



THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

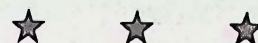
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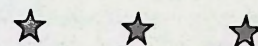
NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

IN THIS ISSUE

OH, MICAH!



WORSHIP IN THEATRE



UNIQUENESS
OF C. of C.

Armadale-Kelmscott Leaps Forward



Views inside and outside of the Armadale-Kelmscott chapel on opening day.
Inset left, Ian Ballantyne, right, Des Nelson, pastor.

When you could get local navel oranges for a shilling a sugar bag and pick wild orchids a block from the main street, faithful people set up the Lord's table at Armadale (W.A.) in the local hall, using the nearby creek as a baptistry. By 1926, the congregation, augmented by converts from the F.A. Youens- D.R. Stirling Mission, opened its first building. Armadale was set to go as a new suburb, but it did not go. The depression hit it hard. The building had to be sold!

New Beginnings

Suburbia reached Armadale and Kelmscott in the sixties and meetings commenced again in 1967, sponsored by the South Perth church, with generous contributions of both money and personnel. An old sprawling house amongst the trees was purchased and modified for services and other activities. It was known in the district as "the house church". A manse was built and more land acquired and slowly the work grew.

Des Nelson to Armadale-Kelmscott

South Perth's final generous gift to Armadale-Kelmscott was its own minister, Des Nelson, who moved into the area in early 1980. Membership and attendances increased. The old "house church" was bulldozed and in May 1981 a new chapel was opened in the presence of 400 people. There are 110 active members and on the morning following the opening of the new building 160 met at the Lord's Table.

● Continued on Page 4

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JULY 11	JULY 2
JULY 25	JULY 16

EDITOR: G. R. STIRLING
SUB-EDITOR
MANAGER: C. R. AMBROSE

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ON MY MIND

OH, MICAH!

David Allen

David Allen is married with three children, a school teacher, and a member at Boronia, Victoria. David has given many years to the Explorer Movement.

I've just read the Living Bible translation of the book of Micah. Times must have been tough around 700 B.C. Micah really gets stuck into all the nasty, corrupt people of the time. He really gives the politicians a blast, because, he says, they "skin my people and strip them to the bone." (I hope he was speaking figuratively!) He accuses them of war-mongering. He fires away at those who take the land away from others by chicanery, threats and violence and then mock the dispossessed. He talks about big-city idolatry and oppression, about the plight of widows and children, about alcoholism, about political and judicial unfairness and injustice, bribery and corruption and "pay-offs" to gain political or economic advantage. He accuses the business community of dishonesty. He says the religious community is slack in its duty and riddled with hypocrisy. I just can't understand God letting Micah carry on like that, can you? I mean God's people should keep their noses out of politics, shouldn't they! Social issues, OK! Charitable causes, fine! But politics, NEVER!

Better Days?

Thank the Lord we live in better days, I thought, turning on the telly. First news item about Aborigines dispossessed of their land again by chicanery, threats and violence. Politician being interviewed makes some taunting remarks about their plight. Another weekend of carnage on the roads, aggravated by excessive alcohol consumption.

We'd prefer peace of course, intones another political leader, but if those Russians go into Poland, war is likely.

New indirect taxes, the people "skinned" again. Superannuation bonanza for M.P.'s . . . and so on. Next a current affairs program. Expose of a multi-national company refusing to rectify shoddy workmanship in a product. There's a church-going State leader justifying not one, but two gambling casinos for his state.

(Commercial break. Buy! Buy! Buy! You need this! Try this diet, buy that appliance! What's this? An ad for "Foster Plan". What a convenient way to ease our consciences about the plight of the Third World!)

Micah Today!

How Micah would thunder, if he were around today! He could practically use the same script! Imagine the reaction in your street, your church. (Probably some radical pinko . . . The beard's a dead give-away, for a start . . . We're praying for you, brother . . . Render unto Caesar . . .). But I can't see Micah lasting too long these days. I've seen the reaction to a few "mild-mannered Micahs" who write for religious magazines. The cries of indignation in subsequent "Letters to the Editor"!

Will Christ be "gentle Jesus" when he comes, or will he "Do a Micah"? I've got a feeling church and politics will mix in a fiery way. That's why I think the church needs more Micahs. We need to start with ourselves, and then to speak out about injustice, hypocrisy, corruption, and all the rest.

It could be that to be a little bit like Micah is to be a little bit like Jesus.

More Baptisms at Keilor East

Four baptisms in the month of May are indicative of the spiritual growth taking place in the life of the church at Keilor East.

On May 3, Peter Baldry, one of our young people, was baptised. Peter was one of 47 young people (including five leaders) who attended the Belgrave Heights Convention earlier this year. At the Convention Peter made his decision to follow Christ.

On May 24 the baptistry was again in use as three people were baptised in a special evening service. Mrs Sue Rodgers, Jenny Driver and Glen Moonen obeyed Christ in the experience of baptism.

It is a joy to see the way that God is honouring our step of faith in erecting the baptistry. With the baptistry only 10 months old the church has been privileged to witness nine baptisms.

The first series of Growth Groups for 1981 has now concluded and for those who attended was of great value. 35, meeting in four groups met each week for five weeks to study the book of James. The second series of Growth Groups begins in July.

At the Young Adults camp at Rubicon, 37 people took part in various activities to help them grow in their Christian faith and as people.

Catacombs

The children of Park Place Christian Church, Hutchinson, Kansas were recently asked to pretend they were living in 79 AD. After explaining that this era was dangerous for followers of Jesus the children were sent down to the "catacombs" in the church basement. This had been constructed out of sheets, cardboard and old timber. A secret worship service was conducted and the dangers of the era were relived. The children later shared their feelings about the experience.

— The Disciple.

Sandringham Church Formed

Sunday, May 24 marked the beginning of a new era in the history of the Black Rock and Hampton churches when they joined together for an inaugural service. The two churches will continue to meet separately but will be known as the Sandringham Church of Christ. By joining forces it is hoped that it will be possible to engage a full-time minister.

Black Rock church began in 1926 at Black Rock House and in 1935 their building was erected in Potter Street. Hampton commenced in 1911 in the home of Campbell Edwards, then in the Hampton Hall and after a Henrichsen-Brooker Mission moved into their new building in Hampton Street in 1923.

The photo shows a banner which was made by Mrs Eira Clapp and presented to Doug Allen at the Hampton church. A similar banner was presented to Black Rock.

Worshipping in a Performing Arts Theatre

Bull Creek church in Western Australia is enjoying the excitement of worshipping in the Performing Arts Theatre of Willetton Senior High School. The church has no building to date as it has only been established four years.

Centrally Located

The Willetton Senior High School appealed to the Bull Creek church as a place to centre its activities because not only was it new, but centrally located within the parish and only a few short streets from land provided by Churches of Christ in W.A. for a future church centre.

The Performing Arts Theatre is used by the school for drama study and presentation. With its 500 square metres of carpeted floor, high windowless walls, airconditioning and artificial lighting, one would question at first sight how this facility could be used as a place of worship.

Trepidation

Our early trepidation quickly passed as we experienced the many advantages of it. Single stacking chairs are used allowing us to arrange seating as we wish. There is in fact no stage, but covered wooden modules approximately 12" high which can be assembled in any part of the building to provide a platform as necessary. Backdrops of different design and colour are used to provide a niche for our Communion table and pulpit. A spot light

on a wooden cross or painted banner is used to focus attention on the Christian message we seek to present during our worship.

Special Effects

Lighting can enhance a worship service almost beyond comprehension. We have used audio-visuals in the morning service for children's stories and special themes with spot-lights fading in and out on speakers, choirs and soloists. Coloured lights and U.V. lights have also been used for special effects.

Flexible Staging

Most churches have large inflexible stages, which not only limit the area available for seating but because they cannot be moved often result in the same stereotype services week in, week out.

Whilst this building is in the main used for worship it has unlimited flexibility for every other activity of the church. It has been used for dinners, social evenings, weddings and community services and seminars.

As the Bull Creek church looks in the near future to building its own facilities, it will be looking for such innovative ideas.

We will always be grateful to the willingness of the Principal and staff of Willetton Senior High School for the use of their facilities by the church and community.

Fourth Assembly of Pacific Churches

The new St Anthony of Padua Basilica in Nuku'alofa, Tonga was the venue for the fourth Assembly of the Pacific Conference of Churches early in May. The Assembly meets every five years.

Over 100 delegates from the 19 member churches including the Roman Catholics met. They discussed a wide range of issues affecting the life of the people and churches of the Pacific.

Delegates came from as far as the Marshall Islands in the North, French Polynesia in the East, and Papua New Guinea in the West. In addition, there were 80 observers, staff and consultants present for the celebration. Miss Thelma Skiller represented the ACC and the Rev. Dr John Brown, Uniting Church Commission for World Mission also attended.



SO

PROSPECT (A. Tanner). Following family service combined Prospect and Kilburn BBQ held in parklands. . . On Mothers Day at Prospect ladies shared in service. . . During May the five churches in the Northern area exchanged preachers and presidents. . . Arthur Moss (Jane Tanner's father) Quest organist played for services due to absence of regular organists (one sick the other on holiday). . . One baptism.

MARION (E.P.C. Hollard). Country and Western night arranged by Dr K. Crowley . . . Three men made decisions . . . Six baptised recently . . . Peta Robertson going to U.S.A. for training experience for Covenant Players. Mark and Celeste Pierratt to follow later this year.

VIC

GLEN WAVERLEY (R.B. Elbourne, K.A. Milne). Presentation made to Ron and Mavis Elbourne at close of Ron's presidential year . . . 22 attended Conf. Womens Day . . . Women raised \$550 for missionary project . . . Ministers attended Ministers Seminar . . . Several Y.P. involved in leadership at camps during school vacation . . . Counselling centre sponsored seminar "Focus in Youth" . . . Literature week featured in evening service.

CHELtenham (A. White, S. Wilson, D. Smith). C.Y.F. conducted cook-a-thon with proceeds for disabled . . . April collection of phials and donations raised \$212 for Leprosy Mission . . . David Hobig gained award for outstanding apprentice electrical mechanic at R.M.I.T. . . . Norm

Cornwall working in Vanuatu as Mr Fixit on maintenance of mechanical plant . . . Christine Eddy (Palmer) won C.A.R.E. award in 1980 and prize winning poster on Keep Australia Beautiful going into all Victorian schools.

NORTH ESSENDON (Robyn Schaefer). At A.G.M. Mrs Bev Saunders elected as secretary and Bill Ellison elected an elder . . . Robyn Schaefer to conclude ministry at end of 1982 . . . E.W.F. had speaker from Whelan the Wrecker . . . 200 dozen lamingtons sold in drive . . . Good Friday service combined with Keilor Rd. Uniting Church.

SUNSHINE (F. B. Alcorn, G. Payne). Chapel open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Brotherhood Day of Prayer . . . Six attended W.R.O.C. ladies day at Williamstown . . . B.S. picnic held at Cherry Lake, Altona . . . C.M.F. held snowball drive . . . David and Winifred Knight (Word of Light Int.) recent guests . . . Y.G. presented musical "The Landowner's Son" on Easter Day at Glengala . . . W.R.O.C. held "What is a Missionary?" session with Ruth and Russell Briggs, A.P.C.M. and Helen Morgan and John Letcher, S.I.M. . . . Guest speakers at Glengala Bill Clugston (Uniting) and Peter Lyne (Presbyterian) . . . C.M.F. organised family social night . . . Church shared in luncheon after service and farewelled Elaine West prior to service with W.E.C. State Sec., showed slides of The Gambia at Glengala evening service.

MALVERN (P. Nelson, R. Harrison). Family worship held with Prahran. Prahran children led by Graham Bradley gave item and singing . . . Baptismal service for two young women held . . . Library being looked after by Rosalie Page . . . Games evening held for young and old . . . 5 p.m. services June-August . . . Plans for further prayer cells in homes and a teaching school following morning worship.

