

# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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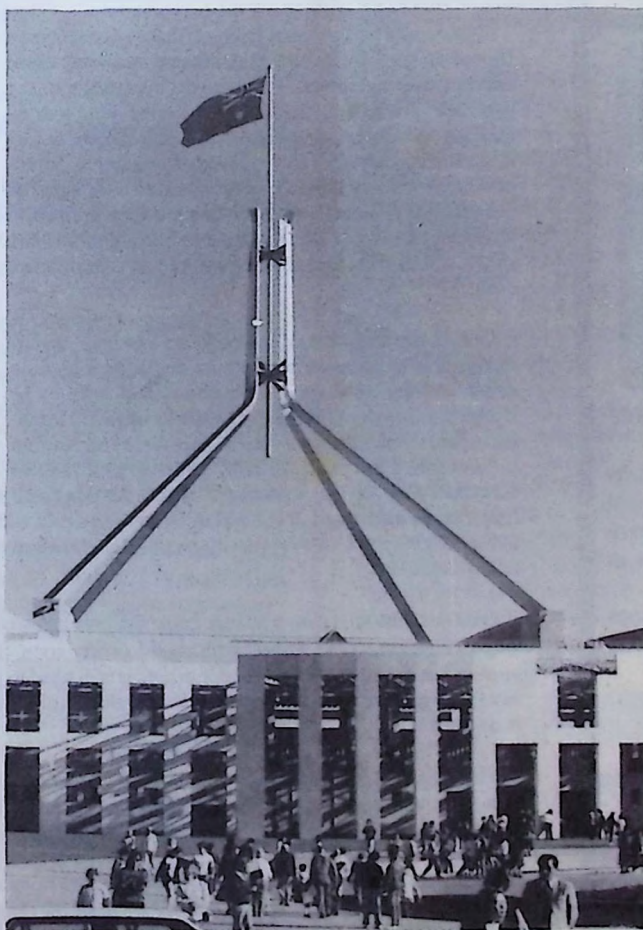
## Ecumenical Gathering at Parliament House

The President of the Baptist Union, Rev Neil Adcock addressed a large audience in the crowded Great Hall of the new Parliament House. He stated that the new Parliament building was not just a "club-house" it was there to serve the "fairways" and even the "bunkers" of our nation.

Over 2,000 Christians from all denominations in Canberra and surrounding areas listened to Rev Adcock speaking on the topic "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His justice"

The ecumenical gathering in the Great Hall was held on the eve of the first sitting of Parliament in the new Parliament House. It was a witness to the fact that Canberra's Christian community was eager for a nation ruled by God.

The service was led by members of the Parliamentary Christian Fellowship.



The New Parliamentary House

The Governor General, Sir Ninian Stephen, and the Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn led prayers for the nation. The hymns chosen for the service were all written by Australians and included "For Australia" the hymn sung at the service prior to the opening of the new building.

Copies of the Australian Good News Bible were presented to the Parliamentary Christian Fellowship by the Bible Society. These will be placed in the Upper Room, a room set apart for prayer and meditation. This room is at the highest point of the building, under the flag pole.

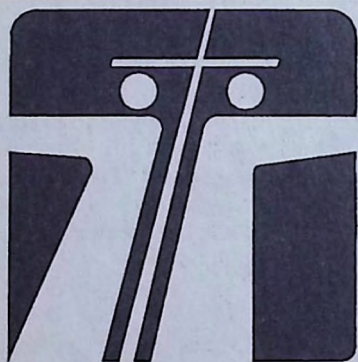
This occasion was as exciting for Australia's Christians as the National Gathering before the opening of the new Parliament House earlier this year.



Managing Editor:  
CHRIS AMBROSE

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## COMMENT

### Burnout!

—Judy Gordon

*Australian Christian Foundation Scholar for 1988*

I have been worrying for a long time about the difficulties facing Christian Education in our Australian churches. The decline in many of our churches in children's ministry, and in particular the Sunday School, is a serious matter.

Questions that come to mind include:

Are there alternatives to present learning patterns?

Is it simply the changes in our times?

Have people really lost interest in the formal spiritual education of their children?

Why are there less and less people willing to teach, or even to be involved, for longer than a month or two?

Of course, in recent years there has been a greater interest in adult learning through small groups etc. This is exciting to see and, hopefully, is only the beginning of a greater hunger for biblical learning. However, even with bright spots existing in most states, there still seems to be a very real problem of how to understand present and future needs for learning, in particular, how to understand learning needs for children and families.

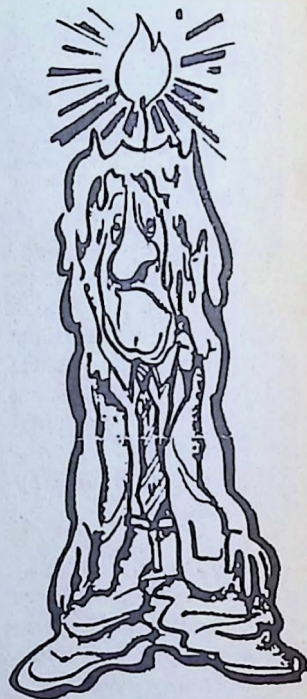
It was to try to find some answers that I set out for the United States. I cannot say that that they have any more answers than ourselves. In fact it was interesting to see that they face exactly the same problems! This was an exciting and challenging discovery because now we, as Australians, can also be involved in assessing future directions without having 'easy' answers coming to us from the US. I believe, anyway, that we need to find the answers that suit our own Australian church patterns and styles, and then to discover how we can meet community needs.

One of the tragedies of recent years has been uncertainty, plus an increase in personal demands including stress and the need for both husband and wife to be working to pay for bills. These demands have led teachers to find themselves in a very real struggle and burnout is common. This exhibits itself in tiredness, lack of direction and vision, criticisms of one another, physical drain, inability to organise, frustration and so on. It is a sad thing to see people with so much potential burning out and having to give up. I believe it is a major problem facing not only teachers but also a lot of leaders in our churches.

Of course the first step is to recognise the problem so that treatment can begin. For some it will mean a total 'sabbatical' with time to recuperate, to take in the spiritual energy that is required to get back on the job. For others it will need to be a totally new direction. However my feeling is that for most people it will be simply a huge boost of encouragement that is needed.

The church is often lacking in its care of its teachers and leaders. Leaving a person to do a task without support is devastating. Making statements about the work being ineffective or useless does great damage to those who faithfully plod on.

If only we could make a priority in our churches to encourage one another I believe that we would see a big difference in the effectiveness of the church. New energy and new directions would emerge and this could be most exciting. I would love to see a 'Year of Encouragement' declared by all of our churches for 1989.





## Progress for Kyneton

Kyneton, Vic., leaders are seeking to shape bold plans for the future of their church in a town which is showing continuing growth. With the expansion of Melbourne's northern and western suburban areas, residence in Kyneton is becoming more attractive. Train services are carrying increasing numbers of commuters to Melbourne.

Pictured are Betty Heinz, Nell Harber and Ern Harridge who are part of the leadership team



currently discussing forward planning for 1989.

Gisborne church and minister, Ray Smith, have been assisting during this year with pastoral care and preaching.

Don Smith, Executive Director of the Department of Mission, Education and Development, met with the leaders on July 24 to discuss major developmental issues. The Board is currently formulating a growth plan for 1989 and beyond.

## Eidsvold changes hands

On August 5 the Queensland Department of Family Services issued the licence to operate the Group Home Program for Aboriginal Children at Eidsvold to the Churches of Christ in Queensland Social Service Department. This facility had formerly been operated by the Federal Aborigines Board from Perth in Western Australia.

Robert and Jocelyn Clancy, who have been serving as houseparents on a 'tent maker' basis, have now accepted full-time employment in the Department as the houseparents of this program.

The Department will also operate a General Supported Accommodation Assistance Program at Eidsvold, provide two self-contained units for elderly Aborigines and develop a welfare program. The new welfare emphasis will be called the Eidsvold Community Services Centre.

The first task related to the Children's Home is to return it to a standard acceptable to the Queensland State Department of Family Services. Work on this has already commenced. The Social

Service Department will work in close co-operation with the Queensland Aboriginal and Islanders Board to support the redevelopment of the church at Eidsvold and to support the church's emphasis on welfare through clothing and furniture sales and youth programming.

Churches having new or used clothing or furniture to assist in this work should contact either the Social Service Department on (07) 378 0400, or the Queensland Aboriginal and Islanders Board (07) 848 9466. A vehicle is available to pick up suitable materials.

The Eidsvold Children's Home joins five other homes operated by the Department in co-operation with the Department of Family Services.

One of the most unusual programs in which the Bible Society of Australia has an interest is in Honduras where scripture is being distributed from petrol stations. Volunteer young groups are working in 10 gasoline stations in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula.

## GROWING SPIRITUALLY

### Christians on Ice

Slowly I inched my station wagon up the slippery street. I breathed a sigh of relief as I finally neared the corner. Then, unexpectedly, another car turned onto the street headed toward me. There was no room for us to get around each other.

"Back up, lady," the man yelled out his window.

"I can't," I hollered back.

He shook his fist at me and pointed toward a snow-covered empty parking space about 15 feet behind me.

"Why should I back up and risk getting stuck?" I grumbled. What ever happened to male chivalry! Wishing I had taken a course in assertiveness, I finally gave in, angry with myself for letting him bully me.

Several hours later I faced a similar situation. This time I refused to give in. Instead, I put my car in park, turned off the engine and went and got my child from kindergarten—all the while the man in the other car glared at me. As I got back into my car I grinned in self-satisfaction as a policeman directing traffic made the man back all the way down the hill. I had won for a change!

Upon later reflection, however, I didn't feel good about myself or my witness to others. I was certain that Jesus would not have responded in the ways I had. He taught and lived by concepts that are still revolutionary—loving your enemies, doing good to others, praying for those who hurt you, turning the other cheek, giving to those who demand things of you (even going that extra mile), treating others as you want them to treat you.

I wondered what would happen if I were to decide to do what Jesus would do when I am behind the wheel on wintry roads. Could I—can you—be a Christian on ice?

—Marlene Bagnall

Reprinted from "The Disciple" which is the journal of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) USA.

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## New Chairman for Christian Projects

The Christian Projects trustees, at their meeting last week, invited Bob Smith, Director of the New South Wales churches' Department of Development and Education, to become Chairman. For personal reasons Ian Henry resigned as Chairman but continues as a trustee and will be involved closely with the operations of the new companies as reported in "The Australian Christian", August 6.

