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**"The trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord."
Psalm 96:12,13**

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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ON MY MIND

THE WORTH OF A SOUL

Ruth Edge

Ruth Edge is in her second year as full-time Administrative and Welfare officer for the South Australian Churches of Christ Social Service Department. Prior to being full-time, Ruth served the Department in a part-time capacity for over a year. She and Tom have six children and 10 grandchildren. She is a very young, good looking grandma! The family are members at Brighton church.

On an old record I have at home, Burl Ives narrates the story of "The Old Violin." As the story concludes he says, "many a person is auctioned cheap, by the thoughtless crowd, much like the old violin . . . but the Master comes and the foolish crowd never can quite understand, the worth of a soul and the change that is brought by the touch of the Master's hand."

The worth of a soul: One of the things that becomes really obvious to me as I work in the area of welfare is the fact that so often we who call ourselves Christians, we who try to follow the teachings and example of Christ, are so quick to judge those around us by their behavior and even just by their appearance.

Only One Judge

Jesus says in John 12:47 "If anyone hears my message and does not obey it, I will not judge him. I came not to judge the world, but to save it. Who ever rejects me and does not accept my message has one who will judge him. Jesus says "I did not come to judge. I came to save the world. There is one who will judge, my Father because He tells me what to say and if you reject me you reject Him." Jesus didn't see his role as that of a judge, yet we pass judgements on people all the time. We judge them by labelling them. We call them "no hopers, homos, alcies, bludgers, delinquents." Unfortunately in that judging we put up a barrier that prevents us from getting close to them. That prevents us from seeing their worth. It prevents us from seeing their spiritual potential.

The Touch of Christ

As we look at the example of Jesus, we see that he reached out and touched many different types of people. The lepers, the harlots, the Samaritans, the people who were cast aside and considered worthless by the community in which they lived and the organised religion of their day. Christ withheld nothing of Himself from any of these people. If He had He could not have had the effect on their lives that He so often did. He expressed love, acceptance, concern. He gave of Himself. We see Him withdrawing to the hillside to be alone with His Father because He was so completely drained from ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of those who came to him. On the cross we see the ultimate pouring out of Himself as He gave His very life, for the sin of all mankind. Who are we to pass judgement on others — we who cost our Lord so dearly.

As we cast our eyes around our streets and are tempted to judge — let us remember that God alone really knows what has gone on in the life and mind of a man or woman, the traumas, the rejection, the hurt.

Seeing the Potential

We only see the external result. Let us learn constantly to remind ourselves of "the worth of a soul" and the change that can be brought about by "the touch of the Masters hand." Then we will begin to see the potential in all people whom Christ saw and they in turn will have a better chance of responding to his message.

Senior Youth Camp



Reunion of campers.

"Who am I? What am I doing here? What will I do? Where am I going?" are all relevant questions. They proved especially so at a camp for Senior young people from Bordertown, Mundulla, Wampoony, Keith, and Kaniva churches, who met at Hall's Gap May 18-23.

God has made us so wonderfully well . . . our skeleton highlighted. It helped us to recognise that we are some — BODY. We are to care for our bodies.

Good use was made of the overhead projector, to express the other aspects of the study. In an equation, what makes us, is the following: — the most important being the spiritual dimension . . . body senses + thoughts + feelings + actions + spirit = self.

Being the International Year of the Disabled, and the studies being about, ourselves, the film featuring the blind Christian Ken Medema, "He Leadeth Me", led into a time of spiritual renewal, followed by a message by Pam Bowers. Four young people made a stand for Jesus Christ.

The singing led by the young people, the hikes directed by Trevor Weise, films from the Bible Society, cooking from the Milne's (Peg and Maureen), the study group leaders, Sharon Milne, Alwyn Dyer, Raymond Christinat and Ian Mugford and

rouseabout Richard, plus the participation by the campers gave a tremendous spirit and input into our lives.

A camp reunion was held at Bordertown on June 28. Campers met in the Milne's woolshed for the afternoon and tea, followed by a service in the Bordertown church. Campers took part, including those who went to the Junior camp at Longwood. The address taking the study theme was given by the Kaniva minister, P. Bowers.

— P. D. Bowers.

Proverbial Strength for Refugees

The Old Testament Book of Proverbs contains many truths, but for the refugees of Kampuchea, Proverbs 28: 28 must be their main strength and hope. It says, "People stay in hiding when bad men come to power. But when they fall from power, righteous men will rule again".

The Bible Society in Thailand has recently printed 50,000 copies of the Book of Proverbs in Kampuchean for distribution among the refugees along the Thai border. A donation of 10,000 Baht from the Chinese Church in Chiang Mai contributed to the project's completion.

Copyright — new act's impact

All local church editors, choir masters and leaders of congregations should become familiar with Australia's new copyright law.

It places serious limitations on the reproduction of material where permission for reproduction had not been obtained from the copyright owner.

Many churches have been guilty of photocopying music for their choir; reproducing articles from books and magazines without the appropriate permission.

Such action has always been in breach of the Copyright Act, however in the new legislation severe penalties can and will be imposed.

"Keystone" reported last year that one Sydney congregation was fined \$10,000 for infringing the copyright laws in Australia.

Illegal

It is illegal and immoral to copy or reproduce any work in any form without acknowledging the source, obtaining the permission of the owner (copyright holder) and paying the fee required.

What is creatively produced by someone is that person's property and

possession. Copyright belongs to him (or to someone he assigns it to) even after it has been produced and made available to the public.

The objective of the legislation is clear. It seeks to protect the livelihood of writers, artists, musicians and all creative people who depend on royalties for their livelihood.

Special provisions are possible only for Sunday Schools.


— Central Times

ACC on El Salvador

The Executive Committee of the Australian Council of Churches has called on the Australian Government to "refrain from supporting the US military aid to the Government of El Salvador and to use diplomatic efforts to secure a negotiated settlement."

The ACC statement expresses the belief that "the Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) represents a broad range of Salvadorian society and is not merely a communist group."

Australian church relief agencies as well as the Australian Government are urged to increase their aid for the relief of suffering in El Salvador.



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Chandler Community Theatre	Aug. 14, 15
Chandler High School, Isaac Road, Keysborough	8 p.m.
Footscray Church of Christ Hall	Aug. 21
252 Gordon Street, Footscray	8 p.m.
Vermont High School	Aug. 28, 29
Morack Road, Vermont	8 p.m.
Brighton Theos	Sept. 4
Cnr. Male and Byron Streets, Brighton	8 p.m.
Malvern-Caulfield Church of Christ Hall	Sept. 10, 11, 12,
Cnr. Alma and Dandenong Roads, Malvern	8 p.m.
	13
	3 p.m.

Bookings — 398 1203



OPERATION TOURISM — CANBERRA

Canberra Conference of Churches of Christ in 1978, revived "OPERATION TOURISM" which had been in recess for six years.

Operation Tourism is a scheme whereby families of the three Canberra churches offer bed and breakfast to visitors to the A.C.T.

Our aim is to offer friendly hospitality at lower rates than the City's motels, hotels, and hostels.

Operation Tourism has two main aims:-

- i To raise money for Home Mission projects of A.C.T. Conference of Churches of Christ.
- ii To gain contact and fellowship with members of our churches throughout Australia. There are few born and bred Canberrans, as most of our members have come to the A.C.T. from other States, and because of isolation we miss the fellowship, personal contact, and news of our home areas.

Operation Tourism commenced in 1968 when members of the Lyons church initiated the scheme to help repay the heavy loan on their new building. Lyons church was established two years earlier by Ainslie congregation. Roy and June Ball were the original convenors. On their departure to Geelong, Warwick and Pat Wright continued with the scheme until it lapsed in 1972.

The scheme was revived in 1973 for Lyons' extensions and the proposed new building in Belconnen. Robyn and Bob Bignill have been operating the tourism for 3 years. The participating families have enjoyed and appreciated the friendship and fellowship with their visitors from all parts of Australia. Visitors are collected from the bus, train or plane and driven to their host's home and returned to their departing transport at the end of their stay.

For all enquiries contact Robyn Bignill 38 Eucumbene Drive, Duffy, A.C.T. 2611, or phone 062 - 88 4835.

WOMEN TODAY

WORLD C.W.F. PRAYER

Unto Thee, O God, we give our thanks
And lift our hearts in prayer.
May Your presence be with us
and Your love
Surround us as we work
together in the Christian
Women's Fellowship.

Open our eyes to the needs of the world and
Fill our hearts with
concern for all people.
Guide us that we may truly
serve You,
Through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

THINK ABOUT IT!

So often Prayer is expecting God to give us, or to answer our prayers according to OUR desire. We need to remember to say . . . "God you are not my office boy . . . May YOUR will be done".

"TALK' N' DO" FRIENDSHIP CENTRE

Last year our C.W.F. executive was concerned that the need of the majority of women in the church was not being met. Late in October we had a coffee morning to discuss what to do. As a result, we visited Maylands Church of Christ Friendship Centre, and Norwood Baptist Centre's "Stop 8", and felt that we could start a similar venture in Elizabeth. \$50 was contributed to provide equipment. Since then we have been holding weekly coffee mornings on Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12 noon. Crafts, such as ceramics, coppershim, crochet, hobbytex, macrame, pegwork, and novelties; and games, such as cards, scrabble, darts, quoits, table tennis are available. We have a play-group supervised by one of the members assisted by two high school students as their work experience. There is a half-hour of keep-fit each week.

The name chosen is "Talk' N' Do" Friendship Centre, and it really fits what we are doing. The Centre has become a community centre backed by the whole church not just the C.W.F.



CARE FOR DISABLED

Betty Rehn and Mary Ross from Kersbrook, South Australia, are involved with handicapped people. Adults and children from the Woodville Spastic Centre visit Kersbrook weekly for horse riding and exercises conducted by Mary. Three people are required to assist each horse and rider, and the riding has proved excellent therapy for young and old.

Women from local churches are assisting handicapped folk at the Bedford Industries. Jenny Drilling. S.A.

Fifteen people attended the first day, now over 100 people visit the centre, with an average attendance of 60 each week. Ages range from 19 years to 90 years and both men and women are sharing the activities.

Local Government Assistance Grant of \$900 was presented to us for equipment or publicity.

Indoor Bowls will be another of our activities soon. From June 2nd the hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. with a break for lunch. We bring our own lunch, have a cuppa and eat together.

There is no pressure on anybody . . . "Come when you can . . . leave when you must" is the theme.

A successful part of "Talk' N' Do" is prayer support we have been receiving. A group of women meet regularly to pray about all aspects of the centre, and we know that God is blessing the work.
Pat Brown. S.A.



WAYS TO CONTACT NON-CHURCH WOMEN. NO. 1

A young mother, during her break for coffee each morning, had her own prayer and Bible study. One morning her neighbour came in. Gwen asked her neighbour to join her. She was using the Bible notes put out by her church. The neighbour kept coming each morning. One day they came across a passage that was difficult, so Gwen rang the minister of her church. He went to the rescue. Gwen was able to help this neighbour, and the minister was able to make the contact.

WEST AUSTRALIA EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

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— Mrs. E. Hogben
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Assistant Secretary — Mrs. D. Barton
Treasurer — Mrs. A. Smyth
Assistant Treasurer — Mrs. E. Hogben

THINK ABOUT IT!

"It is normal for Christians to have doubts about Christian belief, but they should also have doubts about Religious unbelief."

1 Timothy 1: 20, 21.

THOUGHTS ON MARY . . .

by "Phoebe"

I thought of a young girl who lived in a place and a time where and when women were stoned to death with no pity nor sympathy for immorality. What were her thoughts when she heard that she was to be the mother of the Messiah for whom the Jews had waited so long?

It was an honour, and God was with her, but what would Joseph and the people say?

Joseph understood because God spoke to him. Elizabeth rejoiced with her.

That gruelling journey to Bethlehem must have been exciting but exhausting for them both. God was with them every inch of the way. No room at the inn! Her precious baby, the Saviour of the world was to be born in a manger. Did Mary begin to wonder if it was all a dream? But God had the situation in His all-powerful hands. He knew. He always knows.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

There's good news and there's bad news on the subject of Aboriginal health.

But first some background. Ever since the whites came to Australia the health of Aborigines has been scandalous. Throughout the history of European settlement the non-prevention and non-treatment of infectious diseases has been a major means of subduing the Aboriginal population.

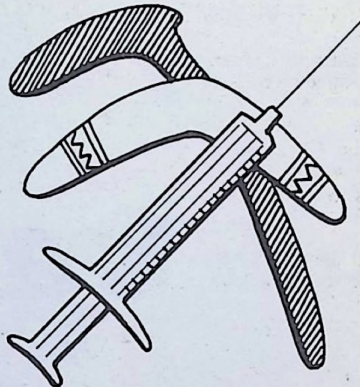
Today, the incidence of skin diseases, leprosy, tuberculosis, trachoma, blindness and deafness from infection rivals that of many Third World countries. A federal Senator on returning from Asia last month said the health of our Aborigines is in some places much worse than in the refugee camps of Kampuchea and Thailand.

Nor are these diseases particularly mysterious or complicated. They are easily treated by conventional medicine and are almost entirely preventable. The reason such diseases are rife is simply that the governments and the people of Australia have not cared enough to allocate the necessary resources; and often, where money has been allocated, the administration of it has been inefficient and ineffective.

The starkness of this situation has been affirmed by three recent reports to the Federal Government: from a Parliamentary committee on Aboriginal health, from a Commonwealth health program effectiveness review team, and from the National Trachoma and Eye Health Program.

That's the background. Now for the good news.

In a number of Aboriginal centres around Australia, Aboriginal co-operatives have attempted to run their own health services with funds from the Federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs. Government health departments have tended to build costly hospitals and clinics for the



convenience of the white doctors and administrators but which have tended to be intimidating to the Aborigines. The Aboriginal health services, in contrast, have minimized expenditure on buildings and administration and maximized the medical man-hours spent in curative and preventive treatment.

Your correspondent has had the opportunity of visiting a number of these Aboriginal-run centres in three states and the Territory. Their success is outstanding. Figures in the reports tabled in Parliament in May show a vastly greater cost effectiveness than government-run services.