BORONIA (Harvey Miller, Iris Lawson). Ministers attended ministers' seminar at Monbulk . . . Carpet and gas heaters installed in east and middle halls . . . Church school teachers and board met with Ian Allsop. Further meeting planned . . . A.C.W.F. making rugs for distribution by Hospital Committee . . . Discipleship classes requested by some Y.P. . . . Lucy Brooke new C.F.A. rep. . . . Sunday evening services at 5 p.m. during winter.

ORMOND (G.O. Stibbe). 9.30 family services first Sunday each month with S.S. . . . E.W.F. shared 24th birthday with men at "Old Fashioned" social including film shown by Alf Knee . . . Family camp at Mill Valley Ranch . . . \$430 raised for Community Aid Abroad through Walk Against Want . . . \$121 for Leprosy Mission . . . Two young men made decisions . . . George Warren, Field Officer, spoke at morning service and conducted workshop on small groups in afternoon . . . Group of Y.P. commenced meeting in homes after evening service.

OLD

KEDRON (David Hamilton). Special services on Mother's Day . . . Evening services to be recommenced weekly from June 7 . . . Small groups recommenced. Women have special series on effective Christian witnessing every Tuesday . . . Y.A.Y.M. (now Young Family) entertained group of telelinkers at New Farm Park. Also arranged kite flying afternoon at Mitchelton . . . Men's Fellowship had working bee installing seats in church grounds . . . Michelle Weil with Freda Dowding assisting now leading Girls Brigade . . . C.W.F. held "Importance of being a mother, grand-mother, and great grandmother" day. Street stall raised \$125.

NAMBOUR (A. G. Leane, R. C. Dixon). Present property inadequate for future expansion so 15 acres opposite existing building purchased with view of establishing church retirement village in conjunction with Social Service Dept . . . Church and B.S. picnic held at Woombye State School . . . Junior and Int. B.S. participated in Mother's Day special evening service after Mother's Day tea waited upon by men . . . C.W.F. conduct monthly visit to Sundale Retirement Village Nursing Home with regular coffee mornings for those living in lodges . . . With other churches money raised for Meals on Wheels and Sundale Ret. Village . . . B.B. now have 24 boys in Section 1 and 13 in Section 2 . . . Recent camps held at Maleny and Sandy Creek.

Armidale — Kelmscott

● from Page 1

The Ballantynes

It is interesting that Ian Ballantyne is Chairman of the Board at Armadale-Kelmscott. During the years of active support by South Perth, the South Perth Secretary was Ian's father, Keith. Way back in the twenties the Secretary and the life and soul of the old Armadale church was Keith Ballantyne's father, and Ian's grandfather.

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"Woolwich" Settling in to New Premises



Church of Christ in a Presbyterian Chapel

Cairns Church of Christ is a baby and only 15 members strong. They do not have a chapel of their own, but they do have a manse which was a gift from the previous owner. So they are renting the Presbyterian hall for Sunday services and Sunday School. Not many of us go to Church of Christ services with a

Presbyterian sign outside!

For other activities these resourceful people use private homes, underneath the manse (Queensland houses are on stilts!), and a school recreation ground.

15 is a good start. Jesus started with 12, and we all know what happened!

Of course it is not Woolwich any more. However the main building is called Woolwich Building in recognition of the many years that the N.S.W. Bible College was on the harbour-side at Woolwich.

In the new suite of buildings at Carlingford the College is being called the Churches of Christ (N.S.W.) Theological College. Under the leadership of new Principal, Dr Keith Farmer, the settling in process started by the late Principal Rex Ellis is going well.



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TODAY'S WOMEN

S.A. Looks at C.W.F.

At the February monthly Conference meeting in S.A. Alice Saunders introduced a discussion with a resume of the three talks given at Federal Conference Elective, on "C.W.F. — where to from here". She also used ideas from reports of what others have done, which appeared in the "A.C." Women's page.

The questions prepared for discussion were . . .

- To what extent do our formal C.W.F. meetings and activities fulfil the **PURPOSE OF C.W.F. . . .** To provide a channel by which all women members of Churches of Christ may be joined in fellowship and through which, by prayer, study, and service, they may make a contribution to the extension of the Kingdom of God?"
- Tell about other womens' groups in your church contributing in some way to all or part of this purpose.
- What are the advantages in including all of these activities — formal C.W.F. plus other groups as part of Christian Women's Fellowship? How can we set about accomplishing this?
- What success are you having in involving ALL women of the church and "fringe" women in women's activities within the church? How can we go about assessing their needs in order to meet the same? Give suggestions.

Many suggestions and ideas came out of the discussion. It was stressed that "actual suggestions", not mere "findings" be reported.

It was found that Elizabeth church women are prepared to change to meet the local need.

From Alice Saunders Report S.A.

A CHILD'S VIEW

A little boy was asked if his best playmate was a coloured boy. He said, "I don't know, next time I see him I'll have a look"!

Quote from W.A. Women's Bulletin

Rejoicing at the "ING" Camp

Eighty three women enjoyed a camp at Stanwell Tops, N.S.W., led by Mrs Marilyn Macdougall, President.

Programs were a combination of spiritual, social, and intellectual topics.

Camp was called the "ING." camp because all the subjects ended with the syllable "Ing." We learnt about loving, sharing, caring, catering, serving, worrying, writing, communicating. There was also talking, listening, eating, swimming, walking, a little sleeping, in the case of one woman, sketching. There was a little working, and a lot of raining, neither of which dampened the spirits of the campers. Saturday was a night of laughing and fellowshiping.

Music and singing were rendered by Beryl Cole, Merylin James and Joan Touzell. Original poems were given by Pat Kerr from Canberra and Muriel Naylor from Kingsford.

(Muriel's poem will be included at a later date)



Mrs. D. Ashlin
Vic. Tas. C.W.F. President

THINK ABOUT IT

John 17. Luke 23:34

The people of whom Jesus said, "Forgive them they know not what they do", did not understand the full implications of their involvement in Jesus death. But we do know that when we sin we "crucify" Him and all that He stands for . . . yet He still forgives us".

New Hebrides —

Vanuatu Kay Williams,

About a year has passed since Independence came to this island group. New Hebrides became Vanuatu, with its motto "Long God yumi Stanap", — "In God we stand". What changes are taking place in this country and in our mission work?

The attitude of Independence has carried over into all areas of life. This includes the church, and "mission" is almost as outdated a word as "colonial". The majority of churches in Vanuatu are independent, but still tied to Overseas Mission Boards in other countries for personnel and financial help. Churches of Christ have had their Conference established for some years, and the people are taking more and more responsibility for the running of the work.

As far as the Government is concerned, most of the leaders and Ministers have been educated in Mission schools — for many years the only means of an English education. Generally, most are sympathetic towards the work of the churches and missions. Along with most other newly independent countries, the days of the expatriate missionary are probably numbered. Now there are Ni-Vanuatu who are trained pastors, teachers, doctors, nurses, secretaries, and tradesmen. As there are only a limited number of work opportunities for trained people here, as Ni-Vanuatu are able to take over the work, so ex-patriates will not be granted work permits. Pray for the continuance of the churches and institutions as the means of evangelism.

In our Churches of Christ Conference there are some strong leaders — John Liu, current Principal of Banmatmat Bible College; Ishmael Banga, secretary of Conference, and studying at Glen Iris; August Ben working as Director of Mission and Evangelism; Wilson Waback, Director of Christian Education. Their wives, too, take vital roles among women. Please pray for leaders.

Government and Church leaders want to work together to make this a truly Christian country. Your prayers will help to release the power of the Holy Spirit to work in their lives and the lives of individuals and make the country's motto true — "Long God Yumi Stanap".

WEST AUSTRALIA REPORT

Mrs Taylor presided over Conference of 300 women with charm and calm. As each person entered the Auditorium, they were confronted with a large banner with the Motto "Walking with God", and superimposed giant foot prints.

Mrs Isaac, incoming president, has taken for her motto, "Rejoice in the Lord, and again I say rejoice".

Conference started with a Singspiration, and continued with Reports, Notices of Motion, Missionary segment with Vi. Pallot and eight lady missionaries from our Aborigines Missions, vocal items, and Joyce Bolton, returned missionary from Papua New Guinea, challenging us with her message on "Walking with God".

Mrs Blundell and Catering Committee served lunches to 300 women.

At 4.30 in the Chapel the first Prayer meeting of the new conference year was held and many stayed in an attitude of prayer to remember the new officers, and the Business session on Conference.

Missionaries from Carnarvon, Roelands, and Norseman really enjoyed the hospitality of the day.

Norma Ellement, W.A.

S.A. ANNUAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

A wide representation of ladies participated during the day, presided over by Phyl McLean the outgoing President. Devotions were brought by Lola Maddern, president of South-east Conference, information came from Federal President, Margaret Pollard and Alice Saunders (World CWF) and two ladies from Colonel Light Gardens church spoke of the support group there for a Vietnamese family. Guest speaker was Julie-Anne Lambert from the I.Y.D.P. office telling of her own feelings of being disabled. Dorothy Heard recalled the joy of returning to India after 19 years and renewing friendships with former boys from the Baramiti Home.

Jean Roberts was inducted as the new President and her theme is "Live — rejoicing in faith, hope and love."

Jenny Drilling S.A.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

"We need to clean the church of all that is not essential. Hebrews says that everything shall be shaken and only the unshakable will remain. So we don't need to waste our time on shakable things like buildings. Buildings are just monuments to the people who build them. They are symbols of the division of the church. They are symbols of the churches' self-centredness."

So said Argentinian pastor and writer Juan Carlos Ortiz with typical candour and incisiveness in a recently published interview.

We should strive instead, Carlos continued, towards "a very simple structure of the church that could go underground any minute . . . We should create a church that can live through relationships so we are connected person to person. And we can attain that by dividing our churches into small cell groups where people can build each other up."

Juan Carlos Ortiz, as MS readers with good memories may recall (July 1979), wrote the powerful little book *Disciple* which described some of his experiences as the pastor of a remarkable church in Buenos Aires.

A number of the questions which your correspondent would love to have put to brother Juan Carlos after reading the book were answered in a recent issue of *The Wittenburg Door*:
Q: What factors led to the renewal in your church?

Ortiz: We had experienced tremendous numerical growth. But the assistant minister and I were concerned that the so-called "success" of our church was solely dependent upon our effort. We noticed that if we relaxed, the church slowed down. If we worked hard, things picked up. We were deeply disturbed by this. So we asked God to show us what we were doing wrong.

We discovered three things. First, we were running the church like a business. We were promoting Christ like we would promote a product like Coca Cola.

Secondly, we realized that our church was not growing at all. We were just getting fat. First we had two hundred without love, then four hundred, and then a thousand without love. We were not increasing the quality along with the quantity. Simply increasing our numbers is not growth . . . cemeteries grow that way too.

The third thing we discovered was that our church was more like an orphanage than the family of God. We had all of these people with no spiritual fathers and I, as a minister, was functioning as the director of the orphanage.

Q: So what did you do?

Ortiz: One thing we did right away was change the focus of our message. Instead of urging people to come to Christ for all the blessings they would receive, we began to talk about Christ as Lord. We began to preach that people should come to Christ for Christ alone, not for a miracle, a blessing, or even for heaven.

Q: You must have noticed that many churches do the opposite. They suggest that if you come to Christ you will have financial prosperity, healing and personal success.

Ortiz: If that is done then you have people coming to Christ to get, not to give. You have people who expect God to serve them. From the very beginning they will expect the Lord to take care of their house while they are away, heal their mother in the hospital, and help their children. That becomes the way they view their relationship with God. They call him Lord but treat him as a servant.



Q: Aren't there blessings people receive from serving Christ?

Ortiz: Of course, but those blessings are for those who "seek first the Kingdom."

Q: What is your concept of church structure?

Ortiz: Anything that takes the place of the Lord is wrong. For lots of people church structure takes the place of Jesus. They become meeting-centred instead of Christ-centred.

Q: So should churches cancel their meetings?

Ortiz: It isn't quite that simple. If you release people from meetings, they will stay home and watch television. We have to help people improve the quality of their faith. That is the reason for discipleship.

Q: What does that mean?

Ortiz: Rather than having deacons and elders who function like the members of a board, and a minister who functions like the manager, we strive for a group of people who become friends. Just like the disciples. They work together, love one another and take care of one another. Discipleship means a committed group of people meeting each other's needs, while together they perform the necessary tasks of the church.