The trustees passed a resolution recording their appreciation of Ian's work during his two years as Chairman. The change will increase the influence of New South Wales on CP growth, the administration of which, to date, has been centred in Victoria.

The aims of Christian Projects remain as follows:

- To rebuild the profile of Australian Churches of Christ by:
  - building leadership and supporting achievers;
  - funding local church initiatives;
  - supporting specific pastoral care plans for local churches;
  - achieving funding and distribution targets.

—S.M. Gilmour

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## Ministry appointments at Manning Valley

With continuous growth taking place at the Manning Valley, NSW, church, and with a desire to minister more effectively in the community, the church has appointed Noela Mobbs to the position of Family Care Counsellor. In this role Noela will be responsible for developing a support system for single parent families, as well as assisting single people in their integration into church life.

The church has been developing a ministry in assisting people to budget. Noela will take responsibility for this ministry as well as developing a budgeting support group. In this area she will work in close association with the Greater Taree City Council Voluntary Financial Information Service.

She will also be responsible for developing family life in the Department of Housing area through friendship sharing in homes, use of videos and personal counselling. She will follow up contacts made through the church office, welfare shop and people contacted through church services and other related activities. Fringe families will be linked with active church families as a means of integration into church life.

As needs arise she will also be responsible for training others to minister with her.

Noela comes to this task with a background in nursing, having trained in General Nursing, midwifery and mothercraft. She graduated from Woolwich Bible College in 1964 and served with



**Noela Mobbs**

the Overseas Mission Board in Papua New Guinea from 1965 to 1973. From 1975 to 1985 she worked as a community nurse in the Taree area. Her training in this field will be used in her new sphere of ministry.

In February 1989 Ross Norling, currently ministering with the Federal Aborigines Board at Marble Bar, will also join the ministry team, taking particular responsibility in the area of evangelism. Barry Rice, as senior minister, will continue with the responsibilities of administration, preaching and pastoral ministry.

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## Lifeline

### Australian National Lifeline

25 years of service to the Australian community is being celebrated this year by Lifeline, Australia's own—now International—telephone counselling service.

It's quite significant that Lifeline should have used the phrase "when you need a friend to talk to" as one line of an advertising jingle last year, for this highlights one of the incidents which led to the founding of Lifeline.

Amongst the many calls which came to Rev Alan Walker as Superintendent of the Methodist Central Mission, Sydney, was a caller who said: "This is Roy speaking. I have just written you a letter which you will receive on Monday. By that time I will be dead. I am sorry to worry you but there is no-one who cares what happens to me and I would like to explain something to someone."

The perception that no-one cares is one which is common in our society now as it was in the early 1960s. Yet, as Alan Walker was aware, there are many who care. But how could they be available?

So the idea of a 24 hour-a-day caring service was born. It was to be as available as possible, hence the telephone was chosen to be the primary access to this caring service. Thus Lifeline was born and commenced operations on March 16, 1963.

It quickly began to grow. It spread both in Australia and in countries beyond so that in 1966 the first International Lifeline Convention was held. These International Conventions have been held about every three years since then. The most recent was held in Auckland, New Zealand in November of last year. Representatives from over 200 Lifeline centres in 10 countries were there to celebrate, to learn and to gain new vision for their task.

In Australia Lifeline had spread from the first centre in Sydney to

36 operating centres now, with a further centre in the process of being formed. The newest centre, to be called Lifeline Mid Coast, will be based at Port Macquarie, NSW, and will serve the 065 telephone district.

Lifeline began within a Methodist Mission, as a Christian service and has incorporated both into its constitution and its practice the idea of counselling according to Christian insights. It has never been a denominational service. It seeks to be a Christian service, gaining the involvement of Christians from many backgrounds.

Lifeline began with the concept that lay people could be trained to be effective carers in crisis situations. It was not to be an exclusive service for only those with particular academic qualifications or clinical experience. Rather it followed the biblical concept that all people can be involved in caring for, and being part of the healing process for, others. The 'front line' workers of Lifeline, the telephone counsellors, are all volunteers, coming from many different educational and sociological backgrounds.

People from Churches of Christ have been involved in Lifeline both as volunteers (counsellors and board members) and on the staff. Mal Leask and Bruce Burn, both Churches of Christ ministers, served as directors of Lifeline centres. Amongst those currently on staff are Bert Storay and Mauri Hodgson.

At its National Convention in Melbourne in August, under the theme "Windows and Mirrors", Lifeline is using this year to reflect on its past and to look forward with vision to the task to which God will be calling it. The loneliness, despair, alienation and spiritual malaise that led to Lifeline's formation in 1963 are more present in the late 1980s and indications are that the need for Lifeline will continue to grow.

## SA Conference welcomes a new church

On May 7, at South Australia's Churches of Christ Conference, The People's Church, Port Lincoln, was welcomed into Conference. This is an unprecedented step for SA, but one which has been a vision for some 47 years, since work was commenced by Churches of Christ to evangelise Aboriginal people.

The Federal Aborigines Mission Board commenced work in Port Lincoln in 1979 after periodic visits by members of the SA

Committee.

Mark McKenzie was the first pastor when the work was wholly subsidised by the Federal Board. His ministry was followed by that of Keith and Sylvia Thompson.

Since 1986 the Church has continued to grow under the ministry of Max and Naomi Wright, where, with their three daughters, Elizabeth, Rachel and Rebecca, they have seen responsible membership with a desire to share the good news.

## Sunday at Seven

The 7pm service on August 14 at Launceston, Tas., took a different format when soup and sandwiches were served in the school hall which was warmed by a blazing log fire. The young people had set up small tables, lit by candles, and the meal was enjoyed by more than 100, many of whom were participants in 'Mission Tasmania' studies. Leaders of the groups reported on reactions and what had been learned

from the study booklet "So you want to say something".

Following a session of singing and Gordon Stirling's talk on 'The Cry of a Child in the Night', all shared in the agape meal, led into by a group of New Gene reading the institutional passages of scripture. There was a very positive response to this innovative service.

—P. Harrison

A campaign against fast food outlets has begun in West Germany over the issue of using beef raised in 'two-thirds' world countries to pay for foreign debt. Opponents of fast food restaurants say poor countries are clearing valuable forest and underfeeding their people in order to raise beef cattle

for export because they need the foreign exchange. One Protestant church has donated to an anti-fast food fighting fund. In response, the holders of 160 of the franchises for McDonald's have urged their employees to withhold church contributions.



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## Summer is coming . . So is summer camping!



The annual Victorian/Tasmanian Department of Mission, Education and Development's summer camping brochures are out in the churches and bookings have already started to roll in. The Department's summer camps are extremely popular, moderate cost, Christian summer holidays in delightful locations. They fill rapidly.

The 1988/1989 summer season has four family camps planned. One at Halls Gap in the beautiful Grampian mountains and three caravan and tenting camps on the banks of Lake Victoria at our Banksia campsite. Canoeing, sailing, swimming and walking are some of the planned activities, along with studies and the fellowship of other

Christians.

A single parent family camp is scheduled for Halls Gap, at which singles without children are also welcome. A camp for girls in grades five and six and year seven will also be held at Camp Waterman, Monbulk.

Registration forms are available from the Dept of Mission, Education & Development, 52 LaTrobe St, Melbourne 3000. Inquiries can be made to Anne Spoelder on (03) 662 2377.

—Brian White



## WA Women's Convention

A great time was experienced by 94 ladies from many different churches in WA as they joined together at Lake Cooloongup on 12-14 August. The weekend began with a time of getting to know each other, led by Karen Wilson. Karen also played the piano, and Lyn Colvin the saxophone, to assist Pam Timms as she led the singing.

Ladies were challenged and encouraged with studies from Daniel by Elsie Taylor, on how to remain true and faithful to God in times of pressure and persecution. Thought-provoking and helpful electives were presented on Marriage Enrichment, Communicating with the Community, Communicating with Teenagers and Victory in Conflict.

Helen Norling, missionary from Marble Bar, shared from her experiences, on how God can work in the lives of those who are prepared to follow him. A time of worship around the Lord's Table was held before breakfast on Sunday, led by Lyn Sara.

Camp Concert provided a light-hearted time with much impromptu entertainment compered by Val Sprigg. Tasty meals were prepared by Ruth Bergsma and her helpers.

Joining with the women was Pat Kerr from Canberra and, as President, she brought a greeting from ACWF. Thanks to Betty Fabry, Camp Director, and committee members, for organising the weekend.

—E. Taylor

## Sitting for 40 hours

Sitting down on the job seems a strange way to raise money, but that is exactly what the Cheltenham, Vic, Church of Christ Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF) will be doing this month. From 8pm on September 16 to 12 noon on the following Sunday, the CYF will sit for 40 hours on a professionally erected scaffolding at the front of the church. Two people at a time will take one-hour shifts.

Each person is seeking sponsorship per hour for the whole 40 hours, or a donation. Funds will also be raised by an accompanying cake stall (Saturday morning),

car wash (Saturday afternoon) and collection from passing motorists. The CYF is hoping to raise \$1,000 which will go to World Vision for their Cribs Project, a program caring for abandoned babies in the Philippines.

The event will commence with an opening ceremony which will be attended by several dignitaries. The closing ceremony will incorporate one of the morning congregations.

For more details, or to give support, call Mary Dewberry on (03) 551 1839.

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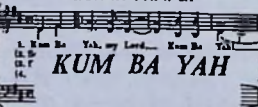
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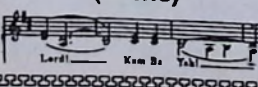


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**P. Bradley**



**R. Foster**

young ministers with the opportunity to learn about leadership and church growth from men who are currently leading some of the largest and most successful Churches of Christ in Australia.



**R. Oakes**



**J. Gilmore**

Leadership 2000 will happen midway through next year with a group of ministers travelling to Singapore for a week of training



**Kevin Simington**

under the supervision of Barry McMurtrie (Wollongong), Ted Keating (Nunawading), Ron Elbourne (Glen Waverley), Jay Back (Northside Community), Graham Agnew (Marion), Graham Carslake (Warwick), John Bond (Thornlie), Noel Newton (Southport), Bruce Armstrong



**D. Selp**



**R. Hough**



**G. Payne**



**L. Mayes**

(Toowoomba) and Geoff Rowcroft (Berwick). These men have been meeting on an annual basis over recent years and it was during their three-day conference in February that Leadership 2000 was born.



**R. Risson**

Christian Projects responded enthusiastically to the concept and have made available a grant of \$20,000 which will pay for the air fares and accommodation of those chosen to attend. The senior ministers are being sponsored by their churches.



