

# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

Registered for Australia Post Publication No. VAR 0761

Volume 92, No. 20

18 November 1989



**"Kids  
Everywhere"**

*Marion Palmer and Paul Grant with some of the children at the Blackwood, SA, church pleased with the "Kids Everywhere" songs—story page 3*



# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Vol. 92

No. 20

18 November 1989

Managing Editor: Chris Ambrose  
Assistant: Geoff Alves

Issue	Deadline
2 December	22 November
16 December	6 December
3 February	24 January

Address for All Correspondence  
(including all subscription payments)  
PO Box 101

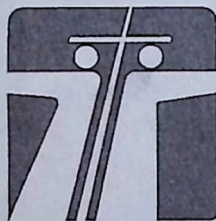
North Essendon 3041

Telephone (03) 379 1219

After Hours (03) 337 8349



Member  
publication of the  
Australian  
Religious Press  
Association



National logo of  
Churches of Christ  
in Australia

"The Australian Christian" is published by  
the Board of Management of the  
Australian Christian, a Department of  
the Federal Conference of  
Churches of Christ in Australia.

Keith Aird, Chairman (SA)  
Don Burdett, Secretary (ACT)  
Lindsay Mott, Treasurer (Vic)  
John Batchler (Tas)  
Merle Peacock (WA)  
John Sheriff (Qld)  
Robert Smith (NSW)

Printing by New Litho Pty Ltd,  
63 Sunbury Cres,  
Surrey Hills 3127

Responsibility for electoral material is  
accepted by Chris Ambrose,  
3 Hamlyn St, Essendon 3040  
This publication is indexed in the  
Australasian Religion Index  
ISSN 0004-8852

## Advertising Rates

Displayed: \$4.40 per column  
centimetre

Classifieds: \$9 for the first 25 words  
and 10c for each additional word

## Editorial

*Because 78% of the South African population professes to be Christian then you would think the Gospel should make a difference to the way people solve its current problems*

# South Africa: Which Direction?

**J**ust how are Christians to react to recent developments in South Africa?

Press reports on the dismantling of some aspects of apartheid and the release of six of the imprisoned leaders of the African National Congress have seemed to add some aspects of hope to the situation.

In the last six months President P.W. Botha has been forced to step down and while his successor President F.W. de Klerk espoused the the normal National Party line in the recent elections (which the Nationals won, albeit with a reduced majority) he appears to have softened the official line to the black majority since.

However everyone is still waiting to see which direction things will move now.

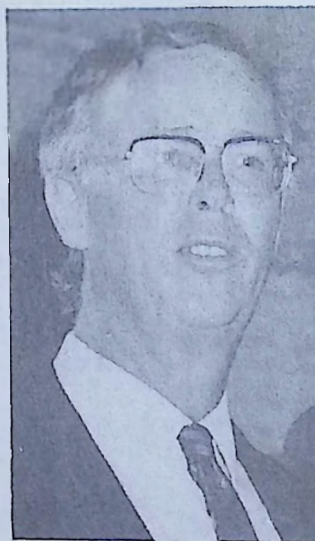
Interestingly there have been increasing numbers of Afrikaners who are questioning the Reformed Church's theological justification of apartheid.

Also it is not often realised in Australia that there are different approaches within the black majority, e.g. the leadership of the ANC certainly has a different approach to the solution of the South African situation to that of Chief Buthelezi of the Zulu people.

One has to also realise that there are two other groups of people in South Africa who need to be considered in any solutions. These are the Indian and Coloured (mixed race) people.

They have sizable populations in South Africa although nowhere near the numbers of blacks.

There is a growing number of young white men who are conscientiously objecting to service in the South African armed forces. Many of these have been motivated by their Christian faith and increasing numbers of them are serving long prison sentences because of their refusal to serve in any way in the armed forces, including non-combatant duties.



Michael Cassidy

In the 23 September issue of *The Australian Christian* we ran a review of the book *The Passing Summer* by Michael Cassidy (Hodder & Stoughton) which advocated a Christian approach to South Africa's dilemma.

This book was written late last year and published early this year and thus some of the more recent decisions have altered its impact a little.

It was written before F.W. de Klerk became President and his recent actions may have changed Michael Cassidy's views somewhat.

Michael Cassidy argues that because 78% of the

South African population professes to be Christian then the Gospel should make a difference to the way people solve its current problems.

He is saddened that apartheid has, however, locked groups into positions where they are unable to see the viewpoint of other groups.

Michael Cassidy is convinced, as are most observers, that South Africa is at the crossroads of choice. He sees seven possible scenarios:

- semi-indefinite white rule by screwing down the lid;
- a short, sharp successful revolution, leading to black power overnight;
- an endless, low intensity civil war of attrition, revolution and counter revolution;
- 100% white surrender to blacks;
- partition;
- constitutional reform by consultation;
- a properly negotiated future, worked out by all together.

We in Australia should pressure all participants with whom we have any influence towards the last option and also pray that God will work in the whole situation.

—CRA



## Kids Everywhere

What can God do with two harassed mothers, a drama student, store manager, a cartoonist, a busy typist and a computer buff? Well this year, among other things, he used a melding of their talents to produce "Kids Everywhere", a collection of 20 songs for children.

Released as a book and tape in July, "Kids Everywhere" has been enthusiastically received. The ship MV *Doulos* took several copies of the book for circulation overseas. The SARETA (South Australian Religious Education Teachers Association) has endorsed it for use in independent schools and one song, "Remember", has been used in a recent CTA advertisement in South Australia. Parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers and youth leaders have responded

with pleasure but perhaps best of all kids everywhere are saying they love it.

The songs all stem from a desire to express as honestly as possible the way children feel about themselves and the circumstances they find themselves in, and to convey how dearly, in all things, God loves them.

Hopefully "Kids Everywhere" is just the beginning of a whole new ministry to children. To facilitate its release Kidsmin Publications was created, financed by the Children and Family Life Ministry Committee in SA and all profits accruing from sales of the book and tape will be used to finance the publication of more material for children; songs, puppetscripts, stories, dramas. The possibilities are far reaching and exciting.

## Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity's Covenant Church program commenced during October with the Castle Hill, NSW, church pledging to support the building of a house for a disadvantaged family.

The Habitat for Humanity program was commenced by US millionaire Millard Fuller. The program builds houses using donated land and volunteer labour and then sells the house to a needy family at cost with no interest or profit charges. Habitat was launched in Australia in 1988 by Wesley Central Mission in Sydney.

The Castle Hill church, under a committee led by Doug Allen, plans to raise \$10,000 in cash and \$20,000 in building materials to provide a house and ongoing support for one family. The church has already raised \$2,000 by holding a fashion parade and various cake stalls.

The committee has also arranged teams of volunteer workers standing by so that once building commences there will be a team working every Saturday on the home with the

new home owners.

Details on the Habitat for Humanity program can be obtained from their Australian Director, Ted Swisher, on (02) 899 4409.

## Christian Accommodation for Disabled Persons

In November 1988 Crossroads Victoria (a Christian fellowship with disabled persons) held a weekend seminar "A Cause for Concern" focusing on the issue of accommodation for disabled persons.

Guest speakers and disabled persons and their families emphasised the great need for and better quality of accommodation and appropriate support services in a Christian environment.

Following the seminar and an April 1989 meeting an inter-

## Advanced Driving 90



"Everyone should do this course—you learn so much."

"More Christians—especially those driving church buses—should improve their driving skills."

Following last year's successful course, the Adventure Committee of the Vic-Tas Department of Mission, Education and Development has arranged with the Christian Autosports Club of Australia to conduct another advanced driving course on Saturday, 24 March 1990. It will be held at the Winton Raceway, Benalla, Vic. There are only 30 places available so those interested are advised to book immediately.

The course will be directed

by Graham Boak, chief driving instructor from Jim Murcott's Advanced Driving Centre. The course will introduce drivers to the unexpected, sometimes erratic driving habits of their fellow motorists. Skid control and defensive driving are only part of the program.

There will be a compulsory lecture on 22 March at the Canterbury Baptist Church. Underage drivers can take part provided they are accompanied by a parent. The cost is \$80.

For further information contact Vin Waters on (03) 337 7061 or write to Advanced Driving 90, c/o Dept MED, Churches of Christ Centre 52 La Trobe St, Melbourne 3000.

denominational task force was formed. Work is continuing on the preparation of a report, to be issued late 1989, suggesting action and response.

The next meeting of the task force is being held at the Counselling Centre, Burwood Heights Uniting Church, cnr Burwood Highway and Blackburn Road, East Burwood, Vic, on 26 November at 2.30 pm.

Accommodation for Disabled Persons under the Auspices of the Christian Church, an ecumenical approach to the role of the church in providing appropriate accommodation and support

services for people with disabilities, seeks to—

- raise awareness within the church of the need for accommodation in a supportive Christian environment for people with disabilities;
- encourage and assist churches at central and local level to develop specific projects to meet the established need;
- liaise with government and other organisations related to this area of ministry;
- compile and make available for general distribution regular reports and plans for future action.



## Shopping for Ninety



Janet Kerrison places the orders at a warehouse

The wife of a business manager may find herself asked to do a variety of tasks. In Papua New Guinea part of Janet Kerrison's role is to do the shopping—for about 90 people! This number is made up of the Churches of Christ missionary personnel as well as students at the two Churches of Christ Bible Schools at Momonup (the men's school) and Yamen (the girls' school).

Every two weeks the MAF plane takes off from Madang to deliver cargo to the Churches of Christ area. On its return the orders for the next fortnight are delivered to Janet and Wayne, who then have the job of attempting to purchase all of

the requested supplies. After compiling the orders Janet goes to several warehouses in town to place them. Later she has to return to the warehouses and collect the goods. Usually there is someone to assist with the heavy items but it's still hot work collecting bales of rice, bolts of calico, boxes of batteries, cartons of insect spray and so on.

Prior to "planeday" the cargo has to be labelled, weighed and sometimes repacked. There is a load limit of approximately 400 kg for the small Missionary Aviation Fellowship plane and usually some of this is taken up by passengers. So it is important to ensure that the goods are weighed accurately. "What's your weight?" is the question asked of those wishing to move from one place to another by plane. That is not the time to say what you wish you weighed! An honest answer is required, which should include the weight of your luggage.

What a relief to load all of the cargo onto the plane to be delivered to the various places! Yet Wayne does it with the knowledge that more orders will arrive when the plane returns. It's no easy task shopping for 90 in Papua New Guinea. —JT

## ESSENDON

Church of Christ celebrate their 75th anniversary on 3 March 1990

Guest speaker:  
Lindsay Croxford  
Followed by fellowship luncheon  
All past members and friends are invited

Inquiries: Secretary  
James A. Strack  
(03) 375 2950

**Brocklesby Guest Home**  
(Ladies Only)  
Vacancies  
over the Christmas-New Year period  
(also throughout the year)  
Relaxed, happy, caring atmosphere.  
Good meals.  
Moderate tariff.  
Write to  
69 Albert Hill Road  
Lilydale 3140  
Phone (03) 735 1710

## Church of Christ SOUTHPORT

now meets in  
Parklands Drive  
8.55 am  
Worship and Communion  
6.30 pm  
Gospel Celebration  
Minister: Noel Newton  
(075) 94 6154, 94 6633  
31 4353 (AH)

## Hey, Christian Single!

Interested in a Gold Coast holiday with other Christian adults (23+)?



## CAMP SOLO

6-13 or 14-21 January

\$220 for seven nights shared accommodation and eight days of fully catered meals at the National Fitness Camp, Burleigh Heads, Queensland. 250 Christian singles in the holiday capital of Australia. Lighted tennis courts, squash courts, full gym facilities, lighted swimming pool...and all at a beach front facility.

Resort quality dining, including "pig-on-a-spl" and "formal banquet night". Sightseeing in the day...bonfires on the beach at night. Good biblical preaching...great Christian fellowship. Definitely a holiday with a difference.

Speaker: Rev. Bill Foster

Camp Counsellor: Dr James Ridgway

Applications: Camp Solo, Daphne Foster, 13 Servante Street, Sunshine 3020

Phone (03) 311 6154

## Terrific 30 Day Tour

Holy Land and Oberammergau 1990 visiting Israel, Jordan, Oberammergau (Passion Play), Greece, Austria, Switzerland, France, United Kingdom



**Terrific price:**  
\$5,350 (subject to air-fair increases) including accommodation, tours, bed and breakfast and all dinners except the last four dinners in London.

**Departing date: 20 June 1990**

**Terrific tour leaders:** Noel and Tricia Newton, Senior Minister Southport Church of Christ, and Clem and Olive Clack, who have travelled to Israel 27 times.

**Enquiries:** Noel and Tricia Newton  
23 Harran Street, Bellevue Park 4215.  
Phone (075) 31 4353



# People

## Africa Bound



Melinda Wesley

The 23 January 1990 promises to be an exciting day for Melinda Wesley as she flies out to spend 12 months in Zimbabwe. There she will again undertake year 12 at secondary

school. Melinda, 18, is the eldest daughter of Don and June Wesley of Frankston, Vic, where Don is involved in a team ministry. Melinda is actively involved in the youth group and enjoys regular worship, something she hopes to maintain in Zimbabwe.

The Seaford Rotary Club selected her to represent Australia as an exchange student, along with 34 others from the South East region of Victoria.

Having spent five happy years of her childhood on Aboriginal missions in WA Melinda has developed the desire to work amongst the third world people in some capacity in the future. However her immediate ambition is to train for the police force after her year away.

Bill and Ria Keddle, missionaries in Zimbabwe, have written to Melinda to enlighten her on the practical aspects to help prepare her for life in Zimbabwe.

**RSCM ANNUAL SUMMER  
SCHOOL OF CHURCH  
MUSIC  
ADELAIDE  
1-7 January 1990**

Provides a core of choral music for performance at daily services and a final Festival Service

**Course Music Director:**  
Martin How RSCM  
Commissioner UK  
**Director of Youth Course:**  
John Nickson Queensland Conservatorium  
**Director of Junior Course:**  
Michael Deasey St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney

Residential Juniors 8-14 Youth 14-18 Adults	Also adult non- residential
--	-----------------------------------

Large choice of tutorials and workshops

Applications to Mr Stewart Perkins, Registrar, RSCM Summer School, 3/21 Angus Avenue, Edwardstown 5039  
Phone (03) 293 4714

Closing date:  
Friday, 1 December 1989

Assisted by The British Council and the South Australian Youth Arts Board

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION VICTORIA ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, 28 November  
Surrey Hills/Wattle Park  
Church of Christ

1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills  
Special Guest:  
Barbara Liddle  
from Crossroads

## Parkdale Homecoming

Sunday,  
26 November  
10.15 am

Speaker:  
B. Waldron  
Luncheon Following  
Enquiries  
(03) 580 6224

## Response from Mrs Jean Penman

*Clive Ward, Vic-Tas Conference Secretary, recently wrote to Mrs Jean Penman and her family sympathising with her on the recent death of her husband Archbishop David Penman. The following is an edited version of her reply:*

The family and I deeply appreciate your message of sympathy. We have been beautifully supported in prayer by loving and caring friends throughout the 10 weeks of David's illness and since his death on 1 October 1989.

