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ON MY MIND

WERE YOU THERE?

Judy Mead

Judy Mead is a Queensland housewife who likes to write verse. On her mind is the mystery of the cross and the glory of the resurrection.

Yes, I was there. I jostled with the crowd for better view.
I mean, it wasn't every day that the Romans crucified a Jew.
But, you know, I couldn't understand that attitude of his.
He never spoke a single word in his defence.
I mean, if he were innocent, why not come out and tell it so!
Although that priestly court no mercy at all would show.
That harsh and dreadful scourging; the pain he had to bear:
Yet no cry of vengeance from him . . . none that I could hear!
I thought he must be guilty when they placed the thorns upon
his head.

I mean, if he were innocent he surely would have cried out then.
If it had been me they mocked and spat upon that way,
I would have screamed aloud my righteousness . . . yet for them
he prayed!

I mean, there is after all a limit to what a man can bear.
I wonder if there was something of God in the puzzling man out
there.

"Set Barabbas free," they cried. Well I'm not so sure of that!
He is, I think, a criminal, and no doubt will soon be back.
I don't know and cannot see what the world is coming to.
So much going on; so confusing; so hard to find the truth.
In so-called higher places, so much greed and graft and pride,
That nothing is procured any more without a solid bribe.
I even heard a whisper that silver coins for him were paid.
I don't know, it always looks as though those on top do have it
made.

Yet somehow they're not contented; they are not a happy band,
For you've only got to see how much they fear this humble man.

Those gentle eyes look down on me and plead for me to
understand

How he is there to die for me, indeed for every man.
I find that hard, you know, almost beyond belief,
How one should suffer all I saw that day, for my release.
But then there is a love, a glory that I cannot explain.
I heard him ask for our forgiveness in his Father's name.
And when I turned and walked away, knowing that he was
dead,

I heard his words, "Forgive them", go round inside my head.
I truly thought that he was special, this one they crucified,
Yet if he were the Messiah, why then should he have died?

But now I know, for I was in the garden there that day,
And I saw him talk to Mary when the stone was rolled away.
I recognised the gentle voice, and the strong, compassionate
face.

Later in sweet fellowship, I learned to understand his grace.

BETHANY DAY CARE CENTRE

SPECIAL CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



Shirley Byard with some of the children.
Lt. Belinda, Carolyn, Kristy, Shirley, Aaron, Victoria.

Shirley Byard in PROFILE

Shirley was born in Castlemaine, Victoria, where her parents, Mr and Mrs Mervyn Byard, were members of the Church of Christ. After 10 years they moved to Warragul where Shirley grew up together with four brothers and two sisters in the fellowship of the Warragul church.

Shirley spent 18 months working at the Melbourne City Mission Babies Home before moving with her parents to Caveside, Tasmania, in 1962. Here she met Gwen Morffew and realised the need that existed at Bethany Children's Home. Later that year she commenced her 15 years as "Aunty" Shirley at Bethany. Many who visited Bethany during those years will remember with affection the warmth and loving commitment of this dedicated Christian worker.

Although Shirley enjoyed her experiences as part of the Bethany family she had long dreamt of running her own Centre and caring for a group of younger

children in need. This opportunity arose in July 1978. It had become apparent through the Social Welfare Department that there was a need for the provision of care for young children 'at risk' in the community and a suitable property for such a work became available.

Since commencing Shirley hasn't had a day without some children to care for and has this year become the foster parent of Carolyn, aged 10, Victoria and Belinda have been with Shirley for over a year now on a permanent Monday to Friday live-in basis. They come from the country and attend Wentworth Special School. She has up to four other younger children on a regular daily basis.

Shirley places much emphasis on parent contact and looks for ways to help, encourage and reassure these families. Often support or advice is requested in areas of shopping, clothes, cooking and child management.

Shirley is a qualified Child Care Worker and is the only single foster parent in Tasmania.

About the Children . . .

Children who suffer emotional neglect in their early years often have some problems with . . .

- ★ measuring up to peer groups
- ★ anti-social behaviour
- ★ living within their family
- ★ coping at school

Usually such children are difficult to place because of these problems. It is to children with these emotional difficulties that Bethany Day Care Centre has its special ministry. All the children need the loving, warm care and security Shirley is able to give and respond to loving discipline as they learn to play and share and live with others.

