

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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Golden Days

These smiling faces from 50 years ago are of the participants at a camp held at Kyneton, Vic, in the summer of 1939-40. It was one of the first camps conducted by the Young Peoples Department in Victoria. Keith Jones was the director at the time. Perhaps some readers might recognise a few friends here...

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Guest Editorial

Marj Buckingham reflects on her four years as a student at
Glen Iris

"The Fellowship of Kindred Minds"

The words had always intrigued me—"the fellowship of kindred minds..." How often over the years had I joined in that traditional affirmation of the bond of Christian love! But the "kindred minds" always seemed to elude me. That is, until that momentous day when, at the age of 70 years, I enrolled myself as a student at the College of the Bible. It was then that things began to fall into place. Now, six years later, I look back on those college years almost with a feeling of nostalgia...

First off, what ripples in the classroom at the unexpected presence of an "old lady" in the midst of that bevy of bright young eager-beavers—the oldest student ever to be enrolled at COB! What to do with her?—that was the question. Well, they did their best. They offered plenty of courtesy and consideration; with even perhaps a trace of kindly condescension...but it soon became clear that the "old lady" had come to stay. And when the scores went up at the end of that first year, the "old lady" had outclassed them all! Inevitable, of course, since the "mature" mind enjoys many advantages when it comes to coping with serious study.

And serious it was. Differences in age became less significant as together we began to ponder such concepts as the immanence of God and the mystery of the eternal love. For here we found ourselves being drawn into a new relationship—a "fellowship of kindred minds". Each of us so individually different, yet "kindred" in our response to the call of God and his claim upon our lives. And needless to say, our lecturers allowed themselves to be drawn into it too; sharing their insights and patiently seeking to guide us in our slow, often painful journey towards the light.

Yes, "kindred minds". Not only in our quest for truth. Kindred also in our visions and aspirations, fostered by the seminars, retreats and shared worship experiences that were part of the college program. Coming to grips with our own spirituality; learning to respect each other's convictions and to accept one another in love.



Surely I had discovered a fellowship "like to that above".

Nor was it confined to the classroom. It touched every aspect of college life; even the leisure-time "campus capers" in which everyone was invited to participate. With their encouragement I ventured most things, even the "flying fox" (oh, what a sight!); though I never did try to kick a football... Their energy and vitality inspired me; renewed my faith in today's young people, the

"oldies" of tomorrow. And my presence among them, I believe, challenged their preconceived notions of age and ageing; opening their eyes to the potentialities to be found in people of "pensionable" age.

Something we all were learning: that the life without is sustained by the life within. As when they persuaded me to contribute an item for the student concert. A "mature" item, they said. So I wrote a poem specially for the occasion—"On Growing Old". Came the concert; and enlisting the dramatic talent of a long-time church friend we presented it together as dialogue. Hilarious it was; but heart-searching. I shall never forget—nor do I think will they—the response of our crowded audience in the old Room 2 as we reached the climax:

We're fellow travellers, you and me—
Pilgrims to eternity...

Where age—and time—shall cease to be!

Ah yes, we effectively closed the generation gap that night...

As for me, I still find myself drawn back to college with an urge to renew that precious "fellowship of kindred minds". But why not within our church congregations?

Perhaps in order to realise that vision we may need to encourage our people each one to spend at least one semester at a theological college! Then so may it be.

• Former teacher, youth leader and Christian author Marj Buckingham, at the age of 74, graduated DipMin (Hons) from the College of the Bible and was ordained in 1987. Currently ministering part-time with the South Eastern Suburban Regional Church, Vic, this year she has been studying part-time to complete her BTheol.

CSSM Ceases to Exist

This summer nearly 100 teams involving about 8,000 volunteers will once again engage in evangelism under the auspices of Scripture Union. In holiday spots around Australia, in country towns and in inner-city locations, team members will seek to share their faith with children and their families.

Nowhere in Australia will this activity be conducted in the familiar name of CSSM. CSSM has ceased to exist.

Scripture Union began in England in 1867 as the Children Special Service Mission (CSSM). For theological and sociological reasons the movement has changed the name of this work to Scripture Union Family Missions (SUFM).

Ron Buckland, SU's Na-

tional Director, said, "We remain committed to both children and evangelism. But we can no longer deal with children outside the family context."

Scripture Union knows that "family" means many things today. Its mission teams already contact single parents and blended and broken families.

The outcome of this change is a shift from program-centred evangelism to people-centred evangelism. The program builds bridges, across which friendship evangelism can take place.

This summer red and white banners will again be in evidence. But instead of CSSM you will see SUFM. It represents only an initial problem!

Chance Meeting 75 Years on

The Joint Board of Christian Education, highly regarded internationally, is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. The JBCE owes its existence to an accidental meeting.

Presbyterian William Goyen and Methodist Horton Williams were each, quite independently, preparing Sunday School materials for the youth departments of their respective churches back in 1914. After a chance meeting in a Melbourne street, they decided to pool their resources and produce a joint publication. So *The Teacher* was born, a handbook published with separate covers for each denomination.

Soon their co-operation led to the formation of the Australian Graded Lessons Committee, a body which quickly included the Congregational church, and later, three more partner churches in New Zealand.

Eventually it became the Joint Board of Christian Education. The Joint Board also operates as the national education agency and publishing house of the Uniting Church in Australia. Resources for children and young people are an im-

portant part of the Joint Board's publishing. *Living Faith* Sunday School material has over 65,000 users in seven denominations. The *Religion in Life* school curriculum program, used by over 360,000 primary school children each week, is published co-operatively with the Council for Christian Education in Schools.

Other innovative strategies and educational resources for leadership training, adult education, youth programs and children's work are in regular production.

The general publishing program is varied and comprehensive, with more than 200 titles on the current list and 25-30 new titles published each year. Among current publications are books co-published with the World Council of Churches for its coming Seventh assembly in Canberra. These include *Come Holy Spirit—Renew the Whole Creation*, a series of Bible studies exploring the Assembly theme, and *Land of the Spirit?*, an analysis of Australia's historic and contemporary religious experience.

Ministry Expansion



The Noble Park, Vic, church is spreading its area of ministry with a new decision to also indefinitely conduct Sunday morning services from Keysborough in Melbourne.

The new centre for worship is the Chandler Theatre, a performing arts centre with fixed seating for 235.

The centre, in Isaac Road, Keysborough, features a large stage area for musicians, drama ministry, singers and dance.

A huge foyer and carpeted discussion pits make for animated conversation and greeting visitors. Private change rooms are used for preparatory prayer and personal min-

istry. Nearby instruction rooms are used for children's ministry.

With full theatre lighting, sound, curtains and film facilities, off-street parking is more than ample, and complete kitchen facilities allow tea and coffee to be served in the foyer after every morning service.

The church continues to meet in their Noble Park facilities for evening services, to give both immediate and continuing ministry to Noble Park, Keysborough, and Springvale South areas and beyond.

The church stands deeply privileged to be part of what God is doing in the area.



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Young and Old Celebrate

The first Sunday in November has traditionally been the anniversary day of the Caveside, Tas, Sunday School, and 1989 was no different. Extra seating was put in the aisle and porch, a video camera relayed the service to a monitor in an adjacent room, and the church, which normally seats 90, was now able to cater for the crowd of over 120 who attended.

Everything was geared up to

make it a big day as this was the 80th anniversary of the church. Invitations were sent to families in the district and also further afield who had been pupils in past years and it was a thrill to witness the reunion of many who shared the day.

The children presented a program of 15 songs and readings specially written to demonstrate the truths of their lessons during the year. The theme was "Jesus, my Saviour".

The 13 children, aged 5-12, worked hard to make this a memorable day. They accom-

panied some of their songs with percussion instruments.

The minister of the church, John Harrison, spoke about "Fred Smith", grandson of "Granny Smith", a well-known apple, to the delight of all present. With Fred's help all were able to hear how Jesus is the only way back to God, and all were challenged to consider their relationship with God.

A Devonshire afternoon tea was served, under the direction of Valerie and Peter Cramp, giving present and past members opportunity to share together. —C.A. Harrison

dren responded to the love and warmth surrounding them. In the early evenings, before the children's bedtime, all participated in bush dancing and theatre sports.

A convoy of cars transported campers to the Leven Canyon to appreciate the majesty of creation, enjoy fellowship and experience the pain of over-stretched muscles.

Elective time saw busy fingers leaning to cross-stitching, master the art of calligraphy or the creation of glass-etched mirrors, while some chose to burn up energy on the sporting field. —Elwyn Green

Cheltenham Church of Christ presents

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Launceston's Family Camp

Family camp 1989 for the Launceston, Tas, church family proved to be a very special long weekend experience for the 95 young and old who participated. The minister, Rod Foster, very sensitively led the studies, which looked at the implications of spiritual birth, growth, maturity and death.

The communion service at the close of the day focused on the symbols of our faith and God really blessed those attending with the testimony of two of the group—the symbol of changed lives. At the conclusion all lit a candle from a central candle, the symbol of the light of the world. The sharing time that followed extended well into the night.

Two young people committed their lives to the Lord and many indicated a desire to mature in their faith.

The fun times were real "family" affairs and the chil-

New Pastoral Care Initiative

The Vic-Tas Department of Community Care launched its pastoral care initiative, the Hodod Program. Hodod means "way", "road" or "journey" and describes the program, which aims to provide a range of services and activities within the context of Christian spirituality to assist persons to take hold of God's gift of life and to experience personal growth and empowerment, satisfactory relationships and participation in the community.

The launch took place at a dinner where people were challenged to give their time and skills to the pilot program in 1990. Marj and Ray Brough, with Alec Clutterbuck and Louis van Laar, developed the concept. Trevor Giles, Executive Director of the Department, spoke on the need for such a service to our churches, and commended the concept and the activities that arose out of it to persons interested in working with others to help them experience "life in all its fullness". The guest speaker, Helen Carr, Director of Life Line Melbourne, sharpened the vision by applying her insights to the objectives of Hodod.

Hodod group facilitators will begin training in early 1990 so that the first program can commence July 1990. For more information contact Louis van Laar on (03) 662 1411.



Andrew Ball

GROWTH AT SUMMER CAMPS

Youth camps at Monbulk, Banksia, Halls Gap, and a Mount Cobberas-Snowy River Adventure, together with five family camps, comprise the Department's summer camping program. Each event presents an opportunity for spiritual refreshment, nurture and growth.

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Aileen Draney Leaving PNG

Aileen Draney applied to the Australian Churches of Christ Foreign Mission Board in September 1957. The opening came for her to go to the Territory of Papua and New Guinea to serve as a mission school teacher in 1959.

