

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

Registered for Australia Post Publication No. VAR 0761

Volume 90, No. 11

July 11, 1987

The Editor in South Australia

It was a brief trip, mainly to attend the S.A. Conference (already reported). But it gave me the opportunity of visiting two churches. Both met in different ways the problem of Churches of Christ too close together in the automobile age.

Cowandilla

We attended the evening service at Cowandilla where Ron and Phyl McLean minister. Cowandilla is inner-suburban and within walking distance of three other Churches of Christ. Many young people who have married have moved further out.

The church looked at its mission to the community and for some time became host to a Vietnamese church, until they found a "home" of their own. (These people often return to Cowandilla, and several of them, including their pastor, were there on the Sunday evening we were present, and some took part in the service.) The Cowandilla church then shared resources with the Greek Evangelical church until they



Ken Dawson (Cowandilla elder) presents \$1,000 cheque for the C.O.B. to Keith Ridge (r.).

too moved to their own premises. Now the church is host to the Ambassadors Motor Cycle Club with their interesting leader "Papa John". They meet on Sunday afternoons and twice during the week. They share some leadership of the Kid's Club and are exploring the possibility of work amongst high school students. The Grace Fellowship of Malaysian students also attends on Sunday mornings and has Bible study

on Sunday afternoons. So the fine church plant is being well used.

The Cowandilla church itself (membership of just under 100) is alive and well, with active Bible Study, women's work and men's work, and A Kid's Club of 70 which keeps growing. They meet late afternoon for games, then have tea, followed by Christian education and craft. Evening services are informal with a special "feature" each time. The one we attended was shared with Croydon and a local Anglican parish. The Cowandilla church took the opportunity of presenting a cheque for \$1000 to Keith Ridge, Chairman of the College of the Bible State Committee, for the New Campus Fund.

Marion

Our other visit was to the morning service at Marion, the largest Church of Christ in S.A. with a membership of 430. The

former Ascot Park and Clovelly Park churches solved the problem of closeness by combining, selling their assets, and making a fresh start just off Marion Rd, in between a Housing Trust Estate and a large own-your-own-home settlement, in what was then a rapid growth area. The nucleus from the two churches consisted of many families with vision and drive, and their ministry together with that of Eric Hollard and his successors have made it a great church.

The ministry team is Graham and Bev Agnew, Keith and Gwen Horne and John and Robyn Elliott. Over 300 were at the morning service that we attended. Apart from a contemporary duet with electronic accompaniment as a prelude, it was a traditional service, but well conducted. The night service has almost another congregation, very contemporary, with highly organised informality (the other kind falls on its face anyhow!), and "produced" as in a TV presentation. About 200 attend.

Features at Five

The evening service has now moved to 5 p.m. for the winter. An attractive two colour "Features at Five" handbill with pics and graphics has saturated Marion letter boxes, keeping the church very visible.

The Marion church has a fine plant with off street parking for 150 cars. They have purchased another adjacent house fronting onto Marion Rd and use it

(Continued on page 5)



Marion Community Welfare Centre

ISSUE	DEADLINE
July 25	July 15
August 8	July 29
August 22	August 12

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

Typesetting and printing by New Lithographics (Vic.) Pty. Ltd, 63 Sunbury Cres, Surrey Hills, Vic. 3127.

Responsibility for electoral material is accepted by Chris Ambrose, 3 Hamlyn St, Essendon, Vic. 3040.

ADVERTISING RATES

DISPLAYED

\$4.20 per Column centimetre

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 (Minimum Charge \$6.00)

BEING HIS



Peter Dixon

Peter studied political science and law, and, after practising as a solicitor, entered Carlingford Theological College. He graduated in 1986 and is currently ministering, with wife Karen and three children, at Chatswood, Sydney. He is the Assistant Secretary of the Council of Churches in N.S.W. He joins the Carlingford College Faculty next year.

Sometimes I wonder what difference there is between the average church member and any respectable middle-class citizen. So often, it seems that we just blend into the society around us, when "Being His" should cause us to be unmistakably different.

Electricity has probably dulled our understanding of the contrast between light and darkness. We rarely experience real darkness — and when we do we have means of easily overcoming it. On the other hand, the brilliance of electric light, — especially for such important uses as night-time sporting events, — should be a vivid picture to us of how different if means to be the light of the world. We should stand out like floodlights, because He has made us His own.

Too often we let our culture shape our Christian living, instead of being brave enough to let our faith question and develop our daily lives. For, "Being His" means that every part of our lives should be made new by the Good News.

Traditionally we may have been prepared to discuss and take a personal stand on such issues as sexual behaviour, alcohol, tobacco, and gambling — the "respectable" moral issues. On some of these issues, such as sexual behaviour and gambling, respectable society's attitudes have become less Christian, and so have ours. On others, such as alcohol and tobacco, it is ironic that as secular society has become more aware of the problems, Christians seem to have become less aware.

But there are many other matters about which we have failed to apply Christian questioning to our lifestyles. "Being His" requires, amongst other things, a critical attitude to the consumerism that dominates our culture, a redefinition of success, and an active commitment to living for peace and justice, not only in the big issues but also in every day personal relationships.

From Sunday school I absorbed the truth that things like houses and cars, consumer goods and bank accounts, work and career, can all be idols. That is easy to say, but do we let its truth affect our lifestyles?

"Being His" should also result in our giving to society positive models for ways of overcoming social breakdown. On issues like social welfare, the housing crisis, neighbourhood dispute resolution, criminal and civil justice, the Bible gives the seeds for creative thinking which would be a tangible contribution to the well-being of our society — for the praise of God.

"But," I hear, "Our task is to preach the Gospel." Of course it is! I cannot preach the Good News without calling people to repentance — a change of lifestyle. And repentance doesn't stop at the baptistry. Every part of our lives, and lifestyles, must continually be brought into the light of the Good News, because we belong to Him. Let us not let our piety be an excuse for living in the luxury of the darkness.

80th C.W.F. Conference in South Australia

The 80th Conference of S.A. Churches of Christ Women's Fellowship was held at Grote Street on May 28. Solos by Gweneth Grundy and the trio items of Robyn Griffin, Lyn Hook and Leslie Thompson provided musical inspiration. Kate Roberts led morning devotions, warning ladies to recognise Satan's influence and to resist him by being filled

with the Spirit and by wearing spiritual armour. Brian Phelps inducted Wendy Ridge as the new President, along with her new executive. Melva Philp's last presidential word was a heartfelt reiteration of her theme, "That I may know Jesus Christ", as she encouraged all ladies to hear the call of God to be women of prayer.



Wendy Ridge (President) greeting ladies.

GROWING SPIRITUALLY

Have you Left home yet?

"Home" — what a warm feeling that word invokes; comfortable, easy, no stress, no strains; a place pregnant with memories. "Home is where the heart is" and also the mind! For home can be a place on the map, as well as a way of thinking and a way of life for home is habits. Home is prejudices or presuppositions. Home is fixed ways of thinking and doing.

So I ask myself, "Have I left home yet?" Sure long ago! I left the place of my childhood, my youth, but . . . as a Christian, have I left the "home" of my old habits, my old attitudes? Do old habits rule my life now? Does my Christian commitment really alter my way of thinking and doing? Have I allowed Christ to challenge my prejudices?

You see it's easy to stay at "home", it's comfortable, secure, involves less effort. Staying at "home" means I don't have to try to understand, you see, my mind is already made up!! I don't have to think too much, struggle too much, face the pain of challenge, because I'm comfortable, thank you, just where I am. I'm watching, not participating.

Yet God says, "You are a new creation". Sounds great Lord!! Sounds fresh and exciting. Sounds like you want participators, not observers, Lord. You tell me I am free from old ways if I choose to leave them behind. You offer me freedom, freedom from habits, freedom from self, freedom to leave "home".

It's scary, Lord. It's risky. But I know it's what I want. I may be comfortable here at "home", but there is more to life — the Christian life, isn't there Lord? You've been telling me that all the time. I may be comfortable here, but I'm not "at peace".

I want to step out. To leave "home", and be challenged truly to follow you.

— Janelle Babare
(Cairns, Qld.)



Lesley Stirling with Melva Philp (outgoing President).

Pavilion of Promise

The Pavilion of Promise, the Christian presence at Brisbane's World Expo 88, has been described as the biggest Christian event in Australia's history. The co-chairman, Doug Rea, said more than 1 million people would visit the Pavilion during Expo, April-October 1988.

World Expo 88's Pavilion of Promise is an updated version of the pavilion that rated among the top attractions at Vancouver's Expo 86. The hi-tech effects are being updated and improved for the Brisbane Exposition.

The theme of the pavilion will be based around the highly acclaimed musical "The Scroll", written by Bruce Stacey and performed by the National Philharmonic Orchestra of London.

Visitors to the pavilion will first encounter a nine metre mirrored cube with a combination of light, film, lasers, sound and live action portraying the



World Expo 88

Brisbane Australia
April - October

story of creation.

The second theatre will have carefully positioned mirrored walls reflecting kaleidoscopic images which create a gigantic globe. Here, the life of Christ will be portrayed in a display of state of the art audio visual techniques.

A 300-seat outdoor amphitheatre will complete the Pavilion of Promise.

Around 640 people from all denominations will train to act as hosts and hostesses at the pavilion.

Award for Dr Geoff Hall

In the recent Australian awards announced over the Queens Birthday weekend Dr Geoff Hall, M.B., B.S., M.M.S.A., R.C.O.G., (Lond.), F.R.A.O.G. received a Medal of the Order of Australia (O.A.M.). Dr Hall's award was for service to medicine particularly for cancer detection in women. He was nominated for the award by the C.W.A. for taking his medical specialty of gynaecology into the country towns of Western Australia. Between 1952 and 1984 he held gynaecological operating sessions or Women's Cancer Clinics at 25 different centres ranging from Port Headland and Carnarvon in the North to Albany in the South.

Dr Hall has served on many of the Western Australian Conference committees and was State Conference President in 1974. He served on the



Dr Geoff Hall O.A.M.

Aborigines Mission Board for over 20 years and has served a term as the Federal Vice-President for Western Australia. Dr Hall retired in 1984 and has since that time been living in the Churches of Christ Homes Joondanna Village and attends the Wembly church.

Mr & Mrs Vic Boettcher celebrate



On May 24, around 160 relatives and friends gathered at the East Ipswich, Qld., chapel for a service of thanksgiving, followed by afternoon tea, recognising the 80th birthday of V.G. Boettcher, M.B.E. on May 23, and the 55th (Emerald) wedding anniversary of Mr and Mrs Boettcher who were married at Fernvale by the late Lars Larsen on April 16, 1932.

Ian Richer was chairman of the wedding anniversary segment of the service, and A.C.

Male, M.B.E. presided at the birthday celebration segment. Organist was Mrs Noeline Muller. Favourite Scripture readings of Mr and Mrs Boettcher were read by their daughter, Mrs Dorothy Smallwood, Barry Smallwood and N. Watson. The "Joytones" shared in their ministry of music and song.

Mrs Boettcher was unable to share in the celebrations due to her continuing ill health, but has been able to view the video

Milligan Graduate



Peter Caldicott, son of Dr and Mrs Arnold Caldicott, is pictured receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration and Business management from President Marshall Leggett. Milligan College, founded in 1881 under the leadership of Joseph Hopwood, is the oldest college and the only Christian liberal arts college serving the Christian churches/churches of Christ section of the Restoration Movement in the U.S.A. One lecturer wrote of Peter, "he has certainly represented Australia beautifully in America; and of course we have all fallen in love with the Australians."

Ron Hewitt to minister at Hawthorn

Hawthorn church in Adelaide, S.A., is delighted that Ron and Shirley Hewitt have accepted an invitation to be part of a team ministry with Robin and Glenyce Judd from February, 1988.

Ron and Shirley's move to Hawthorn is the result of the impending retirement of Harold and Joyce Long from

recorded by Graham Chalk.

Greetings on behalf of several churches were presented and by A.C. Male on behalf of the Queensland Council of Churches together with a letter of greeting from Colin Smith, Conf. Pres. in Queensland.

In 55 years of ministry with our Queensland churches, Mr and Mrs Boettcher have served with the churches at Townsville, Ma Ma Creek (five ministries), Kingaroy, Roma (two ministries), Toowoomba, Boonah, West Moreton Circuit of five churches, Rockhamp-

• Continued on page 24.



full-time ministry.

After a business career of over 20 years Ron was appointed on a full-time basis, to the position of Conference Secretary with the N.S.W. Conference.

They have previously served in team ministries at Telopea, N.S.W., followed by Eastern Suburban Region (Melbourne) and are now at the Epping, N.S.W. church.

“Singles” ministry at Warwick

Within the ministry at Warwick, W.A., there has been an increasing awareness of the need for specialised outreach to the single community of our churches. When Lyn Sara joined us in August last year we were able to develop further our work in this field.

Friendship Club:

Our Singles Friendship Club meets monthly on a Saturday night with various social activities. This group is mainly the “Over 40’s” and meets the need for friendship and outings in a non-threatening, Christian environment.

Singles Camp:

The younger singles (25-35 years) met together for a camp in April. About 40 from different churches enjoyed the weekend, being challenged by

◊ From page 1

as a Community Welfare Centre, staffed by 18 trained volunteers from the membership, working in three hour shifts, five days a week. It is a counselling centre, drop in centre and a centre for emergency relief, community information and pastoral care. It is also the home for small support groups. It works closely with state and municipal social agencies. One of the Churches of Christ retirement homes is “on campus” with the church buildings, and all but one of the “tenants” attends services.

