

# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## Norseman handed over to Earagull Aboriginal Community

At a unique ceremony on June 25, the Norseman Mission passed to the control of the Earagull Aboriginal Community. With little fanfare but with great sincerity agreements were signed giving the local people a 99 year lease on the property.

Maurice Rocha, Executive-Director, briefly traced the Board's involvement in Norseman, an involvement that encompassed nearly 50 years. In turn, Ernie Bridge MLA, State Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, expressed sincere thanks to the Board on behalf of the W.A. Government and Aboriginal people for all that the Churches of Christ had contributed to his people. He paid tribute to the missionaries who worked during that time.

The Earagull Community plan to utilise the property in an alcohol rehabilitation program. Community Chairman Harry Graham went further. He said, "Our aim is to become economically self-sufficient, we want it to be a job training centre for all Aboriginal people."

Several missionaries who served at Norseman, together with Ian Allsop, Federal Conference Secretary and F.A.B. members were in attendance. John Harrison, who with his wife Colleen served for 12 years in Norseman came from Tasmania especially for the occasion.

In 1936 Miss Bently and Miss Eadie set up tents on the reserve at Norseman and be-



Townfolk helping Ernie Bridge, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, celebrate as he holds the document that gives the Norseman Mission to the community.

— Photo by Mike Brookes "Daily News"

gan a work amongst the people there. At the 1941 Federal Conference in Adelaide a decision was taken to set up the Federal Aborigines Board and

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C.O.B. Compensation Settled

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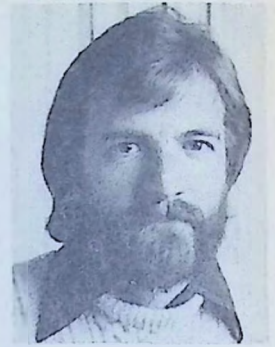
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## GUEST EDITORIAL



# THE RELIGION OF POWER

Graham Long



*Graham Long is a graduate of the Carlingford College. Until recently he was ministering with the Castle Hill, N.S.W., church. He is now a field worker with the N.S.W. Social Service Department specialising in educational programs in the churches and prison chaplaincy as well as supervising the Crisis Centre.*

*I believe that the first and greatest casualty of this world is God himself. Poor rejected lover, pushed to one side by the objects of his love who are busy pursuing a lesser good. Poor misunderstood creator, pushed into the realm of unknowable by this age and removed to the realm of "all powerful" by the church. Poor pathetic lover, alone and betrayed.*

*We do things so decently and in order these days that Christ has been cold-shouldered out of our fellowship, and he just can't break in. The call of Christ to the church today is not audible so much from communion ritual or from the pulpit but from outside. The call of Christ is heard in the agony of Northern Ireland, the chaos of the Middle East and the heartache of Africa. While we are making "altar calls" Christ is making "street calls" hoping that some will recognise him as homeless, as sick, as in prison, as in need or ordinary friendship.*

*We do wrong to squabble about music, tongues, women in the church, healing or anything else that distracts us from the pain of God. Mostly our battles have more to do with power than theology anyway. Isn't it odd how people who tear the body of Christ apart always act in God's best interest? As good as it might be to have agreement on these things the time has come that we should abandon the debates and the distinctions we set up between us as immoral and be moved together by the pain of God into the world.*

*I know a girl, who at eight years of age asked God to stop her father molesting her sexually. He continued to interfere with her almost daily until she was 14 years old. As an older woman now, she is not interested in the "power" of prayer or the "power" of the Holy Spirit nor is she interested in church where people look to be doing well and where God seems to be always resurrected but never dead. This lady is not interested in the creation and evolution debate, but the burning question in her heart is the same as it is with most of suffering humanity. The question is, "Am I as alone and forsaken as I feel?"*

*It is my contention that in trying so hard to tell ourselves and show the world that Christianity "works" we actually alienate God from those he loves. There is a need for us to see again the God Man in whom there was no beauty, no influence, no riches, no power; the one who in human terms, was a loser, for he is the demonstration of love.*

The Indian Government and aid agencies, including World Vision, are responding to the needs of drought-stricken villagers in India's central-eastern state of Orissa where crop failure has been as high as 70% during the last

two years. The government and Lutheran World Relief Service have set up feeding centres in an effort to help as many of the district's 1.3 million people as possible. Local diet has consisted largely of leaves, bark, wild roots and even insects.

The popular American television comedy show "Cheers" which is set in a bar, has an average of 62 drinks consumed per program and 94% of its characters were seen drinking.



## College of the Bible Settles Compensation

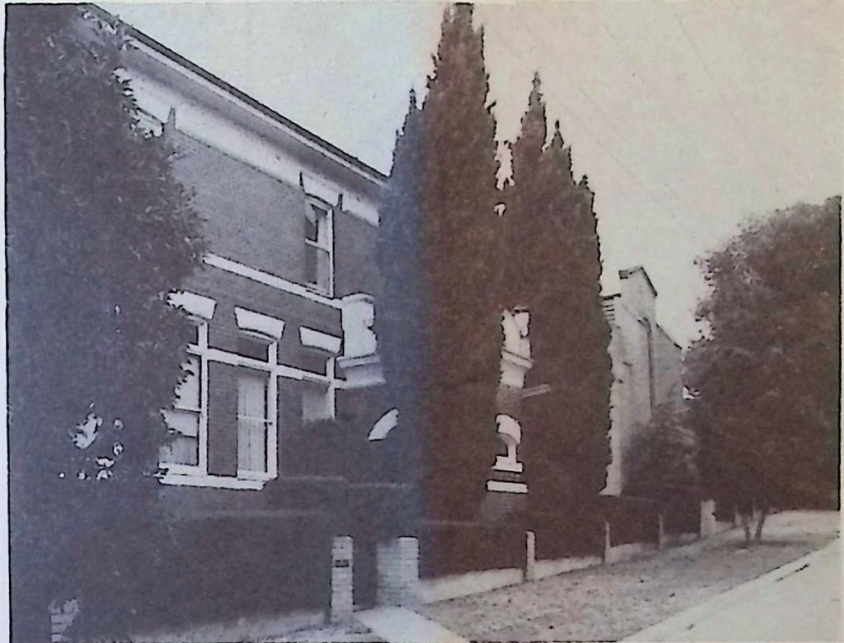
The Board of Management of the College of the Bible is delighted to announce that the College and the Victorian Road Construction Authority have agreed on compensation for the Glen Iris campus. The figure is \$3,383,700. Dr Bill Tabbernee, the Principal of the College, said that he was extremely pleased with the outcome of the long negotiations. "The Government's original offer of compensation was only a little more than half the final figure, so we've come a long way", he said. "Although we'll still have a shortfall between compensation and the actual cost of building the new campus, the increased compensation makes the whole project viable".

The figure of \$3,383,700 is an all inclusive figure, including legal and other professional fees, removalist expenses etc, leaving a net sum of approx \$3.2 million.

To keep the cost of rebuilding to a minimum, the College has taken two major steps recently. Firstly, the proposed new teaching campus has been re-designed, making it smaller but more efficient. This has cut \$700,000 off the proposed cost. Secondly it has been decided to build in stages.

Stage I will omit the chapel, but build a lecture theatre which will double as a chapel. The building of some of the residential units will also be delayed as the College will be able to rent some accommodation for single students from St Mary's next door. The expected completion date of building is the end of 1988, ready for the 1989 academic year. COB will be able to occupy its Glen Iris campus until then.

To build Stage I will cost approx. \$3.4 million. To this must be added \$800,000 for the cost of land, making a total of \$4.2 million. Therefore, as predicted, the shortfall will be \$1,000,000. Of this, approximately \$120,000 has already been raised by the generous donations of individuals and churches. A number of church groups have offered to make the College's rebuilding



**Current Campus**

program their special project for the next couple of years, making the College very confident about reaching the target.

Tax deductible gifts may be sent to Glynthea Finger, Publicity and Promotions Coordinator, College of the Bible,

7 Elm Road, Glen Iris, 3146. Churches may also contact her about special projects such as raising money to furnish a room in the new campus.

— Avon Moyle.

## Norsemen handed over

From page 1  
one year later the children's work began. The land on which the mission developed was made available in 1945 and the "building drives" got under way erecting homes, dining room and chapel. A Christian Centre and town church then followed. Outreach began into the Western Desert area and contacts made with the tribal people north and east of Warburton. Our missionaries continue as welcome and respected visitors to these outlying areas.

The Federal Board takes this opportunity of thanking the Australian Brotherhood for all the involvement with Norseman. Men's groups, the Christian farmers, voluntary workers, the ladies and their clothing parcels, all have made a valuable contribution to the work at the mission. It is significant that several of the local leaders, many who were present at the ceremony grew up and have had early training at

the mission.

The mission has played a significant part for God. In its new role, the mission influence will reach into the key areas in the lives of the local people. One thing is certain the Christian message will still go out.

Allan Bonney, appointed the manager of the new program, once served with the F.A.B. in the children's homes. He brings a deep sense of Christian commitment to its future ministry. An appropriate plaque has been put in place.

## Criminal Justice Conferences

During August Adelaide will host two important conferences on criminal justice.

Offenders Aid and Rehabilitation Services of South Australia as a part of its centenary celebrations is hosting the 11th International Prisoners Aid Association Conference August 6 - 9. It is possible to register and attend this conference and details of the conference are available from the IPAA Conference Secretary, 222 Halifax St, Adelaide 5000.

The second conference is being jointly convened by the Australian Crime Prevention Council, the International



Prisoners Aid Association and the World Society of Victimology. This conference, August 10 - 14, is looking at Criminal Justice towards the 21st century.

There is a call that churches, especially those in Adelaide, offer prayers for those in prison and for those who work in them on August 9.



## Honour for Tutor



Mrs Nance Hovey, Photo courtesy of "The Wimmera Mail-Times"

In the recent Queen's Birthday Honours list Mrs Nance Hovey from Horsham, Vic., received the O.A.M., the medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for her services to adult literacy.

In "The Wimmera Mail-Times" a report notes that adult literacy classes expanded across the Wimmera after pioneer work initiated by Mrs Hovey and friends about 20 years ago. In the early 1970's Horsham was one of only two adult literacy centres in Victoria. The Horsham centre set benchmarks for continuing education in adult literacy and numeracy and Aboriginal education.

Nance has worked tirelessly for adult literacy and is still one of the tutors although she is no longer the organiser. She is a very humble and gracious lady who only accepted the award because it would publicise adult literacy.

Nance Hovey has commented that the courses offered, despite their success, are only scratching the surface of literacy education. In the Horsham area today 6% of the population could not cope with reading and writing.

Apart from her work in adult literacy Nance Hovey is very involved in the life of the Horsham, Vic., Church of Christ being very regular in attendance and support. Nance has been a member of the Deacon's Council (having responsibility for social welfare) and has also served as a deaconess. She is a former President of the Afternoon C.W.F. and has served as a leader of Good Companions and a teacher in the Sunday School. Nance's involvement in Christian Women's Fellowship has been wider than Horsham and she has served as the C.W.F. President of North West Conference and as Country Representative for Vic.-Tas. C.W.F. Now in "retirement" Nance has begun teaching Religious Instruction in a local primary school. Nance has also been a leader of the K.Y.B. group at Quanton for many years.