In the past 30 years many things have changed. The word "foreign" has disappeared from the Overseas Mission Board title and 1975 saw Papua New Guinea become independent from Australia. There are now no schoolteacher missionaries in our area in PNG.

Through 30 years of change and challenge Aileen Draney has served God and the Churches of Christ in PNG in Australia. There have been bad times with little obvious progress. There have been times of joy as people and churches have grown. Friends and family have died in both countries. There has been health and sickness.

Aileen has had various ministries in PNG over these 30 years and she has travelled by land, water and air in trying conditions for the sake of the Good News.

Most recently her ministry has been in the areas of Bible Correspondence and training young women in practical and spiritual issues. On the side, "Auntie Aileen" is a special favourite and thoughtful carer for the children of other missionaries.

On 17 December, when

Aileen flies out of PNG immediately after running a missionary kids camp, she will leave a big space! Such is the value of her service that the ministries she has established have already been taken over by national workers. The space will be in the lives of those who love her dearly.

Aileen is well known throughout Australia for her deputation travels and regular correspondence. The Overseas Mission Board pays tribute to her dedicated service and encourages members of our churches to give thanks to God and to pray for Aileen's resettlement and future service in Australia.

—Jeff May
(Executive Director)



Aileen Draney

Walladges Come Home



Julie, Kristina, Luke and Doug Walladge

Doug and Julie Walladge have had a long association with Vanuatu. While the country was still known as the New Hebrides, Doug and Julie were there as single workers. Julie worked as a nurse and Doug as a teacher.

On a tour party organised by Jack Murphy, Doug revisited Vanuatu and saw the possibilities of future ministry. In 1985 the family left ministry with the Red Cliffs, Vic, church and went to Banmatmat on Pentecost Island where Doug took up the role of lecturer in the Bible College. As well as being wife, mother and teacher for Luke and Kristina, Julie involved herself with the students.

Bill Bule, the Executive Director of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu writes, "It is a privilege to have the Walladge family here now. They have identified themselves well with us. They therefore contribute a lot to the College and to the churches throughout the islands. I express on behalf of the Conference sincere thanks to the Overseas Mission Board for sending the Walladges to us in Vanuatu. Please pass our

thanks to the churches who have supported them financially while they served here in Vanuatu. We need missionaries like them and others who must communicate the Gospel with their lives as well as their lips, to be able to speak clearly and be understood.

"They must also be able to adapt themselves to the national culture. Good grammar and fluency in speaking are not enough for good communication. The missionary must adapt culturally and identify closely with the people he is seeking to reach".

Churches of Christ in Australia join with Churches of Christ in Vanuatu in giving thanks to God for the ministry of Doug and Julie Walladge and their children, Luke and Kristina. We are grateful for the way in which they lived through the separation from their family and friends in Australia and the isolation of living in a fairly remote part of the world.

They return to Australia in December and in February will begin ministry with the Owen United Parish in the mid north of South Australia.

Eric Hollard Hospitalised

Friends will be interested to learn that E.P.C. (Eric) Hollard is recovering after two sessions of major surgery about eight

weeks ago.

Eric originally had a triple by-pass operation and then underwent surgery following complications from the original surgery. He is currently at the Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre, Hampstead Rd, Hampstead Gardens, SA.

He is facing his future with a very positive attitude, an attitude that has marked his life and ministries.

For the foreseeable future he will be confined to a wheelchair.

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CWF and Mission

On 17 October a CWF Missionary Committee morning coffee was held at the home of Lola Adam, in Box Hill, Vic. 21 were present representing nine CWF groups from the Inner Eastern Region. Dorothy Geyer, secretary of the Overseas Mission Department in Victoria, gave a comprehensive overview of the church in India. She encouraged prayer for Indian Christians who are taking the responsibility of propagating the gospel of Christ. Dorothy has recently spoken at Bayswater and Burwood groups, who were joined by neighbouring groups.

The CWF Missionary Committee aims to encourage those who are serving on the mission fields. It endeavours to inform groups of activities through reports and a newsletter. Missionaries are allocated to CWF groups for prayer and correspondence and many groups have been very faithful in supporting missionaries and their families.

—Beryl Combridge
(CWF Missionary Cttee)

Taree Trivia

A great night of fellowship was enjoyed on 4 November in the Taree, NSW, church, when a trivia night was held to aid the Hunter Region SLSA Helicopter Rescue Service.

Minister Neville Aubrey compered the proceedings as-



Thampi Issac (far right) and the All Peoples Church

sisted by Colin Webster, David Billingham and Malcolm Pulen. A good cross-section of the community made the night a great success and \$1,000 was raised for the appeal. Prizes were donated by various businesses and individuals.

Mulgrave to Start

Worship services for the new Mulgrave, Vic, church will officially commence at 10 am on 4 February, using the facilities of the Churches of Christ Theological College at Mulgrave. It was with a sense of excitement that this decision was made by a small group of College and student representatives as they met with the new minister, Alan Niven, and his wife Chris. Alan concluded a 10-year ministry with the Werribee church on 26 November. He will continue part-time lecturing at CCTC in addition

to the task of leading the ministry team.

Following the initial services and special outreach programs over Easter the new church will have its second "official" opening in late April. The induction of the ministry team will be performed by Principal Emeritus E.L. Williams. Alan Niven would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in the new venture and can be contacted at 2 Halifax St, Mulgrave 3170 or at the College, 40-60 Jacksons Rd, Mulgrave. Phone (03) 790 1000.

All Peoples Move

Following an experimental period of worship and ministry in the Fairfield, Vic, area, the recently formed All Peoples Church, under the leadership of Thampi Issac has relocated meetings at Brunswick. The group is in contact with a range

of people, including Indian, Chinese, Greek, Italian and longer-term Australian residents.

Bible study groups for Indian families who have recently arrived from Fiji are being developed. The aim is to develop a strong multicultural base to the program.

Living for Christ

Evening service on 12 November was taken by one of the small groups at the Launceston, Tas, church led by June Younger. Joanne Byard, a third-year student at TSIT, spoke on the pressures on someone trying to show a Christian witness in a largely hostile atmosphere. Joan Madder reviewed the book *Never Say Can't* by Lynette Hinton, and group members presented a musical item. Sir Geoffrey Foot interviewed the Hon George Shaw, President of the Tasmanian Legislative Council, on "Being a Christian in Politics" and Betty Masters showed slides of the World CE Convention she attended in Seoul, Korea, in 1986.

June Younger showed how some in the public eye, e.g. Gary Ablett, Jacqui Hamill and others, have not been afraid to show their allegiances, even though it might mean suffering, sacrifice or death.

The large number present greatly appreciated the meaningful service.

—P. Harrison



Charles Withers in the stocks at Taree

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Dean Sander



Rowville Project

Planning has commenced for a start to a new church in the Rowville, Vic, area following decisions made earlier in 1989. Seen here, left to right, are Keith Milne, Stuart Peterson, Tom Ede and Kerrie and Robert Laird. Tom Ede has been appointed by the Vic-Tas Department of Mission, Education and Development and the planning group to head up the project in 1990 on a part-time basis. He leaves a nine-year ministry at Springvale to come to Rowville and has had prior experience in new church development. Stuart Peterson has accepted responsibility to act as Secretary and co-ordinator for the project. Stuart is keen to hear from people who may be interested in the project and

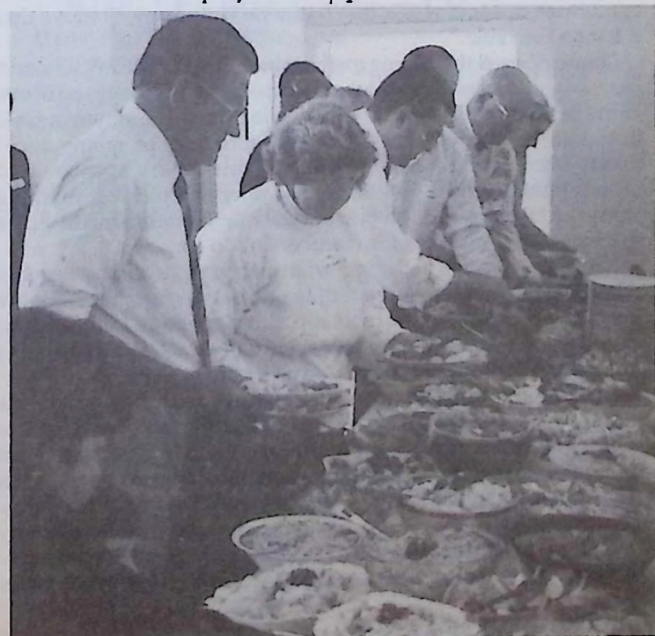
he can be contacted at 3 Settlers Court, Rowville 3178. Telephone (03) 752 8134 (AH).

In the initial stages the emphasis will be upon building a core group with the establishment of regular worship services once the group has been developed. Rowville is one of a number of new churches already formed or planned for development in 1990.

Gippsland Gather

Churches from Bairnsdale, Traralgon, Toora, Morwell and Warragul met to worship at the Morwell, Vic, church for the annual Gippsland Gathering.

Vic-Tas Conference President, Phyl Davis, was guest speaker. During the spit roast and salad lunch each church gave a report of its activities past and future. —Tim White



Gippsland Gathering lunch at Morwell

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Letters to the Editor

Letters are limited to 200 words

True to Life Articles

To the Editor,

Last night I went to bed at 8 pm after a heavy day at our indoor bowls club, really the geriatrics bowls club in our town, taking the 4 November issue of *The Australian Christian* with me.

I read for an hour or more and felt that we are becoming a far more compassionate people, less of the stuffy old-lady and gentleman type of people than I recall as a teenager 60 years ago.

"Towards 2000" (The Pamphlet Club) by Alan Hirsch was excellent. If we are not willing to change we will undoubtedly just fade away into the limbo of a lost movement that began well but ended dismally.

The Student Profile by Jenni Ashton was beautiful; I felt pleased that I had been able to help an 86 year old walk to afternoon tea that day, thankful that my ankles were still strong and my arches had not collapsed.

And Kaye Wray's "Caring for Babies" made me recollect that a much younger woman member of our IBC has just begun attending our church regularly...and that her language is becoming less colourful little by little. Now when she sends down a faulty shot she shouts "Oh, sh...oogah!" (God be praised!)

—Gladys Butler
(Bruce Rock, WA)

Baptism

To the Editor,

A relative in St Loius, USA, sent me a copy of the weekly four-page newsletter (22 October 1989) of St Francis Xavier College. It contained an article describing a tour of their renovated building and in particular the provision for baptisms. Some of the wording sounded so much like Churches of Christ language that I felt impelled to draw attention to it.

