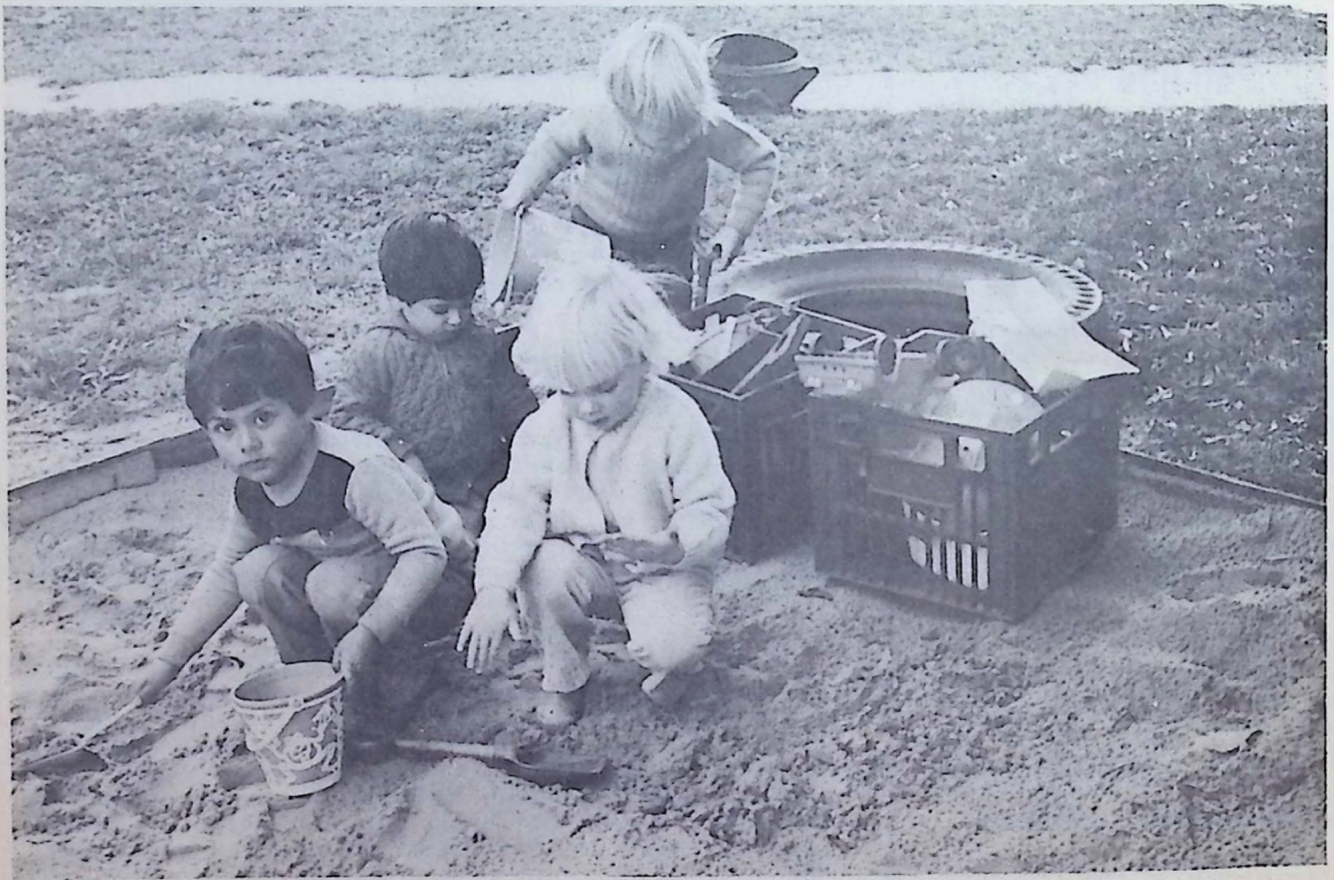


THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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Vol. 84 No 18, October 3, 1981



**“Whatever your hand finds to do,
do it with all your might!”
Ecclesiastes 9:10**

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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ON MY MIND

The Kintyre Brothers

Dr. Allan Lee

Allan Lee is Secretary of the World Convention of Churches of Christ. The next World Convention is scheduled for Jamaica in the West Indies from July 17-22, 1984. Dr. Lee has recently been in Jamaica doing some advance preparation. His story below gives some insight into the life and worship of some of our brothers and sisters who are preparing to greet the World Conventioneers in 1984.

They sat in the front pew locked arm in arm. Eight and nine years of age, these two brothers appeared to have a strong attachment for one another. They are very much on my mind.

Harvest Thanksgiving

It was the annual harvest service at the Kintyre church for which these boys and approximately 60 other Jamaicans had gathered. No one in the parish came by car. All walked, some long distances.

The Kintyre church is probably one of the less affluent congregations in the city and has known difficult days. Their building collapsed during the forceful winds and torrential rains of the 1951 hurricane. However, the members lost little time in reconstructing it.

Yellow Brick Walls

Yellow, concrete brick walls form the basic structure. An A-frame roof of corrugated tin provides protection from heat and rain.

Inside the church, the choir loft holds 20 singers and a pump organ. In the centre a plain table holds The Lord's Supper. Seating for the small congregation consists of eight pews and a few chairs.

A woman, dressed in white with a lace head covering, graciously presided. Appropriate harvest hymns were sung and scriptures read. The choir sang. Two young people recited.

Variety of Fruit

Many in the congregation brought the fruits of their labors. Baskets overflowed with bananas, oranges, grapefruit, papayas, limes and other native fruits and vegetables. Hand-made brooms leaned against one wall as well as several tall stalks of sugar cane. Children brought their small contributions.

Blue and Brown

The two brothers sitting in front of me, one dressed in blue, the other in brown, were attractive and attentive. Sitting under the glare of fluorescent lights caused their clean, Caribbean skin to glisten. Beaming, brown eyes indicated alertness. Well-combed hair topped their inquisitive Jamaican faces. Both boys appeared happy to worship, and clap their hands and sing.

How they did sing that Sunday afternoon! After all, it was a service of praise and thanksgiving. Quality singing did not seem to be as important as quantity. The music moved with speed. Watching the organist pumping the old wheezy instrument reminded me of a cyclist on a race track as his feet moved the pedals at rapid pace.

The young boys loved the music, clapping their hands with everyone else and feeling the rhythmical movement and sway of the crowd. All of the people seemed to be in a festive mood.

● Continued on page 9

\$195,000 Christian Community Centre opened Free of Debt



Four generations of Bonds (Miriam and Jack, Mrs Bond Sen., Julie, Carissa and John).

The Thornlie church started its life in the local school. Just nine years later 700 people crowded into their new Christian Community Centre building for its official opening in the presence of Robert Taylor, Conference President and the Mayor of Gosnells, Mr Harris. It had been hoped to open the building debt free. They did

not quite make it. The final \$3000 owing came in a couple of weeks later.

Sacrificial Giving

Weekly prayer meetings inspired faith giving that enabled all payments to be met as they were due. People gave their income tax return cheques, money saved for overseas trips, life savings, and in some cases personal loans taken out for the purpose.

Numbers

While statistics as such are not important to God, numbers are still people. There were seven people baptised on opening day. 41 people have made commitments to Christ since. There are 250 members with attendances around 300 on Sunday mornings and 230 at night.

The ministry team is John Bond with his wife Julie and associate minister Jack Bond and Miriam, John's parents. The ministry team is strongly assisted by seven elders.

Activities

As well as gospel outreach the Thornlie Christian Community Centre is setting up other forms of community service. These include crisis counselling, parent effectiveness training, play groups, social welfare ministry, free legal service, marriage counselling, singles' ministry and a coaching service for students.



Interior courtyard.

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Scholarship Winner

Mark Bates of the Croydon, S.A. church has won an American Field Service Scholarship and is attending New Lothrop High, Michigan. Mark, the youngest son of Bill and Audrey Bates is the second in the family to win a scholarship. His elder brother Michael spent a year in Pennsylvania in 1970 when he won the same scholarship.

The American Field Service Scholarship was started by members of the American Ambulance Corps to foster goodwill among different countries.

Pictured below are Hindmarsh and Woodville mayors Florence Pens (L.) and John Dyer (R.) with Mark Bates and Croydon High Principal Mary Parslow.



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Tasmanian Experience

August 14 had arrived . . . and a group of expectant people had gathered at the Bicheno Churches of Christ Conference Centre — expectant because a number of them had attended two previous conferences led by Ian Corlett and Ron Elbourne and had had what could only be described as mountain-top experiences. Keith Farmer, Principal of Churches of Christ (NSW) Theological College was the man in the hot seat and he surpassed the expectations!

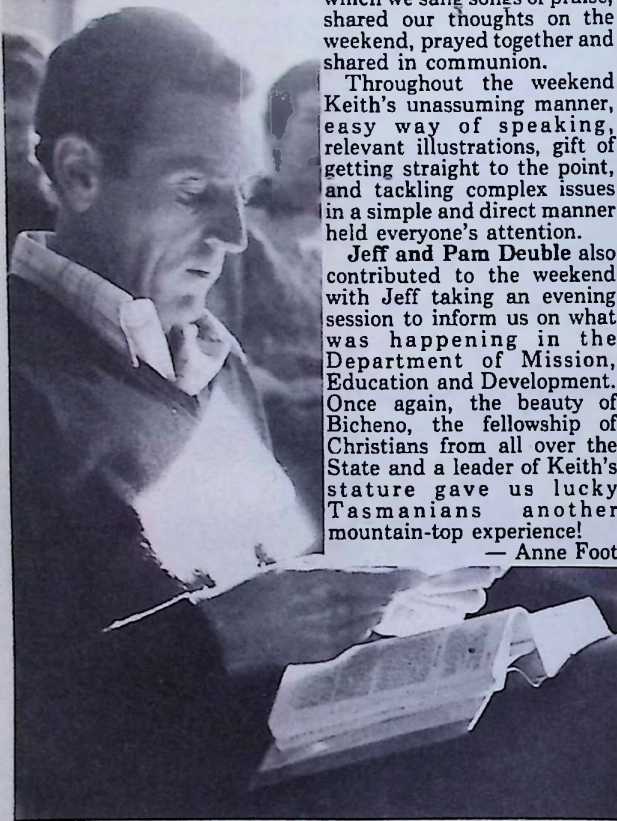
On Saturday Keith led us through the Biblical basis for small groups and their

"raison d'être". From there he moved into the practicalities and gave us the principles for their operation and dealt with such issues as how to find leaders and what material to use. Although by this stage Keith had spoken for about five hours and deftly fielded a number of questions, we were all eager for more and attended two more sessions on Sunday, in which Keith expounded on the "reasonableness of faith." The content of these two sessions was everything that we had all been looking for and led naturally into a moving communion service in which we sang songs of praise, shared our thoughts on the weekend, prayed together and shared in communion.

Throughout the weekend Keith's unassuming manner, easy way of speaking, relevant illustrations, gift of getting straight to the point, and tackling complex issues in a simple and direct manner held everyone's attention.

Jeff and Pam Deuble also contributed to the weekend with Jeff taking an evening session to inform us on what was happening in the Department of Mission, Education and Development. Once again, the beauty of Bicheno, the fellowship of Christians from all over the State and a leader of Keith's stature gave us lucky Tasmanians another mountain-top experience!