Eating habits usually taught at an early age have often been neglected. It takes patience and time for these children to enjoy fruit, vegetables, meat as compared with bread, pies, chips.

Toilet training often begins when the child comes into Shirley's care.

Wentworth Special School, caters for children with emotional, physical and learning handicaps who are unable to cope with normal school activities. The Headmaster speaks highly of the care and help Shirley has given, assisting Carolyn, Victoria and Belinda in the progress made to date. All three girls have a speech problem.

It is tremendously rewarding to see some of the changes in these children under Shirley's care and a visit to this home shows so beautifully what Christian caring is all about.

Our Involvement . . .

Until December 1980, the Bethany Day Care Centre was supported by the Vic/Tas. Dept. of Community Care and the Tas. Convention of Churches of Christ. From January 1981 the operation of the Bethany Day Care Centre has been sponsored and guaranteed by the Hobart Churches of Christ.

The day-to-day running expenses are met through Government funding and family contributions. To maintain the Centre Shirley requires a weekly subsidy of \$100 to cover accommodation/car depreciation. While it's believed that the Bethany Day Care Centre can be more effectively managed by the local congregations, the work remains part of the ministry of Vic/Tas. Churches of Christ and we are looking for the continued support of individuals and groups.

All donations to:
Bethany Day Care Centre,
C/- 184 Collins Street,
Hobart 7000, Tasmania.

(Donations over \$2 are tax deductible).

BETHANY DAY CARE CENTRE

needs

continuing support for this special
ministry to SPECIAL CHILDREN

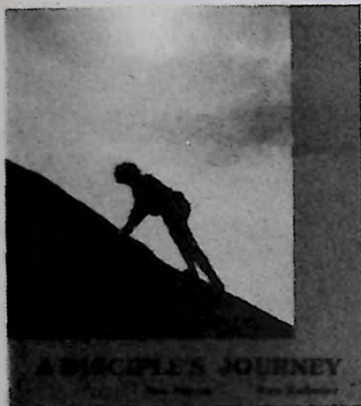


Federal Board of Christian Education

Serving Australian and New Zealand Churches of Christ in the provision of resources and programs for Christian Education in the local church.

Recent Publications

Published in co-operation with Vital Publications (the publishing name of the Federal Literature Department).



NEW — A DISCIPLE'S JOURNEY

by Ian Allsop and Ron Kallmier.

A workbook which helps young people explore the Christian Faith. An excellent resource for ministers to use in discipleship classes.

Let the Children Participate



Ian E. Allsop
and Peter J. Burnham

LET THE CHILDREN PARTICIPATE

by Ian Allsop and Peter

Burnham. Helps the local church consider the place of children within Churches of Christ. Raises the importance of children's ministry and explores our attitude towards the involvement of children in Worship and congregational life.

Recent Programs

The Federal Board's Director has conducted training, planning and Christian education programs for State Departments of Christian Education and local churches throughout 1980. Programs included: — A two week visit to Western Australian churches conducting Youth work, Children's Ministry and Family ministry events.

- Christian Education programs with the Canberra churches.
- Youth Leadership workshop at Federal Conference.
- Planning weekend with the Belmont church.
- Participation in Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry Seminars at the College of the Bible.
- Participation in Sunday School Teacher Training programs arranged by The Department of Mission Education and Development.
- Regular preaching in local churches.
- Regular reporting about the Sharing in India program of mission education.

In addition to the programs and publications for specific use in Churches of Christ, the Federal Board of Christian Education is in partnership with the Joint Board of Christian Education bringing the Christian Life Curriculum to churches for use in their Christian education program.

Please support the Federal Board with your financial giving and prayer so that this work of Christian education can continue.

Federal Board of Christian Education

Serving Australian and New Zealand Churches of Christ YOUNG PEOPLE.

Coming Youth Events An Easter Youth Consultation

This consultation involving youth leaders from all Australian states will seek to achieve four aims:



- Provide a Forum so that young people can clarify and speak about the issues facing youth work in Churches of Christ during the 1980's.
- Involve young people in the planning of youth work at the national, state and local level of our churches.
- To share ideas, programs and insights about youth work in our churches.
- To develop skills of youth leadership.