"In planning the baptismal setting we look to historical data for insights. This much is clear from the early writers—bap-

tism took place first in streams and rivers, and when places were designed, the containers were large enough for people to stand in. Granted, these basins were designed primarily for adults (we baptise a lot of them at S.F.X.), but that is not the only reason for lots of water. It is the symbolic power of water that is important. Understanding the power of the water symbol is so crucial that it is worth review.

"The biblical images of water centre on life, death, and Christ. Water's life-giving qualities are well known to us—through our own experience and in scripture. In Genesis there was no vegetation on earth before God sent rain; in the desert thirsty Israel gets water from the rock. Water brings death as well—in a great flood, in walls of water after Israel crosses on dry land between them. Jesus proclaims himself the source of living water, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me...from that one's heart shall flow streams of living water!' As Israel passed through the waters to the promised land, so we pass through the waters of baptism to die and rise with Christ."

—A.J. Ludbrook
(Dulwich/Rose Park, SA)
[This letter is longer than 200 words. However as it is quoting from an article I have allowed it at this length—Editor]

Infallibility and Inspiration

To the Editor,

Ronald Graham ("AC" 18 November) should be aware that "infallibilists" and "inspirationalists" do not believe that God has conflicting standards. Inspiration and infallibility stand together, under them and you have neither. If an infallible God cannot reveal himself and his will in an infallible word, then bring on the priests and gurus to identify the mistakes for us. Worship such a bumbling God? Hardly!

Galatians reveals that in baptism we have put on Christ. He is the one therefore in whom we are before God. It is his perfection, his beauty that is

seen upon us. Nothing else is seen, no earthly condition, no place of privilege beside. All in Christ, neither male nor female.

Quite harmoniously, the Epistle to Timothy upholds the creation place, which is not for eternity but for our sojourn in this body, and for the order and conduct of his church on earth.

Because God has ordained a different place for women in the church, this does not mean it is an inferior place. Nor will hearts in subjection to his word deem it to be so.

—Bill Woff
(Southport, Qld)

Presiding

To the Editor,

In what we have come to refer to as the institution of the Lord's Supper, Jesus likened the bread to his broken body and the wine to his shed blood and said, "Do this in remembrance of me." It is for this reason that I believe

the Master's desire was that when we surround the table we remember him in his sacrificial death. "What is wrong with sharing a meaningful experience that we have had..." (Mervyn Hopgood, "AC" 18 November) as presidential remarks is, I am afraid, that there will at least be the tendency, if not the probability, of attention being directed not to Christ on the Cross, but to the experience or the teller thereof.

—A. Augustine
(Chelsea, Vic)

Attending Commonwealth Games in New Zealand?

To the Editor,

As a congregation from New Zealand we are well aware of the many visitors Auckland may receive during early 1990 attending the Commonwealth Games.

Our minister's address is: John and Louise Fulford,

Letters from Tertius

Lying on the Table

To the Editor,

I once served on a committee on which a member had a stock motion about any document that might involve him or the committee in some work. Inevitably he would say, "I move that it lay on the table."

I remembered this "lying on the table" thing while my wife and I were away on holiday and we attended services at several of our churches. They all seemed to have one thing in common, a table in the porch or foyer. On the tables were piles of ageing documents from conference departments, missionary agencies and other hopeful groups. We never saw any one pick up anything from the tables, although one of the church papers made a plea from an obscure corner for members to do so.

I found myself wondering what happens in these churches when the tables get overloaded. In one of the churches a mighty gust of wind emptied the table top. But somebody faithfully put all the papers back. I gather that eventually they all end up in the bin, and yet another noble tree gave its life in vain!

I ended up wondering what is wrong with having all this literature placed carefully into the hot little hands of members as they leave the services, because every one knows that it is against human nature to stop and pick up documents from tables, just as it is against human nature to read what is on church notice boards.

Could handing out literature on Sundays be a useful ministry for some whose gift is humble reliability. I know it is not on the list of New Testament ministries, but they didn't have much paper then.

Yours ecologically,

—Tertius

Mairangi Church of Christ, 55 Maxwellton Drive, Mairangi Bay, Auckland 10. Phone 478 6314.

The reason for informing you of our address is that it is often difficult to locate churches within a short period of time in a strange city. Particularly as our name is listed under "Associated" Churches of Christ in the phone book.

We thought it may be helpful for people to be armed with our name and address and that way they can feel we can be contacted easily for whatever reason—whether it be for hospitality; meet and greet; fellowship on Sunday or local advice.

We look forward to the Commonwealth games and the opportunity to make some new overseas friends. Our offer of hospitality is not only for this eventful period; we would welcome new friends at any time of the year.

—K.J. Yates
(Secretary, Mairangi Bay Church of Christ)

Welfare and the Churches

At a recent press conference for the religious press in Melbourne the Federal Minister for Social Security, Brian Howe, called for regular meetings between the Federal Government and the Heads of Churches to discuss welfare issues such as family support, care for the aged, care for the disabled and child poverty.

Mr Howe said that he had suggested such meetings to the Australian Council of Churches and he was surprised that such an offer had not yet been taken up.

He cited the successful meetings held between the Victorian Government and the Heads of Churches in that state as the model for such meetings.

Brian Howe stated that churches should be at the cutting edge of change, especially in the welfare area, and not at the end, where they are simply reacting to demands placed

upon them. He thought that church social work should be looking at moving away from a rigid, institutional approach to one that was more flexible, innovative and creative.

He argued that churches need evaluation of what they are doing more than they have ever done in the past. "Churches need to fully evaluate the achievement of objectives and the meeting of criteria," he said.

Some of the issues in welfare that churches and governments need to consider for the 1990s include the need to recover the individual rather than let the bureaucracy run affairs. He sees a need for the system to be working at the small scale. Tied in with this approach is the need to look at significant work with the disabled, particularly those on invalid pensions.

Only 2% of those currently on invalid pensions return to the work force each year. It is a

pension of last resort and people need to be given a sense of worth and value, and the churches could play a significant role in this area.

Brian Howe saw the main change that has occurred in welfare in the 1980s as the change in dependency. Until the 1970s the main recipients of welfare were the aged. With the high levels of unemployment in the 1970s and 1980s the concept of dependency changed. The amounts spent by governments on welfare are now much higher in the areas of the unemployed, single parents, the disabled and family support.

The growth in the number of aged will also be significant. In 1904 (the year when aged pensions were introduced) about 4% of Australians were aged 65 or more. That percentage has increased to about 10% currently and is expected to grow to about 16.5% by the year 2020.

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Media Review

Books

Tomorrow's Church Today

Young People in the Australian Church
by Tricia Blombery (Christian Research Association)
\$8

This is the seventh of a series of reports from the data collected in the Combined Churches Survey for Faith and Mission that the Christian Research Association has published. This report focuses on those attenders under the age of 25. The report finds that in many ways this group is on the outside of the main stream of church activities yet it is vital for the continued survival of the church.

The young people who responded to the survey are already committed church members. They are not typical of Australian youth but their responses provide very useful insights into what young people are looking for, and finding, through church involvement.

Of particular interest are the two chapters that examine the beliefs of young people and their attitudes to the church and to clergy. The information on young people is broken into two groups: those under 18 and those 18-25.

This material should be read and discussed by anyone involved in youth work and in establishing ministries for young people in local churches.

This report is available from the Christian Research Association, 8 Power St, Hawthorn 3122, phone (03) 861 6531, for \$8 plus \$2 postage and packaging. It is also available through some Christian bookshops.

—CRA

Who's Afraid of the Old Testament God?

by Alden Thompson (The Paternoster Press)

In our tradition we look mainly at the New Testament and look at the Old Testament through a tradition that is conditioned by Jesus Christ. Often in our churches we ignore the Old Testament or just concentrate on those passages that are important to the writers of the New Testament. Alden Thompson was also like this and in the past, when looking at the Old Testament, he focused on what it has in common with the New Testament and ignored everything else. Too often one hears the comments in church circles that there are aspects of the God of the Old Testament that are not Christian.

As Alden Thompson says in the Preface: "You may find it surprising that it was actually the Old Testament that brought my Christian experience to life. The Old Testament God generally has a rather poor reputation, even in Christian circles. But it was indeed my study of the Old Testament which has forced me to re-examine my understanding of God and has led me to a much clearer grasp of how he would have me live and what he would have me believe about him."

This book looks at the place of sin and evil in the Old Testament, at the law codes and the relationship with God that they were meant to express, the Messianic story, which the author regards as "the best story in the Old Testament", the attitudes disclosed in the prayers and songs of the Old Testament, and also what is regarded as the "worst" story in the Old Testament.

—CRA

The Measure of a Man

by Martin Luther King (Collins Fount Paperbacks)
\$7.95

This volume, at best, gives a fleeting glimpse of the theological underpinnings of Martin Luther King's political involvement and the source of his zeal for social justice.

The first section of the book concerns itself with the question: "What is Man?" The author quotes one verse from the Psalms to support his contention. Differentiating between Platonism and Biblical theology, King affirms that Christianity sees "the body" as sacred and significant (pp 13-14).

Insisting that religion cannot retain credibility without addressing the economic and social conditions that cripple and corrupt humanity, King proceeds to develop an anthropology that belies his own intelligence and erudition.

I have the utmost regard for Dr King and the struggle he represented, but I am at a loss to see how this volume contributes anything to anyone but the most committed collector of King memorabilia.

The second section of this slender volume is titled "The Dimensions of a Complete Life". Amid a questionable interpretation of Revelation 21, Dr King implores the reader to live in relationship with oneself, others and God.

This entirely unspectacular publication concludes with an excerpt from Martin Luther King's greatest speech, delivered on 3 April 1968, the day before he was assassinated.

Regrettably, this one page excerpt does not justify the \$7.95 price of the book.

—Garry Harris

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World News

Marriage Seminar in Vanuatu

Wife Beating...Talk of Divorce...Undisciplined Children...Lack of Communication...Wives Running Away...Adultery

Sadly, much of the above is part of so many Australian marriages, despite the opportunities of education and the availability of pre-marriage preparation courses. The newspapers are full of it and the courts struggle to deal with cases associated with marriage problems.

Can you imagine what the situation would be if Australian culture decreed that the husband is very definitely "the boss" of his wife, if there was limited educational opportunities and hardly any opportunity for pre-marriage preparation? Add to that the fact that the husband and wife are not allowed to spend time alone together before the marriage and some of the husbands do not choose their wives?