The Sunday before we arrived 19 new members were received into fellowship. Marion’s weekly program caters for a wide variety of tastes with Bethel Bible classes, keep fit groups, bowls, crafts, “Meet ‘n’ eat” dinner, “Mostly Music” club and youth groups. There are also several Friendship Clubs for various age groups, a camera club, a women’s fellowship, and a singles group, “Southern Solos”. The whole program is based on the discovery of felt needs both in and out of the church.

speaker, Peter Stannard, and joining in the many activities. From the camp has developed a group “The Gathering” who also meet monthly.

Tennis Club:

During the Summer months our “singles” met together for tennis every Friday night at the Sorrento Tennis Club.

Singles Support:

We are developing a support group for single families. A mature married couple are asked to foster a single family. They ask the family home for meals, offer encouragement, help with odd jobs, sit with the single parent in church, etc., and generally love them. This has been greatly appreciated.

Divorced and Separated Christians Camp:

On July 24-26 we are conducting a camp for Christians who are divorced or separated. This will provide an opportunity for those working through anger, grief, loneliness and other problems associated with marriage breakup to receive help and support.

Taree’s 124th anniversary

Taree, N.S.W. church celebrated its 124th year of witness on the weekend of June 20 and 21.

The celebrations commenced with a men’s breakfast on the Saturday morning at which 50 were present. Special speaker for the weekend was Denby Holmes from the Paddington, N.S.W. church. As he was a former chaplain in the Army and a Vietnam veteran, several of his previous army acquaintances attended the breakfast.

A fellowship tea was held on Saturday night. Over 100 gathered for a further time of commitment and inspiration. Mrs Cave, wife of the Wesleyan minister, brought solos.

The communion service on

“The Continuing Church of England”

There has been consternation among Anglicans in S.A. over defections to the Church of Rome by two of its prominent priests, over authority, changes in sacramental ritual, and the ordination of women.

This concern has been aggravated by the resignation of two more priests, not to enter the Roman Catholic church, but to become part of a “break away” church, “The Continuing Church of England”.

The “Continuing Church of England” was founded by break aways from the American Episcopal church. Some English Anglicans have also threatened to join it. There are about 45,000 followers world wide. They think of the rest of the Anglican church as having

departed from the truth.

It is surprising to see such breakaways from the Anglican church as it has always been able to contain within itself a wide diversity of theological and liturgical convictions and practices. In this it has been similar to Churches of Christ, who apart from being united on the essentials pertaining to salvation, practise a wide liberty of opinion in theology and practice.

It is heartening to see in “The Adelaide Advertiser” correspondence columns, letters from ordinary Anglicans taking to task the media for blowing up out of proportion these defections, and asserting that Anglican churches are alive and well, and that this should be reported too.

National Ecumenical Church Music Committee

The National Ecumenical Church Music Committee brings together representatives from several churches twice each year, to consult on matters of mutual interest, and to support the work of A.C.O.L. (Australian Consultation on Liturgy). The Churches of Christ representation is Mrs Shirley Ludgater (Nunawading, Vic.).

At a meeting earlier this year, the Committee elected the Rev’d Dr William Jordan as its new Chairman, on the retirement of The Rev’d Canon Lawrence Bartlett, the foundation Chairman. The meeting discussed various items, including the following: Encouraging choirs — how to cope with problems of recruiting members, blending repertoire,

relationships with the other members of the congregation, etc.; Preparing guidelines for composers of liturgical music; Music for children’s worship; The use of choruses in liturgical worship; The provision of instrumental arrangements of hymns for parish use and Opportunities for movement in worship.

In addition, a paper was presented by Mrs Wendy McLean dealing with the basic questions on the role and practice of hymns in worship. The committee believes this paper, “Sing Unto the Lord”, to be a very valuable resource for churches of all denominations. This is available as a Pamphlet Club pamphlet from Mrs E.M. Rankine, 5 Atkins Ave, Glen Iris, 3146 at a cost of 50c plus postage.

Sunday was well attended and opportunity was taken by Win Murray, President of the C.W.F., to make a presentation of a cheque for a \$1,000 to the church from the C.W.F., bringing the thank offering to \$2,500. Denby Holmes addressed the church and again at the evening service, leaving us with a renewed enthusiasm to continue to work for the Lord.

More than 2,000 cases involving churches and their leaders are before US courts. Breaches of copyright and counselling confidentiality and mis-conduct by church employees are all high risk areas along with the normal run of accident claims especially those involving bus ministries.

Centenary celebrations at Horsham

On January 30, 1887, at the instigation of Home Mission Evangelist, W.D. Little, of Murtoa, six brethren broke bread in the Horsham Temperance Hall. On May 17, 1987, over 550 met to break bread at a centenary service, this time in the Horsham Town Hall.

A special feature of weekend of celebrations was the unveiling of an historical marker at the site of the former Polkemmet Church of Christ. Located 30 kms north-west of Horsham, the church was established in 1866. Not only was the church significant in the local community, but it had close ties with the younger church at Horsham. Many present members at Horsham can trace their family and spiritual roots to the Polkemmet church. The church closed in 1926 because many had left the district.

150 shared in the commemorative service on Sunday afternoon, including 10 who had been baptised in the Wimmera River beside the church. Cr. Malcom Sanders, representing the Shire of Wimmera, spoke at the ceremony, Eric Butler outlined a history of the church, and the plaque was unveiled by Horatio Butler, a former member.

The Centenary celebrations began on Saturday night when over 360 participated in a dinner in the Horsham Town Hall.



Bob Tucker, as W.D. Little, describing how he established the church at Horsham in 1887.

Clive Ward, Victoria — Tasmania Conference President, brought greetings, and Cr. Ray Pummeroy, Mayor of Horsham, welcomed guests on behalf of the City.

W.D. Little "returned" for the evening and reminisced on his experiences of the early days of the Horsham church — congratulations to Bob Tucker on his excellent dramatic presentation. Harvey Clark, present senior minister, interviewed Horatio Butler and Jack Oliver, two older members, in an 'informal chat' about their memories of the Polkemmet church.

The evening program also featured various items, reminiscences by Eric Patterson and Lyndsay Smith, former mem-

bers, and presentations were made to the oldest members and those who had travelled furthest to attend. The program was chaired by Eric Butler, Centenary Committee chairman.

During the evening a book featuring the history of the church, written jointly by Brian Brooke, Eric Butler and Harvey Clark, was sold. There was also a photographic display prepared by Peter Hanks and Max Goodman.

"Jesus, Still Lead On", was the theme for the worship service on Sunday morning. Harold Long, minister 1954-1957, was the preacher and Harvey Clark presided. Bible passages were read by Ivan Sherriff and Barry Cutchie, former members.

Mrs Beryl Carter wrote a Centenary Hymn, Mrs Karen Hinch sang during communion and a choir trained by Mrs Marion Short introduced and concluded the service.

On Sunday evening it was necessary to use closed circuit television for all to share in the gospel rally held in the church. Over 300 attended and the church only has seating for 240. Associate minister, Ian Hunt, led the service, and sang a duet with Stephen Christian. Ron Elbourne, currently ministering at Glen Waverley church, presented a challenging message. Ron grew up in Horsham, and prior to his sermon, shared memories of attending church and Explorers.

The Centenary Committee consisted of Eric Butler, Chairman, Mrs Nellie Finlayson, Secretary, Peter Finlayson, Peter and Joan Hanks, Jack Marshman, Laurie and Jan Smith and Harvey Clark.

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Peter Finlayson, Bill Marshman (from Sydney who left Horsham in 1952) and Eric Butler studying centenary book.

— Photo Courtesy "Wimmera Mail-Times"

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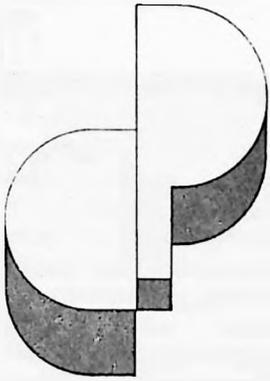


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The Letters to the Editor limit is 200 words.

7TH ASSEMBLY, W.C.C.

To the Editor,

In readiness for the 7th Assembly of the W.C.C. in Canberra, 1991, the A.C.C. has appointed its past General Secretary, Jean Skuse, as Executive Officer for the Planning Committee. Six key committees will commence early in 1988 and will offer opportunities for close involvement in the Assembly by members of our churches in the areas of education and resources, parish participation, media and publicity, Australian content and programs, finance, travel (for visitors to the Assembly).

These major planning groups will be located in either Sydney, Canberra or Melbourne.

Any one interested should write to Jean Skuse, P.O. Box C199, Clarence St, Sydney, 2000. Brief details should be given of interest, skills and experience. In due course the Department of Christian Union would like to hear from those involved with these committees.

The Assembly is likely to be held early in February 1991, and will be an opportunity for Australian Christians to meet Christians from many other countries and to engage in worship sessions and in Bible studies with them.

— David Allison
(Secretary, Department of Christian Union)

"SANITY CHRISTIANITY"!!

To the Editor,

Have you heard the new "bible" verse, "By might and by power and by my Spirit"? And the way to tell Bible stories now? "Goliath is great and David is a dud"?

If anything exposed perversions of the gospel in our neighbourhood, it was some sweet talking American muscle men, ripping Yellow Pages and snapping handcuffs "for God". Isn't it enough that today people "hit the trail to hell so fast it makes jet planes look like tortoises?" This is the so-called revival of "Sanity

Christianity".

Sorry, it is a David with a sling called conscience, and grace not grotesqueness, and sacrifice and not sensation, and charisma and not charismatic caricature, that the gospel is about. We must not mistake attention getting for action, antics for unction, commotion for creation and rattles for revival.

The whirlwind or the still small voice?

— Doug Smith
(Camp Hill, Vic.)

CHRISTIAN UNION

To the Editor,

I write to express my appreciation and to thank "the Australian Christian" for the insertion ("A.C." June 13) of Arthur Pigdon's Pamphlet Club contribution "Our Christian Union Policy is Out-dated".

I very much appreciate Arthur Pigdon's contribution to the real unity movement and especially commend him for his interpretation of Jesus' prayer for "oneness" in John 17.

I pray that the wider circulation of Arthur's pamphlet through "The Australian Christian" will lead to a better understanding and oneness in each of our congregations.

Thankyou for a temperate, constructive, thoughtful and thought provoking article . . . and for the inclusion in "The Christian".

— Harold Norris
(Aldgate, S.A.)

(We appreciate any appreciative letter, but the credit should go to the Federal Literature Department which produces the Pamphlet Club, oversees their printing at our printer's, and pays for the insertion. — Editor.)

BINNINGUP BAPTISM

To the Editor,

At 8.45 a.m. on May 17, 1987, pastor Ron Cook of the Harvey, W.A., church baptised Glen Herbert in the Indian Ocean here at Binningup fellowship. It took place in very cold water on a grey and overcast morning and curious fishermen were additional witnesses to an historic occasion.

— Maurie McCredden.
(Binningup, W.A.,)

WOMEN IN THE CHURCHES

To the Editor,

I side with Jenny Stafford ("A.C." June 13) questioning the wisdom of separate Women's Conferences. God created male and female jointly to have dominion over the earth (Gen 1:28), and to work in partnership, complementing one another because it is not good for man to be alone (Gen 2:18). Yet, in our churches segregation on a gender basis is

rampant.

Spiritual gifts are distributed by God without regard to sex, and we all aspire to the same fruits of the spirit. Why can't we work together, which is Jesus' scriptural pattern? I am always amused by the term "women's work" applied to the church, because roles allocated on the basis of gender alone always seems so totally unscriptural.

Male to male, or female to female ministry is only legitimate

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

What I learned in Church

To the Editor,

Mary is a beautiful and deeply spiritual young woman, and spends most of the spaces between items in church services with her eyes closed, deep in worship. That is why she never notices her twin boys clobbering each other. However they probably enjoy church more than if she kept her eyes open and gave them a surreptitious whack or two.

On Sunday they sat in front of us and the usual thumping match had me wondering what children learn in church. My only reference was what I learned in church when I was a child.

I learned by heart the painted texts on the wall. I learned which adults kept their eyes open during prayers. And I learned that Mr Miles wore no sox under his boots.

I also learned a great deal about Christianity, but I don't remember a single sermon. I learned what Christianity is by watching its most committed followers during worship. It had to be both true and important because these men and women looked as though it was.

Mr Johnson leaned forward as the sermon started and drank in every word. He had travelled 30 miles each way to get it. Mr Lacy looked the personification of kindness and graciousness. (I was later to learn that he was.) Mrs Pinnock was a lively mischievous person outside of church, and in church her eyes sparkled with the joy of it all as she sang. Bill Bright led his family into a large pew like an army sergeant major, strong and resolved. But I knew that his kids doted on him and he on them. Mr Fielding was an elder and also my high school teacher. He was the same in both places, honest, strong, just, and treated you like a human being, if necessary, at school, with a stick!

There were many others, and as I watched them in worship I learned what Christianity is, by absorption! Maybe that's why I am a believer now.

TERTIUS



when evangelising non-Christians. Once people are converted they should follow Christ's teaching to love one another, which means working together with people of both sexes and all races and ages, learning to pray and to grow in the faith together.

