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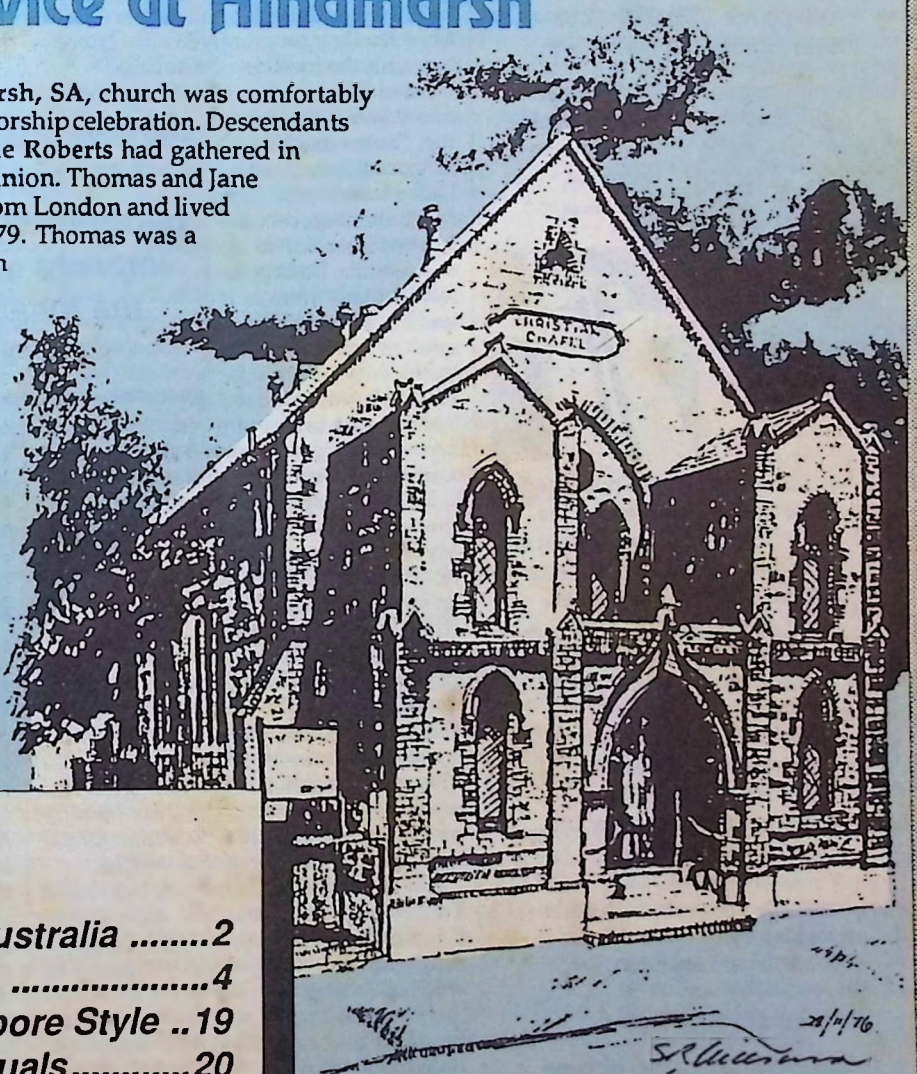
6 May 1989

Historic Service at Hindmarsh

On Easter Day the Hindmarsh, SA, church was comfortably filled for a special family worship celebration. Descendants and family of Thomas and Jane Roberts had gathered in Adelaide for a major family reunion. Thomas and Jane were government emigrants from London and lived in Hindmarsh from 1863 to 1879. Thomas was a deacon and served as church treasurer. Jane was a Sunday school teacher and foreign missions agent. Their seven children all participated in the life of the Church.

Following the family's removal to Halbury (near Balaklava north of Adelaide) many participated in the new Balaklava church and subsequently others moved into other Churches of Christ in Australia and the United States of America.

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The Hindmarsh chapel today

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Guest Editorial

A Father and Son in Australia

by Donald W. Spencer

"Hello, Don. This is Randy Edwards," is what I deciphered through the heavy Australian accent. Surprisingly, that initial salutation from a seminary friend has led to the Spencer family being classified as permanent residents of this great nation.

"Never in a thousand years," (as an old friend of mine often prefaced his surprises) would this timid Idahoan farm boy have guessed that at age 42 he'd be called upon to be the principal of a theological college "down-under". If I had been on TV's Double Jeopardy facing the \$1,000,000 question: "What oceans surround Australia?" I would have left the stage a failure. My schoolboy geography failed to impress upon me the location of Australia.

Schoolboy recollections do remind me of my father, Dale, saying, "Some day I'd like to go back to Australia." I never paid him much attention, because I never intended to go to Australia. Dad spoke fondly of his times of R and R from the US Army infantry's fierce fighting in the South Pacific islands. He wanted to see

Sydney and Brisbane again. "Well, Dad, now you've got a guest bedroom and a tour guide waiting for you in Brisbane."

Last Thanksgiving I questioned my father about his war years with the Aussies. My dad seldom demonstrates many emotions. But my questions obviously touched an emotional part of him. His face demonstrated his appreciation, his respect, and his fascination of his Aussie comrades. "They were the most courageous soldiers; the best men in the trenches." My father should know as he spent years with the Australians jumping from island to island in trenches behind a machine gun. I've never seen a war trench, but my first impressions are that the Australian Christians, also, are a courageous people.

The Churches of Christ have been bold. To establish a theological college like Kenmore requires risk taking by creative future-orientated men and women. The spiritual roots of this college are as solid as the jasper hill upon which the buildings sit. Colleges, camps, church buildings, retirement centres, adolescent homes, missionary work, retirement foundations etc. shout of a courageous people in the trenches for Jesus Christ.

From his few treasures of WW II days

my father showed me a small booklet, "Pocket Guide to Australia", given to the American soldiers after they had been in the Pacific Ocean a few days. Dad wrote a few notes in his: "Feb. 11, 1943, left San Francisco, Cal." and "Feb. 19, 1943, crossed the Equator and it sure is 'hot'." The guide was a surprise to Dad for he had left American shores expecting to land some place in Europe. A cartoon in the guide illustrates the secrecy. A US soldier in a tent has a notepad on his crossed legs. A female kangaroo and her joey have intruded through the tent flap and are gulping down his boxed candy. The caption reads: "just a couple of lines to let you know I found out I am not in Ireland after all."

To date, my children, Beth and Caleb, and my wife, Nancy, think we might be in Ireland. We have sought kangaroo and koala but have yet to find either. But there is something strange about the accents of the people that seems to indicate we're not in Ireland.

So with appreciation I thank you for welcoming a small-town Nebraskan soldier in 1943 and now 45 years later his small-town Idahoan son. With enthusiasm energised by the Holy Spirit of Christ I'm eager to serve with you in the trenches for the cause of Christ as you served in the trenches for the freedom to allow my family and me this opportunity.

• Donald W. Spencer is Principal of Kenmore Christian College in Brisbane, Qld. Raised and schooled in Fruitland, Idaho, he was converted to Christ as a teenager through the youth ministry of Howard Larson and Ontario Christian Church. His undergraduate BTh from Northwest Christian College was followed by master's degrees in elementary education, divinity and counselling psychology. Don has served as youth minister, public school teacher, minister of education, senior pastor, mental health clinic psychologist and hospital chaplain. His wife, Nancy, from Portland, Oregon, has served as a public school teacher and private piano teacher and was awarded a master's degree from Multnomah School of the Bible. Beth, a high school student, and Caleb, in grade 6, complete the Spencer family.

Invite the World to Your Table



Malika, a quarry worker, lives outside the South India city of Madurai. Her daily work, breaking up stones with a wooden hammer, brings in just six rupees (about 50 cents) a day, only a fraction of what it costs to feed her family

In South India it costs about \$2 a day just to feed a family of four, not to mention other basic needs like clothing and medical care. Often the whole family has to work just to survive. Most Australians are a world away from this kind of daily struggle, yet there is a way that we can be involved.

"Invite the world to your table" is the theme of a campaign called Simply Sharing

Week, run by Force Ten, a joint program of the Australian Council of Churches and Australian Catholic Relief.

According to Simply Sharing Week Co-ordinator Graham Tupper, the idea is to live simply for a week, learn about our world neighbours and donate the money saved to a self-help project in India or another developing country.

The week is to be held 14-21

May but people may take part any week between now and October. Everyone who registers for the week receives a kit with recipes, information about other countries and practical saving suggestions. There are also study guides, worship materials and activities for groups.

Some of the funds raised from Simply Sharing Week will go toward a project for quarry workers and other needy groups in South India.

Initiated by a local church agency, the project helps people form community organisations. These organisations begin small savings schemes, enabling members to break out of the cycle of debt and poverty. The church provides communities with low interest loans so that the families can build decent homes.

In addition, Simply Sharing Week funds will be used to help refugees in Mozambique and other southern African countries.

Money will also be used for Force Ten's Project of the Year, "Health for All," which supports basic health care programs in several countries.

To take part in Simply Sharing Week contact Force Ten at PO Box C199, Clarence St PO, Sydney 2000, or phone on (02) 29 2215.

Historic Service at Hindmarsh

• continued from page 1

The service was led by Brian Roberts (elder at Kadina, SA), the organist was Peter Roberts from Sydney, as was Ailene Quick (formerly Fischer) the soloist. Guest preacher was Bruce Roberts from East Ipswich, Qld. All are descendants from Thomas and Jane Roberts. Other family members assisted in the service. Debbie Roberts conducted the children's segment, Dene Parker and Rene Webb read the scriptures and each of the seven family lines were represented by those serving as stewards.

Bob Allan, Hindmarsh Secretary, informed the congregation that the chapel would be retained as an historic building although in the site for the government's new Entertainment Centre for Adelaide.

The Conference President, Colin Dredge, accepted a copy of the *Roberts Family History Book* for the SA Conference Archives and spoke about the family's contribution to churches in South Australia and beyond.

Family members had gathered at Unley on the Saturday for the major reunion and on Easter Monday visited historic places and family properties at Halbury and Balaklava. A VHS videotape of the Church service is available for \$20 and copies of *The Roberts Family of Halbury* for \$18. Contact Malcolm Roberts on (08) 296 6101.

Kenmore Christian College Movements

Principal Donald W. Spencer enjoyed a traditional Aussie breakfast with the men's group from the Springwood, Qld, church. He challenged the men and their sons with "Two Reference Points: Departure and Destination." As the Boeing 767 computer requires the co-ordinates of the place of departure and position of destination for an accurate international flight, so mankind has been given the cross of Christ and the empty tomb as points of reference for the Christian life. We live between the cross and our own empty tomb.

Annerley church hosted Donald Spencer and his family at a special Sunday evening

when they presented a donation to the College. By faith promise the Annerley congregation generously gave KCC nearly \$1,000. The Annerley minister, Russell Ritchie, planned an evening that included much music, with wind instruments, the choir in concert, and enthusiastic congregational singing.

"Together We'll Show the World" was the theme of the senior Easter camp at Shannon Park near Toowoomba sponsored by the College and the Queensland Department of Church Development and Education. Over 200 heard excellent biblical teaching from Garry Hills, administrative

minister at the Margaret St, Toowoomba, church. Don Spencer led a popular seminar "Dealing with Depression." Nancy Spencer was seminar leader for "Planning Your Quiet Time."

Don and Nancy Spencer were retreat speakers for the Centenary church at Mt Tamborine. Minister Reg Charles invited the Spencers to share practical principles for parenting and grandparenting. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 provided the theme "Teach them as you Walk."

Members of the West Morton circuit greeted the morning with chainsaws, tractors and trucks to log and to haul

the timber and brush from the KCC hillside, where eight new housing units with three bedrooms will be built for student families. Architect Don Cranston has submitted the final drawings and construction will commence shortly. Property chairman David Lowe has demonstrated leadership in raising sizeable donations and loans financing these badly needed units.