This potentially exciting consultation to be held in Canberra during Easter 1981, could have a long term impact on the effective presentation of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord within Churches of Christ youth groups in the future. The Federal Board is committed to enabling young people to become disciples of Christ and living that discipleship in relevant and challenging ways within the life of the church and Australian society.



Travelling Light the 10th National Youth Convention

for Churches of Christ, January 3rd to 13th 1982 in New Zealand. A mobile convention through the North Island of New Zealand. Travelling Light is the theme which brings together the various dimensions of the 10th National Youth Convention. Continuing the creative program innovations of previous conventions, Travelling Light will enable young people to: Discover living in a Christian context while travelling:

- Share with New Zealanders about the life and witness of their churches.
- Deepen commitment to Jesus Christ and living as a disciple in today's world.
- Study to increase understanding of the Christian faith.

Travelling Light will be an opportunity to see New Zealand's North Island, to experience Christian discipleship and growth.

Cost \$260 PLUS airfare from your state.

For registration forms and further travel and program details enquire from your Department of Christians Education or the Federal Board of Christian Education, 6th floor, 177 Collins Street, Melbourne (03) 654 4988.

'Wonderful example to the community'

Last Saturday the Bunbury (W.A.) Church of Christ women catered for a double Aboriginal wedding, a wedding with a difference, not because their skins were dark, but because they were a wonderful example to the community.

The church, was packed with about 200 people.

The quiet and reverence during the service could be felt. The service was conducted by the minister **Graham Butler**.

The bride's family sang a hymn during the service.

The wedding breakfast was held in the hall and was provided by the ladies. The double wedding cake was cut by the two brides and grooms, cool drinks were served and everyone had a happy and relaxed time without the aid of stronger drink.

A more orderly crowd would have been hard to find — a real example to many gatherings.

The bride's father thanked the church for a wonderful day, and for the Christian love extended to them. The caterers for the day, felt honoured to have been involved in this particular wedding, and wished the whole family good fortune and a continued Christian life.

— "S.W. Times"

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Special Issue

The special issue of "The Australian Christian" will be published on July 18.

We remind churches to please let us know the numbers they require as we are busy planning our production runs at present.

People not Guns

The executive director of **World Vision** says that he is disappointed that the attention being given to **El Salvador** is being focussed on guns and not people. **Harold Henderson** says that no amount of military hardware is going to bring solutions to this strife-torn nation. It will only continue the bloodshed and misery.

"The real struggle in **El Salvador**", says **Henderson**, "is the struggle of the ordinary people who, for centuries have been held in bondage, first under the Spanish Conquistadors and, for the last 160 years, under a powerful and unrepresentative oligarchy, protected by successive military dictatorships. The peasants who have worked on huge land estates almost like slaves have begun, with the support of the progressive wing of the church, to demand what we would regard as basic human rights."

"The situation is developing in which East and West, each claiming the other is supplying arms, will feel justified in stepping up its arms supply."

"The vicious spiral intensifies — and the innocent peasants add suffering death to injustice and oppression and when the violence ceases, the basic problem still remains to be solved by the political means which should have been attempted in the first place."

The acting Archbishop of **San Salvador**, **Arturo Rivera Damas**, has already offered to mediate and has made it clear on many occasions that the terror must end so that the people can decide their own future through non-violent means.

"As the executive director of an agency that has already lost two project managers and three small children who were part of the **World Vision** Childcare program in **El Salvador**, I appeal to the **Australian Government** to focus its initiative at the **United Nations Human Rights Commission** and in any other ways open to it, on the search for diplomatic initiatives which aim at reversing the spiral of violence and give the poverty-stricken peasants a chance to develop with a sense of dignity and justice."

Fire Sparks Determination

Ian Allsop

It has sometimes been said that the investment in and maintenance of church property hinders the work of the church and prevents it sharing the gospel. **Wattle Park (Vic.)** now has the opportunity to test the truth of otherwise such a statement. Early on the morning of **Thursday March 12**, fire completely destroyed the church complex. We lost not only the hall and meeting rooms but the church as well. Replacement value for the complex is \$250,000.