Women who accept a second-class role do so because they are still walking in the shadows. Education (even theological college) only helps if women can internalise the exciting fact that they too, are made in God's image.

By the way, aren't we long overdue for a female Conference President?

— Sue Walsh.
(Bunyip, Vic.)

CARTOON

To the Editor,

Your little cartoon ("A.C." June 13, Page 10) showing two dear "old" souls enjoying their sponge cake and drinks and at the same time wondering why the woman at another table could abuse her body by smoking, pricked my conscience!

However, may I add that whilst one is unlikely to invite her across to help eat the sponge or whatever, the two "old dears", whether they liked it or not had no alternative but to inhale the smoke of her cigarette. The smoker has an option ... the non-smoker doesn't.

— Gordon Henderson.(Nubee-na, Tas.)

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

To the Editor,

God never intended men and women to be other than equal. Gen. 1:27, "so God created human beings, making them to be like himself." In Ps. 82:6, "You are gods I said, all of you are sons of the Most High." Jesus referred to this in John 10:34. Men and women pray to our Father in heaven.

Paul is under the law in 1 Cor. 14:32-34 but in Gal. 3:23-29 says in effect, if we through faith have been born of water and the Spirit we are one in union with Christ Jesus. (I could go on but the Editor may cut to size).

Peter says to the church in 1 Peter 2:5, "Come as living stones and let yourself be used in building the spiritual temple where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus."

Congratulations to Jenny Stafford on her letter ("A.C." June 13).

— A.C. Chiswell
(St. Arnaud, Vic.)

SELF—ESTEEM

To the Editor,

Terius, I love you even if you are not "fully actualised". Your tongue-in-cheek appraisal of "the cult of self" ("A.C." June 13) that is current today cut through all the "I-Me" garbage and hit the right spot.

I know Jesus said we were "to love others as we love ourselves" (Luke 10:27), but we are spending too much time and effort on loving ourselves. No wonder many churches are not growing! It is time we took Jesus' other words seriously. He said enough about looking away from ourselves to others — there is a lost world out there!

— Graeme Bradley
(Pahran, Vic.)

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

To the Editor,

Jenny Stafford has put her finger on two very important points, and misconstrues both ("A.C." June 13). Women's Conference exists, like thousands of other "women's organisations" because the women want their own world and to run the male world as well, in line with the old saying, "What's yours is mine, and what's mine is my own".

Secondly, men in their humility wish to serve; women in their arrogance want to lead. Jesus said, "It shall not be so amongst you".

— John J. Alderson
(Havelock, Vic.)

Please
advise
change of
address

C.P.— 1000

C.P. stands for Christian Projects. It is a Trust whose aim is to assist imaginative work in Churches of Christ in Australia, that otherwise would not be able to be undertaken.

Well Known

C.P. is well known for its financial backing of the annual Australian Christian Foundation Scholarship which has sent 10 of our ministers overseas for further training.

It is also well known for its setting up and support for the Institute of Continuing Education for Ministry (I.C.E.M.), an in-service training program for ministers, in each State.

Three Year Program

Christian Projects now has sufficient accumulated capital to use income for a three year C.P.— 1000 program. (See advertisement elsewhere in this issue). The aim is to help local churches in programs of outreach, evangelism, community service, leadership training and caring, to the tune of \$1000 per week.

Any Church

Any Church of Christ in Australia can present a program and seek support for it.

Applications for such things as

In the US the US Patent and Trademark Office announced that new forms of animal life created through gene splicing could be patented. Gene splicing involves transplanting genes from different species into the embryos of livestock and other animals. The new policy was opposed by animal welfare groups. The new policy bars the patenting of genetic characteristics in humans.

Dissidents of the hard right in the Dutch Reformed Church decided in June to break away and form a whites-only Afrikaans Reformed Church in South Africa. It is believed that about 4,000 dissenters have formed the new church. The move follows acceptance by the Dutch Reformed Church Synod of a report which made it clear that the church should be open to all races and that some aspects of apartheid were a sin.

buildings, routine equipment, church furniture or servicing church debts are not what C.P. has in mind. For instance an application for the renewal of hymnals would not be appropriate, but one to set up a youth band or orchestra for youth outreach may be.

Imagination

Churches with imagination, vision and an understanding of community needs will know what to apply for. Here are a few ideas for starters. Leaders could be assisted to participate in one of the many training courses offered round Australia from time to time. An expert could be brought in to work with a church for a period helping it to streamline its programs and map out its mission. An imaginative mission program that involves the whole congregation in reaching new people could be a winner, as could an imaginative "making-your-church-visible" project.

More Ideas

Two or three small churches near each other might engage a consultant to show them ways of pooling human, financial and property resources in ways that make them more effective in work and witness. Setting up such things as adult day care centres, friendship centres, and other community outreach groups could qualify for help.

Leadership Help

A church might apply for help to send one or two leaders to spend a couple of weeks working with one of the increasing number of rapidly growing churches for an on-the-spot acquiring of know-how. Helping migrants with language classes, care groups and worship facilities could be workable in some places.

C.P. Trustees do not propose to use income from capital irresponsibly. They will want applications that have been well researched, with details of what is proposed, and carefully costed. Naturally they will expect reports on the completion of projects.

Unique

Nothing quite like this has happened to our churches across Australia before. The Lord has called us into the world to evangelise and to serve. C.P.— 1000 will help imaginative churches to do just that. No doubt C.P.— 1000 will be on the next agenda of visionary church boards.

BOOKS

PERSUASIVE PREACHING

by Ronald E. Sleeth (Andrews University Press)

Ronald Sleeth's book, "Persuasive Preaching", is an appropriation of the science of communication to the art of preaching.

Dr Sleeth confronts the question of the propriety of persuasive techniques in the pulpit and concludes that "... the factors of persuasion are the very factors which help the preacher most effectively to communicate with the audience and there is certainly nothing unethical about good communication." He analyses the dynamics of persuasion noting that "... one of the most persuasive factors in a sermon is the character of the preacher." He insists "... there is an ineffable quality in preaching which ... is largely determined by the spiritual life of the preacher."

Concerned that many preachers wrongly equate a congregation's presence with its attention, Dr Sleeth enumerates various means of gaining and maintaining attention. Questions, suspense, and humor are among those listed.

Cognizant of the negative association of the use of emotion in preaching, Sleeth contends that differentiation is needed between emotion and emotionalism, and between sentiment and sentimentality.

Attention is given to the impact of language upon communication.

The author is critical of the lack of emphasis upon communication in the typical seminary program and how many preachers have had to acquire their skill independently. Some illusion is made to technical dimensions of delivery but the most striking aspect of the chapter is the differentiation made between impromptu and extemporaneous preaching.

Ronald Sleeth has made a valuable contribution in this book. While not earth-shattering, it is particularly noteworthy because few volumes address the subject considered. "Persuasive Preaching" deserves the new life given to it in this 1981 reprinting.

— Garry Morris

JOINING THE CONVERSATION

Jesus, Mathew, Luke & us

by Barbara Hall (Cowley)

"Joining the Conversation" is described as a model for conducting group Bible studies in a new, challenging way. The method relies not only on an awareness of biblical scholarship, but it also demands that participants in Bible studies join in conversation with the text.

In this particular study Barbara Hall, Professor of New Testament at General Theological Seminary, New York, closely examines the parable of the Great Feast as recorded in Matthew 22:1-14 and Luke 14:15-24. She adopts an approach of examining the various layers in the development of different stories and of the reasons for the slight differences in each level. She also raises questions at each step in the implications that the new emphasis has for the Christian reader today.

I had some difficulty in following some of her arguments especially as at one stage she appeared to be arguing that Matthew was anti-Semitic where as my understanding is that he is the most Jewish in emphasis of all the Gospel writers. The book as it is would not be suitable for a group study but would be stimulating for ministers and students in understanding the importance of the various segments of the gospel in their context and also relating the biblical material to faith today.

This book is available through the Australian distributors: Phone (07) 265.5044.

— C.R.A.

LISTEN TO THE SPIRIT

in Australia and New Zealand today

edited by Patricia Baker (The Joint Board of Christian Education)\$4.95.

In this booklet six Christians from different traditions from around Australia and New Zealand talk about "what the Spirit of God is saying to Christians in this country today." Arthur Jackson, a retired United Church minister, sets the scene with a commentary on the experience of the Holy Spirit felt by the early Christians. Gordon Moyes calls on the Australian church to recognise the secularism around us and apply the gospel relevantly to this situation. Dorothy McMahon, a minister in Pitt St, Sydney, looks at the Spirit in relation to her ministry with prostitutes and alcoholics. John Smith, God Squad evangelist, appeals to the reader to allow the Spirit to lead

us into non-conformity and into engagement with a younger generation of Australians. Susan Adams, a New Zealand Anglican priest, reflects on the Spirit's involvement on the changes threatened by recognition of women in the church. The final comment is by Aboriginal minister Djinyini Gondarra who reflects on the movement of the Spirit among his people and the impact this could have on all Australians.

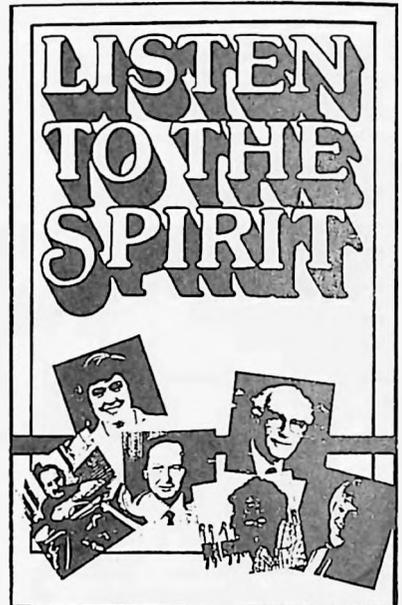
There are a series of discussions questions provided for each of the authors which would be extremely useful in a group situation. This book should help us all think through the issues facing the church today and the power of God that is available to Christians through the Holy Spirit.

FOOLISHNESS TO THE GREEKS

by Lesslie Newbigin (WCC Mission Series)

This 150 page paperback is by long serving missionary statesman and Bible teacher, Lesslie Newbigin. In his work in India he had to discover ways of interpreting the Christian faith to the various cultures there. His book sets out to do a similar thing, to help the Christian church to interpret the faith to the Western rationalistic, secular society, especially in the realms of science and political philosophy, the latter in relation to the claims of both Capitalism and Communism. The book comes to terms with the fact that the Western World is no longer Christian and is indeed a mission field. Some backgrounds in philosophy, science and theology would be a help in reading this book, but it is commended to the serious reader, especially students of missiology.

— G.R.S.



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The Story of Stiven

— Aileen Draney, (Yamen, Papua New Guinea)



Stiven and family.

In 1981 Stiven Namgori and his family came to the Bible School at Gokto. They had come from the church at Litibu about four hours' walk from Gokto.

Stiven had the bare basics as far as reading and writing were concerned. There is no way he could be called a student but rather he was a plodder who felt that God wanted him to be at Bible School.

Litibu was an area away from regular missionary contact and there was no strong leadership within the church. There was also an active cargo cult in that area at that time.

God worked in Stiven's life and he returned to Litibu after graduation. The going has not been easy for him and many times he has wanted to give up. He hasn't done this but has remained faithful and kept on sharing his faith to the best of his ability.

Material rewards have been very few and this has produced tensions especially as the children have reached school age and the family has increased.

Stiven's faithfulness has been rewarded and now others at Litibu have that same assurance that comes from faith in Jesus Christ. The word of God has not returned void but accomplished that for which he sent it out.

Despair and Empowerment

A Spiritual retreat

There are many within Churches of Christ who are concerned about the issues of peace and justice. This concern is an integral part of their Christian faith. However, there are times when they feel isolated and frustrated as they seek

Things are happening at Londua

— Kerry Schulz, (Nduindui, Ambae Island, Vanuatu)

Things are happening this year at Londua Training School on West Ambae, as far as progress goes. A new staff house, a new boy's dormitory, and a new headmaster.

Luke Garae is the new headmaster. He has previously had 13 years' experience as headmaster at a primary school on East Ambae and has had two years formal teachers' training in Vila. He and his wife Ester will take up residence at the school later this month, in the new staff house, currently being constructed under the supervision of Ron Bergman

to grapple with these matters.

The Social Justice Committee of South Australia is, in response to these concerns, organising a spiritual retreat. They believe that there is a great need to tap into the spiritual dimension if our work for peace and justice is to be nourished and guided.

The purpose of the retreat is to create an environment in which a community of Christi-

ans can discover new spiritual resources and insights.

The retreat is being held over the weekend of September 18-20 at Retreat House, Belair. Application forms can be obtained from Steve Ogden, 244 Military Rd., Semaphore 5019. Phone (08) 49 6754.



Kerry Schulz.

from New Zealand. Luke's strong Christian commitment and previous experience should make a better school for all.

The new boys' dormitory was opened after a three hour ceremony in April. It was needed badly as some boys were sleeping on the floor. Peter and his students built many beds with bamboo mattresses for the new dormitory.

Both buildings were built by local people. Peter and his students have also built a new kitchen and breadoven for the school which have now been put to good use.

The local people and staff here are very grateful for the strong support of many churches in Australia and they would like to extend their sincere thanks. Everything to them is a gift from God, so they continually thank God for your support.

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JULY 12, 1987

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7.00 p.m.