Nance Hovey married Ralph Hovey who served for some time as an Elder at the Horsham church. Ralph died some years ago. They had two sons (David is the minister at the Ararat, Vic., church) and three daughters.

## Church Growth wave to hit Australia

Dr Roy Pointer is a man with a mission. He is coming to Australia with the aim of putting many Australian churches which have been drifting in the doldrums back on course to growth.

Dr Pointer is Director of Church Training for the Bible Society in England and Wales and in the last eight years the Church Growth seminars he has led or directed have trained 17,000 clergy and lay leaders from more than 5,000 churches.

Going on past results, at least half the churches that attend his seminars in Australia will find that they will start growing or stop declining.

Dr Pointer will visit every State and the A.C.T. in his four week tour which starts in Melbourne on August 28.

The course will be taught in five separate units over three week nights or one week night and the following Saturday. In Tasmania, it will be held over two week nights. The units are entitled Expectation of Growth, Describing Church Growth, Church Pathology, Growth through People and Strategy for Growth.

Each person attending the course will receive a free workbook, which includes a summary of the course. A teaching manual containing the full text of the course and additional material for introducing Church Growth principles to your church will be available for purchase.

The individual registration fee is \$30 but there are discounts for groups of five or more people from the same church.

The courses will be taught in Melbourne on August 28 and 29 (contact Don Smith on (03) 662 2377), in Hobart on August 31 and September 1 (contact Yvonne Thompson on (002) 34 2361), in Launceston on September 2 and 3 (contact Mrs Birthwistle on (003) 31 5266), Brisbane on September 4 and 5 (contact Colin Smith on (07) 395 7271), Adelaide on September 8,



Dr Roy Pointer

9 and 10 (contact Rob Combridge, on (08) 51 4036), Perth on September 11 and 12 (contact Ken Patterson, on (08) 328 1811), Canberra on September 15, 16 and 17 (contact Colin Rodda on (062) 48 5188 and Sydney on September 18 and 19 (contact Bob Smith on (02) 630 7533).

## "Work Experience" at Modbury



Jason Liebich

Jason Liebich, a Year 10 student, recently chose to undertake his schools' "work experience" program with the Modbury, S.A. church.

The week's program included pastoral and hospital visitation, administration, participation in various church groups, programing (including "on site" examination of Marion church) and service planning and preparation.

Jason, a member of the Modbury church, shared his experience briefly with the congregation the following Sunday. The minister, Dennis Ryle, said, "Jason's time with us this week has revealed much potential within the church for encouraging our young people to consider training for Christian vocations."



## Hang on to the Rope

I read of a man climbing the narrow stairs of a church tower, grasping from time to time as he went, a rope provided as a rough substitute for a hand rail. Near the top he grasped again for the rope, only to be deafened by the sound of a great bell above him. His reaching hand had grasped the bell rope.

My spiritual pilgrimage has been something like that, hanging on to the rope of prayer and Bible study and church worship and Christian fellowship and making a little progress. Then sometimes I have grabbed the bell rope and all glory has broken loose.

One time was when I discovered that God is like Jesus. For me God was vague, distant, capricious, formidable. But I was inspired by Jesus Christ as I read the Gospels and Farrer's and Stalker's Lives of Christ. Then one day the meaning of "God was in Christ" and "In him dwelt all the fulness of God boldly" and other passages dawned on me. The bells rang and they have never stopped.

Another time was when I discovered what salvation means. I used to think it was going to heaven when you die and doing your darndest to make sure that you worked at being good enough to get in. So I clutched the rope that was getting me upstairs. Then suddenly the bells rang again. Eternal life is something that God is giving me now. Salvation is God in action now making me into a more coping, capable, alive sort of person . . . who is living for ever.

The bells rang for me again when I discovered that law and grace were not just parts of an academic argument between Paul and James, but that they had everything to do with me in the 20th Century. I was trying hard to be a good Christian, obeying the law, and hoping that if Christ elected to return in my life time he would find me doing something good. That was law. That was climbing up the stairs the hard way. Then suddenly as I reached out for the rope the bells pealed the song of grace.

I discovered that grace is God graciously coming into my life and giving me his love and power and life. I do not have to try hard any more, but rather remember to remain open to God's gracious self-giving. I do not have to be scared about what I might be doing when the Lord comes because grace means that he is coming to me all the time. I do not need the carrot of heaven in front of my nose because a gracious God is making heaven break out amongst Christians all the time, a foretaste of what is yet to be.

— G.R.S.

## "Effective Eldership"



Jeff Deuble's book "Effective Eldership" published by the Federal Board of Christian Education was dedicated to its Australian wide ministry at the National Education Workshop held at Camp Waterman, Monbulk on June 5-8. Jeff is shown here discussing the cover designed by Keith Smith with Federal Board chairman, Dr Cliff Warmbrunn and treasurer, Bob Barreau.

Already some hundreds of copies have been sold and orders are being received daily at the Board's office at 52 La Trobe Street, Melbourne. Copies are \$8.50 each. To ensure a national perspective, the Board underwrote travel for Jeff Deuble to state capitals to research and discuss eldership issues.

In the book's foreward Alf White commends the publication to the churches and makes some important observations on eldership issues in our churches.

The book contains five main sections, followed by 26 resources. The resources range over a wide list of topics and should prove particularly helpful. "Effective Eldership"

takes a new look at eldership and sets some new directions for eldership in the future. The book is probably the most comprehensive on this theme available to the Australian churches today. It should have a significant influence on developing the spiritual and practical aspects of eldership in our churches. A video to assist in the study of the book is expected to be available in August.

"Effective Eldership" is the first of a number of major projects currently being developed by the Federal Board of Christian Education. Others are due for release shortly.

## Wally Harford dies

We have received news that Wally Harford, minister of the Launceston, Tas. church collapsed and died on July 13. Wally had recently come out of retirement in New Zealand to assist the Launceston church in a part-time ministry. He preached on the Sunday and then with his wife Grace, they married at Easter this year, had gone away for a couple of days and it was during this time that he collapsed and died.

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## "Old Hat"

You'll probably think that this is "old hat" and you're right, it is old hat. Why doesn't he throw it away and buy himself a decent one . . .

Well, this old hat and I, we go back a long way. It was with me as a prop in childrens' messages when I played Ralf the Roving Reporter. It has been bush-walking with my eldest son and it's been worn by my wife playing "Mr Wolf" in C.W.F. skits for shut-ins. This old hat is part of our family heritage. Throw it away? Unthinkable!

Very soon we will be leaving the hallowed site of Glen Iris and moving the College of the Bible to the Mulgrave Campus and of course it will be new and we will despise the old location as being "old hat", out of date,

redundant and those students who begin their training at Mulgrave will not know about our heritage at Glen Iris unless we preserve it.

We stand in a unique place in the history of our movement. We have the chance of a lifetime, to bridge the gap between Glen Iris and Mulgrave campus. By placing your order for a "professional quality" photo of our Glen Iris heritage you can preserve your history and help to build the future training centre for our on-going ministry.

Throw away this opportunity? Unthinkable!

Contact the New Campus Promotion & Fund-raising Committee agent, Ian Adams 192 Bamra Rd, Caulfield South. 3162, or phone (03) 211 3784.



In "old hat" with some photos of Glen Iris.

## Big Band benefits from Expert

Belconnen's Big Band, A.C.T., benefited greatly from an all day music workshop, which was held on July 4.

The Big Band, conducted by Graeme Butler, currently has a membership of 35 musicians with a wide range of instruments.

The workshop leader was Peter Hind, who has had considerable experience instructing bands of all standards, and is a professional teacher of music.

In the morning session, Peter worked with the band as a whole, and made suggestions

which helped improve the overall sound.



Flautists' workshop.



Australian women, overseas visitors, the ethics of tourism, are some of the ingredients of the Biennial Conference of Australian Church Women to be held at "Del Monte" in the Adelaide suburb of Henley Beach, September 12-18 with the theme — "When I Needed a Neighbour were You There?"

Under the leadership of President Mrs Dorothy Haensel, delegates from Australian States and Territories will come together to discuss reports and future plans for Australian Church Women. Country sessions will be held at Victor Harbour and Nuriootpa. Worship programs and Bible studies, open to delegates and visitors, both men and women will be included.

Interwoven into the Confer-

Please  
advise  
change of  
address

After lunch, the band was broken into sections, with each group concentrating on areas specific to their instruments.

The band then regrouped and gave a short performance of the pieces which they had been working on. The improvement in sound was very noticeable, and there are high hopes for its future development.

ence will be a Seminar on Tourism with the Rev. Peter Holden, Executive Secretary of the Commission for World Christian Action as speaker.

Overseas visitors will include a delegation from New Zealand and members of the Executive Committee of the Asian Church Women's Conference led by President Maya Michael (India) and Executive Secretary Eunice Kim (Korea) who will hold their Annual Meeting here and share in the Seminar. Among them we expect newly appointed Executive Secretary of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, Shirin Samuel of Pakistan, who takes over from Shanti Solomon, founder and Secretary for 30 years.

The opening service will be held on Sept. 13th at 2.30 in the Henly Beach Catholic Church, the speaker being the Rev. Dr H. D'Arcy Wood, President of the Australian Council of Churches.

A.C.W. is an ecumenical organisation with units in each State and Territory which seeks to unite church women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and to provide opportunities for women of different denominations to worship, study and serve together.

Churches of Christ women on the National Executive are Pauline Crosby (Vice President), Jean Middleton (Fellowship of the Least Coin) and Alice Saunders (Publications).

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## "Policeman changes beat for God"

The heading above was on a news item in the "Melbourne Sun" which was brought to our attention. The article was on Mervyn Davis who has recently retired as a Police Inspector and is currently part-time minister with the Reservoir, Vic., church. We had not met Mervyn nor heard of his commencing at Reservoir so we arranged to interview him. The following is an excerpt from our discussions.

Mervyn Davis prior to joining the Police Force in Victoria was a carpenter and joiner by trade. He rose to the rank of Inspector in the Police Force and his comments were that at this time in his life he had no church background.

He retired from the Police Force because of stress for about nine years. During this time he was involved in various work experiences. One of these was as a driver for the Spastic Society. He had good relationships with those he drove and this was noted by the staff and his reference from them made him think about a role in counselling.

During this period in his life he one day felt a series of deep thoughts in his mind about someone (who he was not sure) . . . and about darkness and light. This led to him making contact with the Christian Brethren Chapel at Glen Waverley and making a commitment to Christ.

Mervyn still felt a calling to be involved in a counselling situation and to assist him in that call he completed a three year course at the Bible College of Victoria and completed a Diploma of Ministry with the Australian College of Theology. He then went to America and attended a counselling seminar led by Clive Narramore. The material was primarily on helping people who have retired and those who have been burnt out and not followed up by other welfare groups.

Upon returning to Australia Mervyn was involved in various counselling situations. However he had also been con-



**Mervyn Davis.**

tacted by the Police Dept. Welfare Officer to attend a reunion of his class from the Police Academy. He kept putting off replying and then felt that God was pushing him to attend and to talk about his faith. At the last minute he attended and found great acceptance from his peers and then wrestled with going back into the Police Force.

