collected for welfare distribution for needy family at Christmas ... Speaker from Christian Police spoke on 12 November. Well attended ... 10 December PSA presentation for youth clubs & Bible School ... Seminar held on Churches of Christ led by Don Smith.

**BURWOOD** (Peter Wing-Tang) Over 120 members, guests & representatives from neighbouring churches attended opening of extensions to church building by Conf Pres Phyl Davis ... AGM endorsed board recommendation that minister be reappointed for further two years from Jan. 1991 ... New appointments to board included Brian Jacques (elder), Jean Grayden (secretary), Dawn Jacques, Joan Payne (deacons) ... Impressive elders and board dedication service held.

**PARKDALE** (Keith Pitt) Christmas theme, "The Coming of Jesus", presented at well-attended Christmas services ... CWF held successful Christmas breakup on Teddy Bear theme ... Bible School encouraged by good attendance at Christmas party ... Bible Study groups combined for a Christmas meal & final study for 1989 ... Andrew Hargreaves & Gary Scott shared in



# Church News

National Youth Convention in Perth.

**CHELSEA** (T. Frazer) Johanna Bomhof baptised ... "Formal" dinner organised by youth group raised \$355 ... Chelsea, Parkdale & Mornington members enjoyed sunset worship at Bentley's farm at Moorooduc ... Millie Greateorex re-elected CWF president at end-of-year luncheon & annual meeting ... Explorers won pennants for most-improved club & worship programs ... Recognition service held for Tom & Lila Frazer, whose ministry closed 7 Jan ... Sunday School presented nativity play at service.

**IVANHOE** (J. Caporn) Minister accepted call to Alexander Heights, WA, commencing Feb 1990 ... Church delighted Ian Smith accepted call Ivanhoe 1990 ... Mother & son baptism ... Sparten & Hole families welcomed into membership ... Kids Klub held complimentary carwash for members ... CWF heard president Kaye Caporn at Special K Farewell dinner ... Luncheon held to farewell Caporn family ... Rhonda Pitt, Brian Hole graduated Tabor College, Dip. of Ministry.

**TOOTGAROOK** (Mal Giezendanner) Tree-cutting team led by Tom Bryant & market raised \$6,000-\$5,000 for church building fund, \$1,000 for renovations to present building ... CWF cabaret dinner for church members much enjoyed by 88 ... At annual meeting Harry Earl made elder emeritus. New elder Wal McGregor. Presen-

tation to May Rees after eight years treasurer ... Many enjoyed Christmas lunch at Monbulk camp.

**HAMILTON** (Ray Eldridge) Annual meeting held. Secretary Anne Philip, treasurer Joan Kennett, co-ordinator Geoff Beard ... Sunday School, Girls and Boys Brigade held afternoon Christmas service & presentation of awards ... Christian Women's Fellowship concluded a varied & successful year ... Monthly stalls becoming more popular, different people coming as well as regular clientele. December stall raised \$755. Nine ladies carrying out this arduous task.

**SWAN HILL** (L.J. Mayes) Chapel filled for evening service on 3 Dec when nine were baptised & welcomed into fellowship ... 170 attended Christmas luncheon on 17 Dec ... Church shared in united Christmas Day service & New Year's Eve celebration in Riverside Park ... Many visitors during holidays ... Services conducted by elders during minister's vacation ... Sunday School numbers increasing.

**SPRINGVALE** (T. Ede, P. Lyne) Three recent decisions, two baptised ... Cradle Roll service well attended. 20 on roll ... AGM held. Membership doubled in last nine years ... 160 at Grow Group Christmas service ... Christmas Eve & Christmas Day service attendances well up ... Beta Cenit returned to Philippines for marriage Christmas Eve & returns soon ... Tom Ede concludes nine year ministry on 4 Feb with farewell at 7 pm.