When first faced with such devastation the church members were shocked. We suffered grief. Despite the words of some that it was "only a building", we knew it was more than that to us. **Wattle Park** members used the complex as the basis of their Christian witness. It was through these facilities that many had come to know **Jesus Christ**, it was in the church that many had experienced their baptism into **Christ**, their weekly worship and their weddings. It was while maintaining the buildings that the enjoyment of fellowship and of working together for a common purpose. The buildings were an integral part of the church life. They were our facilities for worship, witness, care and **Christian growth**.

When suffering the grief we felt like asking the questions — "What do we do now that our identity, as expressed in the buildings, has been destroyed? Who are we as a church? What is the purpose of remaining together as a people? Why not rationalize and meet with other churches? Must we rebuild?"

Answers are now beginning to emerge. Possible options for the church's future are being looked at with enthusiasm and confidence. Options range from the extremes of not rebuilding and allowing our membership to disperse and join other fellowships and so enrich their life, through to rebuilding the facilities exactly as they were before the fire. Please pray for us as we choose in the light of all the possibilities. Our attitudes are positive, we believe that our future will be significant and that the way we live out our fellowship in **Christ** may set directions for our brotherhood. **Wattle Park** found the property complex important but not essential. We are still together, worshipping and working with a determination to discover the will of **God** and his purpose for our church. We will seek to determine that future in close co-operation with other churches in our region.

Our immediate needs have been met. We worship each Sunday morning in the beautiful **Orana Chapel** at the **Uniting Church's Children's Homes** at **Wattle Park**. Our Sunday night services are now with **Surrey Hills** and the much the **Camberwell Church**. Auxiliaries are using homes as well as the halls of the **Baptist, Uniting and Anglican churches** in **Wattle Park**.

The fire was devastating but the future is now open to new possibilities. We do not have property commitments to limit our direction.

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**Travelling Light ...
in New Zealand ...
January 1982**

Hundreds of young people from our churches will be attending the 10th National Youth Convention in New Zealand from January 3-13, 1982. With its theme, "Travelling Light", the Convention will be a travelling one, with life and study experiences in the North Island. There will be a post-Convention tour of the South Island. The Convention cost including travel and accommodation is \$260, plus air-fare to and from Australia. The seven day post-Convention tour covers travel and bed and breakfast for \$233.

A 12-page coloured brochure with all of the details is available from The Federal Board of Christian Education, 6th Floor, 177 Collins St., Melbourne, 3000.

**Vic.-Tas. Aborigines Committee
require an honorary**

SECRETARY

The person needs to have time, effort and dedication to apply to the exciting possibilities that this committee is approaching.

**For information contact:-
RUSSELL RITCHIE**

28 Blackwood St., Carnegie, 3163.
Phone (03) 56 3228

Some Family!



Pictured is Mrs Florence Baxter, who in her 88th year is a member of the Noarlunga Centre, Church of Christ (S.A.).

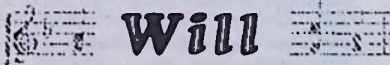
Mrs Baxter has the distinction of being directly related to five ministers presently serving in Australian churches. Her daughter Miriam is married to Jack Bond, well-known evangelist among us. Their sons are Ken Bond the Campbelltown (N.S.W.) minister and John Bond, ministering with his father as assistant at Thornlie in W.A. Mrs Baxter's daughter Florence is the wife of Morrie Munyard the minister at the Noarlunga Centre. Her grandson, Lynn Baxter is chaplain to the Churches of Christ homes in Perth.

She's a Cameron

Florence Baxter was the middle child of the nine children of R. G. Cameron, a pioneer preacher and evangelist whose ministries in our churches covered the period of the turn of the century. All nine were active in Churches of Christ. His daughter Jean married the late Tom Westwood, one of our ministers. A great-grandson is Paul Cameron ministering at Thornleigh (N.S.W.). Grandchildren and great-grandchildren of R. G. Cameron are today active in churches in Queensland, W.A., S.A., N.S.W. and Victoria.

1980 Index

The 1980 Index of "The Australian Christian" has now been completed. If you would like a copy please write to the office and we will place your name on the annual mailing list. The Australian Christian, P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, Vic. 3041.



**Their Anchor
Hold In The
Storms Of Life**



when the clouds unfold their winds of strife.....