— Preacher: Mr Allan Webb
— Preacher: Mr Alan Baker

JULY 19, 1987

9.00 a.m. & 11 a.m.
7.00 p.m.

— Evangelistic Weekend
with Jonathan James

JULY 26, 1987

9.00 a.m. & 11.00 a.m.
6.30 p.m.

— Preacher: Mr Peter Wakeley
— James Dobson's Film Series
on "Turn Your Heart Toward
Home"

MINISTRY TEAM: ALLAN WEBB, ALAN BAKER, PETER WAKELEY

According to a recent Gallup Poll of the top 10 leaders most admired by Americans, half are church leaders. The five church leaders are Pope John Paul II, Baptist minister/politician Jesse Jackson, Billy Graham, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Anglican hostage negotiator Terry Waite. President Reagan led the rankings followed by auto magnate Lee Iacocca. Others in the top 10 were former President Jimmy Carter, Senator Edward Kennedy and Vice-President George Bush.

There are about 54 million Methodists around the world today — an increase of almost 5% from 1981. On a regional basis the largest gains reported were in Africa up almost 23% to 326,677 members. In contrast the Pacific region churches dropped 21% to a total of 743,788 members.

According to Open Doors, at the beginning of January there were 305 Russian Christians recorded as being held in prison because of activities relating to their Christian faith in March that number had increased to 319.

Australian Rotary Clubs are joining forces with over 20,000 Rotary Clubs in 160 countries to embark on their most ambitious project to date. The project, entitled "Polio Plus", involves administering the children of the world, with the polio vaccine and thus eliminating the disease. The intention is to achieve this result by the year 2005 — Rotary's Centenary year.

The 19 district bishops of the American Lutheran Church have issued "guidelines for dealing with marital crisis among clergy", a revision of 1976 guidelines. Previously, whether a pastor resigned from his or her post in case of separation or divorce was left to the bishop's discretion. Now, pastors are instructed to offer their resignations when a divorce action is filed. The document includes guidance for

different degrees of marital distress — normal difficulty, significant discord, separation &/or filing for divorce, divorce, singleness, & considering a new marriage.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, speaking in Zambia, has said that while he supports the Africa National Congress he does not support the armed struggle in which they are engaged.

The Methodist Church, in the United Kingdom, may be moving towards revising its 50-year-old anti-gambling stance.

It is reported from Uganda that the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Northern Uganda, the Rt. Rev Gideon Obama, has lost a son and daughter and another relative in an armed attack on the church compound.

More than 100 special services across the city of Frankfurt, in both Protestant and Catholic churches, launched the 1987 German Protestant Kirchentag (Church Week) congress. Kirchentag 87 is being thronged by an estimated 150,000 many of them teenagers and young adults.

A Middle East newspaper has reported that Terry Waite, the special envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury, has twice been taken to Iran for discussions with the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament. Other sources deny this story. However these reports give confidence that Terry Waite is still alive.

The British Methodist Home Mission Division is encouraging development of "house congregations", which will worship in homes, not own property, but will be under the care of a class-leader from a regular congregation in the circuit.

While Latin America recently held an International Week of the Disappeared, the "crazy women" of Argentina recently marked their 10th an-

iversary. It was an anniversary that all would rather had not occurred, as the mothers and grandmothers of the Plaza De Mayo only came together through the mass disappearances of their family members. They could celebrate though, their success in drawing worldwide attention to their cause and putting immense pressure on the military leaders who had taken their children and called the women "crazy".

By the year 2000, 34% of the world's population will call themselves Christian, with the majority of them living in cities. The predictions, released by the International Bulletin of Missionary Research, indicate that the Christian share of the world will have changed little during this century. The biggest increase in religious denominations during the 1900's will be in the Catholic group, which made up about 48% of the world's Christians in 1900, and will represent about 54% in year 2000.

After what was called "a long and partly bitter campaign", priests of the (Lutheran) Church of Sweden are guaranteed a 40 hour week, with overtime for hours worked beyond that. That decision should increase priest's salaries by 10-12%.

Drought in Somalia has claimed the lives of at least 270 in the hardest-hit area of Galguduug region, where up to 70% of local animals have also died. The increasingly severe lack of water has parched nomadic grazing grounds in parts of the east African nation, for almost three years.

Recent prison sentences handed down to 48 followers of the Bahai faith in Egypt have raised fears that severe persecution of the tiny religious group may extend beyond Iran, where the group has faced widely publicised executions and torture in recent years.

Burundi's Catholic bishops have joined hands with the outlawed Seventh Day Adventist Church in seeking dialogue with the government on church-state tensions. Among the problems to come up for discussion will be the imprisonment of three Catholic priests without charge or trial since September last year.

Although some 60% of all homicide victims in the US are black, 84% of inmates currently on death row have been convicted of killing whites.

The South Australian Churches of Christ Basketball Association is holding a combined church service on July 26 at the Nailsworth church at 7 p.m. Guest speaker is Rod Hook, former District cricketer and "Nexus" is the featured group.

Conservative estimates indicate that, in the US, 20-30 million live in substandard housing or have no housing at all.

Ewie Walker, an Australian Aboriginal woman, born on Palm Island, North Queensland, is in Singapore at the Haggai Institute for Leadership Training teaching women leaders from around the world how to teach children. This is the 5th year that she has lectured.

The Queensland Home Missions Committee is sponsoring a seminar on "The Prevention and Resolution of Conflict" at Kenmore Christian College on July 25 at 1.30 p.m. Don Stewart, the Qld Social Service Director will be leading the seminar. Seminar costs are \$5 which includes tea.

By the time that they graduate from High School the average US child will have watched about 200,000 commercials on television and even more murders.

A Twin Otter aeroplane operated by Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF) crashed in Irian Jaya, Indonesia, on May 25 killing 4 children and 2 adult passengers and its pilot

Gary Willems, a Canadian. Two other children were in a critical condition with one dying later. The passengers were families of Bible School students being flown home from a mission operated school.

A day seminar with church leaders from the Middle East is being held by the Victorian Council of Churches on July 18 at St Stephen's Anglican Church, 360 Church St, Richmond, 10 a.m. — 4 p.m. Cost is \$10 including a light lunch. The seminar is titled "The Witness of the Churches in the Middle East". Enquiries on (03) 614.4920.

Nearly half of all Swedish couples are unmarried and 75% of children are born out of wedlock.

The founder of Christian Women Communicating International (formerly Christian Women's Conventions International), Mrs Grace Collins, of Castle Hill, NSW, was honoured as a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Large projects financed by the World Bank in the Third World countries, especially Africa, are wreaking havoc on the environment and displacing thousands of people according to a report by Survival International, a London based human rights group.

More than 4,000 made Christian commitments during a 2 week African Enterprise mission in Lilongwe, the capital city of Malawi in Central Africa, in the last 2 weeks of May. There were 51 Muslims among the converts. Among the team members from 8 countries was David and Ann Hewetson. David Hewetson is the Anglican rector of Turramurra, N.S.W.

A Protestant church journal in East Germany has criticised the increase in the number of abortions performed in that country, totally nearly 90,000 last year.

The Lord's Prayer (5)

OUR DAILY BREAD

“Give us today our daily bread”

I remember as a boy, briefly questioning this petition in the Lord's Prayer. Obviously my parents fed me. But what does God have to do with the packaged bread that comes to my table? One does not have far to go back behind the pre-cut loaf to the mill and the fields and sun and rain and soil and the mechanics of growth to find the Creator of the whole scheme of things.

Daily Bread

We are so affluent that it is not easy for us to see the significance of this petition to those who first prayed it. The word “daily” was important to them. Most of them were only days away from possible starvation. All that they earned went immediately into food. Each harvest only provided enough until the next, if it was a good harvest.

My recent visit to India underlined for me the meaning of “Daily bread”. Here were a poor but happy people wrestling with the problem of keeping their families alive, and with great ingenuity succeeding, as long as the Monsoon came regularly. But when it failed their small storages of food and their sources of income were soon used up. They live literally by the day. They know what it means to pray for “daily” bread.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

By contrast we are elaborately cushioned against poverty by such things as job security, pensions, sickness and unemployment benefits, and a whole range of social welfare. For us the prayer for daily bread is more a prayer of gratitude and an acknowledgement that back behind what we so easily take for granted is the Creator himself. In the prayer we thank him for providing in the scheme of things, seed time and harvest, the brains to make the best of it all in irrigation, conservation, trade and commerce, and the possibility of having nourishment with taste, and the taste buds to respond. We thank him for a world splashed with colour and infinite variety to add spice to life. As George Buttrick has said, “We live in a vast **givenness.**”

Our Daily Bread

But notice that the prayer is not the personal give “me” this day “my” daily bread. In the plural pronouns “us” and “our” we are praying for the material welfare of everybody we can reach. We are all responsible to God to see that his provisions are fairly distributed.

I once saw a cartoon depicting a middle class family gathered round the Christmas dinner table. Outside the window could be seen stretching to infinity faces of the hungry poor. The head of the family was saying, “Shall we say grace?” The caption was, “Give us this day our daily bread”.

There is enough on the world table for everyone to have a fair share. Surely then, those around the table should be willing to pass the bread to each other. Yet what do we find? in a hungry world the wealthy nations are in cut throat competition with one another, using the weapon of subsidies, to get rid of their mountains of surplus food.

A Political Prayer

“Give us today our daily bread” is a political prayer. We can only do so much in providing food parcels and in giving to the great welfare organisations such as Christmas Bowl, C.O.C.O.A. and World Vision. In a sense these are band-aid treatments for the greater disease caused by the failure of the nations to distribute fairly what God has provided. The prayer is a prayer for justice and that depends on politicians and the people who put them there. God spoke to his people through Amos and Isaiah in such situations and speaks to us now through this prayer for daily bread for all of the people.

So God gives us Australians our daily bread, packaged and ready to use in a variety of ways, and that is just for “afters”, when we have gorged ourselves. Yet we Australians are chronic grumblers about our lot. Our inevitable response to the greeting, “How are you?” is the dismal “Not too bad”. Our Father has given us our daily bread, with soup, choice cuts and sweets thrown in, and we still grumble for more.

A Guide for Prayer

The petition for daily bread indicates God's concern for our material as well as our spiritual well-being. But in our prayers for material things the Lord's Prayer is a guide. Many of our prayers are like shopping lists or letters to Santa, with only brief incidental references to the wide world and our own spiritual needs. In the Lord's Prayer, as well as prayer for daily bread (for everybody!), there is prayer for a reverent spirit, prayer for the Kingdom, prayer for forgiveness, prayer for victory in our spiritual warfare, and prayer acknowledging the glory of God. It is in that setting that we bring our material needs to God.

Faculty developments at Kenmore

Recognising that a College is only as strong as its faculty, Kenmore Christian College has encouraged its faculty members to upgrade their qualifications, and thereby improve the quality of their teaching. This principle has produced a number of changes in the faculty at Kenmore.

In 1983 Jan Christensen discontinued her teaching at Kenmore in order to undertake further studies at the Emmanuel School of Religion, Johnson City, Tennessee. She returned to Australia to resume teaching at Kenmore in 1986, while still working on her Masters' thesis. Jan has now completed her thesis and has been awarded the degree of Master of Divinity in Honours. Jan's expertise has greatly strengthened the College's teaching, particularly in the field of missions.

Dennis Helsabeck has been a valued member of the College faculty for the past three years. Dennis has been our "history man", and has given the subject of history, particularly Restoration History, a whole new boost since his coming among us. However, in order to pursue doctoral studies in the United States, Dennis concluded his teaching with the College at the end of first semester. He returned to the United States on June 26.

Graham Warne has been teaching at Kenmore for four years, and has been recently appointed Vice-Principal. During this time he has been engaged in part-time studies with the University of Queensland leading towards a Master of Arts degree. At the present time he is working on his thesis, in the area of Hellenistic Judaism. In order to complete this work, the College Board has granted Graham study leave for the second semester, 1988.

Randall Edwards, the Principal, has also indicated that he desires to upgrade his qualifications. He has therefore resigned as Principal of the College,

effective from the end of 1988, in order that he might pursue doctoral studies. At the present time it is anticipated that these studies will be undertaken within Australia. Randy's contribution to the College has been inestimable, and his leaving will be a great loss. However, the College Board is fully supportive of his need to upgrade his qualification, and anticipates that he will return to the faculty on completion of his degree.

The College Board has also been pleased to announce the appointment of Rod Tippett to the faculty. Rod will commence with the College on a part-time basis early in 1988. On completion of his period of service with the Army, where he has been serving as Chaplain, he will become full-time with the College, mid-1989. Rod is also working on his Masters' Degree, in the area of Australian culture and history. His particular area of responsibility within the College will be the supervision of Field Education.

With the advent of a new curriculum, and with improved faculty qualifications, the College is confident of being able to offer training of the highest quality.

Minister on Campus

Tim Hanna was Carlingford College's first "Minister on Campus". He came from his ministry at Kalamunda in Perth, W.A., to preach at College worship, to teach the Practical Church Work and Field Education classes and to share his spiritual development with students. During the four day visit Tim also had the opportunity to share informally with, and thus to encourage many of our students, including Kim Roberts who is a first year student from Kalamunda.

Carlingford College has invited ministers from around Australia to help to train people for

B.E.M. award to Mrs Mary Bade

In the recent Queen's Birthday honours awards for Queensland Mrs Mary Bade was awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) for her "behind the scenes" work for many organisations. Mary Bade is a member of the Harlaxton, Toowoomba church and when we telephoned her she paid special tribute to her late husband A.W. (Bert) Bade for his willing support over their 53 years of married life together. Mr Bade died just six months ago and it was his assistance that enabled Mrs Bade to be involved in so many community and church activities.