That's the good news. The bad news is that recent statements from the Federal Government have confirmed the fears of many people within and close to the Aboriginal communities that the Government intends to withdraw its direct financial support for the health co-operatives. This could well lead to their eventual closure. The Government instead appears to want state governments to assume greater responsibility for Aboriginal health.

This, according to the Aboriginal people, would be disastrous in view of the opposition to Aboriginal self-management by some state

governments. It would, according to the health service in Fitzroy, Victoria, "put the clock back 15 years" to the time before the 1967 referendum which vested responsibility for Aboriginal Affairs with the Federal Government.

Following statements in May by Health Minister MacKellar and Aboriginal Affairs Minister Baume, Professor Fred Hollows spoke scathingly of the Ministers' intentions to "work more closely with the states." (Prof. Hollows' extensive work on the trachoma program across Northern Australia gives him unique qualifications in this area.) He said, "The states have consistently refused to accept the Federal policy of self-management, self-sufficiency and aboriginalization in health matters. They refused to accept this philosophic approach to race relations and it is unbelievably stupid to think that they will act in Aboriginal health on this basis."

The Federal Government denies that it is attempting to undermine the Aboriginal-run services. The Ministers have consistently promised to "maintain funding of Aboriginal medical services".

Their proposed changes to the funding system, however, suggest otherwise. By allocating the finance through state bureaucracies or other Federal departments rather than through the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, greater power will necessarily accrue to the states.

Christians need look no further than the life of our Lord for guidance as to our response to this situation.

Rev. David Sheppard, evangelist-writer and former England cricketer, writes: "Christian mission must always take seriously the special relationship which Jesus had with the poor. His terms of reference for his own mission were "to announce good news to the poor, to proclaim release for the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the broken victims go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

"These words must not be spiritualized away," says Sheppard. "His healing ministry, for instance, shows that he wanted actual changes in peoples' present situation."

In practical terms, then, what's to be done? As always, we can write to our representatives: urging them to support the expansion of Aboriginal-run health services; requesting the allocation of funds to this end; urging the Federal Government to assume greater rather than less responsibility for Aboriginal Affairs; and to urge that this responsibility be discharged to the real benefit some of the "broken victims" of our community.

Answer to last month's quiz: False. See Ezekiel 16: 49-50.

JASON'S HOUSE

HI JASON! THANKS FOR THAT STUDY ON THE LUKEWARM CHURCHES IN REVELATION.

FORTUNATELY THOSE GRIM WARNINGS DON'T APPLY TO MY CHURCH... NO, INDEED...!

...A GREAT DEAL OF HEATING WOULD BE NEEDED BEFORE WE COULD CONCEIVABLY BE CALLED 'LUKEWARM'...



Science Fiction Parables on Filmstrip



Scripture Union in Australia has just released new soundstrips — *The Namos Chronicles* — which present five New Testament parables in the Science Fiction medium for young teenagers.

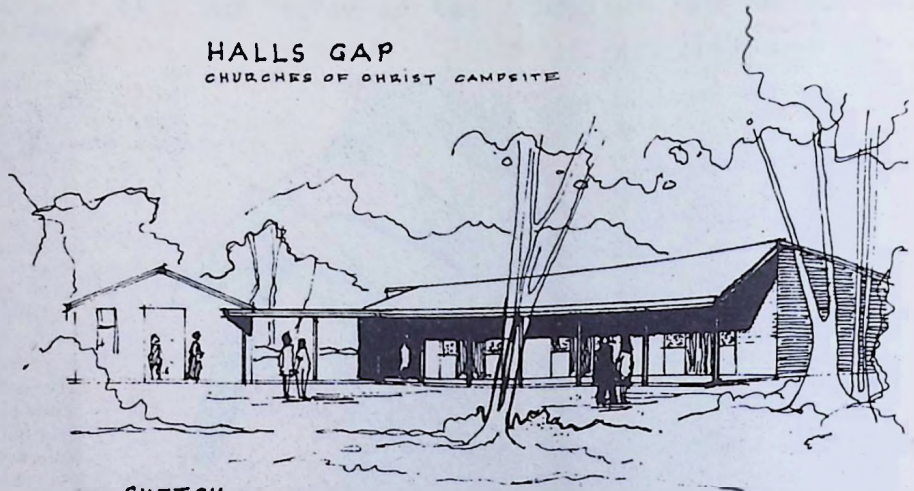
These parables set in outer space parallel the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, the Lost Sheep, the Vineyard and the Great Feast.

Scripts and cast were provided by the Christian drama group — Riding Lights Theatre Company. Special effects photography is by Scripture Union staff photographer Gordon Gray, who received valuable advice from the BBC visual effects department. Music was written and performed by S.U. staffer Angela Reith.

These Soundstrips are now available for sale or hire; and details of preview screenings are available from the State offices of Scripture Union.

New Facilities at Hall's Gap

HALLS GAP
CHURCHES OF CHRIST CAMPSITE



SKETCH.
VIEW FROM DINING RM.

NEW DORMITORY.

Construction of accommodation for 36 persons including new toilet facilities commenced at the Department of Mission, Education and Development Camping and Conference Centre on July 6. Completion is expected in early October.

The new facilities represent the second stage of a complete redevelopment program for the Centre. Stage 1 was a new dormitory block for 36 persons completed in 1979. To make way for the new facilities an old dormitory and toilet block were

demolished. These facilities had been on site since the 1940's and were relocated at Hall's Gap from wartime use elsewhere. They had more than outlived their useful life. The facilities are used constantly by schools, community organisations and church groups. The Department also conducts a number of regular camps during each of the school term holiday periods. Cost of the new facilities will be \$89,600. The project is being financed by the Properties Corporation. An information leaflet about the project is available from the Department listing ways

groups and local churches may assist.

Stage 3 will be the redesign and renovation of the kitchen unit with the addition of a cool room. As funds become available it is planned to progressively update the entire centre. All funds generated through the operation of the three centres at Monbulk, Banksia and Hall's Gap are ploughed back into redevelopment. The work in hand and future development envisaged will equip the centre for camping in the Grampians well into the 21st century.

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Aboriginal Woman for Haggai Institute

The first Christian Aboriginal woman to be chosen to attend the Haggai Institute's Leadership Training Course, in Singapore, is Miss Jean Phillips. Miss Phillips expressed her appreciation for the opportunity, especially as her own education only went as far as Grade Four, Primary School, because of the law at the time.

Miss Phillips is involved in Prison Chaplaincy work, in Brisbane. There she is acknowledged as a leader amongst the Aboriginal community, by local Christians as well as Government agencies.

During this present three week course, she will study methods of communication, outreach and stewardship. Asked if such training would

be accepted upon her return, especially within the male dominated culture of the Aborigines, Miss Phillips explained that most of the Christian witness has been by women.

"I agree with many of the Aboriginal aims being presented at the moment, but not their methods. So many of our leaders are articulate, but need the Lord. The biggest frustration is to get evangelicals aware of the real issues facing Aborigines today. Revival cannot come until Australia confesses what it's done to the Aborigines, especially their culture."

The support necessary for Miss Phillips' expenses has been supplied largely through women around Australia.

— Ramon Williams.

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Columbia Road Health Centre

Christian Projects Limited sponsors with "The Australian Christian" an annual scholarship for overseas Christian research. Bob Smith has been involved in this research and writes of a Christian health centre.

The Columbia Road Health Centre is a non-profit medical centre in the Adams Morgan neighbourhood of Washington D.C. It provides quality health care for the poor in their own neighbourhood and at a price they can afford.

It is a project of the Church of the Saviour. Its co-founders are a married couple, members of the Church of the Saviour. Allen Goetcheus a pastoral counsellor and his wife Janelle, a physician. They envisaged a medical centre that would provide a wholistic approach to health care.

Costly

Today this centre does this through a team which includes a doctor, pastoral counsellor, nurse, social worker and receptionist — Fees for service are on a sliding scale set according to income and the number of dependents.

The cost of providing this service is large. It is maintained by donations both from the Church of the Saviour and outside bodies. Patient fees provide some income. All of the staff members work for modest salaries.

Great Need

The need for its services is great. It is situated in the area which claims the most severe health-related problems in Washington. It is an area where only one-third of expectant mothers receive pre-natal care. It has the highest infant mortality rate

in the U.S.A. (only a mile from the White House).

I spent a day sitting in the waiting room talking to the patients. They were mostly black and Hispanic. One was a young Vietnamese girl who told me the most amazing story about her escape from Vietnam.

The waiting room is bright and cheery. Soft music is playing. There are flowers and paintings there. Trinidad, the Spanish speaking receptionist, is a delightful person who makes patients feel right at home. She even offers them cups of coffee while they wait.

Advocate for the Poor

Janelle Goetcheus says "The church must become an advocate for the poor. At Columbia Rd. Health Centre we struggle to serve the poor with Christ's compassion within the limitations set by the larger, dehumanizing, health care system for the poor of Washington D.C."



Some of the people who come to Columbia Rd., Health Centre

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OPEN FORUM

FREEDOM AND LIBERTY

To the Editor,

I, too, take umbrage as does Clive Robertson ("A.C." 12.6.81), over the interdict imposed at the W.A. State Conference 1981. Restless under censorship, I find it hard to maintain my "Cool" and so continue my editorship of the "Western Christian Digest". "Freedom" and "liberty" are far more than watchwords. They are ideas to live by and we neglect them at our peril. I fail to see in Campbell's teachings anything that could be used to support the decision taken by the Conference. I regret that illness

prevented me from attending Conference. My voice would have been strongly raised against the authoritarianism of the motion. I may still as a Christian love the movers as fellow Christians, but I find it hard to appreciate their actions and motives and deeply deplore their divisiveness in our Brotherhood.

I will resist continually any extension of the censorship imposed on the "Western Christian Digest" and its readers. I will also support any move to have at least these bans lifted.

— Reg. C. Sack, (Editor), "Western Christian Digest".



THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES requires A PROMOTION SECRETARY

This is a rewarding position for a person with a lively imagination, initiative and understanding of the Australian church and community. The primary task is organising the annual Christmas Bowl Appeal including the production of posters, leaflets and resource materials. An understanding of issues of justice, development and aid is important. The location will be the Sydney national office and the Promotion Secretary will be part of a team responsible for education information and promotion. Closing date August 31, 1981. For details, apply to:

The Executive Secretary
Division of World Christian Action
Box C199, Clarence St. P.O.
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RECEPTIONIST CLERK

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Canterbury

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Enquiries: Phone (03) 813 2722 B.H.

R. S. Adams — Administrator

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

GIFTS

To the Editor,

In our church we seem to go from one in-thing to another. Once it was the functional church with every one on a committee. Then it was share groups with every one in a group. After that we were all involved in church growth. Discipleship grew out of that with every one paying the cost of it. Now it is gifts.

Our minister has been on to gifts for some time. He says that a lot of unproductive things are being done in our church by people who are not really gifted for their tasks. He wants us to examine ourselves and the scriptures and the church's mission to see what our gifts really are. By discerning and using our gifts he says that instead of being square pegs in round holes we will either be round pegs in round holes or square pegs in square holes.

But somehow it doesn't seem to be working out the way he intended. On the one hand he has had to spend a lot of time with square peg people who are convinced that God has given them round hole gifts. On the other hand he has had to contend with a lot of people who have slipped out of their jobs in the church because they have become convinced that they do not have the gifts for them. Previously they would have stuck it out and prayed about it and done a fairly reasonable job. Now nobody is doing some of these jobs because no one seems to have the gifts for them. I notice that they are mainly the unglamorous and tedious jobs.

As a matter of fact our minister has unwittingly handed us the biggest cop-out that we've ever had. I've found myself taking advantage of it. Reluctantly I used to help with a little visiting, always scared stiff. I passed up the latest visitation program by telling our minister I did not have the gift for that sort of thing. He gave me a funny look, but he couldn't do a thing about it because he's been saying, "It's no use doing a thing unless you are sure that you have the gift for it." Unemployment seems to be increasing in our church.

Your giftless friend,
Tertius.

DON'T MISS

ONE DAY SEMINAR

"Caring for the person with cancer"

AT PETER MacCALLUM HOSPITAL

on Wednesday, 9th September, 1981

9.00 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

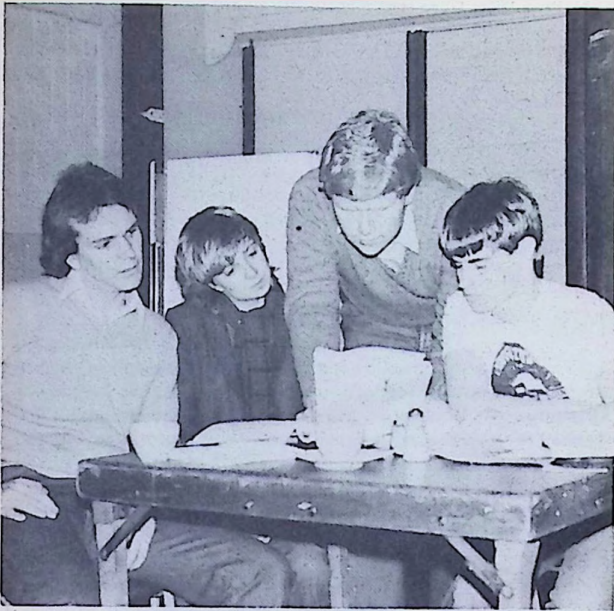
For Chaplains, Ministers, Priests, Rabbis, Religious.

Cost: \$15.00 (Includes meals and materials).

Enquiries and Registration forms:

Chaplain Norma Barnett,
Cancer Institute,
481 Little Lonsdale Street,
MELBOURNE 3000.
Phone: 602 1333, Ext. 690.

Handouts



Phil Wilkerson, Lera Mould, Mark Fletcher and David Mordue going over their lines.