The Chief Commissioner, Mick Miller, talked to him about going back into the force as they had a special role in view for him because of his background. On commencing the procedures to be reinstated

as an operational officer (at the age of 53 and after nine years out of the force) Mervyn was amazed to see all the barriers to his entry to the force vanishing.

Mervyn went back as an Inspector in an operational station. What he found was that after he was accepted as a Police Officer he started to have a trickle of men coming to him for counselling. This was all by word of mouth.

Finally at the start of this year he felt that God was calling him out of the Police Force. He went back to the Police Force to establish credibility,

and to see if his health and faith could stand the pressure. He felt that this had been achieved. He prayed about where to go. During his period out of the force he had spent three years in part-time ministry with a Uniting Church. However being conservative in his theology and having a strong belief in believers baptism he learnt of Churches of Christ. He rang the College of the Bible and talked to Ian Allsop. Ian invited him to the C.O.B. Garden party that week which Mervyn attended and found an acceptance as he talked with people. He enrolled for the College course and was offered a student ministry at Reservoir which he accepted on the spot.

The Reservoir church has been struggling for several years and the day after he officially left the Police Force he commenced as the part-time minister at Reservoir. During our interview Mervyn was enthusiastic about the possibilities at Reservoir. During the past months the numbers attending has grown from 25 — 42. However there have been difficulties and problems which have needed firm action and disciplining of church people. While this has hurt some involved the church has grown through the experience.

Mervyn believes that we must not only preach to people but we must set the example for others. He is looking at presently establishing the spiritual foundations of the local congregation that he hopes will see church growth being experienced.

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**The Letters to the Editor limit is 200 words.**

## CARE FOR DISABLED

To the Editor,

I see a great need in our community for a Christian "home away from home" for mildly intellectually disabled young adults who have been brought up in the nurture and love of a Christian home. This need has become very obvious to me, as I have a mildly retarded daughter (Down's) and we need to prepare for the future when we will be too old to care for her.

As these young folk are very vulnerable and could be exploited so easily, it is essential that they always have constant support and supervision.

As I see it, the ideal situation would be to provide a home for 5 or 6 mildly disabled young adults, under supervision, where Christian principles are applied.

I feel sure that there are other local parents facing similar situations and would ask them to contact me if they would like to be part of a group working towards this goal of helping to establish a suitable Home. I know we would have the support and encouragement of our Dept. of Community Care who would be happy to be involved.

— (Mrs.) Margaret Mill.  
45 Bourke St,  
West Regent, 3073.  
(03) 478.5278.

## "APPLICATION REJECTED"

To the Editor

Re Letter to the Editor ("Application Rejected" A.C. June 27). How can I say I love you when it hurts? To be rejected by one's own "denomination" is not a pleasant experience, especially when I do love you, just as Christ first loved me. For it is by love for one another that the world is to recognise us; not by miracles or tongues or healings, or whether we agree or not on all doctrine.

I thank God for those in Churches of Christ who can love and forgive and accept those of like mind and spirit, even when they worship differently, for it is our Father in heaven who is to be glorified and

no other. May God bless you all.

— David Beaven  
(Golden Grove, S.A.)

## CHURCH MUSIC

To the Editor,

Why all the fuss about church hymn books?

The Bible tells us that it does not matter so much what we sing nor how we sing but that why we sing what we do sing and how we sing it that counts with God.

A look at Amos 5:20-23 and Zechariah 7:5-6 explains that it is attitudes which God considers rather than performance. Singing comes in the same category as praying, and self interest or any other detraction from real worship annuls the spiritual value of the exercise (Luke 18:14).

Speaking, praying, singing all need the voice and the understanding also (1 Cor. 14:19).

Directions from Scripture are Psalm 135, stand and sing praises; Ps. 136, praise with thanksgiving; 138, sing with all your hearts being conscious of the listeners; Psalm 149, rejoice with adoration; Psalm 150, using musical instruments; Eph.5:19, Col.3:16,17 spiritual edification of the body.

It is up to the leaders of the congregation to see that the songs which they ask others to sing are understandable and meaningful to those whom they are asking to share their worship experience.

— E.A. Barton  
(Port Lincoln, S.A.)

## Fairhaven Developments

The Director of the Social Service Department in Queensland, Don E. Stewart has announced the Department of Community Services is to provide \$340,000 for refurbishing 27 of the oldest Hostel rooms at Fairhaven and a further \$280,000 for the building of an additional 13 Hostel rooms.

This is another significant step forward at Maryborough, Qld, as Fairhaven makes this further advance. This major upgrading will give the Retirement Village up-to-date facilities right through the complex.

## Editor's arrangements for rest of 1987

After retiring at the end of 1987 the Editor, Gordon Stirling, had agreed to commence a part-time ministry with the Launceston, Tas., church.

Because of the sudden death of the Launceston minister, Wallace Harford, the Editor will commence his part-time ministry with the church at the beginning of August and will continue his part-time ministry

with "The Australian Christian". He will commute as required between Melbourne and Launceston.

All letters concerning "The Australian Christian" should be sent C/- "The Australian Christian", P.O. Box 101, Essendon North 3041, and all personal correspondence for the Stirlings should be sent C/- Launceston Church of Christ, 76 Margaret St, Launceston, 7250.

**We do not want to lose you. Please inform us of any change of address.**

## LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

### Thank God for the Critics

To the Editor,

I'm not such a shining example of what a Christian should be myself, but I must confess that I get very upset when media people have a go at TV evangelists and other prominent so called "born again" Christians who have blotted their copy books.

I also get upset when they have a go at evangelists who specialise in gimmicks to get their crowd. They gave wide TV cover the other night to the antics on stage of a U.S.A. team (they all seem to come from the U.S.A.) that attracts its crowd by bending iron bars with their teeth and smashing bricks with their bare hands. There was more of the strong arm stuff than the gospel!

And the critics seem to come down hard on Christian moralists who sit in judgement on the world, but miss the mark themselves when it comes to using a straight bat and using it fairly.

But now I've come round to thanking God for the critics. They seem to know very clearly what real Christianity is even though they may not follow it themselves. That is why they jump on erring disciples, especially the ones that make the most noise.

The media critics seem to know that Christianity stands for sexual responsibility, that Christians are supposed to be quite non-materialistic, and that Jesus turned down the devil's offer of the biggest gimmick of all time, by refusing to jump off the temple to get a crowd. And they seem to know that Christians aren't supposed to judge others until their own slates are clean.

Maybe we should thank God for the critics who keep reminding us what Christian standards are. We might easily lose sight of them in our sort of loose and greedy society.

TERTIUS



## N.E.W. '87 aims achieved



**Workshop Group Leaders — Judy Gordon (Children), Jeff Deuble (Adult Education), Brian White (Family Ministry).**

40 participants nominated by their State education committees left the National Education Workshop with a firm feeling that aims for the three day consultation had been achieved. The Workshop was sponsored by the Federal Board of Christian Education with the aim of developing an educational strategy for the 1990's. Participants worked in one of the three task groups — Children's Ministry, Adult Education and Lay Training, and Family Life Ministry. They were asked to develop objectives and strategies for national, state, and local church planning.

The Workshop was held on the Queen's Birthday weekend at Camp Waterman, Monbulk. It began on the Friday evening with an introduction by the Board's chairman, Dr Cliff Warmbrunn, and an address by Principal Randall Edwards. Members met for the first time in their groups and shared in prayer for the project. On the

Saturday morning Don Stewart gave one of two Bibles Studies. Peter Burnham and Don Smith gave introductory addresses. Participants spent the remainder of the weekend working hard in their groups. At a final session on the Monday the reports from the three groups were presented and adopted. Many of the recommendations have important implications for our church life. The group reports and recommendations are quite extensive and are currently being considered by the Federal Board of Christian Education. A report will be available in due course. The workshop is being seen by the Board as among the most significant national events ever held for our churches.

**GIVE THE  
CHRISTIAN AS A  
GIFT.**

## Harvey Miller leaves for U.S.A.



**Lyn and Harvey Miller.**

It was a case of many teary faces on July 5 as family, friends and fellow College of the Bible faculty and staff took the opportunity to wish Harvey, Lynette and family all of God's peace and blessings as they embarked upon their adventure to Nashville, Tennessee and Vanderbilt University.

Harvey and Lynette are pictured on the day that the official letter of acceptance from Vanderbilt University arrived. The letter was read and re-read many times as the news that

Harvey had been accepted in the Ph.D. program in Religion and Personality began to filter through to other faculty, staff and students.

Harvey has been granted faculty development leave to gain higher qualifications and consequently contribute further to theological education and the high standard of ministerial training offered at the College. In 1975, Harvey entered the College of the Bible as a ministerial student. As part of his training Harvey was the minister of the Ashburton church and upon graduation became the senior minister of the Boronia, Vic. church. In 1982 the College had need for an additional faculty member and had no hesitation in appointing Harvey. He was appointed as Campell Edwards Lecturer in Pastoral Studies and in 1984 he also took over the role of Director of Field Education.

Upon his return in 1991, Harvey will head up and develop the College's teaching programs in Pastoral Studies, Counselling and Supervised Field Education.

After conducting two Crusades in June in Colombia, the drug trafficking center of the word, Argentinian born evangelist, Alberto Motessi, said he believes that God can turn around the violence turn country to become instead the "revival-trafficking nation to the world". The 8 day Crusade in Medellin saw 63,500 attend and 15,200 make public decisions. In Bogota, the capital 81,500 attended crusade meetings with 10,600 making decisions.



**R. Edwards presenting his address.**

## TEAMWORK BREAKS RECORDS

Previous booking records for Camp Waterman, Hall's Gap, and Camp Banksia are all broken. Groups should plan ahead for preferred dates.

Staff members are providing outstanding teamwork in our camping programme.

*Pictured — John and Marilyn Beard, Jane, Claire, and Anna Beard, Paul and Linda Fry — Monbulk*

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## JUSTICE, ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS AND THE BIBLE

The Biblical concepts of righteousness and justice, and their application to Australian society, are stressed in the June issue of *Zadok Perspectives* and an associated *Zadok Paper*.

The issue of Aboriginal Land Rights is the area of social justice which John Harris uses in *Perspectives* to discuss the way in which we should use the Bible in approaching such questions. In his article, "Justice, Aboriginal Land Rights, and the Use and Abuse of Scripture", John Harris argues that Old Testament imagery such as "promised land", although personally or locally inspiring, has been claimed by all sorts of groups in support of their causes and thus is unconvincing globally. Furthermore, such Old Testament theological arguments are incomplete without the New Testament. The Bible, in both Testaments, calls us to reflect the righteousness and justice of God and this should be our theological starting point in seeking to right injustice.

Because of the importance of the concepts of righteousness and justice, John Harris has also written a *Zadok paper* entitled "Righteousness and Justice: Concepts for Australia's Bicentennial". Specifically Biblical in nature, the paper explores in some detail the ideas of righteousness and justice. True justice, in its wide Biblical sense rather than its narrow legal sense, is a vitally important concept as we approach the Bicentennial. This paper looks honestly and clearly at what both the Old and New Testaments say and argues that the same principles apply today.