What hope for a truly fulfilling Christian marriage?

In Vanuatu the above is true for many of the marriages and because this has been happening for many generations the children often do not see a good example in the family to which they belong. For so many the expectation is that the role of a wife is to bear and raise children, work in the garden and meet the needs of her husband.

After much prayer we set out to prepare some studies that would confront married



Roger and Jill Bawden

couples with the cultural aspects of marriage as set out in the Bible and to educate them in other areas that affect their marriages.

To date, two seminars have been held in Luganville town and 29 couples from the local church have attended. Because of the need for privacy and the thinking of some people regarding the use of the church building, we are hiring the local youth hall. Couples are asked to make a commitment to attend two nights a week for five weeks.

The programming touches some areas which are taboo in a cultural sense and therefore there is a lot of ignorance and

fear in these areas. Some of these areas are conception, pregnancy and birth.

Assisting us is Dr Yinka Ajayi, Pastor August Ben and Pastor Samuel Waen. These people bring medical, cultural and pastoral skills to the course.

We plan to reach into the non-Christian marriages in the new year and to try and take the course to the northern island people of Vanuatu. Can we ask for prayer support as we plan these outreaches and for prayer for those who will attend? They will need prayer support as they prepare to place the "Christian Culture" ahead of the culture of their own country.

—Roger and Jill Bawden (Vanuatu)

Church Help to El Salvador

Australian churches have responded immediately to the current crisis in El Salvador. An initial grant of \$20,000 from Christmas Bowl funds was sent to Diakonia, an association of churches and organisations working with the victims of violence and forced displacement.

The sudden escalation in violence in El Salvador has left many people living in fear and without adequate food, water or medical supplies.

The churches in El Salvador have mobilised to deal with the crisis. Many have opened their doors to provide a safe place for those forced to flee. Supplies are desperately needed by the refugees as well as those remaining in their communities.

Rev. Dr Emilio Castro, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, has made an urgent appeal for a ceasefire and the recommencement of negotiations. He also assured the Salvadoran people of the worldwide church's practical and prayerful support.

Four chaplains for professional sports teams in Australia attended the Pro Athletes Outreach conference in Los Angeles to learn how to run a conference for professional athletes. One chaplain attending was Greg Shaw, minister of the Brooklyn Park, SA, church, who is chaplain for the SA Sheffield Shield cricket team.

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Happenings

In Brisbane heads of churches were meeting with government ministers on 10 November to discuss legislative moves to ban or restrict the sale of record albums that promote drug-taking, violence, blasphemy or obscenity.

Murray and Joan Rule retired as APCM missionaries, then went to Tarl in Papua New Guinea to work on the never-written Edolo language. It's the 33rd PNG language the couple have learned.

Quoted in the Adelaide *Sunday Mail*, former world Formula 1 champion Ayrton Senna said that he owed his success in capturing pole position in the Australian Grand Prix held in Adelaide that day to his "belief in God and Jesus". After suffering an emotional low early in the week he continued: "But reading the Bible and my belief in God motivated me today. I have faith in him (God) and I believe that I feel." The story was on the front page under the banner head "God Shows Me the Way".

The first Coptic liturgy of the Coptic Church in Australia was held in Redfern, Sydney, on 24 January 1969. Today there are 14 Coptic churches in Australia—6 in Sydney, 4 in Melbourne and one each in Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Canberra.

The Nurses Christian Fellowship Vic-Tas is holding a thanksgiving carol service at the Ridley College chapel, Parkville, Melbourne, on 8 December at 7.30 pm. The speaker will be Mary Evans OBE, FCNA. Supper to follow. Details from the office on (03) 650 9043 (Fridays only).

The Anglican Church's highest court, the Appellate Tribunal, has ruled against the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Melbourne diocese. The tribunal's 7 members unanimously decided that Melbourne diocese's

legislation paving the way for such ordinations was invalid under its constitution.

The Ecumenical Partnership Committee of the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is recommending that the two denominations do "nothing separately that could be done together". That means separate denominational programs would have to justify their separate existence. The two bodies are already in full communion with each other.

The small Inner City of London has never had a Roman Catholic congregation, although several other churches are represented, including the Anglican Church. Now the parish church of St Mary Aldermary is to act as host to a Roman Catholic congregation. The church will celebrate Anglican Eucharists on Thursday and Friday and Roman Catholic ones on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland have decided not to ordain women as bishops. The church ordained women as priests for the first time last year and so far has ordained about 300 women. But in a vote of 9 to 8 they blocked moves towards having women bishops.

The Irish Churches Council for Television and Radio Affairs has begun functioning under Roman Catholic, Anglican, Reformed (Presbyterian) and Methodist auspices.

Recently Care and Communication/God's Squad conducted a mission at Numurkah, Vic. Over 50 responded to the gospel call during the weekend, many of them for the first time.

Underage drinking has been featured as one of the major current social problems in Victoria. The Victorian Temperance Alliance is spending \$20,000 for four radio

spots to help young people in their early teens realise they can stand up to peer pressure, that alcohol is not necessary for a good party, and at the same time to support parents in exercising their responsibility for moulding children's attitudes. The advertisements will be broadcast on 3KZ and 3MMM in the week before Christmas.

The 13th joint conference of the Association of Theological Schools and the Society of Theological Studies of Australia and New Zealand is being held in Brisbane 2-5 July 1990. The theme of the conference is "The Church's Mission Today". Dr Sean Freyne, Professor of Theology at Trinity College, Dublin, will be the featured speaker. Professor Freyne formerly served on the staff of the University of Queensland. Local speakers discussing the theme from a local context include Dr Athol Gill of Whitley College and Dr Muriel Porter. The conference is residential but day and casual visitors are welcome. Details from the Registrar, ANZATS Conference, Banyo Seminary, Banyo 4014. Phone (07) 267 5124.

At its recent Annual Meeting the Victorian branch of the Bible Society in Australia elected Gordon Scambler of the Nunawading, Vic, church to the position of President. Gordon has had a long involvement in Bible Society activities and is currently National Treasurer.

In July and August 1990 Jim Wallis of Sojourners Community, Washington, DC, will join an Australia-wide tour to speak with people from all facets of the Australian church, reflecting with them on the ideas of salvation and justice.

John Tarzwell, a Canadian working with the Christian relief organisation Serve has been reported missing and Pakistani police suspect he

has been abducted. John Tarzwell was about to return to British Colombia when he disappeared.

Evangelical Nigerian churches have sent two church planting missionaries to England, where they hope the couples will be able to spread the message of the Gospel and establish strong Bible-based churches.

Charles Mendez, an American, Andrews Ragbol of India and Prakash Subba of Nepal were jailed for 6 years by Nepal's Supreme Court in October. They were found guilty of "propagating Christianity in ways harmful to Hinduism". Two Nepals were sentenced to one year's jail for converting to Christianity.

The American Bible Society has completed the translation of the New Testament into Cambodia's Khmer language, 16 years after work was suspended when translators vanished during the Khmer Rouge's reign of terror.

Billy Graham, who celebrated his 71st birthday on 7 November, confirmed that he will continue his intense schedule of crusade ministry. "I do not intend to retire," said Graham. "Nowhere do I find in the Bible that a preacher retired. My doctors have suggested that I slow down somewhat. But as long as God gives me breath, I expect to preach the Gospel."

An American Baptist missionary was ordered by Ugandan military authorities to leave the country after his arrest for entering a military installation without authorisation.

The Swanston St, Melbourne, church is holding its evening service on 17 December in the Bourke Street Mall, outside Centrepoin, at 7 pm.

One in five people in the world, 1 billion people, are

either diseased or malnourished. A recent World Health Organisation report says this is a preventable tragedy because the world has the technology and resources to end common diseases worldwide.

Nearly 4 million Angolans, almost half the population, have been affected by civil war, drought and flood. During the next 8 months they will need more than \$70 million in relief and rehabilitation aid, according to the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation.

Violent confrontations broke out in late October between Baptists and a group of animists over the rightful ownership of a sacred mask used in rituals by villagers from the Ivory Coast community of Bably. Sources say that the church member had refused to return the mask on prior occasions because he wanted to pray over it and through prayer remove its spiritual power.

A group of influential house church leaders in Beijing, China, have issued an appeal to Bible teachers from the Western charismatic movement to "cease coming to China and insisting that believers speak in tongues and 'dance in the Spirit'".

Egyptian dentist and long-time Muslim convert to Christianity, Ibrahim El-Sayeh, was released on 4 November after a judge in Cairo ruled to uphold a previous verdict acquitting El-Sayeh of all charges. He was arrested on 8 July for allegedly "disturbing the peace" while carrying out Christian activities.

A recent spate of conversions to Christianity among Muslims in Urumqi, China, has led to intense persecution of new converts. Rules have been established by local mullahs for the "reclaiming of Muslims from the evil spirits of apostasy".

World News

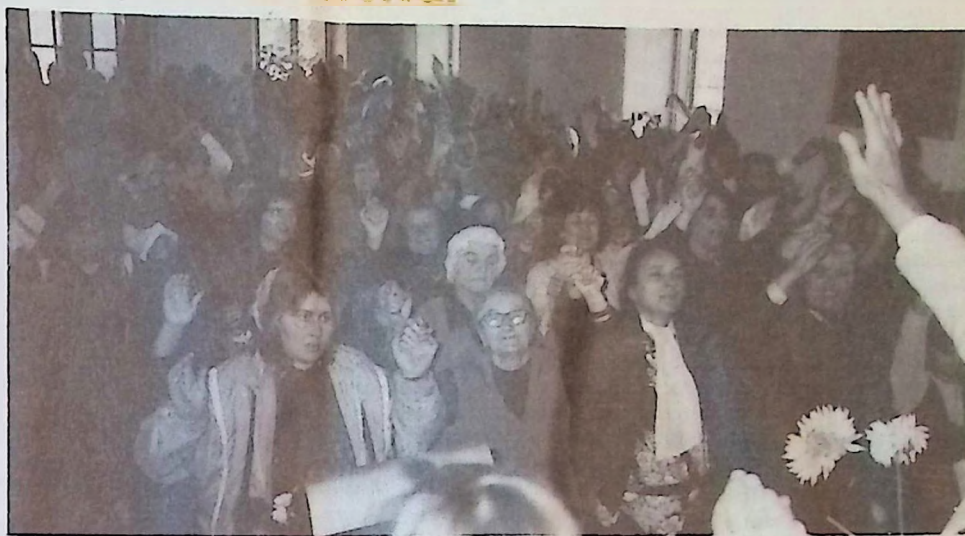
Bulgaria on the Threshold of Revival

In October Ned Blaskow, secretary of the Australian Voice of Peace mission, paid a three-week visit to Bulgaria. His trip came as a result of an invitation to celebrate the 150th birthday of his grandfather, Ilia R. Blaskow, a popular writer of the 19th century.