Now small children of the 3rd World are being buffeted by storms of disease, famine, war and poverty. Only children with sound Christian foundations and some financial security will have an anchor to keep them "Steadfast and sure while the billows roll".

You can provide a child with just the anchor he needs. By sponsoring him for \$16 a month you will give Christian training, education, food, clothing, shelter and basic medical care. This will immediately change "your child's" life. His body will begin to grow normally and healthily through regular food. His mind will be liberated from the hopeless despair poverty produces and his ability to think and learn will markedly improve. His spirit may be transformed through the Christian influence you will make possible.

Respond out of Christian love to "your" needy child today by mailing the coupon below.

- I will sponsor a boy girl any child at \$16 a month.
- Enclosed is my cheque of \$..... for months.
- I cannot sponsor but I enclose \$..... to help needy children.
- Please send me more information about sponsorship.

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Healing Ministry Seminar

Seventy representatives from N.S.W. churches including several from country churches attended a seminar at Burwood on March 6. This was arranged by the Healing Ministry Committee of N.S.W.



The speaker was Rev. Graham Hardy M.A., B.D., S.T.M., Minister of St. Stephen's Church in Sydney and presently Moderator of the Uniting Church in N.S.W. He has been conducting a weekly healing service since 1967.

The following are some selections of the address given under the title "The Healing Ministry in Non-Charismatic Churches":-

No stereotyped pattern of healing ministry need be laid down, for local circumstances vary greatly. But one would envisage the establishment of some form of regular service, however small, even with literally the two or three gathered in his name, where specific prayer requests can be made and where those present are invited to receive the laying on of hands. While such prayers for healing may be incorporated in the context of a normal act of worship, a service specifically set apart for the healing ministry is preferable. Such a ministry might begin through prayer support groups who undertake to pray for particular needs. The important and necessary emphasis should be on personal prayers for particular problems. Too much of our praying can be overgeneralised. Jesus constantly dealt with individuals. The impression still persists that spiritual healing is an alternative to medical therapy. Too often the question is asked: Do I go to the doctor or do I pray? On the assumption that medicine is a 'natural' scientific procedure, whereas prayer is unnatural and unscientific. Surely the truth is that all healing is in essence spiritual, all is from God and that prayer assists and accelerates the 'vis naturae medicatrix' and encourages co-operative positive attitudes to treatments. Of course this is not to deny the most exciting and unpredictable results through the healing ministry as we lay hold on the limitless energy of God.

Nor is faith shaken or shattered when some conditions of physical sickness remain or persist. I recall a distinguished Scottish physician saying that many left his hospital cured but few were healed. That deeper healing is what matters. Said another great doctor: "I bind the wounds; but God heals".

Darwin Cyclone

Word has been received that the Darwin manse and the De Wildt family survived the hurricane there recently without damage.

OPEN FORUM

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

MINISTERING IN THE SUBURBS

I have just read Paul Cameron's Pamphlet Club contribution entitled "Ministering in the Suburbs in the 80's". It does one good to read and hear some of our enthusiastic young men and women with their down to earth practical ideas. This one should be discussed at church board and business meetings. You must read it sometime yourself. By the way the Pamphlet Club is at 5 Atkins St., Glen Iris, Victoria, 3146, and it is cheap at \$3 a year.

— Gordon Stirling (Boronia, Vic.)

THE ABORIGINAL DILEMMA

To the Editor,

May I comment on the article 'Aboriginal Dilemma' on Page 13 "A.C." March 7. I quote "Even the most naive amongst us must be wondering how it is that the oil and minerals of Australia always seem to lurk underneath sacred sites". Most of us are not naive enough to believe that these are under sacred sites, but I am afraid I am naive enough to believe that when oil or minerals are found under land aboriginals claim this land as a sacred site in the hope of gain. Why do Christians take the stand that we must honour and conserve their sacred sites? I read in the Bible that when the Israelites conquered a heathen people their first instruction was to destroy their sacred sites.

It seems to me quite unreasonable that if there is oil there, that a few heathen laws of the aboriginal should deprive 14 million white people of the oil that is so vital, not only to ourselves but also to the aboriginal. If there is no oil then the site can be restored and no harm done.