Such a loss brings to us all great sorrow and grief. Our years in missionary service taught me well that there is

nothing to be gained from questioning God's wisdom. Every precious memory, often spurred by your tributes to David's ministry, whilst leaving me vulnerable to feel pain, also deepens awareness of God's loving presence and peace. Sorrow turns to thanksgiving for every part of the 30 years we shared together.

Please pray for this great Diocese during this sad, reflective time, and especially for those responsible for selecting a new Archbishop.

With my gratitude and love  
Jean Penman  
(Bishopscourt,  
East Melbourne)

## Glynthea in Ireland

*Glynthea Finger is currently studying at the Irish School of Ecumenics in Dublin. She wrote to us about another matter and also included some details of her current studies:*

The Irish School of Ecumenics is very worthwhile. The studies and dialogues taking place are quite a challenge. At present I am doing field work with the Greek Orthodox church in Dublin. As you can imagine this is very stimulating and thought provoking.

The students in my class, Ecumenics as against the other class, Peace Studies, come from a variety of places/cultures—New Zealand, West Germany, Taiwan, Cameroon, England

and North and South Ireland. We make for interesting and lively discussion/debate.

After New Year we spend a week in Belfast involved with the Inter Faith Communities working for peace and healing. "The Troubles" are continually being manifested. No TV news passes without something having been done—e.g. bombing, shooting, disruption on the Belfast-Dublin rail line—or something being said—e.g. a bishop (Catholic or Protestant) at a funeral or at a seminar of some kind or another.

Having West Germans in our groups provides an interesting backdrop to the East German exodus and inner struggles as well.



**El Kanah**

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

## Christian Fellowship in a Family Atmosphere

We offer you guest house style accommodation from as low as \$42 a day, home-style cooking. Relax in the mountain playground of Marysville. Experience the comfort of our fully renovated, fire-proof guest house, including spa. Student and pensioner concessions available.

Phone or write to us:

**El Kanah** CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY  
Buxton Rd., Marysville, 3779. (059) 63 3229



## Temperance Now

The Australasian Drug Council—Promoting an Alcohol-Free Life Style, formerly known as The Australian and South Pacific Temperance Council, held its 1989 annual conference 9–12 September. Delegates came from all mainland states and New Zealand and a representative from the NSW Woman's Christian Temperance Union and Ansvar Insurance Company.

That word "temperance"! It has various connotations: moderation in all things, self-control, total abstinence, prohibition. It was because of prolonged consideration of the negative attitudes towards the temperance movement that the name of the Council was changed this year.

Western Australia with its Zero is Safe campaign and its Alcohol Awareness Week; South Australia with Bill and Lorraine Miell's caravan taking the challenge into shopping centres, schools and shows; Victoria with its radios and its 21 Be There proposal; NSW with its school essay competition on "Alcohol and Our Generation" and its submissions to State and Federal parliaments; Queensland with its Drug-Arm Education and Welfare programs; New Zealand with its success in retaining Sunday closing of bars and bottle shops; the WCTU's es-

tablishment of its work in Darwin indicates that the Temperance Movement is alive.

The Australasian Drug Council has set itself to work for the reduction of alcohol consumption by 25% by the year 2000 in accordance with the World Health Organization's goal. It is also to set up an electronic and print media resource centre. It called upon the Federal Government to impose a levy on the sale of all alcoholic drinks, proportional to the alcoholic content, proceeds to be used for rehabilitation or research.

The ADC believes that, whereas there is a significant decline in many church members' commitment to voluntary total abstinence, there is a growing concern in the general community about the devastating effect of the misuse of alcohol.

Seventh Day Adventists, the Salvation Army and the Wesleyan Methodist Church are said to be the only Christian communions with a commitment to voluntary total abstinence. Churches of Christ, though tacitly, used to be like them.

—F.B. Alcorn

*Bruce Alcorn, minister at Northcote, Vic, was one of three Victorian delegates to the Australasian Drug Council.*

## Churchill Co-operating



The Bishop of Gippsland, Colin Sheumack, Greg Strack and the candidates for baptism or confirmation

Recently the Co-operating Churches in Churchill, Vic, had a "Service of Baptism and the Reaffirmation of Baptism Called Confirmation". The church is a co-operative venture of Churches of Christ and the Anglican and Uniting Churches.

The day began at 8 am at the Morwell Church of Christ when the chapel was filled with Churchill members, friends and families of the four who were baptised by immersion by minister, Greg Strack.

The service continued at 9.20 am, and 11 km away in the

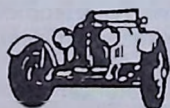
Churchill chapel, when the Bishop of Gippsland, Colin Sheumack, was the guest and speaker. He also shared with the minister and senior members of the congregation in receiving the confessions of faith, the presentation and promises and then the welcome into fellowship of the four Anglican, four Uniting Church and four Church of Christ candidates.

The blending of the different traditions of the Co-operating Churches on this special occasion was moving, inspiring and acceptable to all.

—Doreen Strack

GUARANTEED USED CARS

**Pedigree Motors**



658 CANTERBURY RD, SURREY HILLS 3127  
AUTOMOTIVE SPECIALISTS

Whether it be your first car or you wish to "trade in" let TED GRAY and STEVE GRUNDY give you the benefit of long experience in the trade

ADVICE FREELY GIVEN

Phone (03) 898 9391 or AH 878 4807  
Great range of cars—medium priced range  
PHONE NOW—TELL YOUR FRIENDS

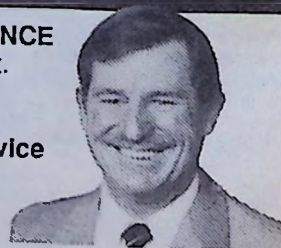
LMGT 4376

**FOR NEW HOLDEN & HONDA  
SEE MURRAY ECKERT**

OVER 16 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
as a master sales consultant.

Competitive Prices  
in a competitive market.  
Guaranteeing Integrity, Service  
and Sound Advice.

Member of Blackwood  
Church of Christ.



CALL IN OR PHONE MURRAY ON (08) 272 1600  
FOR YOUR NEW OR QUALITY USED CAR



**Claridge Holden & Honda**  
363 Unley Road, Malvern  
Phone (08) 272 1600 A.H. (08) 278 4515



## Women's Camp

65 women from Melbourne, Warragul and Wangaratta churches shared in a tremendous weekend for the Vic-Tas CWF camp at Monbulk. Pam Bowers, minister for adult activities at the Frankston, Vic, church, was study leader using Dorothy Quantrelle's theme "Go Forward in Prayer and Service."

On Saturday evening campers enjoyed a smorgasbord with Chris Sharpe, Richmond, entertaining in musical comedy between courses. The highlight was the closing worship when Chris mimed a portrayal of Moses. State President, Dorothy Quantrelle, led the early morning communion service on Sunday.

—Jan Hutton

## CP's Bear

Christian Projects has a new addition to its product line—the CP bear. The plush teddy bear is available through CP agents in churches or through the product hotline of 008 242 904 (STD free) for \$32. Other gifts available through Christian Projects include childrens videotapes: the Hanna-Barbera's Adventure Stories from the Bible (available in book or video form), Children's heroes of the Bible (a 13 program collection of stories from both the Old and New Testaments) and the Jungle Doctor series. For adults CP offers the Bible on audio cassette.

Shopping through Christian Projects means that the profits are used to fund leadership development projects in Churches of Christ. Further information is available from Marilyn Smith, PO Box 140, Carlingford 2118. Phone (02) 872 2825.

## Mornington CWF

66 men and women enjoyed a social afternoon on 25 October when the Mornington, Vic, CWF celebrated their first birthday in the Moorooduc Hall. Jean Preston, President, welcomed visitors from the Mornington, Mt Eliza and Somerville churches, Chelsea, Frank-



Mornington CWF Choir

ston, Glen Waverley, Montrose (Fellowship Link) and Tootgarook CWFs and the CWF Executive. Marjorie Watson led worship and choral items were sung by the Mornington CWF choir. Joan Pye, of the CWF Resource and Development Committee, organised a social program. Senior member Phyl Young cutt the cake.

—Margaret Hone

## Rehabilitation

Churches of Christ minister Allan Male claims a world first in a new scheme for rehabilitating prisoners which is to begin in Queensland this month. Allan, founder of the Shaftesbury Citizenship Centre at Burpengary, just north of Brisbane, said about 20 prisoners from around Brisbane will be released about three months before the end of their sentences to take part in a government approved scheme run at the Centre to reorient them back into society.

Their time on campus will include work, recreation and classes in English, maths, goal setting, public speaking, budgeting and other living skills. "They will leave us with money, a driving licence and a reference," Allan said. "It is time churches took responsibility for helping prisoners back into society. You have to invest dignity into those who have lost it in the no-man's land of prison."

—Brisbane Courier-Mail

## Country Day

Recently the Vic-Tas CWF held the first of a series of Regional Country Fellowship Days, which was hosted by the

Shepparton ladies. The concept of these days was introduced through the discussions on Ian Tippet's report on CWF. The guest speaker was CWF Conference President Dorothy Quantrelle, who led morning and afternoon workshops on "Leadership".

Margaret McLeod, Country Representative, gave the closing devotions after a day of worship, learning, fun and fellowship. Further Country Fellowship Days are being held at Ballarat (15 November), Bendigo (16 November) and Warrnambool (29 November).

—Margaret McLeod

## Ecumenical Move

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Australian Council of Churches are to receive a report next year that points towards the formation of a more comprehensive national ecumenical body.

Representatives of both groups met in Sydney, 3-4 November, to discuss the nature of the church and outline the objectives for such a body. Further work will be needed before either body could be asked to decide on a specific proposal. The interim report

will be finalised in February.

The ACC, formed in 1946, has 13 member churches. The Catholic Church has had observer status since 1965.

## Talent Endeavour

In an all-out endeavour to wipe out the debt for the erection of the church foyer, the Launceston, Tas, church have embarked on a 12-month "Talent Endeavour". Members were issued with \$10 trading capital and many and varied are the ways in which young and old are profitably exercising their talents.

One member is busy cutting and supplying firewood. Four ladies held a musical evening that raised \$300. Young people are cleaning cars, and the CWF is holding a market day. Orders are coming in from far and wide for pavlovas, banana cakes, scissors sharpening, baby budgies, leatherwork, patchwork and other handcrafts. The endeavour is revealing unsuspected talents among the members.

—P. Harrison

## Tas CWF Camp

50 ladies, aged 16-86, from many parts of Tasmania, attended the annual CWF Camp at Camp Seaview, Bicheno. Among the campers there were families represented by mothers and daughters (and daughters-in-law) and there was one family of three generations (see below).

Naomi Neville and Shirley Cooke had oversight of the camp. Ruth Edge led the studies. Dorothy Quantrelle, Vic-Tas CWF President, conducted the early morning communion service held outdoors.

—Lilly Johnson



Julie Orr (daughter), Mavis Vickers (mother) and Allison Orr (granddaughter) at the Tasmanian CWF camp



# Letters to the Editor

Letters are limited to 200 words

## Sin against the Holy Spirit

To the Editor,

As the letter of J. Olsen ("AC" 21 October) seems to suggest that the article by Debby Wylie ("AC" 7 October) may be blasphemy against the Holy Spirit it seems to be considered that since it is blasphemy to attribute to Satan the work the Holy Spirit initiates it is also blasphemy to attribute to the Holy Spirit those works which by their divergence from the teachings of Jesus and the apostles obviously are the ideas of the Devil to deceive as it were "the very elect"! We need the spiritual gift of discernment to know that which is of God much more than we need the gift of tongues.

—E.A. Barton  
(Port Lincoln, SA)

## Leaping Back to the Future

To the Editor,

Regrettably, we have all witnessed potentially good communion addresses that have self-destructed after the first sentence. So too does Brian Phelps's comment ("Leaping Back to the Future," "AC" 7 October).

It is a "leap" in logic to conclude, as Brian does, that suggesting the use of "good" communication techniques by persons presiding at the Lord's Table somehow diminishes the intrinsic theological import of the Lord's Supper. I must also point out that the alternative to using "good" communication techniques is to use "bad" ones. I would always opt for the former.

Brian seems antagonised that I suggest "good" communication techniques to convey the Gospel. Dare I remind him that Jesus employed such rhetorical devices as parable, diatribe and symbolism to convey his message?

Brian is perplexed that I allude to "the rhetoric of dress" as a communication reality. That he necessarily equates this with "sombre, self-effacing

attire" is another significant "leap" to an inaccurate conclusion. It is a fact of life that "we can never not communicate" and the clothing we wear when presiding does make a statement about the importance we place on what we are doing at the Lord's Table.

I was encouraged to note Brian's concurring that preparation of the communion address is necessary.

—Garry Harris  
(Melbourne, Vic)

## The Nature of Scripture

To the Editor,

Michael Hannah is quite right ("AC" 22 July). Recent letters on the role of women in the church have raised the question of the nature of Scripture. The problem is that what Scripture is has been a matter of debate in the church for centuries.

For some the Scripture is the infallible Word of God, but infallibilists are not agreed among themselves as to what infallibility means.

For many the Scripture is the inspired Word of God, but inspirationists do not agree among themselves as to wherein inspiration lies.

I do not say that we should choose among various Scriptures; I say that we do in fact choose. The question then becomes one of what constitutes "responsible exegesis of all relevant passages...against a wider Biblical theology". One, it is we who construct that wider theology. Two, if I cannot make 1 Timothy 2:11-15 fit with Galatians 3:28 into a "coherent view of God's will for women and men in [the] church", I have to make a choice. And in making a choice for Galatians 3:28, I prefer that some writer of Scripture did not agree with Paul, or that Paul was not always at his best, than that God had conflicting standards.

—Ronald Graham  
(Johnston, Iowa, USA)

## Presiding

To the Editor,

May I speak for the untrained struggling presidents. After

reading Garry Harris's comment ("AC" 19 August) I am now aware of what I should or should not be doing and saying as I go about this task.

I was unaware that our little mannerisms had no place at the Lord's Table.

The two supporting letters (A. Augustine (7 October) and H. Norris (23 September)) tell us that we must not digress one iota from the significance of the Lord's Table itself.

To me the Lord's Table is a sharing experience. What is wrong with sharing a meaningful experience that we have had with our fellow members as long as it serves as an inspiration and direction to partake of the supper in a proper and worthy manner? We are not robots. Why always put forward other peoples thoughts? Remember the hymn, "I've something in my heart that Jesus gave to me"—why not share it! We are not giving mini-sermons, we are simply shar-

ing our Christian love, and what better place to do it than at the Lord's Table.

As for the tie, I never wear one. I always thought God was more interested in what lay a few inches behind it.

—Mervyn Hopgood  
(Milang, SA)

## YWAM

To the Editor,

Despite Barry Jenkins's experience ("AC" 21 September), YWAM has an overt political agenda.