During his stay Ned was asked to preach in churches in the capital city Sofia and in Shumen, a city in the eastern part of the country.

He had lengthy talks with the president of the largest evangelical denomination in Bulgaria. They discussed ways of helping spread the gospel in the present relaxed atmosphere of religious tolerance.

Ned was given the opportunity of addressing several public meetings and functions in Shumen. The occurrence of some weird phenomena in the country, such as UFO sightings and a well-publicised demonic



Church service in Bulgaria

possession gave him the opportunity to draw people's attention to spiritual realities. This was followed with interviews on radio and TV, which must be a first for an evangelical preacher in Bulgaria.

Ned highlighted two factors. The religious situation in Bulgaria has improved dramatically and is continuing to do so at present. At the same time there is a very strong interest in the supernatural everywhere one goes. Unfortunately, at the moment this is being directed largely into wrong channels of superstition and occult practices.

Ned Blaskow sums up the

situation: "Bulgaria is on the threshold of revival. The enemy knows that and is spreading the tares of spiritual confusion, deception and counterfeit. Our brethren in Bulgaria are aware of it and are requesting us to intercede before the Lord for them. Christians there feel isolated and have a deep

desire for fellowship with Christians from the West."

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Reflections on Zimbabwe

I stood before the statue of David Livingstone at Victoria Falls holding my Akubra and thought about the missionary stories of my youth. With all the stories about "darkest Africa" it was a little awe-inspiring to stand on Zimbabwe soil within a kilometre of Zambia.

Hugh Scott, Chairman of the New Zealand Section on Overseas Mission, was my companion. He was also my sounding board and tour guide as he returned to the country he had left over 25 years ago. Hugh and Janet Scott, together with their family, had lived and worked at Dadaya High School.

Hugh and I were on a fraternal visit. The Churches of Christ in Australia and New Zealand are partners in mission in Zimbabwe. Over a three-week period we travelled over 4,000 km by car. The elderly, reliable Citroen was made available to us by Sir Garfield Todd. We greatly enjoyed the gracious hospitality of Sir Garfield, Lady Grace and their daughter Judith. Sir Garfield joined us in much of our travelling and it was a heartwarming experience to see the way in which the people of Zimbabwe greeted him with love and honour. During the period that

he was Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Garfield worked hard in promoting the rights of black Africans. This stand placed him under house arrest for some years in a later regime.

On this whirlwind tour we did some tourist activities but spent most of our time looking at aid projects, the educational system and the life of churches in the country. Like most countries there is a great contrast in lifestyle among the people and many practical issues.

The New Zealand churches have been involved in the Dadaya area for most of this century. 37 churches have grown within a 50 km radius of Zvishavane, which is an asbestos mining town about 10 km from Dadaya. The churches are in the communal lands (lands that have always been owned by Africans and were not able to be sold to whites) and many of the people are poor. The churches consist mainly of women, young people and children. There are very few wage earners among the church members.

The Dadaya High School has 900 boarding students and 38 teachers living on campus. Bill and Ria Keddle work there on behalf of the Australian



churches. Bill's role is as a teaching chaplain. He teaches divinity which is a compulsory subject to "O" level.

There are about 40 other Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe, most tracing their background to the Churches of Christ/Christian Church in the United States. They are in the urban centres of Harare, Bulawayo, Mutare, Kwe Kwe and Gweru. They have operated independently of each other and in some cases have had no fellowship or sense of belonging. There is a grassroots movement to bring the Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe together. A group known as the Associated Churches of Christ Dadaya has been formed. This name clearly identifies the desire of the churches to be in a co-operating model.

Further involvement for the Australian and New Zealand churches with the life of the churches in Zimbabwe has

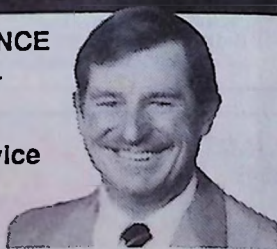
many possibilities. The Australian Overseas Mission Board is keen to develop further relationships with the Associated Churches of Christ Dadaya with a view to fraternal workers from Australia assisting with a Church Adviser role similar to our involvement in Papua New Guinea. It has become easier to obtain work visas for missionaries in Zimbabwe than it has been in the past.

—Jeff May
(Executive Director,
Australian Churches of Christ
Overseas Mission Board)

The British Foreign Office cancelled an official 6-day visit to the Soviet Union recently by an 11-member delegation to investigate human rights when the Russian authorities refused to grant a visa to Rev. Michael Bordeaux, Director of Keston College.

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A Church ABC

Inverell is situated in the beautiful New England district of northern New South Wales. It is a bustling town of approximately 10,000 with 5,000 more people in the surrounding area. The main farming industries are crops, including wheat, and sh-

The church is located in Vivian Street. The first church building was erected in 1906, but this building has reached a stage

where it must soon be demolished, so a new building was constructed in 1987. The new building is a very attractive and suitable facility that fits in well with the needs of the church and the community. There is a hall and chapel with facilities for babies and audio-visual presentations. The church was built by a builder member and with the financial assistance of a local ICA.

The membership of Inverell was 51 last year but is now 57. Services are held at 10.30 am (with an average attendance of 65) and at 7 pm (summer) or 6 pm (winter),

which 50 attend.

The minister is John Oaksford. John was born in New York state in the USA and lived on a dairy farm before migrating with his family to Australia in 1966. While running an odd-job business (some might

group in the town. There is a Wednesday night young people's Bible study, with an average of 18 in attendance as well as the Friday night social and outreach activities that attract 30 to 40 on occasions. Many non-Christian young people are attracted.

Other activities of the church include CWF monthly with a fortnightly ladies' Bible study, a play-group run by the women of the church

on Tuesday mornings, and a kids' "Happy Hour" on Sunday mornings at 9.15 am. Further activities are planned. John Oaksford has a wood working shop at the manse he plans to use in further outreach. A coffee shop for disabled people is held once a month on Tuesday evenings.

The growth of the church is encouraging. The Inverell church has an emphasis on accepting people for what they are and are looking for ways to meet the needs of the community, especially young people, in the future.

Focus on Inverell

say he is still in that business) he trained for the ministry, first through a correspondence course with the Baptist church, then at Tahlee Bible College at Pt Stevens for two years and finally at Kenmore Christian College. John served with the Christian Literature Crusade for two years and with Queensland churches for ten, before coming to Inverell in February this year. He and his wife Beryl have two children, Mark, 8, and Martha, 5.

Youth work is very important at Inverell. The church has the second-largest youth

Growing Spiritually

How Do We Grow into Maturity?

by Don Herbert

Every person who is truly born again has the burning desire to grow in the Lord.

Soon after conversion the new Christian is confronted with the question: How do I grow? In response the new Christian is besieged with a barrage of recipes, the basis of which is usually bookish and academic. Knowledge of the Bible for many believers is the measuring stick of maturity. By it they ascertain a person's spirituality and elect people to office in our churches and preachers to our pulpits.

No doubt knowledge of the Bible is to be desired and encouraged because it will give direction to maturity. However, knowledge of the Bible itself is never enough. (Even Satan quotes Scripture.) The Jews had a knowledge of the Law but they did not understand the spirit or the author of the Law. This same principle applies today. The church in the Western world has a bias towards academic knowledge, knowing about the Scriptures but for the most part neglecting to enter into a love relationship with the author of the Scriptures.

As a result of not relating to the author, the author's written words are misunder-

stood. If the spirit of the Word is not appreciated the believer slowly sinks into the quicksand of rigid legalism, dotting the i's and crossing the t's. Eventually the believer becomes like the old wineskins Jesus spoke of, dry and brittle and unable to receive the new wine of the spiritual understanding.

We grow spiritually by entering into a love relationship with God!

Growing in maturity is accomplished by having the same kind of relationship as Jesus has with God. It's being constantly intimate with God in all that we do and say. Prayer and the Word are most certainly stepping stones to this intimacy. However, personal spiritual worship is the vital ingredient to a love relationship with the Father.

The catalyst of this worship is gratitude, for the essence of gratitude is praise and the essence of praise is worship. In uninhibited gratitude and praise spiritual worship begins and Father God becomes Abba Father.

The early church understood this. They

for the most part were not academics (people of the book) but they were people of the Spirit. Academic knowledge was not the basis of their relationship with God but worship through the praise and adoration. Many recognised that their function as priests was to exalt and bless the character, name and nature of God.

The result of their spiritual worship was to not only know, but also to experience the presence and power of God in their lives. In spiritual praise and worship their hearts were opened to the regenerating ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual growth comes to all of like mind and practice!

Knowledge (about) God is to be strived for, however the knowledge (of) God is to be pursued with all of our hearts for this will bring about real spiritual growth and true maturity.

If spiritual growth is going to be a reality in our lives it is vital that we understand and appreciate that we are to be people of the Spirit and not simply people of the book.

• Don Herbert is minister at the Goonellabah, NSW, church.

Classifieds

BIRTHS

OLIVER (CARTER) Milton and Anne would like to thank God and praise him for the safe arrival of Joel Robert, and to thank our many friends who have given us prayer support over the past few months.

ZIELINSKI (CONNING) To George and Beth on 19 November, a daughter, Clare Louise. Sister for Christopher and Daniel.

RUBY WEDDING

DIXON—CHAPPELL Roy and Joy of Unit 17, Green Hills Retirement Village, The Boulevard, East Maitland 2323, are congratulated by their family on 40 years of married life. Their wedding was celebrated at the College of the Bible Chapel, Glen Iris, on 10 December 1949. Brian, Bronwen, Catherine, Brendan and Myfanwy; Peter, Karen, Jonathan, Elizabeth, Timothy and Benjamin; Trevor; Barrie and Melissa; and Grace. We wish them God's blessing as they share a well-earned retirement together. Psalm 31:19.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

FINGER—PATTERSON Bill and Amy, Jarvis (Brisbane) and Glynthea (Dublin) have pleasure in announcing the Golden Wedding anniversary of their parents, who were married at the Annerley Church of Christ, Brisbane, by (Rev.) N. Noble on 16 December 1939. Residing at 30 Kenneth St, Tarragindi, Qld.