Q: Many today believe the focal point of the gospel is alleviating social injustice. How did your church deal with the problems of the poor?

Ortiz: I believe the Gospel of the Kingdom involves spiritual and social dimensions. If we stress just social concerns, we are preaching just part of the Gospel. If we only stress spiritual blessings, we preach another Gospel. We cannot be spiritual without being socially concerned and we cannot be socially concerned without being spiritual.

★ ★ ★

A full text, as usual, is available on request.

★ ★

Answer to last month's Quiz: False. See Mark 4: 10-12.

This month's question: Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of the abomination of sexual perversion. True or false?

JASON'S HOUSE

YOU MEAN JASON, THAT BIBLICALLY WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE KNIT TOGETHER....

... MEMBERS ONE OF THE OTHER... SHARING ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS, AS CLOSE AS PARTS OF THE ONE BODY...?

Hmmm... I'm NOT SURE THAT I WANT TO BE QUITE THAT BIBLICAL...!



To the Editor,

It is obvious that R. D. Clark ("A.C." 4/4/81) does not understand Aboriginal culture. They have no concept of individual land ownership. Instead, they belong to the land as their means of sustenance, and to which they are bound by a complex structure of myth and tradition. Our method of acquiring land and our reluctance to share food and resources is incomprehensible to them.

Dramatic Gospel for N.S.W. High Schools



In an effort to break new ground for sharing the Gospel in secondary schools, Scripture Union in N.S.W. has been sponsoring a professional dancer to tour schools in the state.

Cathy Klemke of the Christian Dance Fellowship has been interested in expressing the Christian faith through dance and drama since she became a Christian six years ago.

Leaders of Scripture Union's network of Inter School Christian Fellowship campus groups have been enthusiastic about Cathy's work. One local minister commented "There seems to be a real spiritual quality about Cathy's dancing that expresses both the challenge of the Gospel and the joy of life in God."

Students see their own struggles mirrored in such dances as 'The Search' about life in a disco, 'Loneliness', or 'Clown' about a schoolgirl who uses a smiling mask to conceal her fears and problems.

Philippines Poverty

A nun has described the poverty in a Filipino waterfront slum as unbelievable. Sister Lee Foong, a member of Mother Teresa's order, is working in Tondo. She says that when Filipinos visit Tondo they cannot believe that such dire poverty exists in their country.

According to Sister Lee people are starving to death. The sisters are running a home for 60 children. When the children are healthy they return to their families, but the nuns keep in touch.

Sister Lee says the sisters are called on to do many jobs that they are not qualified to do. But she says they do it, believing in God.

OPEN FORUM

Correspondents are requested to say only what is true, kind, necessary and Christian, and to say it in no more than 150 words.

The slaughter and degradation of the Aborigine was no "holy war" and one should not extrapolate from one situation to another as R. D. Clark does when he quotes the destruction of sacred sites by the Israelites. If we hope to convert the Aboriginal people to Christ I would suggest that R. D. Clark's approach is not appropriate.

His comments that we are "doing the Aborigine a great injustice by dealing out charities which we ourselves do not enjoy", because in this way we are treating them as second class citizens, is missing the point. If taking Aboriginal land and destroying sacred sites is not treating them as second class citizens I would like to know what is. And having deprived the Aborigines of land, native food, and a reason for living, some form of compensation is their right, not a charity. This inadequate compensation reflects our own irresponsibility and not their second rate status.

— Margaret Burrage (Traralgon, Vic.)
THE LAWRIE FAMILY

To the Editor,

After five years research, (as time allowed), I have nearly completed writing a book which includes some interesting information of the early history of the South Australian Churches of Christ.

The book in particular includes the life-story of John Lawrie b.1810, and Thomas Magarey b.1825.

I am at the moment interested in gathering information on families connected with or having something to do with the Lawries in S.A. from 1839

on; e.g. descendants of James Craig, John Aird, Alexander Murray, Peter Cumming and others. Stories of a later period of the Lawrie history around Alma, Pinery, Long Plains will also be appreciated. My address is: 17 Mill St., Dulwich. 5065.

—Trevor Lawrie.

FREEDOM OF THE CHRISTIAN PRESS

To the Editor,

The report in the "A.C." May 23, on the W.A. Conference 1981 did not say that our W.A. Brotherhood in little over an hour, "severed all ties, direct or indirect, with the W.C.C., the A.C.C. and the W.A.C.C.," a relationship spanning over three decades. Whilst this was disappointing to me, I took umbrage that the motion also prohibits the publication of any material relevant to any of these organisations in the 'Western Christian Digest'. Where has the freedom and liberty in which I and many others have been nurtured gone? Can we still repeat with fervor —

"In essentials unity,
in opinions liberty,
in all things charity"?

Love still holds us together, but the freedom I cherish to express my ideas and understanding of worship has gone. Did not our Movement seek to free us? Faith is being free! I believe Campbell was right when he said "Intelligence and freedom are but two names for the same things".

— Clive W. Robertson (Bull Creek W.A.).

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

THREE SCORE YEARS AND TEN

To the Editor,

My wife has involved us in the nightly exercise of reading a Psalm before bed. I am quite enjoying it. Most of the Psalms are short and I find that I can stay intelligent and awake until she has finished reading. I don't know how I am going to cope with Psalm 119. And I think that she's leaving Psalm 117 for when we have a late night.

Last night it was Psalm 90 and I shuddered as she read, "The days of our years are three score years and ten, and if by reason of strength they be four score years yet there is pain, labour and sorrow, for they are soon cut off and we fly away." As she read there flashed into my mind every funeral I had ever been to with solemn parsons morbidly intoning those words and giving me the creeps every time.

Naturally I couldn't sleep for a while. I wondered why those words should give me the horrors. I know already that life expectancy is about seventy or so for those who make it that long. I know that these days some healthy people reach eighty or ninety, and that medical science even prolongs the existence of some unhealthy people that long whether they like it or not. But whatever happens we are all going to die sometime. I know it. I am sure of it. I accept it. And I think that I am glad, because I don't want to be dragging a broken down body . . . and perhaps mind . . . around too long. Yes, I welcome the fact of death.

So I shouldn't get hung up about Psalm 90 and I don't think that I am. I believe that is the dreary, mournful way parsons read it at funerals that gives me the shudders. Why don't they say the words out strongly and perhaps joyfully? After all, life here has to stop sometime so that the rest of God's plan for us can get under way.

Yours eternally,
TERTIUS

Missionary Isolation

Late last year Colyn Pietzsch assisted with typing the translation work of Diana Catts and Fay Christensen at Chungribu, a Rao village in the Madang province of Papua New Guinea.

While at Chungribu, Colyn recorded an interview with Diana and Fay. An extract of the interview appears below.

Colyn is a Social Worker with the Department of Veteran's Affairs in Victoria.

Colyn: — By Western standards your lifestyle is uncomplicated, yet by Chungribu standards I guess they regard you as rich. What's it like for you to step back into Western society, a materialistic society, coming from this basic one?

Fay: — One of the things that strikes you when you first go back is how much of everything there is, the stores seem to have so much. One of the other things that strikes you is how much in a hurry everyone is when they are in the stores. You just feel like standing around and looking at everything when you first get back. Everybody just keeps pushing past rushing on with their work. It doesn't take long before you get back into the Australian way of life and if you don't watch yourself you're soon back to spending money as though you've never been away from it.

Another thing you notice when you do go down town is that you don't know anybody. You can walk down the street and nobody will say hello to you or smile at you or greet you at all, whereas here you walk through the village and practically every person in the village will say hello to you, most of them know your name, they want to know where you're going, what you're doing and you know it's a much more friendly atmosphere.

Colyn: — How does it strike you Diana, when you go back on furlough?

Diana: — The first time you go back on leave you notice it more than ever because you haven't realized how much you've grown away from the Australian way of life. After you've been there and back a few times you expect things to be different.

You're here on a Thursday and Saturday morning you go shopping in Sydney and it's quite amazing the way people spend 50 cents on nothing. 50 cents is nothing, whereas here we have learnt that we can do a fair bit with 50 toya. At first you don't want to spend money on anything, you think of all the things you have been short of in the last three years that you could do with that money. It doesn't take long though to get infected by the Australian way of life and soon your spending 50 cents like anyone else.

Colyn: — It seems to me that you are between two worlds. You are not totally accepted in the Rao community in that you are not from a particular clan and then when you step back into the Australian community you find you have changed.

Diana: — Yes, you come here knowing that it's going to be different and you come expecting to accommodate to these differences. Even though we have formed deep friendships with people here there



Diana Catts and Fay Christensen

are always some differences. That's why the Gospel needs to be preached by the local people to their own people. We see ourselves as training people to be responsible church members within their own church.

When we go back we don't expect to be different. It comes as quite a shock to go back, you think you are going home, you think you are going to the way of life you really belong to and you find that you have changed. The first three years again are the really critical ones.

Fay: — I remember the first time I left this place to go back to Australia after only a year up here. I was on the jet to go from Port Moresby to Brisbane and I found myself hovering in the aisle. There was a very big man sitting in the aisle seat and I had to go past him to get into my seat. One of the things I had assimilated here which had become an unconscious part of me is that you never step across peoples legs to walk anywhere.

I was standing there dithering in the aisle thinking, 'how on earth am I ever going to get into that seat without stepping across the man's legs?' Suddenly it dawned on me, 'that fellow wouldn't care less whether I stepped across his legs or not'. He was an Australian business man who would not have heard of such a custom, who would think I was plain stupid if I hesitated, so I just gathered myself up and hopped straight into the seat.

Colyn: — What about the problem of lost friendships? When you go back is it possible to pick up those friendships or have you both developed with different experiences so that you no longer share things in common?

Diana: — I usually don't lose the friendships but they certainly take on a different character. You have worked or worshipped or had your leisure time together and then you move to an entirely different sort of work and they continue on and maybe they change. You write letters but there is so many different things you just can't communicate in a letter. So when you go back on furlough you have really got a lot to catch up on. You find that you've grown in a different direction.

It's a different type of friendship, it's

still a good friendship but its not the same as before. You find that the people you work with up here are the ones that are your really close friends. They know how you're thinking and you know how they are thinking just as you used to with the other people before. You go back but it's a different sort of friendship.

Colyn: — What about the children of missionaries. Have you seen how living on a station like Chungribu effects the children?

Diana: — I guess the trouble with us is what we see we think is normal.

Fay: — One of the things they probably have a lot of trouble with when they get home is mixing with other children. Up here for some reason the local children always tend to give into the white child and so it is easy for the child to grow up thinking everything they say goes. When they get back to Australia the children are not going to be so differential. It is a bit hard for them to adjust and not be the king pin.

Farewell to Eric Hollard

Eric Hollard was farewelled after the conclusion of his ministry at the Marion church. At the morning service 275 were present. Included in the service were a parent child dedication service and the baptism of Ross Kissock and his daughter Janine.

After the service at 5 p.m. a high tea was held at 6 p.m. Then followed speeches and presentations. C. G. Dredge compered this time. Mrs Marj Dredge made a presentation to Mrs Hollard on behalf of the ladies. After speeches from many involved in all areas of the church the presentation of a cheque was made to Eric Hollard. Others including the Mayor of Marion and the Interchurch Council were involved in the evening.

Yugoslav Co-operation

Yugoslavia's small Protestant community has formed a new interdenominational council. 100 representatives including 50 pastors from seven denominations met recently and set up the Council of Evangelical Christians. It has been described as a "co-operative grouping of most of the nation's Protestant churches".

The council is appealing to Yugoslavia's evangelical community to present a "united front". Protestants number about 1% of the 22 million Yugoslavs with Roman Catholics said to constitute 30% and Muslims about 10%.

CMA Churches in Vietnam

The Evangelical Times reports that, since the communist takeover in Vietnam, 100 CMA churches have been closed or are being used for other purposes. According to the Christian Missionary Alliance, which had 490 churches in 1975, 50 Vietnamese pastors have been sent to re-education camps. The tribal church in the mountain region has been totally destroyed, at least in an organizational sense. Despite the difficulties, some churches are experiencing growth. The principal CMA church in Ho Che Min City (formerly Saigon) reported more than 1,000 conversions in 1979.