Like other Pentecostal American-based para-church groups it is a self-perpetuating organisation without accountability to a church conference, assembly or synod.

Loren Cunningham, founder of YWAM, has been active in ensuring the political alignment of YWAM with particular political parties in the USA.

Basing its policy on the "reconstructionist" (the belief that society should be reconstructed

# Letters from Tertius

## Relevance

To the Editor

I'm afraid I got quite mad with the smart character on a TV panel show the other night. Without quoting any figures, he asserted, "Of course people are staying away from church in their droves these days. They don't find it relevant any more!"

Well, first of all, he hasn't been to our church. We're full every Sunday. But the relevant bit got me! Not relevant any more? Has the world changed that much?

The papers still record violence and rape and incest and family breakup. The church's Bible certainly has a lot to say about that.

Poverty, racism and discrimination are still round. The church's message is certainly about justice for the deprived.

More than ever we hear about stress and pressure and breakdown and the drop outs from the rat race. I always had the idea that the church's message of salvation was about being saved from the hell of this sort of thing as well as hell hereafter.

Maybe some of these sophisticated moderns think that 20th century society is too different from the church's Bible. That's strange because on Sundays I still hear the Bible warning us against putting mammon before God, and talking about materialists trying to squeeze through the eye of a needle and laying up treasure in the wrong places. That all sounds quite modern to me!

And everyone's got to die sometime. The church has plenty to say about that. And it must be relevant because when it happens nearly everyone wants to come to church for a religious send-off.

It seems to me that the church is too relevant for a lot of people. That's why they are staying away in droves. They can't hack it!

—Tertius



# Letters to the Editor

to conform to the laws of the Old Testament) writings of Dr Worth, YWAM is both political and evangelical.

It is YWAM: which belongs to a furtive coalition (the Anatole Fellowship) attempting to take over the USA Republican Party; which supports a group (COR) aiming to "unite politically active fundamentalists"; which has supported the tyranny of Guatemalan dictator General Rios Montt; which has been involved in the supply of military uniforms for the Contras in Honduras; which is curiously related to the South African-backed guerilla force, RENAMO, in Mozambique.

It was Carolyn Sundseth, of YWAM, who was President Reagan's White House liaison with the Christian political right.

Sorry Barry, all the evidence is against you!

—Alan Matheson  
(Melbourne, Vic)

## "The Man Upstairs"

To Tertius,

I love your letters but don't you think that those who refer to our Lord as "The Man Upstairs" are to be pitied? They must have a limited acquaintance with our Lord and are unable to "worship his majesty". Do read Acts 1:9-11 and 7:56, Hebrews 9:24-27 and 4:10, and 14 and other places which affirm that although the Father and the Son are with us constantly through the ministry of the indwelling Spirit in his person, Jesus is at God's right hand. The heavens are his throne and the earth is his footstool; until he returns in power and great glory.

—E.A. Barton  
(Port Lincoln, SA)

## Published Material Grieves

To the Editor,

It grieves me very much because of what is published in The Australian Christian.

Ted Keating ("AC" 19 August) says: "We can afford to be eclectic" choosing from various systems, not exclusive. He also says: "We live in an ecumenical age." Don't you know

that Christianity is exclusive? That ecumenism's goal is Luciferic One World Religion?

Ted Keating also says that we can learn from charismatics. Do you accept Jim Bakker and his ilk? I was asked in a Pentecostal Church to read Madam Blavatski's books. This is a satanic "bible".

On the same page Bruce McIntosh says that Aboriginal spirituality "has so much to contribute to us". Don't you know that their spirituality is pagan? Are we to learn from pagans?

Carol Caulton ("AC" 2 September) talks about liturgical dancing. What have you to dance about? (See James 4:7-10).

In the "Cultic Connection" ("AC" 23 September) Adrian van Leen writes that one of the "cults" dismissed Chuck Lucas for "recurring sins in his life". Is that wrong? Paul recommends the same action.

The Christian church is drowning in freemasonry, ecumenism, charismatic dancing, apostasy, but I've yet to hear a preacher condemning same from the pulpit.

"Faith comes by hearing." How will they hear if you don't teach?

—Joseph Troy  
(Rockingham, WA)

## Leadership Styles

To the Editor,

Barry Jenkins' letter on submission ("AC" 4 November) dismisses three basic methods of leadership as inappropriate to the church situation. That is autocratic, democratic and laissez faire (free reign).

Autocratic leadership in certain situations will be effective and successful when the democratic or free reign approaches would fail.

Democratic leadership under the right conditions will give better results than any other method.

Free reign leadership also under the right conditions will produce more successful results than either of the other methods, and this is true despite the fact that it is often written off as ineffective.

A successful leader can use all three approaches. He orders (autocratic) on one phase of the problem; he consults (democratic method) on another phase; and he suggests an objective (free reign) in planning for similar problems.

The skill of leadership lies largely in knowing when to use which method. Your problem then is to learn to vary techniques to fit the changing conditions and people you meet in your work.

The skill with which you apply the three basic tools of leadership, autocratic, democratic and free reign techniques, determines your personal success as a leader. The respect will follow.

—Graham Thomas  
(Croydon, Vic)

## Christian Endeavour

To the Editor,

Churches of Christ were the first to introduce Christian Endeavour to Australia (Geelong 1883). Are they to be the first to abolish it?

Christian Endeavour has been a training ground for leadership and ministry throughout this land and beyond its shores.

Among its many facets of evangelism and mission, its focus on commitment of self and substance has a proven record.

Its emphasis on commitment to your own church in faithful attendance, giving by tithes and offerings, daily prayer and Bible reading are surely not outdated.

Ministers and elders, think carefully before you dismiss CE from your church program. Perhaps what you need to do is expand it through all grades and encourage its leaders.

—Dorothy Elliot  
(Jannali, NSW)

## Psychology and Christianity

To the Editor,

The news item ("AC" 21 October) on Jay Adams at Kenmore deserves some comment. This report stated: "The basic presuppositions of psychology and Christianity are

incompatible." This is a sweeping statement and very misleading. Psychology can be described as the study of mental life, and the only presuppositions are the ones each individual brings.

I am a Christian and a psychologist. There are thousands of Christian psychologists. This study covers an enormous area of human knowledge and inquiry such as perception, child development, educational theory and practice, counselling, society, individual differences, mental and physical handicap, testing, human communication etc. All have taught me something about the human condition.

Lecturers in our theological colleges should encourage students to seek truth in this very significant area of inquiry and integrate it into a full understanding of human life.

There are some psychologists who are anti-religion, and some theories are very materialistic, but surely anyone capable of tertiary study has to be able to sort the wheat from the chaff.

Dr Francis McNabb of the Cairn Miller Institute, Melbourne, is one example of a Christian psychologist who has a teaching and counselling institute which thoroughly integrates the Christian faith with psychology. I could also point to my mate Kevin Harvey.

—Alan Cant  
(Bindoon, WA)

[Edited to fit 200 word limit on Letters to the Editor]

## Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

To the Editor,

The "Doctrine of the Holy Spirit" being the common denominator of the tongues movement requires that Christians study it to see whether it agrees with Scriptural authority. Someone's "discussion of heresy, I believe, or I don't dare offend my brethren" is not the Christian's authority.

Paul dares suggest that leaders teaching another gospel are servants of Satan and Paul demonstrates that the truth is worth fighting for (2 Corinthians 11:3,4; 2 Corinthians



# Letters to the Editor

11:13-15; Ephesians 4:14).

Acts 8:14-17 is the only recorded story where the Spirit hadn't come upon the people at the time of conversion. A study of the historical principle of Bible interpretation shows the delay was in order to convince Peter and John that God accepted the Samaritans (verse 17).

Christians will be ablaze, invincible, turning the world upside down when they allow the Holy Spirit which has indwelt and sealed them to "control" them. The New Testament word "fill" means "control".

Lastly, when my Christian friends' "tongues speaking" doesn't marry up with or come even close to Scriptural principles and practices then I will fight its being taught within Churches of Christ, a fight not exclusive to any unscriptural doctrine being taught as a necessary step after salvation.

—Debby Wyllie

**NEW HOPE  
CAN BE YOURS  
DIAL (03) 11610**

**BICHENO, TASMANIA**

**Seaview Camp**

Units for hire  
Powered sites  
Group camping  
Tennis court  
An area of great  
scenic attraction

**Manager:**

**Phone (003) 75 1247**

*Vic-Tas Department of  
Mission, Education and  
Development*

Have you thought of helping  
"The Australian Christian"  
in its ministry among  
Churches of Christ?

**Why not include us in your will?**  
The following wording could be used in your will:  
I give and bequeath \$ ..... (or a percentage of the total estate) to "The Australian Christian", the national journal of Churches of Christ in Australia, absolutely for the use and benefit of the organisation free from all debts, funeral and testamentary expenses.

## Visiting Canberra? Stay with a Church Family

A number of Canberra church families offer accommodation in their homes at basic bed and breakfast rates to help raise funds for "Home Mission" extensions in the ACT

*If you would like to enjoy friendly "one of the family" hospitality in Canberra write for particulars to:*

**Pat and Warwick Wright**  
28 Kidston Crescent,  
Curtin 2605  
Phone (062)81 3088

**Barbara Kennedy**  
6 Sharp Place,  
Melba 2615  
Phone (062)58 1360

*Advance bookings appreciated*

Enjoy God's Creation  
in the peaceful  
surroundings of

**FERN VALLEY  
GUEST HOUSE**  
Balook

Comfortable accommodation,  
home cooking,  
open log fires

Your hosts: Des, Prue  
and Aileen Davidson  
Phone (051) 96 6141  
Grand Ridge Road  
Balook 3971

**L. C. F. Higgins**

**Chartered  
Accountant**

7 The Parade  
Norwood SA 5067  
Phones (08) 362 1665  
& (08) 362 8619

**FRANKSTON  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**GREENWAYS**

**RETIREMENT VILLAGE**  
330-356 FRANKSTON-  
DANDENONG ROAD,  
SEAFORD 3198

1 & 2 BR Villas

Motel Type Hostel Suites  
**PHONE (03) 786 8679**  
Waiting List Now Open



**SWANSTON STREET  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Melbourne**

(cnr Swanston &  
Little Lonsdale Streets)

**Sunday**

9.00 a.m. & 11 a.m. Worship & Communion  
Services  
7.00 p.m. Gospel Celebration

For further enquiries, please ring (03) 663 3884

**KNEELER DESIGN PTY LTD**

ARCHITECTURE  
PLANNING  
INTERIORS  
LANDSCAPE



**CURRENT PROJECT**

MAJOR ADDITIONS & ALTERATIONS  
TO GLEN WAVERLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST  
TELEPHONE (03) 481 2293 OR 391 5598  
234-236 DOUGLAS PDE,  
NEWPORT, VIC 3015

## Les Lawlor says...

I stand behind every Lawlor Pest Control job personally—all types of buildings—anywhere. Everything unconditionally guaranteed! Weeds—birds on roofs—Argentina and all other ants—"white ants"—borers—carpet pests—lawn pests, in fact, any pest that grows, walks or flies.

**LAWLORS PTY. LTD.**  
THE PEST CONTROL PEOPLE  
6-10 Henley St., Torrensville  
Phone (08) 43 9636





# Media Review

## Papers

### Homeless Youth

In the latest Zadok paper, John Harris discusses the tragic level of homelessness among Australia's children and young people.

*Our Homeless Children*, the report of the National Inquiry into Homeless Children, provides staggering proof of a desperate situation—the large number of young Australians who are homeless, disillusioned and damaged, and who despair of any future. How to care for these children and young people is an urgent and extremely important challenge to the Australian community.

John Harris's paper gives the facts, culled from the report and other sources, and then stresses the Biblical teaching that God demands that Christians respond with both compassion and justice. After analysing some of the underlying causes of child homelessness, the paper offers a Christian's thoughts on preventing homelessness and despair. Prevention is a difficult and complex challenge, but there is also the need for immediate response. We can do much more to answer the physical needs of the homeless but only the Christ they see in us can give them hope.

*Homeless Youth: The Facts and a Christian's Response*, Zadok Series 1 Paper, S43, is available from the Zadok Institute for Christianity and Society, Blackall St, Barton 2600, phone (062) 73 1634 for \$2 plus 80c postage.

## Books

### My Advent

#### Story & Activity Book

By Gordon and Charlotte Stowell (Word Publishing)  
\$13.90

In recent years the custom of an Advent calendar with an addition each day until Christmas Day has become more prevalent in Australia. This Advent calendar/activities book is designed for young children and has an attractive cover and stickers (which are reusable). Each day there is either a puzzle or a picture to draw and a story that fills out the Christmas story for youngsters. It is suitable for young children, although they may need help with one or two of the puzzles. The price seemed a little high for this type of material but for once it does not have Santa Claus and other extraneous Christmas stories introduced.

—CRA

### With One Accord

*The Beginning of an Aussie Awakening*  
Executive Editor Anne Nanscawen, contributing editors Mal Garvin & Richard Palmer  
(Anzea Publishers) \$9.95

50,000 Christians gathered in 1988 to pray before the opening



of the new Parliament House. *With One Accord* is the story of how the National Prayer Gathering came into being once many realised that there may not be any prayer for the establishment of the new Parliament. This is the story of various streams of concern that merged to form the gathering. The story is told of the way people came to make the decision to attend in Canberra, details the events of the weekend itself and asks some penetrating questions about the media coverage they received.

The second part of the book contains some of the addresses made to the vigils the night before Parliament was opened. The participants came from a variety of Christian traditions. Their addresses raise a variety of concerns that Christians in Australia face and should be read by all in the church.

This book would be of interest to anyone who participated in the National Prayer Gathering. Others would be interested in the organisation and exactly what happened over the weekend. The real benefit of the book in my view is that of the various addresses to the vigil.

One small quibble I had on reading the book was that on page 58 the President of Churches of Christ was named as George Watts. The Federal Conference President at the time was George Powell.

—CRA

### The Church in the Bible and the World

THE CHURCH  
IN THE BIBLE  
AND THE WORLD  
Edited by  
D.A. Carson

An International Study  
edited by D.A. Carson (The Paternoster Press/Baker Book House)

This is the second volume produced by the Faith and Church study unit established by the World Evangelical Fellowship.

The first, *Biblical Interpretation and the Church: Text and Context*, attempted to probe some of the hermeneutical problems relevant to understanding the nature, scope and mission of the church in various cultures. The members of the study unit then decided that it might be wise to put some of that study to use in a second volume that would try

to formulate some biblically informed and hermeneutically sensitive statements on the doctrine of the church. This book is the result.

The essay topics in this volume are: The Biblical Theology of the Church; The Church as a Heavenly and Eschatological Entity (written by P.T. O'Brien from Moore Theological College, Sydney); Worship in the New Testament Church; Ministry in the New Testament; Church and Mission: Reflections on Contextualization and the Third Horizon; Syncretism, Secularism and Renewal and The Church and Persecution.