— Anne Foot



Keith Farmer

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We Wish you a Warm Winter

The Good Samaritan is about to find the man lying on the road in one of the presentations made by each Sunday School class during the Springvale South Sunday School anniversary. The speaker was student minister Doug Walladge. The most touching part of the enthusiastic singing was the welcome sung by three of the kindergarten children. Peta Ledwidge, one of the older students, read the scriptures.

One light spot occurred when the shepherd in one presentation went looking for the lost sheep among the congregation. Parents, children and members took

the opportunity afterwards to have a chat whilst having afternoon tea.

The anniversary was one of the special series advertised in a letter box brochure that started "We wish you a . . . Warm Winter."

Other services in the series held mostly in the mornings in the period July 5 to August 2 included George Warren leading a family centred worship. Ted Gray spoke about Papua New Guinea and Dr Keith Bowes addressed the question "Who are Churches of Christ?" The final morning saw the screening of the film "Tanglewood's Secret."



The Good Samaritan at Springvale South

Coptic Pope

The Egyptian Christian Copts in Australia are deeply shocked at the unprecedented news of the revoking by President Sadat of the presidential decree accepting Pope Shenouda III as the official representative of the Coptic Orthodox Church in Egypt before the government.

The Coptic Pope is traditionally elected by the Christian electorate and a draw during a church mass is conducted to choose one of

the three candidates with the largest majority.

On his selection Pope Shenouda III was ordained a Pope of Alexandria and the See of Saint Mark. The ordination took place in Cairo in November, 1971. 41 bishops shared in the ordination of Pope Shenouda III. The Presidential decree is more or less a rubber stamp recognizing the Pope as a representative of the Coptic Church before the government.

Father and Son Movements!



Dr Lloyd Jones

The degree of Doctor of Divinity has recently been earned by Dr Lloyd Jones of Sydney, for his Lectures on Preaching. (Some years ago his Ph.D. was earned for studies in the field of Systematic Theology.) The lectures had previously been delivered to several Australian groups of ministers and Dr Jones was invited to prepare them both for delivery and in thesis form, by a group of American Theological institutions.

At the same time, his son, David Jones has been granted extensive leave during which he has pursued a study and experience program in evangelism and Christian Education among some of our American colleges and churches. One of his most stimulating periods of ministry was at the Love Mission in the heart of

downtown Manhattan, New York. Here, in a shop-front situation he was able to work beside both coloured and white peoples from a variety of races. He is now returning to Australia to consider either further ministry in America or alternately, now in Australia.



David Jones

THORBURY (Ian Adams). The Youth Council recently held a poster competition for the sign on the front of the chapel. The winning sign "Be a peace-maker, make peace with God!" was presented by an 8-year-old Good Companion, Belinda Jephson ... C.W.F. birthday in Aug. was attended by nearly 80 ladies ... Les and Vere Stewart returned from extended holiday in W.A. and S.A.

Ministry to Singles in Launceston

The Launceston Singles Club held their inaugural dinner on Saturday, September 19, after many months of planning. 80 singles attended the dinner with a further number coming at supper time to hear the outline of the Club given by Henry and Wilma Dubbeld of the Launceston church.

The church has soundly backed the organisers of this form of community outreach through the use of the Invermay Road Centre as the fortnightly meeting place, as well as by the prayer and practical support of individual members and the auxiliaries.

The club aims to cater for all classes of singles in the community, a large number of whom are not currently being cared for. Through our program we plan to keep the emphasis on friendliness, informality and caring in social and practical settings.

Credit is due to the Albury Singles Club for the outline of their experiences made available to us which, adapted to local conditions, allow us to look forward positively to a future of caring and sharing through the ministry of singles.

— Henry Dubbeld

Churches Combine

The final service was held at the Woorinen church on Sunday August 23. The church has closed and will combine with the Swan Hill church to give a united witness to the city and district.

The church was begun in 1915, when quite a number of members of Churches of Christ had come to live in the Woorinen area which was opened up when irrigation was provided. The first meeting was held in the home of Mr and Mrs G. Dawe. It was decided to hold services each Sunday afternoon in the home of Mr and Mrs H. E. Palmer.

Foundation members include Mr and Mrs G. Dawe, Mr and Mrs P. G. Palmer, Mr and Mrs Silas Harrop, Christ Harrop, Mr and Mrs Chas Harrop, Mr and Mrs James, Mrs P. G. Baxter, Mr and Mrs Chas Rogers, Miss M. Rogers, Miss P. Rogers, Mr H. Selley and Mr and Mrs G. Thomas.

The church building, which was the first public building in Woorinen, was erected towards the end of 1915, and was also used by the Education Department as a school room until the department opened its own school building in 1921. When the Ultima church closed in 1956, the Woorinen church acquired their building and moved it to Woorinen to be used as a hall. Both buildings were moved to the Woorinen South township in 1963 and extended and renovated in time for the church's 50th anniversary celebrations.

The final 10 years have seen the church continuing to be a part of the community. Many of the local young people have been a part of its Sunday School and clubs. It has been a home to the local women's auxiliary, guides and brownies, as well as its own guild. Twice since 1966 it has been used by the local school while renovations have been done.

The membership of the church has been combined with the Swan Hill church, and the buildings, equipment and land will be sold at some time in the future.



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Sects

The September issue of Current Affairs Bulletin has an interesting article entitled "The New Sects". The article looks at a history of some of the current sects operating in Australia. There is also a history of sects in Australia and some of the issues that sects raise. The Current Affairs Bulletin costs 80c in some newsagents.

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Today's Women

WOMEN AT N. DANDENONG COMMUNITY CHURCH

HANDICAPPED? ?

Years ago a blind girl came to my Bible class, sent by a friend. She was bitter with God because of her blindness. Consequently, her attitude to other people was tense. The other young people in the class accepted her totally, and treated her as one of them ... no fuss ... no difference. Young people took part in the Bible readings and discussions. For some time the blind girl just listened with mouth set tight. Gradually the bitterness went, she began to make comments, and to relax.

We got a Braille Bible for her from the Bible Society. She was then able to take part in the readings. She often played the piano while we sang at our social times together. Because of the love and acceptance of the young people, she lost her bitterness, made her decision for Christ, joined the church, and became a joy to all who knew her.

Her handicap became a means of real living for her. She was disabled but not handicapped.

L. Stirling

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS S.A. C.W.F. CONFERENCE

In the absence of Mrs Nola Pollard who was hospitalized, Mrs Nell Gruhl, Victor Harbour, led our Conference at Lenswood, when 65 attended.

Guest speaker Rosalie Rofe spoke of the illiteracy and need for guidance of native Christians. She quoted Hebrews 12: 12 as her reason for returning to New Guinea. Mrs Crowley, Overseas Committee leader received \$513.50 for work in Vanuatu.

The ladies were thrilled to have Ishmaal Banga bring a greeting from Vanuatu.

Mrs Jenny Drilling organised a musical program for the afternoon session which included Algate Valley Choir, Mrs Phyl Crowley, and Mrs Marion Coulter.

Jean McKinley, S.A.



POETRY WRITING IS EXCITING

I began writing poetry when in my thirties. Until then I had no indication of any ability or feeling to write. I believe that the gift I have comes from a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Many things led me into poetry. Feelings for personal situations, my family, ordinary everyday things which we all experience. I am an emotional person. I cry, laugh, am hurt easily. I try to hide my feelings, only to release them in the world of poetry, hoping that in some way the words may come alive to the reader. Since God is constantly with me, he is always in my poetry. His leading may be so real that I am hardly aware of the words I write. I can write amid the bustle of the home, but often need to "Be still and know that He is God". When the words flow I write.

How do I write? Take a smile, REALLY FEEL a smile. God smiles often.

She stands weeping, her face lined with pain,

I touch her arm, and know Your tender smile

surrounds her grief.

How changed the face,

What sudden style!

Your wondrous grace

Made her smile.

We all have gifts. Each one is important and special. How we use them is up to us. The more we use the gift, the closer we grow to Him.

Pat Kerr, A.C.T.

HOW TO CONTACT NON-CHURCH WOMEN

NO. 2

Pat was a new member of the church. She knew nothing about church doctrine, and little about what Churches of Christ stood for. She did know that Christ meant a lot to her, and the church people were friendly and supportive. On the bus she met her newly arrived neighbour to the district. They got chatting about their sons who were the same age, and the lack of interests in the town for them. Pat said, "My son goes to the Boys Club at the church of Christ, why don't you send your son there too? The church is terrific. There is a good minister there. How about you coming, you'd enjoy it."

The whole family came to the church, and later became members.

The bus was as good a place as any to make contact with a non-church woman!!

Incidentally, the neighbour also brought a family.

THINK ABOUT IT

"Anyone who cares about character must care about Social conditions, for every unfair economic situation, every social evil left to run its course, means ruin to character". "The meaning of Faith". Fosdick.

Amos 5: 21-24; 6: 3-6.

North Dandenong church commenced as a Sunday School called 'Jesus Gang', supported by Oakleigh church, and later, Dandenong church.

Out of needs of the leaders of this group, a 'Prayer and Share' group commenced in a home, under the direction of Miriam Holloway who gave support and encouragement to one parent families and families with difficulties.

As the work developed, the venue, format, and name of the group was changed to Ladies Coffee Morning. It promoted friendship, support, open house, and it developed skills e.g. macrame. Time of meeting was 10.30 - 12 noon. About 15-20 ladies regularly attend weekly. An interesting program has been planned to the end of the year.

Out of a need, an exercise group of 6-8 ladies was started, and is held in another 'contact' home.

Now we have a Know-your-Bible group, with 6-8 ladies studying the book of Mark.

These three activities are run by women. One lady is responsible for a Newsletter, which includes a small paragraph about each group, linking the three together. A committee for the Morning Coffee holds business meetings once a month, at which C.W.F. news and other announcements are given. Representatives from each group are on this Committee, so they give oversight and feedback to the church.

We are excited about the way this work is developing, according to the local needs of the women in our area. Knoxfield ladies visited our coffee morning recently and we exchanged ideas and shared in a casserole lunch. This was helpful to both groups.

Although older women tend to enjoy the more formal and traditional C.W.F. scene, we are discovering that when sensitive to local needs, younger women and older women can find a great sense of fulfillment and assistance through developing creativity in an informal and less structured program.

Nola Baker, Vic.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

Why keep talking about the dispossession of the Aborigines 200 years ago? That's all in the past. Even if the settlement of Australia was a brutal armed invasion, that was ages ago. You'll only make things worse by bringing up past history.

This argument is commonly raised in relation to the debate over land rights for Australia's Aborigines. Although it appears to have some merit, your correspondent now sees it in a somewhat different light after a visit to a number of remote Aboriginal communities.

It became strikingly clear during a tour of northern Queensland last month that the invasion of Aboriginal Australia by insensitive, ignorant white intruders is not something that happened 200 years ago. Or 100 years ago. It continues today.

Every new barbed wire fence cutting off more traditional land, every intrusion without permission by geologists, anthropologists or government officials, every coconut tree felled by a European wanting a coconut, all erode further the Aborigines' identity and ties to the land.

Every time a new white administrator arrives from outside with sweeping powers over the people, every time the elected spokesmen are paternalistically accused of being manipulated by outsiders when speaking up for their rights, and every time a young white manager drives away in a brand new car after three years supposedly working for the Aborigines, the authority and dignity of the elders is further undermined.