Bag Ladies' Banquet

Bob Smith

This is the second in a series of reports from Bob Smith reporting on his Christian Projects Limited sponsored study program in the U.S.A.

250 invitations were hand delivered last November for an elegant four-course thanksgiving dinner at the Manhattan Church of the Nazarene. The church, known as the Lamb's Club, because it occupies the premises of a famous actors club by that name, sent the invitations to New York's homeless. Among them were the "bag ladies" of Times Square, who carry all they own in plastic bags. Other guests were the tattered men who live in back street doorways. 200 showed up.

Turkey dinners were served by waiters and waitresses in tuxedos who manoeuvred around tables covered with linen and decorated with lighted candles. Some waiters, including Thomas Pokorney, understood the patrons well.

"I was on the streets for eight years before I came here," said Mr Pokorney. He has lived for six months at the church. "I ate garbage and slept in doorways," he said. "I know what it's like."

The banquet was developed in 1978 by Joe Colaizzi, who heads the Lamb's Crisis Care program. He said of the dinner,



Treated like a Queen

"We treat these people like kings and queens to let them know that God loves them."

Crisis for Chaplaincy to the Hearing Impaired of Victoria

At a meeting held on May 4, 1981, representatives of the Deafness Foundation (Victoria) and the Inter-Church Chaplaincy Council considered the future of the Chaplaincy to the hearing impaired of Victoria.

Since its commencement four years ago in 1977, the Chaplaincy has been funded from a Charitable Trust. During this time the Chaplaincy has developed through the areas of Christian Education in Deaf Schools, regular church services, pastoral care, and the promotion of clergy and congregation awareness of the handicap of deafness.

The Chaplain, Rev. Geoff Sloan is a deaf man who wears two hearing aids. He has travelled all over Victoria ministering to the special needs of hearing impaired people and training local ministers to deal more adequately with parishioners who have defective hearing.

Unless financial help was forthcoming before the meeting on June 15, consideration will have to be given to closing the Chaplaincy.

BOOKS TO READ

HOW CAN I BE SURE?

By Michael Griffiths (Inter-Varsity Press) \$1.95

This small booklet is written to help Christians over periods of doubt, particularly the doubt that arises in the early stages of the Christian life. Michael Griffiths attempts to answer such questions as 'How can I be sure that I'm a real Christian?' and 'How can I know that God has accepted me?' so that the Christian can be confident. A good booklet although a little too confident about the answers. A good supplement to the book "Doubt" by Os Guinness which covers this matter in greater detail.

BIBLICAL PREACHING

by Haddon W. Robinson (Baker) \$11.95

An argument for the use of expository preaching within the church. The author uses the following definition as his understanding of preaching. "Expository preaching is the communication of a biblical concept, derived from and transmitted through a historical, grammatical, and literary study of a passage in its context, which the Holy Spirit first applies to the personality and experience of the preacher, then through him to his hearers." This book starts then from looking at the definition and follows this through with a detailed examination of the preparation of the sermon through to the presentation. The stages of the development of the expository sermon are outlined.

THE BIBLE: Its Authority and Interpretation in the Ecumenical Movement.

edited by Ellen Flesseman-van Laer (W.C.C.)

This book presents the various statements that have been made about the place, authority and understanding of the Bible at World Council of Churches Faith and Order Conferences over a period of years. Each of the conferences over the two decades made a statement on this area of church life. In this book they have been gathered together showing the changes that have occurred in ecumenical thinking over this period of time. Each section is introduced by a very helpful statement by the editor.

The latest papers from the Zadok Centre have arrived in our office. The first paper by John Goss is "Rich Against Poor: A Reading Guide on World Development". Briefly John Goss outlines four approaches to development and then lists books that are useful to someone thinking about this important issue. Of interest is an appendix listing, with addresses, many agencies that are involved in development work.

The second paper is by Rev. Clive Harcourt-Norton. This is titled "Violation or the Power of Powerlessness: The Ethical Choice Confronting the Christian in the Search for Peace".

These and other very interesting papers are available from the Zadok Centre, 13 Edgar St., Ainslie, A.C.T. 2602.

Unless otherwise stated books reviewed on this page may be obtained from: Keswick-Scripture Union Bookshop, 1st floor, Port Phillip Arcade, 232 Flinders St., Melbourne 3000; N.S.W. Churches of Christ Book Shop, 9 Endeavour Arcade, The Kingsway, Caringbah, 2229; Scripture Union Bookshop, 121 Bathurst St., Hobart, 7000; Associated Church Bookshops, 38A St. George's Terrace, Perth, 6000; Scripture Union Bookshop, 6 Sherwood Court, Perth, 6000.



"Another nice thing about working for God... He has a great retirement plan!"

People Make News

Papua New Guinea

★ Long Wait Over

David and Robyn Harmer and their three children expect to arrive in Madang on July 24 to commence their ministry. Their visas took almost 12 months to be approved.

★ On Furlough In U.S.A.

Greg Law is at present home on three month's furlough in N.S.W. He will return to continue making his excellent contribution in the nursing ministry. Greg will be greatly missed by both missionaries and indigenes when he concludes his ministry at the end of 1981.

★ New Positions

Diana Catts of Chungribu has been appointed the Chairman of the Field Council and Rod Feldhahn to the position of Vice-Chairman.

★ Planning to Visit U.S.A.

Ralph and Barbara Bennett will be returning to Australia for an early furlough in October. During their six months absence they are planning to visit their parents in the U.S.A.

VANUATU

★ Working at Ranwadi

Norm Cornwell a voluntary worker from the church at Cheltenham, Victoria, is now working at the Ranwadi High School on Pentecost Island.

★ Nursing Sister at Ndui Ndui Hospital

Another voluntary worker, Sister Sandra Wood, arrived in Santo on May 10. Sandra will minister at the Ndui Ndui Hospital until the end of July when she will fly to the United Kingdom for further studies.

★ Materials for Houses Ordered

Jack Murphy flew from Santo to Vila in May to order sufficient materials for two houses. One house is to be erected at the Banmatmat Bible College and the other is to be built at the Ranwadi High School.

★ Work Permit Extended

Jenny Marshall has had her work permit extended. It will enable her to continue teaching at Ranwadi High School next year.

★ Coming Home by Ship

Bruce and Lyn Pederson and family, and Jack and Cathy Murphy and family expect to return to Australia by ship in early October. Their ministries are greatly appreciated. Bruce has pioneered the carpentry training program at Londua and Jack is a very capable business manager.

★ Principal to Conclude Ministry

John Liu announced last year he will conclude his ministry at the Banmatmat Bible College at the end of 1981. John is making a valuable contribution in the area of theological training and in church leadership.

INDIA

★ Coming to Victoria for Furlough

Barry and Maureen Jenkins expect to return to Victoria on furlough at the end of this year. Arrangements for deputation for next year are being made.

Salaries Increase

All missionary salaries and allowances were increased by 15% at the May meeting of the Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board. Salaries will be back dated to April 1, 1981. This increase merely keeps abreast of rises in the cost of living overseas.

Planning Policy

The annual policy making meeting of the Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board is to be held in Adelaide on June 19-20. Representatives of the State Overseas Mission Committees and the Theological Colleges will attend.

Voluntary Work Team Wanted

Qualified trades people are needed to erect buildings in both Vanuatu and in Papua New Guinea. Could you give a few weeks in Christian service?

Please write to Ron McLean, Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board, P.O. Box 320, Unley, South Australia 5061.

Office Service for London Visitors

A special service to Christian business people and others who require on-the-spot help in London has been established by an organisation known as The Office London.

It offers "a complete office away from home". It is established at 27 Camden Road, London NW1 9NL. Its telephone number is 01-267 2346 and cables should be sent to Gospelight, London NW1.

The service includes airport pick-up; office and board room facilities with executive secretarial assistance, equipment rental, use of telephone, message service and appointments made and telex facilities; and hotel, car rental and air ticket confirmation and re-arrangement services.

Australia, Part of the Asian Scene

The Christian Conference of Asia has just completed its seventh assembly at Bangalore in India, with the theme "Living in Christ with people."

Among the Australian representatives were Keith Ludgater, former missionary to Vanuatu and now ministering at Ringwood (Vic.), and Phil Webber, student at the College of the Bible and involved in 1981 in an intern year at Happy Valley (S.A.).

Phil Webber has been elected as Australia's representative on the General Committee of the C.C.A.

Phil writes, "I hope it will provide me with an opportunity to be involved in Asian concerns as an Australian Christian. Seeing and meeting so many beautiful people, just rubbing shoulders with them, has been such a joy. When we think about the masses of Asia you realise that they are people just like us. We have been confronted with so many needs, I am going home asking myself what should the Australian Church be doing and what can I do."

New Staff for Y.F.C.

Vic Campbell has been appointed to the new position of Youth Guidance Director with Melbourne Youth For Christ. The Youth Guidance program aims to present the Gospel to young people in trouble or in institutions.

Vic Campbell, 31, is a former high-school teacher and technical school chaplain. Since 1979 he has worked with Fusion Australia in drop-in centres, coffee shops and school seminars. He is also an Honorary Probation Officer.

As Youth Guidance Director, he will be responsible for maintaining and developing an outreach program already operating at Winlaton Girls Youth Training Centre.



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HAPPENINGS

Sydney Anglican minister, Rev. John Parish, has been appointed special chaplain to sideshowmen and their families. Closely associated with agricultural shows and rodeos John Parish has executed a varied ministry to show competitors for many years.

For the first time in the history of the Russian Orthodox Church the prayer book and the psalter are being published in a combined form. 150,000 copies have been printed intended mainly for lay people.

Melbourne Explo '82 has been delayed until 1983 because organisers want more time to develop a youth discipleship program to meet the needs of Victorian churches.

Adolfo Perez Esquivel, the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize winner, has been

warned by Brazilian police to shut up or get out. He has been a vocal critic of the violation of human rights throughout Latin America.

According to the Victorian Moderator of the Uniting Church, Rev. Ian Smith, only 14% of Uniting Church members worshipped each Sunday.

There were 307 Christian prisoners in the U.S.S.R. at the beginning of the year according to Keston College. The largest groups were Baptists — 94, Adventists — 53, Orthodox — 36 and Pentecostals with 35.

It has been reported that 80% of Moslems who convert to Christianity revert to Islam because of the everyday pressures such a change involve.

The Conference of European Churches (CEC), has accepted into its 114

church membership its first black church, the Shiloh United Church of Christ Apostolic Worldwide. The Shiloh United Church is made up of a majority of Christians from the Caribbean, now living permanently in Great Britain. The Church is also a member of the British Council of Churches.

Fr Edmund Nadolny of Connecticut (U.K.) has a new twist on the Parable of the Talents. Seeking to raise money for the church he distributed £10,000 to 50 investors who lost £9,000 of it. However messages of sympathy came in with donations totalling £90,000.

Dr Robert H. Bowman, President of the Far East Broadcasting Company, in a special ceremony in Seoul, Korea, on April 9, was given the "Order of Diplomatic Service Merit Heung-In Medal" by the Republic of Korea. The medal, has previously only been awarded to

diplomatic statesmen and Heads of State. The Far East Broadcasting Company operates two medium wave radio stations in Korea — broadcasting the message of Christ daily to Korea, China, the U.S.S.R. and Japan.

The General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Desmond Tutu has been nominated for the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize by the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers).

The Pope apparently wears Australian wool on his travels. His tailor advocates Australian pure new wool as the most effective protection against world-wide extremes of heat and cold.

Believers within the Catholic charismatic movement in Colombia are under intense pressure to break off their associations with evangelicals or leave the movement.

A survey conducted by the British magazine "Family" found that the major stress in Christian marriage is the pressure of church responsibilities. Finance was second followed by sexual problems.

In America daily TV viewing per household per day averaged six hours and 36 minutes in 1980.

South Africa's Dutch Reformed Church has officially rebuked nine of its prominent theologians for their indictments of the denomination's defence of apartheid.

The Iranian Government has announced that the Anglican Church will no longer be allowed to function in Iran.