Nick has been out of work for over 18 months. He left home four years ago at the age of 16 because the nagging got too much. He's living in a dump. John, Nick's brother, is trying hard to make it as a trendy. He's got a good job with a bank, nice flat and the right friends. Vicki is a secretary. She's just beginning to clarify her values and life goals. All three were good friends at high school, but that was four years ago. They have had little contact since then. Put them together in Nick's flat and you have laughter, confrontation, aggression, hate ...

Handouts is the story of the meeting and what follows. It looks at poverty and unemployment and responses to these issues.

This world premiere season of **Handouts** is the culmination of more than 12 months work by the **Durran Durra Players**. Research has involved many social service organisations in Victoria such as the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and Unemployed Workers Union. The play was workshopped for a number of months before rehearsals started.

The **Durran Durra Players** first joined the Victorian amateur theatre scene in 1979 as the **Victorian Christian Theatre Group**. Since then the group has presented four theatre

seasons before a total audience of around 4,000. **Handouts** is their first full length play.

The five venues where **Handouts** is to be staged have been chosen because they allow the play to be presented "in the round". The audience will be part of the action on stage.

The group will follow the season of **Handouts** with a season of three one-act plays in November of this year. This season will be presented over four weeks in Kew, Chandler and Collingwood.

On August 1 of this year, the group is holding a **Skills Development Seminar** at the Malvern/Caulfield Church of Christ Hall. Starting at 10 a.m., participants will be tutored in the skills of: Voice, Movement, Improvisation and Acting. The cost is only \$2.00 and bookings can be made by calling Susan Saunders on 560 0564.

For information on **Handouts** see advertisement on page 3.

ANN ST. C.W.F. held coffee morning together with "Come to China". Miss Helen Trudgian (Pres. Elect Q.C.W.F.) showed slides of her trip to China. \$100 given to Normanton Aboriginal Mission Fund as well as gifts of clothing ... Chaplain Ron Holt guest speaker at morning service which included child dedication.

More About the "Special Neighbourhood Issue"

The copies of "THE SPECIAL" have been despatched to the churches. Already we have received a lot of unsolicited positive comment about it. (We don't mind the other kind. We learn from it.)

The Strike

The transport drivers' strike left us with the problem of transporting 45,000 40-page papers from the printer in Cheltenham, 20 miles to the "A.C." Office in North Essendon. You can get 4,000 in a six cylinder car by using back seat space and boot and levelling the springs. We thank Ray Clarke of Box Hill and Noel Skillicorn of Strathmore for their help with larger vehicles.

We posted parcels to all but suburban churches. We had intended these to go by road transport to central depots in capital cities. In the end we had to send them by rail. We hope that they have arrived.

Did Yours Arrive?

Any suburban churches that have not taken delivery of their bundles should check with their city church offices or with one of the colleges.

All churches that ordered supplies of the "Special Issue" and have not received

them by now should write to us at the "A.C." Office.

More Available

We did an over-print of three thousand. They are available to churches that did not order or churches that did and could use more. Churches requiring any of these extras should order quickly because the Issue is dated August-September.

Thankyou

The packaging and despatch of the "Special Neighbourhood Issue" took a team of volunteers one week. We thank the North Essendon church for use of space and facilities. We thank Ray Clarke of Box Hill and Noel Skillicorn of Strathmore for organising wrapping and despatch materials. And we thank the devoted team of men and women who gave their time and enthusiasm, and learned a lot about packing, on the job.

And a special word of thanks to Christian Projects Limited whose generosity made the whole thing possible.

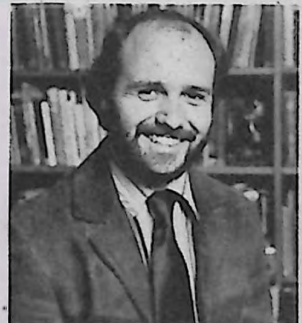
Prayers

Our prayers are that as our neighbours take up and read the "Special", that the Holy Spirit will use it to begin a work in the lives of many of them that will lead them to the Christian ministry of our churches.

Doug Morffew for Communications Ministry

When Doug Morffew came to the College of the Bible he had been a picture theatre projectionist, with an intense interest in Christian communication through film and electronic media. While in College he led a group in a project that resulted in the making of "Superminister", a film shown to many of our churches in most states.

Doug has now accepted a full time ministry as a staff worker at the House of the Gentle Bunyip in Melbourne. This is a Christian community house involved in inner suburban industrial ministry, community out-



reach, and gospel communication. Doug will be responsible for the Platypus Cassette Library run by the community. He will develop audio-visual resources. Other parts of his job will be in discipleship training, coffee house ministry and worship leadership.



ONE MORE STEP Jon Robinson (Focus FSR 1038)

Jon is a Sydney Christian folk/rock singer. The album is fairly well produced and put together, although in a slightly unimaginative way. Jon wrote all of the material. Some of the songs have almost a '50s Buddy Holly feel, they are all simple and their content is easily accessible. Basically they are songs of thankfulness, with a couple having a challenging edge to them. Jon's voice isn't overly strong, and at times it has a disconcerting (for me) waver, but overall it is a pleasant album. Best: If I Die Tonight, The Sacrifice.

DON'T GIVE IN Leon Patillo (Myrrh MSB 6662)

This is the second solo album by the ex-Santana singer/keyboards player. On this one, he has gained a producer, a backing band and it's on a new label. It is an excellent album. Leon has a very strong voice and on a number of tracks he really lets it loose. Every track is worthwhile. Explo '80 attendees will recognise a number of the songs as those he used very effectively in Brisbane last year. He "Christianizes" George Harrison's "My Sweet Lord" and also picks up the top 40 soul hit "(Your Love is Lifting Me) Higher and Higher — both to perfection. I would highly recommend this LP to anyone seeking to be encouraged and built up through music of a basically contemporary nature.

NO FIXED ADDRESS

A Musical drama performed by S.A. Churches of Christ Youth Choir in 1979. This cassette is a recording of the actual stage production which was written by Chester Schultz. The quality of the recording is reasonable especially as it is a live stage performance and there are limits to the use of microphones in this situation. In some ways this is a nostalgia item of listening to the Youth Choir in concert. The cassette is available for a donation to cover costs from Chester Schultz, 18 Charlton St., Exeter, S.A. 5019. The running time is in excess of 90 minutes.

BOOKS TO READ

WHAT HAPPENS TO CHILDREN?

**The Origins of Violence
by Valerie Yule (Angus and Robertson) \$8.95.**

Valerie Yule is a clinical and educational psychologist. Her book "What Happens to Children" gives us a disturbing insight into the interior world of some of Melbourne's inner city children, and clues to origins of violence in our society.

She obtained the stories of 2000 children from their own drawings and their own words. Valerie Yule says "Again and again the first story that children will tell 'off the top of their heads' will seem to be their own summaries of life and how they see the world."

The book contains 89 of the stories plus some of the drawings. They provide windows into the world of disadvantaged children. What is seen through the windows is, in most instances, tragic and melancholy, symbolic autobiographies of children starved for love, support and meaning.

Many of the the children whose stories are reproduced will almost certainly become vandals, bashers, addicts, criminals, psychiatric patients. These children cry for help. Will we try to avoid the almost inevitable outcome? Will we heed?

Why are train seats slashed, telephone boxes smashed? Why does violence erupt in killings, rapeings, setting fire to buildings? Why are so many lives stunted, distorted? The sub-title of the book "The Origins of Violence" indicates that the author sees the origins in the lives of hurt children who need healing.

Concerned people should read this book and respond at two levels. One is the public level related to poverty, injustice, greed. The other level is personal — through caring individuals and groups. We are not short of models for this and can find many personal examples as well as books such as Denham Grierson's "Focus on the Child" to help us.

— Dr Cliff Wright.

FAITH WITH UNDERSTANDING

by Gordon S. Dicker (Uni-Church Publishing), \$10.

'Every Christian must be his or her own theologian, says the author (p.vi) and adds: 'though not in isolation from other Christians.' His book provides a means for every Christian to be helped on his way towards an appropriate understanding. And it will help others to appreciate what it is that they are turning away from.

To read this book is to have one's mind opened to a wide range of questions: What is faith? Why is there evil? How did Jesus think of himself? In what way should the church be organized? and many others. It is also to have one's attention drawn to what is important about such questions.

The print is clear, the cover attractive, the photographs thought-provoking. The three indices (one of authors, one of Biblical references, and one of subjects), though concise, appear to be exhaustive — in respect of the text if not of the notes.

A sentence in the introduction suggests that the author has in mind as readers, lay members of the Uniting Church. But members (including ministers) of all churches will find in the book a great deal to interest them and to help them.

— James Peter.

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.**



"David, where have you been with that slingshot? Mrs. Goliath has called three times!"

El Salvador

Unfortunately, when a nation becomes polarized as has happened in El Salvador, the Body of Christ finds itself on both sides, as do denominations and even individual church communities.

Two prominent Protestant pastors, whose names are being withheld because of danger to their lives, told us about their understandings and ministry in a nation that is being torn apart by bitterness and violence.

We will call them Pastor Paulo and Pastor Pedro.

Pastor Paulo Speaks

Pastor Paulo is one of the many North Americans who came to the Latin south to spread the Gospel. He clearly supports the junta, because he said it is honestly attempting to provide the people with an alternative to the extreme right and Marxist left.

He believes that the junta is moderate because some of its members are men who have made an evangelical statement of faith, professing their belief in Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The military too, said Pastor Paulo, is moderate. There are many Christians in the military. He admitted that the same could not be said about the security forces which appear not to be under control of the military high command or the junta.

Pastor Paulo does not see the same danger from the right as from the left. "The left and right are entirely different. The extreme right is not organized with a disciplined arm seeking to impose its will on the country. It tends to be a group of business people, who are protecting their financial position and the status quo.

On the far left you have people who are part of the whole range of international terrorism and who genuinely prefer a Marxist system that permits them to bring down any government that is not Marxist. There are others who work with the left, hoping that when the present government in San Salvador is overturned they will be able to control the Marxists.

Historically no centre group has ever been able to do that once the Marxists take control."

Pastor Pedro Speaks

Like Pastor Paulo, Pastor Pedro belongs to a major Protestant denomination. He spoke about his own congregation that has suffered arrests and assassinations.

"Three young brothers from our church were thrown into prison. The charges were that they were subversive and collaborating with terrorists. They were accused of taking food to guerillas. The truth was that they were taking food to refugees camped at a church."

The pastor told of how Christian churches in El Salvador, Sweden, Britain and the US wrote to the junta asking for release of these young people.

"After this international pressure, the army demanded a ransom of \$1200 for their release. We could not afford that sum, so the army accepted a smaller amount. After being tortured by the police, they were released."

Pastor Pedro has accused the right of assassinating two young members of his church. The army and right-wing terror squads have been responsible for the murder of at least two other members of his denomination. One of his

Two Sides To Every Story



Deacons of a Baptist church in San Salvador. Members of this church have been murdered and tortured by Terror Squads.

deacons has disappeared and the right has forced the church's senior pastor to flee to Mexico.

The reforms being made by the junta are not working, said the pastor, because the land and banking reforms are not being passed onto the people as promised.

He admitted that generally the Protestant church is not involved in standing with people against brutal oppression and violation of human rights.

"Archbishop Romero took the Catholic Church away from the government. The government then took control of the Protestant churches and made them its tool."

He believes that this situation might change as some Protestants experience bombings and killings.

He said the government is attempting to discredit the socially active church, not only by persecution, but openly supporting those Protestant churches which do not speak out about the

system or the state of the oppressed poor.

Because of this patronage, these Christians have a natural loyalty to the junta.

Despite the kidnappings, assassinations and torturing of his members, Pedro's church continues to work with other groups which are struggling for their human rights.

Isn't it a dangerous path for the church?

"Yes. But in times like this can you stay out of trouble?" replied Pedro.

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HAPPENINGS

The British Methodist Conference has voted provisional approval for a covenant among it, the United Reformed Church, Church of England, Churches of Christ and Moravian Church. The vote was 497-5.

The Papua New Guinea Government has authorised that P.N.G. Pidgin is to be officially referred to as Tok Pisin in future.

A survey in a Japanese newspaper found 27% claimed to be Buddhist, 2% Christian and 62% acknowledged no religion. 76% admitted to having their fortune told by drawing lots at a shrine.

World Vision reports more refugees arriving in its huge refugee camp at Las Dure, Somalia. Recently 6000 people arrived, more than half of them in poor physical condition. World Vision

is attempting to cope with a large vaccination program, however it has been slowed down because most of the agency's medical team have been very sick. Las Dure, built to accommodate 40,000, is struggling with a population of nearly 80,000.

The Unification Church (Moonies) has lost the longest and most expensive libel suit in English legal history. A 1978 article in the London Daily Mail accused the sect of brainwashing converts and breaking up families.

A former Anglican clergyman who embezzled over \$80,000 from a Uniting Church home for the aged in Sydney has been sentenced to 12 month's jail.

The Pentecostal Church in Plovdiv (Bulgaria's second city) has been closed and bull-dozed.

Wycliffe Bible Translators are using computers to cut up to two years from the time needed to translate the New Testament. The job normally requires 10-15 years.

On Easter Sunday 40 Chinese citizens were baptised at one of Peking's Protestant churches. Half were elderly people with the other half youths.

The Bible is a best seller in Japan where fewer than 1% of the 115 million people in that country are Christians.

The latest census in Hong Kong puts the population at just over 5 million people 98% of whom are ethnic Chinese. The population has grown 27.2% since 1971.

The World Health Organisation claims that most of the world's 40 million blind people live in developing countries. Two out of three of them are needlessly blind. Many could be cured if they had access to cataract operations or better living conditions.

Mother Teresa has accepted an invitation to address a national Right To Life convention in Perth during October. Mother Teresa received a Nobel Peace Prize last year for her work among the extreme poor of India, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Venezuela. Her Order of the Missionaries of Charity also works at Bourke in western New South Wales.

Bruce Upton, National Public Relations Officer with the Bible Society has been appointed Associate Director Communications, Asia-Pacific Region for World Vision. The Bible Society is at present not filling the vacancy caused by Mr Upton's new appointment.

Missionary Aviation Fellowship is celebrating 30 years of service in New Guinea this year.