These are fairly academic essays on the church's identity and mission taken from different social contexts.



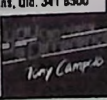
—CRA

## WORD bookstore

Books • Bibles • Records • Cassettes • Music • Gifts  
Discount Prices. Mail & Phone orders welcome. Credit cards accepted.

**Christian Video Library**  
Movies for Youth, Children, General audiences. Studies by top speakers.

18-26 Canterbury Rd, Heathmont, Vic. 3777  
200 Huntingdale Road, East Oakleigh, Vic. 3444  
65 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000  
2422 Logan Rd, Eight Mile Plains, Qld. 341 8500



# Happenings

Two Christian broadcasters, Rhema and CBA, are among 44 organisations interested in bidding for 36 ultra-high frequency television channels being offered currently in New Zealand.

Religious freedoms in Mozambique have been restored, according to US relief agencies working in the country. Churches in the Marxist country are full and operating without Government interference.

Pastors who have fled from East Germany will not be given jobs automatically by the Evangelical Church (Lutheran) in West Germany, church leaders have stated. Only pastors who have been officially released by their home churches will be employed.

Over 3,000 new congregations were registered in the USSR last year, according to figures released recently by the Council for Religious Affairs. Yuri Kristoradnov, the chairman of the Council, said that the increase in registrations was not due to an outburst of religiosity. He claimed that it was more a case of religious groups getting back their former rights.

The 4th biennial congress of the Australian Association for Urban Mission is being held in Prahran, Vic, 8-11 June 1990. Further details from Rev R. Stewart Culbard, Ecumenical Coalition for Urban Ministry, 2A Chapel St, St Kilda 3182. Phone (03) 529 4377.

The Overseas Missionary Fellowship has several vacancies for teachers and child care workers beginning early 1990. Two schools for missionaries' children, one in the Philippines and the other in Malaysia but hoping to move to Singapore, need teachers. Workers are also needed for 6-8 week periods throughout 1990 to care for the young children of new missionaries during orientation

courses in Singapore. Details from Susan Sandral, OMF Candidates Secretary, PO Box 849, Epping 2121. Phone (02) 868 4777.

Asia has 58.6% of the world's population, but only 4% are Christian. Less than 23% of the world's missionaries are in Asia.

Australia's birth rate is now 12% below the long-term replacement rate, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The number of births per woman is now half of what it was in the late 1950s.

The Venezuelan Government has ceased granting visas to most evangelical missionaries seeking permits to enter the country, reports the Evangelical Council of Venezuela. Attempts to change the situation have been fruitless during the last 2 years.

A UN 5-year plan for saving the rain forests would cost the annual equivalent of half a day of worldwide military spending.

The world has 5,240 million people now, and there are 90 million more each year. Unless things change we will double the population in 39 years.

In the midst of the civil war that has erupted over the copper mine on the Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville, the local Christian church is experiencing something of a revival which started shortly after the violence and unrest began. The 10 United churches on Bougainville have a combined membership of 100,000 from a population of 200,000. The church has also taken a hand in trying to bring the parties involved in the dispute together.

Some Christian book publishers have warned that Australia's religious publishing industry would be wiped out if proposals to deregulate the book market were enacted.

Churches in Australia have set aside 3 December as AIDS Sunday. It follows closely after World AIDS Day on 1 December.

In rural Costa Rica, 50% of families are landless, while export cattle ranches occupy 54% of productive land.

According to 1988-89 enrolment figures for Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) seminaries and divinity houses 40% of MDiv students are women. Of the 927 students there were 39 blacks, 2 native Americans, 3 Asians and 3 Hispanics.

The administrative committee of the World Convention of Churches of Christ to be held in 1992 at Long Beach, California, has chosen the theme "God's Dominion: From Sea to Sea". Fred Craddock, professor at the Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, Georgia, will be the Jesse M. Bader Lecturer and Preacher on Contemporary Evangelism.

The Tasmanian Synod of the Uniting Church has called for the decriminalisation of homosexuality, as part of moves to reduce the spread of AIDS.

FEBA ranks 4th in popularity among the major international shortwave broadcasters serving in Tanzania, according to a listeners' survey carried out by the BBC. This is after Deutschwelle, the BBC and Radio South Africa, but ahead of Voice of America, Radio Moscow and other stations. The total audience for FEBA's Swahili language programs is about half a million people.

There are now more Australian women aged 25-29 in de facto relationships than are married.

Though living together in a "trial marriage" before officially tying the knot is widely believed to increase mari-

tal stability, recent studies show that Americans who live together before marriage separate and divorce much more frequently than do traditional couples. The study found that within a decade of their wedding 38% of those who had lived together had split up, significantly more than the 27% of those who got married before living together.

A government report has predicted that a possible 300,000-485,000 Americans will be diagnosed with AIDS by the end of 1991.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Robert Schuller Institute for Successful Church leadership the next seminar, 24-27 January 1990, will be free. Tuition costs have been dropped for the special event. The seminar is held at the Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, California. Over the 20 years more than 500 Australians have participated in these seminars. Further information from Robert Schuller Ministries, PO Box 1407, North Sydney 2059. Phone (02) 959 4060.

The 1989 assembly of the Baptist Union of Scotland has voted to have nothing to do with the Inter-Church Process being developed in the UK. They rejected full membership by 345 to 152 votes and associate membership by 261 to 222 votes. A further resolution stating that the BU of Scotland would not be part of the new ecumenical instruments in any way was then passed by 234 to 217 votes.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong has ordained the first woman pastor in its 35 year history.

The Free Church Council of Hungary has decided that "in the changed circumstances there is no need for the organisation", so it is going out of business. The Council used to perform adminis-

trative functions with regard to several smaller Hungarian denominations on behalf of the State Office for Church Affairs. Last April, the Adventists withdrew from the Council, and the State Office was abolished.

Mount Zion, a regional Baptist association in the US state of Kentucky, has withdrawn fellowship from a congregation, First Baptist of Corbin, because it ordained two women as deacons.

In South Australia the Anglican Church is so concerned people are not eating properly it has opened a special restaurant where people can cook and eat their own meals for \$2. The Low Way cafe at Elizabeth was officially opened on 2 November and will be the first in a series of restaurants where people can learn how to cook healthy, cheap meals.

A "new wave" AIDS epidemic that has hit the United States has frightening consequences for Australia, says a report from the Catholic Church. The report warns that the poor and underprivileged, and especially women and children, are now most vulnerable to the AIDS virus as the AIDS virus has moved into the heterosexual community.

Ethiopia's ruling party is holding emergency meetings to consider ways of containing the growing threat by the Tigrean rebel forces. Just as the Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front has pushed the Ethiopian government forces out of its province, so the Tigrean Peoples Liberation Front has pushed to within 350 km of Addis Ababa. Many of the towns that were the focus of the enormous relief efforts in the famine of 1984-85 are now embroiled in the war. Reports say the famine situation is the same as 1984, but because of the close fighting, there is a much lower capacity for response.



# Home Missions in Western Australia

"Stepping Up for the '90s"

## New Churches in 1988-89

### Alexander Heights

Planted in 1988 by Warwick, who provided support to Balga to allow Rob Frazer to give part-time ministry.

John Caporn will commence the first full-time ministry with the church in 1990 with some subsidy.

### Quairading

Commenced by Kalamunda with Dean Smith after 18 months of weekly Bible studies in the town.

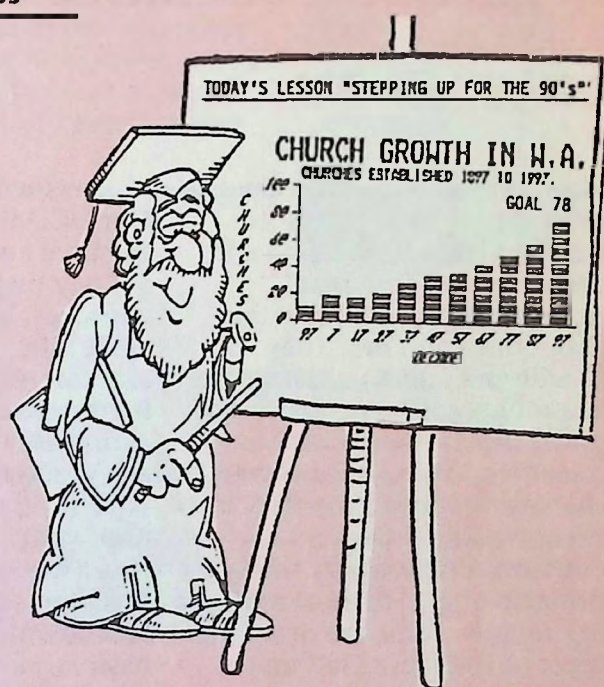
They expect to be fully supporting in 1 year.

### Foothills

Planted just over a year ago by the Home Mission Committee in a big step of faith with support from Kalamunda, Maylands and Thornlie. They were almost self-supporting with 44 members on their first anniversary. The Brotherhood purchased 2.3 acres with a manse for the future development. David Timms is the church planter.



Foothills first family camp



## New Ministries in 1990

### Bridgetown/Manjimup

Will have Errol Kirk as a full-time minister after many years without a minister. The Committee is assisting them.

### Mandurah

Negotiations for a full-time ministry to recommence should be finalised by now. The retirement town will be declared a city in 1990. Young couples abound now and the church is relocating to a new housing area on 2.5 acres.

## New Growth for the '90s

The Committee has the goal of assisting the Church in W.A. to plant two new churches per year through the 1990s.

Areas in mind are Currambine/Burns in the north, Success/Yangebup and Warnboro in the South during 1990-91.

## Annual Offering 26 November



# Churches of Christ in NSW

## Department of Church Development and Education

### Bless 'em All

Many of you will remember the old wartime song "Bless 'em all, Bless 'em all, the long and the short and the tall..."

At DCD we feel a bit like that about our churches. They come in all types and sizes. From the Wollongong super church right down to Katoomba with its 5 members. We have churches that are very contemporary in their worship style, and churches that are very traditional. Some of them are growing rapidly, some are declining. Most of them are predominantly Anglo-Saxon in composition, but we also have Aboriginal, Korean and Yugoslav congregations, as well as places like Kingsford and Marrickville with a delightful mixture of nationalities attending. At DCD we pray "Bless 'em all."

As well as praying for 'em all we also expend a lot of time, energy and money on many of them. Firstly there are the subsidised churches whose viability depends on the regular subsidy cheques we send to them. Our 1989 subsidy bill amounts to around \$47,000. In 1990 this will probably double as we take on three new pioneering ministries.

DCD subsidies are specifically for Ministry support, not for buildings. The provision of dynamic ministry leadership is the key factor in building a congregation. This is where we put our priority. Subsidies usually run for a period of five years and reduce by 20% each year. This provides an incentive for churches to concentrate on the priority of building

in new members.

Our DCD staff provide most of the time and energy. Each Sunday they preach at various churches. Many weekends they are leading rallies, seminars and camps. During the week they will be meeting with churches and ministers to plan, assess and train people in such vital areas as Christian education, youth work and evangelism. They conduct needs assessment surveys of churches and communities, provide pastoral support to isolated ministers, visit country churches, research new areas, raise money, teach in the College, represent Churches of Christ on a number of inter-church bodies, and run the most extensive youth program of any of our state conferences. Now you know why they often aren't in the office when you call. They are out on the job! In most families it is the mother who keeps everyone together, particularly as the kids grow and develop their own separate lives. DCD sees its role as being somewhat similar. Many of our churches were brought to birth by DCD or its forerunner the Dept of Home Missions and Evangelism.

Now, as the family keeps on growing and each part tends to go its separate way, DCD tries to maintain and develop that sense of linkage between the churches, so that together we can accomplish what we cannot do separately, so that God will bless 'em all.

Bob Smith



*I will build my Church*  
Jesus



## Plans for the '90s

Three new initiatives are central to our planning for the '90s. CROP, the church planting plan, is well under way with a number of new churches in the process of formation and others in the early planning stages. In the evangelism and education areas new initiatives are set to be announced early in 1990 under the *Australia Grow* theme. These two thrusts are part of a nationwide development strategy.

Don Smith, Executive Director



Don Smith



New converts at the Richmond Vietnamese congregation with Pastor T. Hguyen, left, who assisted Nathan Nhan, second from the right



Ian Corlett



Cheryl Johnson



Mike Folland



Jeff Weston, Collins Street minister, Leon Clarke, Midway Point, Secretary, and Colin Orr, a Department Tasmanian representative, discussing development plans

## Evangelism Initiatives

Nathan Nhan, one of the Department's team of church planters, is leading the Richmond Vietnamese congregation into a significant period of growth. At an evangelistic service in September, ten people made confessions of faith. In October six others were baptised. Visitation indicates an opportunity to reach new Chinese residents. A new work commenced on October 29 to evangelise these people.

## New Projects

Ian Corlett began a new western suburbs outreach this year. The project is based at Sunshine, where already there has been good growth in attendances and interest. New groups are being formed to maximise development opportunities. Cheryl Johnson will head a new outreach to singles in 1990. The focus will be on Sunday evening worship centred at East Kew. The project will be open to all but will be especially programmed to reach single people. It has the backing of the Serendipity Singles Group. At The Patch Mike Folland begins the church's first full-time ministry in 1990. Each project is a new Department-sponsored development initiative.

## Tasmanian Development

At Midway Point an 80 m x 80 m site has been leased from Sorell Council and a building will shortly be moved on site. In 1990 Midway Point is seeking to establish a new ministry in association with Collins Street, Hobart, Church. In November a meeting will be held to discuss the formation of a new fellowship at Berriedale in Hobart's northern suburbs. Each project has the Department's enthusiastic support.

**Department of Mission, Education and Development  
Victoria-Tasmania**

**52 La Trobe Street, Melbourne 3000**



# Classifieds

## BIRTHS

**DEWBERRY (BUCKMASTER)** Susan and Stephen thank God for the safe arrival of Michelle Loren, born 24 October 1989. Precious little sister for Simon and Nicole.

## ENGAGEMENTS

**RYALL—MOFFAT** Rosemary and David (Doncaster) together with Joy and Trevor are delighted to announce the engagement of Pam (younger daughter) and David (only son) on 11 November 1989. May God bless and guide them into the future.

**SHANNON—BRUCE** With much pleasure Olwyn, Peter and Doreen announce the engagement of Judith to Andrew. Wishing God's blessing on their future together. Marriage 20 January.

## GOLDEN WEDDINGS

**BLUNDELL (MARTIN)** Burt and Ivy celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on 18 November. The marriage took place at Cottesloe Church of Christ in 1939. Lorraine, Maureen, Mark and Carolyn along with sons-in-law and six grandchildren thank God for your loving marriage and home. Congratulations. 55 Wood Street, Swanbourne 6010. Telephone (09) 384 2360.