Mrs Mary Bade has been the catering convener for the annual musicale of the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers for nearly 30 years.

As an executive member of the Toowoomba branch of the Bible Society she has served for 13 years as convener of the youth auxiliary.

She was a pioneer board member of the Churches of Christ Mylo Home for the Aged, was involved for over 10 years with the International Christian Women's Convention; gave four years to the Lifeline Ladies' Auxiliary; was a deaconess for 14 years at the Margaret St church and served 27 years as



Mrs Mary Bade, B.E.M. the Secretary of the Christian Women's Fellowship; was caterer for the Men's Fellowship for 14 years and was Christian Endeavour Superintendent for six years.

Mr and Mrs Bert Bade's son, Captain Kenneth Bade, was the first Australian officer to be killed on active service in Vietnam.

In an article in "The Toowoomba Chronicle" the comment is made "women such as Mrs Bade did not ask for accolades and seldom received the recognition or appreciation they deserved".



Tim Hanna. contemporary ministry. The "Minister on Campus" pro-

gram will see an invited guest minister at College every third week of the college year. A wide variety of contexts will be included, eg. team leaders, associates, inner urban ministries, g.p. ministries etc.

Ministers have indicated their willingness to be involved either this year or next year and students have readily accepted the qualification of ministers who are doing the job well to come to College and teach.

Sociologists in the US estimate that half of the marriages begun this year will end in divorce, with 6 out of every 10 children spending part of their childhood in a single parent family.

"Baptism of Fire"

The Uniting Church of Australia has just celebrated the first 10 years of its history. To mark the occasion they have published an easy to read, hard to put down, anecdotal history, written by journalist John Harrison called "Baptism of Fire" which sells for \$9.75.

Of interest to Victorians is that their present State Governor Dr Davis McCaughey was the first Moderator of the new church, and was also the architect of its "Basis of Union".

While the coming together of three strong historic traditions into one church created some pain and turmoil, it provided many exciting new ways of expressing the faith and life and worship of the church. To read of some of these is to stimulate our thinking concerning future directions in our own churches.

One of the biggest issues that the U.C.A. has had to face and is still facing is the question, "Who speaks for the church?", the Assembly, one or more of its Commissions, the synods, or the local congregations? The forthright stand of some of the leadership on matters of social justice, Aboriginal welfare, human rights and national morality, away ahead of where many members are in their thinking, has caused some turmoil in and out of the church. Whatever our view of church and community relationships, this story should be read as we all seek the will of the Lord on such matters.

One interesting story is the way in which the U.C.A. has used its surplus properties, as well as the way in which they have had trouble liquidating their older assets because of their heritage listings. Another is the setting up within the U.C.A. of the Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress in which Aboriginals look after the life and mission of the Uniting Church with and to Aboriginals. It is a direct result of the revival that swept across Arnhem Land and other parts of Australia.

The book refers to the debate on "re-baptism", and also to

U.C.A. conversations and co-operation with Churches of Christ. The general opinion in the U.C.A. seems to be that any union with other denominations is likely to be a very "long way down the track". It sees its future more in unity than union, and in expressing its life in fellowship with all other Christian traditions.

There are many stimulating quotes in the book, one of them by David Gill: "Australian churches reflect our society's deep ambivalence towards leadership. We know we need it. We wish we didn't. We are suspicious when it is given and we are disorientated when it is withheld".

Churches of Christ have been advocating Christian union for 180 years, and during that time have only consummated the union of two bodies . . . Stone's Christians and Campbell's Disciples . . . back in 1832. We still plead for the unity of the Body of Christ. Here is the story of some Australian Christians who attempted just that!

— G.R.S.

Celebrating 100 years at Footscray

Our Christian Women's Fellowship is now taking photographs at Footscray, Vic.! We realise their value after much searching for material from the past.

On May 12 100 joined in a service of worship and thanksgiving for 100 years of women's work at Footscray.



Some of those present at Footscray C.W.F.'s Centenary celebrations

New Premises for Caboolture

A new phase in the life and witness of the Caboolture, Qld., church has been made possible by the purchase of a church property. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is to relocate and its property has been purchased to provide the Church of Christ with a new centre.

The first service in the new property was conducted on June 14. Until December the Church of Christ will share facilities with the S.D.A. church by which time their new premises should be available.

The new worship centre in Valley Drive, Caboolture is situated 2 kms west of the Shire Offices. The new complex comprises a worship centre, hall and two Kindergarten rooms. The grounds also contain a wooded area that is suitable for

barbeques and for use by study groups. The property cost \$55,000 including fittings and pews to seat 96, carpeting and ceiling fans.

It is anticipated that renovations will be conducted after the S.D.A. church vacates and these should be completed by the official opening which is planned for March 1988.

There are currently 24 members of the Caboolture church with a Sunday School of 20 children. Les Armstrong is providing a part-time ministry with the assistance of Kenmore student Ian Todd.

Caboolture is a rapidly developing satellite city of Brisbane serviced by an electric rail service and is close to Brisbane island and the Sunshine Coast.

— Mrs B. Cook.

In a segment entitled "Have times really changed" present members read excerpts from past records including "The Australian Christian Standard" dated May 1888 and June 1, 1889.

Phyl Davis, President of C.W.F. Vic.-Tas., was guest speaker and was able to recall her past associations with Footscray. Soloist was Vere Stewart from Thornbury with accompanist Joan Humphries.

Several former presidents brought reminiscences of times shared, both of blessing and comical.

In conclusion it was noted that from the humble beginnings of the first Victorian Sisters' Conference held in Lygon St chapel April 24, 1886 at which

Caroline Schofield from Footscray was a delegate, over 300 women attended C.W.F. Conference at Wesley Church Melbourne on April 30 1987.

The minister Dan Lundgren closed the meeting in prayer after commenting on the value of our women's work "We love 'em all".

— Thelma Waters

• from page 28 with local churches and increase the relevance of the College program for educating future ministers. They provide a range of study possibilities for church workers for the future.

When the Board meeting concluded there was considerable enthusiasm because it was obvious that the College of the Bible has a clarity of vision and that it will be able to claim that vision with competence through an excellent faculty led by the Principal Dr W. Tabbernee and an exciting new complex of buildings on the Mulgrave Campus.

In Canada the divorce rate doubled between 1972 and 1982 and now 40% of marriages end in divorce.

BIRTHS

DOBIE (LUNN) Beverley and Stephen lovingly welcome their little son Jared Blake born on 23rd May, 1987.

LAIRD(McFARLANE). Rob and Kerrie are happy to announce the safe arrival of Benjamin Robert, brother for Jessica, on June 20th, 1987. We thank God for our beautiful boy.

McLEAN (CARTER). Loris and Geoff give thanks to God for the safe arrival of Damien Maxwell, on 16th June 1987 at Mercy Maternity Hospital.

45TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

STEVENS Julie, Anne, Philip and Michael and families are happy to announce the 45th Wedding Anniversary of their parents Ern and Jan Stevens. Married at Church of Christ, Invermay, Tas., 11.7.42. Present address — 9/12 Phillis Terrace, Peterhead, S.A. 5016.

DEATHS

HARTAM, Darrell Raymond, suddenly on June 19, 1987 to Royal Hobart Hospital, loved and loving husband of Dorothy, beloved father of Peter and Kaye, Adrienne and Drew, Merran and Lloyd, loved Pop of Lisa, Danielle and Justine Harram, Jay and Ben Woolley and Samuel Parker. Loving and loved son-in-law of Dorothy and Les Armstrong, formerly Melbourne, brother-in-law of Leslie and Dorothy Armstrong, Brisbane.

MUDFORD (BINGHAM). Isabel Margaret on June 24th. In her 87th year. Loved wife of the late Archie Mudford and the late Craig Bingham. Much loved mother of Beth (dec.), Craig and Karlie. Grandmother of John, Dale, Rosalie, Stephen, and Lynn. Great grandmother of Jamie, Michael, Ben, Beth, Dean, Glen, Andrew, Elizabeth, Shane, Paul, Celeste and Michael. Safe in the arms of the Jesus.

YOUNG Robert William John. On June 14, late of 28 Ocean Ave., Port Lincoln. Aged 83. Loved and loving husband of Mary. Loved father and father-in-law of John and Marj, Jean and Graham, David and Lynda. Dear Grandpa of 14 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren. Psalm 37:23.

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Church groups join Fast Train

Young members of Melbourne's Christian community were among the 40 people who travelled on the special World Vision 40 Hour Famine train recently.

Representatives from Syndal, Beaumaris, Surrey Hills and North Blackburn Baptist youth groups as well as members of the Immanuel Fellowship and Greensborough Church of Christ travelled for 40 hours without food on Melbourne trains.

The 40 Hour Famine Flier carriage and its cargo of 40 fasters proved to be a great success wherever they went, travelling non-stop all around the suburbs.

Inspiration for the 40 Hour Famine-on-rails came from the southern African country of Mozambique, where thousands of hungry people displaced by the war are living in abandoned rail cars. World Vision is working in these railcar refugee camps and Mozambique, with 4.5 million now facing starvation there, was the main focus for this year's 40 Hour Famine.

The Victorian Famine Flier left Flinders Street station at 8 p.m. on June 12 and it was a weary, but happy bunch of fasters who pulled into a plat-

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Members of the Greensborough, Vic., youth group enjoying their time on the Famine Train.

form of hamburgers on June 14 at noon. The 40 who spent the whole time on the trains were sponsored for each hour they went without food.

The local 40 Hour Famine

participants were among about 400,000 Australians who took part in World Vision's major fundraising event this year, and are expected to raise more than \$5.25 million.

Crafty people

Teachers from the Brighton, S.A., Friendship Centre travelled 3½ hours north at the end of April to share their craft skills with the rural community of Melrose.

17 (12 teachers and five husbands) either towed caravans or hired them on site. In the Melrose Institute they set up their "shop" of laces, ribbons and craft supplies and commenced classes. From the evening of April 29 through to the evening of the next day there were five 2½ hour sessions, in which 15 different crafts were taught to local residents.

With the permission of the District Council the visitors planted a wattle tree in "Paradise Square" to commemorate their visit.

Six weeks before an advance party placed in a vacant shop window a display of the articles to be taught. Posters and enrolment forms were left at various places.

The team returned to Adelaide feeling that they had added something of human value to the rural community. Later a letter and a greeting card arrived from the Melrose and district people with comments like "Fantastic! — come again".



Joan Moore instructing Melrose resident.



Growth at Aldgate Valley/ Mount Barker

After many years of part-time and full-time ministries which built up the spiritual and worship life of the church at Aldgate Valley, S.A., it is pleasing to see a "harvest of people gathered in" as many have committed their lives to the Lord.



John Gilmore.



New Kalgoorlie Complex

Pictured above is the new complex of the Kalgoorlie, W.A., church which was opened recently.

The new ministry of John and Vicki Gilmore commenced early this year. It is felt strongly by all in the church that God has put his seal on their ministry in a remarkable way. Recently at Sunday services adults and teens have been committing their lives to Christ. At Aldgate Valley, with frequent baptismal services being held, many of the adults who have made commitments have

been introduced to the church and their "commitment responsibilities" through Bible study/coffee fellowships in homes.

John's untiring effort in leading Bible study groups, discipleship classes for teens and spiritual counselling has been much appreciated.

The small, new Mount Barker House Fellowship is also achieving spiritual growth and it was a thrilling experience to receive their first rededication recently.

To date this year nine have made confessions of faith or rededications. Several families have also moved into the

district and become part of the church.

Aldgate Valley completes 100 years of witness next year. The slogan for those celebrations will be "now for the next 100". The centenary year promises to be one of great growth and outreach in the Adelaide Hills area.

— Ray Caudle.

(Attention "Old Aldgaters"! If you wish to be part of the centenary next year send your name and address to the Secretary T. Ellis, 8 The Vines Court, Aldgate Valley 5154.)

Christees

Starting at the top left hand corner readers have to create words from those on the panel. Each word must start after the preceding word. All words must be found in a recognised version of the Bible. Words to be created moving from left to right in each line. Words may continue over more than one line.

Scoring: Each letter of word 1 scores 1 point each, each letter of word 2 scores 2 points and so on until all letters are used. All unused letters are subtracted from the total at the value of the word that they follow.

This particular example has a value of 100 points if one set of words is used. We offer a book prize to the reader who comes up with the highest point value by July 31. All entries to the competition to be sent to "The Australian Christian", P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, 3041.

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Obituaries limited to 100 words.

COLLINS, Ivan Henry

(11.5.87). Ivan Henry Collins was born in Beulah in 1913 where he spent the early part of his life. While still young he and his family moved to Beaufort and then to Ballarat where Ivan spent the next 50 years of his life. He attended the Baptist church and then married his wife Cora on April 12, 1941. Soon after that day Ivan became a member of the Church of Christ in Dawson Street, but spent most of his church life at Mt. Clear. Ivan was the treasurer for some 20 years and was a loyal and faithful doorman in God's house. His loyalty and faithfulness extended to his employment in the railways where he spent 47 years. On May 10, after the last evening service in the Mt. Clear chapel, Ivan took ill and died early the next morning. He is survived by his wife Cora and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

— Philip Stevens

DAVERN, Kenneth James.