**MANIFOLD HEIGHTS** (Max Ball) For end of year function all linked with the church & friends invited to "Night at the Inn" on Sunday evening 10 Dec. Fine food, great music, good company, wearing simple appropriate clothing. Over 160 attended ... 17 Dec special Sunday afternoon Christmas meeting for seniors & friends-carols, message & fellowship chat over cuppa ... New Year's Eve service followed with barbecue supper & midnight celebration.

**RED HILL** (Ken Clinton) Church members looking forward to the arrival of Wal & Betty Gibney for full-time ministry commencing 1 April ... Ken & Norma Clinton to continue interim ministry until then, which is appreciated ... Manse undergoing extensions & renovations ... Church rejoicing in the baptism of Clint, Nyriel & Tyron Butler ... Services well attended as folk on holidays worship with us.

**NUNAWADING** (E. Keating, D. Hamilton, J. Wright, L. Smith) Christmas musical "Space Invaders" presented by young people ... Festival of lessons & carols on Christmas Eve by church choir ... Special series 7 pm services during January. Speakers Russell Wesley, John Prince, Martin Newman, Catherine Chong ... Christmas Bowl offering exceeded \$10,000 ... Kath & Noel Newstead retired after 12 years leadership Singles Group ... Worship times 8.30 am, 9.30 am, 10 am, 7 pm to continue.

**PEEL ST, BALLARAT** (Vince Gibbs)

21 January the induction of Vince Gibbs into ministry of Peel Street by Don Smith, Dept of Mission, Education & Development. Vince & Jeanette welcomed into fellowship by elder Albert Graham. Basket lunch held at Ballarat Youth Centre to officially meet them & young daughters Cheryl & Rachel ... Max White presented cheque to Don Smith on behalf of church for ongoing work of Department.

**GREENSBOROUGH** (George Warren) Choir presented "Come Celebrate Jesus" in December at Greensborough, The Patch, Shepparton & Ivanhoe churches ... Rhonda Thomson welcomed into fellowship ... January services led by Alan Page snr, Des Purnell & Geoff Crossman while Warrens on holiday ... After-church beach party held at Shoreham ... Scott McPhee undergoing rehabilitation following stroke ... Playgroup continued over January to provide mums & children with an outing.

**RED CLIFFS** (G.R. Sharrad) Christmas activities included church luncheon ... Packed church for combined service on Christmas morning ... "Kids Club", in a bus, visited homes carol singing & bringing a small gift ... Mrs Christine Cook organised a Children's Bible Adventure Club 15-19 January. Exceeded expectations ... Celebrated G.R. Sharrad's 40 years in ministry on 21 January with a special service & luncheon. Many representatives of other churches & organisations.

## 43rd FEDERAL CONFERENCE

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

8-14 October 1990

THEME: NOW IS THE TIME TO SERVE THE LORD

CONFERENCE PRESIDENT: Dr Don Stewart, PO Box 508, Kenmore 4069  
CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS SECRETARY: Mrs C. Forster, PO Box 508, Kenmore 4069 Phone (07) 378 0400

CHAIRMAN OF FEDERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE: C. Ward, 52 LaTrobe St, Melbourne 3000 Phone (03) 662 2377

FEDERAL CONFERENCE SECRETARY: Joan Pye, 52 LaTrobe St, Melbourne 3000 Phone (03) 662 2377

FEDERAL CONFERENCE TREASURER: N. Allison, 381 Bluff Rd, Hampton 3158 Phone (03) 598 9847

### DIRECTORY OF FEDERAL AGENCIES

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# Tissue Donation after Death

by Mary Ambrose

**W**hen a person dies suddenly, the members of the family may find comfort in donating organs or tissue for transplantation. Media articles periodically feature the dramatic life-saving and life-enhancing effects of major organ donations for transplant recipients, and the trauma, love and pain of the donor family members in their tragedy (e.g. Russell Wesley "AC" 2 September 1989). This type of donation is only possible when the patient is dead but when circulation to the organ has been continued by maintaining the patient on a ventilator with full intensive-care support.