200 secret police have been recruited from the western part of Czechoslovakia to help comb the mountainous Slovakian countryside for prayer meetings and discussion groups inspired by the "Oasis" youth renewal movement in Poland.

First "Civic" Breakfast held at Doncaster

84 attended a Civic Breakfast held at the church hall on Saturday, May 30 to hear Canon Peter Hollingworth of the Brotherhood of St Laurence speak on "The Hurting Heart of Australia". The Breakfast was sponsored by the church's Outreach Committee, and gave those

attending, the opportunity to become aware of areas of poverty and concern in our city.

Invitations were issued to all local Civic personalities, including councillors and parliamentarians, and other community organisations with a caring heart, such as

Apex, Lions and Rotary Service Clubs, Doncaster Care and Counselling, and all local churches.

Brian Jacques, from Burwood was the soloist.

This Breakfast was a "first", but as so many expressed appreciation of its content, it will become an annual event — a forum at which we can "air" social and community issues.

Proceeds from the Breakfast were presented to Canon Hollingworth towards the work of the Brotherhood of St Laurence.



Chatting over breakfast are: Cr Kenneth Gray, Joe Diffen, Deputy Town Clerk, Major Jock Burns (member of Outreach Committee), and Keith Horne, minister.

Teens Week at Centenary

Teens week this year was organised by the Centenary youth assisted by the Queensland Youth Department (Alan Male and Ruth Coultis) and guided by the Centenary minister Arthur Taylor-Davis.

The program this year was held in a new shopping centre complex over four days including Sunday services. Large numbers of leaflets were handed out to over 4000 shoppers in the evenings.

Excellent youth bands and musical groups were featured. Many came from near and far. Fred Davis from Bexley North was guest speaker and hit the spot with his messages. Several young people accepted Christ over Teens Week.

15 from Seven Oakes Spastic Centre attended in wheel chairs. Len Jelaco has worked tirelessly for the past 18 months bringing spastic persons to services at Centenary.

— Charles Kimber.

WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT CHURCHES OF CHRIST?

Page 13

Our recent articles on Baptists and Churches of Christ have emphasised the fact that we hold so much in common. In fact we hold very much in common with all of the churches.

This raises the question that if we hold so many beliefs and practices in common with other Christian bodies, are we justified in maintaining a separate existence from them? So we must ask ourselves what there is about us that is unique, and whether what that is, is important enough to justify our separate existence.

What We Stand For

Members of Churches of Christ know very well the doctrines and practices for which we stand. But are we also aware that almost all of these are believed in or practised by one or other of the major denominations.

Baptism. We believe with the Baptists that baptism is the immersion of repentant believers. All of the other major denominations accept this as valid baptism. Our belief concerning the intention and purpose of baptism finds us in some difference from the Baptists, but in harmony with the rest of the churches.

We share the weekly observance of the Lord's Supper with Anglicans and Roman Catholics.

Presbyterians and the Uniting Churches practise with us a **functioning eldership** representing responsible lay leadership appointed by the churches. Baptists and Congregationalists have **deacons** as we do. Anglicans have deacons but with a different function.

The ministry of the laity. Our belief in the priesthood of believers has as its corollary the ministry of the laity. This is the position of Baptists and Congregationalists. However in the last 25 years there has been a rapid movement in most denominations towards a fully functioning lay ministry. We would still be unique in our conviction about the use of the laity in worship, especially in presiding at the Lord's Table.

All of the free churches and the Lutherans believe in the **authority of the scriptures as the basis of the life and faith of the church.** The plea for the restoration of New Testament Christianity is also part of the tradition of Presbyterians, Baptists, and most evangelicals.

In some ways we are distinctive in our view that the way to Christian union is through the restoration of New Testament Christianity. However at the 1937 Edinburgh Faith and Order Conference the representatives of all of the major denominations agreed that the New Testament is the norm for the faith and life of the church and that this fact is important for its unity. The Uniting Churches in working out their faith and order agreed from the start to set aside traditions and to use the New

Testament to guide them towards their union. They believed that they were doing what our pioneers always said should happen, but we were not there to share with them our understanding of what the New Testament is saying in some areas.

The autonomy of the local congregation. There is some question as to whether there was such a thing in New Testament times. However our traditional belief in it is shared by Congregationalists and Baptists.

Our rejection of creeds as tests of fellowship also represents the position of Baptists and Congregationalists. However we do have a basic creed which is **belief in Jesus the Christ as the son of the living God**, as expressed in Peter's confession. This basic creed is held in common by all member churches of the World Council of Churches.

We have always claimed to believe in the **doctrine of liberty** although our practice of it has lagged a bit. The same is true of the free churches.

With the Roman Catholics we have always affirmed that **there is one church** and that **denominationalism provides a travesty** of its essential unity.

Our Uniqueness

Our uniqueness then is that we hold as important to the faith and life of the whole Body of Christ, a number of doctrines and practices, all of which we hold in common with one or more denominations, but none of which is held in common by all of the denominations.

Our justification for a separate existence at this point of history is to witness to what we believe is the testimony of scripture in relation to these doctrines and practices. This witness of course must be to the churches through ecumenical encounters, in unity discussions at all levels, and in union negotiations when opportunity arises. We would also expect fresh light to break from the Word to ourselves in such encounters.

Plea For Unity

Once we were unique amongst all of the churches in our plea for Christian union. Now we are not alone. Indeed, while others have a strong mind for the unity for which Christ prayed, the cutting edge of our plea has become somewhat blunted.

Yet possibly we are still unique in saying, hopefully with sincerity, that we believe that the union of all Christians in the one Body of Christ can come about when Christians come together to the New Testament to discover in its pages, under the leading of the Holy Spirit, what is the mind and will of Christ for the contemporary church. One hopes that when the time comes for such meetings, Churches of Christ will be there!

OBITUARY

Typed statements of not more than 250 words, recognising the work and witness of God's faithful servants are welcomed. They should be submitted promptly.

BROOKER, Leslie E. (16.5.81)

Les Brooker slipped away to a new experience of his Lord aged 91. His family and friends celebrated his life at Thanksgiving service at the Surrey Rd., Nunawading church. Ted Keating was assisted at the service by Les' only son Ron, the Victorian-Tasmanian Conference President, and his grandson David, Student President of the College of the Bible and minister-elect of Coburg. Les lived long enough to see his son Ron inducted into the Presidency in the Melbourne Town Hall on May 3. Les was married to Annie in 1918. She predeceased him some years ago. Together they were active in a number of churches including Collingwood, Parkdale, Fairfield, Middle Park, Brighton, Caulfield, Boronia and Carnegie. Les is best known for his nine years of partnership from 1920 in the Hinrichsen-Brooker mission team. He was song leader, personal worker, tent expert, and adviser on building programs to churches given new life by the missions. He was also widely known as an anniversary speaker, magician and comedian, always in service for Christ and the church. His great obsession was the plea for New Testament Christianity in its purity and reality in both doctrine and life. He loved the Brotherhood, he was enthusiastic for evangelism, and he cared about people, especially children. Les Brooker leaves three daughters, a son, 11 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

ESTERHUIZEN, Mrs. Ruth

The churches and district of Strathalbyn, Milang, Point Sturt were shocked at the unexpected death of Mrs Ruth Esterhuizen. A packed church at Milang was but one visible expression of the district's tribute. Ruth Whitfield was born at Angas House in 1913 and grew up with a strong community consciousness, becoming a veritable wealth of local lore. She was married to Jack Esterhuizen at Milang in 1938 by Pastor Wilson. There were four children, Alan (deceased), Una, James and Janet. Ruth was widowed in 1976. She is remembered as one who was sensitive to the basic needs of individuals, and is known by the writer as a person who was open, accepting, and non-judgmental. She identified positively in the community, her active involvements including Meals on Wheels, C.W.A., Red Cross, Progress Association, Historical Society, Institute Committees. The soon to be published "History of Milang" owes much to her dedicated ability. Her expertise extended to all matters relating to spinning, and she knew the world of wild flowers. Through the Strathalbyn Singers her voice brought joy to many. On stage she could be serious or humorous, but always for the benefit of others. Ruth was an absolute stalwart in the local church at Milang and Circuit. Her talents were used through Bible School, C.E., C.W.F., and in the areas of worship or work she was simply always there. The fragrance of her selfless and untiring discipleship will live on in the lives of all who knew her. — H.S.P.

PARSONS, Mrs Annie

(14.5.1981) Mrs Annie Parsons died peacefully at the Landt Home, Warracknabeal. A fortnight earlier she had celebrated her 97th birthday with her family. She lived an active, healthy life until she suffered a slight stroke 2½ years ago necessitating nursing care. Being the eldest of nine she was fully occupied helping her mother. At the age of 12 she accepted Jesus as her Saviour and was baptised in a dam at Dunmurkle thus beginning 85 years of association with our churches. Upon her marriage to Alfred Parsons they became foundation members of the Warracknabeal church. A few years later they moved to the Mynyip church where they were faithful members. She prepared the Lord's Table there for many years. In 1947 she moved again to Warracknabeal. She was active in C.W.F. and Temperance work. She was greatly loved because of her graciousness and was affectionately known as "Gran" by many. There were large attendances at both the church and graveside services. To her family still living, Keith, Grace, Laurel, Ray, Harold Newell (brother) and the many relatives we express our Christian love.

— R. W. Marshall

RYALL, Mildred

Born in Bendigo in 1900, into the home of Joseph and Christina Southwick, Mildred or Millie as she was affectionately known, was one of five children. The family was deeply involved in the early life of the Bendigo Church. In the bush on the outskirts of that city, Millie developed a love for wild flowers, gathering, identifying, drying and mounting them. This later became the basis of a ministry, using wildflower greeting cards. When Millie was 14 the family moved to Melbourne, and the Carnegie church became their home. She worked in Mutual Store. A romance developed with Bob Ryall, the son of the Manager and also a member of the Carnegie church. On his return from U.S.A. they were married at Swanston Street, and established their home in Glen Iris. Four sons were born to their marriage — Donald, Roger, David and Victor. With her husband they were part of the new church established at East Malvern that later became the Ashburton church. Following the death of her husband in 1978, Millie continued her life at Glen Iris. Falling eyesight became a problem and in 1979 she made her home with David and Rosemary at Greensborough and became a member of the church at Doncaster. A broken hip and a

time in PANCH Hospital were overcome in a manner that showed something of the incredible courage and inner strength of this gentle lady. Two weeks before her death, she elected to move to the Christian Guest Home at Oakleigh. She was settling into her new home, and although not well, her death was sudden and unexpected. The funeral was conducted in the Ashburton church, and Mrs. Freda Morris shared in the service with Keith Horne, minister of the Doncaster church. Millie Ryall had an attitude to life that made everything she touched become beautiful. She had a love of gentle things, was a great encourager of the young, and considerate of the needs of others. Millie Ryall was the kind of person upon which we have built so many of our churches; her love, loyalty and commitment to Jesus, has enriched our lives, and we are the poorer for her passing.

— K.D.H.

Praise Down Under

Praise Down Under is a collection of 27 new songs for worship written by Australians.

The book is designed to supplement hymn books and attempts to satisfy the many musical moods and needs of the congregation.

Tunes and words are close to the kind of music that most Australians enjoy and listen to constantly. Some of the songs can be learnt quickly. Others are more difficult and may require a lead singer or choir to sing the verses and to be joined by the congregation for the chorus.

To help learn the new songs, a cassette tape containing all the songs has been prepared. Both the book and tape are available through On Being, P.O. Box 434, Hawthorn, Vic. 3122. Christian bookshops may also have supplies.

Sounds Like Work

Conducting a study on work and what it means? Looking for some sounds of a variety of work noises to illustrate a talk or to promote a discussion?

These are now available. Chester Schultz has produced a cassette titled "Sounds like work" which features a great variety of sounds from different work places. He has called the tape "A Symphony of Work Sounds". The sounds were first produced for a worship service of the Maylands church.

The cassette which runs for 45 minutes is available for a donation to cover costs from Chester Schultz at 18 Charlton St., Exeter, S.A. 5019.