## DIAMOND WEDDINGS

**WITTICK—VOSTI** Leslie and Beatrice. Married 30 November 1929 at the Ascot Vale Church of Christ by Harold J. Patterson. Bridesmaids Gwen Wilson (nee Richards) and Nita Stephens (nee Vosti). Best man Bill Wittick. Groomsman Jack Vosti. Their whole family is delighted to congratulate them both on this day. Ken and Gwynneth, Rob and Dianne. Grandchildren: Raoul, Glen (and Christine), Simon (and Rebecca); Tony, Karl, Angela, Jennifer and Ben. Great-grandchildren Rebekkah and Joshua.

**Open House at the Witticks.** Sunday, 26 November, from 2 pm onwards. Address: 33 Myross Ave, Ascot Vale 3032. Bea and Les particularly request that there be no gifts please. Donations may be sent to the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind mentioning their Diamond Wedding anniversary.

## IN MEMORIAM

**MORFFEY** Elvie Victoria. Cherished memories of our loved Mum and Nana, called home 14 November 1988—Beryl, Sylvia, Linda and families.

**MOTT** Myrtle Emily. 16 November 1988. The memory of your love and devotion to us, the example we

learned from you, the Spirit of God working in you and through you, these gifts we shall always cherish. The Mott family.

**THOMAS** In precious memory of our mother, Hilda Thomas, passed away 17 November 1970, and our father, James E. Thomas, passed away 27 November 1944. "Reunited in glory, still loved and missed by children, grandchildren and many friends."

## PIANO WANTED

**AVONSLEIGH** Church of Christ require a piano for Sunday School (developing outreach work). Contact Mrs Burnside on (059) 68 3940 if you are able to assist.

## PLEASE HELP

**MELBOURNE** Country girl (mid 20s) who's needing reasonably cheap accommodation with other Christian girl(s) in city or suburbs near public transport. House or hostel. Phone Wendy on (056) 82 2721.

## SHARE ACCOMMODATION

**CAMBERWELL/BURWOOD** Large house. Close to all shops and public transport. Person over 21. Phone Allan on (03) 889 5082.

## FOR SALE

**TREASURES OLD AND NEW** Hartwell Church of Christ, Highfield Road. Saturday 25 November 9.30-4.30. Proceeds direct to Miss Edna Vawser for poor and needy in India.



CHELTENHAM  
CHURCH OF  
CHRIST

## CHRISTIAN RETIREMENT CENTRE

14 Chesterville Road  
Cheltenham 3192  
A resident funded centre  
comprising 1 and 2 bedroom  
units  
Enquiries welcomed  
Phone manager  
(03) 584 5202

## TO LET

**CALOUNDRA, SUNSHINE COAST**, Queensland 2 bedroom units. 2 minutes walk from Kings Beach. Rates from \$130 p.w. off season to \$390 p.w. holiday season. Phone (071) 91 7454.

**HOUSEBOAT** "White Heron" 10 berth. Moored at Blanchetown, SA Phone (08) 380 5009 or (085) 40 5100 or write PO Box 65, St Agnes 5097.

## BUILDERS

**IAN & L.A. McDONALD** Carpenters and builders. Renovations—kitchens and bathrooms. All jobs large and small. For free quotes please ring (03) 557 1257. 41 Somers St, Bentleigh.

## HOLIDAYS

**MACALISTER LODGE** For your next family or group weekend en-

joy true Australian nature at its finest. Situated at Lake Glenmaggie, Central Gippsland, bordering the high country wilderness. Michelle and Dave Sanders cater for groups ranging from families to youth or senior citizens. You can enjoy many of our organised sport or bush activities or just do your own thing. Groups of 8-15 people, Friday evening to Sunday evening \$80 all inclusive of accommodation, meals. Includes transport to and from if required. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information on (03) 786 6001 (AH).

**GRAMPIANS SUNRISE HOLIDAY UNITS** Modern FSC 2 BR units at Pomonal. Superb views, peaceful farm setting. Bertram family resident owners. Phone (053) 56 6300.

**GRAMPIANS** See beautiful Halls Gap in the spring. Holiday home available to accommodate 6. Phone (055) 62 4869.

## Kidsmin Publications presents...



This is  
an ideal  
resource for  
kids' clubs,  
Sunday  
school  
and  
worship,  
or just  
travelling  
in the  
car...

Hey!  
Wouldn't it make  
an ideal gift for  
someone special?

Recommended  
Retail Price  
Tape  
**\$11.95**  
Book  
**\$6.95**  
plus postage

Inquiries may be directed to M.J. Palmer, c/o Blackwood Church of Christ, PO Box 476, Blackwood 5051



# Media Review

## Susanna Wesley

by Sandy Dengler (Moody Press) \$7.60

The mother of the founder of the Methodist Church was an extremely intelligent young woman, deprived of the opportunity to further her studies begun at home by the social mores of the time. A mark of her individualism is the fact that she chose, at the age of 13, to join the Church of England. The book attempts to introduce the reader to the way her life may have been, based on the few biographical details that are known.

It is light reading, not intent on developing many well-rounded characters, concentrating on some of the major events in the lives of Susanna and her husband Sam, a Church of England minister. The fact that the book commences with 13-year-old Susanna and concludes with her death at 73, yet can be read in two or three hours, indicates the brevity of the incidents described.

The study of the relationship between Susanna and Sam is thought-provoking. We can only admire this woman who went through many hard times, including the loss of nine of her 19 children, and yet maintained her Christian witness and her methodical way of sharing this with her family. The results have been far-reaching.

—JT

## Christmas Material

Standard Publishing, Ohio

Deja vu. There are so many books full of this kind of material that I didn't expect to find anything excitingly different. I was right. This is one period of the year when Sunday School leaders don't have to go dashing to books to find material—who can beat the story of the birth of Jesus? Let tradition or your imagination run riot with thoughts of things to do. However, if you are really stumped for ideas maybe you could look at one of the following:

1. Christmas Programs for Children (No. 4) compiled by Pat Fittro

Poems and plays. The poems are short and sweet, but the plays are long, full of deep meanings and generally beyond the acting ability or comprehension of children.

2. Christmas Games and Puzzles by Shirley Beegle

A higher standard than the others in the collection. It is reproducible, uses the NIV, has a wide variety of games and puzzles and is fairly easy for 6-8 year olds. The activities can also be used elsewhere other than Sunday School—they would be good for families on holidays with young children

3. Standard Christmas Program Book (Anniversary Edition) compiled by Pat Fittro

Like the first book, this has poems and plays with Thanksgiving material tossed in as well. The poems are good and the plays of a higher standard but some I wouldn't use. The use of the King James Bible is completely out of context for Australian children.

4. Bible Puzzle Time "Christians in Action" by Cindy Flanagan; "Jesus Fulfills God's Plan" by H. Friesen and K. Jessie

Suitable for older children (7-12), each book contains thirteen puzzles on the one theme. They use the NIV and are of a medium difficulty. However, they are not reproducible, so you have to have one book for every child, and which Sunday school has one theme for thirteen weeks? They could be useful as a backup for the "child-who-always-finishes-first".

5. Christmas Programs for the Church (No. 22) compiled by Pat Fittro

This hits the bottom of my favourites list. Long Christmas (and Thanksgiving) plays definitely for adults only. They would take a long time to prepare and enact. The standard is generally good and the play for the disabled is of a high standard but personally I tend to think that short simple skits would be more effective.

—C. Clun

## OUTBACK CHRISTIANS-IN-MINISTRY

Taking the Gospel to the Outback in the Language of the Bush  
Please help us to help isolated Christians with communion services and pastoral care by sending their names and addresses to—Free Post OCMO57

Outback Christians-in-Ministry

101 Nicholson St, Dalby, Qld 4405

All donations sent to the above address will be personally acknowledged

Help Us Stay Back Out in the Outback

L.M.C.T.  
6549

*Ken Geyer*

## SELECT USED CARS

49 Bond Street, Ringwood 3134

Telephone: (03) 879 4004

A.H. (03) 722 1780

CONTACT KEN IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR  
A USED CAR OR NEED TO RENT ONE

IAN F. KNIGHT, LLB, BCom

## BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR

REGISTERED TAX AGENT

Conveyancing, Common Law, Estates and Wills,  
Taxation, Personal Injuries,  
Business and Company Law

10 Best Street

48 Madlgan Drive

North Fitzroy 3068

Glen Waverley 3150

Phone (03) 481 0854

Phone (03) 561 5879

Withlt Church of Christ

This Sunday:  
Self Service

Self Service Communion

No waiting, no fuss, easy access

Self Service Sermons

Choose from 15 different speakers

Video or audio cassettes and  
earphones

RNH



## Comment

# Letters from Elizabeth

*Elizabeth Nommensen is a young school teacher who in 1988 worked as a govern-ess on Brightlands station about 90 km south of the highway between Cloncurry and Mount Isa. The following extracts from her letters indicate the appreciation that is expressed by isolated Christians being ministered to by Outback Christians-in-Ministry.*

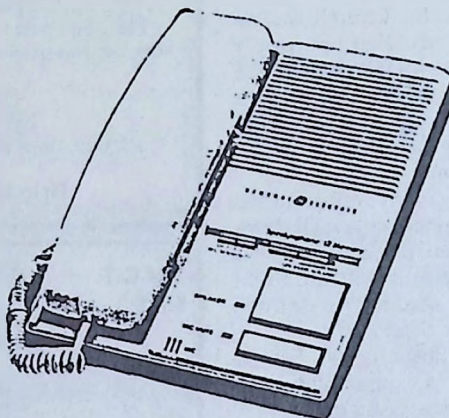
I'm still enjoying life out here, but the Lord has taught me to make fellowship a priority. I have reached my limit going in my own strength.

I really look forward to Phone Fellowship and each time I've joined in, it has been a real ministry to me—just the chance to hear other Christians praying is great, let alone the things I always learn from the messages. The Hebrews passage about "let us" was great. The Lord was teaching me then about not neglecting meeting together.

*Each Phone Fellowship (communion service) lasts between 30 and 40 minutes and provides communion, sermon and share/prayer time. All participants can talk to each other. We can connect a guest speaker from anywhere in Australia and we try to have a first-class message each service.*

It was a terrific surprise the other week to hear Adrian Risson speak, even though it made me a bit homesick for my old congregation for a couple of days. That time with the group helped me to be more aware of my role here as a Christian and I've noticed that in the last couple of weeks my Christianity has been mentioned more among the people here.

Phone fellowship is fine but there is great excitement when some of our fellow-



shippers get an opportunity to get together "in the flesh".

Last Sunday Kevin and Rhyll McNicol and Davina and some other Christians (all from Cloncurry) came here for a bush barbecue. It was a real boost for me, and their Christian presence made an impact.

*But it is the regular week-by-week fellowship that really counts.*

I'm really looking forward to this week's fellowship over the phone. It makes such a difference you wouldn't believe. Knowing that I have that regular support in meeting with other Christians helps me step out as a Christian—before, I got overwhelmed when I could only go to church once in three of four weeks.

I am hoping to take up another governing position in the Cloncurry/Julia Creek area next year.

I very much enjoy the lifestyle, so I'm praying that the Lord would go before me and lead me to where he wants me to live and work. One thing is for sure—I wouldn't

think twice about being far out of town if it weren't for Outback Christians-in-Ministry—and I will make the availability of a phone on the station one of the criteria in choosing a job.

*Early this year Elizabeth took up her new position as a relieving governess in a 16,000 km<sup>2</sup> area in central Queensland. This has provided her with greater opportunities to be a Christian witness and to trust the Lord. We have two services each Sunday—8 am and 5 pm.*

I've finally arrived at my first appointment so if this reaches you in time, I'd like to be contacted for the 8 am Phone Fellowship. I am on a station called Albro about 400 km south west of Charters Towers. From a station north of here where I had an overnight stopover, it was only supposed to be a three-hour drive in my four-wheel-drive Jeep. The "mud map" I'd been given was hopeless and I got lost on the bush tracks. It took me seven hours of driving to get here and it was dark by this stage.

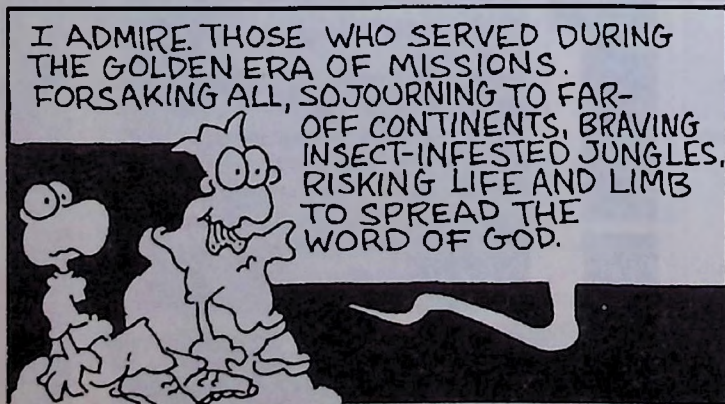
*Another appointment, another letter.*

Looking forward to next Phone Fellowship (I'll need it). Church is very far away—about three hours I think.

Here the only phone is in the main kitchen/living area and there are five children in the family so I may not be able to talk or pray or even hear you well, but my main prayer points are: safe travelling between stations (I'd be scared and lonely on those long stretches if I didn't know the Lord was watching over me) and an influence for the Lord on the families I live with, especially the children, many of whom I return to about 2-3 times in the year.



## Pontius' Puddle





## Student Profile

# David and Lyz Reynolds

David and Lyz Reynolds are a married couple studying at the Churches of Christ Theological College, Mulgrave, Vic. David is undertaking the four-year ministry course while Lyz is pursuing part-time study and caring for their five children. David writes:

**C**oming 4,000 km to CCTC has been a great personal challenge to me and my wife.

We are here in Melbourne because of my own response to a call experience, and the endorsement of the appropriateness of that experience by Lyz and by events that only God could know or order.

After 18 months of passionate prayer, I experienced, first, the cancellation of my job, then a call experience—which I only tentatively shared with Lyz. Her response was, "I've been waiting a year for this." A few days later this was followed by the totally unsolicited visit of Milton Oliver, a student from the College. He challenged me with the question: "Is there anything happening in your life which indicates



that God is calling you to ministry?" It wasn't just that these events and directions in my life were affirmed by Christians—but more significantly that they were affirmed by non-Christians.

My conviction that CCTC was the right place for me propelled me into full-time study last year, and that faith still sustains me today.

However, I am now also borne along by my own excitement of the knowledge of

God, which is being revealed to me day by day. Furthermore, I am drawn towards a vision that is becoming clearer; that of joining in the exciting work of being God's representative in ministering to his people full time, through Churches of Christ. I am fascinated and humbled that others find themselves touched by God's love and concern when we meet together. I find that that experience is the most encouraging and sustaining experience of them all.

For me, College has been the most exciting and fulfilling educational experience of my

life. Christian community support and encouragement intersect with the dedicated challenge of equipping people for the tasks of Christian ministry.

While I am growing in my faith and my understanding of God and his will, I join with Paul in saying: "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me."—Philippians 3:12 (NIV)

## Comment

# Why Give to the Christmas Bowl?

by E.L. Williams



**T**he Christmas Bowl is the major appeal of World Christian Action (formerly Inter-Church Aid), a department of the Australian Council of Churches.