Tribute to the Crosbys



Keith Horne pays tribute to Keith and Pauline Crosby

The Church Hall of Dulwich-Rose Park, SA United Parish was packed to capacity on Sunday 8 April with the family and friends of Keith and Pauline Crosby. Their children, John, Ruth and David had arranged the celebration for the Crosby's golden wedding anniversary. The Brotherhood was well represented with seven past conference presidents present. State Minister, Keith Horne, paid glowing tribute to Keith and Pauline's magnificent Christian service and dedicated leadership. He described them as big people—with big hearts and big spirits! Neil Bright, Chairman of the

Dulwich Board, described the Crosby's contribution to the life of the Dulwich Church and more recently to the United Parish at Rose Park.

Keith and Pauline were married on 4 April 1939 in the Prospect church by Keith's brother, Ray. Keith had graduated from the University of Adelaide in 1937 with an engineering degree. They left almost immediately for England for further studies. With the outbreak of the War, Pauline joined the Women's Voluntary Service and lectured on food nutrition and preparation. They worshipped in Manchester. In 1946 they returned and re-

sumed membership at Prospect. Keith completed his ME and became a key member of staff with the Electricity Trust of South Australia. They both became heavily involved in Brotherhood functions. Pauline introduced young women's groups to Women's Conference and initiated study days and the popular women's camps. She was Chairperson of the Christian Education Committee. From 1948 to 1988 she was the delegate to the SA Unit of Australian Church Women. Pauline achieved lasting results in church and community activities. She developed the community concern luncheons for secular charities, raised the standard of financial support for the Winifred Keik Scholarship that brings Asian women to Australia for study and initiated the Jubilee 150 Memorial Book and Scholarship program.

In 1971, Pauline was asked to attempt to co-ordinate the Voluntary Services within the Royal Adelaide Hospital and so began the Lavender Ladies and Lads. Soon the RAH Board thought so highly of her work that they appointed Pauline to the hospital staff. She was awarded the British Empire Medal by the Queen in 1982 for this outstanding ministry. Pauline was Chairperson of the Co-ordinating Committee for Women's Religious Activities for the Bicentenary Year. Pauline was elected as Women's Conference President (SA) in 1958. She was a member of the National Council of Women from 1951 to 1988 and served as Convener of the Social Welfare Committee and Executive Vice President for four years. Another great love was Girls' Brigade. Pauline was State Commissioner from 1964 to 1967 and National Commissioner from 1967 to 1971.

Keith was very active also in the brotherhood. He was a member of the State Home Missions Department for many years and served as Chairman from 1960 to 1967. He was elected as State Conference President in 1955. He was very interested in devel-

opment programs for the young and served from 1968 to 1986 as Vice President of the Board of Governors on the Morialta Trust Inc. Keith was a Member of the Australian Institute of Engineers and retired in 1976 as Design Engineer Electrical of the ETSA.

In 1963 Keith and Pauline shifted to Burnside and became actively involved in the Dulwich church. With the development of the United Parish, they contributed their abilities in many ways. Keith was an elder and member of the parish council. Both he and Pauline conducted worship services. Pauline was convener of a worship group as well as Sunday school.

Since 1971 they regularly "retreated" to Artherton on Yorke Peninsula where they purchased a farming property. They joined in the local Methodist Church and over the years have contributed to the worship and fellowship there.

Last year, Pauline was awarded the rare honour of Life Membership of Australian Church Women. In her reply to the glowing tributes, Pauline said that there were two principles by which she lived. Firstly, that God does not look for "ability" but "availability" and secondly, the theme she chose when she was President of Women's Conference, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me."

Keith and Pauline now reside in a home unit in Campbelltown and are involved in the Dulwich-Rose Park church.



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CHURCHES OF CHRIST CALENDAR 1990

The calendar will revert to its former format and we are expecting them to be available by the beginning of August.

Departments who desire reference to Annual Offerings and Special Days and State Secretaries please advise:

Mrs E.M. Rankine
5 Atkins Avenue
Glen Iris 3146
no later than 31 May 1989

Mt Clear's New Minister



Paul Creasey outside the Mt Clear church

(Photo courtesy of The Ballarat Courier)

Mt Clear, Vic, has a new minister, Paul Creasey, who has taken up an interim ministry for 12 months.

Paul comes from Melbourne where he was minister of the St Kilda church. He previously studied at the Wesleyan Methodist Kingsley College.

Paul commented to *The Ballarat Courier*, "The church needs to be relevant in a modern society where people who are in distress or isolated can find hope and purpose."

Paul can be contacted at the Mt Clear church on (053) 30 1637 or 33 4729 (home).

MA Thesis Accepted

A thesis submitted to the University of Queensland by Graham Warne, Vice-Principal of Kenmore Christian College, towards the fulfilment of an MA degree, has been passed by the examiners. The thesis, under the title "The Soul in Philo and Paul," examines the interaction of Greek and Hebrew perspectives on the human person in the two writers.

Graham is a graduate of the Armidale Teachers' College (1959), the Woolwich Bible College (Diploma 1966), the University of London (BD 1970), and the Melbourne College of Divinity (Dip RE 1972). Most of his academic work has been undertaken while in full-time ministry.

His pastoral experience includes nine and a half years ministry in NSW (North Turramurra, Engadine and Tareewingham) and seven years in Vanuatu, most of which was spent at the Banmatmat Bible



Graham Warne

College. He was appointed to the faculty of Kenmore in 1983, and has served as Vice-Principal since 1987.

Graham has enjoyed the support of his wife, Jeanette, who is a double certificated nursing sister, and is also a graduate of the Woolwich Bible College. She has made a significant contribution to their ministry in each area served. They have three children, Philip (19), Geoffrey (17) and Katrina (15).

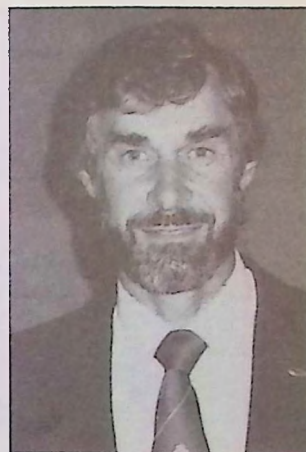
New Director for CCES

The Reverend Peter Whitaker, BD, MA, has been appointed by The Council for Christian Education in Schools, Victoria, as its new Director.

He was inducted into this ministry on 21 May.

Peter brings to this position experience in postprimary work as he was CCES Chaplain at Colac High School in the late 1970s and is presently the first chaplain to be appointed to Kew High School.

Between these two appointments Peter undertook his Master's degree in New Testament at the University of Cape Town and also was involved in parish ministry there and later in Brecon, Wales.



Peter Whitaker

He is a minister of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Beliefs and Values in Schools Handbook

Marion Lemin holds a unique position in Victorian state school education—she is seconded half time to the Council for Christian Education in Schools to work in the area of beliefs and values. Marion is endeavouring to break new ground for secondary school teachers as she prepares a handbook of activities detailing practical values strategies for classroom teachers in the vari-

ous faculty areas across the curriculum.

Producing the handbook is both exciting and demanding. Marion's major concern is to make the book practical and relevant for classroom teachers.

Secondary teachers interested in contributing to the handbook should contact Marion at the CCES on (03) 654 2211.

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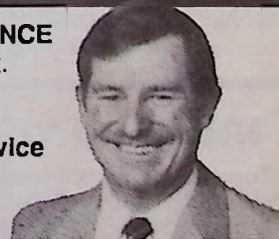
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Social Service Retreat



**Beverley Grenfell,
President, Qld Social
Service Department**

The Queensland Social Service Department took a weekend off to go to Camp Cal to spend the time in reviewing

the department's work. This proved to be a valuable time as the programs in the area of child care, welfare, homeless persons, Branch-out, family, aged care, publicity and administration were reviewed and, in some cases, fresh directions set. The Saturday afternoon was spent in a visit to Tewantin and to Nambour to see the Branch-out Community Centre, office and assessment centre. The latter two are located in Nambour. One of the important decisions was the need to hold a Social Service Convention to which the various members of staff will be invited to share in an exchange of ideas in a cross activity learning experience. The Social Service Department currently employs about 670 persons, has about 200 volunteer workers and about 300 committee people active in its work. The convention would seek to bring representatives of the various activities together.

3RPH—Radio for the Print Handicapped

3RPH, Radio for the Print Handicapped, is a young Melbourne, Vic, based radio station, one of four RPH stations currently broadcasting in Australia.

The main aim of the station is to serve and appeal to anyone who cannot read, handle or comprehend the written word. This includes blind and visually handicapped people, those with physical disabilities that make handling a book painful

or impractical and those who have never learnt to read.

The station reads interesting articles from newspapers and magazines and radio and TV guides. It broadcasts from 7 am to 1.30 am seven days a week.

A great deal of work at the station is done by volunteers. Questions and correspondence should be directed to program director at 454 Glenferrie Rd, Kooyong 3144. Phone (03) 20 8705.

Women's Day in the National Capital

Women's Day in the National Capital was a day of fellowship, worship, praise, music, singing and inspiration. Under the leadership of Pat Kerr, ACWF President, the women met as God's People in God's World.

The morning began with praise and worship led by Sandra Gibson, with Judy Fergie, organist, and Cheryl Leach, pianist. Following tradition greetings, business, reports and notices of motion were all included in the morning session.

Five notices of motion were passed. The main motion was "That a Task Force be appointed to look at Women's Fellowship and ministry in our churches with a view to considering an alternative administration to the existing ACWF." Heather Jauncey is leading the Task Force. CWF is special to so many and the aim of the Task Force is to continue to make it special encompassing all the women of our churches.

Joy Sansome, along with Cheryl Garlett and Dorothy Geyer attended the WCWF Retreat at World Convention in New Zealand. Joy spoke on her experiences at the Retreat. Joy was also elected Vice President to WCWF. Cheryl, our ACWF Living Link, shared some of her experiences from the Retreat and also spoke on her work at Carnarvon. Hazel Skuce gave a tiny glimpse of her work in India.

It was a special moment when Hazel stood with 14 other missionaries, past and present,

and the women were able to show their appreciation for their work.

The morning concluded with a song 'Even the Praise comes from You' sung by Karen Green, Sally Parker and Christine Pritchard and a psalm of Canberra, narration and slides of our capital.

After lunch a session of praise and worship was led by Sue McNair. Neil Gilmore, Federal Conference President brought greetings along with Luz Baccerra from the USA.

The incoming ACWF Executive was introduced by Pamela Paddick, the new President. The new Executive is Pamela Paddick, President; Vice-Presidents Joy Sansome and Lyn Smith; Secretary Janelle Babare; Treasurer Bernice Scarborough, Minute Secretary Averil Jell; Editor Ruth Telfer; and committee members Gloria Flett, Joan Furlonger, Nola Woodward. Co-opted members are Beryl Wiltshire and Barbara Bennett.

Following a time of prayer for the new Executive a moving time of worship was held led by Carol Caulton and members of the Conference movement group. This was followed by sharing together in communion.

The evening session saw Ranjini Rebera speak on the role of women in the church. The results of a survey on this topic, which was conducted throughout our churches, was presented. There is a high percentage of women in leadership positions in many of our churches and in some churches men share the "traditional" roles of women.

For the first time at Conference men shared in the afternoon session. It was tremendous to have them worshipping with us.

—Pat Kerr
(Past President)

Tenth Anniversary of Service to Lone Dads

The staff of the Christian Welfare Centre in Perth, WA, joined together at a luncheon on 31 March with former staff to celebrate a decade of service to motherless families.

Former director George Smith declared that the Lone Fathers Family Support Service began in response to a need among migrant men whose

wives had left the family, were in hospital or prison or who had died. The service has grown over the years and now there is a co-ordinator, Dawn Townsend, and four field workers who regularly visit about 50 families, providing support, guidance and friendship. The service is, as far as is known, unique in Australia.