**S. Fahey**



**T. Peddler**

The list of those invited to attend is by no means exhaustive. However, those selected have demonstrated, in their work as ministers, a strong desire to see Christ's church grow and people won for him.

## Rodeo Cowboy Ministries

Rodeo Cowboy Ministries is based in Tenterfield, close to the NSW/Qld border, a rural area and central to a lot of rodeos. Tim Kelly is its founder.

In 1979 Tim attended the Calgary Stampede in Canada, the biggest rodeo in the world. There he won the world Junior Saddle Bronc title. The following year he was runner-up. This was when he met a cowboy preacher who shared with him and gave him a Bible. It was two years later before he finally committed his life to Christ.

From that time he had an urgency to share the new life he had found in Christ with other cowboys. When he attends a rodeo he often competes, as well as working on a one-to-one basis with people. If the rodeo is on Sunday he and his wife, Lesley, will hold cowboy church.

His ministry is dedicated to working within, and alongside, the local churches. In Normanston he worked with the Church of Christ. There was a great response from the Aborigines. Tim



**Tim Kelly**

says that there have been many lives changed in the rodeo circuit. One man was on the verge of suicide and is now living a Christian life.

Tim sees his ministry as a missionary work—getting alongside people and speaking their language. Individuals or congregations who are interested in Tim's ministry can contact him by writing to Rodeo Cowboy Ministries, PO Box 295, Tenterfield 2372.

They include: Phil Bradley (Bull Creek), Steve Fahey (Withcott), Rod Foster (Albury), John Gilmore (Aldgate Valley), Robert Hough (Portland), Lindsay Mayes (Swan Hill), Richard Oakes (Tweed Heads), Geoff Payne (Prospect), Trevor Pedler (Roma), Ross Pelling (Pendle Hill), David Ratten (Mildura), Roger Risson (York St, Ballarat), Darryl Selp (Murwillumbah), Kevin Simington (Engadine).



**D. Ratten**

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



The Letters to the Editor limit is 200 words.

## COMPUTERS

To the Editor,

A mate of mine (a Uniting Church elder) rang last night to chat about computers. He tells me that the Uniting Church has had a committee looking into the subject. That committee has now recommended that when Uniting Churches purchase a computer they should get an IBM compatible AT.

The idea is that eventually all these computers will link up via a telephone line.

Could the "AC" please publish an article outlining the Uniting Church Committee's complete recommendations and their reasoning?

Thanking you in anticipation,  
—Malcolm Gray  
(Upwey, Vic.)

## ACC AND RELIGION

To the Editor,

Re 'ACC overlooks religion' ("AC" August 6). No. The Australian Council of Churches has not forgotten religion.

Had Laurie Cusack read my reports of the ACC meeting ("AC" July 9) he would not have made such a mistaken assertion.

"Mission and Evangelism—An Ecumenical Affirmation" was the theme of the meeting. Through the address and Bible study of Jim Wallis, and in a day-long consultation, more than one-quarter of the meeting was given directly to looking at that theme. To this we must add four hours of worship.

Contrast this to a portion of one session, on the last day, given to the issues Laurie Cusack mentioned.

It is sad that so many people are eager to attack the Australian Council of Churches without first being adequately informed.

There is enough opposition to the work of the Christian church from the secular world without it being added to by fellow Christians. Those who seek to affirm Christian values in Australia would be better occupied praying

for the work of ACC and its officers.

—Trevor Banks  
Chairman, Department of  
Christian Union

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS

To the Editor,

I am writing in response to a letter by N.G. Aubrey ("A.C." March 5) in which there appears to be some misunderstanding of the nature, purpose and standards of the Doctor of Ministry degree.

The D.Min. is a professional degree program in ministry which requires the Master of Divinity or the equivalent for admission. The curriculum integrates academics and praxis. Accrediting agencies, such as the Association of Theological Schools, set and maintain minimum standards for the degree. Thus, D.Min. programs are approved or disapproved just as the Ph.D.; however, the validity of any degree depends on the quality and integrity of the granting institution.

Invidious comparison of the D.Min. and the Ph.D. is not helpful, for the two degrees have different purposes. However, the integrated approach does not invalidate the academic element in the D.Min. There is considerable variety in types of programs, and applicants should assess each institution and program carefully for various purposes.

Admittedly many people do not distinguish one doctorate from another, as is true of medical degrees, and we need to do a better job of informing them of the differences. Mr Aubrey's letter contributes by raising the issue.

—Gerald Harris, Ph.D.

(Director of D.Min. Program—  
Lexington Theological Seminary  
Lexington, Kentucky, USA)

## ACC OVERLOOKS RELIGION

To the Editor,

"Has the Australian Council of Churches forgotten about religion?" asks Laurie Cusack ("A.C." August 6).

Not at all. A large part of its recent General Meeting was de-

voted to the theme "Mission and Evangelism: An Ecumenical Opportunity". Special guest Jim Wallis, a prominent US evangelical, spoke about empowering the Christian conscience. An ACC consultation that he led drew a capacity crowd. Holistic evangelism was just one of the issues it tackled.

However don't expect your Council of Churches to be singlehandedly the 'Mr Fixit' of Australia's crisis of faith. It can provide a forum. It can encourage and cajole. It can help the member churches help each other.

But the fundamental question we face has to do with the revival of our congregations as credible witnesses to the Gospel.

That ball is in all our courts, not just the ACC's.

—Mark Seton  
(Information Officer,  
Australian Council of  
Churches)

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# LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

## WHAT IF?

To the Editor,

I'm a bit of a 'what if?' character... always wondering what would have happened if decisions had been made the other way.

My latest 'what if?' had to do with the Israelites at the Red Sea. What if they hadn't believed Moses and decided to go back into slavery as the lesser of two evils.

You can imagine them putting their toes in the water and saying, "It's too cold anyhow." And when Moses waved his stick and the winds blew like fury from the north and the water went back, you can imagine them saying, "Come on MOSES, what if the wind drops? how do we know the water won't come back when we're half way across?"

But fortunately there were the 'give it a go' types who said, "Come on guys, let's go. We've got nothing to lose!"

I'm glad there are people like that in the world... and the church. As a 'what if?' person I'm inclined to be a bit timid and a bit short on faith. But there are always the ones who will give it a go and get the rest of us moving.

Otherwise we'd be stuck in slavery!

—TERTIUS



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The Bible Society in Australia has been playing an active role this year in a National Literacy Program in Peru where 2 million scripture selections have been distributed in the program, subsidised by Bible Society's

supporters here in Australia. In Peru's population of 20,300,000 there are still almost 3 million who are illiterate. The selections supplied are in a translation level designed especially for new readers.

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## BOOKS

### THE GREAT NEWS THE NEW TESTAMENT NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

The International Bible Mission Ltd. recently supplied us with a sample copy of the New International Version of the New Testament. This particular print run, printed in Australia, has been produced to supply those working with children and youth a cheap version of the Bible to help them find faith in Jesus Christ. The New Testament is illustrated by Alan Herling. There are no notes in this publication, just the straight text. The paper quality is not great but is serviceable and the print size and style is adequate for its intended market of youth, older people with sight difficulties would find the text cramped and small thus making it difficult to read. This version is available only in cartons of 50 and the cost of a carton (\$15) covers freight. All the International Bible Mission asks of those who wish to take up this generous offer is that you supply them with some details of your ministry with youth and children when placing an order.

They also supplied a copy of the Gospel of John in the N.I.V. which has been produced on newsprint and is in a magazine format similar in size to "The Australian Christian". This is available at a cost of \$20 per carton of 200 copies, which again includes freight.

Gerald Hanscamp, now the Australian Director of the International Bible Mission, advised us that a complete Bible in the NIV is also available. Details of costing would be available from the address below. He also supplied us with a booklet "Questions & Answers about the New International Version" which is available on a complimentary basis.

The International Bible Mission Ltd. can be contacted at 1 Iona Court, (P.O. Box 222), Frankston 3199.

### ALL THE BUSINESS OF LIFE Bringing Theology Down-to-Earth

by Robert Banks (Albatross Books) \$11.95

If we are to be truly 'salty', what happens in the pews of our churches each Sunday has less to do with Christ-like Christianity than what happens 'out there' during the other six days.

Dr Robert Banks is an author, theologian, speaker and Fellow of Canberra's Zadok Institute. His writing relates to 'making faith complete in everyday life' and includes publications relating to the home church, the stewardship of time and the ethics of public service decision-making.

This book is subtitled *Bringing Theology Down-to-Earth* and further develops the theme of integrating our faith into everyday life. To most lay Christians theology is a rather threatening word, however Banks defines it as '... any endeavour on the part of Christians to think through and set in order their beliefs with the intention of drawing closer to God and reflecting more of His character in their lives'.

He then encourages his readers to develop a Christian perspective of their lifestyle (work, leisure, chores, family life, use of time, social values) based on the understanding so developed. The book concludes with appendices relating to the development of lay theology and education since 1945 and the resources and agencies available to those interested in lay education.

This is a thoughtful, very readable book, by an author who has the ability to present significant truths in a way which is relevant to individual Christians and their role in Australian society.

—Graeme Addicott

### ANGER:

#### What to do about it

by Richard P. Walters (Inter-Varsity Press) \$5.30.

As Richard Walters explains in his preface: "This is an overview of anger for the Christian lay person. I have attempted to explain what anger is, where it comes from, and what to do with it. My hope is, first, for everything stated here to be consistent with the Bible, and second, for it to be useful in your life."

We are increasingly seeing the effects of allowing anger to be expressed in its most violent form in society. We are also seeing the effects of the suppression of anger and the hurt that this can bring to the individual. Especially in the church this is a taboo subject. Yet it occurs in the best of Christians. This book attempts to explain anger and how to deal with it. He covers not only anger in the individual but in the family and in the church and offers some very practical suggestions on how to deal with our anger.

— C.R.A.

### BRINGING UP CHILDREN IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

by John H. Westerhoff III (Winston Press) \$5.30.

This book was first published in 1980. John Westerhoff is a recognised expert in the field of Christian Education in the U.S.A. However this is not a book that examines the theory of bringing up children in the Christian faith. Rather this book contains his reflections on the struggles involved in being a faithful Christian parent. As he says at the end of the first chapter: "It provides no sure answers or easy advice; it is rather a testimony to the faith we share in the grace of God — grace needed by us and by our children."

However it is not just a book of personal reflections but it does have many practical suggestions about the ways of sharing faith with your children. John Westerhoff III also includes biblical references and some thoughtful material that reflects on the whole issue of sharing faith with children.