I wish to share 11 reasons why I support this appeal and urge others to support it.

1. It is part of a world-wide co-operative Christian program committed to relief, development, justice and education and is carefully supervised.

2. It is one of the oldest voluntary agencies operating in its field of service.

3. It is primarily an appeal to the churches which are involved in conciliar relationship.

4. Its record of service and expertise has won acceptance and entry, which is sometimes limited, in all countries.

5. It is fraternal and not paternal in that its program is worked out in consultation with national Councils of Churches in receiving countries.

6. It is not sectional but is sponsored by all the churches which are involved in conciliar relationships.

7. With minority opposition and in spite of misleading propaganda the Federal Conference of Churches of Christ has twice voted for conciliar affiliation and from the beginning we have been represented on the World Christian Action Commission and committee.

8. It calls us out of denominational isolation and competition.

9. It is openly and responsibly accountable to the churches which support its program. Each year in *In Unity*, the official publication of the Australian Council of Churches, a full account is given of where and how the money given has been spent in the different parts of the program.

10. It maintains a responsible ratio between promotional costs and the amount raised for its program.

11. My conscience is constantly challenged by two watchwords used by World Christian Action: "If we care we share" and "Live simply that others may simply live."

• E.L. Williams is Principal Emeritus of the Churches of Christ Theological College.



## Comment

# The Two Shall Be One

by Gladys Butler

**G**od the Father and Jesus the Son are one; man and wife are one; man has decreed that he is master of woman. So be it, says the church, calling on Paul for backing.

Today there is a fear, thinly overlaid with jocularly, that woman is trying to "take over". Not true; woman is only now finding the courage to stand up and speak out for what rightly belongs to her as a redeemed soul in Christ. God has removed her guilt of "original sin"... "as far as the east is from the west". Now she is free, Jesus paid the penalty for her as well as for man. Who says that before the fall Eve was "subject" to Adam? There is no further payment for sin.

One churchman was heard to say: "You see, the trouble is, man can never forgive woman for pulling him down."

I think that man probably spoke the truth, even though lightly. But, man did not have to follow woman into sin. The fact is that he did and now we are left with the shared blame.

It is time for forgiving each other and returning all praise to God for his wonder-

ful redemption of the human race. All recrimination is sinful and a slighting of God's plan for our loving acceptance of each other, regardless of the Old Testament stories with their horrifying record of just how deeply mankind has fallen. In the secular world there appears to be evil showing its face as never before; the cleverer we grow the more it is seen to be used for selfishness and greed.

But, even in the churches, men and women are crucifying each other and little children are forced into terrifying situations as they strive hard to reconcile their Christian training with what is happening in their own home. We are not living up to Paul's most read and idealistic interpretation of the term "love" (1 Corinthians 13).

I know that there is an indignation expressed about the new laws that give the wife an equal share of property when there is a breakup of their marriage, I know that it is tragic when the family farm or business has to be sold to do this, especially when the property has been in the family for years and sometimes the marriage has been of short duration, but think of the

former law that give the wife the sewing machine, the pram and the baby, a simplified exegesis I confess, but fairly accurate until about 30 years ago.

It is a comparatively short time since slavery was accepted as lawful, putting the blame on Paul again, and even today we see the Dutch Reformed church just now renouncing their sinful blaming of apartheid on the Holy Scriptures. And woman, she really is the last on the line, she was not entitled to a vote until the turn of the century and then only through much suffering, imprisonment and tears by the suffragettes.

Come on brother, if God calls a woman into the ministry of the church or some other position of authority uphold her in Christian love, shield her from the insults of ignorance as you would a fellow man in the ministry. Remember that men and women are one in the Lord; there is no supremacy based on sex that is God honouring.

• Gladys Butler is a foundation member of the Bruce Rock, WA, church.

## Conspirators

**T**he Federal Minister for Justice, Senator Michael Tate, invited Australian Christians to enter into a conspiracy to help shape the future of Australian society. "We are called upon to become conspirators, of one breath, with the Holy Spirit about whom the great Portuguese explorer, de Quiros, spoke at the turn of the 16th Century when he called the unknown continent 'Australia del Espiritu Santo'—The South Land of the Holy Spirit."

Senator Tate was speaking in Canberra at the fourth National Prayer Breakfast organised by the Parliamentary Christian Fellowship.

He said Christians should celebrate two indications of the work of the Holy Spirit in Australia today.

First, the gathering together in Australia of the descendants of the Aborigines with the descendants of the convicts and early settlers together with migrants and refugees from every tribe of human kind. "We

are living proof of the hope of the Kingdom that all peoples on this planet earth can live together in peace," Senator Tate said.

Second, Australian Christians should celebrate their religious freedom. "We should celebrate the fact that our society was not shackled by an established church

enjoying privileged access to political power. This would stifle the prophetic voice being raised from within the Christian church."

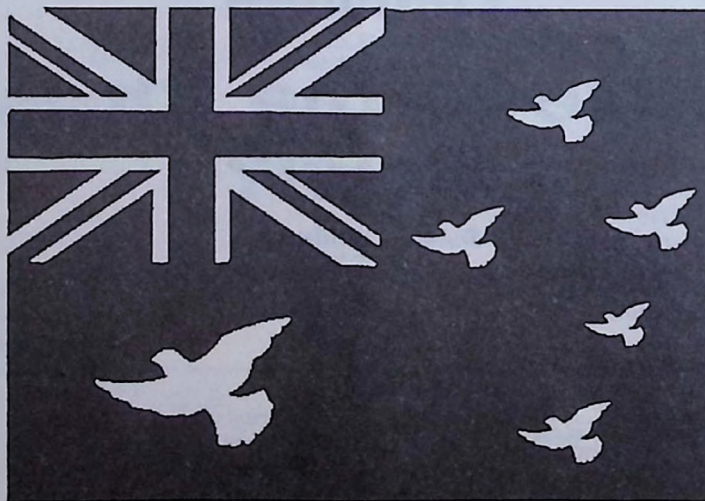
Senator Tate asked: "Which image of the Christian church in Australia do we really believe in?"

"At Port Arthur in my home State of Tasmania, the crumbling ruins of the church guard the entrance to the convict settlement. A clear symbol of a church seduced by political power."

Senator Tate said the alternative symbol was the encircling of the new Parliament House in prayer by Christians, drawn from every denomina-

tion and every tribe which inhabits this country at the National Gathering before the official opening by the Queen in 1988.

Senator Tate said the challenge of the next century lay in Christians devising a consistent life ethic so as to choose life in the many situations where it is in dire threat.





# A Church ABC

**H**ervey Bay is a seaside resort in Queensland, near Maryborough, that attracts many people because of its ideal climate and family style accommodation. It is also known as the gateway to Fraser Island. The once series of little towns along the bay, have merged into one Hervey Bay City.

The Church of Christ is situated on 4 acres in Neil Street, Pi-alba, one block away from the main shopping centre

of the city. The original brick building was built when the church started in 1974 and was extended five years ago to provide an attractive multipurpose facility. The manse is situated next door.

The minister at Hervey Bay is Graeme Thomson. Graeme trained at Kenmore and spent four and a half years with an Aboriginal mission before coming to Hervey Bay, where he has been for five years. He is married with two children.

The membership is officially 85, but an average of 130 meet each week. This includes visitors in the winter months—some people from cooler states such as South Australia and Victoria spend six months of the year in the area. Services are held at 10

am and 7 pm, and the church has all the usual activities—youth group, women's and men's groups and Sunday school. The Sunday school is an all-age one, two adult classes meeting at the same time.

The church has a "Pray for Me" chain. The congregation is divided into groups of seven, one for each day of the week. The group meets after church on the first Sun-

day of the month to share prayer points—personal needs, for persons they are witnessing to and for the ministry of the church, especially evangelism. A praise time meeting is then held on the Saturday at the end of the month.

Activities include barbecues and fishing trips.

The community has great needs, even in paradise. The church runs a youth shelter for homeless youth.

Two live-in house parents run the shelter, which can accommodate 16

people of any age up to 20. The young people are provided with basic domestic and budgeting skills and helped in practical ways to cope with living. Christ is presented in practical ways too, through the lives of those who care for them.

Every second or third Sunday the church has its service at 5 pm on the sands at Torquay, when the church goes to the people. Often there is a barbecue afterwards.

Because of its activities the Hervey Bay church demonstrates that it cares about the community—reaching out, building bridges, helping those in need, offering friendship, so people can see God's love as we know it.

## Focus on Hervey Bay

day of the month to share prayer points—personal needs, for persons they are witnessing to and for the ministry of the church, especially evangelism. A praise time meeting is then held on the Saturday at the end of the month.

The Hervey Bay church is characterised by its service and witness to the community. A playgroup run by the church meets three days a week. This is designed to enable mums and kids to relate to and share with each other. A family day care scheme operates five days a week whose main function is to provide care for children of working parents. The children are placed in individual homes. A fellowship group meets once a month. The only quali-

## Growing Spiritually

*Get the right directions—and heed the warnings!*

### "If You Get to the Brewery..."

by Julie Trinnick

**"Y**ou've gone too far." With these words in mind I set my course for the printer's, not too far from the Overseas Mission Board office in Adelaide. Not having been there before I had requested directions, and the final comment was, "Turn left just past the Coca-Cola factory. If you get to the brewery you've gone too far."

Isn't that the ideal slogan for a temperance society! Words of warning for a newcomer to Adelaide: the Coca-Cola factory is OK, but stop before you reach the brewery. When finding our way in unknown territory we need to be alert to the signs or we may come to the wrong place.

Similarly, when we venture in new directions in the church, or in society, we should look for warning signs. The overconfident person is fair game for trouble.

That truth is summed up in the verse, "Whoever thinks he is standing firm had better be careful that he does not fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12 (TEV))

In relationships, when people are confident that they will be able to maintain control of situations; in programs that begin because of a vision but have the potential to develop in ways that lead to division; in the decisions made concerning career, family and friends: our first step should be to ask for direction.

In 2 Samuel 7 David was feeling very confident, with good reason. God had established his reign and made him a powerful ruler. David announced to Nathan his intention of building a temple. Nathan replied, "Do whatever you have in mind, because the Lord is with you." (2 Samuel 7:3 (TEV)) Subsequent events, however,

showed that what was in David's mind was not the will of God even though it was true that the Lord was with him.

The Lord is also with us, but that does not mean that the dreams and ideas we have, however righteous they may sound, are always in keeping with God's will. For David the sign that he was going in the wrong direction was God's message to him through Nathan. The signs for you and me will be varied. The important thing is to remember to look out for them and to take steps, when necessary, to redirect our courses.

Seek direction, heed the warning signs and praise God as you see him guiding your way.

• Julie Trinnick is the Assistant Director of the Overseas Mission Board.



## Survey

# The Great Reader Survey

**W**hen the last reader survey form dribbled into the office on 8 November, we found we had 492 of those yellow sheets, representing over 1,000 readers. Thanks to all those of you who spent time conscientiously filling in all those little boxes to tell us what you think of *The Australian Christian*. We then spent days meticulously keying in all your opinions into our trusty Macintosh computer, and here's what we found out.

"Although I do not agree with everything printed I would miss it if it ceased to arrive. Keep up the good work."

### You

We found out that there is an average of two readers per subscription and that 81% of copies are read by one or two people. 57% of you are women, and (naturally) 43% of you are men. Your average age is 49. (The average Australian adult is 42.) A quarter of you are under 40, and 40% are over 60.

"I read every written word."

One-third of you are pensioners or retired, nearly a quarter are full-time domestic managers, and 6% are students. Of the remainder most describe yourselves as "professional" but we also have a sizeable number of businesspersons. Almost half of you have a position of leadership in the local church.

"It would be a sad life if I had to live without it. I look forward to its inspirational messages, challenges, awareness of other people who think differently to me, what other churches do (maybe try some of their ideas) and hopefully read about so many of my friends in other church news."

### What You Read

The most read section of the magazine is "Letters to the Editor", closely followed by "Letters from Tertius". Others in the top ten are, in order, church news, the guest

editorial, news, "The Last Word", cartoons, "Growing Spiritually", comment articles and articles about people. The media review and poetry are the only sections not read often by a majority of readers. All other articles have strong readership. Of course, many of you read the Christian from cover to cover.

"'The Last Word' is embarrassingly corny."

### What You Think

We were overwhelmed by your praise—at least a third of all returns contained encouraging words. By far the most common comment was "Keep up the good work." Many liked the new format this year and the present content. But, when it comes to your opinions on various sections of the magazine we found that for every comment there was an equal and opposite

"Congratulations on conducting this survey. I hope it results in 'The Last Word' being dropped right off."

comment. For example, half a dozen people liked the photographs, but another half dozen thought they were poor. For everyone who suggested we spend more and go up market to a glossy magazine there was someone who felt any changes that increased the price would make it too expensive to buy. Some thought we should be more controversial, others that we should not be controversial at all. As one reader correctly put it, "You can't please everybody!"

"I often tell people what a good paper it is."

"The present format is good—it covers a variety of individual tastes—it allows for a complete reading or a 'supermarket' selection with the 'shelves' well labelled."

### Your Comments

Cartoons and jokes are very popular with our younger readers (and with many of the oldies as well!) but a number of our readers dislike them. The Pontius' Puddle

"I am rather a one-eyed Victorian as regards church news."

"More about Sydney churches, please."

cartoon divides the readership into three almost equal groups—one of which loves it, another which hates it, and the rest. And, although "Letters to the Editor" is the most read section of the paper, nothing upsets our readers more—many found the letters too negative, too controversial, too trivial, too low a standard, too biased and in need of censorship. "Ministers' Work-

"The 'Happenings' section must stay."

shop" was liked by its target audience, "Happenings" came in for much praise (and much abuse) and the Pamphlet Club was well liked. Church news received a fair bit of comment, many saying there should be more of them, while others complained that some churches were never there. Even advertisements came in for criticism: one reader suggesting there be a new photo of a certain pest controller!

"I like it the way it is. I have been a constant reader since 1914 and have seen many changes in the format."

### Where You Live

A number of readers commented on what they saw as a Victorian-South Australian bias in the Christian. Both the returns and our mailings confirm that 6 out of 10 readers come from these two states. We received returns from readers in NSW and the ACT (18%), Qld (8%), WA (7%), Tas (3%), NT (1%) and we even had four readers reply from overseas, as well as Vic



# Survey

(41%) and SA (21%). Based on church membership we are under-represented in Queensland and WA and well represented in Victoria and Tasmania.

"It keeps me in touch with many people we have known over the years."

## Your Ideas

We received lots of ideas for the Christian. Many of you suggested more theological and more biblical articles, others suggested special sections for children and youth, and some of you want more articles on social issues. The kind of articles you want reflects your interests of course, and we are working our way through the list to see what we can introduce.