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Film Seminar at Port Macquarie

A "Family Life Film Seminar" which attracted 160 participants was recently held at Port Macquarie. "Family Life Film Seminars" are an extension of the ministry of Dr and Mrs Tim La Haye.

For a number of years, Tim La Haye and his wife Beverly have been teaching Biblical family life principles at seminars throughout the United States and around the World. The four key sessions of their seminars have been filmed and are now available to churches.

The seminar could be more aptly called "How to understand your Temperament!" Only one of the four films deals exclusively with "family life". However, the material presented is excellent.

The first film answers the question "Why you act the way you do". It introduces the un-initiated to Tim La Haye's teaching on "Temperament". The four basic temperaments are outlined, with their respective strengths and weaknesses. With the understanding of our own temperament, we are more able to fathom why we act the way we do. Dr La Haye shows how the Holy Spirit can bring out the strengths of our particular "make up".

"Coping with Hostility" is the theme of the second film. The film particularly concerns those extrovert personalities, who are generally more prone to hostility and anger.

Introverted people have a greater tendency to fear and anxiety. The third film in the seminar deals with the "How" of overcoming these problems.

"Six keys to Marital Happiness" is the title of the final film in the series. The "keys" are maturity, submission, love, communication, praying together and the headship of Christ.

Each film is 50 minutes screening time. The seminar was conducted over two nights.

Tim La Haye's teaching is not just good psychology. He challenges to a Biblically based lifestyle, and Spirit controlled temperament.

Churches interested in having a "Family Life Film Seminar" can contact Colin McKenzie, Unit 2, 7-9 Girrilang Rd, Cronulla, N.S.W. 2230.

THORNBURY (Ian Adams). 60th anniversary held. Carl Claydon speaker at morning and afternoon services. Musical items by Miss Dulcie Gray in the morning and Thornbury Salvation Army Songsters in the afternoon. Old photos on display in the hall... Baptism of B.S. scholar... Weekly after school "Happy Hours" commenced led by Margaret Driver assisted by Beryl Killmier. 28 attended on first two weeks.

WEST PRESTON (D. Wissmann). Parent Effectiveness training sessions held over eight weeks... Good News Bibles represented by family of Charles Wyndham Hart in his memory... Y.P. had outing to Mornington Peninsula spending night at Tootgarook church... Family service followed by lunch and mystery tram trip... Ladies enjoying craft mornings... Tapes of morning services made and available to anyone.

LAUNCESTON (M.D. Hamilton, R.J. Allison). Girls' Brigade held parade following youth tea on May 24... C.W.A.F. had City Mission ladies as guests for musical afternoon... Church still assisting Caveside and Ulverstone with speakers each week... C.W.E.F. Knitwits making rug for Bethany Day Care Centre... Church shared ecumenical service at St Aiden's C. of E. on June 7. Speaker Dean Lloyd of Church of Apostle and first Catholic President of Tas. Council of Churches.

MANIFOLD HEIGHTS (Peter Pitts). C.W.F. conducted Mother's Day service... Mr and Mrs Bee, missionaries with W.E.C., shared on May 17... Night of Prayer held... Church family camp in June long weekend with Geoff Deuble study leader and John Elliott camp director... Mountjoy family farewelled at after church supper following 36 years fellowship... Paul and Karen Hills going to Eidsvold as a parent team and motor mechanic... Y.A.F. took evening service... New Bethel Bible study, groups commenced. Four now in progress... Church attendances reach new high... Laurie Barlow elected to Eldership and preaching assistance... Three baptisms.

CARNARVON (B. Yesberg). Five day seminar on mission education conducted by Wycliffe Bible Translators, Bruce and Sandra Anderson who have been working on linguistics of Aborigines in Roebourne area, and Annette Tomkins of Perth... Brent Law returned to Eidsvold with plans to enter Bimbadeen Bible College... Mrs Dorrie Hummerston, Geraldton, guest speaker at women's outreach meeting... Bush S.S. commenced on outskirts of town where new Aborigine village to be built for people displaced by 1980 flood... Cottage prayer evening held fortnightly and weekly three prayer meetings for C.W.C.I. Convention. Ladies' prayer meeting held fortnightly

Elissa Joy and Wendy Beth



We all know about "P.K.'s" (preachers' kids). Usually they arrive one at a time. No so Elissa Joy and Wendy Beth. They arrived on the same day to bless the home and lives of Mark and Jan Dunn who are ministering with the Mt Clear church at Ballarat, Victoria. Mark and Jan are from Albion (Q). Both trained at the College of the Bible, Mark being student secretary and Jan office secretary.

The picture was taken on the first day that the twins were at church.

COBURG (Chris Ambrose, Cynthia Page, Bill Wilson). New ministry team commenced this year... David Brooker has accepted call of Regional Board to serve three churches with special concern for Coburg from 1982... Drop In held weekly with over 30 attending most weeks... Morning Coffee speakers have been Pat Burchell on Interchurch Council, Heather Pover and Mary Ambrose on Home Tutor scheme and Chris Ambrose... Young adults Bible study for region commenced... Bible study series on Christian Living held... 61st anniversary speaker Dr Trevor Banks... Project 5000 raised \$6,438. New project commenced with a fancy dress night.

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ALBURY: Albury Singles Club (060) 25 1910.

NUNAWADING: Unhitched (03) 877 6077 or 873 4531

FRANKSTON: Peninsula Singles Club (03) 783 3235 or 781 4257.

Visitors to these centres are welcome and may obtain information re meeting times by phoning the numbers listed above.

Other Singles Clubs operating who wish to be listed here on a share-cost basis should write to Mr R. K. Aldred, P.O. Box 478, Albury, 2640.



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Mayfield is International

The Mayfield church in Newcastle (N.S.W.) is like several others of our churches . . . home away from home for Asians studying and living in Australia. Newcastle has both a university and a college of advanced education. Many Asians are studying there and a lot of them are in fellowship at Mayfield. Their presence has stimulated mis-

sionary giving, amounting to \$5,500 per year from 150 members (membership has doubled in the last nine years).

A feature enjoyed by the Asians is the weekly Sunday luncheon after the morning service. It is attended by a cross section of the people and their friends and averages 100.



Clockwise: 1. Asian members at Mayfield. 2. Mayfield pastors, Ray Hawkins and Max Hall with their wives and Asian friends. 3. Asian graduates at Mayfield. 4. Washing up after Sunday lunch.

Social Justice and Acting

The Victorian Christian Theatre is in July presenting a new Australian play — Handouts — that looks at the issue of social justice. In particular, it looks at the problem of unemployment. Handouts will be presented in a number of theatres around Melbourne and will then be available for tour.

Before the production of Handouts can happen however, the Victorian Christian Theatre needs the help of many people. Lighting, sound, backstage and front of house people are needed urgently.

Later this year, the group will be presenting its fifth theatre season. A season of three one-act plays. All have a powerful message that will speak to

many. For this season the group will be holding auditions in July.

Apart from productions, a major feature of the group's program is church performances. These are an on-going activity. Three plays are currently available for performances, and each fits well into a worship service.

On August 1 a one-day seminar will be held covering many aspects of theatre craft. The skills learned at this seminar would be a huge asset in a local church environment. The seminar will cost \$2.

Information on any activities of the group can be obtained from: Mark Fletcher (President) on (03) 592 3055 or Susan Sanders (Secretary) on (03) 560 0564.

Australian Christian Foundation Scholar, Bob Smith, writes about what is happening since the old Lamb's Club building has been used for Christ's lost lambs.

In an old off Broadway actors' club in seamy Times Square is the **Manhattan Church of the Nazarene**. It is an island of Christian love in a sea of human misery.

The name of the old club was the Lamb's. The church has kept the name. It seems particularly appropriate.

Lamb's Ministries

In 1975, under the leadership of their head Pastor, Paul Moore, the church members raised money for a down payment on the Lamb's Club. Today Paul Moore tends the Lamb's flock of 200 members and leads a staff of 14 urban missionaries. All but three of these are volunteers who raise their own support. They man the Lamb's Ministries outreach to the flood of Times Square derelicts, singles and disillusioned "up and outs".

Crises Care

Joe Colaizzi heads the Lamb's Crises Care program. It is a gospel outreach geared to the street people. They provide food, shelter and clothing to those in need. Three times weekly they provide an excellent three course meal. Jan and I helped serve one of them. We were impressed by the way the street people were treated with respect. There wasn't much of the old soup kitchen, 'listen to the sermon then you get your feed' approach.

Joe also goes out on to the streets to minister. He spends his night walking the streets, making contact with derelicts, junkies and prostitutes.

44 people live in the residence rooms at Lamb's. B.J. Weber, an assistant pastor described it as "a safe house, a respite for Christians who need to gather together to worship Jesus".

Eileen and Sally

One of these people is Eileen an aspiring actress who came to New York to further her career. She is now looking for ways to use her craft for the Gospel. In fact Lamb's has quite a group of Christian actors and actresses. The 400 seat, wood panelled theatre now is the venue for some fine Christian drama, as well as church services.

For Sally, a leggy, dark haired model, the Lamb's community is "the only thing keeping me sane", in the glossy, glamorous New York fashion world.

Concern and Piety

Paul Moore says that a combination of social concern and Christian piety is at the heart of the ministries.

"We get them oriented to a life of prayer, love and sharing. Some of the people say they've never been loved like this before".

"The doors of our church have literally not been closed for the last 1800 days. Outside is a city that never sleeps... never stops crying out".


From the most sophisticated to the most degraded; from Ph.D's to the illiterate, the Lamb's Club reaches out and "brings good news to the poor, binds up the broken hearted and proclaims liberty to the captives".

Lambs in Manhattan

Bob Smith



A "crash pad" for street people at Lamb's




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ENGAGEMENTS

MARTIN — MOUNTJOY. Debbie and Gavin together with their parents Joy and Geoff Martin, Winifred and Harward Mountjoy are delighted to announce their engagement.

DEATHS

BROOKER Leslie Edmund. On May 16 our wonderful father died peacefully at Fred Combridge House, Northcote, aged 91. Loving husband of Annie (dec.). Loved father of Marje and Rod, Betty and Geoff, Gwen and Dick (dec.), Ron and Dot. Adored grandfather (Bambie) of Glenys and Wayne, Graeme and Jenny, Anne and Ian, Peter and Margaret, Andrew, Lyn, Philip, Helen, David and Heather, Ian and Sue, Meredith and Katrina. Great grandfather of Warren, Gillian, Claire and Simone.

IN MEMORIAM

WITHERS John Blackmore. In continuing affectionate memory of John, who left us on June 28th 1975 — Clara and Arthur, Jean and Les, and his children Rachel, Rebecca and Jane.

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PIANIST

The Glenairs singing group urgently requires a pianist for performances, and Wednesday night practices at the Glen Waverley Church of Christ.

Information available from David Patterson.

(03) 580 9598

VIC

SURREY HILLS (Rod Foster). Monthly youth group and weekly prayer and Bible study meeting in manse . . . Rod and Jeanette Foster teaching Religious Instruction at state school . . . Tim Adam and Bruce Minahan leading new Explorer Club . . . Adventure time program for children on Sunday morning.

MT. EVELYN (Brian J. O'Grady). Eight acres purchased in Mt. Evelyn for future church complex . . . Music seminar held . . . Series of meetings over Easter with Lyell Potts, Canberra, speaker . . . Weekly B.S. lectures . . . Visiting speakers have been Glenys McDonald, Mrs Nancye Harkin (Frankston C.R.C.) and Pastor Peter Vacca (Bethesda Fellowship, S.A.).

nsw

THORNLEIGH (Paul Cameron). Ladies Fellowship held hillbilly night to assist work of Social Service Dept . . . B.S. picnic at Prospect Dam . . . A.B.M. held . . . Evening services during winter to commence at 5.30 p.m.

INVERELL (I. Morton). Missionary Convention held May 15-17. Speakers were Allan King and Sheord Van Dong from W.E.C. and Ken Warne and Joses Sali of Overseas Mission Board. Poster competition on theme "Till the Whole World Hears" had many entries . . . Carpet laid in manse by C.W.F. now fully paid . . . Y.P. attended D.C.E. camp at Evans Head.

wol

BRUCE ROCK, MERREDIN (D. Good). Baptism at Bruce Rock . . . Bruce Rock Y.P. joining Narembeen for Y.P.C.E. . . . Gideons rep. spoke at combined service with Uniting Church in Bruce Rock . . . Easter services in both churches combined with Uniting Church . . . Both churches have members involved in 40 hour famine . . . Children from Merredin S.S. shared in state youth camps . . . Bruce Rock women making patchwork quilts for Welfare Centre.