— C.R.A.

### STARTING OUT

by Anne Lees and John Lane (Scripture Union) \$2.50.

This is an attractive 34 page booklet designed to help children in the 7+ age group become followers of Jesus Christ. Illustrated by Cindy Bower, this booklet is a very simple explanation of how to become a Christian and what the Bible teaches about living as a Christian. This book would be ideally suited to anyone involved in a ministry with children in primary school from the age of seven up.

The use of language is very good, the illustrations are excellent and blend well with the text and the material is in such a format that it would not tax the understanding of the children it is aimed at and yet it would encourage them to think about faith in Jesus Christ.

— C.R.A.



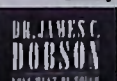


"What d'ya mean Mum—God made the crow as well as the nightingale??"

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## Music Course

—Lyall Muller



**Shirley and Richard Pearce**

The music course run from July 26 to August 4 at Nduindul, West Ambae was a first for Vanuatu. It was a great success and seen by the people as the most significant activity organised by the Churches of Christ Department of Church Development in the 18 months since its inception.

The organiser was Shem Tema, field worker for Youth and Christian Education, recently returned from six months studying at Kenmore Christian

College. Richard and Shirley Pearce travelled from Queensland to act as teachers. Their style, country and western, is a favourite in Vanuatu.

105 participants from the islands of Ambae, Pentecost, Santo, Tutuba, Maewo and Mavea attended the course, which covered basic music theory, guitar chords, the use of electrical equipment and writing music. Sixteen new songs were written. One, "Sir Olliver's

Song", was presented on the final night which was attended by between 600 and 800 people.

Over 400 were in attendance at each of the other four nights of the course. The music ministry is very important in Vanuatu, significant for both worship and outreach.

Richard and Shirley were a

great encouragement to the missionaries on West Ambae, including those serving with the Apostolic and CMA missions. They were also able to share their talents, in a half-hour program, with the people of the Nduindui area who gathered to celebrate Independence Day.



**Some of the young men at the course**

## Ask first

It is very important to make inquiries before sending money overseas. There are very many good and worthwhile causes to which you may wish all confidence give part of the money God has entrusted to you. There are, however, unscrupulous people who make a habit of writing good stories to people overseas to solicit funds.

In the areas in which Australian Churches of Christ have been involved through the Overseas Mission Board we are able

to make inquiries and validate the authenticity of requests for funds. We would encourage you to contact us first before sending any money in response to requests. Write to Mr Jeff May, PO Box 320, Unley, SA 5061.

*Send any questions about church life, Christian living, the Bible to "The Australian Christian" to be answered in coming issues.*

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## Are our missionaries safe?

We regularly read in our Australian newspapers of the political ups and downs of other countries. At the Overseas Mission Board office we get many inquiries as to the safety of our missionaries. This happens when there is a national disaster or a political uprising. Reports of physical violence against expatriates also raise people's concern.

The recent political happenings in Vanuatu, the reported upsurge of violence in Papua New Guinea and stories of health problems in India have raised people's concerns. In some cases what is reported here in Australia may be a small incident that has been somewhat exaggerated for the sake of news. But at other times the real story isn't told.

We try, as much as possible, to make sure our missionaries are safe. In PNG at the moment it is necessary to erect a barbed-wire

enclosure around the mission property in Madang. In the interim, a guard with a dog has had to be employed.

We would encourage your prayer and pastoral concern for our missionary personnel in whatever country they serve. Your regular caring for them in this way is one means of helping to ensure the continued safety of our missionary personnel.

—J. May

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The Soviet government has given permission for Open Doors with Brother Andrew to import 1,000,000 New Testaments into the Soviet Union. It will cost several million dollars to supply the scriptures.

Western Australian churches are invited to attend a 'New Campus Dinner' on October 7, 7pm, at Danny's Restaurant, Balcatta. The Principal of the College of the Bible, Bill Tabbernee, will be the guest speaker on the evening.

Bus tours of the Sydney City Mission centres are held monthly for those interested in finding out more about the work of the Mission. The tours, from 9am to 5.30pm, cover inner city and Green Valley centres. Future tours will be on October 26, November 4 and December 13. Lunch is provided. Bookings should be made with Alicia Watson on (02) 212 6277.

The Jewish Museum of Australia is planning an exhibition of children's art from September 7 to October 16. The venue will be the Jewish Museum of Australia, cnr Arnold St and Toorak Rd, South Yarra, Victoria. Phone (03) 266 1922.

The Sydney City Mission has a panel of trained public speakers available to speak at community and service clubs, churches, schools and colleges. They can speak about aspects of the Mission's work including family welfare, employment training, youth services, care of the homeless and aged, street patrols and telephone counselling. To arrange a speaker contact Margaret Moore on (02) 212 6277.

On October 17 the Sydney City Mission will open Radio House at Beacon Hill, at a cost of \$500,000, to house homeless and abused teenagers, thanks to the combined efforts of all

Sydney commercial radio stations who staged a unique Radiothon in March 1988. Over \$100,000 is still required. One way that more money will be raised is by the sale of the LP record "Turn Your Scars Into Stars" sung by Karen Bockett. The record is available for \$17 per copy (includes postage) from Light Music Australia, Box KKK, Manly 2095, or phone (02) 905 0017.

The new chapel at the Rivervale, WA, Church of Christ will be officially opened on October 30 at 3.00 pm.

Pastor Wilson Bebe, President of the Vanuatu Conference of Churches of Christ, visited Tanna Island recently and took 3 film shows with a total attendance of 1,200. A service and 3 marriages were performed at Leneal village.

More than 6,000 Spanish-speaking Christian leaders from 46 different countries, met in Anaheim, California, in late July to attend Los Angeles '88, the largest-ever congress for the evangelisation of Hispanics. Jointly organised by the Billy Graham and Alberto Motesi Evangelistic Associations, Los Angeles '88 was the culmination of a series of some 30 post-Amsterdam '86 conferences held throughout Latin America. A total of 6,316 Hispanics from around the world registered. Delegates came from every country in Latin America (including Nicaragua and Cuba), Africa and various European countries.

Ringwood, Vic., church is holding an Asian Australian tea on September 5, 6.30pm at 13 Bedford Road, Ringwood. Phone (03) 870 8169.

Members of Gympie Baptist Church in Sydney recently proved that consumer pressure can have a positive result. Dino's

Pizza agreed to take off air a television commercial, featuring a family playing a ouija board, after they received a petition from the church.

The Australian Baptist Missionary Society has announced, with praise to God, that the Bangladesh Government has granted extensions to 7 senior missionaries who had been ordered to leave the country by July 31.

The Baptist Union Council meeting in Britain in March agreed with the Baptist Union of Scotland that Freemasonry is incompatible with the Christian faith. The 11-page Scottish report looked at the history of Freemasonry and some of its beliefs, particularly their view of God, the Bible, salvation and immortality. It concluded that 'there is a great danger that the Christian who is a Freemason may find himself compromising his Christian beliefs and his allegiance to Jesus Christ, perhaps without realising what he is doing.'

The Vatican has sent two people to work as part of the staff preparing the World Council of Churches' World Convocation on Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC) in 1990.

Church leaders in Jamaica have demanded that participants in the upcoming national elections take steps to curb violence associated with the campaign. They are trying to avoid a repeat of 1980, when an estimated 800 died in connection with the elections.

The Canadian Inter-Church Committee on Refugees, with the support of the Canadian Council of Churches, has gone to court to try to have 2 new Canadian refugee laws declared unconstitutional before they take effect next January. Legal costs are

expected to be about \$300,000 Canadian. The church representatives say the laws, which make it harder for refugees to be accepted in Canada, violate its Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Philippine President Corason Aquino has issued a proclamation declaring the first week in June of every year to be National Gospel Broadcasting Week. She cited her reasons for the action as being in keeping with the constitution "that the Government shall aid and encourage the development of the moral character and personal discipline of the people. Gospel broadcasting has been recognised as an excellent instrument to promote love of God and country."

A seminar entitled "Violence in the Electronic Media" will be held on October 1 from 9.30am to 1pm. The venue is St Stephen's Anglican Church, High Street Road, Mt Waverley, in Victoria. The seminar is sponsored by the Social Questions Committee of the VCC and St Stephen's Anglican Parish. For information phone Louis van Laar (03) 662 1411.

During Adrian van Leen's visit to Victoria he will be speaking at a number of meetings including the following: September 4, 10am Box Hill Church of Christ, 7pm Burwood Church of Christ and September 7, 7.30pm College of the Bible. For further information contact Adrian, Director of Concerned Christian Growth Ministries, on (03) 359 0636.

Christianity in China is growing at twice the rate of the general population, according to Bishop K.H. Ting, chairman of the China Christian Council (CCC) and the first bishop from mainland China to attend the Lambeth Con-

ference since the revolution. At that time, he said, there were 700,000 Protestant Christians in China. Today there are at least 4 million, worshipping in 4,000 church buildings which have opened since the fall of the Gang of Four, with thousands of small groups meeting in homes.

Right to Life Australia's convention will be held at Xavier College, Kew, Melbourne, September 10-11. The guest speaker will be Dr William Colliton, professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at George Washington University, USA. Phone (03) 387 7098 for more information.

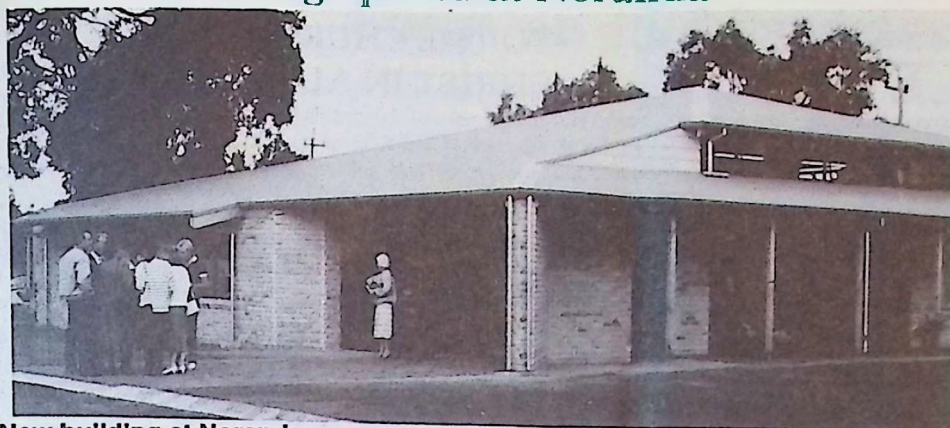
The Australian Council of Churches has launched an urgent appeal in response to Sudan's flood disaster which has left almost 2,000,000 homeless. "Families are stranded on heaps of rubble that used to be their homes. There is an immediate danger of epidemics of intestinal diseases and malaria. The damage is so great that a huge rehabilitation program will be needed," said Rev Peter Holden, National Director of the ACC's Commission for World Christian Action.