*Zadok Perspectives*, No. 18, June 1987 (\$2), and *Zadok Series 2 Paper*, T30 (\$2) are available from the *Zadok Institute for Christianity and Society*, P.O. Box 434, Dickson, A.C.T. 2602 (please add \$1 for postage).

## BOOKS

### CREATING COMMON WEALTH

by Ian Hore-Lacy (Albatross Books) \$4.95

Ian Hore-Lacy is concerned that the church's credibility is at stake if the utterances of church spokesmen on various economic issues are not fully understood. He is concerned that many in the church do not fully understand the capitalist economic system. He is concerned that the economically deprived and the needy of the community are in need of assistance but he argues that this can only be achieved if economic wealth is created so that it can be distributed, and that the link between wealth creation and distribution is not very well understood.

The basic argument that Ian Hore-Lacy puts forward is that it is a legitimate Christian activity to create wealth and that God supports such activity. He also argues that from a Christian point of view the market economy is, with significant qualifications, an appropriate context for such wealth creation.

Whilst agreeing with some of his points and also wondering if he has not taken too much of the current individualist approach in some of his arguments it is good to see an Australian arguing for a Christian understanding of our economic system. This is a good balance to plenty of material from the other side of the argument in Christian circles.

### ELECTION AND PREDESTINATION

by Paul K. Jewett (William B. Eerdmans Publishing)

I can remember long discussions in theology lectures at College on the doctrines of election and predestination, i.e. the predestination of the reprobate as well as the elect, that Augustine argued, and which

became the accepted church position. It is interesting that after the time of Augustine the church mostly ignored this position until the time of the Reformation and the teaching of Calvin.

In this book Paul Jewett includes a brief survey of the historical interpretations of the doctrine, plus a gathering together of the relevant biblical data. He then considers the concept of corporate election which is followed by an examination of individual election. An examination of all leading theologians throughout church history who have provided major input into our understanding of this doctrine is included.

— C.R.A.

## CHRISTIANITY REDISCOVERED

### An Epistle from the Masai

by Vincent J. Donovan (SCM Press) \$14.64.

This book grew out of the author's mission work among the Masai in East Africa. Written from a Roman Catholic position, and making many comments that are appropriate to that tradition, it is nevertheless a very important book on the theology of mission.

Vincent Donovan was convinced that the existing missionary structures of the traditions which he knew, were doing anything but bringing people to God. In his mission work among the Masai he planned to be involved in mission to these people for a limited time and then trust that God would raise up a church of believers among the people who would develop their own structures and forms of worship. He decided to work among these nomadic people without schools, buildings, compounds and the other paraphernalia of missionary work. His aim was to talk to all of them about God and to start with no preconceived notions and with no other incentives to accept Christianity.

Reading this book it is interesting to see the response from those to whom he seeks to share faith. One also sees the mistakes and growth in understanding of the way we should all be involved in mission.

Whilst this should be compulsory reading for all involved in mission work the ideas raised by Vincent Donovan should be addressed by all Christians and all churches. The need to just share the message of Christ with all people on a no assumptions basis is an imperative for all of us.

— C.R.A.

## THE STORY OF LOVE: Book 1 & 2

(World Home Bible League) 50 cents each

These two booklets contain six studies in each booklet. Taken as a whole they outline in very simple detail the truths of the Christian faith set out as a story that will change the lives of the reader. They are designed for older children/young teenagers and each chapter contains a few comments followed by some statements with Bible verses to back the statement. Some questions are also related to each chapter. Available from the *World Home Bible League*.



You think your work is hard — just wait 'til you get into second class!

— Roma Mudford (Gillandra, N.S.W.)

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## India — Training and Jobs



**Family coffee shop set up with help from the Bridge Foundation.**

Force Ten's July project will support the Bridge Foundation, a Christian Foundation, a Christian agency working with the poor in Bangalore, South India. Bangalore is a rapidly developing industrial city. Yet the benefits of economic growth remain out of reach for many.

An estimated 25,000, many of them teenagers and children, make their living as ragpickers. They scour the streets at night after factories and shops have closed, collecting waste paper and rags in baskets carried on their backs. They sell these to processing plants. Their average wage is less than \$50 per month. Ragpickers are

but one of the target groups for the Bridge Foundation's work. Poor farmers, landless labourers and unemployed miners also benefit.

The foundation provides a range of vocational training courses, including literacy, carpentry, management of small shops and handcraft production. It helps people to set up small industries, retail shops, animal and agricultural projects to help them earn income.

One of its tasks in 1987 is assisting 5,000 miners who lost their jobs when the Kogar Mine Fields outside Bangalore were forced to close.

## Excavation reveals entire Western Wall

Stones that haven't seen the light of day in more than 2,000 years were recently revealed at excavations of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City. Now the entire Western Wall, the outer wall of the perimeter surrounding the Second Temple (70 B.C.) can be viewed.

The general public will not be able to view the newly exposed wall for a few months. Tourists will approach the newest excavation, which has been going on for 19 years, by way of the main plaza in front of the Western Wall where thousands of visitors and pilgrims pray and

place written prayers and notes in the cracks of the huge Herodian stones daily.

When the archaeologists, led by Dan Bahat, reached the end of the Western Wall they found themselves at the entrance to the water conduit that had been blocked by King Herod. The 80 metre long water tunnel had been excavated by British archaeologist Claude Conder 100 years ago and then resealed. It carried water from a pool which is now partially under the Convent of the Sisters of Zion.

## Deflation and Elation

— Geoff Maxwell (Bunapas, PNG)

It was 2.30 in the morning when we took the truck around to the Bunapas Health Centre to pick up some patients and head to Madang with empty drums and gas bottles. Manus Aver and I needed to get away early to do the trip to Madang and get supplies and return to Bunapas the same day. We arrived in Madang at 7.30 a.m.

We loaded the truck with six drums of fuel, two overhead water tanks that would later be sent out to mission houses, plywood, mesh and some timber. It was 12.30 p.m. by the time we got away and started to head back along the road to Bunapas. On the way we called into a timber mill and picked up some more timber.

About two hours out of Madang we got two punctures! Both the right hand rear tyres were flat!

One flat tyre is a nuisance. Two flat tyres are a problem!

A problem because we only had one spare. We put on the spare tyre, and the load on the truck made it look like it didn't have any air in it at all.

What to do? In the middle of nowhere we decided to drive on very slowly because we were still along way from any help. About half an hour later we were stopped by a P.W.V. (public motor vehicle). The driver of the truck lived not far from us and he gave us his spare tyre to help us get back to Bunapas.

The thing that impressed both of us was that here was a non-Christian man whom God used to help us keep on with his mission here in Papua New Guinea. Our deflation turned to elation.

This was just for us another one of those small things that God does. We thank God for his love and care and protection as we are involved in mission with him in Papua New Guinea.

## Bible breakthroughs in Russia

Just days after the safe arrival of 10,000 Bibles in Russia from the United Bible Societies (UBS) comes the news that it will be sending a further 100,000 early next year.

The Bibles, 98,000 in Russian and 2,000 in Ukrainian, will be sent to the Moscow headquarters of the Baptist Church in four separate instalments between January and April. The All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians Baptists (AUCECB) has obtained an official import permit for the Bibles. The 10,000 Bibles which were printed and despatched to Moscow last month by the UBS arrived together with 10,000 hymn books supplied by another Christian organisation.

In the mean time, the UBS has also shipped paper and printing material to the church in Soviet Georgia, USSR, to enable them to print 10,000 Bibles.

An Associate member of the UBS, the Hungarian Bible Council, has also just supplied

1,000 large-sized Bibles, 1,000 hymn books and 20 large Bible commentaries to Hungarian-speaking congregations in the Soviet Union.

The cost of printing and transporting the 100,000 Bibles to the Soviet Union next year will be about \$A570,000. The UBS and the Baptist World Alliance have agreed to divide the cost between them.

In addition to these scriptures being made available is the further news that a shipment of 75,000 Russian New Testament Commentaries is being prepared for later this year and Russian authorities have given permission to the Orthodox Church to print 100,000 Bibles to mark their celebration of 1,000 years of Russian Christianity.

The first in a series of international dialogues between the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Russian (Eastern) Orthodox Church took place in Leningrad April 2 - 13.



Church agencies in Ethiopia have expressed concern at the future implications of villagisation and resettlement policies in the country, and the possible effect on church development work. Since the resettlement began in 1985 critics have charged that millions have been forcibly displaced and about 100,000 have died.

Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda has called on the church not to bury itself in religious "fanaticism", while ignoring the real issues confronting society. He says the church should instead become a "prime mover" of the people it leads, in order to be more productive in all ways. Kaunda says there is no use in church leaders becoming upset about drink and divorce without looking further at the origins of social problems.

Mozambique's Catholic Secretariat has called on the government to initiate urgent reconciliation talks with the country's rebel resistance movement, the

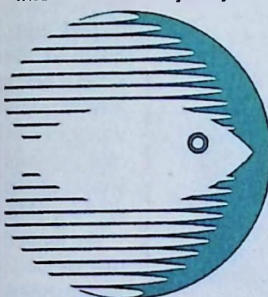
Renamo. The Bishops said that civil war had dragged on for more than 12 years without a sign of ever being won by either side, and that millions of people had been displaced or died as a result. 4 million Mozambicans are currently estimated to be suffering from severe food shortage caused by the war.

One in five Australian children are now living in poverty, according to the Australian Council of Social Service. This proportion is twice as high as it was 10 years ago, yet during the same period national wealth has grown by almost 20%.

Moscow has its first registered Pentecostal church — the Moscow Church of the Evangelical Pentecostal Christians, numbering about 200.

Taking the multi-directional wheels of Ezekiel 1 as his inspiration, Harry Guile, a veteran Sydney engineer, has designed the Ezekiel Wheel which can move in any direction without being turned.

The Lausanne Committee for World Evangelism has adopted a new logo designed by Graham Wade, Creative Director of Pilgrim International in Sydney.



A decade long goal of establishing 100 new congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was reached 3 years early. At last count 107 congregations have been or are in the process of being established. 26 of these are predominantly black, Hispanic or American Asian.

A seminar on Eldership, which will use Jeff Deuble's book "Effective Eldership" is being held in the Dianella, W.A., church on August

22 at 1.30 p.m. The W.A. Christian Union Committee is running the seminar.

Poor water is the biggest health threat to Africa's 500 million people, according to the environmental organisation Earthscan. The organisation claims that more than 80% of illness in Africa is associated with polluted water supply and poor sanitation. Earthscan says that more than 1 million African children die annually from diarrhoea caused mainly by drinking contaminated water.

The first international Disciples of Christ — Reformed Church dialogue concluded that there are no theological or ecclesiological issues which need divide them as churches and called upon the world bodies to affirm a joint declaration. Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and issues of ministry ought not be considered church dividing issues between Reformed and Disciples.

One in every 11 Americans tune into religious

programs on radio or television daily according to an ABC/Washington Post poll. Some 45% of Americans watch or listen to religious broadcasts monthly and 33% do so at least weekly.

In Chad, which has only just recovered from a disastrous famine, a massive locust plague threatens to wipe out crops and Missionary Aviation Fellowship is planning to launch a spraying operation to help save them. MAF is planning to undertake a program of aerial spraying against locusts using pesticide provided by the Chad government.