"Unfortunately you seem to lack appeal to the ordinary C of C member. I'm not sure why. Your job isn't an easy one but with our Lord's enabling I'm sure you'll continue to promote and expand the exchange of information and ideas between our churches."

And many thanks to the reader from the ACT who suggested that I deserve a raise, but the Editor hasn't agreed to this idea yet.  
—Geoff Alves

"'Letters from Tertius' seem to always hit the nail on the head and that makes it good to know concerns are shared."

"Keeps me in touch with my 'roots' and what is happening in another country than where I now live."  
—Canadian reader

"Mostly the 'AC' is too 'in house'—C of C people, over 55, in the 'in Brotherhood' crowd. This does not reflect the people who attend this church."

"There is not much down-to-earth practical teaching now in the Christian, but rather controversial opinions are aired in a style confused by academic and political jargon."

"When I have time I read from cover to cover. However, most times unfortunately the next issue arrives before I've finished."

"I find it helpful, stimulating, occasionally controversial but never dull. I like the 'freshness' of opening each issue."

"Everything stops until I have read it from cover to cover. It keeps me sane."

"Keep up the good work."

## Reader Survey

To help us improve The Australian Christian would you spend a little time to complete this questionnaire?

1.

Reader 1  
(the subscriber)  
Reader 2  
Reader 3

Sex		Age							
M	F	under 10	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



# Obituaries

Obituaries are limited to 100 words

**Corlett, Stephen William**  
(27.10.89) Born Langwarren, Vic, 1910, Steve joined Churches of Christ at Shepparton. He married Jean Date in 1939. Moving to Melbourne in 1941 they were members at Carnegie and then Gardiner (43 years). His faith in God, his love for Christ and the church have been expressed in service. He had a love of music. He had abilities as a leader, seen in CE and youth groups, as deacon, secretary, treasurer and chairman of the board and compere of the Friendship Club. He is survived by Jean, his three sons and their wives and grandchildren. The funeral service was conducted by son Ian, minister at Sunshine.

—Harold Steele

**Jensen, Andrew**  
(9.9.89) Andrew Jensen was born at Rosevale, Qld, 19 January 1902, to Soren and Sophia, who were two of the pioneering members of the church at Rosevale. He married Ivy Jensen of Mt Walker 61 years ago. He gave his life to Christ in 1918 and was baptised in the Bremer River by Charles Pratt. He took an active part in church work, deacon for a number of years, a supporter of Kenmore College and Fassifern Retirement Village financially. He was laid to rest at the Rosevale Church of Christ Cemetery, Ralph Bennett officiating.

—Les Lobegeiger

**Klimpton, Myrl Elizabeth**  
(2.10.89) Born in Surry Hills in 1909 Myrl was brought up in Ballina.

After moving to Sydney she gave her life to Christ at the 1959 Billy Graham Crusade, joining the Rockdale church. Her life was lived for others. She cared for two nieces and a nephew. She served as Sunday School teacher, visitor to the needy and with Meals on Wheels. Myrl worked for several years with the Federal Aborigines Board primarily at Fairhaven Girls' Home, Esperance, but also at Carnarvon. The last 10 years of her life in the Nursing Home demonstrated great courage.

—Ed Holt

**MacKay, William Ross**  
Ross MacKay was born in Watford, Hertfordshire, England, in 1915. He served in the RAF in Europe and India. After many years in Australia Ross's wife died. A couple, members of the Oakleigh, Vic, church, befriended and witnessed to Ross in this crisis. As a result he became a Christian and a church member. Because Ross had no family in Australia the church became his family. He had a great love for and loyalty to the Lord and the church. Ross was grateful for accommodation at a Dept of Community Care unit and the Christian Guest Home, where he battled an ailing heart.

—Les Dewberry

**Smith, Phoebe Mary (nee Pallot)**  
(15.10.89) Born 1 April 1913 at Fremantle, Phoebe lived her early life at Claremont, WA, and was committed to her Lord through her entire life. Married Edmond (Ted) Smith in 1936. Both made their home at Kalgoorlie where their intense Christian dedication continued, then at Claremont, Darwin,

Dalkeith Road, Harvey and Binnigup. Two sons, Maxwell John (Canada) and Colin Edmund (Binnigup). Ted predeceased Phoebe in 1983. Phoebe's life was gracious, considerate and purposeful. A lover of people of all ages. "Be Still My Soul".

—Les & Hazel Smith

**Styles, Rebecca Ann**  
(15.10.89) Ann was the third child in a family of six in a pioneering family at Yarragon, Gippsland. When the family moved to the city she was able to do a course in millinery at a Flinders Lane warehouse. Eventually she had her own business in Echuca and later at Mitcham. Wherever she lived the church held a special place in Ann's life. For some considerable time she taught in the Sunday School and helped in the Girl's Club. She was an active member at Echuca but it was at Mitcham that she gave her best service.

—Barry Jenkins

**WYNNUM (Charles Cole) Church** attendances fluctuating considerably due to various illnesses & injuries ... 19 attending Bible study groups "Continuing with Christ" series ... September affair program & luncheon KCC Principal's wife guest speaker. \$460 raised for missions ... Bible School sausage sizzle as annual picnic held on waterfront. 44 attended ... 64th anniversary KCC Principal guest speaker for day. Christian Community Orchestra provided PSA followed by fellowship tea.

**WARWICK (R. Goodwin) Church** growing steadily ... Kid's Club & youth group in good shape ... 6 am prayer meetings Wednesdays & Thursdays now regularly attended ... Men at monthly breakfast were given interesting talk on gold mining ... With rodeo in Warwick many visitors. Pastor was convener of Christian Cowboy service ... Church tea last Sunday in month popular ... Book of Revelation now being studied on Wed nights.

**NAMBOUR (Bruce Roberts) Church** anniversary saw induction of new minister Bruce Roberts by Professor Wilson. Bruce & Connie welcomed at informal tea on previous night ... Church grateful to Stephen England for ministry over past 12 months ... Counselling ministry operating one day a week with Ivan Hartley ... New group for over 50s "Sparetimers" ... CWF theme "Forward with Christ—In our Homes". Events well attended ... Playgroup under leader Julie O'Neill well attended.

## Old

**BIRBIE ISLAND** Lady Adermann, widow of the late Sir Charles Adermann & mother of Evan Adermann, Federal MP, is now resident of the BIRV. Lady Adermann honoured with a Laurel Leaf insignia for 50 years service to the Red Cross ... Treasurer announced church building final payment ... Board considering full-time ministry in 1990.

## AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS' CHAPEL APPEAL

CONTRIBUTIONS  
MAY BE  
MADE TO:  
AUSTRALIAN  
SOLDIERS'  
CHAPEL APPEAL  
FREEPOST 123  
KAPOOKA  
NSW 2661



ALL DONATIONS OF \$2 OR MORE ARE TAX DEDUCTABLE

The Soldiers' Chapel Appeal is an exempt fund under section 78 (1) (a) (viii) of the Income Tax Assessment Act

# YFC RALLY

DECEMBER 2, 1989 7:41 P.M.  
MELBOURNE TOWN HALL  
CNR. COLLINS & SWANSTON STS. MELBOURNE

**SPEAKER**  
LEN TURNER  
ALTONA  
SALVATION  
ARMY



**PLUS**

**POWER  
PRAISE**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS RING (03) 889 3696  
ADMISSION: FREE



# Personal

## Discipleship

•Bradley Gilbert, Collins St, Hobart, Tas •Simon Thomson, Red Hill, Vic •Steven Romeo, Tim Hall, Lesley Foulton, Sarah Preston, Dawson St, Ballarat, Vic •Leanne Handasyde, Boronia, Vic •Mary Donaldson, Bendigo, Vic •Shane Elsmore, David Hossack, Epping, NSW •Wayne Giles, Alice Woodard, Lismore, NSW •Taryn Cameron, Katie Pearce, Belconnen, ACT •Rith Ek, Pheap Knoutas, Cowandilla, SA •Ken Knight, Mandurah, WA •Paul Kropp, Steve Thomas, Robyn Sowter, Sharon Woodford, Maxine Shrader, Nicole Shrader, Mark Labinsky, Nambour, Qld •David McAlary, Lyons, ACT •Lesley Xerri, Wayne Foot, Waragul, Vic •Sarah Shrimpton, Belmont, Vic •Laurie Trewin, Knoxfield, Vic •Alain Herisson, Wendy Hitchcock, Bruce Wild, Chatswood, NSW •Bert Spratt, Carnarvon, WA •Kerilyn Wyatt, Kristina Strack, Anita Walker, Cindy Walker, Churchill, Vic •Nathan Johnson, Launceston, Tas •Robyn Worth, Sean Gawthrop, Lana Barry, Norman & Dawn Tapper, Paul & Jason Ivins, Bart & Willie, Ross & Robyn, Diana & Mark Van der Zee,

Donna Coveny, Shirley Chambers, Rebecca Haley, Anna Richards, Gena Woods, Manning Valley, NSW

## Marriages

•Karen Smith to Rodney Welsh, Red Hill, Vic •Sarah Dibden to Russell Baker, Geraldton, WA •Janine Graham to Stephen Maggs, Wendy Wittingham to Gordon Tune, Bendigo, Vic •Susan Yap to Kevin Gunn, Cowandilla, SA •Anne Sibbald to Matthew Winter, Nambour, Qld •Val Tisdell to Mark Howard, Noela Mobbs to Ken Tiedeman, Merryl Thompson to Rodney Bannister, Manning Valley, NSW

## Deaths

•Maude Chapman, Madge Stetson, Glad Smith, Dawson St, Ballarat, Vic •Col Gray, Lismore, NSW •May Jones, Barry Cameron, Cowandilla, SA •Walter Kickbush, Nambour, Qld •Norman Richmond, Belmont, Vic •Ian Burton, George Hayter, Prospect, SA •Mrs Sadie Holgate, Chatswood, NSW •Olive Stephens, Yarrawonga, Vic

## Changes

KYNETON: Secretary—Mrs Betty Heinze, PO Box 75, Kyneton, Vic 3444. Phone (054) 27 2722.  
HARDY, Mrs Ada: 68 Numeralla Drive, Ashmore, Qld 4214.

### Traralgon

Church of Christ needs a Spirit-Led, Innovative Person to co-ordinate and minister in the expanding outreach program. Initial appointment will be part time. Initial enquiries: Traralgon Church of Christ Secretary (051) 74 4757 (AH)

## Back to Portland Church of Christ

Portland celebrates its 50th Anniversary 6-7 January 1990

All past members and friends are invited  
Guest speaker  
Sat 6 Jan. 5.30 pm Tea  
Welcome and fellowship  
Sun 7 Jan  
10 am Worship & Communion  
followed by fellowship lunch  
7 pm Service  
Speaker: R. Hough

## Deaf Ministries— Is God Calling You?



Silent Partners Ministries is currently taking applications for the 1990 intake to our Sign Language and Ministry Training Course.

Contact the Director, on (03) 560 1171 or write to Silent Partners Ministries, PO Box 595, Mulgrave North 3170, for a catalogue



## The Properties Corporation of the Churches of Christ requires a Office Secretary-Bookkeeper

Opportunity to join the Properties Corporation in an interesting position. Excellent salary at market rates will be offered commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The successful applicant will be responsible under the direction of the office secretary and Executive Officer for general typing, word processing, office duties and bookkeeping to trial balance stage. Accuracy in work is an essential requirement. Experience in operation of a personal computer and word processing an advantage.

Apply in writing with resume and references to:  
Executive Officer  
The Properties Corporation  
of the Churches of Christ  
52 La Trobe Street  
Melbourne 3000  
Phone (03) 662 2377

## Churches of Christ in Queensland Social Service Department Applications are invited for the position of Director of Nursing for a 38-bed nursing home at Fassifern Retirement Village Boonah, Queensland

Responsibilities involve being the Director of Nursing of a 38-bed nursing home at Stark Avenue, Boonah. The applicant we are seeking must be a registered nurse who preferably has had experience (and/or qualifications) in geriatric nursing and be able to work within a Christian context.

The successful applicant will be required to work within the administration framework of the Boonah Regional Social Service Committee and will receive the salary and allowances as provided under the Hospital Nurses Award—State, Queensland, which is currently \$38,526.80 per annum, plus allowances.

Commencement Date: 26 February 1990

Applications Close: 8 January 1990

Applications containing copies of appropriate certificates of training and registration together with an outline of training and experience and the names, addresses and phone numbers of two referees should be sent to—

The Administrator  
Fassifern Retirement Village  
Stark Avenue  
Boonah 4310



# Church News

SA

**HAPPY VALLEY (Russell Allison)** Sunday School picnic at National Park enjoyed by all ... "Vision for Happy Valley" stewardship program well supported. Keith Home guest speaker ... Quiz night well attended ... Enthusiastic Sunday School presented special service followed by tea ... Colin Dredge guest speaker 15 October ... 42 energetic people enjoyed Heysen Trail walk ... Executive held planning meeting for 1990.

**COWANDILLA (R.S.A. McLean)** Guest speakers have been Jeff May & Julie Trinnick, Raeline Pederson from Pakistan & Ken Hill from Radio Altamira ... Continuing program of Co-operating Ministries local churches combined for night with Covenant Players in local council auditorium ... Combined evening services held with Henley Beach, Flinders Park & Mile End churches ... Plans presently being formed to work more closely with Mile End. **PROSPECT (G. Payne)** Love in Action group 6.30 get together meal followed by a message from God ... CWF Quest speaker Mrs Ruth Skillicorn ... Stephen Schmaal has taken up part-time ministry at Enfield Heights ... Dora & George Bonney celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary ... Heather Denton & Andrew Russack announced their engagement ... Camera Club "Slide of the Year" competition. An audio-visual by H. Carthew.

Vic

**SWANSTON ST, MELBOURNE (Allan Webb)** 124th anniversary celebrated with special service at Pharmacy College. Record offering of \$62,000 received for lower hall redevelopment ... 41 additions to church this year ... Special series on cults attracted widespread interest ... Urban ministry seminar conducted by Doug McConnell ... 40 hour prayer-a-thon held ... Every third Monday set aside as day of prayer & fasting ... Two new missionaries sent out to PNG.

**ASCOT VALE (Ross Bourdon)** Church camp at Wilsons Prom 25-29 Sept. Fun & fellowship enjoyed by 13 adults & 14 children ... Max & Alison Walker shared their ministry in the Philippines 1 Oct ... AGM held 15 Oct. New board member Geoff Ismail ... KYB going well. Louis van Laar spoke on outreach. Enjoying studying Luke ... Tuesday playgroup attended by 15 young mums ... Saturday evening prayer group continuing.

**WEST PRESTON (Chris Field)** Field family overseas three months. Members speaking morning service, guest speakers evening ... 76 attended family camp Monbulk. Ages ranging 12 months to 80 years ... Jacob Best dedicated ... Casserole luncheons well attended ... Sunday School averaging 25 ... 19 visited *Doulos* when in port ... Cradle Roll restarted with 13 on roll ... Annual fellowship for blind held 26 Oct ... Outing to "Whitehaven" receptions & drive Kinglake.