The group campaigning for National Action Against War Toys is supporting the International Day Against War Toys on September 7. For information contact (03) 459 2697.

A seminar, 'Interpreting Creation in the Bible', with Professor Frank Anderson, a leading evangelical Old Testament scholar, will be conducted October 14-15 at Ridley College, Parkville, Melbourne. It is sponsored jointly by AFES Graduates' Fellowship and Ridley College. Inquiries to Ian Hore-Lacy (03) 20 4031 or Jillian Quartet (03) 898 5493. Suggested donation \$5.



## Church building opened at Noranda



New building at Noranda

The afternoon of June 18 was a time of rejoicing and praise for the members of the Church of Christ, Noranda, WA, when Stage One of their new building was officially opened by Ken Patterson.

The Noranda fellowship had been meeting in the Noranda Primary School since December 1983 and has grown to the stage now where the classroom was too small. Initial building approval was obtained from Home Missions two years ago and earthworks commenced in October 1987.

Minister Ken Laffer led the dedication service before 210 people crowded into the worship area. Ken Patterson, past Home

Missions secretary and prime mover behind the Noranda project, gave a brief history of the steps leading up to the establishment of the church and building at Noranda. He officially opened the building and unveiled a plaque to formally mark the occasion. A buffet meal after the service was enjoyed by all.

The building was designed by Graeme Povey and built by Bill Pitt at a cost of \$180,000. It has a seating capacity in the worship area of 150.

The fellowship at Noranda are most appreciative of the assistance and encouragement given by Home Missions and the brotherhood towards the work.

—A.L. Haines

Nicaragua's Catholic bishops criticised the Sandinista Government in a strong statement, attacking the country's economic and social ills. The statement says the people are becoming disillusioned with political leaders, poverty, simplistic and materialistic education, disintegration of families, corruption and continuation of the war. The bishops called on the international community to co-operate in pushing for democracy and peace in Nicaragua and urged the Sandinista Government to resume dialogue with the Contras.

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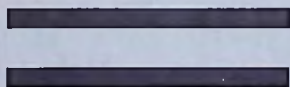
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## Focus on Edwardstown

Situated in a well-established area 8km south of the centre of Adelaide, the Edwardstown church was commenced in July 1940. When the church began a group of ladies formed the Sunshine Circle, which has continued meeting ever since. Two foundation members, Phoebe Trigg and Thora Truman still attend the Circle 48 years later.

The church has a pastoral network, a team of 20 who are allocated a number of people to visit monthly and pray for frequently, sharing with them as needs arise. The Edwardstown area's population includes Housing Trust residents, migrants and a middle/upper class element. Younger families are beginning to move back into the area.

The Junior Church aims to cater for the children, with a two-year program being developed by people at the church. Junior Church takes place during the second half of the morning service, which begins at 10am. It is staffed on a rotational basis and is viewed as more than something for the children to do to fill in the sermon time. The evangelical emphasis means that the children are being given understanding in order to be able to make an intelligent commitment. The response has been encouraging.

Robert Ferguson is the minister. Average attendance at the morning service is 120. The evening service is at 6pm. Recently commenced is a monthly family church, replacing the normal service and held in a home, preferably one with a family room, to accommodate the 40-50 who attend. This is another opportunity to involve the children, youth and those who may find the traditional church environment too formal. The emphasis is on informality and sharing.

Small groups connected with the church involve between 30 and 40. A group for younger women, called Women to Women, is concerned with outreach into the community and, as part of its program, organises social activities.

The Friendship Centre offers daytime recreational activities, for older people. The Junior High youth program provides activities for

the young people. Wendy Jacobs, a Campus Life worker is employed one day a week to work with youth.

One thing you won't find at Edwardstown is a church board. The elders manage the church in a consultative fashion. The Annual General Meeting and half-yearly meetings are seen as information/feedback sessions. When major decisions, such as budgeting, need to be made, the congregation is consulted.

To assist in determining the budget the members were presented with a list of projects and costing for major ministry areas. They were asked to nominate what they wished to support and amounts they would be prepared to pledge for specific projects.

This was a useful indicator of the church's priorities. Outreach/evangelism projects were oversubscribed. The church has been distributing Bibles in the area, with an insert giving details about its programs. People's budget pledges also confirmed the church's commitment to a youth ministry.

Eight years ago a youth shelter program was begun, on a voluntary basis. Don Caudle was, and still is, the chairman of this program. Over the years it has developed in such a way that the State Government has granted \$75,000 to help fund Youth House, a youth shelter which averages five residents. The aim is not only to provide them with a home, but to help them to develop personally, as well as in their faith and to assist them to find employment.

The SA Housing Trust has provided two new two-bedroom houses as accommodation for those ready to move out of Youth House, assisting them to move gradually into an independent lifestyle. Members of the church have been assisting in this program on a voluntary or part-time basis.

Such developments in the church's youth ministry have been exciting. The appointment of Robln Judd, in a full-time paid position to manage the program is a further positive step and the church looks forward to its future involvement in this worthwhile venture.

Poverty in Latin America has increased dramatically since 1980, a recent United Nations conference was told. In 1960 51% lived in poverty, while this had decreased to 35% by 1980. Since then, how-

ever, adverse political and economic conditions pushed more people below the poverty line. In 1985 40% (163 million of Latin America's population of over 400 million) were poor.

## SA Southern Districts Women's Conference

President Maureen Clarke welcomed 73 women to Victor Harbor for Conference on August 18. Her theme: God Gives, was followed in the singalong. A video segment was well-used to show the need to see that the true gift is in the heart, not in practical effort. There was a memorable item sung by the Victor Harbor group: 'People need the Lord'.

The speaker, Lois Marshall of 'Lois with love', had a big display of her exquisite handiwork. She urged us to use our gifts to build others up.

State President Barbara Gear was present and led the induction of officers: R. Jacobs (Pres.), N. Coleman (Vice-Pres.), B. Watts (Sec/Treas.).

News Spots were given by Marj Dredge (Nurture & Ed.),

Aileen Gluyas (Social Welfare) and Eileen Davies (Aborigines Missions). The gift of all the CWF groups' project money—\$588.10—was presented for Aborigines Missions.

The afternoon session was an informal time of showing gifts given and telling of their importance, several represented gifts from God. Incoming President, Rita Jacobs, outlined her theme: "Go ... Tell."

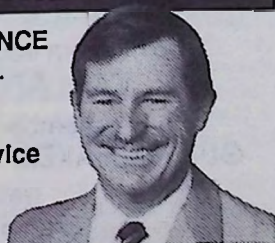
—Brenda Watts

*Send in those questions you've always wanted to ask a minister for our column 'You were asking...???'*

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## RUBY WEDDING

**FOX—SMITH** Heather and Alzor married the 27th November 1948 at Burwood (NSW) Church of Christ. Congratulations and best wishes from John, Brian, Jeanette and family.

## GOLDEN WEDDING

**GORDON—McLEAN** Jeff and Dora gratefully acknowledge the goodness and unfailing care of God over their 50 years of partnership. Married on 20.9.38 at the North Perth Church of Christ by James Gordon, with Allen Brooke and Bob Hillford assisting. "Great is thy faithfulness O Lord unto us." Congratulations from all the family. Present address 5 Kewarra Street, Kenmore, Qld 4069. Phone (07) 378 5309.

## DEATHS

**EDWARDS** Ralph Alfred of Bribie Island, Qld., at Ballarat on August 7th, 1988. Loved husband of Lan, loved father of Allen and Valma, Heather and Jeff (Buhse).

An invitation to the

## DANDENONG Church of Christ's 96th Anniversary on September 11th

Speaker at 10 am service

**Mr Greg Deuble**

Guest singers

**King Jesus V**

Followed by lunch

RSVP if requiring lunch by  
September 3 to

**Vicki Foster**

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Doveton 3177

Past members welcome

Graeme and Yvonne, David and Lyn, and loving Grandpa of Beth and Ian, Tim, Brad, Darrell, Clinton, Christopher, Juanita, Danny and Ruth.

**LOBEGERGER**, Ambrose, aged 82 years, on 4th July at Kingaroy G.H. Dearly loved husband of Isabel, loved father of Helen (Mrs K. Cumming), Reg and Colin. "Asleep in Jesus."

**SHARPE** Leslie. Suddenly. Loved son of Katie and Keith, brother of Glenis, Neil, Lucy and Wendy, brother-in-law of John and Dan, on 18th August, 1988.

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**BOOK WANTED** to purchase, in good condition if possible: "The Gospel Under Canvas" by E.C. Hinrichsen. Please contact H. Pietzsch, phone (03) 718 1386.

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**HOUSEBOAT** "White Heron" 10 berth. Moored at Blanchetown, S.A. Phone (08) 380.5009 or (085) 40.5100 or write P.O. Box 65, St Agnes 5097.

## THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

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June 1988

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## 74th ANNIVERSARY

**11 September, 1988 at 10.30 am  
GUEST SPEAKER;**

**Trevor Giles**

Executive Director

Department of Community Care

**Minister:** Mr Harold Steele

Luncheon in the hall at 12.15 pm

Past members and friends cordially invited

**Secretary:** P. Annear (03) 818 5970

## NEW

from Federal Board of Christian Education

52 LaTrobe St, Melbourne 3000

**Churches of Christ—A Movement Within the Church** by Randall Edwards A study guide to help you celebrate the bicentennial of Alexander Campbell's birth \$3.50

**Your Baptism** by Brian White

Useful as a short study or presentation booklet \$1.50

**Susan and Asnet** A children's project on the church in Vanuatu 95c

**Getting Along** by Brian White

Studies in relationships (marriage, family, singles, communication, conflict) \$3.00



## Further Grant for Homeless Program in Queensland

The Queensland Government, under the Family Emergency Accommodation Program (FEAP), have made a further grant of \$15,624 to the annual 'one off' grant of \$69,825, making a total of \$85,445. These funds will assist the Queensland Social Service Department to meet expenses associated with the Homeless Persons Emergency Accommodation Program.

The Churches of Christ Social Service Department currently

operates 67 houses or flats for this purpose, providing emergency accommodation for families or individuals who find themselves without a home. The Program is worked in close association with the existing care organisations.