Social work researchers from the Phillip Institute in Victoria are using the service as a model in a textbook.

The current director, John Clapp, commended the staff for the energy and enthusiasm they had put into the service, which went beyond the "band-aid" service that so often applies to welfare work.

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"The Australian Christian".
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Mission Impossible

"Mission Impossible" was the theme of the faith mission program at the Thornleigh, NSW, church, 14-16 April, organised by the missions' functional group of the church.

The first meeting of the program was for the young people of the church with Bruce Pederson of Wycliffe as guest speaker. Over 100 shared in the family tea on the Saturday night. Graham Moore was the MC and those who shared in the program were Matthew Atkins, a student at the New Tribes Mission College, Bob and Lyn Cossar who are going to Papua New Guinea with

New Tribes Mission and Ian Walker, a visitor to the goals with Prison Fellowship. Kaylyn Winch interviewed Graham and Elizabeth Martin, returned missionaries from Papua New Guinea, who are now at Sydney Missionary Bible College.

Graham Martin was guest speaker at both services on the Sunday which were well attended. The faith mission offering taken up on the Sunday was \$10,922.

This was a new venture in the life of the Thornleigh church and the church responded to the challenge.

Tasmanian Convention

The 93rd annual Convention of Churches of Christ, Tasmania was held at Howrah, 8-9 April. Time spent on business has been reduced over recent years. In future all business will be dealt with by a Council meeting allowing conventions to be times of inspiration, fellowship and encouragement.

The Tasmanian Government has approved the purchase of property presently leased for Camp Seaview at Bicheno for a reserve price of \$70,000. The Government will also be making a grant of \$60,000 towards costs of construction of a new utility hall.

It is pleasing that ministers have now been appointed to all churches except Midway Point. The Department of Mission, Education and Development has been involved in planning with the leaders of that church.

The Convention had a focus on mission led by Jeff May, Executive Director, Overseas Mission Board, and Wayne and Janet Kerrison, members of the Launceston church, currently serving in Madang, PNG.

Other guest speakers were Gerald Rose, Vic-Tas Conference President and Dorothy Quantrelle, President-Elect of CWF in Victoria and Tasmania. —Geoff Morffew

Office Extensions

Work is about to begin on the building of extensions to the offices of both Lady Small Haven and the Golden Age Retirement Village on the Queensland Gold Coast.

The extensions have become necessary because of the increasing volume of administration following changes to aged care legislation from both the Commonwealth and Queensland governments.

Space for computers installed

to the two retirement villages was also required.

"These extensions will mean that the two villages will be able to maintain and improve the high standard of administration which has been a feature of the two villages," Phil Kennedy, the Administrator of the Gold Coast Region for the Social Service Department in Queensland said.

The extensions will cost about \$92,000.

Day Respite Care at St George

The Social Service Department in Queensland has begun its second Home and Community Care Program (HACC) with the commencement of a day respite service at St George in Western Queensland. The

program began with six participants and three volunteer helpers led by Pat Fry and is initially being held in the local bowls club while awaiting the modification of a building for this purpose on the Warrawee Retirement Village property. The program is expected to steadily increase in numbers as more people become aware of the program.

The initial impact has been good with expressions of satisfaction from those participating. The department has funds to purchase a special bus for use in the program. Pat Fry also operates the Home Nursing Service, which has risen from 38 to 86 calls per month over the first three months of operation.

The program is expected to steadily increase in numbers as more people become aware of the program.

Missionary Specials

To enable all Churches of Christ missionaries to receive copies of *The Australian Christian* in the past we have asked churches to help by sponsoring a "missionary special." To ensure that missionaries overseas receive a copy of *The Australian Christian* as soon as possible these are sent airmail. Thus to spread the costs around we often have two or three churches sponsor one missionary.

Several years ago we expanded the scheme to ensure that all missionaries working with the Federal Aborigines Board were included along with those from the Overseas Mission Board. In this case we often ask two churches to share the cost.

Recently the scheme has been expanded again to ensure that key local leaders in overseas churches that the OMB works in co-operation with also receive copies.

Over the years a number of churches and individuals have joined the scheme. Occasionally we have asked churches through Agents if they would like to share in this scheme. We have not done this for some time. During this period, while we have added subscriptions to the list we have had some churches and individuals withdraw from the scheme. Can you or your church consider joining the scheme?

In the latest postal increases which came into effect in April postal rates for airmail mate-

rial overseas were savagely hit. The postage on airmail copies to Zimbabwe will cost in excess of \$35 a year for each subscription. The rate for India is in excess of \$25 and for Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu is about \$20.

We are looking for churches and individuals willing to join the scheme so that the costs can be shared around and not be too onerous for any one person or group.

In many cases we will have two three or four churches or individuals who will help us ensure that missionaries receive their copies of *The Australian Christian*.

If you wish to help us keep all our missionaries and overseas church leaders in contact with what is happening in Australia please let us know at *The Australian Christian*, PO Box 101, Essendon North 3041 or by phoning us on (03) 379 1219.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters are limited to 200 words.

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE DISABLED

To the Editor,

On Saturday, 8 April 1989 I attended a meeting at a Blackburn Uniting Church, sponsored through "Crossroads" an organisation which commenced to provide disabled persons with activities with spiritual, recreational, educational and social aspects.

It has become obvious that these people need much more than just opportunity to socialise—they need help to house themselves adequately without the risk of being "taken down" by so-called "normal" people. It is very difficult to obtain suitable accommodation along with the necessary supervision in a Christian atmosphere.

There were just a few members of the Church of Christ present. Other Christian groups were represented; many of the "normal" adults present, as well as "disabled" adults, urging that action be taken by the Christian church to establish the needed accommodation. Please will the Churches of Christ get behind this move and become involved in the planning to fulfil this urgent need.

—Nancy Garth
(Preston, Vic)

HAND RAISING

To the Editor,

Soon after I became a Christian I visited a local church. A chorus was being sung with a refrain about lifting our hands in worship to God. I had the strong conviction that God wanted me to raise my hands during the refrain, and I didn't want to! Not one other hand was up. I sat it out, with the refrain being sung several more times, and I was very glad when the chorus was over. But then a new chorus, with no reference to hand raising, was announced, and I felt Jesus was prompting me again. Then I understood. He just wanted me to acknowledge and worship him with my hands as well as my voice. I lifted up my hands a few inches and sang the cho-

rus—and I was very happy.

Sometimes during the wonderful words of our hymns and choruses, I lift my hands in "Hallelujah", as I also do occasionally in prayers. I believe this is a valid expression of worship and my church family is quietly supportive. Romans 14:6.

—Eleanor Morgan
(Coburg, Vic)

MARYBOROUGH'S CENTENARY

To the Editor,

The Maryborough, Qld, church will be celebrating its 100 years of worship and service to the local community and state in 1992. A local committee has been formed to co-ordinate activities for the occasion.

The committee is seeking the names of past ministers, members and associates, with their addresses, to be contacted to help celebrate this occasion. The committee is also seeking any old newspaper clippings, photographs, slides, tapes, anecdotes, memorabilia of any description, which could be lent to help in the compiling the history of the church. All care will be taken and returned if the owner so desires.

—E. McLeish
(Secretary, Maryborough
Church of Christ Centenary
Committee, 569 Kent St,
Maryborough 4650)

CHRISTIAN HOMES FOR DISABLED ADULTS

To the Editor,

As one of many parents concerned about the future welfare of a disabled young adult and on behalf of all those loving aged parents who are just about exhausted with the daily, and in many cases, nightly care needed for those older disabled family members in their homes, I submit this plea.

The need is urgent for Christian homes for disabled adults in Victoria. This has been an established fact for well over 20 years when parents were going through the same trauma and asking the same questions re Christian homes for the disabled. Government homes, as we know them, generally lack

the warmth of Christian love and example. Many years of careful guidance and Christian training would be lost in the wrong atmosphere. What is needed is loving concern, prayer, money, and for people to be given the chance to help and do something which maybe is the Lord's goal for them in their lives.

The sick and the aged know about the care of the church for them, but what about the disabled, who in many cases are unable to present their cries for help themselves? Jesus himself said, "Heal the sick, bring sight to the blind...go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all people..." He did not say to shun the disabled.

As Christians, we ask that the church listens to these cries for help and that at least some of its energies and resources be directed towards meeting the needs of disabled people in our community.

—Margaret Mill
(Preston, Vic)

TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

To the Editor,

Ministers around Australia are packing their bags for cut price packaged holidays to Israel.

There is an urgent need to meet with Christians in the Holy Land.

What is of concern is that it is the Israeli Government which is subsidising these tours.

If your minister is joining one of these tours then consider putting to them the following questions:

Are they aware that they have been targeted by Israeli authorities and what are the expectations of the organisers?

Are they aware that the Israeli Government has been responsible for the death of some 400 most of them children and a number of them Christians during the Intifada?

Are they aware that the authorities have blown up hundreds of homes without any trial or conviction?

While in Israel and the Occu-

Letters from Tertius

Strings

To the Editor,

When I was a young fellow everything that happened in our church had strings tied to them. You were in our cricket team; you came to our church parades. You belonged to one of our clubs; you took part in devotions. You came on to church premises; we were after your soul. It got what they called "results". But looking back, I have some hesitations about it.

These days we boast that what we do is out of sheer Christian goodwill and the desire to serve the community, with no strings attached. You come to our friendship centre and no-one will talk to you about the Lord or invite you to church. Your children can come to our clubs without anyone suggesting that they should also come to Sunday school. You can be in on our seminars on parenting or stress management without the embarrassment of a "word of prayer". But I have hesitations about that too.

If the Christian life is the best thing there is in this life and the next, aren't we short-changing people if we club them and friendship centre them and seminar them and don't let them know about this life? If we are compassionate enough to do all these other things for them, how compassionate are we if we've got even more to offer and keep it to ourselves?

Personally I find it much easier to hand out scones and play bowls and run my car for these things than I do to talk to people about Jesus Christ. That's why I kid myself that what we do is community service, without strings tied. But I'm not sure!

Yours diffidently,
Tertius

Letters to the Editor

pied Territories will they worship with the Anglicans in Nazareth or the Orthodox in Gaza?

Will they demand a briefing on Palestinian hopes and desires by Palestinian Christians?

What will they say to Christians of the Occupied Territories who witness amidst hardship, destruction and death?

Christians in the Middle East desperately want the rest of the Christian family to hear their side of the story.

Accepting subsidised tours makes it impossible for such meetings. There are alternatives but I wonder who will have the courage to explore them?

—Alan Matheson
(Melbourne, Vic)

UNITY VERSUS LIBERTY

To the Editor,

The letter from Maureen Stepanoff ("AC" 8 April) rings a loud alarm bell. "In essentials, unity; in opinions, liberty", an initial part of our plea, is accented in our pamphlet *Churches of Christ, Who Are They*. In the early years of this century this was often quoted, but seems to have been neglected in recent years. We are plagued with frequent attacks by some who want to regiment us.

Articles to this paper and motions to conferences show an attitude of egotism contrary to liberty of opinion. Sometimes it is stated, sometimes implied, that "God is displeased" if we do not use a particular version of scripture, worship in some special way, fiddle with the

words of hymns, use a ludicrous form of "non-discriminating" language or agree with some person's belief. Countless hours of conference delegates' time have been wasted over motions that would cause major divisions if accepted.

A current example of attempted regimentation is, sadly, in the suggested order of service for Christian Unity Sunday. Note especially the authoritarian tone of the explanatory notes.

We have experienced withdrawal of whole congregations, and individuals, through forgetting "unity" and "liberty". Question: Are we prepared to stop the rot and get on with preaching Christ's gospel?