(4.6.87). Aged 24, Ken, an asthmatic, suffered a coronary and was "called home". Baptised by Peter DeWildt, he was a quiet, unassuming deeply committed Christian, loved by all, especially the children and older people who were his great interest. Commencing a course at the W.E.C. Missionary Training College this year he hoped to prepare himself for greater work for his Lord. The Launceston, Tas., church was filled beyond capacity for the memorial service in his honour. Peter Broadbent, (past minister) and Rev. Evan Davies (M.T.C.) shared the service with the writer. Much love is extended to his parents Marcus and Coralie, as well as to brothers Steve and Michael.

— W. Harford.

SO

PORT LINCOLN (Garth Sawley). We rejoice with Young family to know their loved one, our Elder-Emeritus, has gone to be with his Lord, on the Lord's day. Truly he was a man of God, he will never die, as he lives on in hearts of all who loved him. Mary spoke to the church the following Sun-

day morning . . . Garth, Yvonne taking short holiday. **BORDERTOWN** (S.Pillay). Missionary Convention well supported. Representatives from five different mission areas. Cecil & Laurel Grant & Jack Murphy from Churches of Christ . . . Barry Goode visit to school seminar & church services very challenging . . . SE Distric Conf. held at Wampony. Greg Shaw guest speaker. A great time of learning & fellowship . . . Leadership training seminar a great success . . . Joy to have minister from the 1950's, Colin Curtis, share on eldership & pastoral care.

BLACKWOOD (E.P.C. Hollard, Graham Woodward). Church enthusiastically voted Rob Combridge in as minister from Feb. 1988 . . . Boys' Brigade excited over winning world award . . . Sunday evening services now at 5 pm for winter months with Dr Davey Wood as speaker for several evenings . . . Four new elders elected to office . . . **COCKE** group took part in June service . . . Eric & Fern Hollard to holiday in Qld. for month of July. **MAGILL** (T. Lawrie). 45 attended family camp at Williamstown . . . Carter family from Pt. Pirie welcome into membership . . . Series of Campolo films "Who Switched the Price Tags?" enthusiastically received . . . Joined with local churches for march of witness & service at St Francis of Assisi Penetecost Sunday . . . Questions put by congregation to "AIDS" panel — Dr John Allan, Dr Grant Phelps, David Marr (Police welfare) & Joan Zubrinich (Deputy Head HS). Much discussion has followed.

Magill tackles the AIDS Problem!

At an evening service with a difference the Magill, S.A. church tackled the topic of AIDS.

After the usual opening activities, the congregation was divided into small groups of about 8-10 and encouraged to spend about 10 minutes collecting together the questions which they had about the issue.

The groups then re-assembled to a congregation format and the questions were introduced to a panel comprising two Doctors, (one a G.P. and the other from a public hospital who has had experience in caring for AIDS patients); a Deputy Principal from a metropolitan High School, a Welfare Officer from the Police Department and Trevor Lawrie, Magill's "resident theologian".

Questions, supplemented by comments and questions from the floor were presented to the panel by Brian Phelps who chaired the major part of the service. Topics covered during

the evening included such questions as, What exactly is AIDS? How do you get it? How infectious is it? Is it a plague sent from God to punish homosexuals? What is the Christian/New Testament attitude towards the disease and its sufferers?

Of particular importance was the openness with which the subject was discussed. For many it was a new experience to share, in a church environment, concerns about the disease and its ramifications; to discuss the promotion of condoms as a preventative for sexually transmitted diseases and to express anxiety about the pressures which society places on young people in particular.

After the service a cup of coffee and biscuits provided further opportunity for the congregation to check out issues with members of the panel and to discuss the matter further.

The program did a number of things: it provided the church with an opportunity to deal with a difficult and frightening issue in a Christian context; it provided parents with opportunities and appropriate language with which to discuss the issue with their children; and it helped the whole congregation become aware of the fact that the church's traditional teaching of monogamous sexual relationships within marriage, is not only an ethical and Christian stance, but is also plain common sense!

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The Richmond House and Flat Church of Christ

At their recent Conference Victorian-Tasmanian Churches of Christ welcomed into their fellowship the Richmond House and Flat Church. And that is what it is. They meet each Sunday in a different house or flat adjacent to or in the high rise blocks in the Richmond housing estate.

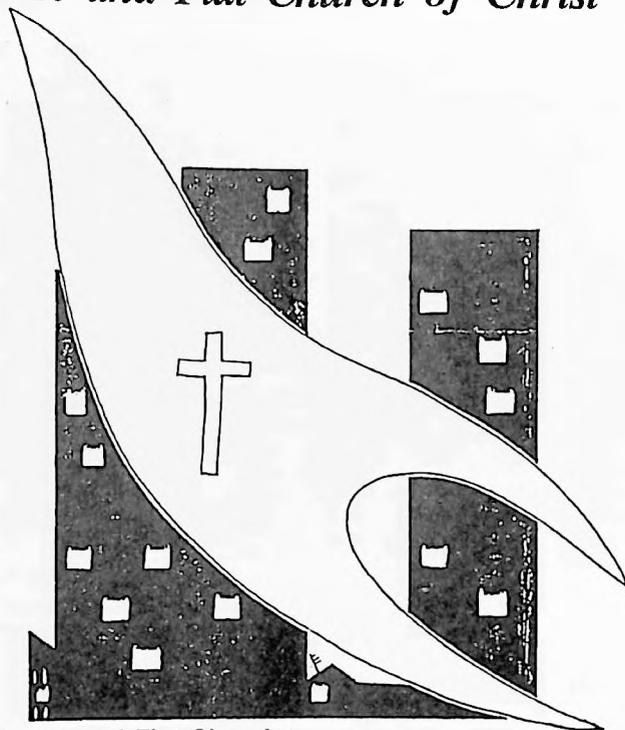
It all started 17 years ago when Phil and Barbara Andrews moved into one of the flats with their family, wondering what their ministry was going to be. They sent out hundreds of invitations to dinner to every flat on the estate. They ensured that they would not be overwhelmed, by indicating

The Church and Prostitution

After several months of study the Anglican Diocese of Sydney has published its Report on Prostitution. It was prepared partly as a reply to the report on the same subject of a Select Committee of the N.S.W. Government.

The Select Committee agreed that prostitution is "a dangerous and undesirable trade". But the Anglican report says that nevertheless the Select Committee report will guarantee the protection and legitimisation of the "trade".

Other statements of the Anglican Report as quoted in "The Sydney Morning Herald" are: "All that is required is political will, proper laws and an honest police force"; "The history of human relationships proves the point in terms of physical and emotional danger to the prostitute, those who live off the prostitute's earnings, and the clients who pay for the services"; "Intercourse for money destroys human worth and prostitutes are often themselves victims of crime and of other people's greed" and "There is harmony between chastity and human nature at its best as seen in the person of Christ. God given sexual expression is delightful in essence but is to be experienced only in the context of life long commitment."



House and Flat Church logo

that the purpose of the dinner was to discuss starting a church in the flats. Six or eight people came and that was how it was started.

The new church had two basic aims as they began their work and witness to the bewildered, multicultural and mul-

tiracial tenants who had been pitched into this strange environment.

1. To make the old Christian beliefs make sense in a very new, noisy, frightening high rise estate.
2. To say to the estate and the wider community, that this

place is as much part of God's Kingdom and just as good a place to live and love and worship as anywhere else.

Each Sunday service commences at 4.30 p.m. and is followed by a shared meal where families also share their concerns for each other, for the church and for the estate.

The Richmond House and Flat Church inevitably found itself bearing some of the burdens of estate families. To take the part of tenants who could not break through the housing bureaucracy with their problems and grievances, the church helped the residents to form themselves into a tenants union. To give a breathe of fresh air and hope to families that were virtually prisoners in their environment, the church organised family camps.

The church with local body and other help has also been involved in setting up a Family Health Centre in Richmond. It understands health as being more than merely physical well being. It is involved in counselling, assisting, problem solving and politicking where necessary, in the interests of the total well being of citizens and their families.

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Taiwanese Aborigines - Building a Better Life

The Ami are indigenous people who live on the island of Taiwan. Numbering only 1-2% of the largely Chinese population, they have suffered from poverty, family breakdown and alcoholism since their contact with "civilisation".

June's Force Ten project will provide funds for a housing project which allow the Ami to live in decent housing and as a community.

The people themselves formed a Housing Committee to arrange for the construction of suitable housing, but there was a gap between what some families could afford and what the bank would lend. Caritas Taiwan has helped with a no-interest loan for the poorest families.

Yet a roof over one's head, however important, will not alone improve the Ami's quality of life. Again, it is the people themselves who are working to make positive changes.

The community has set up a

committee to work for other improvements. By organising, they have managed to get street lighting, a public road and a water supply from the local government. They have set up a health clinic which is staffed by doctors on a regular basis.

One major priority for the Ami community was their children's education, for Ami children have a higher dropout rate than the average. A tutoring program for youngsters is a community initiative and receives enthusiastic help from local university students. With scarce funds the community has set up their own small library.

Through community building, the Ami are again able to live with dignity and work together for much-needed improvements.

For more information, please contact Force Ten at Box C199 Clarence Street P.O. Sydney 2000, telephone (02) 29.2215.

Interested in Indonesia?

Since the mid-1970's we have been helping the training of lay people through the Jakarta Theological Seminary. Under the guidance of Rev. D.R. Maitimoe, leadership training programs have been conducted. From funds we forwarded last year two Bible Study Enabler Programs were run. 80 people, both men and women from new congregations, were trained to help others in the life of growing churches. This year we are contributing \$2,500 to this work. This is money we do

not have, but we believe that people within Australian Churches of Christ are keen to maintain this involvement with the churches in Indonesia. We encourage your support for this program.

In the U.S. a group of concerned former Roman Catholics has launched a new national organisation, called Catholics Anonymous, to provide support and information for former, lapsed and nominal Roman Catholics.

New restrictions limit Unregistered Churches in China

Recent directives handed down by the official Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) have restricted pastors from preaching on the return of Christ, on suffering for Christ, on separation from the world, on casting out demons and healing the sick according to Open Doors News Service.

Pointing to the resurgence of party conservatism implemented since the beginning of this year, observers claim this is resulting in increased control of both the officially-recognized churches and the unofficial house churches in China.

According to an observer who recently traveled to the cities of Shanghai and Fuzhou, house churches in these cities that have already registered with the official TSPM have been ordered to close down. The observer reported that TSPM officials have instructed members of the house churches to attend the open churches in their cities, but members of the affected house churches have reportedly defied the order and are now meeting in different locations at different times.

Thousands of house churches have registered with the TSPM in recent years and have enjoyed semi-legal status under the TSPM umbrella. However, China's official religious policy, set forth in Communist Party

Document 19, stipulates that each municipal district should have only one open church.

According to Richard van Houten of the Chinese Church Research Center in Hong Kong, the TSPM's order, if applied only to areas which already have an open church, represents merely a stricter interpretation of existing religious policy.

If, however, it results in the closure of house churches in areas where no open church exists, it signals a move toward a harsher policy than that set forth in Document 19, which allows registered house churches to remain open until suitable meeting arrangements can be made under the TSPM.

This recent tightening may be seen as part of a general political chill that began with the crackdown on student demonstrations and the resignation of Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang last January. The trend toward party conservatism has been felt in all areas of society, including education, culture, and foreign relations, as well as religion.

A working group of the Church of England has reported that rituals of freemasonry contain elements of worship and promote salvation by works.



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Faith of our fathers

— Harvey Clark

As part of the Horsham, Vic., church's centenary celebrations an historic monument was unveiled to the Church of Christ at Polkemmet, which existed from 1866 to 1926. 150 attended.

Our immediate purpose was to recognise that the church had existed.

Even more importantly we came to thank God for the tremendous spiritual heritage that many of our members received from their forefathers who worshipped in this church.

However the significance of the Polkemmet church goes even more deeply. It has often been pointed out that many of the best qualities of the traditional Australian character were forged and moulded by the financial struggle, hard work, primitive living conditions and privations of the bush farmer and his family.

The heritage that these people bequeathed to us all cannot be properly understood without recognising the importance of their faith in God to their lives.

We were told about the family of Mrs and Mrs James Butler who lived eight miles from the church on the other side of Lake Wyn Wyn.

There were no made roads in those days, and getting to church meant a one hour's journey in a horse and buggy, with up to seven aboard.

Through the cold, rain and mud of winter they came. They came through two creeks which were often so full that the water flowed over the floor of their buggy. Their only protection from the conditions was an umbrella and a blanket over their knees. They came through the hot north winds and searing heat of summer.

They always came. No emergency or last minute problems would prevent them from coming. It was their way of showing that Christ was first in their lives.

We heard of Mr Hateley, who came further than the Butler family. We saw the tree, by the banks of the Wimmera River into which Mr Hateley drove a spike with a ring attached,



Members of the Polkemmet church who attended the unveiling ceremony (L. to R.) Mrs Lillian Chequer, Mrs Ball, Mrs Edie Kemp, Mrs Elsie Wik, Walter Oliver, Jack Oliver, Mrs Ruby Hayter, Horatio Butler, Mrs May Tregonning, Mrs Margaret Nettlebeck.

where he could tether his horse while the family was at church. We scratched with our fingernail at the notch in the tree and discovered the broken remnant of that spike. For us, this was a tangible link with the faith of our forefathers.