With every coach or land cruiser disgorging gawking tourists at important caves or rock paintings, with every removal of 'relics' of 'a dead culture' to a distant museum, another campaign in the destruction of the Aborigines' cultural heritage is completed.

"All my children know my grandfather's secret place," Mr Tommy Creek told us at Coen. "We go there to see it. But now we got to get a permit or miner's right to go there. We can't light a fire or even walk over there without they get the police onto you."

"Always people been coming in from outside," said Mr Harris Gregory, former Chairman at Kowanyama. "We told the Government, that's not good enough. We saw our people taken away in chains when we were little, but we didn't understand. Then we realised. But the chains are still there today, only they're invisible."

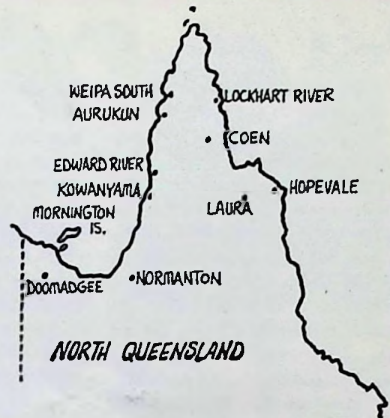
Said Jacob Wolmby at Aurukun, "Our great great grandfathers lived here many many years. My father was given the land by his father. My father gave it to me. Today this land has been stolen by the white man. He didn't pay nothing at all. We say this is our land. And we take responsibility for this land that belonged to our great great grandfathers."

On this occasion your correspondent accompanied four representatives of two Aboriginal organisations seeking talks with the leaders of the remote Qld. communities on the 50-year leases proposed by the Qld. Government to replace the present reserves.

Open meetings were held at Normanton, Mornington Island, Kowanyama, Aurukun, Coen and Laura; we met with Aboriginal Council members at Doomadgee, Edward River Mission, Weipa South and Hopevale; but were refused permission to enter Lockhart River Mission.

Your correspondent was forcefully convinced that the European invasion is not just early Australian history. To many of our blacks it is present reality.

Hence the land rights struggle, as the Qld. Aborigines see it, is not a campaign for generous government handouts, or for compensation for past injustices and oppression. It is simply a plea for a cease-fire in the on-going



campaign of dispossession and theft still being waged by one race against another for purely economic gain.

Supporters of the land rights struggle, therefore, are not seeking 'handouts' or promoting 'apartheid'. They are simply acknowledging the just claim Aborigines have to the land presently described as Aboriginal reserves and calling a halt to further theft of that land.

"As far as we are concerned, this is still our land from here to the Holroyd River," said Mr Bob Holroyd of Edward River Mission. "We are fighting for our freedom and our rights. Not for ourselves, but for our children and our children's children."

Many of the testimonies we recorded were disturbingly similar to the account of Naboth's vineyard in 1 Kings 21. "God gave us this land to look after," said Mr Harry Daffney at Kowanyama. "Then the white man came to shoot us down. After they shoot the black man, they called it crown land. I don't see any crown land. I see land that God gave to us."

"We own the place and now they want us to lease it," said a scornful Tommy Creek. "They got some hide, them fellows."

"They gathered us into reserves like a mob of cattle to keep us off our land. They treat us like a prisoner from another country. If we go over to England we would like to lease land. But not here. Here we belong to the land."

"We don't want much," Mr Creek told us, "just our father's area or our grandfather's area. It's maybe a mile or so. But the white fellow wants the whole lot."

"We want some of white society," said Mr Francis Yunkaporta at Aurukun. "But we want our culture as well."

"You go back to your people and tell them we need our land. And we want their support."

Further findings of this trip will be published here next time. A full report, prepared for the Christian groups who funded the delegation, is available on request.

JASON

I MOST CERTAINLY *AM* INTERESTED IN ABORIGINAL CULTURE ... WE'VE GOT THREE TEA TOWELS AT HOME SHOWING ABORIGINAL PAINTINGS...!



OPEN FORUM

THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN?

To the Editor,

The Bible speaks clearly that as in creation, so in the church, God intended man to have authority over the woman — not the wife, nor any woman, teaching with authority the husband and other menfolk within the church! Paul states clearly the precedence of man when he says, "the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man" (1 Cor. 11:3) and again, "the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church" (Eph 5:23) — "the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything." (Eph. 5:24). Paul states clearly in 1 Cor. 14:37 that what he is saying "ARE THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD" and therefore 1 Cor. 14:35, along with 1 Timothy 2:12-14, declare the mind and the will of God. Man may not have authority over man, but the Word of God certainly has this jurisdiction and is exercised through the minister-eldership role. Galatians 3:28 has nothing to do with equality in office, and equality is not the only criterion for office. The passage deals with the social status of women and relates to vs. 26, 29, but nothing to do with the government of the church, ministry, or structure. Yes, women in Scripture are seen as giving a valuable ministry even as Philip's daughters to the women of their day. Jesus had many women around him as 'helpers' but none were elected as Apostles. Women in Scripture give a supporting and serving ministry, but not in the authoritative role of preacher-elder who must be the husband of one wife (1 Tim. 3:12, Titus 1:5-9).

— Arnold Caldicott (Adelaide, S.A.).

THE ELECTRONIC CHURCH

To the Editor,

Re Graham Agnew's article (A.C. Special Issue), 10 Western Victorian Churches of Christ sponsor "Turn Around Australia" each week on BT6. In TRA produced by Wesley Central Mission, Gordon Moyes interviews a guest about personal and social problems in Australia, and introduces people to the gospel through a short message and quality gospel music. Each week a different sponsoring church is advertised and local phone numbers are screened. People are also encouraged to write into Wesley Central Mission and copies of all letters are returned to the nearest sponsoring churches for follow-up.

This enables us to break down the "faith without fellowship" of the electronic church. In the first six months over 100 letters have been received. Viewers are not flocking to our churches, though some churches report new families attending because of TRA, and some correspondents have indicated a desire to know Jesus Christ. There are two main benefits. 1. A locally produced program is reaching people where they are. 2. TRA aids in visitation because it stimulates people to talk about faith issues raised in the program. In this way the electronic church and the local church are working for each other's benefit.

— Noel Mitaxa (Portland, Vic.)

THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

To the Editor,

Concerning "The Mission of Women in the Church" ("A.C." Sept. 5), let us uphold the teaching of the apostle for it is through God's inspiration our guide to worship. Where in 1 Cor. 11:5,6 does it say that women prayed in a worship service? Does not Gal. 3:28 say that those baptised into Christ are one in faith in Christ and not in church worship.

We must not fit our ideas into Scripture even though modern society is accepting equality of the sexes. Let us forget what the world thinks and keep the church to the level of Christ. Churches of Christ should "speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where it is silent." If Christ wanted women to take part in church worship, surely in his wisdom he would have made it plain for man to understand down the ages and not just today. In my conscience before God I feel that I must speak what I believe, but I am not referring to women's activities outside of morning worship.

If you can show me anywhere in the N.T. where women are given permission to take part in church worship, then I will withdraw my statement and accept God's word in this regard.

— Holley Thomas (Kangaroo Flat, Vic.)

CALL FOR EVANGELISTS

To the Editor,

Three resounding cheers for Arnold Caldicott's call for evangelists (11.7.81). But surely I am not alone!

Those faithful men of God have long since been promoted to earn the commendation of their Lord. And too few have had that burning zeal for souls to take over their mantle.

Are we basking in our own past

glory, or are our colleges placing little emphasis on evangelism? Why isn't evangelism a separate subject as in some colleges? Today the need of repentance is played down, because of the over emphasis on the love of God. With this "love" gospel we don't need evangelists!

The time has come for men like the Campbells to rise up; for another

Restoration Movement to set not only the Churches of Christ on true course, but the whole body of Christ.

The Holy Spirit is moving in many hearts, so there is yet hope.

— Vern Smythe (Esperance W.A.)

Each of our Colleges has in its program the subject Evangelism. — Ed.)

BRUNSWICK 99th Anniversary

Sunday October 25
11 a.m.

Mr Ron Brooker
(Conf. President)

3 p.m. P.S.A.

Music — Moreland
Salvation Army Band

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A. Marsh

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LYGON ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST

HOMECOMING

October 25th
11 a.m., 7 p.m.

Guest speaker
P.T. Kavanagh

Luncheon
provided

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

HELMET OF SALVATION

To the Editor,

One of my favorite passages is the one about the armour of God. When I was a kid I used to read about King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. I was well up on armour and jousting in the lists and all that sort of thing. So I can understand things like sword of the Spirit and shield of faith and breast plate of righteousness, in meeting the attacks of the enemy.

But I've never been able to work out the helmet of salvation. Why is salvation likened to a helmet? I always thought that the armour of God was intended for saved soldiers of the church in defence against the enemy and his prestigious mates with their high sounding names. So how come helmet of salvation, if we are already saved?

The only way that I can work it out is that the helmet protects the brains, where hopefully the thinking is done by Christians; and that salvation isn't only in the past, but that God protects our brains from the enemy now. That I can understand because the enemy mounts terrific assaults on my brains. (You'd wonder that he'd bother with all the egg heads available to him!)

He bombards my head with a dozen doubts a day, not to mention fears and smut and slanderous thoughts and other sorts of shrapnel. The fact that I come through all of this and still stay a Christian must be because God has given me a helmet of salvation. It must be pretty dented and battered, but he keeps it in place, thank God.

Yours dart-dodgingly,
Tertius.

Festival of Faith on Commonwealth Games Program.

Brisbane churches are planning to work together on what is described as the biggest joint Christian witness put on in any Commonwealth Games host city. Called the **Festival of Faith**, the program will include a major launching rally before the Games, chaplaincy services at the Games village, drop-in coffee shops, a walking tour of city churches and distribution of special Scriptures.

Most major denominations are involved, through the official participation of the Queensland Ecumenical Council, Queensland Council of Churches, the Roman Catholic Church and the Bible Society in Australia.

The aim was to promote friendliness, present a Christian witness and offer Christian help to Games visitors, especially the competitors.

Major parts of the Festival of Faith will include:

CHAPLAINCIES:

Three full-time chaplains will minister to the needs of the Games village residents at Griffith University. They are the Rev. Burt Johns (Uniting Church), the Rev. Father Leo Simonis (Roman Catholic) and the Rev. Richard Gowty (Anglican).

The chaplains will arrange campus religious services, promote religious activities outside the village, help arrange transport to church services nearby, and be available for counselling. Several rooms have been made available at Griffith University by the Commonwealth Games Foundation for meditation and chaplaincy offices.

RALLIES:

Probably the most visibly spectacular event of the Festival will be the launching rally on the Sunday afternoon before the official Thursday opening of the Games.

One special event planned to tie in with the launching rally is a marathon run from Cairns to Brisbane, organised by the Queensland Churches Sporting Association.

Well-known national speakers are being lined up for the rally, which also will include massed choirs and bands, dramatic presentation and a parade of sporting groups.

SCRIPTURES:

The Bible Society in Australia will distribute special Scriptures in the Games village and at other centres.

BIBLE STUDY:

A special Bible study is being produced, involving theologians from several denominations, on the themes of sport and Christianity. The study booklets will be available for private or group use in the months preceding the Games.