—Ran Tippet
(Forest Hill, Vic)

COMMONWEALTH BANK PROTEST

To the Editor,

I was amazed and disturbed to read the matter in the column "Comment" ("AC" 8 April) under the heading "Courteous Protest against the Commonwealth Bank".

To "go through the motions of opening a new account" and then "decline to actually open the account" can only be described as deception. But further it is suggested that people "endeavour to waste as much time as possible"..."target the busiest...bank agencies...at times when the bank is at its busiest" and "move from bank to bank to repeat the process".

I concede the article did not

specifically encourage the proposal but it was couched in such a way as to give tacit support. The possibility that *The Australian Christian* should be seen as encouraging deceit and deception appals me.

—A. Augustine
(Chelsea, Vic)

"COURTEOUS PROTEST"

To the Editor,

I'm alarmed you felt the article "Courteous Protest" ("AC" 8 April) worthy of endorsement by including it in our national magazine. I would join many in strongly condemning the imposition of the \$1.50 monthly charge, for the same reasons you propound—but there are Christian and non-Christian ways of protesting!

How can you advertise a dishonest protest in a Christian magazine? "Pretending" to open an account at the Commonwealth Bank with the full knowledge that you do not intend to formalise the transaction is deceitful—no matter how courteous you are! Acting deceitfully is sin and hardly an ethical form of protest. Encouraging this type of behaviour does not advance but obstructs the Gospel—it is no different to the world's behaviour.

Targeting bank clerks who cannot change bank policy is a waste of your time—if you want results. Appointments with bank managers and telling them straight out you want to formally protest at the iniquitous charge or writing to

the bank's head office is far more effective—and honest. This type of article is further damaging our credibility and image as a church. I formally protest at the standard of some editorial comment and practice. Please do something about it.

—Milton Oliver
(Surrey Hills/Wattle Park, Vic)

COMMONWEALTH BANK PROTEST

To the Editor,

Leaving aside the morality or otherwise of the Commonwealth Bank's \$1.50 charge on small accounts, I am disgusted by the exhortation ("AC" 8 April) to be a wolf dressed as a courteous sheep and harass innocent tellers.

One could readily quote Scripture, ranging from "love thy neighbour" to "render unto Caesar", but even mere human nature recoils at the blatant hypocrisy, falsehoods and lying deceit recommended, the thievery of time from the tellers and legitimate customers in the queue behind, and the concept of the end justifying the unchristian means.

I make no apology for commenting where you failed to do so despite reporting the item under the "Comment" heading, and beneath the masthead, *The Australian Christian* (my emphasis), without even an editorial disclaimer or presentation of other sides of the case.

—Robert E. Schurmann
(Ferntree Gully, Vic)

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Media Review

Books

PETER, SPEAK FOR GOD!

Idea and Illustration by Nell Pinchbeck, text by Charlotte Graeber (Scripture Union & Thomas Nelson Publishers) \$2.95

A very good colour illustrated book for children that takes Peter from his denial of Christ to his preaching on the day of Pentecost. One of a series of four little booklets for young children that pick up the stories of four men (Moses, Jonah, Peter and Paul) who were called to share God's message for their particular time. They did not always find this easy as the story does touch upon but with God's help they did speak for God.

These booklets are excellent value and the illustrations are bright and attractive for young children. The text is not too long and the story in this particular instance would be easily understood by young children and is also an exciting story.

—CRA

THE SON IN THE BIBLE AND THE CHURCH

by John Thurmer (Paternoster Press)

In what way did Jesus see himself as the Son of God? John Thurmer applies the insights of biblical criticism to arrive at a strong statement concerning both the Sonship of Christ and Jesus' perception of it for himself.

From this, Thurmer draws implications with which not all would concur, especially concerning the place of women in ministry. Argued from the Anglican perspective of priesthood, one might gain some insight to the nature of the controversy within that communion. Those within the Restoration tradition would take issue with Thurmer's doctrine of priesthood, however.

It is apparent that Thurmer's belief is that Christian theology is done at its best when its aim is "satisfying the mind and conscience of the plain man" and that God "cannot intend the truth about himself to be available only to scholars." For this reason, the book is highly readable and undaunting for those who wish to think through some of the historical controversy surrounding the doctrine of Christ's relationship with the Father.

—Dennis Ryle

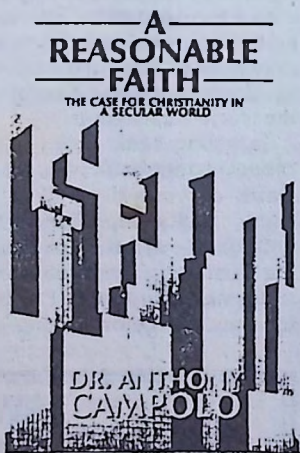
A REASONABLE FAITH

The Case for Christianity in a Secular World

by Dr Anthony Campolo (Word Publishing)

This paperback is an excellent summary of the insights of the Christian faith related to some of the world views of current American society. This book is an excellent apologetic for the Christian faith and would be one of the best in this style for many years.

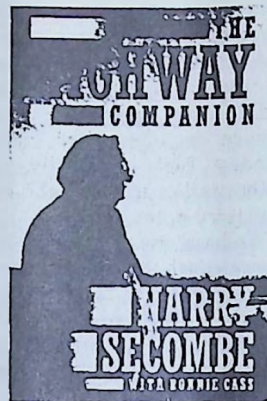
Anthony Campolo is a sociologist who has a great understanding of the different philosophical positions and the arguments these are based on. He is a noted apologist for the Christian faith in America and several of his video series are available in Australia. In this book he looks at the assertion that secularism has rendered faith unreasonable and he argues that many of the developments in the sciences and humanities in recent years



have actually supported faith in God. He provides an excellent summary of thinking in various areas and cogently presents the argument for a biblical view of the world and human nature.

An excellent book to give to anyone who is questioning the basis of Christian faith.

—CRA



THE HIGHWAY COMPANION

by Harry Secombe with Ronnie Cass (Fount Paperbacks) \$9.95

We don't see the British television program, "Highway" in Australia, which is a pity. It is presented by Harry Secombe, he of the famous voice. Among other things, part of each Sunday's program is a reading by a guest of a piece of poetry or prose. Often viewers write requesting copies. When Bernard Cribbins read a piece called "Death Is Nothing at All" the response was overwhelming and this persuaded Harry that it would be a good idea to make a selection of the most inspiring readings from the "Highway" program and gather them together in a book. Compiled with love, the readings are linked with Harry

Secombe's own thoughts and memories. Wide ranging, the readings combine the well-known with the unknown, the old and the new, to give a collection that will help and inspire all those who sometimes find it hard to continue on their own highway. Beautifully illustrated, it would make a perfect gift.

—GTA

DADS ONLY!

additional text by Bill and Betty Howse (World Home Bible League) \$1.00

Dads Only! is one of a Friendship Series by the World Home Bible League, which they describe as bridge building aids that bring words of tenderness, understanding, comfort and hope from God's Word. This booklet contains scripture quotes from the New International Version, poetry and photographs that cover some of the issues involved in fatherhood from the birth of the first child. These booklets, which are well produced, are designed to be given to people in a variety of situations in life. They are very cheap and can be purchased in bulk.

The postal address for the World Home Bible League is PO Box 464, Penrith 2750, or they can be contacted on (02) 673 3055.

—CRA



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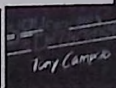
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Reconciliation at Pangi Easter Crusade

It began when two churches were prepared to stand before the crowds gathered for an Easter crusade at Pangi, South Pentecost, to testify that they wanted to reconcile their differences. Heartfelt and humble apologies were made and accepted, and the two churches were united through prayer.

This work of reconciliation was only one of the effects of the crusade organised by the South Pentecost churches with assistance from Sarabetu Church of Christ, Port Vila, but it was an important one. In evening rallies church leaders went forward for ministry, husbands and wives for healing in their marriage relationships, as well as people coming to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. This work of reconciliation continued after the crusade when the Churches of South Pentecost requested a special meeting in which they could resolve their differences, and be reconciled to one another



and so be a force for Christ in their area.

People came in their hundreds to be at the Crusade. They were from Central and South Pentecost, Vila and Santo. There were 640 in the three study groups led by Banmatmat Bible College Principal Joses Sali, Shem Tema of the Department of Church Development, and Doug Walladge of Banmatmat. Even more attended the night rallies. One committee member said that when they began planning they doubted whether they would get 200

along!

The crusade began with a march on Thursday evening and concluded with a four and a half hour service on Sunday afternoon, in which it was hard to contain people's exuberance to praise God and testify to what he had been doing with them. Wilson Wayback was the speaker at the rallies.

A real hunger for God's Word was evident in the studies and a real need to talk about faith and share fellowship surfaced in the discussion groups and faith building times.

These times introduced youth to the idea of sports ministry, and encouraged men to look at their faith and the effects of their Christian lives on the church and their families.

Albert Vira, a former boxer, and his wife Ateca, introduced sports ministry and Willie Bule of Wujumwel, central Pentecost, encouraged the men.

Ms Abida, an Indian resident in Vila, ministered very effectively to

the women, encouraging them and building their faith. She has a dramatic testimony of her conversion from Islam, which she gave at a night rally as well as sharing with the women.

If people and churches remain as open to God's Spirit and his leading as they were at this crusade at Easter there will be big changes in the churches on Pentecost and much ministry from them in the coming years.

—Doug Walladge
(Pentecost)

Leadership Crisis in Laos

Laos's 15,000 Christians are like "sheep without a shepherd" and face a major leadership crisis that must be urgently addressed, according to David Andrianoff, a Laotian expert working with World Concern in Bangkok, Thailand.

In a paper commissioned by Christian Outreach, Andrianoff stated there were three crucial factors for the "woeful shortage of leaders".

First was the exodus of Lao Christians following the rise to power in 1977 of the Lao Patriotic Front (the Pathet Lao).

Of the 10,000 Christians in Laos at the time, 5,000 fled

abroad, including 85% of the church leadership. Although the number has recovered to over 15,000 in 150 churches, there is still a lack of mature leadership.

Secondly, the government, while preserving a fairly relaxed religious policy, has not reopened any Bible schools. (A former Bible college in the capital Vientiane is currently in use as a military barracks.) Thus it is impossible for leaders to receive any formal training or instruction in Christian doctrine.

Thirdly, Laos' economic crisis makes it virtually impossible for congregations to sup-

port pastors or evangelists on a full-time basis. Most of Laos' 4 million population would be fortunate to earn \$10 US a month and to do that the individual would need two jobs. The *Far Eastern Economic Review* reported in February that a rice shortfall was expected this year, leaving one million people without food.

However there are some hopeful signs.

Among the 80,000 Laotian refugees in Thailand there has been considerable Christian growth and it is reported that some former Christian leaders are now seeing it as their duty to return to Laos and help the

struggling church.

Another hopeful sign is the economic liberalisation scheduled by Premier Kaysono Phommavhan.

A western diplomat quoted in the *Far Eastern Economic Review* said, "People are digging up money out of their gardens, taking their cars off blocks and painting their houses."

While the new economic openness will allow Western Christians to maintain more of a presence in Laos again experts stress it will be some time before the economic freedoms are paralleled in the political and religious realms.

Happenings

Malawi has been hit by a series of disasters in the past month—earthquakes, a cyclone and floods. The disasters killed 16 and affected another 107,000, with the cyclone and floods causing the most property damage.

More than 1,500 people in South Africa are still held in detention without trial while another 300–400 are held under the country's Internal Security Act. Between 1984 and 1988 more than 101 anti-apartheid activists have been sentenced to death for "unrest related offences".

The Holiness Fellowship of America has been formed by US Pentecostals who are concerned about the drop in moral standards in the modern church. Among the practices they want to ban are going to the movies, jewellery, make up and men and women swimming together.