According to reports James Earl Ray the convicted assassin of Martin Luther King became a Christian four months ago.

Indonesia has a population of 150 million of which 90 million live on Java. 85% of the population is Muslim, 10% Christian (Catholic or Protestant) and the rest Hindu, Buddhist or Animist.

The entire print run of 135,000 copies of the 1910 version of the Chinese Bible was recently sold out in mainland China. This print run came off the press in March.

John Wesley's house in London was recently reopened after restorations that cost 130,000 pounds.

The Church of England Synod in England has decided that "there are circumstances in which a divorced person may be married in church during the lifetime of a former partner".

West German young people provided food for 600 children and teenagers at six Baptist camps in Poland this European summer.

HARD FACTS ABOUT DARWIN

Hard-headed Christian stewards need hard facts in order for their stewardship to be wisely directed in the best interests of the Kingdom.

Hard-headed Christian stewards are invited to get out their cheque books forthwith because here are the hard facts.

● In three years, starting almost from scratch, the church now has 60 members and 20 other Christians in fellowship. That is faster growth than nearly all of our Australian churches.

- The church is giving \$300 a week which is pretty good for a limited number of bread winners.
- There have been over 20 baptisms in the last couple of years. That compares more than favourably with most of our churches.
- Churches of Christ families that had slipped out of the church have found new life in Christ in moving to Darwin and becoming associated with the church there.
- The land granted to the Darwin church at Malak is

in a new housing area where there is no other church and where 1200 homes are being built for 7,000 people.

- In order to have any sort of building we have to fit in with building regulations, especially those concerning cyclones. So the minimum price for an all-purpose utility building is \$125,000.

Now that hard-headed Christian stewards have their cheque books out they can write for a straight gift and/or a free of interest loan and/or a loan at a fairly low rate of interest.

They can put the cheque in an ordinary envelope labelled "DARWIN" and put it in the offering plate on Sunday.

BURWOOD (P. Wing Tang, F. Smith). Guest speaker Principal Emeritus Williams baptised his grandson Phillip ... Inter - generational services conducted by Faith Smith popular ... "Great Expectations Mission 81" to be conducted by Bill Gaunson Oct. 4 ... Monthly after church sing-a-long started ... 25 attended Men's Breakfast at Coles ... 5 p.m. fellowship teas well attended ... Manse in Cratloe Rd. sold. New manse to be built on church property ...

BELMONT (B. K. Ryall). Successful planned giving program with George Warren (M.E.D.), 22 new pledges and an increase in offerings to estimated \$800 weekly. New budget includes provision for addition to ministry team ... Second term study series including topics: Refugees, Marriage Enrichment and social issues ... Evening services features: three weeks on "Alcohol", gospel group from U.S.A. and combined Geelong rally with Conf. Pres. Ron Brooker.



Immediate area of Darwin Church site

SORTING OUT THE TRINITY

Page 13

When I was a lad we had the trinity neatly sorted out.

You prayed to God in heaven. You never prayed to Jesus or to the Holy Spirit as so many do today.

Sometimes a young man would address God in a communion prayer and then go on, "We thank thee for thy death upon the cross." Obviously it was nervous confusion rather than deliberate heresy . . . or the expression of a deep and beautiful theological insight. But an elder would come up to him afterwards and firmly but graciously put him right.

We did not pray to Jesus, but in the name of Jesus. Was he not in heaven interceding with God to accept our prayers?

So God was in heaven. Our prayers went to him through space and he would send back grace and power and the influences needed to organise answers to our prayers if he favoured such answers.

On God's Right Hand

Jesus was also in heaven on God's right hand. To accept him as saviour was to accept what he did with his "finished work on the cross" (which is correct), but there was little emphasis on his saving and indwelling presence here and now, except amongst the poets and the hymn writers. He was in heaven waiting to return. Lots of people who yearned to meet him at his return were not really aware that they could meet him any time they wanted to, here and now.

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit was the representative on earth, of God in heaven. Our relationship with him was an uneasy one because so many people claimed the Holy Spirit's guidance for some quite outrageous things. Some were even known to say that the Holy Spirit had told them that they did not need to be baptised! So the New Testament which was authorised by the Holy Spirit (not by King James!) was used to keep an eye on his alleged activities.

Neat But Not Scriptural

It was neat and tidy and convenient and saved us from committing heresies in public prayers and private conversation. But it was not scriptural.

God is "up in heaven" because there is no place where God is not. But he is present with us and in us. Acts 17:27,28.

Jesus is at the "right hand of God", not in any geographical sense, but in the sense that authority has been given to him by the Father. How can one be on the physical, geographical right hand of one who is spirit and who is everywhere? And as he promised Jesus is with us. Some 28 times Paul used the phrase "in Christ" that describes a relationship with him in which we are able to be part of his being and he is able to be part of ours. He is able to dwell in us (Ephesians 3:17, John 15:4-7).

The Holy Spirit is God coming into our lives with power and insight and guidance (John 16:13). He is also referred to as the Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9,10; 1 Peter 1:11).

A Bad Trinitarian

Paul was a bad "trinitarian" in the sense that he never tried to sort out the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit into neat packages. He used them interchangeably, according to his experience of the moment. This is illustrated particularly well in his great prayer for the Ephesians in chapter three. In verse 16 he talks of the indwelling Spirit. In verse 17 he talks of the indwelling Christ. In verse 19 he talks of being filled with all of the fullness of God.

Jesus told his apostles that after his death he would come back to them as a living presence to abide with them and in them. He also said that after his death God would send the Holy Spirit to them as a comforter or one who is alongside.

Experience All Three

There is no remote God or distant Christ or vague Holy Spirit. We can experience all three, responding to the love and grace of the Father, filled with the warm presence of the living Christ, and empowered by the life and dynamic of the Holy Spirit.

The whole trinity matter has been complicated by people who try to specialise in one person of the trinity at the expense of the others. Some who see themselves as being more intellectually inclined tend to talk more about God because experiencing Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit involves the feelings and they are fairly emotionally inhibited. Others are "Jesus people" in that God seems remote and the Holy Spirit unnecessary if you can be "in love with Jesus" and talk to him all the time. Others again realise that the church has "neglected the doctrine of the Holy Spirit" and they see themselves as "specialists" in the Holy Spirit, and talk of no one else. But all of this is so unnecessary and so un-biblical.

Why Not Enjoy All Three

As a young minister I used to give many a lift to a veteran Lutheran pastor. I confided to him my confusion as to the appropriate ways of speaking in public about the persons of the trinity. I expected that this great saint would have produced for me a useful formula. He said, "Why not talk about and enjoy all three?"

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." (2 Corinthians 13:14).

**Talk 'N Do
Friendship Centre
meets a need
in Elizabeth, S.A.**

Since its inception in November last, the Talk 'N Do Friendship Centre, based at the Elizabeth Church of Christ in S.A. has over 60 attending.

"It is a 'no strings attached' community service for the whole area", Co-ordinator, Claire Lewis states, "and it's a place where people of all ages, both men and women can come to meet old friends and make new ones too! It's about being creative, finding new skills, personal resources, fulfilment and enrichment, as well as being a time to meet others, relax, sit and chat or just do your own thing."

There are morning and afternoon sessions every Tuesday, and the activities include Keeping Fit, Weigh-in, Leatherwork, Macrame, Ceramics, Copper Shim, Patch-Work, Hobby-Tex, Odds and Ends, Scrabble and



Friendship Centre in operation

Card Games. The only cost involved is for materials used.

A playtime and creche at morning sessions leave the mums free to relax and do their own thing, while the children are under the care of supervisor, Pat Russell.

Clair would be happy to supply further information to interested persons, and can be contacted on 255 1058, or C/o Church of Christ, Corner of Short and Ashfield Roads, Elizabeth.

— Joan Strudwick.

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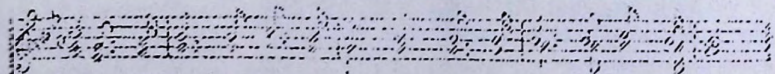
You will cross National, Cultural and Religious boundaries. The travel is rugged. The accommodation and food enable you to identify with the people in their simple lifestyle.

The 7th Aussie V. for V. Team departs Sydney, December 28, 1981, and returns home January 28, 1982.

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For your application form and further details to: Australian Venture For Victory Basketball, Box 1717, G.P.O., Adelaide. 5001. Phone: (08) 212 4611.

**MAKE A
CHILD
SING....**



1. I will sing the won-drous sto-ry Of the Christ who died for us.

**I was bruised but Jesus healed me,
Faint was I from many a fall,
Sight was gone and fears possessed me,
But He freed me from them all.**



Yes, Jay (Jayaraju) can sing this because: His father died when he was young leaving his mother destitute. Through insufficient employment she was unable to support her family. This would have left Jay to become a thief, sleeping in the streets, left to die if sickness struck, with no security and a bleak future.

Now Jay is sponsored by an Australian Christian lady which makes it possible for him to live in a Christian Childrens' Home where he's enjoying good health. He feels secure, he's proving himself to be dependable, well-balanced, friendly and cheerful while progressing well at school.

Best of all, in January last year Jay became a Christian, which set him free from the falls and fears of the past. Now he's being equipped in God's plan for him.

A child like Jay needs you immediately. Bruised, faint, afraid, blindly groping for answers to life, "Your child" desperately awaits your response. You can give this child, food, clothing, shelter, an education and Christian training for just 53 cents a day and transform his whole life.

Put this song into the heart of "your child" by sending the coupon today.



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State _____ Postcode _____

One Man's Pilgrimage

I remember it so well, September 26, 1976. The place, South Perth Church of Christ, the occasion, my entry into the 'Forever Family' of God and acceptance of the reality of God in Christ. I had entered into the process of salvation. A metamorphosis had taken place and the ugly grub had become a handsome butterfly. For the bonds of the chrysalis had been broken by the Lord of Glory, Jesus Christ.

What Next?

How well I remember the kalaedoscope of endless parties, drunken stupors and drug enduced highs, of friends dying of drug overdoses and motorbike accidents. People who were one moment laughing, reasoning, experiencing persons and the next were just cold, lifeless husks. For them it was over, the clock could not turn back and I asked myself "What next?" I didn't know, and neither did anyone else.

Running my own business I had thought would give the answers, but the money earned slipped easily through my fingers. I went to Adelaide, only to find myself in a worse situation than before. My job was one soul destroying day after another, watching the eyeless sockets of piston bores moving past in a never ending line.

I cried out to God, as mental anguish shrouded me "God, if you fix up my life, I will serve you forever" ... and He did, and to my shame, I didn't.

Marriage

All was forgotten as the sun began to shine and the rain clouds began to drift away, and I looked to being married.



Life was once again full of promises, hopes and purpose.

But still the emptiness continued. Even if I was enjoying married life, there was no purpose or meaning.

Eventually I sought temporary work and shelter in Perth at the home of a brother, who had "got religion". I was due to stay two weeks and decided within myself to manipulate the conversation around to his faith, little realizing that this was also his desire — not to manipulate but to share.

Real life is easy to discern and it was easily recognised in my brother; something which had never been my experience, but which I knew, whatever it was, I had to have. So I determined to follow Christ to the end no matter the cost.

At Church

Sunday saw me at church. The altar call came and I stepped out, still seeking, still unsure but with an earnestness in my heart to

grasp a piece of reality, to leave behind emptiness and to be filled with life in all its fullness. I was not disappointed.

The very life of God flowed into me and for the first time I knew what it was to be alive.

Ministry

Today I find myself in Kenmore Christian College, being trained for the ministry of God who has never let me down although many times, I have been unfaithful to Him. He took me at my word nearly six years ago when as a spiritually destitute young man I cried in my agony "fix up my situation God, and I will serve you for the rest of my life."

Vatican Appointment Rejected by China

Vatican relations with China took a turn for the worse when on June 11 Yang Gaojian, a representative of the Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association, issued a statement calling the Pope's appointment of Msgr. Dominic Tang as Archbishop of Canton "illegal".

The statement released by the Chinese newsagency said, "The Holy See's move rudely interferes in the sovereign affairs of the Chinese church. This cannot be tolerated."

On June 6 Pope John Paul II had named Archbishop Tang as the first bishop appointed by the Vatican to China since 1956. The bishop was in Rome to attend ceremonies marking the anniversaries of the 4th century Council of Constantinople and Ephesus.

Youth Crisis Centre Notches up First Year

The Sydney City Mission's Youth Crisis Centre in the heart of Sydney's Kings Cross, has just notched up its first year of service to the huge population of "street kids" in the area.

Over the one year period the centre has rushed 123 young people to hospital suffering from drug overdose. Only one died. However, the Centre knows of another 10 who died before they could get to the centre for help.

Every night the Centre assists over 70 young people who are suffering from alcoholism, drug dependence, physical or psychiatric illness, unemployment, destitution or homelessness.

The Mission's doctor treated 652 young people who were addicted to alcohol or drugs in the Centre's detoxification unit.

During the year eighty young people were helped to change their lifestyles and return to a more stable existence. Some of these young people also decided to accept Christ as their Savior.

The centre has a drop-in and activity centre which provides structured activities in a warm, caring atmosphere.

One of the big challenges is the desperate need for more staff, who are personally equipped to counsel and help young people. They need to be committed Christians who really care about helping the street kids overcome their problems and develop their potential. Welfare and nursing training is an advantage, but not essential.

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Ministry in S.A.

— Ed Roffey

Our South Australian churches and Conference welcomed nine new ministers this year including seven direct from College — six from College of the Bible, Glen Iris and one from Kenmore Christian College. They have been well received and are significantly fulfilling ministries. Several opportunities have been taken for helping those newly arrived to feel that we share a common ministry within the wholeness of the church.

On August 19 a day is arranged at Koorngal Homestead for those taking up their S.A. ministries in 1981 and their spouses with Kevin and Gwyn Harvey and Ed and Gwen Roffey. Koorngal Homestead is a full-time program for the Harvey's to provide counselling and/or live-in experiences for the enrichment of family, marriage and personal life.