STALEY—EVANS Bob and Dorothy celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on 9 December 1939 at Bamba Rd, Caulfield, Church of Christ, minister late H.M. Clipstone. Love and best wishes from Cheryl and Rod, Sandra and Heinz, Pauline and Peter and 9 grandchildren. Present address 113/562 Burwood Hwy, Vermont South 3133.

WATERS—DONALDSON Noel and Bonnie, 4 Eric Fenning Drive, Batemans Bay, praise the Lord for his protection and goodness and for a wonderful family over these 50 years. Married by C.L. Lang, Ormond, 9 December 1939.

DEATHS

SMITH Jack, in Sydney on 28 October. Eldest son of the late Sid and Edie (Brodie). Formerly of North Richmond and Hawthorn. Beloved husband of Dorothy (Mott) and father of Worric, Robin, Noel (dec.) and Michael. Dearly loved nephew and cousin of Bob and Jean (Brodie), Graeme, Glenda and Philip Addicott.

IN MEMORIAM

SEARLE John Edward, 1 December 1988, and Hazel Ann, 23 October 1988. Loved father and step-mother of Norm (deceased). Remembered always by daughter-in-law Linda, grandsons Geoff and Brian. God has them in his keeping. We have them in our hearts.

THANKS

THOMAS Sincere thanks to all those who sent cards, phone calls and visits to me since my illness. It will take time, but my faith and so many praying for me, I know I'm going to be cured.—Holley Thomas, Kangaroo Flat.

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Comment

From Charity to Partnership

by Peter Holden

40 Years of Learning through the Christmas Bowl

The vision of one person 40 years ago gave birth to the Christmas Bowl.

The Rev. Frank Byatt, a Presbyterian minister, caught a vision of an empty bowl on the Christmas dinner table of every church family in Australia. The bowl was to be a reminder of all God's people celebrating the birth of Christ at Christmas dinner tables right around the world.

The bowl was also to be a reminder of God's people who had little to celebrate at Christmas time because they were caught up in war, famine, or the desperate traps of poverty and oppression.

Charity

The way to do this seemed clear: to simply transfer the resources of food and money to those people. The reason for doing it also seemed clear. It was an expression of Christian charity.

As time went on it was soon learned that charity was not enough if it meant simply transferring resources from the rich to the poor. Charity was seen to create dependence, destroy initiative and contribute little towards changing the situations that caused human need. So a new dimension came about—development.

Development

Development was understood as helping people to help themselves. This new thinking and new language led to new ways of acting, such as the transfer of technology, training, health care, experimental farming, credit unions and rice banks.

With a new emphasis on development came an examination of the Bible. It was not hard to find a parable where Jesus told the people that talents are not to be hidden

FOR THE MILLIONS WHO DO WITHOUT TWO MEALS A DAY, THE ONLY FORM IN WHICH GOD DARE APPEAR IS FOOD.

in the ground but used wisely and to the full. In the parable God rewards people who use the resources they have been given.

The shift from charity to development also provided a good opportunity for deeper analysis of the causes of poverty. Those causes did not have their roots in people who were somehow less fortunate but were in unjust political and economic systems that favour some people with power while others are oppressed.

What is the benefit of breeding new strains of rice or maize or wheat if someone puts a fence around the field and says, "The land is mine, get out"? What is the point of educating people if their new talents are being exploited to make the rich even richer?

Action for Justice

As the understanding of human suffering began to change, so the response had to change. If injustice was the cause, changing unjust social structures was the answer.

The battleground had shifted. The causes of human suffering were not only to be found where the victims were. The privileged and the systems that supported privi-

lege were part of the problem. The battleground was in the privileged countries and issues had to be addressed in that society for the sake of all. Education for development is a process that enables not only the understanding of global realities but also action on them in this part of the world for the sake of all God's people.

These evolving understandings of how to respond as part of God's family to the rest of God's family should not lead anyone to think that simple charity was an inappropriate response; nor that development was too simplistic and outmoded by action for justice. There are certain situations where charity is the only possible expression of love and concern. Sometimes development is the only way to act. Sometimes the only thing that will help is action for justice. At times all three responses are needed.

Partnership

The new insight that the Christmas Bowl has given in the past few years has been that none of these ways of acting are enough by themselves.

No action in response to God's family is adequate if it is simply done for other people. The insight and challenge of the 1980s calls for partnership with God's people.

Partnerships strive for equality. Partnerships seek to honour peoples' rights to decide for themselves what their needs are and how their needs are best met. In partnership we share our common humanity and our common faith as we share resources.

• Peter Holden, a minister of the Uniting Church in Australia, is the Director of the Commission of World Christian Action of the Australian Council of Churches.

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Ministers' Workshop

The Minister and Spirituality

by Keith Farmer

To lack "spirituality" as a minister is in essence no different from non-spirituality in any other context. It just seems more ludicrous. To increase in spirituality is to be more open to God through His Spirit in our lives.

"Thy Will Be Done" is most deeply meant and more quickly prayed by the person developing in spirituality. This developing spirituality will be demonstrated in very significant areas in the life and work of the minister.

1. We will be more sensitive in our personal relationships. Relationship and personal capacities known as the "fruit of the spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23) will become more evident in our lives. These are the qualities of the personality of God and therefore are vital in the life of a Minister.

2. We will be more secure people. Spiritual maturity issues in a sense of personal worth. To experience more deeply the love of God will change the minister and his/her core. It may mean that we are freed from drivenness and workaholicism because we no longer need to prove our worth through great success. We may be freed from "laziness" based in fear of failure or depression because we have experienced more deeply the security of the acceptance of God.

3. We will be more peaceful people. The stresses of pastoral ministry seem to me to have increased significantly in the last decade. We are asked now not only to

preach and pastor but also to be a leader, administrator and visionary within the church. Such pressures can weigh very heavily. The strong conviction that "I could crack at any time" if I try to face the pressures in my strength, although it may have been learned in very difficult circumstances, is nevertheless a major positive resource of the spiritually mature minister.

4. We will be more courageous people. The life of faith is the risky life. Conservatism and traditionalism are valuable in some circumstances, but the life which is exercising spiritual maturity will be willing to reach out into unknown territory, to become vulnerable, to risk reputation, to do the audacious thing for God.

5. We will be more able to serve. Jesus was willing to wash his disciples' feet because he had the security of knowing who he was. As we grow in spiritual maturity we will be freed of the need to have pride of place. To do the big job or be noticed will not be as important to us. We will be more able and willing to minister "as unto Jesus", where no-one will ever know about it and where we may never even receive the thanks.

This spirituality is a lifelong journey. It comes from knowing God and his people. It involves much more than knowing about God. We need to continually decide to be his, rather than our own. We need to be open to God emotionally. Spiritual maturity in ministry is important because other-

wise we will run out of resources for effective living and therefore effective ministry. Spiritual resources through spiritual growth may well be a key factor determining whether we stay in local church pastoral ministry or not.

• Keith Farmer is Principal of the Churches of Christ in NSW Theological College at Carlingford.

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

Relationship

Never friendless, we
know his constant
companionship,
The Galilean traveller
walks with us on our
journey.
Sharing our time, he is
eternally present,
And our lives are fused
with his.

—Garry Harris

Pontius' Puddle

R-R-RING!

HI, IT'S PONTIUS.
I JUST HAD THAT
HORRIBLE
NIGHTMARE AGAIN.

PONTIUS, BELIEVE ME, IT'S
HIGHLY IMPROBABLE THAT
YOU'LL BE ABDUCTED AND
FORCED TO JOIN A
LITURGICAL DANCE GROUP.
NOW, GO BACK TO SLEEP.

I'LL TRY.

John

Comment

The Elusive Secret: How Does Your Garden Grow?

by Bruce Armstrong

Ask the leaders of a growing church what precisely is their secret for growth and you will receive a smorgasbord of answers.

You may be convinced that if you can put just some of these "clues" into practice it is bound to happen for you.

How many times have you tried one of these "secrets" and been disappointed because it hasn't really produced the results?

The wide number of answers and the seeming ineffectiveness of those you try, only contribute to your now growing confusion.

I asked Paul Yonggi Cho what he considered to be the key to his church's phenomenal growth. Membership of the

Yoido Full Gospel Church was then in excess of 500,000 members with 400 pastors employed. He answered, "Prayer." He spoke of his own extensive prayer life, of his church's prayer program and of the importance of their centre at Prayer Mountain. He was quite convincing.

I asked Dr Bob Moorehead of Overlake Christian Church in Seattle, Washington, for his secret and he responded, "Worship." A strong New Testament witness in an under-churched region of the US with over 5,000 members and a dozen or more families supported on the mission field, Overlake Christian Church has a spacious auditorium with multiple services. The beauty and simplicity of their communion service, un-

cluttered in the fashion of some of our newer self-indulgent worship forms was a spiritually satisfying experience.

I asked Ben Merold, senior minister of Eastside Christian Church, for his secret insight that would unlock the door to growth. Eastside grows unabated in the shadow (literally) of Robert Schuller's Crystal Cathedral, and Chuck Swindoll's media and book publishing ministry from First Evangelical Free. Eastside has a delightful sanctuary and a music ministry second to none, as well as a large primary school run by the church. They have started three new churches in the last few years, each of which were large at birth, by our standards, and each still growing. Merold says it is "hard work and a touch of the Holy Spirit".

W.A. Criswell of First Baptist, Dallas, and Ed Fine of Central Christian Church, St Petersburg, Florida, were agreed and strongly committed to Christian education being the secret. First Baptist Dallas has multimillion-dollar auditorium and highrise holdings in downtown Dallas built to facilitate the Southern Baptist Christian education concepts. In Florida, Central Christian has bought 13 separate houses around their three-storey education block to facilitate their

Christian education program.

In his recent book *Twelve Keys to an Effective Church*, Kennon Callahan says that there are 12 things that need to be considered. Six are relational, like visitation, group life, corporate worship and six are functional, like good programs, visibility, parking etc. He says that 70% of these things are in place in most of the growing churches. It is true that certain of these "secret factors" need to be in place. But not one of the issues listed above is the secret!

The secret, common to each is not apparent on the surface.

Dig beneath the surface of each growing church. You will find that the elusive secret is their attitude towards evangelism. It underlies each of the noble factors listed above.

Don't misunderstand me. You won't grow a church without prayer, worship, Christian education etc. But the factors above alone won't grow your church. Your underlying desire must be to put each person in touch with the eternal purposes of God in Christ Jesus.

The intensity of your commitment to that truth will reflect in the rate of your growth! Try it. You'll grow.

• Bruce Armstrong is the senior minister at the Margaret Street, Toowoomba, Qld, church.