To help millions of poverty stricken people in the Third World, and to revive Australia's reputation as a global citizen, the Australian Council for Overseas Aid has called on the Federal Government to increase aid to 0.4% of GNP in the 1989–90 Budget. In 1988–89 the overseas aid allocation was only 0.36% of GNP down from 0.51% of GNP in 1982–83.

The first Bible printed in America (1661) was sold at auction recently for \$330,000, a new record for the sale of an American Bible. The Bible is a translation in the Algonquin dialect, made by the Rev John Eliot, who was known as the "apostle to the Indians". Of the first printing of 220, 20 copies are known to exist.

Every Home for Christ staff in India recently celebrated 25 years of evangelistic ministry that has resulted in the distribution of 415 million pieces of gospel literature and documented 4.5

million responses. The commitment of EHC distributors to reach every home has been so thorough that they actually discovered 126 villages that the Indian government did not even have listed in its own census records.

Evangelistic ministries in Malaysia have been dealt a setback by recent legislation that effectively forbids non-Muslims from printing and distributing gospel literature and even Bibles written in Malay, the official language of Malaysia.

An African Enterprise mission in Kigali, capital of Rwanda, brought all the Protestant churches together for the first time in a major evangelistic thrust. More than 10,000 turned up for the closing rally where 9 church choirs sang, the whole service broadcast live on Radio Rwanda. More than 1,000 responded to the invitation at this service to come forward for counselling.

It is 10 years since abortion was legalised in Italy. Now there are approximately 200,000 abortions a year in Italy, a ratio of 350 per 1,000 live births.

A survey among Dutch Reformed ministers in the Netherlands shows that one in 10 would prefer to have another job. Ministers work an average of 58 hours per week, and they complain that their work is never finished.

The Soviet Union's policy of *glasnost* has resulted in a sharp increase of letters from HCJB's Russian speaking listeners. Before *glasnost* came into effect HCJB was receiving between 30–40 letters a month from Russian listeners. In December they received 178 letters from the USSR and in January 244 letters were received.

The Lutheran Church in Hungary has reinstated three pastors removed

from office in the late 1950s. László Scholz and László Danhauser were officially welcomed back at a liturgy at which the two Lutheran bishops presided. Also exonerated was Tibor Schulek, who was removed in 1958 as a regional dean after supporting the late Lajos Ordass, presiding bishop at the time. Ordass lived under house arrest for 20 years but has since been honoured by the Lutheran Church.

The largest Christian church in the world is the Catholic Church with 944,495,800 adherents, followed by Protestants (318,064,100), Orthodox (177,486,900), non-white indigenous Christians (137,795,900) and Anglicans (53,098,500).

Latin America has the largest number of Christians (427,902,300) followed by Europe (408,087,100), Africa (221,767,300) and North America (188,280,000).

The total income for global foreign missions this year will be \$13.5 billion.

Despite the progress made in world evangelisation, about 1,273,930,000 people—nearly 1 in 4—will not have had the chance to hear about Jesus Christ. The total number of unreached people groups with no church is estimated at 475.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the USA ordained 132 persons in 1987. Of these, 51 were women. This is 38.6% of all ordinations.

US evangelist Jimmy Swaggart obtained permission to show 15 programs over China's state television system. The half hour music programs began airing on 8 January to a potential viewing audience of 600 million, although the introductory programs do not have a religious content.

An enraged mob of Muslim fanatics attacked the only Protestant church in Pakistan's capital, Islamabad, in February, tearing down newly constructed walls, setting fire to a guard's tent and destroying construction equipment.

More teenagers are rejecting the Christian message than 10 years ago, a recent UK survey has shown. Only 23% of young people said that God could help them in their lives, compared to 42% in 1979. The survey showed a growing hostility towards Christianity, with 56% of youngsters finding church boring.

A World Bank report to be published later this year gives a horrifying picture of Africa's economic decline over the past 30 years and a bleak future for the continent. Africa is poorer today in per capita terms than it was 30 years ago. Life expectancy has declined in 9 countries and school enrolment in 12. Africa's population will double in the next 20–25 years. The increased population pressures have accelerated desertification, loss of woodland cover and environmental pollution in rural and urban areas.

The visit to Australia of the well-known bookshop *MV Doulos* is presently in the balance because of Australian customs regulations. A regulation stating that "It is not allowed to sell goods from a foreign vessel" could potentially cause the visit to be abandoned.

A twin engine Cessna 402 owned by Missionary Aviation Fellowship was hijacked at Cap Haitien International Airport, Haiti, by two Haitian military personnel in civilian clothing on 10 April. The pilot was ordered to fly them out of the country. There were 7 other passengers. Upon landing at Miami International Airport the hijackers immediately surrendered to American authorities.

United Bible Society sources in the Middle East report that churches in Iraq have begun applying for import permissions for more than 14,000 Bibles and New Testaments. In Iran the first revision in 40 years of the Persian Bible is expected to be completed during April.

Half a billion items of Scripture were distributed last year by member societies of the United Bible Societies. The UBS 1988 Scripture Distribution Report shows an increase of 11% in distribution over the previous 12 months.

Pastors of fast growing churches in the Philippines say a severe lack of resources is hindering their ministries. A survey of 990 evangelical pastors showed their most pressing problems were lack of finance, inadequate worship facilities and a lack of literature. A quarter reported that they personally owned 4 books or less. Some full-time pastors do not even own a complete Bible in their own language.

In what is apparently the first arrangement of its kind, two universities in the Soviet Union have agreed to allow Christian students with InterVarsity Christian fellowship to visit and enrol for the 1989 summer term. The American students will be matched up with English speaking Soviet students, who will stay with them in university dormitories, share meals together, take classes together, and participate in cultural events together.

The Californian Supreme Court has ruled that former members of Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church can sue for fraud over the way they were recruited into the organisation. The suit was based on the sect's misrepresentation or concealing its identity in order to recruit unsuspecting outsiders.

Christians in Sport Conference

6-8 July at St Marks College, Adelaide

"Welcome to our home fellows, the barbecue's on out the back" are the words that Ken Bond, chaplain of the Western Suburbs Rugby League team, greeted a number of the players and their wives/girlfriends who had come for dinner. Ken, minister of the Campbelltown, NSW, church is in his fourth year as chaplain to the team.

He is one of several Churches of Christ pro sports chaplains, others being Paul Cameron (Sydney Swans VFL), Tim Smith (NSW tennis and Canterbury Rugby League), Ian Docker (Eastern Suburbs Rugby League), Barry Ryall (WA Shield cricket) and Bruce Eagles (West Coast Eagles VFL).

There are some 50 professional sport chaplains through-

out Australia as part of Sports and Leisure Ministry, otherwise known as either Australian Sports Ministry or Christians in Sport. This chaplaincy ministry to Australian professional sport began in 1984 when Dr Mark Tronson of Sydney commenced the movement following examples of similar ministries in the USA and the UK.

The emphasis of the evangelical cross-cultural ministry is on chaplaincy to professional sport; encouragement and a discipling ministry to leading sportspeople who are Christian and assisting local churches to develop an effective sports ministry in their outreach programs.

The 1989 Christians in Sport Conference is being held in Adelaide at St Marks College 6-8 July. During the day the program will concentrate on a

training course in sports ministry and also a study of Australian models of a local church sports ministry. The five models of ministry will be from the Craigmare Christian Assembly, SA, which has an international volleyball touring team and a church based sports ministry; Parkridge Baptist Church, Qld, which has a \$1 million sports complex funded by Government grants; Mount Waverley Uniting Church, Vic, which has 34 sports teams and they will be sharing how they are used in outreach; Christian City Church, SA, on Christian Surfers and gaining a vision on sports teams and the Sunnyside Church of Christ, Qld, on its Sunshine Games and annual outreach sports dinner.

The evening sessions will cover sports evangelism, an evaluation of all ministry at major world sporting events

such as the Olympic Games (Ron Ross from YWAM will be the main participant on this panel) and a banquet.

The Conference costs \$60 plus a registration fee of \$10. Accommodation can be organised through a billet scheme. To register contact the SLM National Conference, The Study, 3 Shelley Rd, Wallacia 2750. Phone (047) 73 8594.

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WHAT BETTER WAY TO TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT G O D



The Buses Are Full



Ria and Bill Keddle

by Bill Keddle
(Zimbabwe)

It was the middle of December 1988. We had been back in Zimbabwe for just over a week. We obtained a car for the day so we could visit the Dadaya High School. It was a drive of over 175 kms. Most of the trip

was on a major road between Bulawayo and Masvingo.

As we drove down we saw many passenger buses. They all had one thing in common, they were full. There was no way they were going to pick up anyone else.

At frequent intervals we saw people waiting for a bus. Some-

times it was a family group, sometimes just some young people, or maybe an elderly person. They all had their luggage and they waited in the hot sun. And they waited and waited for a bus that would stop. But for most it was a futile hope. Many would wait all day and still not get a lift, since the buses were full before even leaving the city.

It was not a cheering sight: people in need, people who should not have to put up with such a situation. But where is the answer? There are so many people and not enough buses to meet the need.

In many ways this is the situation in the church. There are so many people in the area where the Church of Christ is working. But with 36 congregations, few older men and only one pastor, limited in his ministry by transport problems, little is being achieved. The church is concerned about its problems. It sees membership dropping but does not see an answer. What it needs is to have help in its teaching program, to have personnel who can move around a group of churches to guide and encourage the people. The people who are in need of the gospel are like those patiently waiting for the bus that does not stop for them.

• Bill Keddle is teacher of Divinity and Chaplain at Dadaya High School. He has visited a number of the rural churches on Sundays. His wife, Ria, has accompanied him and was the guest speaker at a Women's Rally in April.

Oberammergau and Holy Land 1990

Southport, Qld, senior minister, Noel Newton, and his wife Tricia are organising a 32 day tour in conjunction with Clem and Olive Clack from Victoria, departing 20 June 1990.

The tour will begin with tracing the footsteps of Jesus through the Holy Land followed by the visual re-enactment of a Passion Play by the town people of Oberammergau.

This tour will also trace the journeys of Paul to Athens and Corinth.

Also included will be a tour of Salzburg, Austria, touring the Swiss Alps, Lucerne, Paris and the last four days will be spent in London.

Further details are available from Noel and Tricia Newton, 23 Harraan St, Bellevue Park 4215. Phone (075) 31 4353.

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(09) 275 3773

Come celebrate with Dianella

1990 AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP
Christian Projects, through The Australian Christian is providing a scholarship available for overseas study during 1990. The scholarship is for a short-term period of study for up to one year.

The scholarship is open to any member of Churches of Christ in Australia for any area of study that will assist the scholar in a sphere of service within Churches of Christ. The scholarship is designed to assist applicants who otherwise would be unable to travel overseas.

Applications close 31 July.

Application forms and conditions are available from The Australian Christian, PO Box 101, North Essendon 3041. Phone (03) 379 1219.

(Note: The Scholarship Committee reserve the right not to award a scholarship.)



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Media Review

TV

NOBODY'S CHILDREN

ABC-TV Wednesday and Thursday, 17-18 May, 8.30 pm



Producer David Goldie with Walter, who appears in Part Two of *Nobody's Children*

David Goldie has made a new documentary series looking at our children and their future. The series—*Nobody's Children*—reveals the growth of an army of dispossessed and alienated young Australians who are forming a new youth underclass in this country. The most obvious members of this underclass are homeless kids—but they are just a fraction. There are up to half a million other young people who have homes and families but who have failed at school and are now failing to cope with a collapsed youth job market. In some communities in Australia every second young school leaver is out of work. Then there are the kids who find their future so bleak they are simply giving up. Suicide is now claiming young lives at the rate of one a day—second only to road accidents. 50,000 this year will attempt suicide and fail. All of these young people feel they are *Nobody's Children*. The program looks at homes, the streets, schools and juvenile prisons. All is not bleak, however. The

program looks at schemes seeking to help young people.