Anyone wishing to further assist this Program should contact the Program's Director, Mrs Beryl Wiltshire, PO Box 508, Kenmore 4069. Donations of \$2 or above are tax deductible.

## SLM at the Olympics

The Sports and Leisure Ministry is gearing up for the Seoul Olympics. NTs and SLM leaflets, listing state sports missionaries names and phone numbers, have been distributed to athletes.

Rev Russell Hinds, Qld Sheffield Shield Cricket Chaplain, has been appointed the Australian Olympic Team's Chaplain for the Seoul Olympics. He is one

of the 20 Australian SLM Pro Sports Chaplains and sports missionaries attending the 3rd International Christian Sports Congress in Seoul, from September 7-16, prior to the Olympics.

Also amongst the 20 Australian delegates are Barry Ryall and Bruce Eagles from WA and Paul Cameron, Tim Smith and Ken Bond from NSW.

## Housing Conference

More than 100 attended the second 'Housing and the Church' conference on July 28 conducted by the Victorian Council of Churches. Those present, representing church agencies and parishes, both urban and rural, unanimously endorsed the VCC's housing project and called for greater housing justice.

Rob Carter, Deputy Director of the Ministry of Housing and Construction, spoke of the tremendous need for more affordable accommodation for low income groups.

"The 32,000 households on the Victorian public housing waiting list is only the tip of the iceberg," he said. "More than 100,000 other poor families are eligible but haven't applied and we estimate the present program of deinstitutionalisation could leave as many as 50,000 intellectually and physically disabled people seeking public housing."

Hal Blisset, VCC Housing Policy Officer spoke of the role for the church in housing. He suggested the church should be a housing provider, citing joint ventures with the government under Project Partnership and the newly-formed Habitat for Humanity model as two practical examples.

Eugene Kneebone, a senior manager within the Ministry, reminded the conference in his paper that the church has a long history of housing involvement. "The formation of the original Housing Commission itself was due largely to the influence of early Christian reformers. The Ministry therefore welcomes the opportunities for joint ventures in public housing provided by Project Partnership." He went on to assure church groups that the Ministry was prepared to consider joint housing ventures for young and old people, families, single parents and disabled people.

## MINISTERS' WORKSHOP

### Should the local church get into retirement villages?

The dictum "find a need and fill it" may be the reason that a local church would consider getting involved in a retirement village. It is always possible, in an ageing population, to find aged people who appear to be needing care. But before launching into the development of a village the local church should be aware of some of the barriers that need to be overcome.

There is a need to decide what you want to develop in a retirement village. Is it to be self-care units, an aged care hostel or a nursing home or some combination of these? Whatever the desire there are different sets of issues to be dealt with.

There is the State Retirement Villages Act which, in each state, sets regulations to the way in which a retirement village may be developed and the way in which it must be run. These requirements differ from state to state and have certainly changed in the past two years. Therefore as a first step it will be necessary to get a copy of the Act and its regulations. This Act applies in varying degrees to each of the three levels of care.

If there is a desire to develop either a new aged care hostel or a nursing home then it will be necessary to await the advertisement placed in your local press by the Department of Community Services and Health seeking proposals for specified numbers of beds. In some regions there will be a wait of many years before such an advertisement will appear because that region is already over-supplied. It is sometimes possible to buy an existing nursing home, but hostels are not for sale.

A factor that must be kept in mind is that retirement villages are now very expensive. A 30-bed hostel will cost about \$1.4 million. In the development of self-care units it is now necessary to have the money borrowed, or in hand, to build them.

Each State Conference has a Department which has the responsibility for the development and operation of aged care work and it would be wise to contact them right at the outset before any obligations are undertaken. Bear in mind that one church managed to accumulate debts in excess of \$10 million over retirement village operation.

In some states local churches work in partnership with the Conference Department which has both the management skills and the care expertise to make the retirement village operate successfully. In these cases the local church has an opportunity to minister not only to the aged residents but also to the relatives and the staff. In one such church the retirement village provides the church with a 1,000-person long contact list!

A well-run retirement village can be a great advertisement for a local church, but a poorly-run one can be a millstone around the neck of the local church.

—Dr Donald E. Stewart

Dr Stewart is Executive Director of the Churches of Christ in Queensland Social Services Department.

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



## What happened to last year's students?

—Peter Schulz  
Vanuatu

This is a question I would often ask myself. It is very hard to get any answers as Vanuatu is not the kind of country where you can just pick up a phone and speak to people, so I didn't like my chances of catching up with any of the eight students I taught last year.

My question was finally answered a couple of weeks back when I received a letter from one of my past students. He told me that he had put in tenders to build two houses and he had been given the go-ahead. Nicholas now employs two men to help him with the work.

Of course I was very pleased to hear this. I have since found out that all the boys from last year's class have found employment in Port Vila. They have all found jobs in which they can put their newly-found skills to work. This

was very good news as there is high unemployment in Vanuatu, mainly in Vila.

Form Two leavers last year are also doing many different things. Some have continued on at Londua Training School in either sewing or carpentry. Others have gone back to the villages to put into practice their agricultural training. Three were lucky enough to be placed in Form Three at government schools. Some girls were accepted into a typing course in Vila.

We praise God for the opportunity the students have to train at Londua to improve their lives—both practically and spiritually—as many also commit their lives to Christ.

Thank you for being part of the ministry too.



The class of '87

## AUSTCARE—Working with refugees

National Refugee Week is this month, from September 18-24. AUSTCARE was formed in 1967 by voluntary aid agencies to assist the world's refugees and so represents a united Australian effort to provide development assistance and emergency relief to refugees. Member agencies include Baptist, Catholic, Quaker, Lutheran and Jewish aid groups, the Australian Council of Churches, Save the Children Fund, YMCA and YWCA.

AUSTCARE stands for 'Australians Care for Refugees'. The agency is also the Australian representative for the United Nations High Commissioner for

Refugees in matters of fundraising, public information and education.

Most of the world's 12 million refugees are located in countries considered to be underdeveloped or part of the 'Third World'. Labouring under the strain of domestic problems they try to provide refuge and assistance to those in life-threatening situations. Refugees no longer have the protection of their country. Often they have lost family, friends and everything they have worked for.

AUSTCARE aims to educate Australians concerning the causes of refugee problems and Australia's role in assisting with the

permanent resettlement of refugees. The educational role is most important because of the ignorance and lack of full understanding of the plight of refugees. AUSTCARE's educational program includes brochures, books, films and lectures. These are available for interested groups. Slide kits and films are available for borrowing free of charge. AUSTCARE has offices in each Australian state.

Australians can help support

refugees by making donations, including bequests. The money raised by AUSTCARE is sent to field representatives working with refugees. No money is sent to foreign governments and no government-to-government channels are employed.

The national office of AUSTCARE can be contacted by phoning (02) 212 2188.

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## Alexander Campbell and congregational autonomy

Alexander Campbell's statements on church polity were not uniform. He applied his understandings of scriptural principles and precedents or alternatively his understandings of what was expedient and orderly to the practical situations, issues and needs before him.

I have selected from his writings what I think will be interesting and instructive to us today:

"... a christocracy... is the only liege designation, title, or name, of the present government of the universe; and especially of that of the Christian church." (*Millennial Harbinger*, 1857, p490)

"The true Christian church... is composed of all those in every place that do publicly acknowledge Jesus of Nazareth as the true Messiah... and... associate under the constitution which he himself has granted and authorized in the New Testament, and are walking in his ordinances and commandments—and of none else.

"This institution, called the *congregation of God*, is a community of communities—not a community representative of communities, but a community composed of many particular communities, each of which is built upon the same foundation... and is under the jurisdiction of no other community of Christians, but is to all the other communities as an individual disciple is to every other individual disciple in any one particular community meeting in any given place.

"Still, all these particular congregations of the Lord... though equally independent of one another as to the management of their own peculiar affairs, are, by virtue of one common Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one common salvation, but one... church of God, and, as such, are under obligations to co-operate with one another in all measures promotive of the great ends of Christ's death and resurrection.

"But, in order to this holy communion and co-operation of churches, it is indispensable that they have an intimate and approving knowledge of one another, which can only be had and enjoyed in the form of districts. Thus the 'congregations in Judea' intimately knew one another, and co-operated...

"From the days of the apostles till now co-operative associations of churches have uniformly followed the political distributions of the earth... It is of necessity that we co-operate, but of convenience that the churches in one county, state, or nation, form regular ways and means for co-operation.

"...One hundred churches... acting in concert, meeting together in committees of ways and means for building up Zion... and in devising all practicable ways of doing good—would, in a given period, do more than the same number acting in their individual capacity, without concert, without co-operation, and that united energy, always the effect of intelligent and cordial combination..." (*Christian System*, 1839, pp77-81)

"... as the members of the human body should have the same care one for another... the individual churches in any province, kingdom or state, should have the same care for one another." (*M.H.* 1853, p305)

"...Matters of prudential arrangement for the evangelising of the world, for the better application of our means and resources... are left... open to human wisdom and prudence, and ever to be matters of conventional and covenant agreement. Covenants are as binding on churches as on any other parties entering into them..."

"...Whatever, then, secures the independence and individual responsibility of every particular Christian community, and at the same time leaves open to covenant agreement all matters of co-operation in promoting the common cause of Christianity in the world, fully satisfies my mind as to duty and obligation. Hence the congregational... form of uniting... has always been, more acceptable to my views than any other form of co-operation in Christendom." (*M.H.* 1849, pp270-271)

"The independence of any community in Christ's Kingdom is not an independence of every other community in that kingdom... In what concerns every private community, it is, indeed, independent of, and

irresponsible to any other; but it is both dependent upon, and responsible to, every other community, in all that pertains to the interests, honor and prosperity of all... If the Christian... community be a church of Christians, or a community of communities, then, indeed, not one church can be absolutely independent of every other church belonging to the community or church of Christ." (*M.H.* 1850, pp286-287)

"... a combination... of churches is essential to accomplish some of the great objects of Christian... humanity... If in the affairs of this world, there are legislative, judiciary, and executive departments necessary... why should it be thought... improper for Christians to have their deliberative bodies, their conventions, for the sake of the concentration of their energies in the accomplishment of their duties to themselves and to the world?" (*M.H.* 1850, pp500-501)

I note with interest D.R. Lindley's paragraph in his book on Alexander Campbell, "Apostle of Freedom", Bethany Press, 1957:

"In the light of the emphasis which has been placed upon Campbell as the apostle of Christian union, it is amazing that so little has been said about his emphasis on co-operation. A survey of his voluminous writings reveals that all he had to say upon the subject of union amounts to only a fraction of what he had to say on the subject of the co-operation of churches, including congregational, denominational, and interdenominational co-operation."