Associate State Ministers Gerald Rose and Ted Heard share also pastoral concern from the Centre. Ted and Dorothy Heard provide a monthly breakfast often at 104 Grote Street for ministers of the 4 kilometer area for prayer and share. This ministry has continued for more than four years. More recently they commenced monthly lunch time meeting for ministers in the Northern suburbs. Gerald Rose will follow through in this fellowship for the next three months and then Ed Roffey. Country visits of State ministers are encouraged by State Board.

A note of sadness in a report of ministries in S.A. is sounded because of the compulsory early retirements through illness of two of our ministers. Murray D. Williams graduated from Glen Iris in 1946 and has served the church continuously until first heart surgery and then a few years later heart attacks interrupted an active ministry and caused him to resign his ministry at Tumby Bay. A Tumby Bay member wrote to me this week expressing the church's concern in his illness and describing him as "a gentle, caring person, well liked and respected by all". Murray has been in hospital since a second and more severe stroke.

Ern O. Stevens has also resigned ministry with Williamstown / Kersbrook. Injuries from a previous time have taken toll and a back

condition has rendered him partially disabled causing his retirement from ministry. Ern and Janice have two sons in the ministry of Churches of Christ as well as two daughters married to ministers.

The South Australian Conference has encouraged

ministry by the redeployment of Conference Staff from departmental directors and Conference secretarial roles to State and Associate State Ministers. The name change is given meaning by an amended Constitution which dismantles departments as

employing bodies and replaces Conference Executive with an enlarged State Board. State Board is given responsibility by Conference for the work and membership of Committees to be established. State Board held its first meeting on June 20 when this photo was taken.



Some of the staff at the S.A. Conference Centre as follows from left to right: — Ed Roffey, State Minister, Joy Pittman, Office Secretary, Colin Dredge, Administrator Christian Rest Homes and Conference Centre, Gerald Rose, Associate State Minister until 30.12.81, Ruth Edge, Welfare Officer, Rob. Combridge from 1.1.82 and Ted Heard, Associate State Ministers.

As well as other office staff at 104 Grote Street Conference is served by John Baker, Chaplain to the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Pictured is the Darwin church's Mid-winter Family Camp. There was not much snow.

Arthur Heyhoe, one of the Darwin church "pioneers" has visions of the future, past the present erection of the all-purpose hall. He sees explosive growth and the need for a multiple ministry and a great thriving, community serving, God-filled suite of buildings.

Arthur writes, "There is an air of excitement as we share together in Bible study groups and worship services. The Holy Spirit is drawing us together as a family and convicting us of a need for even deeper commitment, as we consider the possibilities for the future."

Darwin Family Camp





Entrance to care — Christian Guest Home

Meeting needs of people such as caring for the aged of our community, by providing accommodation and caring for them in homes and hospitals by giving a listening ear to persons in distress and seeking to give them direction in life, by the provision of food, clothing and finance when poverty strikes are but a few ways in which the church reaches out in fulfilment of Christ's Command to "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF."

Through the ministry of chaplains in hospitals, in industry and among the aged in our homes is a further expression of "COMMUNITY CARE — THE CHURCH IN ACTION."

Opportunity shops conducted by the department provide an avenue to develop friendships and to help people with limited resources to purchase cheap clothing and other necessities of life. The proceeds are then channeled into other welfare work.

Community Care embodied in these activities and demonstrated in these photographs are all expressions of the Church in Action following the example of Jesus when He said:

"I AM AMONG YOU AS HE WHO SERVES."



Department members and patients at C. of C. Nursing Home



Northcote

The Buckingham Memorial Centre

for CONFERENCES
and CAMPS

Lockwood Road, Belgrave Heights



Backing on to the Belgrave Heights (Vic.) Convention property the Churches of Christ have a camping property. It consists of a 25 square house, a large recreation hall, a dormitory block able to accommodate 50 campers and a kitchen/dining room able to cope with 60.

At present the house is rented to Truth and Liberation Concern who act as caretakers. They use the house for an extended family to help with accommodation for people needing supervision to cope with life.

The site is controlled by five trustees who are

members in good standing in Churches of Christ. The camp site called Buckingham Memorial Centre is rented to church groups of all denominations and occasional community groups. A catered camp is run in conjunction with Belgrave Heights Convention.

The property is currently valued at \$80,000 with a debt of \$25,000 at present. Supporters at present join the "Friends of Buckingham Memorial Centre" by pledging a monthly gift or by making a donation or an interest free loan.

Are you looking for a campsite? Why not look at the possibility of using this campsite for your church's camping program.

At present the trustees are looking for people who are willing to help on the Property Committee as members looking after the general oversight, upkeep and use of the property.

All enquirers about the use of the property or any other offers of assistance should contact Jack Edwards, 41 Wilma Ave., Dandenong, Vic. 3175. Phone (03) 791 2854.

W.R.O.C. Happenings

The 11 churches in the Western suburbs of Melbourne continue in their 8th year of productive fellowship. Les. Keatch, President, arranged a fellowship-discussion tea for ministers and their wives, hosted by Mrs Alcorn in her home. Matters considered included formation of W.R.O.C. Ministers' Fraternal, Co-operation with other regional church groups (Melwest — Baptist, Maribyrnong Presbytery — Uniting Church), Youth in W.R.O.C.

On June 20 a seminar was held at Essendon, arranged by Alan Niven, minister at Werribee, the theme being **Becoming a Caring Church**. Speakers were Rev. Dr. Alex, Kenworthy (Why Should the Church Care, Pastoral Care in Church and Community), Gordon Stirling (the Practicalities of Caring), Rev. David Treloar (Grief, Ministering to the Sick, the Dying and the Bereaved) and a Panel of W.R.O.C. ministers: Robyn Schaeffer, Dare Stevens and Jim Spiker.

W.R.O.C. churches have contributed \$2300 towards the support of the ministry at Melton.

Financial support has been given to the churches at Werribee and Gisborne by individual members and churches. A program of effective decision-making committee meetings and vital prayer meetings throughout the region keeps W.R.O.C. alive and well.



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“P-R-E-P-A-R-E”

The high level of dissolution, separation and conflict within marriage is causing growing concern. It has resulted in increased interest in facilities for more adequate preparation for marriage. Coincidental to this has been the appearance in Australia of a new project which offers clergy and counsellors a significant resource for their work with pre-marital couples.

It is called PREPARE (Pre-Marital Personal and Relationship Evaluation) and was developed at the University of Minnesota by a team of research workers led by Professor David H. Olson.

Prepare

Prepare is a 125-item inventory which covers 11 important areas of

relationship. These areas include:

Personality issues — assessing a couple's perception of the personality of their partners and the level of satisfaction or dissatisfaction with that perception.

Realistic expectation — assessing the rational quality of an individual's marriage expectations.

Equalitarian roles — a category which covers beliefs and feelings about a variety of marital and family roles.

Communication — which focusses upon the individual's feelings, beliefs and attitudes toward the role of communication in the maintenance of marital relationships.

Conflict resolution — assessing attitudes toward the

Educating People for Marriage — A New Exciting Project

Training to use Prepare

Prepare can only be administered by persons in the helping professions who have been trained and accredited to do so. The training day involves instruction in the nature of the instrument, the conditions under which it is administered to couples; the interpretation of couples' responses as contained in a computer printout, and the manner in which feedback is given to couples.

Enquiries concerning Prepare should be made to John Robson National Administrator, Prepare, P.O. Box 119 Concord West, N.S.W. 2138. (02) 736 2838 or Kevin Harvey, P.O. Box 79, Williamstown. S.A. 5351 (085) 24 6196.

existence of conflict and the means of resolving conflict.

Financial management — which concerns the way economics are seen to be managed and finances are to be dealt with.

Leisure activities — assessing each individual's preferences for spending free time.

Sexual relationship — a category which assesses attitudes and feelings about the effectual and sexual relationship

Children and marriage — a category dealing with feelings and beliefs about having and raising children and the likely impact upon the marriage.

Family and friends — assessing attitudes toward relationships with relatives, in-laws, and respective circles of friends.

Religious orientation — a category assessing an individual's attitudes, feelings and concerns about religious beliefs and practices insofar as they relate to marriage.

Prepare is administered to a couple during a 1 hour session. They return for a 1-2 hour feedback session based upon the counsellor's interpretation of a 12-15 page computer printout which provides individual and couple scores and comparison to all other couples who have taken Prepare. It shows areas in which a couple are in agreement and identifies possible problem issues and picks up relationship strengths.

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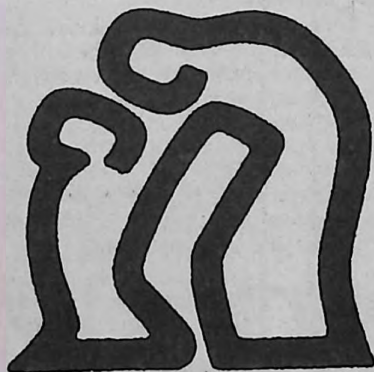
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INTRODUCING

Mates

The memory of the late **Bob Williams**, Aboriginal leader and evangelist, has been recalled by the recent erection over his grave of a stone of remembrance. (See "A.C." Special Issue). At the time of Bob's death **roy Aitken**, then minister of the Carnarvon church, wrote the poem "Mates" in recognition of the friendship in mission of **Bob and Lance Fisher**, then Director of our Carnarvon Mission.

T'was back in nineteen sixty five, 'bout fifteen years ago
That I met up with this bloke Bob, a man you all should know,

For he was broad of back and girth and stood 'bout five foot eight,

As dark as coal with a gleaming face
And Fisher was his mate.

A dandy pair you might well think, as I do well recall,
For one of them was dark and broad, the other fair and tall.
But both had come together where the Gascoyne River spates,

Yet they were one as all could see
'Cause Bob and he were mates.

The story of their wanderings I'd like to here retell,
Of journeys North and South and East and other parts as well.

From fair Carnarvon on the coast to the Meekatharra bakes,
They travelled up and down the West
For ten long years as mates.

The years before he was God's man had not been kind to Bob,

For he had been a wild cove with ne'er a faithful cob.
But one day in the outback from a hopeless wreck of fate,
Bob came a hundred miles or more
A searching for a mate.

What happened on that bed of death I cannot here quite say,
But what I know from that time on his faith shone bright as day.

For he had come from death to life.

From nought to something great.

To be God's man for all to see

With Fisher as his mate.

And off the'd go to Laverton, Wiluna and the East,

To the Murchison and Mullewa to speak of love and peace.

And there was none quite like them as they tracked from dusk till break,

But they was surely brothers

As well as they were mates.

From the likes of Nanutarra where the swift Ashburton flows,



Lance Fisher and Bob Williams

They'd travel up to Onslow where the giant anthills grow,
And on toward Mt. Welcome where in Roebourne they would wait

To hear the word from New Man Bob
With Fisher as his mate.

To understand it better of their travels far and near
It was to help Bob's people bound by tribal lands and fear.
For to go to other places was to tempt the darkest fate,
But the way was opened up by Bob

And Fisher was his mate.

But time speeds on for all of us as you all plainly know,
And so for Bob another Track was shown for him to go.
What a winsome man was he dear friends to know him then
was great,

To know them both, and one remains,

That's Fisher, Old Bob's mate.

But one day in a future time for all who live in Him

A grand reunion, joy and peace, a day no longer dim,

But bright and fair, a day of rest, a day for which we wait

When all can see the worth of them

For they were surely mates.

After over 100 years of meeting the total needs of people affected by leprosy around the world, why does The Leprosy Mission need an introduction?

Because there is still so much to do, and if the task is to be completed, many more people are needed to share in this ministry.

Motivated by compassion, as indicated by our symbol, which is a stylised version of Christ healing the

'leper', The Leprosy Mission is "people helping people" — but not enough of them. There are at least 15 million leprosy sufferers in the world today, and only 20% of them are within range of any treatment.

Leprosy can be cured — but so many of those who have the disease don't know this fact.

Leprosy cripples more people than any other disease — but deformity

can be prevented by early diagnosis and treatment.

Drugs are available to deal with the leprosy germ — but not where they are needed most. *We know enough, but we are not doing enough.*

The Leprosy Mission is an international, non-denominational missionary society working in over 30 countries where leprosy is a problem, in close co-operation with many different churches and mission societies.

THE LEPROSY

Doncaster Bible School Centenary



Les Petty, 39 years Superintendent of the Bible School, Harry Crouch, great grandson of the original founder of the Sunday School and the minister,

Keith Horne, viewing a display of photographs depicting the life of the Sunday School, founded 18 years after the church was commenced at Doncaster.

Spread over a period of two weekends, the church at Doncaster celebrated 100 years of Sunday School in the district, on July 5 and 12.

The three services provided by different age groups in the Bible School covered many aspects based on the theme of "Times Past" and "Times Present". Children taking

part wore costumes suitable for the period 1881 to 1981 and contributed segments such as: plays, family trees, slides depicting an 'old time' Sunday School, bright singing of choruses and hymns of by-gone years.

Mr. Petty, Elder Emeritus, of the church, who for over 30 years was Superintendent of

the Sunday School, was interviewed, and Mrs. Isobel Hodgson cut the Centenary cake.

A display of photographs was arranged by the Doncaster Church of Christ Historical Committee.

One highlight of the celebrations was a Reunion Fellowship on July 12 when 250 people met in the church hall, a time to renew acquaintances and to recall happy times spent at the Sunday School in earlier years.

B.E.M. for Singles Ministry

Joy Waugh (Glen Waverley, Vic.) is a recent recipient of the British Empire Medal for her work with the "Christian Fellowship for Singles, 25 and Over" and other community service.

She and her husband **Arthur** have made a ministry out of fortnightly Bible study and fortnightly social programs and low cost holiday tours for singles. Joy is an agent for Ansvaar Insurance and devotes all of her commissions to the cost of running the Christian singles ministry.

1981 tours include the Barrier Reef, August 22 to September 6 and a cruise to Fiji and N.Z., November 26 to December 13. Bible studies and social nights alternate on Saturdays, usually in members' homes.

Joy can be reached on (03) 277 5192.

Witness at Royal Melbourne Show

This year, between September 16 and 26, thousands of Victorians will drift through the Royal Show, having fun and looking for excitement and enjoyment... many will be lonely.