Books

Famous Birthdays

Gordon Powell



FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Gordon Powell (Joint Board of Christian Education) \$9.95

The first thing you do when you get a book like this is to look up your own birthday. The people who share my birthday aren't that famous—Alexander Hamilton, American statesman; Ezra Cornell, who founded the university; Gordon Selfridge, who founded the stores; Juanita Kreps (who?) and William James. The next thing you do is look up the birthdays of family and friends. My brother claims that all sorts of famous things happen on 15 February and sure enough he gets Galilei Galileo, Charles Tiffany and Ernest Shackleton. For each day, as well as the list of famous people with birthdays on that day, we get a short biography of one of them, a "tonic" Bible verse and space to write in your own famous birthdays. Dr Powell says that reminding ourselves daily of the great and inspiring men and women helps us adopt a positive attitude to life. Incidentally, I note that *The Age* newspaper in Melbourne is reprinting the famous birthdays from the book each day on page 2. —GTA

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Classifieds

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

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DIAMOND WEDDINGS

MORRIS Cam and Nan of Canberra praise God for their 60 years together. Married at City Temple, Sydney on 11 May 1929. Love and congratulations from Ian and Caroline, Charles, David and Nicholas.

DEATHS

YOUNG Angus Keith. On 19 April, suddenly, at home, loved husband of Phyllis, father of Peter and Nielsine (USA), Barbara and Bill (Hunt), Bronwen and Graham (Hickman), Marged and Jim (Goode), grandfather of nine, great grandfather of four. At rest. 60 Nunns Rd, Mornington, Vic.

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIS Aubrey Lionel. 10 May 1988. Accidental death. In God's care. In loving remembrance of a dear husband of Betty. Loving father of Roger, Warren, Gary, Vicki and Margaret, daughters-in-law Isla and Sandra, son-in-law David and seven grandchildren.

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Speakers: Dr Peter Marshall

Dr Graeme Garrett

Dr Muriel Porter

7.30 pm Friday 26 May to

4.00 pm Saturday 27 May

For further information contact:

Cheryl Allen

CCTC, 40–60 Jacksons Rd, Mulgrave 3170

Telephone (03) 790 1000

CCTC is opposite Gate 6 VFL Park

Kedron (Qld) Church of Christ 60th Anniversary

2–4 June 1989

Guest Speaker

Graham Agnew

Friday 2 June 7.30 pm

CYF Reunion

Sat 3 June 9.30 am–3 pm

Church Leaders' Seminar
7 pm

Concert & Social Night

Sunday 4 June 10 am

Anniversary Service

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6.30 pm

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1990 Brisbane Federal Conference Program Announced

The Queensland Arrangements Committee have announced the broad shape of the program for the 43rd Conference, in Brisbane on 8-14 October 1990.

The program will begin on Monday and Tuesday, 8-9 October, with the business of conference. The convention side of conference will be held on Wednesday through to Sunday, 10-14 October, and is being combined with the Qld annual State Conference, which will hold its business session on Saturday, 13 October.

QCWF and ACWF will hold their meetings on Thursday, 11 October.

A youth forum will be held from the Wednesday to the Saturday in conjunction with the conference.

A special primary school children's program will be held during the conference, which will provide for "adventures in the city", involving visits to World Expo Park, the Myer Centre, City Hall tower, river

ferry cruises etc. Infants can be cared for at the Occasional Care Centre in the City Hall.

The Wednesday to Friday program will provide for elective workshops, seminars and sectional conferences on a wide range of subjects and the Arrangements Committee is seeking expressions of interest from persons interested in presenting workshops and seminars or conducting sectional conferences. Write to the Secretary, Arrangements Committee, PO Box 508, Kenmore 4069.

A presidents' reception will be held on the Wednesday, which all state conference and CWF presidents will be invited to co-host.

The theme for the Thursday evening program will be "Now Is the Time To Serve the Lord in Mission", for the Friday evening, "Now Is the Time To Serve the Lord for the Future", while the Saturday

evening program will involve the youth forum. A great worship celebration is planned for Sunday morning in City Hall with the conference theme, "Now Is the Time To Serve the Lord".

Provision is being made for about 10 trade displays together with departmental and other display booths. Those interested should also write to the Secretary of the Arrangements Committee.

The National Ministers' Seminar is planned for 4-6 October at Camp Cal, Caloundra. As this coincides with the annual Queensland Ministers' Seminar there is likely to be a limit of 120 places available.

A day and evening local tours program is being organised to the Sunshine Coast, the Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Dreamworld, Seaworld, the city and city lights. A post-conference tour to North Queensland is also being planned.

Ministers' Workshop

Deliberate Directions in Discipling

by Brian White

Eight hundred ministers in the USA listed the following as the top five problems being faced in today's church:

1. Lack of spiritual commitment.
2. Lay ministry apathy.
3. Ill-equipped leaders.
4. Misdirected ministry efforts.
5. New convert loss.

Topping the list according to "Lay Leadership International" were the lack of spiritual maturity of the laity (60 %) and the refusal of the laity to assume leadership roles in the ministry (48 %).

Sure that Australian Churches of Christ ministers would respond similarly, I think it is fair that we ask the following questions about our adult Christian education.

1. What are we doing to disciple our members to spiritual maturity?
2. What are we doing to equip our members for effective ministry?

Our Lord's commission is to "make disciples" and "teach them to obey all" that he has commanded.

Winning Is Just the Beginning

Thrilled at the entrance of new Christians into the fellowship, we are then faced with the task of nurturing and discipling them to spiritual maturity and equipping them for effective ministry within the

church. This would involve three basic stages:

Stage 1: Nurture. For the first four to six months of the life of a new Christian, nurture is the name of the game—developing an assurance of salvation, teaching them to relate to the church through communion, worship and stewardship, learning the faith, introducing them to such areas as how to pray, share their faith, read the Bible meaningfully, have daily devotions and cope with sin and failure.

Like Paul in 1 Thessalonians 2:8 we lovingly share ourselves as "a mother caring for her children...delighted to share...our lives".

Stage 2: Discipling. Having established the new Christian in the basics of the faith, the time has come to get down to business. The concepts introduced at the nurture stage will now be reaffirmed at a more significant depth. An overview of the Bible, how to love others, developing a Christian character, how to pray, discovering God's will, faith-sharing, nurturing new Christians and making God and Christ the central focus of our lives will all be part of this 18-month course.

Teachers will be pace-setters, much like Paul in 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 "as a father deals with his children, encouraging, comforting and urging".

Stage 3: Equipping: According to Ephe-

sians 4:11-13, a key part of a minister's task is the equipping of his people for their own personal ministry. An initial course of discovering spiritual gifts of ministry area could be followed with training in those speciality areas, such as leadership and eldership, pastoral care, developing skills in outreach, nurture of new Christians, small group leadership and leading worship. There are a number of programs around to help facilitate this.

How Will This Effect Church Growth?

God primarily uses people, not programs, and the emphasis of the above is on developing quality people. The more spiritually mature and skilled the workers in a local church are, the greater will be its impact on the local community.

This concept of adult Christian education is geared to overcome the problems facing today's church. If taken seriously, members would become spiritually mature, keen to be involved in ministry and well equipped to handle it.

Ministers' Workshop is edited by Brian White, Field Director of the Vic-Tas Department of Mission, Education and Development and the Federal Board of Christian Education.

World News

China's Three-Self Church To Be Replaced by 1991

The top leader of China's organisation for regulating protestant religious activity has confirmed that the Three-Self Patriotic Movement will be dissolved by 1991 and replaced by a new church structure called the United Church of China.

Bishop K.H. Ting said the Three-Self Movement had outgrown its usefulness. He noted that the church would be better served by a less authoritarian, more service oriented structure "in the tradition of Presbyterianism or Methodism...more spiritual and pastoral". According to Ting, the Three-Self has been unable to resolve internal conflicts due to government interference in church affairs at the local level. It has been influenced by "ultra-leftist evils".

Surprisingly, Ting queried the theological basis of the Three-Self's existence. Originally, according to Ting, the Three-Self was created to ensure the financial self-sufficiency of the Chinese church following the withdrawal of foreign aid in the early 1950s. As the church is the body of Christ and Christ is the head of the church,

so "the Three-Self [structure] is probably not good," he said. The decision to wind up Three-Self did not meet with unanimous approval however. Ting attributed the differences to the emotional attachment many had to Three-Self and denied any suggestion that a split may be looming.

The Three-Self Patriotic Movement has been the main institution governing protestant religious activity since the founding of the People's Republic of China (except for the Cultural Revolution period, when all churches were closed). According to Ting, some five million Christians worship in approximately 5,000 Three-Self approved churches, and although this represents a vast increase over the 700,000 or so believers in China in 1949, it is still only a very small proportion of the total number of believers in China today. These could number as high as 50 million. The dissolution of the Three-Self movement is an admission that it has not won over the mass of Christians in China.

The organisations ultimately responsible for religious repression in China are still in

place, but the fight to reduce the power of these organisations is underway. Bishop Ting himself, in a speech to the National People's Congress in August 1988, has called for less interference from leftist cadres in the Religious Affairs Bureau. Nevertheless there are no guarantees that the ultra-leftists are ready to give up a measure of control. Their influence in the National Publications Bureau has put a stop to Xinhua Bookstore's attempts this year to repeat their successful sale of 14,000 Bibles last August. Some China watchers have said the key question behind the unprecedented move to dismantle The Three-Self Patriotic Movement lies in its motives. Has the government found a more effective means of controlling religious activity, or has Three-Self become an obstacle to the prosecution of a genuinely more liberal religious policy?

One house church leader responded: "I know what I think I believe, and I know what I want to believe, but in a couple of years time I will know what to believe."

—from News Network International

Growing Spiritually: Cat and Mouse

by Ted Bjorem

A friend's cat had just caught a mouse. As are the ways of cats, it played with the mouse with fiendish delight. Continuously it would take the mouse to the middle of the yard then run it down with a bat or a pounce as it tried to escape.

As the mouse tired the cat made the game more favourable to the mouse, placing it among the many legs of a table setting. There it had to bat, reach or shove to get at the mouse. The cat's play was serious and the end was inevitable until...a

hand reached down and lifted the mouse to safety.

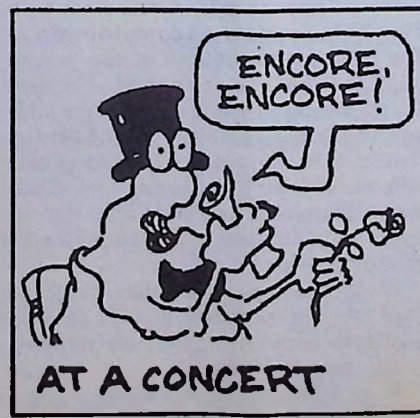
How like our life, I thought. The ol' devil plays around with us and to our mind we are in control. We have the "run of the yard". Oh, sometimes things seem a bit out of hand and there are tough times, but then "doesn't that happen to all?" But as time progresses it becomes only too painfully apparent we are not in control of the situation and the devil has been playing with us. What to do? Within our ability there is no escape. Until...

How thankful I am that God in his great

mercy reached down and plucked me out of death's grim embrace. Oh how I thought I was in control, until it was too late. To my great discouragement and fear I found myself unable to extract myself from my self-made life. But God said, "Come to me all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me...and you shall find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:28-29) In obedience I found true freedom.

• Ted Bjorem is the minister at the Fairfield, NSW, church.

Pontius' Puddle



Comment

Church Growth Singapore Style

by Barry Jenkins

When I passed through Singapore last December, I had the opportunity of worshipping at the Church of Our Saviour, an Anglican church with an active membership of 1,600 and a team of 40 workers headed by the senior minister, the Rev. Derek Hong.