**RED HILL (Ken Clinton)** Five members welcomed into fellowship, one by faith & baptism & four by transfer ... Enjoyable luncheons with a view to outreach & fellowship held in six different members' homes on 8 October ... At recent annual meeting Jack Kirby & Jack Henley added to eldership.

**DAWSON ST, BALLARAT (Jim Cunningham)** Church continues to grow under the interim ministry of Jim Cunningham ... Edie Chapman celebrated her 93rd birthday ... 17 September church led by Ian Tippet successfully conducted planned giving review ... 14 October trivia night to commence week-end of meeting Stephen Templeton ... 18 October annual business meeting. All elders re-elected. Much positive thinking & optimistic outlook for 1990 with Stephen Templeton.

**BORONIA (K. Milne, G. Stirling, M. Folland)** Full-time minister to join Keith in 1990, Andrew Henley together with Lee-Anne & family introduced at family dinner ... Gordon Stirling conducting mini-mission in SA ... A 5 pm session held at CCTC followed by basket tea ... Senior citizens of Day Care groups guests at tea time service ... Final "Features at Five" service conducted by Explorers. Russell Croxford special guest.

**BENDIGO (J. Sweetman)** Minister & family back from holiday in SA ... Brian Goode, Bible Society, recent speaker ... Church prepared video clip to conduct an outreach advertising program ... Kitchen tea given to Janine Graham & Stephen Maggs on forthcoming marriage ... Gold Miners Gang held end of Term 3 parade ... Louis van Laar, Dept Community Care, conducted seminar, also delivered address at both morning services 22 Oct.

**WANGARATTA (Carl Clayden)** Church encouraged by extension of Carl & Myra's ministry for further five years ... New singles group very successful ... Recent garage sale raised \$1,200 ... Family camp at Cheshunt eagerly anticipated ... Ladies provided & catered for wedding breakfast for an unem-

ployed couple, contacts of the Friendship Centre.

**WARRAGUL (D & D Buesnel)** AGM saw some changes to board: B. Harris, secretary, A. Sheeran, treasurer, J. Farmer, elder, B. Fox, R. Earl, deacons. Others continuing ... Stewardship program reviewing stewardship of time, abilities, gifts & finance ... Forward planning includes stage two of hall, establishment of church office, outreach to immediate neighbourhood ... Sunday School preparing for anniversary.

**SPRINGVALE (T. Ede, P. Lyne)** Lighthouse of coins appeal raised \$277 (6,500 coins) for CBMI ... Two young ladies made decisions ... Many folk sick, some requiring major surgery ... 60 attended CWF birthday luncheon. Dr Javalera, Philippines Christian educationalist, speaker. \$307 raised ... Dr Charles Pallaghy, La Trobe University, gave great testimony on creation ... Church purchased additional manse. Present manse to be used by CCTC for student housing.

**BELMONT (Bob Clymer)** Sarah Shrimpton baptised & welcomed into membership ... German Feast attracted over 100 & raised \$800 towards missionary support program. Thanks to Helen Warmbrunn & team for organising feast ... Australian Council of Church Women service held at Belmont & Helen Banks was speaker ... 72 of all ages went on "Drive & Hike" to Blackwood stopping at scenic places along the way.

**KNOXFIELD (Rod Brown)** Knoxfield has adopted slogan "In God, we love, grow and forgive" ... Craig Allan will commence as youth minister early 1990 ... Church office bearers experienced challenging weekend retreat at CCTC with Jeff May, Overseas Mission Board, as convener ... Market day to raise funds to help pay off our new land held 18 November ... Dr Geoff Whiting is undertaking review of church life.

**ARARAT (Aif White)** Christmas came early & winter late to Ararat on 13 October. "Christmas in October" planned to raise money to assist Flood family at Madang, PNG, to pay off woodworking machine at mission. Token gift brought and interchanged by person in red. \$400 raised by each person offering a service of some kind which was then auctioned ... Aif White continues a part-time ministry till Rodney & Marjan Beer commence ministry on 17 Dec. **REDCLIFFS (G.R. Sharrad)** Kids Club held a "Getting to Know You" dinner & concert on 27 Oct. All

children taking part ... Churches held combined service in Civic Centre on 29 Oct. Very well attended. G.R. Sharrad speaker ... CWF groups attended annual Missionary Rally in Mildura on 31 Oct. Keith Skillicorn guest speaker.

**YARRAWONGA (Steve Fraser)** Church has lost 12 through removals this last year ... We mourn the tragic death of Olive Stephens (nee Streader), gentle mother of four young children. Over 500 mourners paid respects to one who had freely given practical support to so many aspects of church & community life.

**LA TROBE TERR, GEELONG (C.J. Mackenzie)** Recent special events include well attended CWF Country Council; Mrs Rowe's 80th birthday party; service for the deaf with Ballarat "Sign" Choirs, Valmai Claxton & Ian McKenzie interpreted service; CWF 75th birthday; Bob & Shirley Drayton's wedding thanksgiving service; 132nd church anniversary ... Ladies catered for all events ... Allan Carr retired after 38 years with SEC.

**SHEPPARTON (John Inman)** Spring program completed. Guest speakers Alan Avery, Graeme Chapman, Ken Clinton. Church blessed & challenged at messages. Up with Bible studies on same theme ... CWF President Dorothy Quantrelle met with groups from Yarrowonga, Wangaratta, Numurkah, Nunawading & Shepparton. Great time of fellowship ... Church camp at Lake Eildon. 42 attended.

Tas

**CAVESIDE (John & Colleen Harrison)** Steve Warwick, Tas Conf President, preached 3 Sept ... John Harrison & Tom Edge (Ulverstone minister) exchanged pulpits 10 Sept ... October was mission emphasis month. Mike & Maree Snudden, preparing for missionary service with New Tribes Mission in Thailand, shared with home fellowship group & church. Marv & Harriet Sconce, from USA, brought items & missionary challenge ... Rev Stuart Devenish, OMF, spoke to Sunday School & church ... Young people's group formed.

**LAUNCESTON (Rod Foster)** One decision at evening service on 29 Oct ... New name badges have now been issued & a mail exchange is in operation ... Elections for elders & deacons have commenced ... Church camp held over long week-end ... Bill Howard (Bible Society) spoke at all services on 5 Nov while Rod Foster at the camp.



# Church News

## WA

**GERALDTON (Rohan Burcham)** Highlights 1989 thus far include total 46 members attending various Bible studies ... Encouragement for couples at Marriage Enrichment weekend in Dongara ... Challenges presented by PBC students in morning service on deputation weekend ... Great fun & fellowship in car rally 2 September ... Visiting speakers include David Robertson, State Director OMF, & John Bolton, WA Conf Pres.

**RIVERVALE (B. Thygesen)** Held a celebration dinner in honour of first anniversary of worship in our new chapel. Also that we are half way through paying off the project thanks to ICA ... It was announced that our pastor, Barry Thygesen, will be concluding his ministry here at Rivervale at the end of 1990 ... Have enjoyed the interim ministry of Peter Raymond for six months. **MANDURAH** Excited at prospect of relocating church early next year. Sale of present property & acquiring 2.5 acres with large home will be finalised March ... New ministry team, Bill & Gay Addison, two young sons, will be installed ... Home Missions Committee very helpful in arranging details & supplying ministers Sunday mornings since Roger Ryall left ... Ken Knight baptised on 29 Oct by Roger Ryall in Rockingham church.

**CARNARVON (Don Bone)** Ladies blessed by visit of prayer & ministry team, Pat Beard & Pam Timms ... Men's Fellowship met for breakfast & Don Bone showed slides of NT cattle station ministry ... Church families enjoyed barbecue & social ... Bible Society "Bikes for Bibles" team stopped over in Carnarvon & shared meal with combined churches group ... Pastor & Mrs Bone holidaying in Adelaide.

## NSW

**EPPING (S. Curkpatrick, D. Moyes)** At its annual meeting the church decided to embark on additions to the side of the chapel & to the hall, to provide better entry & facilities for auxiliaries ... The active membership is now nearly 160 ... The church has offered its congratulations to long-serving members, Mr & Mrs Eric Crawford, who celebrated 60 years of marriage. **LISMORE (Ian Phillips)** Peter Clegg speaker at anniversary ... Warren Elvery & Pauline MacIntyre announce engagement ... Wayne Giles & Alice Woodard baptised &

welcomed into fellowship ... Great response to concert by "In the Silence". Coffee shop held in basement to meet group well attended ... Tues night Bible study & Wednesday prayer time commenced ... Death occurred of Col Gray.

**PADSTOW (Ed Holt)** The AGM resulted in two elders, Greg Clarke & Ron Stocks, being re-elected. New deacon, Carlo Cartini ... Faithful member over many years, "Nan" Rochester, has been placed in a nursing home ... Theological students, Antony Cook & Jim Tilson, are doing an excellent work with

young people ... Trevor & Chris Pate (overseas with work) are safe after being in the earthquake in San Francisco.

**CHATSWOOD (Ian Alves)** Men's breakfasts with Gordon Moyes & Richard Phillips well supported ... Three baptisms ... Minister takes part in citizenship services ... Increasing attendances at lunchtime services ... Name tags now being used ... Nick & Narelle Barbarino back after two years in France with Slavic Gospel Association ... Chinese Church celebrates second anniversary ... Youth group, young

disciples group & creche now established.

**MANNING VALLEY (Barry Rice, Ross Norling)** Grandmother Maria Oostendorp farewelled to commence studies with YWAM Canberra ... Kolodong Craft raised \$7,500 for charities ... NIV Study Bibles given to people baptised ... Men shared camp with Newcastle Baptist churches ... Solomon Islands pastors farewelled as they complete training at PTI Laurieton & weekend church involvement ... 23 home Bible study groups operating ... Land survey completed.

## COCOA

*is involved in medical work  
in countries overseas.  
Be a caring partner!*



**Send your cheque to Churches of Christ Overseas Aid. PO Box 320, Unley 5061.**

*(Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible)*

Name .....

Address .....

.....Postcode .....

Amount for COCOA \$ .....



## Comment

# Refrigerator Verses

by Charles White

When Kristin was nine and Joseph was seven we noticed that our refrigerator was no longer covered with those drawings and paintings from kindergarten and first grade. We rather missed the colourful decorations which were constantly falling on the floor, and carefully thrown away when the children were at school.

One Sunday Beth was looking at Joseph's Sunday school paper and said, "That's very nice, Joseph. Let's put that on the refrigerator." A tradition was born. Each Sunday Beth or I would go over the children's Sunday school papers and put something on the faithful fridge.

It didn't take us very long to realise we had really been missing a valuable contribution to our children's growing faith. Just this little bit of interest has put new zip in their Sundays. In only a week or two we were reading their Sunday school lessons and keeping them in mind through the week. Tuesday at our "formal" Bible study we would recap the lesson they had learned on Sunday. We have found that this cements the lesson and have even noticed the children bring up lessons spontaneously when confronted with just the right set of circumstances in their daily lives.

Kristin has just turned thirteen and Jo-

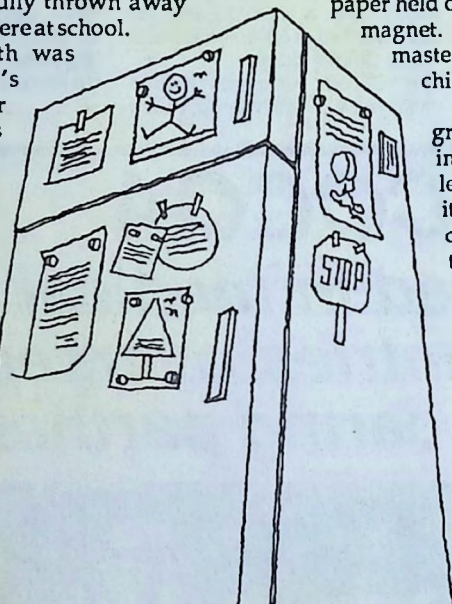
seph is ten. We still put their lessons on the refrigerator and we still review them on Sunday afternoon and Tuesday evening. A year or so ago we began posting memory verses for each child. We keep a glue stick on hand and a piece of notebook paper held on the refrigerator by a magnet. Each time a verse is mastered we glue it to the child's sheet.

This has not given as great a reward as posting the Sunday school lessons, but it has made it easier to encourage the children to learn Scripture.

May each of us pay more attention to the materials our children bring home from Sunday school. No teacher can do more than present the materials. Only parents can "teach" the principles and cement the learning.

• Charles White  
lives in Topeka,  
Kansas, USA.

As a help to others who may wish to be more active in helping their children learn some key Scriptures, here is a suggested list: John 17:15, Matthew 6:9, Matthew 7:7, Matthew 19:14, 1 John 4:10, 1 John 3:17, Ephesians 2:1, John 3:15, Psalm 29:11, Psalm 103:6, Philippians 1:6, John 17:19, Luke 23:34, Matthew 18:22, 1 John 4:10, John 4:13, Psalm 119:105, Matthew 4:4, 2 Timothy 2:3, Mark 7:10, 2 Corinthians 5:17.



## The Last Word

Gossip is like mud thrown against a clean wall; it may not stick, but it leaves a mark.

—Unknown

After years of saving Tom finally bought a boat. In honour of his wife he named it "Ruth". On her first boat ride, Ruth, no sailor, became violently seasick. She demanded a return to shore and has refused to set foot in the boat again. Tom, recognising the futility of argument, has renamed the boat. He calls it "Ruthless".

★★★★★

A popular American Disciples of Christ (Christian Church) pastor had a full church in morning services but the evening service was far from full.

"You Disciples," he puzzled, "are not afraid of water. Why are you afraid of the dark?"

★★★★★

In America a firearms lobby has asked the Vatican to designate a 19th Century Italian saint as the Patron of Handgunners. St Gabriel Possenti has been nominated as a religious model for owners and users of handguns. During a time of civil unrest in Italy, Gabriel single-handedly disarmed 20 drunken looters after displaying his marksmanship by shooting a lizard that darted across the road.

★★★★★

Panic stricken cashier (entering office): "Where's the safe gone?"

Cleaner: "Two nice young people came for it last night after you left. They're bringing the new one along this morning at 11 o'clock if that's convenient for you."

★★★★★

Customer: "Have you another razor?"

Barber: "Yes. But why do you want it?"

Customer: "I'd like to defend myself."

★★★★★

Putting pen to paper lights more fires than matches ever will.

—Malcolm Forbes

★★★★★

Almost all our faults are more pardonable than the methods we think up to hide them.

—La Rochefoucauld

THE  
AUSTRALIAN  
CHRISTIAN

A CHRISTMAS GIFT  
THAT LASTS ALL YEAR

PO BOX 101,  
ESSENDON NORTH 3041

Send "The Australian Christian" to—

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

.....POSTCODE .....

A gift for 1990 posted costs just \$20. We shall send a gift card saying "The Australian Christian" is from .....



Maybe you're right...I probably have been spending too much time at the church lately!