HOSPITALITY:

Arrangements are being made to make Christian homes available to Christians from other countries who will be in Brisbane for the Games and wish to be billeted, as in the official Commonwealth Games Hospitality Scheme.

CHURCHES WALK:

Because many churches are on or close to Ann Street in the city, the idea of an Ann Street Churches Walk will be promoted. It is hoped special displays or events could be held in each, such as exhibitions of Balinese art and spinners and weavers crafts which already have been organised.

OTHER EVENTS:

Other parts of the festival will include drop-in centres, youth events, a closing thanksgiving service in Saint John's Cathedral, and art displays.

Local churches in areas near Games competition sites could plan their own activities, possibly as part of the Festival.

The Festival is being planned in consultation with the Commonwealth Games Foundation.

People or churches wanting more information about the Festival contact: Rev. Clive Ayre — Tel. (07) 221 9599.

PRESTON, EAST

PRESTON (J. Manallack, C. Jones). Good Companions raised \$36 from a lamington drive to go towards the purchase and maintenance of a river craft for our missionaries in New Guinea ... Four girls attended camp at Halls Gap in the school holidays ... Mid-week play group enjoyed a trip to the zoo ... Recent speaker at a.m. service was Fred Combridge ... 36 ladies enjoyed play reading at C.W.F.

Tragedy strikes Wylie Family

Whilst en route from Tweed Heads to Gosford for a short holiday Lyall Wylie was killed on Sept. 16 when his car left the road on a corner near Heron's Creek Port Macquarie.

His wife Bessie sustained two broken shoulders, broken ribs, broken nose and internal injuries. At present Bessie is in Hastings District Hospital, Port Macquarie and is reported to be in a satisfactory stable condition.

Our condolences and prayers go out to the two sons David and Ron and their families.

— Ira J. Torode on behalf of Conference Executive.



Lyall Wylie

The latest report indicated that Bess had moved out of intensive care but will be in hospital for some time.

A full tribute will be included in the next issue.

Kintyre Brothers

● From page 2

Summer Storm

A lay pastor from the city preached. He had no sooner started his message when a late afternoon rain storm pelted down. Each drop falling on the sloping tin roof struck like a golf ball. Inside the sound magnified a hundred fold. But the minister was not to be outdone. As the storm continued, he raised his voice, straining powerfully to be heard. Because of local drought conditions, the storm was like showers of blessings. No one objected.

"Sow seeds of kindness," exhorted the preacher. "Sow seeds of love and hope and faith."

Celebration

At the conclusion of the message, we all shared the peace, shaking hands with one another, singing a joyous spiritual song, clapping and "dancing" around the small sanctuary. The organist swelled the music to an all-time high. A tamborinist slapped her instrument powerfully on her wrist while everyone's voices reached fever pitch.

Both brothers joined in the celebrative singing and movement. It was a perfect conclusion to their harvest festival when sowing and reaping were called to remembrance.

I held the little boys' hands in mine for the final prayer. I wondered about the seeds that were being sown in their hearts and minds. Would they be positive ideas to help them to grow into the stature and likeness of Christ? Would they be kernels of concern for their community and its improvement and growth and development? Would they be seeds of love for family, country, and church? What effect would this harvest festival have upon these two little boys?

Planting as Well

Evening approached. I bid the lads farewell as they headed for home. That afternoon festival had not only been a harvest time but a planting time as well. In time, I knew that God would reap spiritual benefits from these two brothers at Kintyre.



THE ROAR OF LOVE (Sparrow SPR 1033) and REJOICE (Sparrow SPR 1050) — The 2nd Chapter of Acts.

I review these two albums together, because for some crazy reason the former was held back from release for some two years in Australia to just a few months before the latter. Most of the songs on "Roar" are inspired by C.S. Lewis' Narnia Chronicle "The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe". Now that's OK if you've read the book and know what's happening. It's possible that I'm the only Christian who hasn't read the book ... but I found the songs a little hard to get into. The production however, is excellent and the musicianship spot on. Of course, it should be too, because the band read like a Who's Who of American Christian music. If you've read the book ... you'll enjoy the album.

Now, **Rejoice**. I really enjoy their new Album. Again the production and backing is top-rate, with guest muso being Kerry Livgren of the rock group Kansas. 2nd Chapter haven't really changed their style much over the years, and yet this has an almost '80s feel about it. It's hard to pick a best track out, although the title track gets things moving pretty quickly. The harmonies are incredibly close and Anne Herring's solos are beautiful, although there is almost an Abba touch here and there. I recommend this album because there is ministry for the whole family here — it's lively enough for the youngies, and yet tasteful enough for mums and dads.

SILVERWIND (Sparrow SPR 1041)

This is the first album put out by this trio, although they have been involved in other Agape Force productions. Like 2nd Chapter of Acts they are based around harmonies and piano. They have a much more commercial "pop" sound thought. They really are in the Europop/Abba mould, their songs being very sweet and pleasant. The songs could be romantic love songs in style and presentation, however, their real content comes through clearly. Each song is catchy, and would be excellent on commercial radio, with their snappy choruses and simplicity. I think the album is OK, although it isn't anything new or different, but it is well-produced and arranged. Mums: buy it for your early teen daughters to listen to and you will enjoy eavesdropping!

ALSO RECEIVED: Cathy Christie: **Enfolded with Love** (Easy going, Australian worship album ... Genesis GS 5016) and **Crosswind's** self-titled album (Australian laid-back album, tastefully done, but nothing sensational ... Genesis GS 5018).

FARMYARD CAPERS

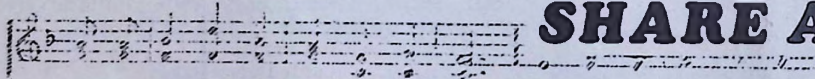
by Paul White and Clifford Warne (Hodder and Stoughton) \$1.50 each

Four books for children by two of the best story tellers in Australia. These superbly illustrated stories of life on the farmyard which are related to living the Christian life for children are excellent. My children have asked for them to be read many times and they were well received as a story during church not only by the children.

The four titles are "The Rescue Squad", "Simon's Lucky Day," "The Great Escape" and "The Daredevils."

These are excellent children's books and would be great presents from grandparents, Sunday Schools or for any occasion. Highly recommended.

BEAR A BURDEN, SHARE A SORROW,



And with all who will trust and o - bey

**Not a burden we bear,
Not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay . . .**

For one of these children



. . . Then God will richly repay you by

giving to you in "Good measure, shaken down, pressed together & running over". Here's how to begin.

You may give a child a sustained nutritional food supply. Alternately, you can regularly contribute so there will be sufficient money to help children left destitute by war, crises, illness or emergencies.

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AC581

Up North with N.S.W. President and Secretary

Kevin Crawford and I have completed a 12 day visit to all Churches of Christ between Taree and the Queensland border. We found much to encourage us in the congregations' alertness and concern to bring Christ to others.

Great Country

Up north is a good place to visit in August. Blue skies overhead were reflected in broad smooth rivers. Distant mountains were soft with mist. Banana land is beautiful. Firing of cane fields lit the night skies. Returning through New England temperatures were lower but the days were clear and fine.

New Structures

We were there to explain recent changes in Conference Departmental structure. The four main areas are now Department of Church Development and Education and the College; Department of Overseas and Aborigines Mission; Social Service Department; and the Executive Committee which co-ordinates it all. An audio-visual gave brief glimpses of the work of the Departments. Kevin gave interesting facts emerging from church growth research and made suggestions of available literature.

At each place we had helpful discussions with minister and church board, inviting them to give their views on ways in which Departments of Conference can better assist local churches in outreach and evangelism.

Launched at a Barbecue

Starting with a barbecue at Wingham on Saturday

August 8 we took part in the Sunday morning service at Taree, travelling on to Pt Macquarie for an afternoon meeting, family tea and gospel service. We met the elders and minister at Coff's Harbour on Monday. Dalpura Retirement Settlement built there by the Social Service Department provides 24 well constructed self-care units with colourful garden plots and green lawns. The amenities hall is made available to the church for Sunday services.

Tweed Heads met us on Tuesday. Chapel, halls and manse are well presented on a conveniently located site. They insist that Tweed Heads is not the place "next to Paradise", but that it is Paradise.

Next was Murwillumbah sharing in the Wednesday evening meeting.

Riding Down to Bangalow

Bangalow met us on Thursday. They also have periodic services at Byron Bay. On Friday, we were at Lismore where representatives had also come from Goonellabah. Saturday night found us talking to the minister and board at Inverell where I preached at the communion service the next morning. Heading homewards we spent Sunday night at Armidale where they have a manse and a weekday kindergarten which makes a bright and adequate worship centre for Sunday services.

We met with both the South Tamworth and Tamworth churches and with Frank Johnson pastor of the Aborigines church.

City-Country Fellowship

All of these churches would welcome visits from ministers and members of metropolitan churches who may be on their way through to Queensland. If such visits could co-incide with Sunday services it would

F. J. Stephenson
(President N.S.W.
Conference)

be valuable, by arrangement, to bring a greeting.

Exchange visits between representatives of a country church and a metropolitan church over a weekend would be a splendid way to build a bridge of love and fellowship.

QLD

ALBION (D. Gurney). Ron Oostenbroek (student minister) and his wife Denise are playing a vital role in the work of the church... A well-attended annual church family camp was held at Camp Cal under the leadership of Randy Edwards and the Kenmore College Ambassadors... A number of members attended the School of Prayer Seminar, and three follow-up groups are operating weekly in homes.

VIC

BENTLEIGH (Chris MacKenzie). Visiting speakers over the last few weeks have been Harold Bischoff, Ian and Ann McDonald and family... The church welcomed a group of 20 Christian students from South East Asia who are studying at Monash University. The group conducted the service and later joined with us in a fellowship tea... After luncheon at the church the Annual Business Meeting was held.

CROYDON (L. S. Dewberry). Baptism at 9.30 service September 13... Good

Companions raised \$47 in cent drive for river transport in Papua New Guinea... Donation of \$150 forwarded for Geon Children's Home in Korea... Over the next few weeks plans include visit by Orthomolecular Scientist, Dutch auction and barbecue, combined service in our chapel for World Communion Sunday and Sunday Thanksgiving Day. A special series of Bible lectures planned.

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HAPPENINGS

The Congress for International Co-operation and Disarmament Fair is being held at the Church of All Nations, 183 Palmerston St., Carlton on Saturday October 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Noise induced deafness accounts for half the deafness in adults. This deafness is preventable.

In a U.K. opinion poll 47% wanted Britain's military spending held at its present level, 28% favoured increased spending and 23% were in favour of unilateral disarmament.

Recent figures show that a quarter of all 'serious crimes' in Greater London are committed by school children, while 1/2 of all arrests are of people below 21.

A recent count showed that the State of Georgia, U.S.A., has more people per capita in prison than any other state or nation in the world.

Tribal fighting has killed over 2000 people and destroyed property in Ghana. World Vision will join Catholic Relief Services and the Presbyterian Church to provide medicine, food and clothing. The fighting has left 15,000 displaced people.

More than 800,000 Australians suffer from loss of hearing.

1981 marks the 50th year of operation of the Voice of the Andes HCJB (Herald Forth Christ Jesus' Blessings).

Joshua Hamidu, former commander of the Ghanaian armed forces and Vice President of Ghana, has become the first African Christian to lead World Vision in that region.