The wife and children of Pentecostal prisoner Nikolai Vins flew to West Germany from Moscow on June 27, but Nikolai himself remains in a labour camp in the Soviet Union. No members of the family have been permitted to visit him since his arrest in December 1984.

In a recent poll in the US it showed that 52.8% of women attend religious services at least biweekly compared to 39.6% of men.

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"Churches grow people", says The Reverend Dr. Roy Pointer, who is in the business of making Churches grow. As Director of Church Training for the Bible Society in England and Wales, he has, over eight years, directed Church Growth seminars for well over 17,000 clergy and lay leaders from more than 5,000 Churches across Great Britain. Dr. Pointer, whose visit is sponsored by the Churches of Christ in co-operation with the Bible Society in Australia, has a recognised formula for success which he wants to share with you. **Act now** and telephone the contact in your State for a brochure containing full details. The life of your Church could depend upon it.

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## The Lord's Prayer (6)

# OUR TRESPASSES

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive  
those who have sinned against us.**

When we pray the prayer for forgiveness as we forgive others it is not a matter of book entries with God matching our sins on one side of the ledger with the number of sins we have forgiven in others on the other side. The petition means simply that an unforgiving spirit puts us in a position where God is unable to forgive us.

To explain this we need to look at the meaning of sin, of God's forgiveness and of our forgiving.

### Concerning Sin

Concerning sin, we tend to make two mistakes. The first is to think of sin only in terms of violence, rape, theft, sexual deviation and debauchery. The second is to think of the goodies as being in the church and the baddies outside. There is a whole lot more to it than that.

God wants to create in each of us all of the possibilities of our potential, in lives of love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, grace and creativity. Using our own moral muscles we can only create these qualities in ourselves a little bit. God can create them fully in lives open to him, "for we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."

Sin then is refusing to let God act creatively in us, or substantially reducing his possibility of acting in us. All definitions of sin, missing the mark, breaking the law, disobedience or separation from God, all boil down to this one, that sin is separating ourselves from God's creative activity within us.

### Concerning Forgiveness

God will not force himself on us. If we choose to go it alone he leaves us "in sin". If we are sorry and turn to him again (repentance) he starts working in us again. The relationship with him is restored. That is forgiveness.

Forgiveness is not only God blotting out the record (although that is often helpful) but us opening up to God to continue his creative work in our lives. It is not only feeling let off the hook (although that is a good feeling) but it is our willingness to say yes again to our relationship with God.

### Concerning Forgiving Others

So if we refuse to forgive one who has sinned against us we are in effect stopping God from working in us, because part of God's work in us is to create the ability to forgive. Stopping God from working his will in us breaks the relationship between him and us. Until we are willing for him to go on working in us to create a new relationship with the one who has wronged us, we are in a broken relationship with God, and the person needing forgiveness.

Forgiving others is a matter of relationships. "I forgive" is not enough unless the person forgiven is restored right back into the previous relationship. As long as any negative feelings towards that person exist God is frustrated in his work in us which breaks our relationship with him as well. Hence, "Forgive our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us." To fail to forgive puts our very salvation at risk for salvation depends on our relationship with God.

### Concerning Some Who Forgave

In the story of the Bridge over the River Kwai, the over-worked, underfed, brutally treated prisoners of war were so low in morale that camaraderie had gone and each competed with the others to stay alive. Then two young Christians came into the camp caring and helping and sharing their meagre rations with the dying, and also sharing the life saving evidence of their faith. Gradually morale lifted. A lot of it centred round the Sunday communion service with elements and arrangements that they had managed to concoct from what they could find. The one thing they all had in common was that more or less they knew the Lord's Prayer, and recited it with gusto until reminded by one of the young Christians that "Forgive as we forgive" meant the Japanese guards. They were challenged to pray the prayer and mean it or to skip that part of the prayer. The first time the prayer was said after that, only a few muttered half-heartedly the words of forgiveness. But eventually the whole camp came in with full throated affirmation of their forgiveness of the Japanese. That was when real release from their bitterness and self pity came, as they freed the way for God to come fully into their lives to create in them faith and hope and love.

The most tragic people I have ever met are those who fail to forgive another. The hurt and resentment and anger that they continue to nurture in their hearts is destructive of themselves. Unfortunately some of these tragic people have been Christians!

## VISITING CANBERRA?

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## Obituaries limited to 100 words.

**CARSLAKE, Maurice A.C.**

(13.5.87) With the passing of Maurice Carslake we are left with the memory of a sincere and faithful Christian gentleman and friend. He was born at Pinery, S.A., 1.3.1901 to Mr and Mrs Jack Carslake. The Carslake name is well known and respected in Churches of Christ in S.A. and W.A. The family moved to Avon and at the age of 11 Maurice left school to work on the farm. He was baptised at the Long Plains Church at 16 and so began a long life for Christ and the church. He married Mabel Roberts at Balaklava, April 8, 1925 and to them were born Henry, Lorraine, Colleen, Elvie and Coral. He was a successful farmer and respected citizen, honest and dependable. For 28 years he was S.S. Superintendent at Avon and a faithful member of the church, and was well known at both Northern District and State Conferences. On retirement in 1966, Maurice and Mabel came to live at Victor Harbor where they became actively associated with the church, he as Elder and a source of strength and encouragement. Mabel died in 1977 and he became a lonely man. His loneliness ended when he married Hazel Tucker, Feb. 2, 1985. A large crowd paid their respect and appreciation at the church service burial.

— Merv Lawrie.

**CHRISTENSEN, Ernest Alfred.**

(9.5.87) Ern was born in Rosevale Qld., on July 21, 1909, the third child of the late Johannas and Ellen Christensen. He received his schooling at the Rosevale State School before leaving to work on his parents' farm. Ern loved farm work, particularly anything to do with cattle or horses. He was baptised at the Mount Walker chapel on May 9, 1926 and remained a member of the Rosevale church for 61 years exactly. He was active in the church during those years, being a member of the deacons board, a term as chairman, and for quite a number of years as treasurer. Early in his Christian years, Ern used his car extensively to transport young people to and from evangelistic crusades around southeast Queensland and also to transport itinerant preachers. He was also very active in community affairs, being a Boonah Shire councillor for 17½ years, a member of the Rural Fire Board, Justice of the Peace, and for quite a number of years, a member of the Tarome State School Committee. Ern was married on August 6, 1932 to Ann, and this union was blessed with sons, Keith, Ben, Gordon, Laurie, Clarrie and daughter Flo.

— Steve Wainwright.

**DUNK, Dorothy May.**

(27.6.87) A vital link with history in the Glen Waverley Vic., church was broken with the death of Dorothy Dunk. Dorothy was the person instrumental in the establishment of the church at Glen Waverley back in the early 1950s. In that time she had seen the church develop from small beginnings to a large and growing congregation today. Dorothy had been fully involved in the church as Superin-

tendent of the Kindergarten Department for many years, and also served on the staff of the Pre-school Kindergarten established by the church. This was indicative of her deep love for children, and she followed closely their achievements in their adulthood down through the years. She was a member of the church choir at Oakleigh in her earlier years, and then at Glen Waverley. An overflow crowd was a tribute in itself to the love and esteem in which Dorothy was held by so many. She was a dedicated Christian person, fully committed to Christ and his church. We convey our Christian love and ongoing support to Dorothy's husband, Frank; to their children and sons and daughters-in-law, Helen and Warren, Ray and Dianne, Ken and Christine, Graeme and Hannah, and grandchildren, Belinda, Brett, Lauren, Darren, Mark, Stuart, Laura, Lisa and Melinda. We thank God for the inspiration and influence of Dorothy's life among us.

— Ron Elbourne

**EVANS, Lucinda Augusta**

(4.6.87) When God called into his presence Mrs Lucinda (Cindy) Evans at the age of 82 years a chapter closed in the history of the Bundaberg, Barolin St, Qld., church. Cindy was born at Bundaberg on April 28, 1905. As a teenager she came into the membership of Churches of Christ as a result of house meetings held in the district by a Mr Way who visited the area from his church base at Maryborough. Later she became a foundation member of the Bundaberg church which came into being as a result of a mission held by E.C. Hinrichsen in 1923. She was one of the most faithful members of the church and a woman who knew her Bible and loved her Lord. On April 10, 1987 she married William Howard Evans who predeceased her in 1972. Her passing has left a great void which will be very difficult to fill in the Bundaberg church. Testimony to the love and respect with which Cindy was held was evidenced by the huge congregation which attended her funeral service conducted by the Bundaberg minister, Ken Trudgian. Sympathy is extended to her daughter Coral (Mrs Les Knights) and her family and her surviving sister Mrs Jean Prestwood.

— B.N. Nowitzke

**HARTNEY, James Bruce**

(22.6.87) At the age of 69 years Jim Hartney died suddenly at his home. Born in North Fitzroy, second in a family of seven children, he was soon helping support the family by selling newspapers. After education at Collingwood Tech. and trade experience Jim spent his working life as a trade instructor at his old school and also at Footscray and Essendon Techs. Following his marriage to Betty they moved to Moonee Ponds and in 1954 was baptised at the Essendon church where he was faithful in the worship and life of the church, serving for 12 years as a deacon. A great encourager and supporter Jim endeared himself to all. His cheerful personality and attitude that nothing was too much trouble for him brought joy to many. Whether at home or on extended camping holidays at Rye for 33 consecutive summers it was always "open house" to all. Jim was one of God's gentlemen and countless people thank

God for a man of faith whose life was full of good deeds. Many girls from Essendon and Pascoe Vale were grateful for the supportive role he played when Betty was leader of their Good Companions Clubs. Funeral services were conducted by the writer and the churches commend Betty and their sons Alan, Robert and Graeme to the Lord of love.

— Vic Quayle

**MOORE, Mildred Elizabeth.**

(28.4.87) Mildred Moore was born into a Christian home at Rowlands Flat and died at Victor Harbor S.A., aged 86. The family was connected with the Baptist church at Lyndoch where her father was Superintendent of the Sunday School. Following several moves, including Tooperang where Mildred finished her schooling, they came to Victor Harbor. Here she qualified and entered the school teaching profession. She was a dedicated concerned Christian and wherever she was sent she associated with the church to give her support. Her pupils remember her with gratitude for her kind and personal interest in each one. Mildred was a foundation member of the Church of Christ, Victor Harbor and one of the first organists. She was fond of children and taught Sunday School and helped in youth work. She had a deep concern for the people in outback Australia and overseas that they should receive the gospel and supported this work. After retirement she continued faithful to the church and Bible study meetings until failing health prevented her. Following months of illness and a leg amputation she died peacefully at home. The funeral service was held in the home attended by many friends and she was buried locally.

— Merv Lawrie.