The service I attended was immediately before Christmas and in the week ahead the church was to conduct a drama in their theatre church to depict the Christmas story. In 1987 the church introduced over 800 people to the Lord at Christmas celebrations held in Singapore shopping centres.

In April this year Derek Hong came with half a dozen of his church members to conduct a church growth and leadership conference at St Matthew's Anglican Church at Endeavour Hills, Melbourne, Vic.

I was able to attend one session, where Derek Hong spoke about "Strategy for Renewal in the Church". He gave seven steps for his strategy:

1. Renewal must begin with the leader himself. The leader must have a vision.

The leader must do the dreaming; be the visionary and the motivator. In his team Derek is the only ordained person and his lay pastors must be totally loyal to support him. He trains leaders in their own programs—each one who is in leadership needs to be spirit filled, teachable and willing to continue to learn.

2. The leadership of the church must be established as a spiritual authority. It is a great tragedy when there is no real authority in the church and everyone does what is right only in their own eyes. We need to get back to the authority of the Scriptures. Leaders must have authority and lead.

3. Pulpit communication must be improved. It has been said that from Monday to Saturday the preacher is visible but that on Sunday the preacher is incomprehensible. Among other things, Derek Hong urged pastors to give an altar call at every service. The preacher must not only sow the seed but must also reap the harvest. We need to break down embarrassment and encourage people to see that responding and coming to the front of the church or some other place for prayer is just a normal way of responding to the message.

4. Be involved in spiritual warfare. (See

Ephesians 6 and Matthew 12:29.) The praise of the Lord's people breaks down the enemy's stronghold. Whenever we move into renewal we can expect a spiritual battle. We need to recognise we have been called to fight against spiritual wickedness and spiritual darkness. We need to claim the power and victory of Christ for our ministry.

5. Institute teaching and discipleship programs. In the church in Singapore there are over 100 cell groups. Jesus' style was to teach, to demonstrate and to send out. The pastor should invest a life in teaching a group of disciples. The leaders should be looking for FAT people. And what are FAT people? FAT people are faithful, available and teachable. The pastor should be committed to a long-term involvement in the church. Forget about further studies. Forget about seniority. Get on with the job.

6. A church that is involved in renewal is involved in "Kingdom Ministry". The kingdom is much greater than the local church. We must work from God's perspective and not be overwhelmed by denominational or other social expectations. See the work as God sees it!

7. Be a winner! The loser sees possibilities but says they are very difficult. The winner says things are difficult but possible. The pastor's role is to show the people how they can do it. The pastor says, "What you see is what you get. If you don't see it, you don't get it. Have a vision, dream great dreams, allow God to show you the way forward for your church."

• Barry Jenkins is minister at the Ringwood, Vic, church.

What's in a Name?

Since 1976 when Stella Walkington, Wembley Downs, WA, suggested "Kum Ba Yah" as the name for the Christian Conference and Recreation Centre to be built at Marmion, WA, I have told all enquirers that this "strange sounding name" meant "come by here" (my Lord) and was an Angolan Negro spiritual and sung by "The Seekers".

Now that I am not involved in the day to day caretaking of the centre I have been able to enjoy a daily swim in the Indian Ocean at the western end of Lennard Street and I have made friends with a fine Jewish couple. The gentleman is the cantor at the

Temple David Synagogue. This couple tell me that "Kum Ba Yah" means "get up! God is coming" in Hebrew.

I don't know whether the Angolan Negro composers used Hebrew words when singing the spiritual and I haven't checked with Hebrew scholars as to whether this is an accurate translation from Hebrew to English. However I like this strong statement of faith and it certainly gives expression to my reasons for building the Centre...Kum Ba Yah!

—Merle Peacock, WA

(And yes, to all those who have enquired, I am feeling very well, thank you.)

VIETNAMESE BIBLES NEEDED

Nathan Nhan, minister of the Richmond church, has a special evangelism emphasis to Vietnamese people from April to June. Gifts for Bibles and outreach are needed now.

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A Church ABC

Teloepa, near Paramatta at the geographical centre of Sydney, NSW, is a pleasant, well-established treed suburb in undulating valleys. It has a mixture of private and Department of Housing houses, flats and high-rise units.

The Teloepa church was established in 1961 as a Christian centre. Following a survey conducted by a member as part of university studies the need most often expressed by the community was for child care. In 1974 federal funding was obtained and the following year a long-day care centre was set up. Today, as part of Teloepa's total ministry to its community, Teloepa Family Resources include a child care centre that caters for 45 children per day with a full-time staff of 10, a family day care, in which 108 children are cared for in 30 homes (there is a staff of five for this work), holiday programs (45 children a day, staff of three) and a family support program that visits homes and offers counselling, information, support, advocacy and emergency relief (there are five staff for this service). Teloepa Family Resources is a significant part of the work of the church and it is important that all the full-

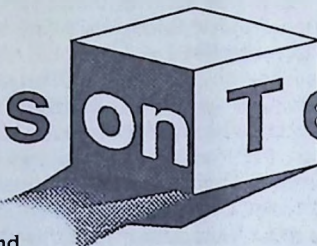
time staff are Christians.

The active membership is 176 and there is an average of 160 communicants, however it is estimated that 280 regularly attend one of the services (held at 8 am, 9.30 am and 7 pm). The building complex includes the child care centre and is large

make themselves available in this ministry to the young people of the area. Every two months the Rocksalt Co. holds a Christian rock concert as yet another link between the church and community. These activities are well run and the result of much prayer. As a church so committed to young people it is not surprising to learn they make up a good proportion of the Sunday evening service.

The senior minister at Teloepa is Rick Lewis, a Carlingford graduate. He and his wife Heather

Focus on Teloepa



and modern. Last year renovations were carried out to the worship area.

Recently the church as part of its outreach established the North West Christian Fellowship, an enthusiastic "daughter" church that meets in Schofields.

A house has also been purchased in Sophie Street, in the Teloepa area, in which three young people from the church are living, to offer friendship to young people who drop in, emergency accommodation, tutoring, camping programs and a drama group. On Friday and Saturday nights a coffee shop is conducted to midnight. A team of young people from the church

have two small children. Also on the ministry team are Ken Mason, a COB graduate, whose portfolio includes pastoral care, follow up of new converts and training sessions for counselling, and, part-time, Ron Kallmier, who is guidance co-ordinator at a Christian school.

Teloepa has a strong commitment to Biblical preaching and a strong emphasis on worship. Contemporary hymns and songs and drama and dance are used in services. The church seeks to minister to the whole person—body, mind and spirit, encouraging every member to use their gifts and be involved in the life of the church

Comment

Please Love Homosexuals

As a young boy I was set up for the homosexual lifestyle by, of all people, a Christian leader. Not only was he a leader, but he claimed to be spirit-filled and evangelical. I was only 11 when he molested me. Now, 17 years later, I have AIDS.

At the time I didn't know what on earth he was doing. I just made a commitment to Christ and I trusted myself absolutely to the people who had led me to Jesus' love. This man cheated me. He pretended this was a natural part of my spiritual development and pretended it was part of God's love for me. I now feel deeply sorry for this man. May God forgive him.

When he molested me I was right at the beginning of my puberty and the experience had a profound effect on my sexual orientation and subsequent career as a homosexual. For years I had to struggle in silence as I was too frightened to tell anybody.

Later I found myself strangely attracted,

like a moth to a flame, to the thing I absolutely hated and became immersed in the homosexual underworld. With my highly promiscuous behaviour it was inevitable that eventually I would get AIDS.

A heartfelt plea from a Christian with AIDS

I tried to change a hundred times but there seemed to be little support, help or understanding in the church. That is changing now, thank goodness. Lots of Christian people are realising that their hatred of sin had overshadowed their love for the sinner. I'm just like you—a human being who is hurting. Please help us. Don't give up on us. Not all of us would do what the Christian leader did to me.

It's hard to really accept a sinner knowing you cannot accept the danger he represents, but the answer is to have compassion, to make the homosexuals know that you love them and really mean it. They will appreciate all the love they can get. Because that is what it is all about—a deep unmet love—a need crying out so urgently within them that they are prepared to do things to meet that need you couldn't even imagine.

Offer them the love of Jesus. His love is pure and true. He gave his life for us, an untainted sacrifice that is the only thing to live for. That is what I went to Jesus for in the first place—his love.

Now, even though a death sentence hangs over my head, I am truly glad that I have found and can keep his love always.

—Prodigal Son

(From Challenge Weekly, NZ's national Christian newspaper.)

Discipleship

•Donna Eades, Julie-Ann Eades, Kyneton, Vic •Katie Mayes, Paul Bevan, Russell Head, Sue Devlin, Alyson Nicholls, Quin Rewell, Brian Fosberry, Mark Delaeter, South Perth, WA •Jim & Lynne Campbell, Sue Taylor, Kalamunda, WA •Brett Layton, Loretta Hourigan, Clint & Jill Talbot, Tweed Heads, NSW •Yvette Bloomfield, Rodney Gilbert, Albury, NSW •Shirley Schmidt, Shirley Brooke, David Brooke, Horsham, Vic

Marriages

•Louise Tweed to Mark Heinrich, June Rookledge to Brian Fosberry, Alison Bowden to Adam Parker, South Perth, WA •Carol Graham to Colin Belsham, Knoxfield, Vic •Lynne Parfett to Graham Cornell, Jill Mackley to Scott Goldworthy, Laureen Blake to Ken Sheriff, Horsham, Vic

Deaths

•Mrs Elsie Baohm, Whyalla, SA •Joe Cobb, Knoxfield, Vic •Fay Jones, Launceston, Tas •Mrs Daphne Albury, Mrs May Smith, Boondall, Qld •Mrs Alma Chapman, Albury, NSW •Dorothy Williams, Lismore, NSW

Changes

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The position of Hostel Supervisor at Judge Book Retirement Village (Melbourne Citymission), Eltham, will become vacant in the latter part of June. The Supervisor is responsible for the care of residents and supervision of staff in an 80 bed hostel. Previous experience in care of the aged and nursing qualifications are desirable.

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Obituary

Obituaries are limited to 100 words.

MORRIS, Keith

(25.3.89) Keith Henry Morris was born in Sydney on 21 September 1911. His working life was spent with the Commonwealth Bank. Keith married Freda Thompson on 1 February 1936. They had four children, Wendy, John, Sue and Bill. Keith retired from the bank in 1972. Keith was involved in the Gilbert and Sullivan Society and was an artist of note. He was also a man of faith, being involved at Gardiner, Vic, Hamilton, NSW, Hartwell and Ashburton, Vic. He served on church boards and acted as secretary and treasurer. He presided and sang at services. A private cremation service was held at which Ken Barton and Graeme Chapman officiated.

—Graeme Chapman

L.M.C.T.
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Church News

Vic

KYNETON (P.Eades) P. Eades & R. Parker, Baptist, conducted combined service Good Friday 9.30 am followed by combined march and service. 300 people attended from all churches ... Easter Sunday gospel outreach. Fr J. Hynan St Mary's Catholic Church speaker ... Donna & Julie-Ann Eades baptised 16 April. Members and families from CCTC, Mulgrave, attended ... Youth group commenced. Great success.

WARRAGUL (David Buesnel) All activities in full swing ... Teen Bible study meets weekly before Junior Youth Group. Monthly Senior Youth meeting commenced ... Sunday School expanding ... Extra instruments assist in worship services ... Board looking to building stage 2 hall.

BRUNSWICK (V. Quayle) Large attendance at special Senior Citizens Week program ... Third Sunday of the month outreach program & the Barkley St flats services well supported ... Wednesday afternoon leisure games program under way ... George Dawson & Amy Kettner elected to local management committee ... Church took part in Brunswick Music Festival featuring Rose Coloured Glasses, Bronwyn & Carolyn Thane, David Tompson & Allison Angus.