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Obituaries

Obituaries are limited to 100 words

Batchelor, Clancy Edgar
(1.10.89) A quiet but decided personality is one way to remember the gracious nature of Clancy. He lived a retired but active life up to his death at age 85. Born at Nubeena, Tas, he was the eldest of eight. Clancy was a strong man in every respect. At 15 he made his commitment to Jesus Christ and was baptised. A little over 62 years ago he married Phyllis Hughes and to them were born three children. They both worked hard but their united faith kept them pressing on in Christian witness. For many years Clancy and Phyllis have been in fellowship with the Nubeena church.
—Gordon Henderson

Ferris, Charles
(27.10.89) Charles grew up at Glenelg, SA, and was associated with the Glenelg church. It was there he met Fay Kitto (dec.) and they were married in 1938. Soon after they moved to Melbourne where they associated with the Lygon Stand Bamba Rd churches before joining the Cheltenham, Vic, church in 1951. Almost immediately Charles was appointed treasurer and held the position for 25 years. He was always active in the church and was instrumental in extensive remodelling for the centenary celebrations in 1957-58. A man of outstanding integrity greatly admired in business, loved good music, committed to his church and

devoted to his family.
—G.D. Rose

Garrett, Cyril Thomas
(8.10.89) Tom passed away at age 94. Tom arrived from England in 1913, with Fred Reeson with whom he attended Bible studies on the ship. They both attended the North Sydney church and were baptised. He was secretary until army service took him to France for three years. On return he was involved in social service work and lay preaching. Tom, with Joseph Plummer, commenced the Naremburn church and served as elder, secretary and Bible school teacher until August 1928 when he married Grace Roberta Moras. This was the beginning of a 61 years partnership. They took up leadership of Christian Endeavour at North Sydney. In 1939 they moved to Belrose and the church was first established in their home. A man of vision, when children from an open air outreach in Frenchs Forest moved to Narraweena he was quick to follow them and the Brookvale and Narraweena Sunday Schools began in 1952. Tom was involved in state-wide social service work and Aboriginal missions for over 20 years. Tom and Roberta were active in the purchase of Alexander Campbell House, Forestville. He is survived by his wife Roberta, June (Reynolds), Ray and David.

McRoberts, Arthur Andrew
(18.10.89) Arthur Mac was a man with a clear sense of the purpose of the church. A gifted speaker, storyteller and thinker, he sought to put this into practice in each of his ministries—Maylands, WA, Hawthorn and Blackwood, SA, Warrawong, NSW, and several others. Lately Aldgate Valley and Lenswood, SA, have appreciated his leadership and insights. Arthur died suddenly. A few days later many gathered at Aldgate Valley to give thanks to God for Arthur's life and witness. Our love and sympathy surrounds his wife Edna and their family and grandchildren.
—John Gilmore



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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

Rosewarne, Albert John
(27.10.89) Bert, as he was better known, was born at Virginia, SA, 6.1.1913. He joined the Fullerton church in 1930. Soon after by his efforts his parents and seven brothers and sisters followed him. He served the church faithfully and after 36 years moved to Colonel Light

Gardens. Here he was a great worker serving on the board for a number of years. He built up five butcher shops and later managed the Metro Meat Co chain of stores for seven years. He was a keen golfer. He is survived by his wife Jean, a daughter and sons and nine grandchildren.
—JBB

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Personal

Discipleship

•Bradley Gilbert, Collins St, Hobart, Tas •Taryn Cameron, Katie Pearce, Belconnen, ACT •Lynette Foster, Linda Sheedy, Geoff Glasson, Kalamunda, WA •Mrs Hooper, Derek James, Bundaberg, Qld •Yang Chew, Thornelgh, NSW •Poly Suwandy, Perth City, WA •Lin-Maree Hearps, Danielle Larsen, Karen Peart, Launceston, Tas •Kaylene Hinselwood, Randall Green, Rod Kambouris, Lee Wright, Amanda Kambouris, Pearl Kingdom, Joan Kambouris, Harlaxton, Toowoomba, Qld •Robert Taylor, Stuart Caruana, Laraine Bycroft, Scott Nisbett, Annerley, Qld •Belinda Raabe, Jason Raabe, Joshua Kronk, Bongeene, Qld

Marriages

•Sandy Spencer to Geoff Hogg, Goolwa, SA •Nicole Bailey to Mark O'Brien, Rowena Peat to Steve Blizard, Kalamunda, WA •Jo Smit to Bruce Jeffries, Bronwyn Smart to Jay Scherwin, Rochelle Balke to Stephen Larsen, Harlaxton, Toowoomba, Qld •Ronda Donald

to David Williams, Sonia Wood to Paul Williams, Annerley, Qld •Julie Robinson to Peter Cutts, Hawthorn, SA

Deaths

•Arthur Andrew McRoberts, Aldgate Valley, SA •Mrs Ella Umfreville, Collins St, Hobart, Tas •Stan Taylor, Oakleigh, Vic •Steve Corlett, Gardiner, Vic •Mrs Edith Anderson, Swan Hill, Vic •Marge Henwood, Charles Tilley, Jean Waterman, Beryl O'Bryan Nunawading, Vic •Reg Voss, Bundaberg, Qld •John Smith, Jean Eylward, Tumby Bay, SA •Harris Greator, Chelsea, Vic •Russell McGlynn, Harlaxton, Toowoomba, Qld •Andy Grey, Maidstone, Vic

Changes

Bongeene:
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Secretary—Mrs S.J. Sires,
M/S 181, Pittsworth, Qld 4356.
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Church News

Tas

COLLINS ST, HOBART (Jeff Weston) Elders & board members attended retreat for 1990 planning ... Bradley Gilbert baptised recently ... Pray for church as it attempts to sell current building & searches for a larger location ... Cec Neville produced audio-visual & compiled history of Collins Street. Presented to church at evening service ... Church excited about "Mission to the Top". 14 to conduct outreach to Aboriginal Mission at Normanton in August 1990.

LAUNCESTON (Rod Foster) Don Cleaver elected to eldership & Elwyn Green & Roger Green to diaconate ... John Rees interim minister for six months commencing 17 Dec ... George Green inducted President, State Conference, 19 Nov ... New Gene quiz night raised \$350 to assist those attending Perth Youth Convention ... Camp reflections service 19 Nov. 130 present. One commitment made ... John Alderton & Karen Peart announced their engagement.

NSW

THORNLEIGH (Franklyn Elliott, Stuart Wesley) Kindergarten section of the Bible School held their anniversary on 29 October with Keith Morgan the speaker ... Currently Franklyn Elliott is recuperating following a mild heart attack late October ... Speakers have been Tim Hanna, Greg Hawkins, Don Smallbone & Stuart Wesley ... Yang Chew was baptised by Stuart Wesley on 19 November.

TAREE (N.G. Aubrey) Over past six months CWF has collected items to aid Manning Youth Refuge. At last meeting district co-ordinator was present & goods were handed over. House now open for home-

less youth. Donation gratefully received ... Boat trip up Manning River 25 November followed by a barbecue at Pampoolah. This is an end-of-year break-up for all auxiliaries.

TWEED HEADS (Richard Oakes, Guy Cooper) Increased numbers at evening service ... 50 at YP tea. Good YP camp at Maroochydhore ... Encouraging response to groups on "Our Faith Explained" & "The Cults". Richard leading ... John & Val Eden honoured on 50th wedding anniversary ... Drop-in friendship members at morning service ... Good discussion at leaders meeting ... 250 families represented in weekly involvements ... Great outreach & blessing Guy's youth ministry ... 12 commitments recent months.

Vic

OAKLEIGH (L.S. Dewberry) Church saddened by death of Stan Taylor ... Three teachers, Ken Masterton, Merv Symes & Joan Gill spoke at CWF ... More than 200 gifts, soft toys etc. donated by CWF for Children's Hospital & received by June Andrews of Hospital Committee ... Gordon Clarks speaker on 12 Nov ... Les & Betty Dewberry had two grandchildren (not twins) born on same day.

YORK ST BALLARAT (Roger Risson) Wendie Williams going to Hong Kong & China with Students for Christ Missions ... Sunday School children raised \$130 Bible Society ... Twilight fair raised \$3,500 toward church building ... Philip Johnston organised two "Heart" concerts. Capacity crowds. Raising funds for future theatre production ... Special evening of prayer held for church ministry ... Phillip Day (SU) clowning ministry ... Instrumental group used regularly in services.

GARDINER (Harold Steele) 75th

annual meeting elected new secretary, Bruce Verity, & two elders, Alan Mudge & Ron Lancashire. Retiring secretary, Priscilla Annear, thanked for her five years service ... Members saddened by death of Steve Corlett after 43 years service ... Continuing monthly series of guest speakers bringing successful "growth" stories from other churches ... Looking forward to induction of full-time minister, Paul Creasey, on 7 January.

EAST KEW (Ed Roffey, D. Jolly) A special singles service was held by Cheryl Johnson, minister of Williamstown church, when 46 attended after a fellowship tea ... At our last Thursday Luncheon we had a talk on Harrison Youth Services & a display of herbs ... New Kids Klub now grown to 11 members.

SWAN HILL (L.J. Mayes) Cheryl Johnson, minister Williamstown & Victorian Singles Co-ordinator, was recent visitor ... Christian parenting course, "Help I'm a Parent", conducted by church as community project ... November guest service, last for the decade, great success ... More baptisms planned for December ... Church saddened by passing of long-standing member Mrs Edith Anderson ... Alison Scott completed 12 months Youth Ministry course at Wollongong.

NUNAWADING (E. Keating, D. Hamilton, J. Wright, L. Smith) Amnesty International group formed ... 12 study groups meet regularly ... Guest dinners for singles, young parents ... Playgroup leaders morning coffee ... Presentation to Beryl Condict for 30 years as church organist ... YP annual bike hike ... CWF musical afternoon for Hospital Visitation Committee ... CWF Pleasant Sunday Afternoon for Christmas Bowl appeal ... Proceeds from fetes, Surrey Road \$4,700, Springfield Road \$5,300.

ASHBURTON (K. Barton) 48th church anniversary celebrated with a difference by recognising & honouring those who had reached 80 years of age ... Members visited CCTC at Mulgrave ... Ken Barton has accepted invitation to minister for a further year in 1990 ... Chaplain Geoff Crossman speaker at men's service ... CWF has completed year as host church for Inter-Church services in Glen Iris-Ashburton district.