WHITFORD CITY (D. A. Beavis). Record attendance on Mothers' Day. 200

heard Brian Willersdorff, National Chairman of Explo '81 . . . Block of land purchased, located opposite Whitford City Shopping Centre . . . Minister David Beavis awarded Doctor of Theology in this year's graduating class of Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Florida.

SOUTH PERTH (Kevin Denton, Bruce Eagles). C.W.F. "Mexican Nite" drew crowd and \$252 for missionary projects . . . Special "Reachout" gospel series during May included guest soloist Robert Coleman . . . Geoff Rowcroft, in Perth for Explo '81 with C.Y.T.A., preached at both morning services in home church . . . Mrs Daphne Isaac appointed Pres. of Women's Conf. . . Men's choir commenced under leadership of W. Samuel . . . Christian Training Centre commenced second semester on Wednesday evenings with six electives . . . Missionary Committee produced 20 page issue of "World Outreach" . . . Susan Spiers started two year course at W.E.C. College, Launceston . . . An appreciation copy of Komba (P.N.G.) New Testament received, translated by S.P. missionaries Neville and Gwyneth Southwell over 16 years . . . Explo '81 included 19 full-time and 13 part-time delegates from church.

ALBANY (D. Lundren). Half yearly meeting showed signs of growth. Membership increased. S.S. and youth clubs reported increased attendances . . . Mini mission being planned for Sept. 20-23 with Des Nelson . . . From June 1 daily Bible readings commenced by members from list compiled by minister. Aim is to read whole Bible in 12 months . . . Conf. Pres. R. Taylor visited on June 21.

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PPGC/1

VIC

WARRAGUL (P. Broadbent). Guest speakers on June 8 were Mr and Mrs Morley from O.M. They will be going to Indonesia soon on mission work.

DONCASTER (K. Horne). Keith Bowes to lead next series of School for Christians . . . 84 attended civic breakfast including Councillors, M.L.A.s and neighboring churches. Speaker Canon Hollingworth of Brotherhood of St Laurence . . . Lay Pastoral Team functioning . . . Plans in hand for S.S. centenary on July 12 . . . Gerald Rose to conduct "Adventure in Evangelism" seminar . . . 50 attended fellowship dinner for board members and auxiliary leaders . . . Singles "One-Up" Club combined with Nunawading Singles for activities **ECHUCA** (A. Symes). Y.P. held sing-a-long after evening service . . . Ladies conducted opportunity shop in church hall raising \$82 . . . Progressive dinner held . . . After school Bible class begun at Cummeragunja each Monday . . . Church saddened by death of Lester Smith a former member.

CHADSTONE (Bruce Skillicorn). Morning services commencing at 10.30 . . . Church celebrated 26th anniversary . . . Explorers held display night at Oakleigh. John Schmode has concluded leadership and new leaders are Geoff Masterton and Mark Flanders . . . Bible studies held Wednesday afternoons and Thursday evenings . . . C.W.F. morning coffee at home of Gwen Scantlebury . . . Two socials held . . . Ladies fitness class held in hall . . . Keith Skillicorn speaker at morning service . . . Baptism at family service . . . Ladies conducted Mother's Day service . . . Maundy Thursday meal and communion held . . . Picnic held at Jells Park . . . After church luncheon held to discuss future of church . . . Planned giving program held . . . Girls club took part in outdoor sports . . . Bruce Skillicorn will terminate ministry at end of year.

CARNEGIE (R. Ritchie). School holiday program attended by 25 each day . . . 130 present on Temple Day for special services and luncheon. Dr Tabbernee speaker at morning service. At 5 p.m. service children's winter program "The Swamp" commenced. Speaker at service was Paul Popov . . . Evening services for winter at 5 p.m.

PERSONAL

MARRIAGES

- Alison Crowley to Mark McAllister, Marion, S.A.
- Michelle Brooking to Peter Lyne, Sunshine, Vic.
- Ingrid Moore to Julian Manowski, Blackwood, S.A.
- Beverley Wilson to Norman Baty, Albany, W.A.

DEATHS

- Vere Page, Charles Page, Boronia, Vic.
- Louw Reinalda, Mrs Pearl Marshall, South Perth, W.A.
- Geoffrey Wayne McDonald, Warragul, Vic.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

BLACKWOOD: All correspondence to church — P.O. Box 478, Blackwood, S.A. 5051.
Steve and Val Warwick, S.I.M., P.O. Box 220, Khartoum, Sudan.

BARRIER (QLD) TOUR — Ex Melbourne via Canberra/Sydney Aug 22 — Sept 6 (School holidays) Bookings available. \$395.00. Christian fellowship. Info: — SAE — Waugh, 11 Bowman Ave., Mt. Waverley 3149. Ph. (03) 277 5192. Christian Singles-Social/Bible Study Groups for "25 & overs" 2775192

BENDIGO CHURCH OF CHRIST

From Sunday May 31st to August 30th (both dates inclusive) the Evening Service will commence at 5.00 p.m.

All visitors to Bendigo are welcome.

FOUND YOUR PLACE?

Could your place for Christian service be in a country overseas?

Vanuatu (formerly New Hebrides)

- * Teachers required for the Ranwadi High School for 1982, especially in the maths and Science areas.
- * Carpentry teacher for Londua Training School commencing 1982.
- * Double certificated nurse (male or female) to assist at the Ndui Ndui Hospital on Aoba Island.
- * Business manager for the office in Santo to commence September, 1981. Accounting experience essential.
- * Suitably qualified minister to assist in theological training at the Banmatmat Bible College.
- * Carpenter/handyman to assist in maintenance tasks on a voluntary basis.

Papua New Guinea

- * Suitably qualified ministers to assist in a teaching/pastoral ministry.
- * Double certificated nurse (male or female).
- * Motor mechanic for maintenance tasks.
- * Agriculturalist to assist in Community Development Project.

Indonesia

This is a new venture in partnership with the American Churches of Christ/Christian Churches in establishing a program for the training of Indonesian pastors.

Bible College graduates with initiative and leadership qualities are needed. It is hoped that two couples from Australia will be able to share in this ministry.

Would you like further information? Please write to:—

**Mr. Ron McLean, Executive Director,
Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board,
P.O. Box 320,
Unley, South Australia, 5061.**

WANTED YOUTH LEADERS

Applicants: Successful applicants will have a love for the Lord and His Work and will have considerable scope for using their own initiative. Ability to do more than required is desired, because of lack of volunteers for jobs to be done.

Location: Work entails wherever there is a need, but primarily at the Ormond Church of Christ.

Conditions of Employment: No set hours. No lunch, morning or afternoon tea breaks. No Annual Holidays. No excuses allowed. No bonuses on earth, but the greatest Superannuation Scheme ever offered is available — Eternal life through Christ.

Salary: We are looking for above average Leaders to fill this most important position and are prepared to guarantee (from the Scriptures) that the salary will be according to the labour. Matthew 16: 27.

How to Apply: Pray about it, ask God to guide you, and then volunteer with your fellow workers in Youth Leadership.

For details phone Alf Knox 578 2810 Home 541 8888 Bus.

THE CHANGING WOODS

CAN BE SEEN SOON AT:

MELTON CHURCH OF CHRIST
3 p.m. P.S.A. Sunday 12th July
GREENSBOROUGH UNITING CHURCH

7 p.m. Sunday 28th July

BRIGHTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

11.00 a.m. Worship Service



MAKE A RESERVATION FOR YOUR NEXT HOLIDAY WITH AUSTRALIAN CHURCH TRAVEL SERVICE

- 1. VISIT BEAUTIFUL CAIRNS WITH ACTS/TRANS OTWAY** — 27 June - 26 days. ONLY 3 SEATS REMAIN. From Mel: \$1449; Syd: \$1149; Bris: \$817.
- 2. VISIT CHINA IN 1981 WITH ACTS/SM TOURS** — Our June departure is now full, but we have some places on our August 1st tour. We visit Hong Kong, and spend 17 days in China (Kwangchow, Kweilin, Hangchow, Shanghai, and Peking). Price is \$2549 from Sydney.
- 3. ACTS GRANT TOUR OF BRITAIN** — See Britain in depth. Leaving on August 1st this 37 day tour gives 29 nights in Britain with a 4 day stop-over in Kuala Lumpur/Singapore. We tour England, Scotland, Wales with adequate time in London. Highlights will be visits to the Isles of Skye and Iona, and the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Our Group Leader is Rev. Les Hatton, Chaplain St. Andrews Hospital Melbourne. A value tour at \$3485.00 from Melbourne or Sydney.
- 4. LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOURS — TWO DEPARTURES** — 29 days. Departing 18th August with Rev. Russell McKinnon of Warrnambool - \$3377.00, 29th December with Rev. Campbell Egan of Wagga Wagga - \$3452.00. Visiting Israel, Greece, Rome (with excursion to Pompeii/Sorrento).
- 5. 36 DAY TOUR TO AFRICA** — 10th World Orchid Conference in Durban. Departing September 5th we spend 25 days in South Africa, 9 days in Kenya, and 3 days in Mauritius. Our Group Leader is Tom Paterson (former Director of Road Transport, Commonwealth Department of Transport) assisted by Val Steward of Sydney. From Mel or Syd: \$4250.00 or South Africa section only: \$3016.00.
- 6. ALICE SPRINGS & THE RED CENTRE WITH ACTS/AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC** — We have 2 places left on 16th September departure, 4 on 6th August and 3 on 23 September. Hurry for a place on these popular tours.
- 7. PILGRIMAGE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY & UNDERSTANDING** — This small group will leave for Auckland on September 5th then via Rotorua and Waitomo to TeKuiti from where they will visit the Madonna Falls — scene of a vision of the Virgin Mary and a place of healing. Price is \$695.00.
- 8. A 16 DAY CAMPING TOUR TO CENTRAL AUSTRALIA FOR THE UNDER 35's** — DEPARTING OCTOBER 3rd WE VISIT MILDURA, PETERBOROUGH, WILPENA POUND, along the Birdsville track, BOULIA, ALICE SPRINGS, AYERS ROCK, COOBER PEDY, CLARE, ADELAIDE, etc. Bring only your sleeping bag, eating utensils & toothbrush. Price from Melbourne is only \$448.00.
- 9. VISIT WEST AUSTRALIA AT WILDFLOWER TIME WITH ACTS/AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC** — Our 18 day annual tour to West Australia departs on October 19th by luxury air-conditioned coach for the trip to Perth. On the return 2 nights are spent on the train. Prices from Melbourne 1st class rail \$1231 (economy rail \$1188); from Sydney \$1308 (1236); Adelaide \$1093 (1048); Brisbane \$1450 (1378). Pensioner concession applies.
- 10. POPULAR TASMANIA TOUR WITH ACTS/TRANS OTWAY** — This is real value. We leave by air on Monday October 19th and visit Launceston, Devonport, Somerset, Zeehan, Queenstown, take a Gordon River Cruise, Hobart, Huon Valley, Port Arthur, Richmond, St. Helens, etc. Our 10 day tour is by comfortable coach, we have good accommodation, and two meals per day. Prices are from Melbourne \$575.00; Sydney \$667.00; Brisbane \$754.00 and Adelaide \$659.00.
- 11. ACTS TOUR TO NEW GUINEA & NEW BRITAIN** — Departing on October 21st this 13 day tour takes us to Port Moresby, Lae, Goroka, Kundiawa, Mount Hagen, Wewak, Rabaul etc. With good accommodation, this is very good value. Leader is Rev. W.M. Constable, Director of Australian Church Travel Service. Price from Sydney \$1590.00 or Melbourne \$1699.00.
- 12. SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING** — Departing on October 25th this ever popular 18 day tour visits Christchurch, Tekapo, Mount Cook, Oamaru, Dunedin, Gore, Milford Sound, Te Anau, Manapouri, Queenstown, Alexandra, Haast Pass, Fox Glacier, Greymouth, Picton, Wellington, Napier, Rotorua, Waitomo, Auckland etc. Price from Melbourne \$1075; Sydney \$1040; Brisbane \$1070. An optional 14 day extension is offered at a supplement of \$256.00. Group Leader - Mr Sirrell Grimmer of Wodonga, Victoria.
- 13. MIDDLE EAST ADVENTURE TOUR** — 31st December - 31 days. Visiting Egypt (9 nights); Israel (10 nights); Jordan (3 nights); with Bangkok (4 nights); Singapore (2 nights). A fascinating trip with the Rev. Paul Harrison of Brisbane Baptist City Tabernacle. From Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide - \$3349.00.
- 14. VISIT U.S.A. CANADA IN 1982** — Departing April 8th 1982. Details of this 36 day comprehensive tour with Rev. Gordon Kemlo will be available shortly. Register now for advance information.
- 15. GO CRUISING WITH ACTS/SITMAR IN BEAUTIFUL FAIRSTAR** — from Sydney. January 31, 1982. New Zealand Cruise - Milford Sound, Timaru, Picton, Wellington, Auckland, Bay of Islands. 14 nights/6 ports with Rev & Mrs W.M. Constable. Fares from \$855 to \$2030.00.