It is intriguing to me that many members of Churches of Christ in Australia place so great a store on "congregational autonomy", the actual phrase I cannot recall Campbell using, and so little store on "the co-operation of churches", a phrase Campbell used again and again though at times he expressed bitter opposition to any supralocal church organisation which he saw being used for party political ends.

He deplored arrogant authority wherever found, he trusted the common mind of the faithful as the medium through which the Spirit of love and concord would govern and guide the church of Christ in its particularly local, regional and co-operative expressions.

—K.J. Patterson

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## Federal Conference Focus on Youth

Ever known a church not to be interested in youth? If so, you've probably known a church that's not too concerned about the future. Thank God we don't have many such churches!

Yet somehow, when it comes to Federal Conference, the focus on youth is often blurred, sometimes non-existent.

Well, Federal Conference 1989 in Canberra is going to be different! The whole emphasis will be on the future. Youth—and its interests and concerns—will be right to the fore, from the opening rally, through a National Youth Forum to the Focus on Youth on the Thursday night. There will be an emphasis on youth, too, in the final Future Directions meeting on January 20.

How is all this going to happen?

First, by individual churches throughout Australia encouraging and, if necessary, subsidising young people to come to Conference. Do you have young people on your church board? Do you have youth or young adults involved in church leadership? Then how about making sure they can come to Conference!

Secondly, by State Conference Executives including youth among their voting representatives so they can participate in discussion, debate and decision-making.

Thirdly, through the National Youth Forum (NYF) being organised by the New South Wales Youth Ministry Council at the invitation of the Conference Arrangements Committee and with the endorsement of the Federal Board of Christian Education.

The NYF will be held as a three-day live-in event at the Macquarie Private Hotel in Canberra from January 17-19. Costs are being kept as low as possible—about \$100 including accommodation and meals.

Attendance at the NYF will be by invitation, the intention being to include a wide spectrum of youth from all States and Territories, about 50 in total. Invitations



will be co-ordinated through State and Territory youth or Christian education agencies.

What will happen at the NYF? To a large extent that will depend on those who attend, but initial planning is concentrating on a program of study, worship, discussion and entertainment. All of it will be aiming to:

- affirm young people not just as tomorrow's church, but very much in, of, and essential to, today's church

- provide an opportunity for youth to contribute effectively to the decisions and future directions of our church, nationally and locally

- ensure effective dialogue on the issues of special concern to young people—not only in the NYF, but also in Conference—through participation in major Conference sessions.

At the Focus on Youth on January 19 a range of issues will be presented to Conference in various ways including music and drama, reflecting young people's excitement about their faith and their willingness to contribute to the life and work of the whole church.

Of course, Conference and the NYF will be a great way to meet young people from all over Australia, to share ideas and programs and to have a good time. Canberra will be the place to focus on youth in January 1989! For further information about the NYF contact Chris Hutton, Field Director, Churches of Christ in NSW, PO Box 140, Carlingford 2118.

The 1989 National Youth Workers' Convention will take place in Sydney from June 16-19. For details of this and other youth programs contact Youth Specialists Australia, phone (03) 232 4974.

Lord, you say be still.  
But how?  
My mind races madly,  
so many chores to be done.  
The telephone,  
The doorbell,  
the crying child  
crowd into my desire for quietness.

Come apart and rest a while,  
trust Me,  
I hear you say.  
Relax in My presence.  
The Scriptures,  
The meditations,  
The inner fellowship  
will equip you to handle life's chores.

—R.N. Hawkins

## A visit to North East Santo

*Lyall Muller, Director of Church Development for the Churches of Christ in Vanuatu, made a visit to some of the remote churches on Santo Island, Vanuatu, July 16-25. His description of the visit follows.*

### Kole

Churches of Christ work was established here in 1960, but during the Jimmy Stephens rebellion church life slumped badly. Two young men maintained a faithful witness and now there is a full-time pastor and a vital church.

My visit there for three days gave opportunity to play some simulation games, counsel people and generally encourage the Lord's people. On the final night nine people responded in various ways to the message.

### Sara

Pastor Graham Kwarney, ex-Conference Secretary, has just moved to Sara. I spent time encouraging Graham and his wife, Frenda, in their new role.

The church only started in 1972 in a heathen area. There are some divisions over a renewal group operating in the area, but it is remarkable that everyone in this large village of 180 people is a regular attendee at worship. The leaders assured me that none of their young men would be getting drunk on Independence Day.

### Lovatkar, Erothkar, Billion, Ekara

These four churches are served by one pastor and I found out some of the commitment needed in that man.

After one night at Billion we had a service in the morning,

walked for an hour to Ekara, had another service and lunch, walked for one and a half hours uphill to Erothkar, waited two hours, had a service, walked two and a half hours uphill again (half an hour in the dark), had tea, then another service.

Walking is okay, but it rained and it was muddy. There are a lot of horses used there which have cut up the paths so that the last half-hour in the dark was through mud and slush two to three inches deep.

Two of the churches are very small and two are only 15 years old with no educated people. Until this year the pastor did the whole circuit each Sunday and visited each village during the week. I found it exhilarating sharing with the people. It is the hardest place I've ever preached in, as people who have never been to school don't really know how to listen.

### Mavea

The grand finale to my visit was riding a horse back down the muddy track to be met by Roger Bawden in the 4 wheel drive Toyota.

The two and a half hour drive back to town was punctuated by a stop at Mavea where I was able to clarify the need for a pastor on the small island and nearby areas on the main island of Santo.



## DISCIPLESHIP

•Liana Hughes, Bronwyn Shaw, Kylie Blackaby, Brooklyn Park, SA. •Mick & Dianne Coleman, Werribee, Vic. •Michelle Holt, Kristy Smith, Jessie Hiron, Chinchilla/Hopeland, Qld. •David Nicol, Andrew Menteith, Jason Burn, Tina Walker, Greenacre, N.S.W.

## MARRIAGES

•Heather McKay to Roy Flett,

Shirley Trace to Darryl Flett, Kay Schröder to Craig Holt, Chinchilla/Hopeland, Qld.

## DEATHS

•G. Gordon, Brooklyn Park, SA. •Mary Crossfield, Joe Robottom, Andrew Marell, David Hayes, Ocean Grove, Vic. •Norene Cumming, Launceston, Tas. •Olivia McAuliffe, Greenacre, N.S.W.

## Changes of Address

**BRIGHTON:** Minister—John & Eira Clapp, 52 Male St, Brighton 3186. Phone (03) 592 1531.

**PADEY,** Colin and Norrene, 9 Beachcomber Court, Patterson Lakes 3197. Phone (03) 772 9093.

**PURNELL,** Allan and Des, Lot 16 Pigeon Bank-Menzies Rd, North Warrandyte. (Postal: PO Box 136, Warrandyte 3113). Phone: (03) 712 0386.

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**Friday 23 September 1988**

at

**8.00 pm**

Conference President, Gerald Rose and Christian Women's Fellowship President, Lois Smith, invite representation from all of our churches as we give thanks to God.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE 1989

### ZIMBABWE

### Teacher/Chaplain

In partnership with the Associated Churches of Christ in New Zealand we are seeking to appoint a teacher of Divinity to Dadaya High School in Zimbabwe. The school is co-educational, with around 800 students. All subjects are examined under English O levels standard.

A degree in theology is a necessary prerequisite.

The position also involves Chaplaincy duties in the school. There are also opportunities to be involved in leadership training in local churches.

### VANUATU

### French/English teacher

Ranwadi Junior Secondary School on Pentecost island in Vanuatu is also a co-educational boarding school. Ranwadi has around 150 students. Formal teaching qualifications are essential. A key part of this task is to exercise a Christian witness among the student body.

For further information please write to:

Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board,  
PO Box 320, Unley 5061.

## College of the Bible SECRETARY

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The successful applicant will display initiative, good organisational and secretarial skills. Efficient typing skills and ability to use an IBM compatible computer are essential requirements.

Duties involve general secretarial work under the direction of the Registrar and will include maintaining students' records, confidential filing, serving as part of a secretarial team to support administrative and academic staff.

Applications close on 16 September and should include telephone numbers of two referees.

Further information can be obtained from  
**Graemo Wigney**, to whom applications should be addressed at 7 Elm Road, GLEN IRIS VIC 3146.  
Phone: (03) 25 6085



## NSW

**GREENACRE** (P. DeWildt, T. Smith). Exciting Missionary Weekend held with Bruce Pederson from Wycliffe as speaker ... Peter DeWildt, Russell Meers, Steve Davie back from evangelist preaching tour in India ... Tony Campolo film series "Who Switched the Price Tags" well received ... Adult male & three youths baptised ... Successful Girls' Brigade demonstration night held August 15 ... Menteith & Cottle families welcomed into membership ... Building plans approved by Bankstown Council.

## QLD

**PINE RIVERS** (Ken Trudgian) On 3 July our new Youth Hall was opened by Don Cranston ... Our church had a stall at the local Pine Rivers show recently ... We now have a Life Lighters group—caring for the over 50s or any lonely people ... Congratulations to Alan Vincent who turned 21 in July ... The Annual Men's Dinner was held here in July.

**CHINCHILLA/HOPELAND** (Rod Feldhan) Richard &

Shirley Pearce's 'Celebrate Australia' concert in Civic Centre ... Seminar 'Christianity Explained' held ... Visiting speakers: Don Stewart, Geoff Parry (Gideons) & Roger Wall ... Film "Kevin Can Wait" shown after fellowship tea, Baptists invited ... Church working & praying for mission with Maurie Pieper—theme: 'Getting Life Straight in '88' ... Jackie Powell recently became a 'dinkum Aussie' celebrating the occasion with family & friends ... Marion Feldhan recovering after surgery.

**CAMP HILL** (D.F. Smith). Oldest church member Mrs McIntosh celebrated 90 years ... CWF enjoyed jewellery demonstration with Richard Pearce, tapestry, patchwork & material craft evening & night out at The Lemon Tree Rest ... Special Girls' Brigade parade in morning service saw Annette Aistrop awarded Blue Braid ... men's fellowship off to a good start centred around fishing ... Church family fishing picnic at Tweed River well attended & enjoyed.