**MUDFORD, Isabel Margaret**

(24.6.87) Isabel Mudford passed to be with her Lord at the age of 86 years. One of 10 children she was born into the Patten family at Drummond, Vic., and at an early age committed her life to Christ. Following her marriage to Craig Bingham she moved with her husband to a number of Victorian country towns because of his employment (for many years with the Lands Department) and worshipped and worked actively in several of our churches before retiring to Kyneton in 1962. From that time on they took a special interest in lapidary and travelled far and wide to collect stones and shells for gemstone jewellery and other craft work. All proceeds, totalling some \$28,000, were given to missions and other organisations. Whilst travelling they stopped off at Carnarvon Mission where they helped in a variety of ways. Craig Bingham died in 1975 and in 1977 Isabel married Archie Mudford a life-long friend from a neighbouring farm who had left Drummond to enter the College of the Bible. They lived in Bendigo till 1984 when they moved to Kyneton. After the death of Arch in 1986 Isabel lived with her daughter at Coburg and worshipped at Brunswick church. Funeral services at Kyneton were conducted by the writer assisted by Robert Fraser. We commend her daughter Karlie Wharton and son Craig to the grace of God.

— Vic Quayle.

# SS

**HAPPY VALLEY** (Russell Allison). \$500 raised from quiz night for building . . . Bible story day very successful. Older SS children read Bible story to small groups of younger children . . . Dr Thornleigh Thomas guest speaker from Overseas Missions . . . Hospitality Sunday well supported . . . Rob Combridge guest speaker July 5 . . . Steel framework has been erected for building . . . Weekly offering increased over last 12 months.

**GLENELG** (Neville Bradley). Extensive upgrading of manse & grounds carried out by 20 men & women . . . State Minister Dean Hamilton led meaningful induction service as Neville Bradley commenced ministry . . . Conf. Pres. Colin Dredge launched Centenary Trust Fund in connection with centenary celebrations in Nov. . . . Combined Pentecost service with Glenelg churches . . . \$200 each contributed to Federal Aborigines Board and Vanuatu project.

# VIC

**BRIGHTON** (J. & E. Clapp). Special congregational meeting voted to sell the manse & rebuild on present caretaker's cottage site. We are very excited about the additional funds this will generate for new church activities . . . Our two morning services will combine in Sept . . . Bethel course underway in cooperation with St. Mark's Anglican Church . . . Christians in Fellowship are now able to serve on the church board.

**BENDIGO** (John Sweetman). Band formed under the leadership of Denise Hamilton . . . Recent speaker Phil Arnold, Scripture Union . . . Directory luncheon well attended . . . Church clerks doing a great job . . . Thanks to all who donated paintings done by Rita Galieh from the Galieh Good News Festival . . . David Thompson baptised . . . Christian sympathy extended to Bowman & Renault families . . . Services well attended.



## Education Conference approves bold plans



New South Wales representatives C. Hutton and J. Gordon with Queensland staff members J. Deutschmann and A. Herman in conference.

State representatives at the annual conference of the Federal Board of Christian Education held in Melbourne June 5-8 approved important new directions in planning and resources from our Australian churches.

In the youth ministry area field services director Graham Hyman reported on 1,300 participants in the Australia wide youth leadership training events conducted in association with Mike Yaconelli of Youth Specialties, U.S.A.

Plans are in hand for similar events in 1988. A highlight in the youth ministry area was a report on the 200 registrations for the National Youth Workers Convention to be held on the Gold Coast in July. This is an important training event for full time and voluntary youth workers and includes a number from without Churches of Christ. A Youth Forum and the National Youth Convention at Stanwell Tops in January 1988 are other important forthcoming events.

### Partnership

In partnership with the Joint



State and Federal Board representatives.

Board of Christian Education the Board will launch a new Sunday School curriculum resource entitled *New Living Faith* for our churches in 1988. Information will be mailed to churches during August and later this year extensive contact will be made to inform churches of the resources.

### New Resources

The Board received reports on the progress of a number of new projects due for release shortly and of others in preparation. "Effective Eldership" by Jeff Deuble is the first of a number to be available this year. These include a study by Brian White — "Getting Along" — in the National Study Program series, a children's resource project on the church in Vanuatu, a youth study by Graham Hyman entitled "Being Young, Being A Believer," a members information kit and an adult discipleship study by G. Rowcroft and J. Deuble. This latter publication has been extensively field tested and should be an important addition to the discipleship material.

## Galilee Family Placement Scheme



Craig Webber (left) with Galilee chairman, Ian McTaggart.

Craig Webber, an active member of the Belconnen, A.C.T., church has recently become Co-ordinator of the Galilee Family Placement Scheme.

Galilee (Inc.) is a body of Christians from all of the main denominations in the A.C.T.. It is establishing the Family Placement program to provide an alternative to institutional care for teenagers.

"There are many young people who are unable to live at home due to family circumstances, says Craig. "And many people have been concerned that there has been no real alternative for them, apart from living in an institution or refuge."

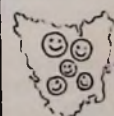
Galilee is currently seeking placement families throughout the Canberra churches that can support young people for up to three months. "A stable, caring, supportive family environment is what many young people in crisis need," said Craig. "Christian families in Canberra

now have the opportunity to provide such hope."

The scheme also provides for support families to support and encourage the placement families.

Further information from Craig Webber may be had from P.O. Box 2073, Canberra City, 2601, or by phone on (062) 57.2399.

At a recent conference looking at which issues will face the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the 21st Century Julia Brown, Vice-President of the Disciples' Division of Overseas Ministries, cited as the major issues the growing unequal distribution of resources and its attendant economic oppression, militarisation which is a "deterrent to world peace", racism which denies the image of God and sexism which is apparent in the church as well as the secular world.



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## SILVER WEDDING

**GAYTHER (WEATHERHEAD).** Margaret and Les. Congratulations Mum and Dad on your 25th Wedding Anniversary, celebrated at the Strathmore Church of Christ by John Lloyd, on 7th July, 1962. — Russell and Bruce.

## DEATHS

**DUNK (MASTERTON).** On June 27th, peacefully. Dorothy May. Dearly beloved wife of Frank, much loved mother of Helen (Mrs Condron), Ray, Ken and Graeme, mother-in-law of Warren, Dianne, Chris and Hannah. Much loved Nin and Grandma of Belinda, Brett and Lauren, Darren, Mark, Stuart, and Laura, Lisa and Melina. Now with her Lord.

**HENSHILWOOD** Dulcie. On July 5 at Linacre Hospital after a long illness. Loving wife of Clive (dec). Dearly loved mother of Leonie and Elaine (Mrs McCandlish). "Through the hands of such as these God speaks; and from behind their eyes he smiles upon the earth".

## WORK REQUIRED

Family departing Melbourne 24th August for working/caravanning holiday. Would like farm work/catering/handiman/electrical work (qualified electrician) anywhere in Australia. Contact Jean Grayden, 94/2 Old Stud Rd, Wantirna 3152. Phone (03) 222 3558.

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## Changes of Address

**STIRLING, Gordon and Lesley** — "The Australian Christian" correspondence — P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, Vic. 3041. Private correspondence — C/- Launceston Church of Christ, 76 Margaret St, Launceston, Tas. 7250.

## VIC

**ORMOND** (Glenn Stibbe, Peter Cannon). Prayer triads now operating among church members; also an emergency prayer chain . . . Drop In Centre continues to be of value to older folk of community for a time of fun & fellowship . . . Mark Warren gave an audio-visual on his recent trip to Israel . . . Fellowship enjoyed with Conf. Pres. Clive Ward & his wife Joan on church anniversary . . . Ladies visited Emmaus to supply entertainment & afternoon tea.

## New Hostel for the Gold Coast

The Minister for Community Services has announced that the Churches of Christ in Queensland Social Service Department has been successful in its application to build a new 50 bed Aged Care Hostel at its new village location adjacent to the Golden Age Retirement Village at Southport.

The grant has been announced at \$1,150,240 and the Hostel is to be constructed in the 1989-90 financial year.

Philip Kennedy is the Administrator of the Social Service Department's Gold Coast Region. This new village will be the third retirement village operated by Churches of Christ on Queensland's Gold Coast.

Don E. Stewart, the Director of the Social Service Department said "that the period of time up to the commencement of building would give time for careful consideration of the new more personalised design concepts which the Department was endeavouring to put into its new Hostels".

Malnutrition is claiming the lives of 30,000 Argentine children annually and latest figures indicate that 800,000 abandoned youngsters are wandering the country's streets. 30% of Argentine families are unable to meet their basic needs and 40% of children under two years lack adequate nourishment. The infant mortality rate has risen to 100/1000 and further grim statistics show that 10,000 Argentine children are abandoned each year. They survive by begging and spend their nights in doorways, bus terminals and the notoriously filthy train and subway cars.

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## First impressions of Sammy's Restaurant



Dining at Sammy's.

Starched white tablecloths, shining cutlery, potted plants, soft piano music and glowing candles transformed the Sunday School rooms at Lyons A.C.T., into an elegant and intimate dining setting as Sammy's Restaurant opened its doors for the first time on June 20.

Sammy's (for Single And Married — Mainly Young) has a twofold purpose. It is a non-threatening environment to which friends can be brought to enjoy good food and fellowship; and secondly it was successful in making a profit of over \$500 for the A.C.T. Development Fund.



John McNair on the piano

And the food? Suffice to say that Sammy's high standard of cuisine could cause it to win a "Golden Plate" award. The group in the kitchen led by Carol Caulton excelled themselves. The four-course meal, with several choices from the blackboard menu, was beautifully presented and a delight to the palate. It was certainly excellent value for \$15 per head.

There aren't many restaurants where one can mingle with the other diners, but the fellowship was warm at Sammy's. The waiters and waitresses ad-

ded a touch of class in black and white formal dress.

The only problem next time will be in trying to keep the

number of diners to a manageable number, as Sammy's will be thoroughly recommended to friends.

## Diamond Jubilee for Girls' Brigade Australia

1987 is an historic milestone for the Girls' Brigade in Australia. It is 60 years since the first Company started in the little farming centre of Wyalkatchem, 191 kilometres north east of Perth, W.A. Several ladies who were girls in the 1920's, have been located and are joining in Western Australia's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Brigade Australia is privileged to have the International President, Mrs Elizabeth Nicoll, visiting Australia from Scotland in July and August as part of the celebrations. Mrs Nicoll, together with the Australian National Commissioner, Mrs Lillian Warren, will visit each State and Territory. Functions organised include, dinners, thanksgiving services, Government receptions, camps, a bus trip back to Wyalkatchem and the unveiling of a plaque in the Uniting Church



there.

In conjunction with the Diamond Jubilee, a special history of the Girls' Brigade in Australia — "Celebrating Sixty" — is being launched. Former members of Brigade can obtain details of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations in their state, as well as copies of the history from their State Headquarters.

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## Youth Camping with Scripture Union

Scripture Union's Warriuka camp in W.A. successfully launched its first two flat-water rafts in March. They followed the Murray for 15km of farming land from Pinjarra to Ravenswood.

Camps co-ordinator, Tom Shackles, says bookings for their first run of five-six white-water camps, from June to October, are filling fast. Up to 18 students can attend these more demanding courses.

Each flat-water camp program is the product of discussions between school teachers and Scripture Union staff. Teachers can select from a range of topics run by Warriuka, or slot in their own teaching segments. What better way for a class of about 25 students with their teachers and a parent or two, to study local ecology, farming land use, environmental impact or weather patterns, than drifting down the Murray. Lessons on other curriculum-related topics come alive in these natural surroundings.