Each year the churches, through the **Churches Consultative Committee on Evangelism**, sponsor an outreach program at the Show. Through a mixture of craft activities, drama, coffee and friendship, a team of volunteers aim to demonstrate the care and concern of Christ.

The team works from Scripture Union's "Theos Bus".

The organisers are anxious to involve as many "average people" from Melbourne's churches as possible. They are particularly keen to involve housewives who are available during the weekdays of the Show. Many of the people who visit the Show during the week are mothers with children.

Training sessions are provided. In addition to special sessions at Scripture Union's annual Training Day on Saturday, September 12, two alternative sessions have been planned for Tuesday, September 8 at 10.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. The venue for these two training sessions is the **Essendon Community Centre**.

"Average people" who would like to be part of this united Christian outreach should contact Scripture Union on (03) 428 4934.

If only you could see what is being done —

- School children receiving a medical check in the classroom,
- An old man being fitted with an artificial limb,
- A teenage girl having surgery to correct a deformed hand,
- Patients in a ward hearing of Christ's love.

These are just a few of the activities carried out each day by Leprosy Mission staff around the world.

Maybe you can't go, but The Leprosy Mission is an extension of your arm as you reach out to help those in such tremendous need.

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MISSION

WA

NORTHAM (M. Randell). Monthly services commenced in Toodyay ... Peter Fisher spoke on work in Corrigin and Lake Grace ... Adult Bible class now studying the Mormons ... Poem written by Effie Duke for 75th anniversary available ... Hearttenders meeting "Fireside favorites" with favorite something brought ... Shirley Smyth assisting at hospital Day Care Centre with occupational therapy ... "Pastor's Pen" distributed fortnightly ... Church preparing for missionary emphasis later in year.

NOLLAMARRA (A. J. Anderson, J. Hicks). Winter series of meetings held with films and interviews ... Pantry parcels forwarded each month to missionaries overseas ... George Eaves appointed J. P. ... Half yearly meeting held after a luncheon for 66 ... Presentation of work of Far East Broadcasting Co. given by John Redman ... Nine recently baptised and five added to membership.

SCARBOROUGH (Leroy Randall, Fred Hay). James Dobson Family Films screened ... Ruth Burroughs, S.I.M., gave challenge at youth service ... Bill Thornton and N. B. Wells recent visiting speakers ... Sharyn Winton to captain junior State netball team. Linda Wesley also selected and Christine Pallot for under-20 team ... Senior youth enjoying a "Get To Know You" visitation program.

SA

MURRAY BRIDGE (D. Kuhl, B. Wills, P. Bobrige). Appreciation expressed at Annual Meeting to D. Harper for 35 years as church officer ... Six home Bible studies groups meeting each week. Wednesday morning ladies' meet in four groups for study. 40 involved. Wednesday night youth Bible study with 36 attending ... 38 baptisms in last 12 months ... C.W.F. held 67th birthday meeting ... youth exchange weekend with Trinity Baptist ... Men's Fellowship evening speakers Allan Woodham and Ross Aberle.

BALAKLAVA (Graham Lawrie). Film "The Evangelical Church in Russia" screened. Church sponsors radio broadcasts to Russia ... \$400 raised for World Vision 40 hour famine ... Jumble sale at Colonel Light Gardens raised over \$600 for Balaklava's new nursing home ... Graham Lawrie attended orientation course of Bethel Bible series at Glenelg ... Colin Dredge spoke on new Brotherhood administration at Sunday Special at Seven. Chigwidden family from Fullarton provided music.

NSW

WARRAWONG (Ian Richer). 30 attended last Friendship Hour held on fourth Tuesday each month ... Older members of church taken to Theroul C. of C. Aged Home for a barbecue with 35 residents ... C.W.F. very active ... Several have made decisions ... Church aiming for 20 new members by anniversary in Nov. ... Members working towards annual offering day.

VIC

PORT FAIRY (H. A. L. Clark). Annual meeting reported communicant average of 20 and total annual giving exceeding \$10,000. E. Houston re-elected Elder-Secretary ... Church supports Turn Around Australia program on B.T.V. 6 ... Six monthly mission allocations included \$500 to Overseas Missions and \$200 each to D. Harmer in N.G. and Aborigines Missions ... Playgroup commenced.

PARKDALE (B. Waldron). Young Adults now meet 5 p.m. Sundays for tea and discussions. Visitors to Probe

(their new name) have been from Christian Foundation for the Blind, Open Doors and a student doctor just back from India ... C.Y.F. has commenced led by Bob and Wendy Scott. 10 attending ... Baptism held ... Board retreat planned ... Square dance organised by recently formed Ladies' Aid Group.

THOMSON 18th anniversary celebrated. Items by Thomson Singers, address by G. R. Stirling. Casserole luncheon followed. Thank offering amounted to \$865. Half given to C.O.CO.A. and half to Norseman Mission generator appeal. Later handed in at annual C. of C. combined gospel service held at Belmont ... C.W.F. held Rawleigh tasting party.

THE PATCH (Len Martin). Monbulk Cub pack held parade at morning service ... Peter and Leonie Hutton raised \$140 for Multiple Sclerosis ... Sharon McNeil raised \$40 for World Vision ... Lance and Enid Fisher have left for W.A. to work among Aboriginal people and will be stationed at Carnarvon.

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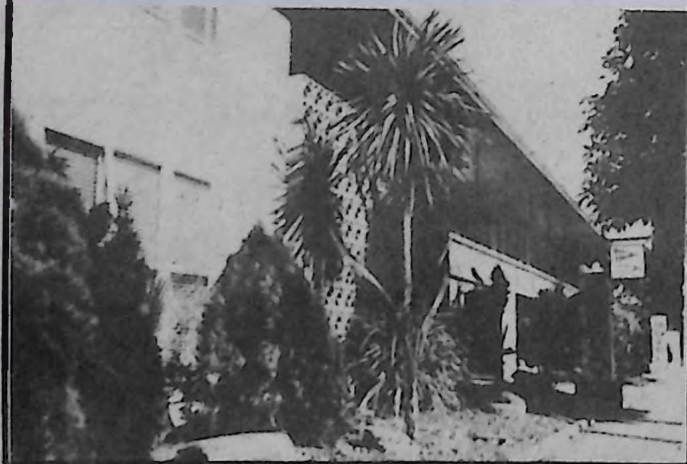
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Further Term for Ian Tippet



Department of Mission, Education and Development field director, Ian Tippet, has accepted an invitation to a further term for the period 1983-1985. Ian is currently responsible for field services in the evangelism, church growth, and stewardship areas. New initiatives for 1982 in the evangelism — church growth areas will shortly be announced. Planned giving programs conducted by the Department continue to achieve most satisfactory results with review programs in 1981 averaging a 25% increase.

Explo 83 in Melbourne

Thousands of people of all ages and from all walks of life are expected to be part of Explo 83 in Melbourne in May 1983. After an encouraging beginning at Brisbane in May, 1980 and a follow up at Perth in 1981, Explo Melbourne will be a development of the first two programs.

Described as 'an explosion of genuine Christian living and sharing' Explo 83 aims to see participants return to their everyday situation equipped and motivated to live and share their faith in Jesus Christ.

In announcing plans the Melbourne Explo council expressed thanks to God for the exciting way in which Christians from many denominations and from many Christian organisations have found a common mind and sensed the call of God together in the preparation for Explo.

Official representation by denominations include Anglican, Apostolic, Baptist, Brethren, Churches of Christ, Lutheran, Orthodox, Presbyterian, Reformed Church, Salvation Army, Society of Friends, Uniting Church and Wesleyan Methodist, while Christian organisations include Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students, Bible College of Victoria, Campaigners for Christ, Evangelical Alliance, Evangelisation Society of Australia, Fusion, House of the Gentle Bunyip, Lay Institute for Evangelism, Mill Valley Ranch, Navigators, On Being Magazine, Open Air Campaigners, Scripture Union, Truth and Liberation Concern, Victorian Council of Churches, Young Life, Youth Dimensions and Youth for Christ.

NORLANE (J. Elliott). After years of negotiations land work begun for subsidised toilet etc. block ... Two transferred from Horsham ... Young girls club great success ... Mixed youth club commenced ... Serving of refreshments at conclusion of services helping with fellowship.

M.B.E. for A.C.

Allan Male is affectionately known as "A.C." and was recently awarded an M.B.E.

He is in his 16th year as **Honorary Executive Director of the Youth and Christian Education Department in Queensland.**

He introduced new techniques in camping and youth programming. Youth camps have been improved significantly under his leadership, at **Magnetic Island, Townsville; Emu Park, Rockhampton; Camp Cal, Caloundra and Teen Range, Marburg.** The main hall at "Camp Cal", Dicky Beach, Caloundra is named the 'A.C. Male' Centre.

He has gained a Bachelor of Arts, and Bachelor of Education from Queensland University and is a Paul Harris Fellow from Rotary International, a Churchill Fellow, Father of the Year 1976 and Communicator of the Year in 1979, as well as author of "Cheaper Than Paying Bail" and "I'm Never Lost — Someone's always Telling Me Where to Go".

He is Executive Director of the Shaftesbury Citizenship Centre, which rehabilitates youths in need.

The M.B.E. citation was granted by her majesty the Queen for service to "Churches of Christ and the community."

New Wycliffe Director

Darryl Kernick has been appointed Director of the Australian Division of Wycliffe Bible Translators. He succeeds **David Cummings**, who was recently appointed International President of Wycliffe.

Darryl and his wife **Del** are from **Gympie, Qld.** Prior to joining Wycliffe seven years ago, Darryl was pastor of the **Mt. Evelyn, Vic, Church of Christ.** He had become its student pastor while studying at the Melbourne Bible Institute in 1967, and what began as a one year assignment stretched to eight years. During this period the church sent out its first fully-supported missionaries.

Darryl has a missionary vision which was born in his home church, **Gympie Church of Christ** many years ago. "I owe a lot to that church — my conversion, my growth, my missionary vision all began in Gympie. They sent me out and continue to support me."

In retrospect the Kernicks see their pastoral ministry at



Mt. Evelyn as preparation for missionary service. Both felt called to missions even before they were married, so when, in 1973, Darryl was invited to join a Wycliffe Pastors and Friends Tour to Papua New Guinea he was delighted to accept.

Soon after his return, **David Cummings** suggested that he could use his pastoral experience in Wycliffe.

The Australian Division of Wycliffe has 300 members working in eight countries. It aims to recruit another 300 by 1990.



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9 am to noon.

Minister Bob Aldred

(060) 21 4047, 25 4508.

Five Churches Share Christian Centre



Steeple over the lunch time crowd.

After the open cut coal mine opened at Leigh Creek (S.A.) in 1945 the township of several thousand people, 400 miles from Adelaide, soon sprang up with homes and shops and schools and churches. Over the years there have been a number of Churches of Christ families there. They worshipped with the Uniting Church, but were recorded as Church of Christ.

Coal Under the Town

Recently coal was discovered under the town and the Electricity Trust of S.A. decided to build a new town. It was then that leaders of the five churches concerned, Anglicans, Churches of Christ, Lutherans, Roman Catholics and Uniting Church, conferred with E.T.S.A. The decision arrived at was that in lieu of compensation for the church buildings in old Leigh Creek, the Trust would build a single place of worship to be used by



Max Thompson with Sharon and Les Szabo and family.

the five churches and administered jointly by them. **Christian Centre in the Community Centre**

A simple but beautiful Christian Centre has been erected on the highest point of the new Leigh Creek, right in the town centre. Next to it is

the still uncompleted hospital. On the other side is the community hall with its large outdoor courtyard. Opposite is a supermarket, and beyond that again the many little shops and parking areas.

The building has a chapel that can be divided and two large rooms, so that at least three services or meetings can be conducted at one time.

United Opening Service

Normally the churches concerned will meet separately for worship, but on the opening day there was a united service involving the leaders of the five churches. The General Manager of E.T.S.A. was present. Special music was presented by the well-known Adelaide group "KinderKrist" who gave a concert in the hall the night before. There were suitable readings and prayers as church leaders set apart for the Lord's service the various

parts and pieces of furniture. The prayer related to the font interested us . . .

Grant, O Lord, that all who are here baptised may die to sin and rise with Christ to a new life of grace, may be washed and sanctified with the Holy Spirit, and ever remain your faithful children. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

It was a significant biblical prayer, but it needed a somewhat larger font for it to be answered in the fullness of its biblical meaning.

Churches of Christ Were There

Churches of Christ were represented by S.A. Conference President, Max Thompson, Esther and Ed Ratcliff from Murraybridge, Lesley and Gordon Stirling from the "A.C." and the only Leigh Creek Church of Christ family (as far as we know) Les and Sharon Szabo.

The women of the churches provided a three course lunch for the 400 people who attended.

I.T.I.M. in Queensland

Industrial mission in Queensland is moving forward. The needs in Industry are still there. The field of service continues to grow and to expand as more Companies seek our services.

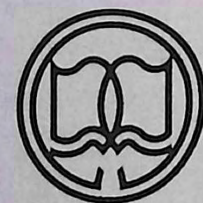
The Industrial Mission Chaplaincy Program is suffering a manpower shortage. The field is expanding but not so the chaplaincy force. Chaplaincy is a costly business — particularly in time the Chaplain is called upon to give to it. With the pressing problems of parish programs we do appreciate the co-operation and the commitment of the Chaplains.

Staff Chaplaincy is being considered. The demands for more Chaplaincy time, longer hours, deeper commitment, more involvement means that we like the other States must start looking at Staff Appointments. We are anticipating a Policy Statement in the near future. Already other States have moved into Staff appointments and have advertised for placements from time to time. ITIM Qld is interested in hearing from chaplains who have considered the possibility of entering this particular aspect of Ministry either in Queensland or Interstate.

Educating for the real world.

Our college exists to train for a New Testament ministry. Our training, therefore, is based on the practical, the spiritual, as well as academic aspects—fitness for Christ's service being the criterion. If you would like to know more call or write now. PO Box 140, Carlingford NSW 2118. Telephone 630 7185.