## VIC

**THE PATCH** (Glynthea Finnger, David Rees) Minister concluded sermons on the letters to the seven churches in Revelation ... John & Marilyn Beard welcomed back after their trip to USA ... \$400 collected by young people of the church for World Vision 40 Hour Famine ... Additions to building progressing well ... Sunday evening service held on July 31 was attended by 45.

**BORONIA** (K. Milne, M. Folland) Minister attended Church Management & Growth seminar ... Wednesday Day Care Centre featured in local paper ... Wesleyan church conducted baptismal service in our chapel ... \$2,025 raised by 40 Hour Famine for World Vision ... Gordon Chandler honoured by Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria with 'Distinguished Service to Horticulture' medal ... Recent visiting speakers: John Bindon (Spastic Society), Marjorie Buckingham, Ian Cartmel, Peter Bradley.

**SOUTH YARRA** (A.B. Clark) Noella Deitrich, from Fiji, naturalised, welcomed to Australia ... Welcome to Claire McAdam from Western Australia ... CWF, Judith Thomas from Croydon conducted craftwork—great fun—busy knitting & gathering items for hospital visitation ... Ian & Noelene Hudson, formerly from Rockdale, visitors ... Peter Pitts speaker at next Gospel Singers concert, September 13 in hall ... Nina Simpson recovering after hospitalisation ... Prayers continuing for the sick.

**OCEAN GROVE** (Andrew Henley) Church grieves loss of

three members ... Mutual ministry program commenced to involve all congregation in church life ... Home Fellowship meetings continue successfully ... Doug Stringer, evangelist from USA, spoke at special youth service ... Alf White ran presidential seminar ... Andrew guest speaker at Leopold youth service & Reservoir anniversary service.

**BELMONT** (R. Clymer) At recent AGM church accepted planning for the coming year including: development of the Master's Plan for Making Disciples, and of Small Group work; survey into why people leave the church; and evaluation of what happens during worship ... Over 30 attended a camp at Turramurra Park—inter-generational theme, "Travelling Together" was explored ... On August 21 a service of dedication for elders & deacons was held.

**STRATHMORE** (K. & R. Luttrell). Visiting speaker & musical group from Missionary Aviation Fellowship at recent evening service ... Church regretfully accepts the Luttrell's resignation ... Several members ill including Amy Hunter. Amy left church in ambulance to St Vincent's, is now home recovering ... Alice Milligan back after hospitalisation ... Chris & Mary Ambrose have been to Vanuatu ... Booth's & Jenkin's both chasing the sun in Queensland.

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Worship & Communion  
Services

7.00 p.m.

Gospel Celebration

**Wednesday**

1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Lunchtime Service

For further enquiries, please ring (03) 663 3884



## WA

**DIANELLA** (John Spencer) Bible School held Hot Dog & Games night in June ... Good attendance & contact with non-church families ... David Griffin & Jodi Richards married on 9 July ... We praise God for Tanya Tinnetti's good recovery from recent major surgery, also that of Marj Wilson ... Mid-week prayer & Bible study gaining momentum ... Church supporting mission project of water tanks for PNG and Vanuatu.

## SA

**BRIGHTON** (N. Moore, K. Bowes). Good support for \$55,000 renovations through gifts, loans & increased offerings ... Evening services growing ... Olympians John Heard & Darryl Pearce interviewed at Basketball Club tea & service ... Conference President preached, spoke at luncheon on state scene ... New families attending Bible School & auxiliaries ... Many New Testaments distributed Bible Sunday ... Ministry to community & retired people being researched.

**NAILSWORTH** (B. Trowbridge). Church adopts concept of Community House ... Five baptisms recently ... Public-

ity in local press having positive results ... Church continuing Bible distribution to local community ... Church continues involvement with DCW & local Council.

**BROOKLYN PARK** (G. Shaw) Successful melodrama six nights involving whole church ... Sunday 5pm services in winter, focus on family, bicentenary ... Five basketball teams ... Resource Centre expansion under new convenor, L. Reeves ... God's Gang flourishes Tues/Wed pm, 110 children ... Serendipity Leaders' Small Group commenced ... Small Group network planned from October, Task Force to review needs in community.

**DULWICH/ROSE PARK UNITED PARISH** (Ted Bray, Roger Brown) John Hough led a John Wesley commemoration service, booklet written by parish member Sid Hiatt on Wesley's life & influence was distributed ... Church has grieved with Cynthia & George Snow over son-in-law's death in car accident in western Victoria; & with Deane & Valmai Radbone over loss of Deane's brother Harry.

## TAS

**NUBEENA** (Gordon Hender-son) July attendances averaged 52

at morning and 21 at evening services ... Overseas offering so far \$97 ... 86 visits made for month by minister & Stan Ryles ... Greg Jacobson & Barry Hinton attended working bee at Bicheno ... Minister & wife attended induction of Jeff Weston in Hobart ... Piano purchased with voluntary donations, a special Sunday evening held with piano ... Lawn mower also to be purchased.

**LAUNCESTON** (G. Stirling) Boys Brigade Cyclathon held on August 20 ... Tony Armstrong morning preacher on August 21 & COB team at evening service which was followed by screening of a video & slides of New Campus development ... Church saddened by passing of Norene Cumming ... Fay Jones, Ruby Tattersall & Mary Smith all at present in hospital.

## NSW

**TWEED HEADS** (Richard Oakes) Church experiencing new enthusiasm working with Richard & Janet Oakes ... Inspiring 20th anniversary celebrations held in Civic Centre, guest speaker Barry McMurtrie; three commitments ... Presentation of musical "A Morning Like This" by Southport Choir greatly appreciated ... Missionary giving this year almost

\$6,000—support for Peter & Kerry Schulz ... Baptismal service held recently ... Guy Cooper to commence ministry to youth in 1989.

**THORNLEIGH** (F. Elliott) Robert Garrett & Matthew Greenaway were leaders at recent Pennant Hills School Christian Studies Camp for Year 7—about 70 attended ... A young lass made her decision on August 21 ... Recent guest speakers Herb Miller (Executive Director, National Evangelistic Association of Christian Church in USA & Canada) & Paul Sanders (final year student of NSW Theological College, Carlingford & previous student minister of Thornleigh).

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CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA  
JANUARY 15 — 21, 1989 — CANBERRA  
THEME: GOD'S PEOPLE — GOD'S WORLD

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**CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS SECRETARY:** Bruce Kennedy, Cf-82 Limestone Ave., Alnlie, A.C.T., 2602. Phone (062) 48 6987.

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"GODS PEOPLE GODS WORLD"



## Record numbers receiving care

The Executive Director of the Queensland Social Service Department, Dr Don Stewart announced that the Social Service Department had delivered residential care to a record number of people in the past financial year. 4,324 people had received residential care of whom 2,647 were homeless people who had been provided with emergency accommodation until they could be more adequately accommodated.

In the aged care program 580 people received care in Nursing Homes, 509 were cared for in Hostels and 468 have been living in self-care units. 102 children had been cared for in Children's Homes.

Figures are not available for the number of children who received care in the Department's Family Day Care schemes or Day Care Centres.

The Department is seeking to expand and broaden its caring base in those areas where need is not being adequately met. During the past year the Department has made significant advances, but more importantly it has laid the foundations for a number of care initiatives which will result in expanded care in the future.

The Department spent \$12 million on the provision of its care programs in 1987/88 and employed 667 people. Expenditure on new capital development for the year was \$3.48 million.

## OBITUARIES

Obituary notices are limited to 100 words.

### CROSSFIELD, Mary

(11.8.88) Born in Scotland in the 1920s. When she was three her family migrated to Australia, settling in Newport, Vic. Mary, a dressmaker, had a particular skill in creating artwork. Mary was a devoted church attendee with a deep faith in her Lord, a tireless worker for Leprosy Mission and CWF. In membership with Churches of Christ at Sunshine, Reservoir, Manifold Heights and Ocean Grove. A tragic car accident caused Mary's death. She leaves her husband Clarrie, her two daughters Janette and Heather, and six loved grandchildren. We pray that the family will feel the comfort of God as they grieve. Mary now rests with her Lord.

—Andrew Henley

### HAYES, David Richmond

(27.7.88) David was 30 years old when he died, leaving a wife, Susan, and a son, Joshua—10 months. He was a valued member of the Ocean Grove, Vic. church. His talents were expressed in the field of arts. David had a flair for writing scripts for the film industry, working at one stage for the ABC. He loved drama, photography and film. His life has been cut short because of an illness he was unable to overcome. He will be greatly missed, but forever with the Lord. May David's family really feel the love of God in this time.

—Andrew Henley

### MARELL, Andrew David

(2.7.88) Andrew, a two and a half year-old boy struggled with an illness for three months before it eventually took his life. He was a lovable boy, full of boundless energy and well-known in the district. The life that Andrew shared with us was only a short one in terms of years, but how much impact and influence he shared with those who knew him. We express our sympathy to Andrew's parents, Ron and Tracy. They are comforted in the fact that they know that Andrew is resting in the loving arms of Jesus.

—Andrew Henley

The Philippine Bishops' Conference is in a dilemma about taking a stand on the question of US bases remaining in the country. Although church members and groups have spoken out against the bases staying, Archbishop Oscar Cruz said the Bishops' Conference probably would take time to conduct a careful study of the issues involved. He says ill effects, such as nuclear arms, prostitution and communicable diseases, need to be weighed up against other considerations.

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR THE "YOU WERE ASKING ...???" COLUMN? PLEASE SEND ANY QUESTIONS TO US.

# THE LAST WORD

No man who wanted to be a great man ever was a great man.

—John Hunter

"I would like to be a vegetarian just to prevent myself having to go to the butcher's."

"That's no good—the bull is a vegetarian yet he ends up at the butcher's."

★★★★★

Last month I was in California. Stopped at one of the best hotels. To give you an idea of how big my room was, when I closed the door, the doorknob got in bed with me. I said to the clerk, "Give me another room."

He gave me another key. I put the key in the keyhole and broke the window.

★★★★★

Letter from dentist: "Dear madam, Unless the denture you had from me is paid for without delay, I shall be obliged to insert the following advertisement in the local paper: 'Excellent set of false teeth for sale. To be seen at any time at Mrs Smith's, 5 Dettone Terrace.'"

The teeth were paid for the same day.

★★★★★

From the Las Vegas Sun: "The Easter Sunday sunrise service will be conducted by a priest, a minister and a rabbit."

★★★★★

Through an error, an employee took home a blank cheque in his pay envelope. When he opened it up he said, "Just as I thought. My deductions have finally caught up with my salary."

★★★★★



★ "I'd like a Mars bar."

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