This is the type of experience-based education which enables students to learn co-operation and responsibility, through practising camping skills, like bush cooking and tenting, as well as rafting.

Much of the day on this five-day camp, centres around raft-

ing. Students build their own 10 man rafts on the first morning. Pine logs, truck tubes, ropes and decking are trucked to the site. It's their responsibility to keep their craft above water.

From a Christian perspective, the objective has several levels explains Tom. Primarily its the natural sharing of faith and the building of relationships; while religious education is formally built into the program, with staff negotiating with schools beforehand.

A camp with similar activities and objectives has been successfully operating in the Gippsland Lakes district of Victoria for 10 years. At Scripture Union's Camp Coolamaton of 75 hectares, flat-water skills teaching features prominently.

Camp Director, Jim Rees, strongly believes in developing team spirit, leadership and co-operation. Like Warriuka, Coolamaton's staff try to form partnerships with the teachers. Their approach avoids either indoctrinating or artificially concealing their faith. Programs are constructed to meet the particular needs of each group.

For Julie Rees, late night "Question Time", with 50 kids crammed in their lounge room, can be so exciting and rewarding. "Some come with such negative ideas. But we show

## A generous gift at St. George

St. George, Qld, is located some 500 km west of Brisbane. Late in 1984 the Social Service Department in Queensland was invited by the townspeople to conduct a survey of the aged care needs of the town and district. Don Stewart, the Director, addressed a packed town hall then and three months later when he brought back a report which recommended that a 25 bed Hostel be established. The public meeting invited the Churches of Christ Social Service Department to proceed to establish a Hostel in the town.

Paul and Nancy Young are Christians living in the town and when they became aware of the proposal offered their land for use for a retirement village. They had been developing their 10 acre site for some use that they believed that the Lord had for it. They have planted it with fruit and nut trees. It is a beautiful place, a bit like a garden of Eden. The Department purchased the property which included house and other buildings for \$100,000. Paul and Nancy have generously donated this back for the project. They have also donated back \$11,000 which was used to purchase their tractor to assist in keeping the grass mown, and the whole area tended.

The local fundraising committee have also been busy and them how God cares for them. That they are special to him!"

have raised an additional \$60,000 for the aged care facility.

Rob Warwick, Administrator of the Fassifern Retirement Village in Boonah has accepted the responsibility for the development of this project and regularly travels the 500 km out to St. George. It is exciting to work with these folk who in many ways are quite isolated. It is a great opportunity to make a Christian witness to the town in a practical way.

## Gleneagles land purchase

The Churches of Christ in Queensland Social Service Department have purchased an allotment of land next to the twin tower self contained living units block at New Farm. This valuable site on the bank of the Brisbane River will provide the needed land for the redevelopment of some of the Department's facilities in the Brisbane metropolitan area.

In terms of longer term planning it is hoped that a three stage campus can be established on the site when it is combined with the 95 units of Gleneagles.

Lyndsay Dipple, the Administrator of the Brisbane Region of the Social Service Department, is working on the development of the project.

Please advise any change of address.



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## International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

1987 has been declared International Year of Shelter for the Homeless by the United Nations. This follows recognition that one quarter of the world's population live in poverty without proper housing and the likelihood that this figure will double by the turn of the century.

The United Nations has designated 1987 to be a year of world-wide effort to develop plans and programs that will improve shelter and neighbourhoods for people who are homeless or inadequately housed. IYSH is being promoted as an ongoing program in which nations draw up strategies, policies and programs to the year 2000.

Australia is following the U.N. strategy to achieve four objectives: • assessing areas of house need; • documenting and evaluating innovative projects; • developing priorities for the future; and • providing information on housing issues and programs.

The experience gained through IYSH projects during 1987 will be used to develop action programs to the year 2000. Government and non-Government organisations will pool their knowledge to identify ways of improving housing provision in Australia.

The Advisory Group has established a Futures Housing Group to research and develop a range of housing options between now and the year 2000, an Information Group seeks to raise community awareness, an Education Group which will develop longer term community education strategies, and a Community Participation Group which will assist low income groups to present their housing needs to government.

"Co-operation and commitment from all levels of government, from the private sector and from the community, especially the church, are essential if IYSH is to achieve its goals", said Mike Pelling, Victorian IYSH Co-ordinator. "Hopefully by the year 2000 we will be able to look back at 1987 as a point where we renewed our commit-



IYSH 87

ment to achieving the goal of proper shelter for all".

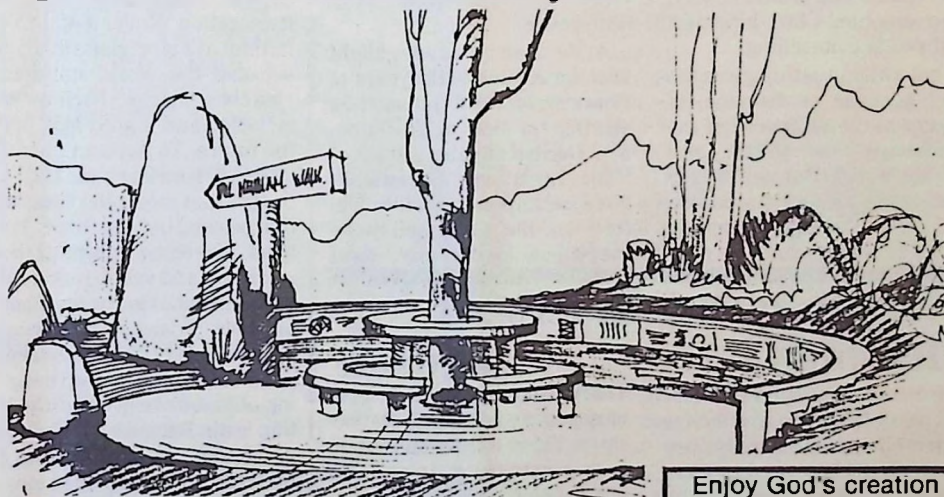
In a statement by various

Heads of Churches in Victoria, Alan Avery, Vic.-Tas. Conference Past President said: "On the one hand I am exercised over the number of individuals and families that lack proper, or what we consider normal, shelter. On the other hand I am disappointed that governments, both State and Federal, seem reluctant to accept this situation

as a major issue in the Australian community.

Whist my own congregation (Frankston) is able to accommodate three teenagers, it is a very small answer to a very large problem. I do trust that this year will not pass without adequate attention being giving to this far reaching social problem".

## Explorer Commemoration Project



Sketch of Project.

1988 will mark the Jubilee of Explorer Club activities. A feature of the Jubilee will be the construction of a paved area with tables, seating and a wall containing commemorative plaques at Camp Waterman, Monbulk. The area has been designed by R.L. Drayton. During 1987-88 clubs will work towards raising funds for the project. Current plans envisage

the opening and dedication of the area at a special Commemoration Day planned for October 1988. Other planning of the Explorer Executive includes the publication of new club resources, special activities for local groups to celebrate the Jubilee, an Explorer history and a Jubilee Dinner for past and present members and leaders in 1988.

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## Witnessing the Restoration Movement in Australia

by Arthur and Brigitte Thomas (Tubingen, West Germany)

We needed a long break from our social work — a home-group living with difficult teenagers. Over 40 young people have lived with us these past 16 years. They have completed their schooling, their apprenticeship, and when not succeeding another way had to be found. Today we can say 85-90% of the young people have succeeded professionally, their emotional life, however, still needs counselling.

To get away, Australia was the land because of distance, of beauty in the discovery of the landscape, the plants and animal world. But next to experiencing as tourists do, we had the most wonderful opportunity to witness and discover

a strong lively church body of the Restoration Movement. We started off our trip at the 41st Conference of the Churches of Christ in Hobart, Tasmania, Jan. 16-24. Don Stewart, Director of the Social Services of the Churches of Christ in Queensland, who had previously visited the Christliche Gemeinde in Tubingen, West Germany, invited us to attend this conference.

At the conference a highlight was the Jubilee of 150 years of Churches of Christ in Australia starting in 1936 in Adelaide, S.A. Gordon Stirling, Editor of "The Australian Christian", gave an impressive slide lecture on the Campbell-Stone movement in Bethany, West

Virginia, U.S.A. A panel discussion of leading men in the Australian churches like Randy Edwards, Gordon Stirling, Ken Patterson and Dean Hamilton spoke on "Who are we as a Restoration Movement in 1987? Where are we now as a Restoration Movement? What is our purpose in the Restoration Movement? They called Christians of the Restoration Movement to be faithful in a changing situation because the world changes, churches change, heritage is reflected and a good look into the future. To have an impact in the 20th century we need a dogma that meets the needs of the people and the time. We need "freedom" from traditionalism and yet be reminded of the essential unity, harmony and love. We need a deeper understanding of the Lord's supper and baptism, a deep meaning of "atonement" and christian faith. Because the Christian church has more capacity for freedom it can help to solve problems. We need to talk about issues of the times to find answers through the study in scripture together.

There were issues discussed openly in "deliberative groups on domestic violence, on the theology of peace and justice, on missions for Aborigines and in New Guinea, on Christian unity, on youth problems, worship forms, role of the women in the church, preserving nature as well as joblessness". The different opinions were openly discussed, yet we experienced a love and concern for one

another. The love of Christ had a uniting force that made people sensitive and aware to work together in the community.

A strong message was given by the Principal of Kenmore College, Randy Edwards, who emphasised that the Restoration Movement is not a movement of restoring churches, but a movement restoring the relationship of man with God through Jesus Christ. The main emphasis lies in the creed: love, unity, liberty. Not with schisms did they want to deal but rather the call for a future challenge of New Testament Christianity in Australia and the World.

On different occasions we were reunited with many Australian Christians who visited us in 1980 and 1984. It was great to experience the "family of God" down under.

On travelling around in Queensland we visited the different types of social work (youth centres, care centres, prisons, family group living, old people homes and villages. We had valuable experiences and informations. With much optimism and joy we returned home so excited that we want to tell the story: the Restoration Movement is a world-wide movement with a great message.

Arthur and Brigitte Thomas in their accompanying letter wished us to pass on their grateful appreciation of the many Christian friends they made in Australia and for the love and concern and help that many gave them.

## More frequent Elders' Meetings

It is my conviction that it is not possible to have an effective eldership that meets only once a month. Elders need to meet weekly, or at least fortnightly, to fulfil their role as "Shepherds and Overseers of the Church of God" (Acts 20:28). Monthly meetings do not afford the time or the continuity needed to develop significant leadership and pastoral care for the local church. Monthly elders' meetings mean one or more of the following:—

1. **A Restricted Role.** Often the elders look after only "spiritual matters" while "policy and business" items are handled by the Board. In so doing I feel we are perpetuating an unhealthy dichotomy. Alternatively, agenda items focus on the urgent rather than on the important, on management rather than on leadership, on maintenance rather than on growth, on piecemeal solutions rather than on developing the overall vision, and strategies of the church.

2. **Superficial Relationships.** Although an eldership can work through a monthly business agenda, it will miss out on other dimensions of its operation.

Jeff Deuble

There is not time to develop a closeness and depth of relationships. There is little opportunity to create unity, to care for one another and to engender support, trust and openness between minister and elders. Love and pastoral caring within the congregation happens most effectively when it first happens within the leadership team.