Churches of Christ (NSW) Theological College



Darwin gets New Minister

Darwin members, members of The Federal Home Evangelism Committee, any many other concerned people round Australia have been praying that there would be a continuing ministry after Peter and Henni De Wildt completed their work at the end of 1981.

Peter and Henni had envisaged a longer ministry in the Northern Capital, but medical advice was that Henni should not be subjected to a further term in a climate that aggravated a health problem. So they go to Launceston.

The Federal Home Evangelism Committee believed that they were being led to approach Jeff Weston, exit student at the College of the Bible. Jeff is married to Rosemary and they have two young children. Jeff served on our New Guinea mission field as an industrial missionary. His experience in the work force has helped to make him the robust, realistic, feet-on-the-ground Christian that he is. Life has given him the maturity that the Darwin work needs.

He was flown to Darwin to look the place and the people over, and no doubt to be looked over in turn. Jeff came



Jeff Weston

back excited at the potential of ministry with the Darwin church. Rosemary was willing to go again a long way from her family to stand beside Jeff in his ministry. The Darwin people enthusiastically offered the call. It has been accepted.

The rest is up to our people throughout Australia. Three things seem to be practical. Prayers for the climax of the DeWildt ministry. Prayers for Jeff and Rosemary and their family in their new ministry. Cheques for the new Darwin building, in envelopes marked "Darwin" put into any ordinary Sunday offering plate.

God Heals ... In More Ways Than One

Jean Saville (Warwick, W.A.)

But he's only having a test! I breathed a prayer for my husband. We knew that Kevin had a heart condition. Although only 30 and with a normal blood pressure, E.C.G. tests had shown an abnormality.

The Lord's Will be Done

Through the years I watched Kevin become increasingly restricted by it. I prayed that God would heal him, but he was getting worse. Was this God's way? As I prayed I realised that I would put Kevin into a glass case to protect him. So I handed him to God. The Lord's will be done. God can heal. But sometimes he takes people to be with himself.

In For Tests

We decided that Kevin should have further tests. I waited at home. The phone rang. My husband was already in the theatre undergoing emergency open heart surgery. One of the tests had involved a catheter into the heart with iodine to enable X-rays to be taken. Until then no one knew that he was allergic to iodine. With such bad coronal heart disease Kevin was in great danger. For 24 hours his life hung in the balance.

I asked people to pray and started on the long trip to hospital on that Friday afternoon December 19. God was close. I knew that whatever happened all was in his hands. I felt no fear.

Found Peace

Roger Ryall, Hospital Chaplain and a firm friend,

met me at the lift. In that long afternoon we shared, we talked about Kevin, we cried, we prayed, and my heart found peace. If the Lord chose to take him home, okay! If he gave him back to me I would be glad.

Kevin's operation was successful. I saw him one and a half hours after the five hour operation. As I looked at him with tubes and wires all over him, the heart monitor beeping, I was aware that God had healed him, through the skill of men.

God and the Medical Team

One of the surgeons told me that they had just managed to get enough x-rays done before the allergic reaction made the situation critical, to be able to operate and to save his life.

Another blessing was that at that very time the surgical teams were meeting in the hospital and in another few minutes would have been heading all over Perth.

Christmas Day

Christmas Day was a day that we will never forget. It was the Lord's birthday and we cried together and laughed together and prayed together. We were glad to be alive.

Today Kevin has a new freedom. He is able to do things that previously had been denied him. He finds great joy in simple activities like playing ball with the children, garden chores, walking and general activities of life. Now he is able to move, to work and to live without pain and discomfort. We praise God!

DOORWAY TO TASMANIA

Join our 12 day tour DEPARTING OCTOBER 27 — specially prepared for Christians — not a part coach of another company's tour; with the pace leisurely and extensive sightseeing — more than normally provided — including Launceston, Burnie, Zeehan, Gordon River Cruise, Hobart and surrounding areas, Richmond, Port Arthur, St Helen's etc. Tour provides good accommodation, two meals a day plus time for fellowship and church attendance — ESCORTED.

TOUR PRICE ex Melbourne — \$689.00 share twin.

DOORWAY TO NEW ZEALAND

Again we repeat our successful tour to New Zealand DEPARTING Melbourne and Sydney NOVEMBER 4, visiting Auckland, Waitomo Caves, Rotorua, Wellington, Pictou, Greymouth, Fox Glacier, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Dunedin, Mount Cook and Christchurch. Tour includes group airfares, good medium accommodation, two meals per day, excellent sightseeing and escorted from Melbourne.

NOW COMPARE THIS FOR VALUE — 18 days share twin ex Melbourne — \$1,012.00; Sydney, \$980.00.

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CONTACT:

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Graham Chambers, 17 Grange Park Ave.,
Doncaster, Vic., 3108 — Telephone: 848 2588.

THE CHRISTIAN TRAVEL SERVICE



Kevin, Jean and family.

The way is love



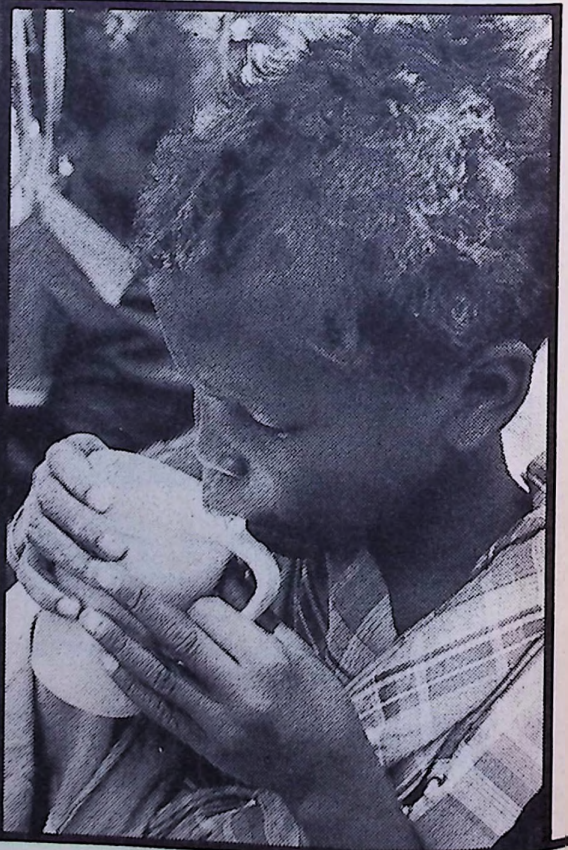
"We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren". (1 John 3:16)

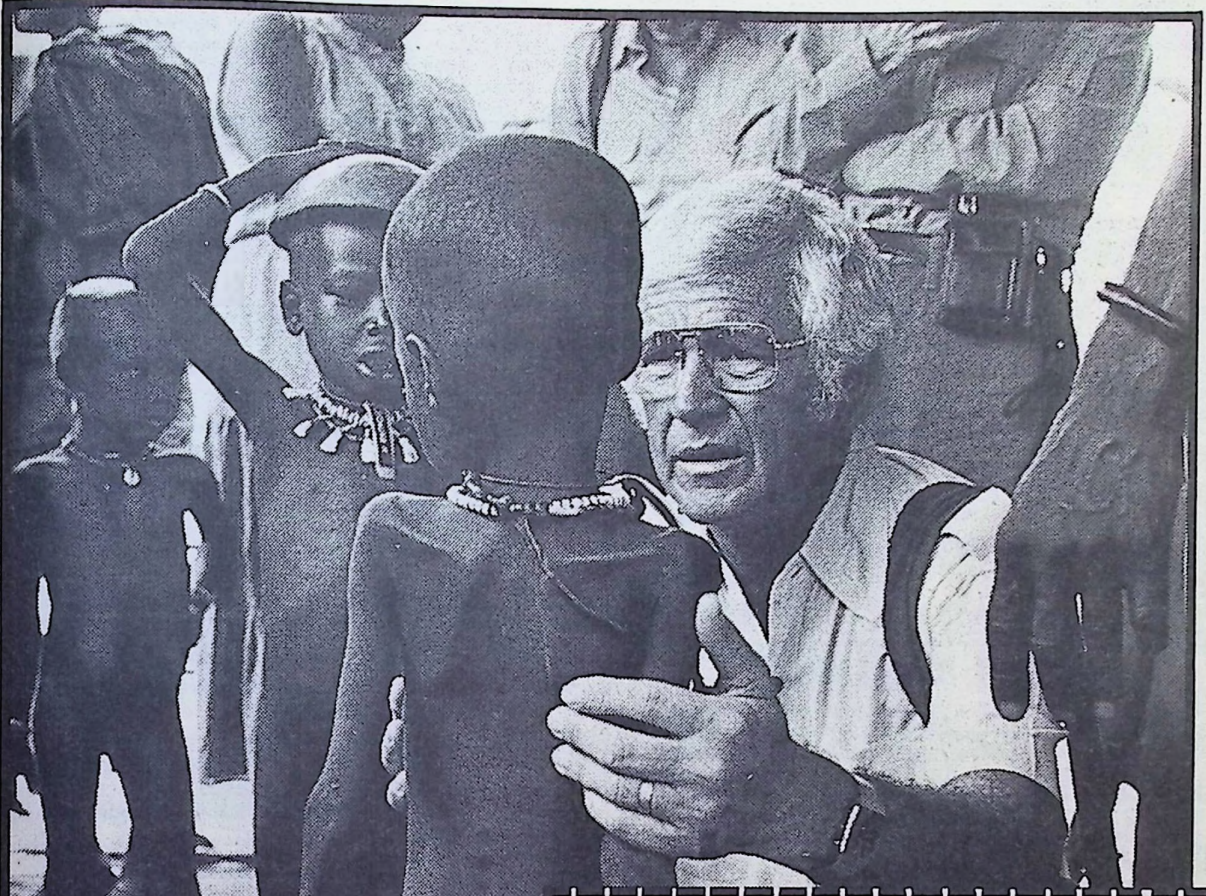
The command to love demands sacrifice. It's too easy to close our minds and hearts to those in need. This is self-centredness. Love is other-centredness.

World Vision is a Christian organization. We seek to help those in need: the hungry, the sick, the spiritually deprived. World Vision believes the way to help the poor is to love them.

"Let us not love with word or tongue, but in deed and truth". (1 John 3:18)

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BIRTHS

BERMINGHAM (WAKEFIELD) To Janice and Denis twins Michael Thomas and James Edward on July 28, '81 at Cabrini Hospital, Malvern. Welcome grandchildren to Rita and Dan Wakefield of Morwell Church of Christ.

CUTLER (BROUGH) Gill and Warren announce with love and joy the arrival of Matthew Charles on June 23rd.

WHITE Wally and Vi, of Cheltenham, congratulate Ron and Esther on the birth of our 14th grandchild Naomi born on July 6. 9lb 9oz. A sister for Miriam.

WILLMOTT (PLUMB) Bruce and Margaret happily announce the arrival of Nathan David at Mercy Maternity on July 29, 1981.

RUBY WEDDING

SEARLE — MORRELL (Jack and Mavis). Congratulations Mum and Dad on your 40th anniversary celebrated at Barri, S.A., 2nd August, 1941. Love Pat, Bruce and family. Friends are invited to an "at home" at 33 Diosma Drive, Coromandel Valley, S.A. 2-5 p.m. Sunday August 23rd.

WANTED TO RENT

HOME UNIT or similar. Allow pet. Brooklyn Park (S.A.) area, preferably near beach. Required after October 16th. Single person, references available. Contact Sue Maddern (08) 352 8957.

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**CHANGES OF
ADDRESS**

THORNLIE: Minister — John R. Bond, 319 Spencer St., Thornlie, W.A. 6108. Phone (09) 459 8522.

MURRAY BRIDGE: Minister — Peter and Marie Bobridge, 8 Finch Rd., Murray Bridge, S.A. 5253. Phone (085) 32 4400.

PENDLE HILL: Secretary — A.N. Baird, P.O. Box 25, Pendle Hill, N.S.W. 2145.

DEATHS

ALLSOP — Ernest Lionel (Ern). On July 14th (suddenly) Ern, loving husband of Nancy (deceased). Loving father of Joan (Mrs McKenzie), Ian, David, Max and Margaret (Mrs Ball). Loved papa of Colin, Wendy, Alison, Jenelle, Mark, Louise, Lynette, Yvonne, Benjamin, Amanda and Anneliese. "With his Master".

IN MEMORIAM

MILLER Alma. Passed away 17th July 1973. Loved wife of Bert. Loved mum, grandma and great-grandma of Ross and Jean, Vera and Ray (dec.), Margaret and Ted. Gwenda and Cyril and their families. Loving memories. "The rose still grows beyond the wall".

FAREWELL SERVICE

Ian and Glenda Corlett and family
Ascot Vale Church of Christ Worship Centre (76 St.
Leonards Rd., Ascot Vale).

2.45 p.m. Sunday August 16.

A warm invitation is extended to all who have been associated with the Corlett family during their ministry at Ascot Vale. Afternoon tea will be served following the service.

YOUTH MINISTER

The Southport Church of Christ is expanding its Ministry Team and would welcome applications for the above position.

Commencement date is negotiable. However, due to a rapidly expanding Ministry on the Gold Coast, an appropriate commencement date would be the end of '81 to early '82.

Preference will be given to applicants who are experienced in all facets of youth work including co-ordination, counselling, leadership training, teaching, pastoral care and visitation in youth areas as well as camping programmes.

The successful applicant will join our already vital Ministry for our Lord. Liaison with our present team (Minister, Asst. Pastor and Chaplain) will be essential.

Applications in writing stating personal details and experience should be forwarded before 1/10/81 to: The Secretary, Southport Church of Christ, P.O. Box 974, Southport, Qld. 4215.

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Vanuatu (formerly New Hebrides)

- Teachers required for 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.
- Carpenter/handyman to assist in maintenance tasks on a voluntary basis.
- Suitably qualified minister to assist theological training at the Banmatmat Bible College.
- Business manager for office in Santo. Accounting experience essential.