We saw the remains of the straw shed where Sunday

School was held on rainy days and where church picnics were held.

We wondered at exactly which spot in the river, baptisms were performed.

We revered their faith, admired their steadfastness in the light of such primitive conditions and thanked God for the

privilege of being their spiritual heirs.

As I stood there, I wondered what heritage we, in our generation are passing on to our descendants. Would they be inspired by our steadfast, indomitable faith and by our uncompromising example?

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Borella House opened



Dr Gordon Moyes meets Borella House resident Mrs Madge Cuthbert, 86.

Albury's Borella House hostel for the aged was opened formally by Dr Gordon Moyes

on May 30.

The ceremony completed a seven-year dream of the Al-

bury, N.S.W., church.

One of the pioneers of the project, Bob Aldred, of Queens-

land, could not attend, but sent good wishes for the \$1.64 million project.

Tributes were paid to Bob Aldred and a church worker, the late Arthur Pickett, for their groundwork.

The church bought the Borella Rd site in 1980, but the project was in limbo until the Uniting Church offered to come in with a large legacy in 1984.

Since then, the project became a joint one between the N.S.W. Churches of Christ and the Uniting Church.

Rod Foster and Allan Blyth, both of the Church of Christ, are treasurer and secretary respectively.

The Federal Government made a grant of more than \$700,000.

Six flashes only

In a previous issue we commented on Weddings ("A.C." May 2, "Page Thirteen"). Since then a friend has given us a four page folder on weddings in the Garrison Church in Sydney. It is given to couples intending to be married in the historic old church.

National Bible Sunday

The National Bible Sunday, is coming on July 19. People of many Christian denominations around Australia will be celebrating the day at special services of thanksgiving, focussing on the essential role of the Bible in their faith.

A special televised service from the Hawthorn Uniting Church parish at Scotch College Chapel, Adelaide, will be broadcast nationally by ABC television. The speaker will be the Reverend Dr Ken Manley of Whitley College, Melbourne.

It was estimated that up to 2 million joined in Bible Sunday celebrations last year.

The Bible Society and Scripture Union have combined resources to produce an extensive range of support materials to help churches successfully organise their own service of celebration. For support materials and information contact the Bible Society or Scripture Union office in your State.

It covers various regulations, such as that at least one of the pair must be a communicant member of the Anglican church. The couple must also attend a 1½ hour session on relationships and communication in marriage from the Christian point of view.

Matters concerning Notice of Intention forms and birth certificates and rehearsal dates are dealt with.

There is a schedule of fees (with a let-out in hardship) of \$60 each for the rector, the vergier, the organist and the flowers. The church organist must be used and he must be consulted on all choices of music. A letter to the photographer is supplied to be cut out and sent to him. A map is supplied on the back of it that shows him just where he can stand and what his limits are. During the

ceremony he is allowed six flashes only, unless he is using fast film and does not need a flash. He cannot move about during the ceremony. If he is using a video his special lighting must be fixed and must stay on all the time.

The photographer must not hang about with the bridal party near the entrance after the service. He is to take them across the street where there are an old style letter box and street lamp and an antique stone stairway, and where there is a background one way to the Harbour Bridge and the other way to the Garrison Church. This also is the "confetti area".

The pamphlet also recommends two photographers who have proved themselves in their general behaviour at Garrison weddings. — G.R.S.

"God was a partner, too", the N.S.W. Churches of Christ Director of Homes, Laurie Larcombe, told the opening ceremony.

The Member for Albury, Harold Mair, presented the Borella House chairman, Noel Stephens, of the Uniting Church, with \$1,000 from the N.S.W. Health Minister, Peter Anderson.

It will be used for a special project at the hostel.

The Uniting Church's Victorian community services director, Bob Cardell, said there had already been one marriage among the 41 residents.

"I hope there will be many more," he said.

A resident, Les Smith, said all residents regarded it as "a home away from home". "We are one big happy family," he said.

Les Lawlor says . . .

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Reclaiming the Church for Ministry

Jeff Weston

Jeff Weston is the minister of the Darwin church. He is the 1987 Australian Christian Foundation Scholar, having studied in the United States earlier this year. Australian Christian Foundation Scholarships are funded by Christian Projects, a Trust that exists to fund imaginative projects that would normally not be able to be undertaken by Conference Departments. This is the third and final reflection upon his experience.

One of the biggest issues facing today's minister is how to enthuse and motivate his church into mission. Our members have often handed over possession of the ministry to the professionals.

Two problems have risen as a result of this. First, instead of employing a minister to pastor, teach and equip them for ministry the congregations have attempted to employ a "hired gun", someone who will perform the ministry for them. The other problem, and perhaps the most damaging to the local congregation, has been the drift from the church of some who see needs and are prepared to answer God's call to meet them, into para-church

Requests for funds from Overseas

Periodically requests come from nationals in countries where we are involved in mission. These often heart-rending stories are asking you to help by sending funds. One recent example was of a pastor wanting money to replace his stolen wrecked car. He reported 30 students in his Bible College with 10 vibrant churches and a great team of pastors. A photo was enclosed. In fact he has no college, no students, and is the pastor of a single church. The photo was a group of non-church people.

Not all requests are false! We suggest you contact your local State Committee of the Overseas Mission Board before you send any money in response to requests.

organisations.

One church in the United States that is attempting to reverse this trend is Bear Valley Baptist Church in Denver, Colorado. By American standards this is not a "super" church, and its senior pastor, Frank Tillapaugh, is not your "super-minister". He doesn't even have a local television show. Despite this it is one of the most exciting churches I visited on my recent study tour.

Bear Valley Baptist is the fastest growing church in the Denver area. Why? Frank Tillapaugh claims it is due to the fact that the members have given themselves the freedom to minister creatively to needs as they arise.

The church has 27 groups in operation. These are all mission groups active in the community. They range from a MOPS group (mothers of preschoolers), through to a Cults ministry, Health Centre for the poor, and a school that teaches basic living skills to street people of all ages. Frank estimates that the various mission groups make contact with over 5,000 people each week, with each contact being seen as an opportunity to share the gospel.

What has happened at Bear Valley is a shifting of the church's mind set away from perpetuating events and relying on the professional minister to do the outreach, to a strategy based ministry.

Many churches have become event-orientated. They have tended to think in terms of, "we must have this event to be a church". One example of this is that many churches have evangelistic evening services yet there are no unbelievers in the building! They do it this way because the church has always done it.

In order to reclaim the church for the mission it is called to perform (Matt. 28:19-20), we must shift the leadership of the church away from event-oriented people and into the hands of strategists, people who are always thinking

ahead about how the church can better accomplish its God given mission. These are lay people who look beyond the church walls to see who is out there, and what their needs are and to listen to God's call to ministry.

At Bear Valley these strategists carry their own responsibility and authority before God. They don't have to check with the pastor or church board before they move. They have the freedom to become and to do exactly as God has directed them. Frank Tillapaugh points out, "there are seldom any problems with irresponsibility, for it is God who has given them ownership of their particular ministry, and they want to be at their best because they are the ones personally answerable to God".

A simple structure exists for those wanting to begin a new outreach. First a notice is placed in the weekly bulletin. This clearly states that a person has had a call and now would like to meet with others who may see the same need. At this first meeting the call is laid out in more detail and expressions of interest are called for from those attending. Those with an ongoing interest convene a further meeting to set out strategy for the group's development.

No group is allowed to request any finance from the church's general budget. They must raise their own finance. No professional minister is al-

lowed to be a group member unless it is in his area of expertise.

The final step is the commissioning of the group. This is usually done in a worship service. The pastor lays hands on the group leader and the church joins in prayer for the mission. All groups are allowed to die naturally. There is no pressure to keep the group going if there is no longer a leader or the need ceases to exist.

Frank Tillapaugh explains the strategy for reclaiming the church for ministry, "We streamline the rear echelon activities of the church and maximize the front line. The objective on the front line is to defeat the enemy. That means we must be directly involved in ministry right where people are, rather than being in policy and decision making back at the church."

The American "Baptist Standard" reports that between 60-70 nations are inaccessible to traditional missionary approaches today. If the trend continues there could be as many as 100 nations hostile to the gospel by the year 2000.

In a recent poll of parents in America two thirds of parents believe that contraceptives should be available to children through schools, but only with parental consent. 77% of adults also favoured sex education in public schools.

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Ed Roffey in Fiji

John 17:11 "That they may be one, even as we are one."

There was something unreal about stepping out of the Qantas aircraft on May 21 to spend three days at Nadi, Fiji, some four days after the coup at Suva. Here on the same island there was nothing to indicate that the Government had been supplanted by a military leader. There was no flurry at the International airport or sign of military personnel. We were transferred in the normal way to our hotel two kilometers away.

At 7 a.m. I went to bed for a few hours. A sleep seemed to be appropriate after four flights adding up to more than 15 hours in the air, six hours in airport lounges, a morning spent in Kansas City and crossing the international dateline.

For two days I had been uncertain whether to complete my plans or to stay on the Melbourne bound plane. I stayed with the itinerary so that I could connect with an Air Pacific flight to Auckland in the interests of the 1988 World Convention. In contrast with the uncertainties and decision making of the previous few days I woke to look out on a scene of peace and beauty.

The hotel was on a hill falling away to level land with just a few buildings, sugar cane

plantations, the air strip and the Pacific Ocean. To look to the left was to see a few people working in vegetable gardens and lawns with surrounding hills marked by a blue haze. On the next morning I had an added interest in the view from my window. An Air New Zealand plane had been hijacked and it became a further matter of interest to see that planes were still taking off and landing.

There was an eeriness in the contrast of uncertainties and the apparent peace. Peaceful it was when I went down to lunch.

At the poolside there were about a dozen tourists in a hotel of 109 rooms. Some were reading while sunbaking and some were with short-wave radios imparting their knowledge about what was happening a hundred or so miles away. Local radio stations were confined to music, weather and sports reports. There were no newspapers. Through short-wave we learned that shops had been told to stay closed on one day. One shop which did open was burned down for its pains. Fijian and Indian staff at the hotel made no comments but continued their work with efficiency. One could only guess at their emotional responses or if as individuals they felt any racial tensions between themselves. Not that this was an issue based purely on ethnic differences.

At least that's the way it was until I was taking a late breakfast on my last day. There were no other diners or staff close by. A Fijian Indian waiter who had served me a couple of times broke the silence. "Brothers and sisters we have been for a long time now", was his introduction to the forebodings he went on to express.

Transportation had come to a standstill and he had walked four miles to work. There was little work when he got there and whether he would be paid was doubtful. The practically deserted hotel promised little in tips. His children were missing out on school. He could see no

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(Matthew 13:45, 46)

I have found a priceless treasure,
A pearl that is beyond compare.
All I have I give to keep it.
Father, hear my humble prayer,
Lord, lay my life before you,
All I have I count as nought
If only kneeling, bowed before you
By your Spirit I am taught.
Lord, you pour on me your blessings;
I know I have more than my share.
Help me reach out to the needy;
Make my life a living prayer.
Father, I am undeserving,
But on me you've shed your grace.
Let me never lose the vision
Now that I have glimpsed your face.

— Margaret Croucher

future for the Indian population in Fiji. He would love to come to Australia if he could be sponsored.

It would be easy to be cynical and view the conversation as a skilled one to extract from me the Fijian dollar in a currency virtually equivalent to the USD. He was successful if that were the objective of the talk. But whether or not there was a poignancy in what he was saying — "Brothers and sisters we were".

Whatever may have been the relationships between the races I could not know. They have grown up together and have supplemented each other. They have followed their life-styles carved out by their skills, op-

portunities, industry and land inheritance. Now a fracturing of what unity there had been and the fragmenting of the political, economic and village life of the Fijian society is evident and costly.

Please God that curative and creative forces will be at work, that the will and leadership within that community will create one nation with a common heritage and destiny irrespective of the ethnic origins.

I am hearing Jesus' prayer for a nation that has had a strong Christian experience: "Holy Father, keep them in my name which thou hast given me, that they may be one even as we are one."

(Ed Roffey is Secretary of the Australian Committee of the World Convention of Churches of Christ).

● from page 4

ton, Sunnybank, Maryborough, Pialba, Gatton, Mount Isa, Acacia Ridge, Cairns and in recent months at Kingswood Park.

Mr Boettcher was Conference President 1945-46 and 1978-79, and served on the Advisory Board and as a member of Conference Executive for many years.

Mr and Mrs Boettcher have a family of four Kenneth, Vivian, Noel and Dorothy — and 16 grandchildren.

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Chris Hall, Jackie Forder, Linda McDermott, Allan Barclay, Stan Hastings, **Noble Park, Vic.** • Roslyn McBride, Mark McBride, Lyn McCarthy, Sherrie Hodge, Joanne Foster, Tony Smith, Linda Smith, Rhonda Hunter, Rosalie White, **Bullcreek, W.A.**

MARRIAGE

• Merrilyn Day to Jonathon Kruger, **Blackwood, S.A.** • Carrie Powlesland to Ivan Akhurst, **Boronla, Vic.**

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Memorabilia is being sought from former members and friends.