PRESTON Thanks to CCTC students Tony Armstrong, Paul Turton & David Thomson in filling pulpit over past two months ... Congregation visited CCTC Mulgrave for worship service, luncheon & inspection of college facilities ... Tony Armstrong, CCTC student, to

commence part-time ministry in February ... Church farewelled Carolyn, Peter & Becky Murray as they return to Perth after serving with Mobile Mission Maintenance, Whittlesea.

CHELSEA (T. Frazer) Howard Barnden celebrated 80th birthday with "open house" attended by many well wishers ... Harold Taylor, Lyndsay Smith, Brian Fielder elected as elders ... Annual meeting endorsed \$50,000 building extensions ... CWF organised half-day street stall raised over \$800 ... Fishing fellowship endorsed as autonomous small group auxiliary ... Memorial service held in chapel for Harris Greatorex, husband of CWF President Millie Greatorex of Seaford.

THE PATCH Church led by Ian Tippet successfully conducted planned giving review ... Three members attended President's Reception ... Well-attended barbecue picnic was held at Camp Waterman with service in chapel ... 25 members went to graduation ceremony in Blackman Hall 17 Nov ... Mike & Ruth Folland to commence ministry in February ... Manser renovations in progress ... Special Advent services planned.

SWANSTON STREET (Allan Webb) Work on \$400,000 renovations commenced. So far more than \$150,000 has been given toward project ... Allan Webb completed series of 24 expository sermons on Hebrews. Series now available on 12 cassettes ... Eight baptisms from Mandarin service, the first fruits of ministry ... Christmas outdoor witness service being planned in Bourke Street Mall on 17 December ... New ministry initiatives introduced at AGM.

DANDENONG (G. Foon, G. Elsdon) Church now meeting in Cleland High School Hall, 23 Ann St, Dandenong ... Planning day held at CCTC with Ian Tippet ... Mark Butler to commence as student minister 1990 ... CWF held market stall raised \$650 ... Church picnic held Cup Day at Gumbuya Park. 90 attended ... Marion Jones severely burnt her foot ... Lolly drive raised \$285 for church bus fund.

MAIDSTONE (Wes Rodgers) Church grateful to local & visiting speakers in absence of Wes Rodgers during overseas holidays ... In evening services Arthur Lewis gave series on "The Tabernacle" ... Units almost finished ... After long illness Andy Grey died on 17 Nov. Christian sympathy to Edna & family ... CWF packed 310 items for hospital visiting & raised \$340 from street stall ... Church fete raised over \$1,600.



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Melbourne
(cnr Swanston & Little Lonsdale Streets)

Sunday

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

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Church News

Qld

BUNDABERG (A.G. Leane) Kenmore Christian College day. John Ademann speaker ... Sunday School anniversary special awards Alison Large & Adrian Francis ... Craft morning with Ruth Teller ... CWF held lamington drive ... Father's Day tea well attended. Oldest A. Lassig, youngest M. Pohle ... Youth group renamed T-WAM (Teens With A Mission). Sheryl Hoffmann visited ... Basket tea held. Lyall & Jill Muller visited ... Families morning loss of loved ones ... Church rejoices in growth.

HARLAXTON, TOOWOOMBA (Daryl Thorpe) Driveway sales held once a month. Proceeds towards hall fund ... Dennis Vogler participated in Bike for Bibles ride ... Fay Christensen returned to PNG end of October.

ANERLEY (Russell Ritchie) Decisions continually being made. Robyn Neucom, Sally Woodward, Cameron Peddie, Robert Feeney & Lester Brooks (from Maryborough) received into membership ... Special guests & members contribute to musical content of services ... Family camp of 100 led by Alan Hermann ... Please continue to pray that researchers will find an answer to MS & also for Russell, Margaret & family.

BONGEEN (B.M. Nowitzke) Annual meeting held. Shirley Sires new secretary ... Brian Kronk made Bible reading & hymn number

boards. CWF donated these to church ... CWF visited Oakley Aged Folk's Home with program & morning tea ... Brian & Del Kronk welcome Adon Victor into their family.

WA

KALAMUNDA (John Thornhill, Mark Proud, Paul Sanders) World Mission week with guest speaker, Stewart Dinnen, WEC. Faith promise totalled \$130,996. Four responded to challenge seeking God's direction for their lives ... Enjoyed visit from Tim Hanna, guest speaker Sunday evening & held a graduates seminar for ex-college students ... Part of summer outreach program plans for New Testaments to be distributed ... Church family picnic at Fred Jacoby Park enjoyed.

FREMANTLE (D. Good) 97th anniversary 5 Nov, E.J. Sewell (former minister) preaching in am on "A Passage of Truth" (John 14:25-31). Luncheon held. At pm service Doug Good showed slides of ancient Ephesus & preached on message to that church (Rev 2:1-7) ... Total CWF "Talent Money" \$940 ... CWF officers re-elected ... UC Choir shared cantata "Son of the Highest" ... Harmer family (PNG) now Living Link.

PERTH CITY (G. Powell) Members have been deeply involved in neighbourhood visitation ... Many former members helped fill the chapel for 99th anniversary, 29

October. George Wood guest speaker ... "Our Church Family" (1890-1990), a collection of personal remembrances, produced for centenary celebrations by Audrey Nicholas & daughter Sarah ... We rejoice with Robert & Sandra Lai at birth of David Jeremy & with Poly Suwandy on her baptism.

SA

GOOLWA (Graeme Ritchie) Christian Women's Fellowship held fundraising concert & fete. Well attended ... Bible Society inter-church rally held at Uniting Church ... Kitchen evening held for Sandy Spencer & Geoff Hogg prior to their wedding ... Youth groups & new kids drama group very popular ... Members joined in Gospel Jubilation weekend at Victor Harbor C of C.

TUMBY BAY Eyre Peninsula Women's Conference half-yearly luncheon afternoon held at Port Lincoln. Trudy Childs president ... Over 20 women came together at Redcliff for weekend camp. Margaret Buxton study leader ... Christian Farmers' camp weekend held at Trinity Haven Lutheran campsite. Graham Rehn Bible study leader, Robert Anderson on sheep husbandry, Errol Schuster rural counsellor, Brian Trigg on agricultural chemicals. Another camp planned for next year.

DULWICH/ROSE PARK UNITED PARISH (Rob Williams, Roger Brown) On Grand Prix weekend

church gave use of hall for accommodation of Youth With A Mission team (including Americans), which sought to present Christian influence to some of huge crowds in Adelaide for car racing event ... Unlike joke in "Last Word" column in recent "AC", volunteerism is stronger in parish after campaign for additional personnel for various activities.

CROYDON (P. Stevens) "Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow" theme of a special worship service held 19 November to mark 25th anniversary of present church building. Over 80 attended the banquet which followed & were entertained by our choir & selection of slides taken during a number of working bees during construction period. Philip Stevens sounded a confident note when speaking on the future of the church.

HAWTHORN (Ron Hewitt) Maurice & Rose Huckins transferred from Nailsworth ... Col Lt School choir presented excellent afternoon ... Stock family returned to Pakistan ... Dedication service for new baby Alyce Jane Roberts ... Julie Trinnick presented slides & spoke about PNG ... Rev K. Jolly & students from Bible College of SA conducted evening service ... Ladies coffee & dessert night well attended. Sparkling address by Marg Dredge ... Combined musical service with Col. Light Gardens ... Sadness in passing of Arthur McRoberts, past minister (1954-58).

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CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

8-14 October 1990

THEME: NOW IS THE TIME TO SERVE THE LORD

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People

60 Years Well Managed

Victor Leslie Gole, MBA (Honoris Causa), FASA, FCIS, FID, AFAIM, and his wife Eve recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary, just two days after Vic's 86th birthday.

Vic came to the Lord at a Chandler-Clay mission in Queensland in 1915, and has served loyally and with distinction ever since. In 1958 he was appointed president of the Vic-Tas. conference, following in the footsteps of his father, Leonard Gole, who was president in 1929—a rare family achievement. The most recent honour conferred upon him was that of elder

emeritus at Hampton Street, Vic, following half a lifetime of dedicated service, including 25 years as treasurer. He also held the position of treasurer of the Foreign Mission Department for 21 years.

Vic's secular life included important financial appointments with such well-known firms as MacRoberson's, A.W. Allen, Cox Brothers and Bruce Small, and a partnership with Les Harvie till retirement in 1957. He also lectured in economics at Melbourne University. He was also responsible for nine or ten books on financial matters, including *Fundamentals of Financial Management*.

Eve, a happy, diminutive figure, has been a magnificent support to Vic and in



her early life gave sterling service with her parents in ministry to destitutes in the city of Melbourne, walking each Sunday from Clifton Hill to the city. At the services Eve played the organ. She has also achieved some notoriety in the entertainment field, having won 25 medals in dancing and calisthenics at the Ballarat competitions. Her mother and father were not overjoyed at her success in ballroom dancing, which was not encouraged in the young people of the church at that time!

To commemorate this milestone in the life of Vic and Eve, a late morning tea gathering paid tribute to this lovely couple following the morning service at Hampton St on 5 November.

The Last Word

Worry is just like a rocking horse; it keeps you going, but it gets you nowhere.

—Unknown

Discipline is like broccoli. We may not care for it ourselves, but feel sure it would be good for everybody else.

—Bill Vaughan

★★★★★

This article on overpopulation of the world says that somewhere in the world there is a woman having a baby every four seconds! I think they ought to find that woman and stop her!

★★★★★

One thing about getting old is that you can sing in the bathroom while brushing your teeth.

★★★★★

One blistering hot day when the family had guests for dinner the mother asked the four year old to say grace. "But I don't know what to say," the child said. "Oh, just say what you hear me say," the mother replied. Obediently, the child bowed and murmured, "Oh, Lord, why did I invite these people here on a hot day like this?"

★★★★★

A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.

★★★★★

Customer: Do you have any crocodile shoes?
Sales Assistant: It all depends. What size does your crocodile wear?

★★★★★

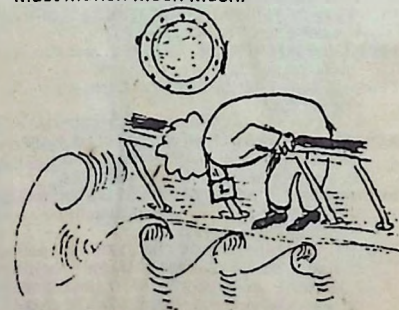
Do you know what happened to the people who sat up all night trying to work out where the sun went when it set? It finally dawned on them.

★★★★★

Teacher: Your grammar is terrible!
Student: Look, I don't mind you picking on me, but leave my family out of it.

★★★★★

Men munch much mush;
Women munch much mush.
Many men and women
Must munch much mush.



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