Five fires blamed on arsonists hit the area surrounding Texas Christian University in one week. One fire forced the University Baptist Church to interrupt a Sunday service.

Wealthy land owners in Peru have charged church leaders with subversion and terrorism because of their involvement with the poor. However Bishop Alban Quinn of Sicuani, says the church has associated itself with the suffering poor to make them aware of their rights and to better organize them to defend these rights.

One person in 10 suffers from hearing loss at some stage of life.

The Archbishop of Johannesburg, South Africa, has complained to the authorities after one of his priests was put in leg-irons. Archbishop Fitzgerald says that Father Enoch Kini Shomang was detained at a roadblock, taken to his mission then to police headquarters in humiliating conditions. Archbishop Fitzgerald says the episode occurred without any charges being laid against the priest.

The Salvation Army has resigned as a member of the World Council of Churches. It has been granted "fraternal status" as requested.

West Germans have formed their first national Bible Society. Representatives of 34 regional societies approved the founding. The amalgamated society will be one of the largest in the world.

During 1980 26 million radios were sold in China. Statistics also show the number of farmers buying radios increased by 55% in the same year. The Far East Broadcasting Company is capitalizing on this information by producing a special one hour block program designed to capture the daily interest of the vast farming population in this land.

Three African Reformed churches have been accepted as members of the World Council of Churches which brings membership to 301 churches.

The USA National Association of Evangelicals has announced a nationwide "Save the Family" campaign for 1982. It is to be preceded by a national mail and advertising effort this fall.

Rome police have stopped street preaching by Protestants for the first time in 17 years.

Ecuador has asked the Summer Institute of Linguistics to phase out its operations over the next 12 months.

The health of many Somalian refugees in their desert camps has greatly improved according to a World Vision official. The population of the Las Dure refugee camp is now 80,000 of whom 8,000 are reported to be in a desperate medical condition.

The two largest U.S.A. Presbyterian denominations have announced a plan to reunite. They split at the time of the Civil War 120 years ago. The new denomination would be known as the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

A recent American survey claimed that the average layman spends four minutes a day in prayer, ministers seven minutes and only 1 in 100 Christian couples pray together.



Centenary Conference Year 1982 - 83

Historical Tours through Queensland

TOUR 1 —

Travel by modern tourist coach up the coast to Cairns. Return journey goes inland at Rockhampton to take in central and south west Queensland churches. Itinerary includes island cruise. Estimated fully inclusive cost \$500 for 12 days.

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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TOUR 1 TOUR 2 TOUR 3 Please Tick

A Life Changing Experience

Since 1967 the name Lay Institute for Evangelism (LIFE) has been part of the church scene in Australia. In recent times the ministry experienced difficulty in registering its name in New South Wales.

A solution was suggested by changing the name to Lay Involvement For Evangelism, enabling the title L.I.F.E. to be retained. At this time the ministry was being established in South Australia and so became known by the new name.

At a recent directors' conference in Sydney the problem was addressed yet again. It was felt that the nature, emphasis and increased base of resources now utilized by the ministry was such that the term Evangelism now portrayed too narrow an image. It was felt that a different name would be required to both encompass the broader range of ministries available and also to embrace future developments.

The name chosen is LIFE Ministries and this is currently being registered.

MIXING WITH THE WRONG PEOPLE

Page 13

One of the greatest problems that religious people had with Jesus was his habit of mixing with the wrong people.

He Eats with the Hoipoloi

"He eats with publicans," they said. Put into modern terms that is, "He eats with trade unionists . . . or the establishment," depending on whom one thinks is ruining the country.

"He eats with sinners," they said. The word "sinner" was literally "law-breaker". These were Jews who did not observe the five daily prayer times, and mostly did not go to synagogue, and were slack about fasting and other religious duties. The modern equivalent would be people who do not go to church and who have most of the vices that church people do not have.

Harlots and Publicans

Jesus told them the story of the prodigal son and the Father's love and of the brother who represented the religious people looking down their noses at the Father's children who have strayed away. And Jesus said to these religious people, "Harlots and publicans go into the Kingdom before you," and they probably still would if they had some one like Jesus to mix with them and lead them into the Kingdom.

They not only called him a friend of publicans and sinners, but also a glutton and a wine-bibber. He must at least have been in the company of such people to have earned such a reproach.

Good News for "Outsiders"

As we read the Gospels we find that Jesus never condemned the "outsiders". But he did condemn the religious for their attitude to the "outsiders". To the publicans and sinners and harlots he spoke of the Father's love and of eternal life and of the Kingdom of Heaven breaking out amongst them and within them.

This the religious did not understand. They could have coped more easily with Jesus mixing in questionable company if he had used the opportunity to roundly condemn them for their behaviour and their slackness in relation to the synagogue.

Sent to Mix with "Outsiders"

Jesus has shown us that God obviously loves the non-religious, the a-moral, the unchurched and the "outsider" and expects that we will go and find them for him. But this of course involves mixing with them, accepting them, and coming so close together with them that they will be open to hear the good news from us with confidence in us that what we are talking about is "fair dinkum".

Conditioned by our Culture

But we have been conditioned against all of this sort of thing. Church people mix with church people. Most of us seldom socialise with "outsiders". We work with them, have them for neighbours and play sport with

them, but we are careful not to let it become more intimate than that because our conditioning has made a big culture gap between us.

Did we not learn in Sunday School that it is wrong to mix in bad company? Were we not grouped into church sports clubs to avoid too much contact with the "unsaved"? Have we not passed resolutions about these people and their ways, and written to the papers and set up societies to judge and to condemn them?

It Is Not Our Fault

It is hard to socialise in one another's homes with the so-called wrong people whom we have been conditioned to despise and shun. It is not our fault, but the fault of those who took the passages out of context, so that we grew up believing that "keeping oneself unspotted from the world", and "coming out from among them and being separated" meant keeping away from these people.

The church is the Body of Christ, continuing what he set out to do when he was in the flesh. So the church is the friend of "outsiders" and sinners and people on the wrong side of the tracks and down and outs and up and outs. Or that is how Jesus meant it to be before somewhere along the line some one got the idea that these people could hear about the love of God and the gospel without us having to mix with them. The gospel could reach them by radio and TV and from the professional evangelists without us ever having to touch the untouchables.

We are troubled by it

We are all aware of all of this and we are troubled by it and we want to do something about it. How? Church boards and church business meetings could well put on their agendas . . . high up on the list . . . "MIXING WITH THE WRONG (!) PEOPLE". Small groups are flourishing (mostly in-groups). A night or two looking at "reaching the outsider" in these groups could have positive results. As families we could discuss the possibility of opening our homes to some "outsiders" we know, for coffee, a meal, or a dinner party.

Marj and Roy

And thinking of Jesus and "the wrong people" again, he must have had many homes open to him to meet these people and to talk with them. Many of the homes belonged to the "outsiders" themselves.

Marj and Roy liked to have dinner parties. Marj was a superb cook and both of them loved people. They would have called themselves "outsiders" as far as the church was concerned. Lesley and I were often their guests. We met more unchurched people in that way than in any church homes in our various ministries.

According to Jesus the wrong people are the right people to socialise with if our commitment means anything. Perhaps doing this in our homes is where the new evangelistic thrust will get most of its momentum. (EDITOR).

OBITUARY

Typed statements of not more than 150 words, recognising the work and witness of God's faithful servants are welcomed. They should be submitted promptly.

CAMERON — Hilda Florence (nee Davies).

(1.9.81) Mrs Cameron was an outstanding Christian lady, a source of inspiration to the Mildura church. She was born in Bendigo on 15.11.1899 and later moved to Warracknabeal, where, in 1911 she made a commitment of her life to Jesus Christ. In 1912 the family moved to Mildura and on April 7, 1912 she was welcomed into the membership of the Mildura church. Her membership spanned 69 years.

Hilda was a fitting partner to Lindsay Cameron who shared her devotion to Christ and his church. They were married at Mildura on January 20, 1926. Hilda and Lindsay raised three sons Geoffrey, Douglas (dec.) and Alan. Hilda was a good homemaker, an expert cook and a keen gardener. Mrs Cameron was superintendent of the church kindergarten for 20 years. Her work in the Christian Women's Fellowship was outstanding. She was also a faithful and regular, weekly visitor at the Mildura Base hospital, representing the Sunraysia churches. She

passed quietly to be with her Lord after some months of sickness and hospitalisation.

— B.W.B.

JOHNSON, Merrill Jean

(22.8.81) Merrill died tragically at 33 years of age. Daughter of Thomas and Gwen Harman, she grew up in the church at West Preston. After schooling she entered University and obtained the M.A. degree. Under gifted people Merrill became interested in literature, adventuring into personal writing. She married Joseph Johnson, and became the mother of Hildegard, Connie and Sam. Emotional conflict prevented Merrill making full use of her intellectual gifts. She was prompted to teach stories of Jesus to children of the flats where she lived. Compassion took her into unusual situations, and surrounded her with friends — University Tutor, priest, and people confused and wayward. Many people gathered for the service held at Balwyn, several of our ministers being present in the large audience, with also sisters and priests, including Adrian Lyons who spoke consolingly as friend and helper. A. E. White offered the prayer, giving thanks for one loved "because there was so much to love."

— A. B. Withers

MADDERN, Kenneth John.

(7.8.81) Ken, at the age of 52 years, died suddenly, after having lived all his life at Serviceton. In March 1951, he and Fanny Merrett were married by Merv Lawrie. Ken lived quietly, enjoying farming, tennis, football, golf, his family and church. On June 13th, 1954, Ken was baptised at the newly opened church building at Serviceton Church of Christ. For 19 years, he was Secretary, only retiring from that position

last year, and a helper for many years. Ken lived out his Christian faith, 'Loving God and his neighbour.' Serviceton will miss a good friend, neighbour and singer; one who worked quietly in the background. Our loving prayers and sympathy go to his wife Fanny, who always did everything together with him, his children, Lynette, Wayne, Christine, Peter, to their partners and the two grandchildren and brother Geoff. The service led by P. Bowers, was held at the Kaniva church.

— P. D. Bowers.

PAUL, Winifred

(24.8.81). Winifred Taylor was born in 1895, and in 1919 was married to Ern Paul by A. R. Main at Moreland. The couple lived for short times in Sydney and Adelaide, and then went to Lemnos, a Soldier Settlement area near Shepparton, where they remained for 32 years, living and working next to Mrs Paul's brother and a fellow-soldier of her husband. Members of the Shepparton congregation, they journeyed fortnightly to Cosgrove, Mrs Paul to play the organ, and her husband to preach. In after years these good and faithful people transferred to Chadstone and worshipped at Gardiner and Ashburton. Mrs Paul was the devoted mother of Myrtle and Hugh, and a loved grandmother. For two years she was resident in the Fred Combridge House in Northcote, together with her husband. Though advanced in years and frail, Mrs Paul suffered illness there only for a few weeks before her passing. The funeral service took place at Shepparton, Greg Deuble minister of that church assisting, and the burial at Pine Lodge.

— A. B. Withers.