Papua New Guinea

- Adaptable person with agricultural training to act as Consultant in Agriculture for the Monomup Community Development Project.
- Suitably qualified ministers to assist in a teaching/pastoral ministry.
- Mechanic to maintain vehicles and outboard motors.

Indonesia

- Two married couples to work in partnership with the Churches of Christ/Christian Churches in establishing a program for the training of Indonesian pastors. Applications from Bible College graduates with initiative, leadership qualities and a gift for Bible teaching are invited.

Work Teams

Both Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea are wanting skilled tradespeople to volunteer as members of work teams. Small teams of three persons who have previously worked together are ideal.

Would you like further information? Please write to:-

Mr. Ron McLean, Executive Director,
Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board,
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E.D.P. experience would be an advantage.

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O'Grady (03) 725 9491

PERSONAL

DISCIPLESHIP

● Jeff Read, Mary McDonald, Daryl Wise, Marc Atkins, Paul Atkins, Kerry Brown, Linda Moon, Sandra McAllan, Albert White, Peter Holloway, Jacki Johnson, Garry Williams, Irene Harding, William O'Brien, Cathy Craig, Coral Taylor, Daniel Omdahl, Ricky Nagel, Robyn Hamilton, Ian Hamilton, Helen Horn, Gail Kent, James Findlay, Mandy King, Robin King, Walter Crossie, Leoni Sturt, Elaine Ewart, Andrew Ewart, Southport, Qld. ● Glenn McKay, Ormond, Vic. ● Mrs Dorothy Nelthorpe, Mark Gilgallon, Peter and Julie Feast, Sue Brennan, Nollamara, W.A. ● Maureen Priest, Adrian Neville, Nubeena, Tas. ● Mrs Tracee Hiatt, Parkdale, Vic. ● Julieanna and Helen Parham, Murray Bridge, S.A. ● Glanda Rendell, Kevin Rendell, Allison Dale, Kalgoorlie, W.A. ● Phillip Williams, Burwood, Vic. ● Christine Perkins, Brent Annear, Yuk Leng Choong, Launceston, Tas. ● Kristian Parrott, Lynda Welsh, Shepparton, Vic. ● Mrs Westgeest, Chatswood, N.S.W. ● Lindsay Onans, Danielle Atkinson, Peter Jones, Neil Jones, Andrew Jones, Matthew March, Nunawading, Vic.

MARRIAGES

● Suan Lee Goei to Rex Campbell, Scarborough, W.A. ● Sharon Bissell to Graeme Foster, Karen Daymond to Hugh Walpole, Elizabeth Larsen to Stephen Murphy, Belmont, Vic. ● Dawn Higgins to Sana Daunauda, Burwood, Vic.

DEATHS

● Charles Macted, Southport, Qld. ● Mrs E. Irwin, Barwick, Vic. ● Joel Peat, Robert Coupar, Scarborough, W.A.



Centenary Conference Year 1982 — 83

Historical Tours through Queensland

TOUR 1 —

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TOUR 2 —

Similar itinerary to Tour 1 but in reverse, visiting south west areas first. Same cost and duration as Tour 1.

TOUR 3 —

This is a 7 days tour by chartered aircraft. Visit church centres between Brisbane and Cairns. Includes a 2 day tour of Ayers Rock, day trips to Barrier Reef, Magnetic Island and Green Island. Estimated cost \$1,000.

For Further Information —

Complete the following coupon and return to the Secretary, Centenary, Year Arrangements Committee, Churches of Christ, 428 Ann Street, Brisbane, 4000, or Phone (07).221 7519.

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VIC

ORMOND (G. O. Stibbe). Working Bee renovating church property at No. 6 ... Special for 56th anniversary with Geelong musical group "Breakthru" and Laurie Barker, speaker ... Members invited to train as small group leaders ... Annual meeting held preceded by tea ... Young person baptised ... Mary Howard now in charge of book stall ... Alf Knee now lifelong elder. Eldership increased to five at annual meeting ... Office bearers inducted at morning service.

BERWICK (D. McLeod, N. Bunch). Guitar group led celebration service ... Norval Bunch and Daryl McLeod spent time in U.S.A. at National Music Conf. ... Five year planning committee established ... Youth club attended Youth Quake ... Three baptisms ... Fellowship Group meeting regularly for prayer on Sunday night ... Chapel fund activities gain support ... Planning meeting for Vacation B.S. held ... Board

revamping communication network ... House groups continue ... Gift pad and visitation to homes on estates ... Don Smith and Jeff Deuble led services ... Youth teas being held ... Services held in elderlies home ... Church saddened by death of Mrs E. Irwin ... Sugar and Salt and individual singers lead worship.

WARRAGUL (P. Broadbent). Recent guest speaker John Dostine, Toora. Peter Broadbent preached at Morwell's part of Gippsland ministers pulpit exchange ... Three board members attended a Change the World School of Prayer in Melbourne ... Social evening arranged by church auxiliaries.

QLD

SOUTHPORT (N. Newton, D. Holloway, D. Capuano). Two of the ministry teams sons made decisions ... Membership now 464 ... During past year 110 new members welcomed, 67 by baptism ... Clem Clack, Director, Campaigners for

Christ, was on staff for three weeks June-July. 350 attended on final night ... 400 sat down at a thanksgiving dinner ... 36 new units at Lady Small Haven almost completed. Builders offered C.W.F. \$1,000 to clean units.

BAROLIN ST., BUNDABERG (B. M. Nowitzke). Morning of fellowship and fun held monthly for senior members and friends ... Ladies' joined with Avenell Heights C.W.F. for meeting with Q.C.W.F. Conf. Pres. Connie Roberts and Bess Wylie ... Local men took services during minister's illness.

NT

DARWIN (Peter De Wildt). A.G.M. appointed Carol Briel as new secretary, Linton Fariss as Elder, Peter Finster as new deacon ... Concrete foundations poured. New building to be completed by end of December ... Average attendance at services 80 ... Henni De Wildt has had some time in hospital following operation.

TAS

NUBEENA (Cec Neville). Family night for Brownies, Guides and Boys Brigade. 100 attended ... Mr and Mrs Neville and 12 Y.P. shared long weekend with the Ulverstone church ... Baptismal service held ... Special guests for June weekend John and Shirley Morrow from Hobart. Shirley Byard gave an account of her call to Bethany Day Care ...

HOBART (G. E. Powell, J. D. Morrow). Board members allocated portfolios for church programs and administration ... Covenant Group leading up to visitation program. This is backed up by prayer cell groups ... Collins St. congregation to combine with Howrah for evening meeting on third Sunday of month. Fellowship meal and family program ... Setting up of aged persons units being considered ... Mortgage for purchase of Bethany Day Care Centre approved by Vic. Tas. Properties Corporation ... 40 participated in 40 hour famine raising \$1,074.

LAUNCESTON (M. D. Hamilton, R. J. Allison). Three Y.P. baptised on July 26 ... New Gene conducted evening service following young people's tea ... Dr John Sands spoke at C.W.E.F. on heart problems.

ECHUCA (A. Symes). Recent guest speakers Wally Monkhouse, Gideons, Max Wright at Men's Fellowship tea and Mrs Holly Thomas at C.W.A.F. social afternoon ... Cedarville Singers presented musical program ... Church auction result \$430 ... Youth group growing in numbers.



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8.30 p.m. Coffee Hour

MINISTRY TEAM: Allan Webb, Bruce Morton,
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Write now for information to:- The Principal — DR W. TABBERNEE, College of the Bible, 7 Elm Road, Glen Iris, Victoria 3146.

VIC

DAWSON ST., BALLARAT (Graeme Chapman). Special evening service held with other central Ballarat churches to celebrate Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ... After church picnic held at local reservoir ... Baby dedication service held ... Renovations to hall and new kitchen completed ... Working Bee held to tidy up church ... Youth group spent a weekend camping at Zumsteins in Grampians.

BRIAR HILL (Warren Hamilton). Building extensions near completion ... C.W.F. held street stall and Dutch auction. Proceeds towards extensions ... Farewell to Rod and Cheryl Lloyd and family held with auction ... Ivanhoe and Briar Hill combined family dinner, guest speaker Rev. Alex Kenworthy ... Youth group participated in 40 hour famine ... Two speakers from Odyssey House attended youth group meeting ... Warren Hamilton and family inducted into part-time ministry.

MORWELL (Julie and Grant Simpson). Grant and Julie Simpson commenced ministry after a five year

ministry by Ian Cartmel now ministering at Red Hill ... Friendship Centre providing fellowship and handcraft therapy for 10-15 aged people and people in need of social contact ... Church Barbecue and picnic held at Mossvale Park ... Baptism recently ... Neil Little shared experiences of Explo '81 in Perth ... Fund started to replace current hall which will need replacing in five years ... 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services recombined into 10 a.m. service incorporating B.S. ... Y.P. prepared billy cart for local interchurch billy cart derby.

nsw

WYOMING, BERKELEY VALE (Mal Leask, Norm Hutchinson). Terry Butler and family farewelled at dinner after morning service. Presentations made ... B.V. welcomed Norm and Jan Hutchinson into ministry ... B.V. building going ahead ... Elders Graham Fowler, Norm Hutchinson and Dennis McLean commissioned ... 13 baptisms at Wyoming over three month period ... Y.P. held "odd job" day to help older folk with work they could not do ... Caroline and Warren Manners' caravan in

which they were living burnt out. Church assisting ... Surprise visit by incoming minister Garry Hamilton and family.

VIC

BALWYN (G. Shaw, A. B. Withers). Church saddened by death of Mrs Nan Cuthbert ... Mrs Dorothy Warmbrunn now residing at Emmaus ... 200 attended Phi Beta Pi reunion celebrating 40th anniversary of starting of Balwyn chapter ... Ecumenical gospel service with neighbouring churches held ... C.W.F. raised \$700 at jumble sale ... Dr Alistair Neil spoke on nutrition and health at evening organised by S.T.A.F.F. group ... Two appointed to Executive of Vic. unit of A.C.W. Doreen Gordon, President and June St. Aubyn Asst. Sec.

WARRAGUL (P. Broadbent). Adrian and Sylvia Morley, O.M.S., shared work they are about to commence in Indonesia ... Neville and Gwen Thomas, Wycliffe Bible Translators, spoke of their involvement in the Philippines ... After church fellowship viewed World Vision film "The Forgotten Refugees" ... Sun-

day morning C.E. group took evening service ... New youth group for ages 7-12 meet on Friday evenings. Hugh McDonald and Lyn Earl are leaders ... John Dostine, Toora, preached on pulpit exchange of ministers in Latrobe Valley.

SWANSTON ST. (A. L. Webb, B. Morton, R. Haverfield). Two of the most senior members, Harold and Hazel Parsons, recently returned to Philippines for another term of missionary service ... 26 Y.P. responded to commitment for possible future missionary service one Sunday morning ... Three baptisms during June all from one family ... 300 attended screening of film "Who Loved His Appearing". One decision ... Elders and deacons planning to spend a day in prayer ... Interior of church to be painted. Cost about \$12,000.

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Ambrosia

by Chris Ambrose

Nobodies of the Bible Keturah

Keturah was the second wife of Abraham. It was probably after Sarah's death that Keturah became Abraham's wife and gave birth to six sons. The best known of the sons is Midian. The story of her life is only mentioned in Genesis 25: 1-6 with another reference in 1 Chronicles 1:32, 33. Her name means incense or perfumed one.

This woman makes a brief entry into history. Her children became the ancestors of a number of North Arabian tribes.

The Midianites had contacts with God's chosen people over a period of time. They were associated with the Ishmaelites when Joseph was sold into Egypt. The Midianites fought Israel and were beaten by Gideon.

Think how often people play a part in the history of the world as seen from God's viewpoint who by our standards were really not important. Keturah's role was as a second wife who produced six children. She was a woman who cared for her children. We have so many mothers like her today. Wives (and also husbands these days) of important people in the church who support their spouse in the work of God.

Prochorus

He was one of the seven chosen as deacons to perform administrative tasks within the Jerusalem church. (Acts 6:5). This is the only mention of Prochorus in the New Testament. Tradition associates him with the apostle John. The seven were "men of good repute, full of the Spirit and wisdom, whom we appoint to this duty."

If our churches are to function as caring communities that are to witness to the truth we need men and women like Prochorus to undertake administrative roles within our fellowships. These people will often not be greatly honoured but will be important in God's sight. Along with the quieter ones like Prochorus will be others like Stephen who will also be active and proclaimers of God's word.

Obed

There were five Obed's in the Old Testament. The name itself means worshipper. One of the Obed's was one of David's mighty men (1 Chr 11:47). The most important of the five was Obed the son of the marriage of Boaz and Ruth. He is the father of Jesse and the grandfather of David. (Ruth 4:17, 21-22; 1 Chr 2:12). He is one of the ancestors of Jesus and like so many of these he is only a name that we skip over (That is if we ever read the genealogies).

A person who was a worshipper of God was given this important role although no one at the time realised the full significance of what would happen to his descendants.

Within the church many today in leadership roles do not come from old families within our churches. Those who do are lucky that they have the tremendous heritage on which to draw but it is still God who has given them the gifts and on whom they really need to rely. Others are God's people for the time just as the three unknowns we have looked at today were God's people and played their part in sacred history.

THE LAST WORD

In our relationship with ourselves, we should accept the unchangeable and change the unacceptable.

— Bernard O'Brien

Some people almost boast that life is good, While others must complain that life is bad; Though I agree a little bit with both, It is still the best one I have ever had.

— Paul Armstrong

"And what did you learn at Sunday school today?" asked Mother.

"Well," replied 11-year-old Johnnie, "it was all about General Moses evacuating his troops from Egypt. He was being chased by the Egyptian army and was trapped by the Red Sea. So he called up his engineers and they threw a pontoon bridge across it. When he'd got all his troops over, he looked back and saw the Egyptian tanks were starting to cross the bridge too. So he got his covering aircraft to fly low over the bridge, and bomb the Egyptians to smithereens!"

"I'm sure your Sunday school teacher didn't tell you that," said Mother, rather shocked.

"No," conceded Johnnie, "she didn't but if I told you what she told me, you'd never believe a word of it!"

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