3. **Spiritual Paucity.** Opportunity for worship, prayer, sharing and ministering to each other, intercession for individuals and the overall life of the church is also restricted in monthly meetings. The spiritual life and dynamic of any group of people seldom rises above that of its leadership.

Leaders in the local church must come to terms with the crucial role that they plan. Infrequent meetings are not sufficient to fulfil that role. Often even regular meetings need to be supplemented by retreats and training events.

Personally, I have been amazed at the transformation which has occurred within my own eldership at Shepparton, Vic., since we decided to meet weekly rather than monthly.

L.M.C.T.  
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## MARRIAGE

•Gail Galvin to David Thompson, Bendigo, Vic. •Susan Hardy to Stephen Taylor, Dianella, W.A. •Dolly Jakemenko to Peter

Boesch, Padstow, N.S.W.

## DEATHS

•Fred Foster, Dandenong, Vic. •Dorothy Dunk, Glen Waverley, Vic. •Maude Bowman, Ivy Renaut, Bendigo, Vic. •Mrs Brazel, Prospect, S.A.

### Changes of Address

**DALKEITH RD.:** Minister — B.K. Ryall, 72 Dalkeith Rd, Netherlands, W.A. 6009. Phone (09) 386.5856 (Office), 386.3827 (Home).

**CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE:** 41 Brookfield Rd, (P.O. Box 469), Kenmore, Qld. 4069. Phone (07) 878.1494.

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## NSW

**GREENACRE** (P.P. DeWildt, T. Smith). Family service June 14 included Sunday School presentation entitled "Birth of the Church" . . . Film "Jesus" screened June 20, resulting in several commitments . . . Youth service June 21 focussed on theme of "Friendship" . . . Junior Netball teams paraded June 28 . . . Church enjoyed an "Evening with Bliss" when the life & hymns of Philip Bliss were highlighted . . . Morning attendances continue to rise.

**SOUTH TAMWORTH** (Alex Surtees). Great blessing & learning has been ours during the first half of this year as in morning services thoughts on "Biblical basis for the organisation & function of the Church" . . . Wednesday Bible studies "The Inspiration & Use of the Scriptures" has been very helpful & enlightening . . . We have been very thankful for solid teaching & personal witness of Alex Surtees as interim minister.

**THORNLEIGH** (P. Burnham). At conclusion of morning service on June 28 a young married couple made decision for the Lord . . . During the morning service on July 5 a young man was baptised by Paul Burnham . . . In the absence of Paul Burnham on holidays on July 12 at am service guest speaker was G. Winton of Gideons & at pm service Paul Sanders brought the message.

**PADSTOW** (Ed Holt). Major renovations costing \$20,000 have been carried out in hall to convert it into the worship centre. New carpet, chairs & PA system plus other alterations make it an inviting atmosphere in which to worship. Over 150 attended the dedication service, which was addressed by Dr Lionel Berthelsen. A thank offering of \$1,001 was received. We thank Inter Church Aid for the interest free loan.

## QLD

**DALBY** (Neil Melville). Church farewelled Ian & Gertie Skerman at family social.

They have now retired to live in Toowoomba. Ian was church secretary & an elder for a number of years. Gertie was farewelled by CWF at coffee morning . . . Terry Deacon, leader of Young Adults group, speaker at July gospel service. Young Adults group have been responsible for gospel services held this year.

## WA

**CARNARVON** (G. Butler). Carnarvon enjoying many visitors . . . CWF auxiliary team held convention. Caryl Kilworth, Lesley Hogben, Elsie Taylor & Betty Fabrey drove from Perth holding meetings at Morawa & Geraldton . . . Captain Henderson of Alcoholics Victorious explained work among those for whom Jesus is the answer to alcohol problems . . . Church praying for ministry needs as Graham & Heather Butler prepare to move to Northam in Sept.

**DIANELLA** (Theo & Alison Mackaay). Church celebrated its 23rd anniversary on the weekend of July 3-5. An enjoyable social night was held on the Friday organised by Hardy & How families. Over 100 enjoyed fun & fellowship & a well catered supper. Ken Duffy, Conf. Pres., spoke at both services on the Sunday. The theme for the anniversary was "Beginning Now". A thank offering was taken to clear church building debt.

**BRUCE ROCK/MERREDIN** Both churches appreciate Scarborough Elders monthly visits, look forward to having Kalamunda too . . . Members participated in 40 hour famine . . . Merredin growing spiritually through Bible study "Saints Alive!", having special Last Supper communion meal, finished study & heralded beginning of new one . . . Merredin pleased to have Mary Crane & family from Wagin worshipping with them.

**WEMBLEY DOWNS** (J. Somerville). On Asia Sunday friends from local churches shared Asian meal & heard impressions on Philippines . . . Young people organised enjoyable

quiz night for Vanuatu appeal. L. Eaton showed video taken recently when visiting our mission in Santo . . . Pat Bishop (Jesuit) & J. Elliot (Caring for Intellectually Handicapped) recent speakers . . . Healing service focussed on work of Order of St. Luke.

**KALAMUNDA** (Tim Hanna, Mark Proud, Dean Smith). Team of four men travelled to far North on a two week ministry outreach to Aborigines . . . Church has purchased second manse located opposite worship centre . . . Tim Hanna took part in national education workshop run by FBCE in Melbourne, also visited Kim Roberts at Carlingford . . . Second School of Christian Growth completed . . . Film "Prodigal" recently screened and concert with gospel group "Josiah" held.

**DALKEITH RD** (Barry Ryall). Successful family camp held at Pt. Peron. Over 60 involved . . . Childrens & youth activities growing in attendance. Junior Church 12, church school 65, jnr. youth group 15, youth group 28, netball teams — 1 sub-junior, 2 junior, 1 senior &

basketball teams — 1 junior and 1 senior . . . Young adult camp held with Rivervale YP . . . Morning service attendances up 30% on 1986.

## SA

**PROSPECT** (G. Payne). Harold Long, Hawthorn church, guest speaker Overseas Mission Sunday. Evening service in the hands of Camera Club. Margaret Aird showed audio-visual on Overseas Mission in action . . . National Bible Sunday a carton of Good News Bibles purchased for use in pews . . . Aerobics groups spent Sunday afternoon hiking along the river . . . Ladies social afternoon to be held at Mrs Bonney's. Trading table.

**SALISBURY EAST** (Ron Saunders). Women's Fellowship & Girls' Brigade trading table raised \$280 . . . Frank Miller started a Bible study evening . . . Kay Marsden baptised May 17 . . . Open house at Ron & Alice Saunders May 17 . . . Family evening service May 24 guest Mike Berris . . . Frank Miller church representative for the coming Bill Newman Crusade . . . Women's Fellowship went to Nailsworth church.

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## VIC

**CASTLEMAINE** (P.Haylock). Week of Prayer for Christian Unity services well attended . . . Ian Tippet attended for follow-up to "The Master's Plan" program . . . Special first Sunday in the month youth services proving to be very popular . . . Olivet Christian College performed musical concerning the 10 Commandments.

**LATROBE TERR., GEE-LONG** (Dr C.J.Mackenzie). Young man baptised on June 28 . . . \$250 raised for Youth for Christ through young people's slave auction . . . Top Kids Club for children of grades 3-6 very successful . . . Church joined with Geelong East for their anniversary . . . 1 & 2 cents being collected for COB Building Appeal . . . Graeme Coleman attending National Youth Workers Convention at Gold Coast.

**HAMILTON**. Ladies conducting monthly stall at church to help with financial situation. Average \$70/week from stalls after 10% taken for outreach. Wonderful effort considering only handful of ladies . . . Portland & Hamilton appointment committees met with Don Smith to discuss finance re calling minister. Stepping out in faith interviewing minister in near future . . . Church offerings continue to improve.

**DANDENONG** (P.Pitts, M.Esbensen, F.Rees). Plan giving program held. Offering increased by over 30% . . . CWA 60th birthday held. Speaker from Westernport Foster Care . . . Special church prayer night held by Ian Tippet . . . Board & Elders held special planning day . . . Lorraine Whittaker, Bill Berthelsen, Keith Brooks, Lois Munroe & Jim Tillie have all been in hospital . . . Fred Rees has joined the ministry team as part-time pastoral carer.

**NORTHCOTE** (F.B.Alcorn). Minister's ministry enjoyed . . . A day prayer meeting (three sessions) for church & Sat. morning for church board . . . Share Group arranged chicken dinner after morning service July 5. Proceeds for organ fund

for Fellowship Room . . . Dorothy Allison (Happy Valley, SA) & children visitors. Sang at morning & evening services . . . Church manse has been sold & church hall had new lights installed . . . Flo Prideaux & Glad Collins in Austin Hospital.

**PEEL ST., BALLARAT** (L.D.Woodward). Golden jubilee of present chapel &

118th anniversary held recently. Speaker former minister W.D.Mills, soloist Mary Mills. After dinner alterations of the present buildings were shown to all present. Steve Eames made decision for Christ & baptised . . . Girls & Boys Clubs reformed, meeting separately. Leaders Rosalie Anstis & Jim Cunningham . . . Minister back in pulpit after tonsilectomy.

**BRIM/WARRACKNABEAL** (Eric Volker). On the arrival of Eric Volker to lead the circuit, the interim ministry of David Harmer was terminated. David has now accepted an invitation to share the ministry under Eric's leadership on a voluntary basis. We praise God for these men.

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Last tour the Team's activities were not limited to basketball. The players participated in contests of soccer, running, swimming and cycling. They also competed against the locals in volley ball, table tennis and tennis.

The people are friendly and responsive. The Team expects to play 30 games. Crowds and athletes who watch and listen at the games are the vast unreached for Christ.

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Write to Bruce F. Townsend, Hon. Secretary, Venture for Victory Basketball Board, G.P.O. Box 1717, Adelaide, S.A. 5001.

Last year the team concentrated their ministry in the Philippines in the islands of Romblon and Tablas, reaching most of the people in these areas. At each game a high percentage of people indicated that they would like to undertake the Bible correspondence course that was offered by the team.

Last tour Ian Solomon and Roger Brook stayed on for a further six weeks to be involved in a "follow-up" ministry. Bible Correspondence courses were distributed to all who had completed the "initial" study. The supply of New Testaments ran out and it was necessary to have another 600 sent to Romblon Island.

# THE LAST WORD

**The recipients of God's grace should be the messengers of God's grace.**

An Irish candidate was stressing the point that, if elected, he would vigorously maintain his independence.

"I'll be the slave of no party machine", he cried. "Rather than that I would write across my forehead the words 'To Let'."

"Yes — Unfurnished", cried an opponent in the hall.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"Mummy, I know why chicks come out of eggs."

"Do you, dear?"

"Yes, because they are afraid of being cooked."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"What a lovely spring day. At last Nature is awake."

"No wonder — with all this noise in the forest."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Sergeant: Obedience is the first duty of a soldier. If I order you to throw yourselves out of a fourth floor window, you do it. If you have anything against it, you can appeal to the captain later.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

He: Last night I dreamt that I was in heaven.

She: Was I with you?

He: I said that I dreamed that I was in heaven.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Quiet time?



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