TIPPING, William James (26.8.81) Jim was introduced to Churches of Christ via the cradle roll at Sth. Melbourne then through the Sunday School where his understanding of Christ prepared the way for an intelligent commitment at the age of 15. A faith which he never deserted. He was involved completely in the life of the church, in sporting and in the roles of treasurer and later secretary which he held till his retirement to Tootgarook, some six years ago. He brought with him his own brand of humour and vitality that never left him even during the final month of pain. His dedication to the church through a fire and rebuilding program; through a period of prosperity and of decline was unmatched. Students from the College remember him for his encouragement and friendship. He will be greatly missed by lifelong friends at South and more recent friends at Tootgarook. Kath, his wife, who stood with him every moment summed it up this way, "Jim was ready to go home with our Lord, and when his suffering penetrated the medication, God called and he went."

— Robert Ferguson.

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SO

WEMBLEY DOWNS (J. Somerville). Church was happy to witness baptism of Susan Somerville ... Study on the Spirit was covered in morning services ... Pulpit banners have been made by Dot Cant to help members focus on Christian seasons ... Men's dinner at Kum Ba Yah was a great success ... Various social occasions have enriched the fellowship — films, a play and quiz night ... Music talents in church utilised.

NORTHAM (M. Randell). Family camp at Kum Ba Yah Sept. 11-13 studied "Gifts of the Holy Spirit" with A. Anderson leader. Fellowship enjoyed by 50 campers and visitors ... W. Tabbernee's visit in Aug. much appreciated ... Encouraging attendances at "Happy Hour" Sept. 1 with special guest Cuddly Bear from Perth ... Hearttenders meeting Sept. 15 well attended, when Dr Colin Smyth gave a sex education talk ... R. Lane spoke at morning service at Corrigin.

BRUCE ROCK, MERREDIN (D. Good). Bruce Rock C.W.F. held a friendship night and featured the Year of Disabled with the film "Stepping Out," which was well received ... Brian Holliday from "Go Ye Fellowship", a mission work in Borneo, visited Bruce Rock. (Report to follow) ... The C.W.F. has made many patchwork rugs for Welfare Centre in Perth this winter.

SUBIACO (N. Merrick). Over the past three months there have been 8 baptisms and 8 welcomed into fellowship. Discipleship classes are held prior to the morning worship ... Prayer cells, Bible study groups and Fellowship Flock involve approx. 40 members ... Our pastor, Nigel Merrick, was the speaker at the recent South West Convention held at Bunbury ... The church celebrated its 83rd anniversary Sept. 27 with Robert Taylor speaker.

NSW

BEXLEY NORTH (Fred Davis). Church hall alterations completed satisfactorily ... Large attendance at Women's Fellowship open night for "Don's picture show" of recent trip to

Europe off the beaten track ... Minister leaving for Queensland in December to Acacia Ridge church ... Don Parry's great work with the disabled folk of this district ... Fond farewell to Doug and Mavis Pearce as they leave this district ... Soccer team third.

PENDLE HILL (Ron Bassett). Church anniversary Sunday a time of rich fellowship ... Temple Day, first

Sunday in Nov., offering to offset manse loan ... An enjoyable informative week with Colin Stock (S.A. Director of the House of David Fellowship) conducting second coming convention ... New audio loop system a great help to hearing-aid users ... Welcome home to Baird family, back from Perth.

FOOTSCRAY (M. D. Keatch). New piano for

chapel presented to church by the Carter family in memory of Mrs Iris Carter ... Two groups held special Bible study of Stedman's "Body Life" Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning over three months ... Annual meeting held Sept. 13 ... 95 ladies and six men attended C.W.E.F. International Birthday. Mrs D. Ashlin, C.W.F. President, guest speaker.

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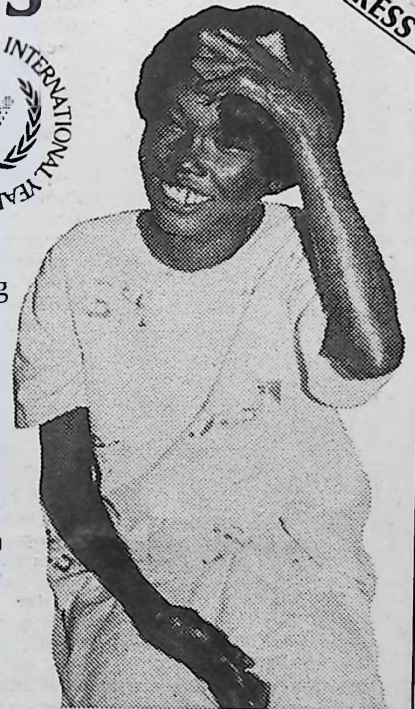
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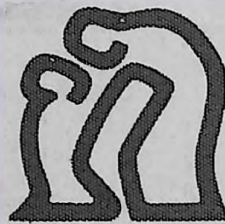
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SO

GOOLWA (R. Sercombe). The theme of this year's Sunday School anniversary was "Eternal Life. Be In It". Each class performed an item based on this theme. The Bible study group presented a play worked around the 'Norm' character on TV and great fun was had by all... More fun was had at our last evening service where we had an artist's evening.

WA

WARWICK (G. B. Carslake). Tremendous interest was created from the community when the seven family films were screened over four Friday nights. Attendances ranged from 150-200. Over \$100 worth of Dobson's books were sold... Three more adults have been baptised... The series of seven studies from the book "In the Spirit of Love" were repeated in

home groups with keen interest. Minister attended Bethel Bible series course in Adelaide.

FREMANTLE (E. J. Sewell). Fellowship in the hall followed the "Guest Night" service on August 30. Guest speaker and soloist were Jack Bond and Maureen Furr... Fortnightly meetings of the Community Activities Centre and the Friendship Centre continue to be avenues of outreach.

VIC

SANDRINGHAM (T. and A. MacKaay, J. & E. Clapp, T. Williams). Bible school has recommenced at Sandringham South. Sue Bailes appointed Superintendent... Evening services at Sandringham North conducted by J. Clapp and include a series of studies on the history, doctrine and traditions of Churches of Christ... Week night Bible studies on Romans being held

at manse during September and led by Tony Williams... Good Companions continuing at Sandringham North... David and Alice Allison home after world trip.

ESSENDON (M. Ashworth, H. Schaefer). Baptismal service for Tom Over and welcome into church fellowship... Formation of youth club... Dedication service for the children of Mr and Mrs Fred Strack... Church encouraged by increased attendances at evening services... Members attended W.R.O.C. dinner at Williamstown.

NORLANE (John Elliott). After operating one and half years, Golden Opportunity Shop stocked with pre-loved treasures, flourishes in nearby shopping centre, raising finance for church building project, and as outreach, helping local people or even "just a chat"... Congregation anticipating great sessions of church program planning with Ian Tippett, Dept. M.E.D. ...

Boys Club revelling in stay at Meredith farm "in camp".

OCEAN GROVE (Laurie Barker). Church continues meeting in Uniting Church hall (11 a.m. service) with attendances fluctuating as members return from their holidays... Ladies Fellowship meetings held regularly... November meeting to have speaker from the Queenscliff Community Centre... Church officers are involved in Ocean Grove Inter-church Council activities... Church has increased investment monies with Properties Corporation.

SHEPPARTON (Greg Deuble). Neville Thomas, from Wycliffe Bible Translators, spoke on their work in the Philippines... A successful youth camp held at Lake Nillacoote... Day of Prayer for church centenary... Greg Deuble to Yarrawonga for anniversary services. Ed Collier, Gideons, filled the pulpit during his absence.

Family Camp

Judy Mead (Nambour)

Young voices vying with seagull's screech;
Exploring, delighting; joy on beach;
Up high on swing; toes in sand;
Brisk road-crossing hand in hand.
Minder's scurrying straight for bed.
Young laughter's fee, aching head.
Taste-teasing food; loud pots and pans;
Broom, dishes, table; bustling hands.
Something special in togetherness,
Especially so in His blessedness.
Souls in stillness, searching Him;
Joy overflowing from peace within.
In dusty sky of reddened haze
God's proving fingerprint; catching gaze.
In burning beauty of setting sun
God's signature stamped on a day well done.

Hungarian Bible Problems

The Hungarian Bible Council is incensed that mission organizations have pirated its ecumenical version of the Hungarian Bible. The Council (Reformed, Lutheran, Free and Orthodox churches) first published the version in 1975 and has so far printed 80,000 copies.

Council President Tibor Bartha says that the churches are "deeply grieved" that the version, protected by international copyright law, "was being printed without our knowledge in a printing press

somewhere in the West, and being regularly smuggled into the country." He stated that rumors that the Bible is in short supply in Hungary are false.

Thousands of copies of the pirated edition flooding second-hand bookshops at almost half the official price are undercutting the economic viability of producing the new version, and also threaten to bring all Bible distribution in Hungary to disrepute.

— Christianity Today

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FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 7.45 P.M.

ORDINATION SERVICE

Conducted by

Federal Conference Executive

for

Churches of Christ in Australia

following the

Graduation Service, 20th November 1981

nsw

WAGGA WAGGA (E. W. Taylor) Kel Willis was guest speaker at series designed to strengthen Christians in their life and witness. Messages dealt with motivation, including the gaining of a credible grasp of our faith and the need for a platform and a plan. Meetings were well attended and the response was most encouraging . . . A further week of special activity involved Shirley and Richard Pearce and their family.

THORNLEIGH (Paul Cameron). On Sunday, August 23 Alan Norton, following his appointment as a deacon, was set during the morning service as the functional group convener for outreach . . . At recent D.C.E. Junior and Midget Camps at Stanwell Tops the following from the church were leaders — Paul Cameron, Rick Lewis, Diane Wiltshire, Robyn Wheatley and Renee Black. Also about 15 attended the camps.

sa

BLACK FOREST (B. Coventry). Church welcomed home B. Coventry after a trip to visit Indian churches and mission fields. C. Cunningham took most of the services during minister's absence . . . Wilf and Joyce Lovell also returned after attending the Gideon International Convention in Phoenix, Arizona — also attended Australian National Convention in Canberra . . . Also present at one session of the Disciples of Christ Grand Assembly in Anaheim, California.

vic

DANDENONG (W. J. Edwards). Chris Hutton has accepted invitation to be new minister, Feb. 1982. His wife Del is a trained nurse . . . C.W.A.F. collected woollies for hospitals . . . Young people attended Youth Quake at Nunawading church . . . Youth teas continuing in members homes . . . Bruce Leslie conducted crusade on family relationships. We combined with North Dandenong for week long crusade. Five decisions made . . . C.W.E.F. held birthday, then annual family concert.



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He cured the sick. He gave food to the hungry. Jesus told his disciples to follow his example. They were to care for those in need.

He challenged the rich young man to "sell all you have and give to the poor" (Matthew 19:21). He said to Simon Peter, "Feed my sheep" (John 21:15-17). The good Samaritan told the innkeeper, "Take care of him" (Luke 10:35).

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ENGAGEMENTS

CLARK — WARD-SMITH Elaine and David together with their parents Les and Gwen Clark and Peter and Glenda Ward-Smith (nee Stephenson), happily announce their engagement on 16th July, 1981.

EDWARDS — PEARSON Jack and Barbara Edwards of the Dandenong Church of Christ are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter Gwen to Ian Pearson, son of Doug and Dorothy Pearson of Dandenong.

APPROACHING MARRIAGE

FEENEY — HENRY Mr and Mrs G. & D. Feeney have pleasure in announcing the coming marriage of their daughter Dianne to Ernest Henry in the garden of 57 The Point Road, Woolwich at 4.00 p.m. on the 24th October, 1981.