Details of planned events can also be obtained from:—

The Secretary
 Mrs. I.P. Thatcher
 P.O. Box 137
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 Phone (03) 391 5828

• Kerry Maxwell to Graeme Cross, **Warwick, W.A.** • Zina Harrison to Darren Werry, **Mount Clear, Vic.**

DEATHS

• Alec Fairbairn, **Berkeley Vale, N.S.W.** • Robert William John

Young, **Port Lincoln, S.A.** • Ivy Green, **Boronla, Vic.** • Jack Lynch, **Warwick, W.A.** Alan Walker, **Tootgarook, Vic.** • Ivan Collins, **Mount Clear, Vic.** • Alice Fairclough, Alice Swain, **Black Forest, S.A.** • Ron McLean, **Albion, Qld.**

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Those interested in further discussion should contact Marilyn Hill, Human Resources Manger on 03-699-8522.

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AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The ACC seeks a **GENERAL SECRETARY** to be appointed by the Executive Committee of the 13 member churches.

The General Secretary should be a person of commitment to the ecumenical movement and of vision for a just and peaceful community.

Lay or clergy people may apply. The position occurs in January 1988 and those interested should contact:

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Mr John Denton, P.O. Box Q190, Queen Victoria Building, SYDNEY, NSW, 2000.

for a copy of job description and terms of appointment. Applications close 31st July, 1987.



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QLD

KEDRON (Noel Baxter). Peter Overton (Albion minister) guest speaker at 58th church anniversary morning service. New library opened after service. Zillmere, Boondall & Stafford joined in evening service . . . Church joined in ecumenical service for a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, & also the "Christians in Dialogue" study on "Ministry" . . . Noel Baxter to serve as full-time minister from Feb. 1988.

ALBION (Peter Overton). C.W.F. dinner raised \$340 for Jill Bawden, the Living Link . . . Monthly fellowship outings, the most recent to Mt Glorious, are proving popular . . . An attendance of 60 at Sunday evening cabaret service . . . Young adult group (20-30 year olds) & youth group (15-20) are operating successfully.

NSW

BERKELEY VALE (Gary Hamilton). Secretary Roy Nicholson & wife Dorothy celebrated their golden anniversary recently. They were congratulated by 60 church family members at a sumptuous lunch held in a friend's garden . . . Visit of Jim Hohnke representing "Operation Mobilisation" from the floating bookshop MV Doulos was a real revelation to many at the Friday coffee morning . . . Program by choir raised \$120 for Keddies in Zimbabwe.

GILGANDRA (I. Clarke). Fellowship enjoyed on long weekend with Inverell YP . . . Young married's enjoyed tea & fellowship at manse . . . Congratulations to Max & Nina Mudford on birth of their son . . . June 27/28 Ted Leask to hold meetings to help those who teach & care for handicapped folk . . . Exchange services with AIM regularly . . . Meetings at Cooee Lodge enjoyed by residents.

THORNLEIGH (P. Burnham). Special feature of Pentecost Sunday was that we as a church shared in the Thornleigh-Pennant Hills combined ecumenical service at St Agathas RC church, Pennant Hills at 7 p.m. Our minister Paul Burnham was the guest preacher . . . The church is pleased to announce

that Franklyn Elliott (retiring National Director of the Australian Navigators) has accepted a call to succeed Paul Burnham as minister towards the end of 1987.

MAITLAND (R.N. Hawkins). Dinner date with Dr Kemeny, nuclear physicist. 52 attended . . . Church anniversary with S. Thomas of Engadine & a team of young people. Sat. concert a treat . . . Film series "Building the Family of God" . . . Mission weekend with Frank Johnson & Edna Lincoln . . . Gaylene Hawkins going to West Germany with Rotary youth exchange.

EPPING (Ron Hewitt). The church's 64th anniversary was celebrated by a Saturday evening dinner attended by nearly 200, & by packed Sunday services. The guest speaker was Graeme Jones. The theme was "A People of Prayer" . . . Church young people held concert & film in Epping Community Hall as outreach . . . Sunday School children have conducted competitions to promote contact between young & old & to raise funds for missions.

WA

NOLLAMARA (David Althorpe, Ian Polmear). Friendship Centre celebrated seventh birthday June. Luncheon for about 80 . . . Trevor McCarthy left for Tas. to take up full-time studies with WEC . . . Two new home cell groups commenced. Around 115 involved in this ministry area . . . Church host to "Concerned Christian Growth Ministries" public meeting on "Christianity & Freemasonry" . . . Large group of young & old involved in 40-hour famine.

MANDURAH (R. Ryall). Norma Muller welcomed as baptised believer . . . Some members away on holiday up north . . . Church working on plan for new building . . . Brotherhood referrals enabling church to extend contact list . . . HM subsidy decreased recently . . . Minister represents fraternal on community committee concerned with youth welfare, facilities, unemployment . . . July 26 scheduled for worship

leaders' workshop . . . Local churches combining for "Walk Through OT" . . . Monthly meal fellowship being shared by spouses of board members.

WARWICK (G. Carslake, B. Eagles, L. Sara, L. Devlin). 530 enjoyed concert by Endless Praise . . . 31 home study groups, 21 doing "Open Heart, Open Home" . . . Successful singles camp held & one planned for divorced & separated Christians in July . . . Elders were inspired by Rob Sproule (management consultant) during Planning Day retreat . . . Tim Hanna speaker at family camp . . . Masterlife series concluded . . . Over 200 attending regularly for night services . . .

Morrie Munyard (Noarlunga) visited recently researching study of Warwick church.

BULLCREEK (Phillip Bradley). Rapid growth creating major financial challenge to develop car park . . . Fellowship initiated inter-church coffee shop ministry at local Sports Club . . . Three new discipleship programs completed . . . Men's monthly breakfasts commencing June 27 . . . Church studying "In the Spirit of Love" preparatory to Leighton Ford visit 1988 . . . Five piece music ministry enhancing powerful gospel services . . . Rejoicing with Bradleys at arrival of new daughter.

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VIC

ASCOT VALE (Ross Bourdon). Family camp at Belgrave held Queen's Birthday weekend... Our half-way house is progressing well with emphasis now on drug addiction. At present three guys in residence... Our two Bible study groups involved in Mission Melbourne... Carter family & David Rodgers welcomed into our church fellowship... Our recent guest speaker, Brian White, Dept. MED, spoke on conflict & communication in marriage.

OAKLEIGH (L.S. Dewberry). Speakers during minister's holidays were Stewart Lunn, Don Thomas, Reg Worthy, Prisoners' Fellowship & Arthur Pigdon... June 21 & 28 minister very graciously interviewed Mrs Lynette Miller, former member, & Mrs Hilda Hill, a present member... Stewart & Evelyn Lunn were farewelled on June 28 after 30 years membership with the church... John & Joyce Masterton farewelled earlier.

BORONIA (Keith Milne, Iris Lawson). Auxiliaries fund raising for Wiraduri Christian Development Ministries. Church concert great fun... Evening

service with Uniting Church commenced Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with meetings at Uniting & RC churches during week... Annual service of commitment led by Elders on Pentecost Sunday. Theme "Reconciliation & Renewal"... Farewell to Harvey Miller & family leaving for USA to undertake further study.

CROYDON (W.Gibney) Church blessed through Don Miller prayer seminar... "Upper Room" being set up for prayer... 35 attended informal evening of prayer & praise on June 17... Six have been baptised over the past three weeks & three others have decided for Christ.

NOBLE PARK (R.White, K.Clinton). Church steadily growing. 13 baptised into Jesus... Sunday School revamped into "Kings Kids". "Faith Roots" study being used with puppets, music etc... Young discipleship group meets monthly... Five house churches meeting weekly studying John Wimber video course "Signs & Wonders"... Ladies discipleship group meeting weekly... Outreach work started at Chandler High School called Keysborough Christian Family.

CHELSEA (T.Frazer). Local members H. Barnden, L.L. Smith & A. Augustine were the speakers for Sunday morning services during the holidays of T. & L. Frazer... Jim Bentley presided June 7, the 50th anniversary of his baptism at Chelsea... Youth group continues with Scott & Karen Milan, also Wayne and Julie Allen as leaders... C.W.F. Opportunity Shop opens on Fridays in church annex, raising about \$50 a month... Wendy & Russell Dow visited.

TOOTGAROOK (M.Giezendanner). Thanksgiving service held, many groceries & \$122 forwarded to Community Care... Russell Clinton visited with film "Beyond 2000"... Ladies commenced KYB sessions... CWF held successful street stall & had Missionary Committee to luncheon & meeting... Mrs Marks Snr celebrated 90th birthday... Alan Walker called home after short illness... Doug Reed & Harry Earl recuperating after surgery.

BAYSWATER (R. Cambridge). Ian Corlett speaker Harvest Thanksgiving. Goods for ministry... Youth group led evening service... 20 young people camp exchange weekend Shepparton church... May 3 Avon Moyle,

F.A.M.B., guest speaker... June 21 Bible School anniversary. Church packed. Speaker Barry Jenkins, Ringwood... Four weeks evangelism training well attended... A.M. prayer group excellent attendance... Lynton Martin music group appreciated.

MOUNT CLEAR (Philip Stevens). Two groups using Divine Drama Bible studies... About 45 travelled by bus to Conference service... Iris Trezise home recovering after heart by-pass operation... Our sympathy to Cora Collins following the sudden death of her husband, Ivan... Marriage of Zina Harrison & Darren Werry held on Easter Monday. Last wedding held in the chapel prior to its removal to new site.

TAS

LAUNCESTON (W.Harford). June 26-28 a young adults camp was held at Turners Beach under the leadership of Craig Spaulding. Studies "Pressures & Priorities" were prepared & led by W. Harford & related to real life situations. Back at Launceston for the evening service the weekend studies were summed up by campers Rob & Jeannie Wakeling & Rob & Bronwyn Baker.

42nd FEDERAL CONFERENCE

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA
JANUARY 16-22, 1989 — CANBERRA
THEME: GOD'S PEOPLE — GOD'S WORLD



CONFERENCE PRESIDENT: Neil Gilmore, Federal Conference Office, 82 Limestone Ave., Ainslie, A.C.T., 2602. Phone (062) 48 7658

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THE LAST WORD

College of the Bible to claim Vision

Claiming the Vision:

The policy statement of the College of the Bible Board of Mangement, and the concept which is guiding the exciting developments as the College faces the future, were major items of consideration at the recent College of the Bible Board Conference held during the June long weekend in Melbourne.

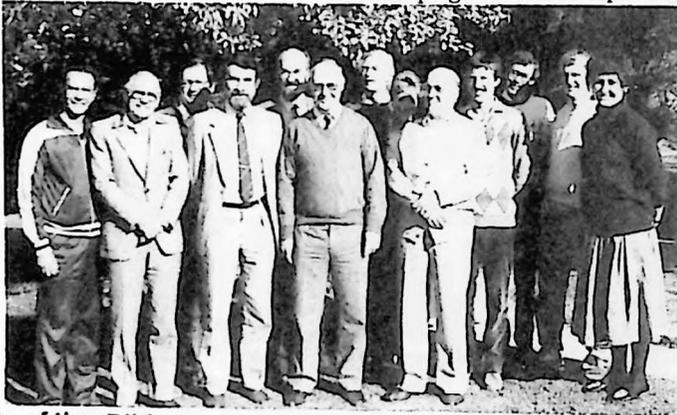
The College Board as elected at the Hobart Federal Conference including the interstate members, G. Carslake (W.A.) K. Aird, D. Hamilton and B. Phelps (S.A.) and T. Leach (A.C.T.), gave extensive consideration to the forward looking proposals.

planning details and gave approval for the letting of contracts for site development and building. Completion is now proposed for November 1988 so that occupancy can be progressively made during the long vacation in time to begin teaching in February 1989.

The Claiming the Vision fundraising program with the aim of \$1 million by 1989 is proceeding well. Support already obtained exceeds \$100,000 and the target, given the tax deductibility of all gifts, is well within the reality of achievement.

Policy Directions:

Considerable work was achieved in developing the relationships with the states



College of the Bible Board.
New Campus:

The new college Campus being developed on the outstanding Mulgrave site with its extensive views over the Dandenong Creek Valley and the nearby Dandenong Ranges, promises to be a complex of value and pride for the Australian churches. Planned so that it can be used as a teaching as well as conference/seminar center the College will have accomodation for both married and single students. The Board Conference ratified final architectural drawings and

and their ownership of the College. The College as the Federal College needs to serve and is accountable to all churches through Federal Conference.

Detailed planning regarding promotion, recruiting and nurture of students was a high priority on the agenda.

The outstanding success of the new courses such as now offered by the College has widened its relevance and appeal to prospective students. New directions will make it possible to work closely

(Continued on page 15)

Only he can truly teach who is himself teachable.

"It is hard luck being twins."
"Why is that?"
"When dad doesn't know which of us gets into mischief he spansks both of us."

A well-dressed woman walked into the fashionable milliner's shop and asked for the manageress.

"I see from your advertisements", she said, "you have just received two thousand hats from Paris."

"That is so, modom", replied the manageress.

"Good!" replied the woman, as she removed her hat. "I wish to try them on."

Taffy and Macpherson were playing golf, and at the sixth the latter drove a beautiful ball straight up the fairway. Taffy followed, but went into the rough. After smiting about wildly, he managed to get clear.

"Hoo mony?" asked the Scot.
"Three", replied Taffy.
"Why, I counted ten mesel!", roared Mac.

"Was it my fault if I had to kill a grass snake?" asked the resourceful Taffy.

Doctor (at hospital): The man brought in is not sick but merely dead drunk.
Good Samaritan: Bother! I gave him a whole flask of brandy to pull him round.



"Kids!! Calm down, you sound just like a stampede."



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