KNOXFIELD (Rod Brown) It was anticipated that last year would be one of consolidation, but it turned out to be one of growth, to a total membership of 182, with more than 50 closely associated contacts, & acquisition of neighbouring land for \$70,000 ... Continuing to support Brotherhood causes, local school chaplaincy & Christmas Bowl, to which we gave \$3,985 ... Indebted to Dr Geoff Whiting & College student Arthur Knight, currently assisting with ministry while Rod Brown is on extended sick leave.

PRESTON (J. McCormick) Jean & Royce Weir & family attended Government House where Royce was presented with the Australia Police Medal by Governor Dr Davis McCaughey ... Open Door has celebrated its 14th birthday ... CWF ladies brought entertainment & afternoon tea to the residents of Fred Cambridge House.

OAKLEIGH (L.S. Dewberry) A youth re-union celebration, organised by Glenys Reaby & David Fraser, was held at Oakleigh, commencing with a social evening on 22 April & concluding with a barbecue luncheon on 23rd. The communion service on Sunday morning attracted more than 150 former members who enjoyed the whole celebration. Errol Gilbert (Hobart) presided while Dr Keith Farmer, Principal of Carlingford Theological College, was the preacher. Both Errol & Keith are former Oakleigh members.

HORSHAM (H.A.L. Clark, I.N.

Hunt) Over 100 attended successful Walk Through the Bible seminar led by Bryan Greenwood ... On 16 April combined youth groups led evening service. Steve Nixon, Hamilton, was speaker ... Over 30 ladies appreciated visit of Margaret McLeod, CWF Country Rep ... Care & Share groups operating enthusiastically.

SA

WHYALLA (D. Lord) The Spirit is moving, singing praises to God on Sunday's worship & the rest of the week. Praise God! ... Missionaries coming through, very grateful ... Planning fair & anniversary special next year ... Home Fellowships, Crafts, CWF well attended ... Men's camp study leader Mr Tucker ... Women's EP Conference at Tumby Bay ... Koala Kids club picnic ... Kids Club & youth club well attended.

DULWICH/ROSE PARK UNITED PARISH (Rob Williams, Roger Brown) Activities of Victims of Crime Service (VOCS) outlined to attendance of 45 at parish fellowship by Bob Whittington, former police reporter for *The Advertiser*. He is prominent worker for this organisation, founded by Ray Whitrod, onetime Adelaide detective and former Queensland Police Commissioner. Trends in crime laws & penalties discussed ... Colin Wormald, formerly of Keith in SA's south east, elected as deacon.

PROSPECT (G. Payne) State Conf Pres Colin Dredge was guest speaker at the morning service ... CWF in order to help various community appeals & Christian activities ran a successful garage sale ... Due to ill health of his wife Evelyn, Roy Groves has had to give up leadership of fellowship Group. Phyl Thompson has taken over the task ... Celebration Night featured Rob Timba, a Christian musician with special message for High Schools ... Camera Club enjoyed slide show on Egypt by Russell & Dawn Bristow.

Tas

LAUNCESTON (Rod Foster) Ron Holmes, Federal Literature Dept, spoke at Bible School breakfast on 23 April ... New youth group for years 8-10 formed calling themselves "Unreal" ... Annual visit to Caveside on 16th most enjoyable ... 120 present at 7 pm on 23 April when CWF took service. Ruth & Naomi story in verse by Doris Allen. Jeanette Foster speaker.



Church News

NSW

CHATSWOOD (Ian Alves) Church joins in combined meetings with John Smith at Willoughby Civic Centre ... "Church Advance" weekend at Collaroy attracts 58 with speakers Alan Robinson & John Squires ... 75th anniversary a great occasion with many past members & Chinese Choir among the 236 attending ... Rosalie Rofe down with us from PNG ... Good attendances at lunchtime services ... Mid week Bible studies now held at manse & member's homes.

TWEED HEADS (Richard Oakes, Guy Cooper) Richard Oakes to minister further term from March 1990 ... Good response in High Schools & youth groups to Guy's ministry ... Four baptisms & seven received into fellowship ... Over \$4,000 given for link missionaries, Peter & Kerry Schulz ... 34 attended first men's dinner ... Film "It's Friday but Sunday's Coming" at evening service ... Good Friday service combined with Coolangatta Baptist church. Richard Oakes speaker.

WAGGA WAGGA (R. Whan) Church has decided to build a cry/multipurpose room near entrance ... Visit by Max & Bev Winch from Irian Jaya ... Faith giving program for missionary family being launched ... Mal Reid appointed youth worker ... 11 welcomed into membership over last five weeks.

ALBURY (Alex Wilson) Atten-

dance at second morning service continues to grow ... Special "Focus on Faith" Easter radio program was innovative & immediate in approach ... Plans afoot to extend seating in chapel ... Successful Effective Listening seminar held at church recently ... Church camp to be held 28-29 April ... Musical ministry by "Good News" group at morning services 23 April when two baptisms took place.

EPPING (Stephen Curkpatrick, David Moyes) Nearly 120 adults & children spent an enjoyable weekend recently at a family camp at Attunga, west of Mittagong ... Roy Stanhope was honoured by being made a Member of the General Division of the Order of Australia ... Evening services have recently benefited by the participation of a youth orchestra, including strings, woodwind & brass.

TAREE (N.G. Aubrey) 85 business & career women were present at a buffet meal to hear & meet June Dally-Watkins tell of her modest upbringing & beginnings in a career of modelling, progressing to business enterprises in many countries of the world. Her testimony of how she came to faith in God in recent years was highlight. Fellowship Centre tastefully decorated by church women ... Under the leadership of Joy Billingham & Joan Brennan a Junior Christian Endeavour has been formed on Thursday afternoons.

LISMORE (Ian Phillips) Great fellowship at Easter barbecue at

manse ... Geoff Davis re-elected elder at annual meeting ... Minimal losses by church families in 1 April flood—willing workers packed up, cleaned up and put back furniture etc. at flood time in church and halls ... Ian, Marie and children in Sydney for conference and minister's refresher ... New son for Maryanne and Ray Cox.

WA

SOUTH PERTH (Bill Gaunson, Glen Smyth, David Stanford, Colin Beavis) Attendances averaging 30 more in morning & 40 more in evening ... Annual missionary convention 14-16 April. Speaker Jim Wilson, International Director, Youth for Christ ... Open House numbers increasing ... Ladies "At Home" attracted large crowd ... Bill Gaunson and Colin Beavis invited to Lausanne II in Manila in July ... David Stanford involved in ministry to university students.

KALAMUNDA (John Thornhill, Mark Proud, Paul Sanders) Geoff Maxwell, Living Link, home on furlough & deputation, has returned to PNG for further term of service ... John Thornhill preaching on series "Home & Family" ... Mid-year mini mission 19-21 May. Guest speaker Stuart Robinson from Blackburn, Vic ... Ladies joined together for an outreach evening & were challenged by message from guest speaker Mrs Bobbie Horton

of USA ... Home fellowship groups shared in end of term rally & discussion on their studies on Nehemiah ... Night of prayer planned for May.

Qld

ANNERLEY (Russell Ritchie) Bob & Laurel Dewar temporarily serving in PNG continually in our prayers ... John & Hazel Bassett returning soon following baby Benjamin's "all clear" ... Three decisions have been made ... Outreach through well attended monthly Old Time Music Hall, also appreciated by local convalescent homes ... Debbie Fulford welcomed into student ministry, as well as our own Andrew Barnes.

BOONDALL (Roger Wall) Mr & Mrs Roger Wall commenced a ministry with the church on 5 Feb ... Visitation being carried out in Boondall area & attendance is improving ... Several ladies able to attend women's camp at Caloundra in March ... Two ladies attended recent camp in Toowoomba ... Joan Linderberg improving & able to attend most services ... Girls' Brigade will entertain mothers at a Mothers Day tea on 10 May ... Bible School attendance improving ... Church saddened by deaths of Daphne Albury & May Smith.

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Church Paper Competition

During 1988 we announced a Church Paper Competition which closed on 30 September. In all we had over 30 churches nominate for the three different categories: Best Content, Best Appearance and Best Production.

The winner of the Best Content award is *The Messenger* which is produced by the Brooklyn Park, SA, church, edited by Val Smith. Highly commended awards in this category are awarded to *Carmelight*, the bulletin of the Carmel Welsh Presbyterian Church in Sebastopol, Vic, and the *Sunday Bulletin* of the Georgetown, NSW, church.

The winner of the award for Best Appearance is the *Sunday Bulletin* of the Georgetown, NSW, church which is edited by George Taggart. Highly commended awards have been made to *The Christian Echo* of Glen Waverley, Vic, and the bulletin of the Bullcreek, WA, church.

In the Best Production category the winner is *The Beacon* produced by Allen and Evelyn Feldon for the East Ipswich, Qld, church.

The judges have decided to award highly commended awards to *The Courier* of the Bendigo, Vic, church and to *The Christian Echo* of the Glen Waverley, Vic, church.

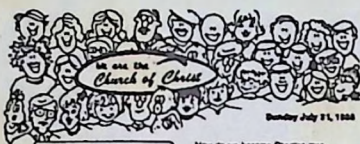
The standard of many of the local church bulletin was very high and a lot of time was needed to whittle down the finalists in each category. It was interesting to see the increasing sophistication of many of the church papers and the improved use of

computers, photocopiers, good duplicators and the use of graphics in many church bulletins. Many are also making excellent use of clip sheets for artwork and for devotional, comical and thought pieces

which encourage local members to grow in their faith.

Congratulations to all the winners and also to all members who spend time producing bulletins/newsheets for local congregations which are vital in letting everybody know what is happening in the local church.

We apologise for the delay in judging and announcing the winners of the awards.



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The Beacon

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 7



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SUNDAY
BULLETIN
JUNE 19 1988

(Morning Worship)
8.15 - "Time Turned"

All are welcome



Ride out the Storm

On one occasion Jesus had spent a long, hard day on the shores of Lake Galilee, preaching to a large crowd of people and hearing the sea. When evening came, Jesus decided to sail across to the other side in a small boat. Suddenly a great storm arose to his danger. The disciples became frightened and asked Jesus to save them. They even asked Jesus to leave and sail back to land, but Jesus did not. They even asked him to not leave them, but Jesus did not. The wind died down and there was a great calm.

The power of Jesus over the wind and the waves can be seen in another story. When Jesus was on the sea, he saw some fishermen mending their nets. He called them to him and said, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." They left their nets and followed him. Jesus has power over the sea and the wind, and he has power over the hearts of men.

How often do we meet in the same way when difficulties arise? We become anxious or frightened and may even leave Jesus God for our problems. In many times, our faith in God is weakened by our fears. When we see Jesus with us in times of stress, then our doubts are quenched. He gives us peace when life's problems confront us in a sea of stress, loneliness and uncertainty.

The Last Word

Every thought, word and deed for Christ carries you away from discouragement.

—Theodore L. Cuyler

I was complaining to my grandfather about life today. "You should be thankful, he said. "When I was a boy I had no shoes to wear, my clothes were hand-me-downs with holes in them, we had no food to eat, no car to put petrol in—and then came the Depression."

Although the campers on a night trek duly set their course by the stars, they soon became hopelessly lost. As the leader explained afterwards, "When we started out, we chose the brightest star we could see. Unfortunately it turned out to be a satellite."

A woman found that her wristwatch wouldn't work, so she wrote to the manufacturer. When she received no answer, she sent a telegram reading: "I have one of your watches. What time is it?" They sent her a new watch.

A starving man turned up one morning at a farmyard. "Here's an opportunity to do some good," said the hen to the pig. "We could give him breakfast. I could supply the eggs and you could give him bacon." "That's all very well for you," replied the pig, "but you are only giving a donation. What you require of me is total commitment!"

"I think I work too hard. I'm a farmer and I work fifteen hours a day seven days a week." "What do you grow?" "Very tired."

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