RUBY WEDDING

HOLDEN — MCGREGOR Alan and Enid celebrate with joy their 40th anniversary. Married on October 9, 1941 at Oakleigh C. of C. by the late J. E. Allen. Present address — 3 Braye St., Boolaroo, N.S.W.

DEATHS

BROWN Elsie May, died at the Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh on 2nd September 1981, aged 81 years. Wife of Gordon, Mother of Glen, John, Dorothy (Mrs Robb), Betty (Mrs Stevens) and Helen (Mrs Page). "She rests from her labours and is at peace".

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Sunday 18th October

**DONCASTER
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

7.00 p.m.

Sunday 1st November

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VIC

NUNAWADING (E. C. Keating, P. B. Burnham, C. H. J. Wright). Social Action Committee acquired rent free house for emergency accommodation. Young marrieds cleaned and renovated property ... Six playgroups now operating involving 76 families ... Pregospel "Jam" session commenced for the musically inclined ... Y.A.F. held "Space Ball" ... C.W.A.F. visited Murrumbidgee Nursing Home ... Youth 1 visited Villa Maria Home for Blind ... Springfield Road attendances increasing ... Roslyn West home after staying in Japan.

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CROYDON

**108th ANNIVERSARY
AND THANKSGIVING
DAY**

Sunday 25th October

10.00 a.m. Service

Speaker: C. H. J. Wright

12.00 Fellowship
luncheon

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7.00 p.m. Service

Speaker: L. S. Dewberry

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25th OCTOBER, 1981**

THEME: 'Come Together and
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10.30 a.m. Worship Service
Speaker: Mr G. Warren.

12.15 p.m. Fellowship
Luncheon

2.00 p.m. P.S.A. with Berwick's
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Thornleigh Church of Christ

(formerly Hornsby)

75th ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25TH

10:45 a.m. GORDON MOYES

5 p.m. FELLOWSHIP TEA

7 p.m. PAUL CAMERON

All former members and friends are invited. Hospitality available.

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SANDRINGHAM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Willis Street, Hampton

On Sunday, 18 October, we are celebrating 70 years witnessing in Sandringham. Service: 11.00 a.m. with Ron Brooker, followed by Luncheon. During the afternoon we will be entertained by the Lowanna Singers, finishing off with afternoon tea at 4.15.

Hospitality — Mrs Benjaminson, 598 1249

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Telephone: (02) 764 1700

**CENTENARY
CELEBRATIONS!**

**SHEPPARTON
CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

Nov. 1st-8th

Speaker
Ron Elbourne

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CHURCH OF
CHRIST**

HOME-COMING DAY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER
4th 1981 at 10 a.m.

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Refreshments and Fellowship
after service.

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Church of Christ
Meeting at Orana
87 Elgar Rd., Box Hill South
**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
AND HOMECOMING**
18th October
11.00 a.m. service
Speaker: Ian Allsop. Followed by
luncheon
Musical items by members of the
Glenairs
All past members and friends invited
Information: Ray and Marjory
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PERSONAL

DISCIPLESHIP

- Tom Over, Essendon, Vic.
- Daniel McCubbin, Croydon, Vic.
- Laurie and Judy Caruana, Lorraine Austin, Warwick, W.A.
- Susan Somerville, Wembley Downs, W.A.
- Sue Argent, Bexley North, N.S.W.
- Ian Paul, Castlemaine, Vic.
- Rhonda Mayo, Barolin St., Bundaberg, Qld.

MARRIAGES

- Debbie Fowkes to Martin Poggi, Mei Fong Cheong to Mun Wah Chow, Nollamara, W.A.

DEATHS

- James Laurence Rogers, Bexley North, N.S.W.
- Mrs Ivy King, Pendle Hill, N.S.W.
- A. H. Langley, Gisborne, Vic.
- Euphemia Pazzi, Barolin St., Bundaberg, Qld.
- Mrs Marion Pirie, Glenelg, S.A.
- Agnes Kempster, Jim Tipping, Tootgarook, Vic.

**CHANGES OF
ADDRESS**

SANDRINGHAM: Secretary — David Allison, 28 Potter St., Black Rock Vic. 3193. Phone (03) 598 5594.

MELTON: Secretary — Colin Glare, 6 Norma St., Melton, Vic. 3337. Phone (03) 743 6237.

Come and join us. All former members and friends are invited to the
**90th Anniversary
of the Church of Christ
Echuca**

October 11th, 1981

Morning service 11 a.m.
Church luncheon 12.45 p.m.
P.S.A. 2.45 p.m.
Speaker: Paul Payne

For further details contact
Secretary, R. C. Westmore
10 Andrews Cr., Kyabram
3620
Phone (058) 52 2052

The "Big Man's" Prayer

Once again I am visiting the Churches of Christ area in Papua New Guinea. Once again the simple faith expressed by these people has been a ministry to me.

Ngando, the "Big Man"

For the past week I have been sitting down in the village "storying" with an old man that I will call Ngando. He is one of the few "big men" left in this village. He has great responsibility and influence, not only for his own clan's affairs, but also for several other clans whose "big men" have died out. This man says he was baptised by Alan Fletcher many years ago.

Along with other missionaries, I had assumed (wrongly it turns out), that he was not a faithful Christian. I had assumed that he had probably gone along with the Christian practices, perhaps expecting that certain benefits might accrue. Perhaps I am too cynical.

Ngando does not attend church services. He has shown no outward sign of continuing in his Christian faith, as far as I know.

A Week with Ngando

For a whole week I have listened to and recorded his stories about the past, the mythology of his people, the

Dianne Feeney

beliefs about spirits and other customs. It was clear that he still held many of these beliefs.

At the end of the week when we had finished our work, we sat and chatted for a couple of hours. That was our most intimate and happiest conversation, even though all the other talks were sparked with good humour and comradeship. We talked about the war (I could only recount my father's experiences of course!) We commiserated with each other over the breakdown of moral values and the way things are changing so rapidly. They have the same trouble with permissiveness and rebellious young people as we do! We laughed and cried together.

"I Would like to Pray"

Just before I left him, I thought I heard him say "I'd like to pray first." I thought perhaps I had not heard him correctly. Then he closed his eyes and prayed. Here was a man whom I had presumed did not follow the God I know and he was praying for me. He prayed for my safety, for strength, for wisdom in writing "my book;" he prayed for my forthcoming marriage; he thanked God for the happy time we had together during the week.

I cannot adequately describe how I felt, except to say that Ngando has imprinted himself in my heart. The imprint is more than just affection. It is a knowing . . .

It is knowing that we should never doubt the power of God's spirit in a man's heart.

It is knowing that every seed we sow will bear its fruit, somehow, sometime in the future.

It is knowing that I should never judge what a person's relationship with God really is. That is something God knows and something that person truly knows in his heart.

Encouraged by Ngando

The work of missionaries and pastors may often seem slow and discouraging. This experience has also taught me that there are people who, although still bound by many of the old spirit beliefs,

nevertheless have heard the Gospel and have a knowledge of God in their hearts.

Who of us can say that we are perfect in our faith and life?

I hope that some missionary somewhere will read this and be encouraged, as I was encouraged by Ngando.

Accountants' Christian Fellowship

The Annual Meeting of Members of the Accountants' Christian Fellowship, held recently in Melbourne, elected Bob Hayes as Chairman. Bob Hayes, a qualified accountant in industry, is the Managing Director of W. L. Allen Foundry Company Pty. Ltd., of Sunshine — a Company which operates on Christian principles. Kimberly Smith, a chartered accountant in public practice, was elected as Vice-Chairman.

The Accountants' Christian Fellowship is a inter-denominational group which is open to people engaged in the accounting profession or who are studying accountancy in all its diverse fields, including industry and commerce, public practice or community service, welfare or like organisations. The ACF has operated under Chairman Eric Easton, of Coopers & Lybrand, Chartered Accountants for the past three years.

The Fellowship was formed to provide: (a) an effective Christian witness by members to their accounting colleagues, business associates, staff, and to the business community at large; (b) regular group meetings for the encouragement, nurture and sharing by members, including addresses by guest speakers; (c) the organisation of the Accountants' Annual Divine Service; and (d) a Christian viewpoint and/or commentary, by press releases, articles, etc. on accounting and related matters, particularly those involving ethical issues (eg: tax avoidance).

Enquiries regarding the Fellowship's activities, program, membership, etc. should be directed to Bob Hayes; phone (03) 311 0451 (business) or 336 3442 (home) or Kim Smith 62 2753 (business).

Hampton & Blackrock = Sandringham

Sandringham Church of Christ is now official. It is one church meeting in two places. Sandringham North at Hampton St., Hampton, and Sandringham South at Potter St., Black Rock.

Eric Volker from Carlingford College, N.S.W. and presently student minister at Lane Cove has accepted the call to the ministry at Sandringham for 3 years commencing January 1982.

A joint board has been elected. Secretary: David Allison, treasurer: Doug Allen. Elders: Paul Payne, David Allison, Maisie Purvis, Oz Cooper, Doug Allen and Ruby McDowell.

Present ministry team J and E Clapp, T. Williams and T and A MacKaay will continue till end of the year.

Romanian Rights

There are no human rights in Romania, only animal rights, says the founder of Amnesty International in that country.

Nicole Dascalu says there is no right of speech or expression. He says on paper there is religious freedom but in reality it does not exist. He says the state church, the Romanian Orthodox only marries and buries and does not confront the government on issues.

Dascalu says the Romanian-rite of the Catholic Church was destroyed after the Communist government forced its incorporation into the Orthodox Church in 1948. He says some Protestant groups are the only ones to openly rebel against the government.

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Celebration of Growth Groups

Three members of one family made their initial commitment or reaffirmed their commitment at the Keilor East church. The occasion was a Sunday morning worship service which was part of the celebration of Growth Groups.

Over the five weeks of the latest series of Growth Groups we studied, participated in and were challenged by prayer. As a church we found that when 20 or more people are committed to prayer that great things can happen in the lives of individuals and within the life of the church. The power of God has been and is evident in both physical and spiritual healing.

In celebration and thanks for what God had done, a special Growth Group Celebration was held on the weekend of August 8-9.

On the Saturday night we shared as a church family in a Good News social night of games and activities. Following this part of the program we spent some time quietly in member's homes in preparation for the Watch Hour Service. The Watch Hour Service began at 11.30 p.m. and again prayer was an important part.

On the Sunday morning a bleary eyed congregation assembled for morning worship, but few were really prepared for what was to follow! As the Spirit of God led in the service of praise, the lives of many people were touched and changed. Tony and Greg Beasley made their decision to follow Christ and Tony's wife Lynette recommitted her life to Christ. We praise God for the

Missionaries Available for Deputation 1982.

Ralph and Barbara Bennett from Papua New Guinea. Queensland: January 31-February 21, West Australia: February 28-March 28, South Australia: March 31-April 5.

Barry and Maureen Jenkins from India. Victoria: February 11-April 30, South Australia: May 2-May 30.

If you wish to use any of these people contact your state Overseas Mission secretary.

way He has been working in the Beasley family. During the service and also afterward several other people recommitted their lives to Christ. They were Bobbie Wilde, Jenny Shepherd, Harry McWaters and Garnet Johnson.