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(with apologies to Norm)

You've got to admire a Christian
Who's working for his God;
So praise the Lord for the Aussie saint
The faithful 'Ichabod.

More patient than that Job man
He never seeks reward.
He visits like a madman
And preaches like the Lord.

It's great to see him praying
Or helping out some one.
He's handy with a Bible
And his teaching's really fun.

Sinners say, "God save me,"
And he dips them in the vat.
He can lead a Bible study;
Quotes Scripture right off pat.

He's everybody's hero
Extending the incarnation.
What a shame it all takes place
In his imagination!

* 1 Samuel 4:21

Brian Spencer.

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A Big Weekend

70th ANNIVERSARY AT BOX HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

It was advertised as a Big Weekend, and it was!

The weekend began with a Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m. in the Wesley Uniting Church Hall attended by 200 men. Gordon Moyes gave an address which analysed the church from its beginnings in early Australia and showed the stages and the eras of ministry of the church. It was a challenge to those present to hear Gordon pick the strengths of the church and develop the main thrust of his sermon which was: "When the church is evangelising and caring, it is alive and a credible force in the community." He said: "2.75 million people go to church every Sunday in Australia. The church is stronger than the Trade Union movement, stronger than any political party and it has the potential for tremendous influence upon Government and society."

On the Sunday morning the service at 11.00 a.m. was the 70th Anniversary Worship Service. By 10.30 a.m. every seat in the chapel was taken and the church hall had standing room only by 11.00 a.m. Closed circuit television was provided by the Box Hill Technical School and this



Gordon Moyes

made it possible for 486 people to worship. Bram and Dianne Manusama, winners of 'New Faces' gave musical items, Gordon Moyes the message. His theme continued: "The church has a heart to love and hands to serve — we cannot isolate one from the other." It was an unforgettable weekend.



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Devote yourself to the reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. (1 Tim. 4:13)

Keith Farmer replaced at Doncaster

When Keith Farmer was called to the Principalship of the N.S.W. College, he was released from his commitment to Doncaster (Vic.), both willingly and reluctantly! He was going to be hard to replace. But Doncaster found Greg Shaw, exit student from the College of the Bible who came to College from Applecross in W.A.



Greg Shaw

Greg tells his own story of his call and its sequels.

One night in 1976 I said to Jenny, "I'm not cut out to be a chemical engineer!" A strange statement, but I felt a sense of relief at having said it. A friend suggested to me that "the Hound of Heaven" had caught up with me. This was a new experience, trying to find out what God wanted me to do for him. In 1978 I found myself at the College of the Bible.

I have the feeling that this is the place where I am meant to be. It just seems so right. But I don't regret for a minute my time as an engineer. I feel that it was my "preparation".

I have no regrets at having switched from making an industrial process better and more efficient to making people's lives better and more fulfilled. I am sure that God's purpose for me was to experience life as an engineer before becoming a minister to his people.

Workshop to Help Parish Editors

Parish editors in New South Wales will be given first hand experience in writing and producing better parish magazines at a special one day workshop arranged for Saturday, August 15.

The event which will run from 9 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. will be held at St. Andrew's House, Sydney Square, Sydney.

Professional religious communicators will assist local editors in improving their publications through a series of talks and practical exercises. Areas covered include:

- Establishing a profile of your readers.
- The role and purpose of your newsletter or magazine.
- The basics of good writing.
- Putting it all together — a look at layout and design.

Speakers will be Leon Gourlay, general secretary of the Board of Communication Services for the Uniting Church in NSW; Earl Hingston, creative director, Pilgrim International, Ken Harrison, Communications Director, Sydney City Mission and the Rev. Tony Nancarrow, communications director for the SA Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Registration forms for the workshop can be obtained by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to MediaCom Associates Inc., 6 Sheffield St., Malvern S.A. 5061. The closing date for registrations is Friday, August 7.

German Churches send Bibles to Vietnam

The Federation of Protestant Churches in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) has said during a meeting in May, that the Protestant Churches of the GDR had sent 40,000 Bibles and New Testaments to the Protestant Church in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese version of the scriptures was despatched in collaboration with the Gustav Adolf Werk and the European Bible Society. This was in response to a desire expressed by a delegation of the Vietnamese churches visiting in 1980. In acknowledging receipt of the Bibles, the Vietnamese Church representatives repeated an invitation extended to the Federation of Protestant Churches to send, this year, a delegation to Vietnam.

EPS

Humour does not have to be Blue!

Alan Rowe, member of the Gardiner church, is an entertainer, actor and comedian. He has been widely used amongst our churches for both adult and children's entertainment, and has been exceptionally generous with his time and fees.

As well as that Alan has heavy bookings outside the church for a whole cross section of organizations. He is well known as the comedian who keeps it clean. Many groups prefer him for his refusal to use "blue" material, being sick of the regular diet of immature lavatory humour that seems to be part of the stock in trade of so called "ocker" entertainers.

At a recent "Good News Program" at the Bendigo church, Alan was interviewed. He was asked, "How come you get plenty of outside bookings, when you won't use questionable material?" His reply was, "There is no need to be blue to make a program appeal to people; as long as you work hard to produce good, fresh, high quality humour."



Alan Rowe

Ethiopian Famine

World Vision reports that as many as 12 people are dying of starvation daily in one refugee camp alone, in Kaffa, southern Ethiopia.

More than 40,000 people have been affected by a two year drought that has brought death and destruction across the southern provinces.

World Vision has already set up emergency programs in two other provinces of Gamu Cofa and Bume.

This year's World Vision 40 Hour Famine will raise funds for this whole region. The 40 Hour Famine begins Friday June 19 and concludes, Sunday June 21.

COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

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For information about entry requirements and courses write to:

The Principal Dr W. Tabbeme
College of the Bible
7 Elm Road, Glen Iris, Vic. 3146.



Miracles in Albury



Mr and Mrs Cecil Grant

The gospel is making an impact in Albury and surrounding districts upon the Aboriginal people. Cecil Grant, the Aboriginal pastor there writes.

"My wife and I were called to Albury in December, 1972. At that time my family were the only part Aborigines living in Albury. Since then there are 400 part Aborigines in Albury.

50 Commitments

During the past three years 50 Aborigines have made commitments to Christ. 37 are continuing in the Albury fellowship or with the Griffith or Wagga groups. The 13 who have fallen out of fellowship still display evidence of the Holy Spirit's work in their lives and we continue praying for them.

The Aboriginal church in Albury is Aboriginal in identity and autonomous in character and is moving towards self-sufficiency with help from the Federal Aborigines Mission Board.

Outreach Ministry

Albury conducts an outreach ministry with a 150 mile radius and aims, by the grace of God, to see churches established in all towns where there are Aboriginal people. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation for all believing Aborigines.

Miracles of Grace

Malcolm Clark testifies that gambling was ruining his family's happiness until he and his wife consecrated their lives in Albury. Malcolm served as an elder, but now he and his wife Barbara are students at the A.E.F. Bible College in Cootamundra. They have four children.

Kevin and Edna Cameron testify that their lives were being destroyed by alcohol until they came to Christ. They are actively involved at Albury. They have six children and rejoiced recently to see their three teenage daughters receive Christ as Saviour. Kevin is a deacon.

Ivan and Maria Williams confess that their marriage was in jeopardy and that they and their children were extremely unhappy until they surrendered to Christ. Now they have been accepted as students at the Bimbadeen A.E.F. Bible College at Cootamundra."

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Ambrosia

by Chris Ambrose

Puzzles

I enjoy attempting to solve various puzzles. These may be crossword puzzles, jigsaws, whodunits or those infuriating wooden and metal puzzles that come apart and are so difficult, if not impossible, to re-assemble. I have several of these with which to tease visitors, as they never come out in the time available.

Thinking about our faith I can see parallels with problem solving. As far as crosswords are concerned in attempting these we learn a new vocabulary. Words that we know of with three or four letters have synonyms which are much longer and very rarely used. As we grow in our faith we Christians also develop a new language. There are certain words and expressions that become abbreviations or shorthand for some real experience we have in our relationship with God.

Those who enjoy crosswords use their new vocabulary when solving new puzzles or when helping someone else (not always appreciated). At conferences and at worship times Christians also use their own vocabulary because it is assumed that those listening know what is meant. If I used some of the terms I remember from crossword puzzles in my ordinary speech many would not understand what I was saying.

Here comes the crunch. Unfortunately we find it difficult to talk to those outside the faith in ordinary language. It is difficult to explain in simple words sanctification and justification and ideas such as the incarnation. Yet if we are to share that real faith that we enjoy we must work at expressing our faith in simple terms that anyone can understand.

This does not mean that people will then come into relationship with God

as that demands a faith in who Jesus is and what he has done for us. Many are not willing to make that faith step. We still need to spell out what it means to be a Christian and still love the person if they cannot accept the step of faith we have made.

My plea here is that each of us think of what we are saying and in our talking about the faith we learn to use language that most or all can understand.

Another analogy that came to me recently was that of the comparison between solving a puzzle and of growing in the Christian faith.

As I attempt to solve a wooden puzzle I will try each of the pieces and see if they fit to my ideas of the solution. If a piece does not fit then I consult the pattern and start again.

You could look at growing in our faith in the same way. As we read or learn something we mentally examine the fact or statement. We then see how this new insight fits into our understanding of God and man's relationship with him. If the new thought does not fit we go back to the pattern which is the Bible, the self revelation of God, to see if it is really a part of God's revelation or whether it is a ring-in. If the information does not agree with scripture and our understanding of God over the years then it should be rejected.

If there is agreement then we have to adjust our own personal theology to fit this new information just as we adjust the puzzle with a new piece. We need to be constantly doing this or we will not grow as Christians and our faith will not deepen.

Christians (all of us) can learn and grow and we need to be doing this constantly or else our faith may just fade and even disappear.

THE LAST WORD

Persons are to be loved; things are to be used.

—Reuel Howe

THE CLOCK OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once,
And no one has the power,
To tell just when the hands will stop,
At late or early hour.
Now is the only time you own,
Live, love, toil with a will,
Place no faith in tomorrow, for
The clock may then be still.



One day an Indian came into a bank in Oklahoma and asked about a loan. "Me want \$200."

"And what security have you?" "Got two hundred horses."

This seemed sufficient security and the loan was made.

A short time afterward the Indian came back with \$2,200 in cash, paid off the note, and started to leave with the rest of the roll in his pocket.

"Why not let me take care of that money for you?" asked the banker.

Looking at the banker straight in the eye, the Indian asked, "How many horses you got?"



A small-time football coach with a reputation for optimism came into the locker room to give his team a pregame pep talk.

"All right boys," he cried cheerfully, "here we are, unbeaten, untied, and unscored upon — and ready for the first game of the season."



"Big day at Bible School! David slew Goliath, water was turned into wine at Cana, and Lazarus got raised from the dead."

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