After the body circulation has ceased in death it is still possible to donate some tissue for transplantation. Such donation may be an alternative for families who may have liked to donate major organs but because of circumstances are unable to do so. The most well-known donations are corneal donations, which can give a blind person sight. Transplantations of corneas have been taking place for many years and anyone who has regained vision because someone else is able to donate corneas would know the incredible joy such a gift brings.

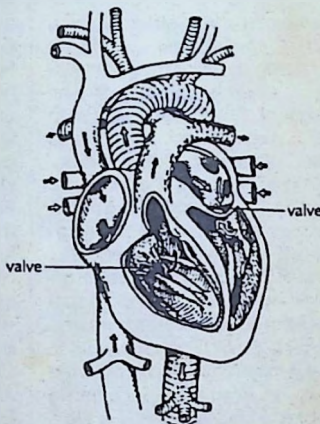
Donation of heart valves (particularly the aortic valve) is possible until 20 hours after death and greatly enhances the quality of life of the recipient. Donated valves are used in major heart surgery and gener-

ally last longer and are more efficient than artificial heart valves. Many children born with heart defects need surgery and a donated valve can be transplanted into such a child or into an adult who needs a valve replacement.

The Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria has been established in metropolitan Melbourne to sensitively approach the next of kin of suitable potential donors, offering them the opportunity to donate if they choose and to answer any questions they may have about it. A potential heart valve donor needs to be less than 50 years of age and be free from infectious and communicable disease.

Most organ and tissue donors die in sudden and/or tragic ways and because of the time limit involved relatives need to be approached when they are in a state of shock and disbelief. We endeavour to do this in a caring way, offering them the option of donating heart valves. The donation is anonymous, but the family has the comfort of knowing that a heart valve will be used to dramatically improve the life of a heart patient. The wishes of the family are always respected.

• Mary Ambrose is the Transplant Co-ordinator with the Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria and is a member of the Coburg, Vic, church.



## The Last Word

**Fulfilment is found not in one's circumstances but in the attitudes of the heart.**  
—Joyce Marie Smith

Customer: One of the claws on this lobster is missing.

Waiter: They fight in the kitchen and sometimes bite each other's claws off.

Customer: Then take this one back and bring me the winner.

★★★★★

A merchant took out a fire insurance policy, and the same day the store burned to the ground. The insurance company suspected fraud, but could not prove anything. It had to content itself with writing the following letter: "You took out an insurance policy at 10 am and your fire did not break out until 3.30 pm Will you kindly explain the delay."

★★★★★

Counsel: Do you wish to challenge any of the jury?

Prisoner: Well, I think I could lick that little guy on this end.

★★★★★

Chinese Proverb: It is not how old you are, but how you are old, that matters.

★★★★★

You can't develop eye strain from looking on the bright side.

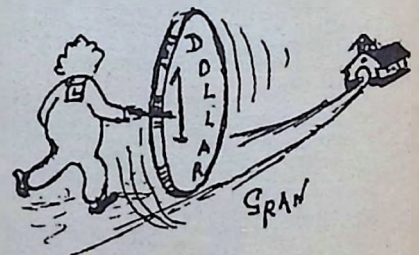
★★★★★

Mulling over excuses people give for staying away from church two ministers compiled the following:

**Why I Don't Go to the Movies**

1. The manager of the theatre never calls on me.
2. Those who do go aren't friendly; they don't speak to me.
3. Every time I go they ask for money.
4. Not all the people live up to the moral standards of the movies.
5. I went so much as a child, I don't need the movies now.
6. The pictures last too long—phew, sitting for three hours!
7. I don't agree with what I see and hear.
8. The music is not very good.
9. The shows are held in the evening when I want to stay at home with my family.

★★★★★



**It's funny how a dollar can look so big when you take it to church...  
...(and so small when you take it to a shop!)**



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