— Garnet Johnson

Riding for Christ

A 24 year old Indian man is riding his bicycle for Christ. Arulraj has covered over 1400 kilometres during the last three months while visiting hundreds of towns throughout Southern India.

The Bible Society of India is providing Arulraj with special Scripture Selections such as "Good New for Fishermen", to give away on his journey. This particular Selection is very appropriate for coastal centres where fishing is a major industry.

Arulraj is a labourer from Thevaram in Tamil Nadu State and he has to work for eight months of the year to support the four month bicycle mission. He came to know the Lord through a drama course at school.

Ministry with Music

The multicolored spotlights increased in intensity as they focused on the three stained glass windows which made up the backdrop, and, as the music crescendoed the windows appeared to move as a single figure dressed in a flowing gown made up as a stained glass window interpreted the Lord's Prayer.

Again the lights dimmed and a single spotlight picked up Norval Bunch as the sermon in word, sound and light continued.

The Northern and Western Districts Conference were spellbound. Such was the weekend, a magnificent weekend of sharing and caring and evangelistic outreach at Swan Hill from Sugar and Salt and the team from Berwick Regional Church.

Norval Bunch, one of the ministers at Berwick stated — "Music is an integral part of worship. Church music should never be purely entertainment. It should always have a purpose and be a vehicle for preaching the gospel. Whether it be individual singers or groups

such as Sugar and Salt each have a purpose to preach the gospel, to be scriptural and part of the total worship experience".

Max Walker, Director of the Evangelism Department, added: "Norval Bunch has added a new dimension to evangelistic outreach in Australia. The tour in 1980 to Albury, Canberra and Wollongong preached the gospel through music not only to the local church but attracted a great deal of attention in local communities. Each member of the tour was able to witness and this was again evident in the Swan Hill trip. The world is geared to get its vital messages through music whether it be solid rock aimed at teenagers or the persistent marketing of products on radio and television and the churches message marketed professionally through worship can bring the masses to the Lord. In his two years in Australia, Norval has made an inestimable contribution to the use of music as a tool of evangelism.

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel...



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The Church's Role in Healing

The Healing Ministry Committee of Churches of Christ in N.S.W. has conducted another Seminar with 60 people present. The keynote address was given by Gordon Moyes. We present a digest of that statement.

Healing means "wholeness" and this covers the emotional, physical, spiritual and social aspects of personhood.

"The Great Physician" not only made whole the lives, minds and bodies of the diseased and the disabled, but gave to the disciples (Matthew 10:8, Luke 10:8) and to the early church (Acts 3:6-8, 9:33-34, 8:6-7 and 28:8) the commission to heal. The "gifts of healings" (1 Cor. 12:9, James 5:13-16) were evidenced in the young church. There are 77 New Testament references to the healing ministry.

Our churches have always taken seriously the commission to preach, teach and heal, and nurses, clinics and hospitals have always been to the forefront of our missionary endeavours. We have always prayed in public services for the healing ministry, particularly of doctors and nurses, and medical missionaries.

Local churches are called to the healing ministry.

1. Emotional Healing

Jesus (Luke 4:18, Mark 5:1-20) was frequently healing people with wounded emotions. He confronted people, loosened their attitudes, provoked, restored, and commissioned people into service and witness, using life-changing techniques that contemporary psychologists easily recognise.

Today we recognise the close association between the health of the body and the



health of the mind. We know the eroding effect of guilt, fear and hate, and the visual impact following confession and forgiveness. We recognise the essential environment of faith in the emotional healing of a person.

Local congregations can develop their own counselling teams, using skills already existing in members of the congregation. The local church can develop referral programs to Christians in the area who have the required skills.

2. Physical Healing

Physical healing is too important to be left to doctors and hospitals alone.

Jesus used the accepted healing means of His day, including the use of spittle, hydrotherapy and anointing (John 9:1-41, John 5:1-20).

It is recognised in the New Testament, however, that not all are healed. There were others at Bethesda who were not healed, Paul (2 Cor. 12), Trophimus (2 Tim. 4:20), Epaphroditus (Philippians

Gordon Moyes

2:25-30) were all Christians who did not know physical healing.

Yet, physical healing was part of the commission of Jesus (Luke 9:1-6).

Every local congregation should be praying for healing, should be encouraging young professionals in their healing ministry, should seek to have competent members on local hospital boards and as members of auxiliaries, and should provide home and hospital visitation, lay visitation in all hospitals, nursing homes and should provide communion, laying on of hands, and prayer for healing, both within the hospitals and nursing homes, as well as public services.

3. Spiritual Healing

Spiritual healing is the unique ministry of the church, where there is the significance of faith, of salvation and wholeness resulting in God's peace (Matthew 13:15; 1 Peter 2:24).

As Peter showed (Acts 3:1-10) healing can come in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ when caring people stop and take the ill by the hand. Spiritual healing involves the whole person, body, mind and spirit.

Local congregations, especially in the evening service, have a wonderful opportunity to include a "care-share-prayer time". Any member of the congregation stands, mentions particular needs of friends or of themselves, and the whole congregation joins in concentrating their prayers upon that particular need. In a caring atmosphere, the sharing is personal, and the prayer is powerful.

In the College of the Bible chapel windows the two great saints of the early church, Paul and Dr. Luke, stand side by side, a constant reminder to ministers in training that the church's missionary task was to preach and to heal.

Merredin Celebrates 30th

On Sunday August 23 the Merredin church, W.A., celebrated its 30th anniversary. A packed building of 120 shared in the service which centred around the theme of the International Year of Disabled Persons. Guest Speaker was Arthur Smith the State Executive Officer of the I.Y.D.P. The service was led by the present minister Doug Good. Paintings by the Sunday School children adorned the walls; these had been done by holding the brush in the foot and the mouth.

The service coincided with the visit to Merredin of the Triune Music Society from Perth (Formerly the Methodist Music Society). The choir of 34 voices sang an Introit, and Anthem and the Recessional in the service. The local Uniting Church closed their service and shared in the anniversary.

A basket lunch followed and some stayed on to share with Mr Smith and an audio-visual on disablement made in W.A. was screened.

Used for the first time was a concrete ramp into the church building. Like so many other buildings the only entry was by steps, which made it virtually impossible for disabled persons to enter and it also will be welcomed by the aged. The church decided that in this year for the disabled persons they had better start in their own backyard first and have a ramp constructed.

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Churches of Christ (NSW) Theological College



Asian Crafts

Trading Partners is a non-profit organisation importing crafts from Third World countries. This enables Third World people to have a fair overseas market instead of being exploited by middlemen and tourists in their own countries. Volunteers man the stalls so that a maximum amount from each sale can go to the craftspeople.

Trading Partners would like people to visit their shops in 39 Pyrmont St., Pyrmont, N.S.W. (02) 660 8888 and 46 Russell St., Melbourne (03) 63 7860, 555 0062.

They are willing to visit groups with some of the craft work for sale, and to tell the Trading Partners story.



Trading Partners Stall

Indonesian Development

Regular visits to a group of Indonesian islands during an emergency has led to long term development for World Vision.

The agency was responsible for organizing emergency camps on the Anambas Island for Indo-Chinese refugees. Now local villagers and the authorities have invited World Vision to set up long term work in the region.

The first job for World Vision will be to improve health and eliminate malnutrition. The project will also include ways of increasing the per capital income of the people.

CARNARVON (B. Yesberg). Among many Eastern States visitors in recent weeks were Mr and Mrs C. Norling, Mr and Mrs Lance Fisher and Mr and Mrs C. Manning. Lance and Enid Fisher visited many towns in the north and contacted literally hundreds of old friends. Just prior to leaving Carnarvon, an afternoon was arranged at the Christian Centre and 70 Aboriginal folk attended to reminisce and say farewell. Lance spoke at a Sunday service also.

"Christians" for Carlingford College

The N.S.W. Churches of Christ Theological College needs some early issues of "The Australian Christian" to complete its collection. Readers are asked to check to see if they have such copies and to make them available to the College. They are as follows:

All copies for the years 1910, 1914, 1915, 1926, 1934, 1946.

Single copies as follows: 1953: 27, 32. 1955: 40. 1956: 41, 42, 45, 46, 49, 50. 1963: 31. 1966: 49, 50. 1975: 19, 21. 1976: 1-9, 11, 13. 1977: 2, 13, 20. 1978: 4, 5.

Carlingford College also has a number of spare copies of "The Australian Christian" covering some numbers in the years 1955, 1959-1979.

All interested in helping the College to make up its "A.C." sets or in receiving spare copies should communicate with Dennis Nutt (Librarian), Carlingford College, P.O. Box 140, Carlingford, 2118. Phone (02) 630 7185, 76 9730.

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Ambrosia by Chris Ambrose

Sunday Schools (3)

Not many of the Victorian churches who replied to the recent survey conducted by the Family and Children's Ministry Committee have services that have a child or family emphasis. Those that replied yes they did have such a service only held these services every two months or less frequently.

Churches that did have a positive family/child emphasis in services on a regular basis often had two services in the morning. At the earlier of these there was a family emphasis. In many cases this appears to consist of the children being present for up to 20 minutes and then leaving to continue in their Sunday School classes.

We in Churches of Christ have never really discussed the position that a child holds in God's eyes. Maybe we should look at this issue and relate it to our worship of God. Do we need to include children in worship and if so how are we to structure our services so that all involved will truly worship God?

The warnings that Jesus gave about leading children away from the faith (Matthew 18:1-9) should show us the importance he placed on children. Do we in our churches care that much about the children who we contact through the Sunday School and the clubs and who may also attend services?

The greater number of the Sunday Schools that replied had many of the children attending coming from non-

attending families. This means that many have a mission field with children and their families. The question must arise as to how effective the church is in using the opportunities that they have. Many are not using the opportunities at all or to a very limited extent.

Working with children will not see the church grow instantly. Patience and hard work is needed. Also there will be heartbreaks along the way as children who make commitments in their teens seem to slip away as they grow older. Yet there are many vibrant Christians today who first came to hear of Christ through the Sunday School or club.

For those churches whose children's work is non-existent or is only with the children of members (remember these are just as important to God as anyone else) then maybe now is a time to look at outreach into the community through the children's groups in your church.

Many churches offered thoughts they had on activities that could be used to attract families. These are too many to list. A look at the list (write or phone the Department of Mission, Education and Development in Victoria) could well stimulate you and your church in its children's ministry.

Even though the 200th birthday of the modern Sunday School movement has passed they still seem to have a place in the church's work and can be effective with time, effort and talents at work.

THE LAST WORD

True humility makes way for Christ, and throws the soul at his feet.

— John Milton

Children know a lot of things
That grown-ups do not seem to know.

Small fingers tightly hold heartstrings.

Children know a lot of things.
And stump us with wise questionings

That prove to folk who watch them grow:

Children know a lot of things
That grown-ups do not seem to know.

— Beatrice Branch



One thing we can give yet keep is our word.

—Edward A. Gloggler



One World tells of the youngster who was forever asking to be driven in the family car. After repeated requests the little girl was asked: "What do you think the Almighty gave us two legs for?" The reply came quickly: "One for the brake and one for the accelerator."



I found our four-year-old, Tommy, sitting on top of a pile of timber and asked him what he was doing up there. "I'm having a board meeting," he answered. (His daddy had been to church board meeting the night before!)

— Maxine Mayes.



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