I believe that with my experience of them, that we are doing the aboriginals a great injustice by treating

them as an inferior race by dealing out charities to them which are not enjoyed by the rest of us. Charity never makes a self-reliant, responsible people.

— R.D. Clark

THE DATE OF CONFERENCE

To the Editor,

The date of State Conference seems to whiz around with a sort of Browning motion, except that it does not ever settle on a long weekend. When, many years ago, I amongst many others, urged a change from Easter, it was with the intention that the Conference would be held over a long weekend. The reason for shifting from Easter was that Easter was a main festival of the church year and that we should all be home for it. But that's all a different story.

Since the date of State Conference was changed from Easter I have been able to attend once! It may surprise city people, but we country people have to work for a living and just cannot get away so that in fact we are being effectively debarred from Conference. This should not be. I am asking, and I feel sure that most country people will back me up on this, for State Conference to be held in future on a long weekend.

— J. J. Alderson
Havelock, Vic.

Chinese Arrests

The West German Catholic News Agency KNA reports that two Shanghai priests have been returned to a labour camp from which they were set free more than 20 years ago. Both Francis Chu (68) and Francis Tsai (74) suffer from heart conditions, and were arrested by the security police without any apparent grounds.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

"I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER COME!"

To the Editor,

The wife and I had always been close to Joe and Dianne. It took Joe six months from the diagnosis to his death. Dianne's faith and strength inspired us all. The church was just one big supporting family through the sickness, at the death, at the funeral, and afterwards at the home. Dianne was magnificent. She shed a few tears, but all through she comforted us rather than being comforted by us.

As the wife and I left the home after the funeral I said, "Dianne, call us on the phone anytime you need us. We will come day or night." Dianne thanked us and said, "I'll be fine!"

During the following weeks the wife and I shared a little ritual. One or other of us would say, "We must go round to Dianne's and see how she is getting on." The other would reply, "But she's handling it so well, and we said to call us if she needed us."

Yesterday in the train I was reading a story in a magazine of a man whose wife had suicided in depression. He was describing his grief. One sentence leaped up at me. It said, "Grief is a helplessness that does not cry for help . . . but hopes that help will come unbidden." As soon as I got home I said to the wife, "We are going to see Dianne tonight."

Dianne flung her arms round both of us and wept copiously. She sobbed, "I thought you'd never come!"

There must be thousands of grieving people whose teledexes are full of the phone numbers of their friends, but who wait "hoping that they will come unbidden."

TERTIUS.

What are we doing to our Children?

Our Brotherhood Christian education experts offer first rate resources in personnel and literature and training programs. In taking advantage of these our churches are contributing to the future discipleship of the growing children entrusted to our spiritual care. Add to all of this the excellent work of Christian nurture that goes on in our church families.

Children Denied

All of this makes it harder to understand why it is that we deny so many children the opportunity of participating regularly with their families and with the family of the church in the two Christ-ordained celebrations that were given for the very purpose of Christian education. I mean baptism and the Lord's supper, given to be symbolic witnesses to the Christian gospel.

Jewish Education

The Jews had memorials and feast days and festivals, with specific instruction that the children should be involved in them and should be told of their significance, (Exodus 12:26,27; Deut. 11:18,19; Josh. 4:21,22). The strength of modern Judaism is still in the special Friday evening family meal with its prayers and rituals and symbolism. It was for the continuing purpose of Christian education by dramatic, participatory symbolism that Jesus gave us the two ordinances portraying the Christian gospel, baptism and the Lord's supper. Yet so many children entrusted to our care never see a baptism and seldom the observance of the Lord's supper.

The Drama of Baptism

When I was a lad many baptisms were in crude surroundings. Rails and curtains and furniture were moved away while we sang. At the ritual moment the baptistry lid was lifted and the steam rose up like incense. We sang them into the water and we sang them out again. Biblically there was "much water" . . . it was all over the place! To a boy it was terrific, dramatic, awe-inspiring. We grew up expecting to be baptized ourselves and to become disciples. Now at baptismal services children are often conspicuous by their absence. What are we doing to them? A thousand bits of coloured Sunday School literature cannot take the place of seeing one baptism. They can get coloured literature at school, in the shops, at the show or anywhere? Where else do they see a baptism?

Keeping them Away

But our greatest error in Christian education is our concerted effort to

keep children away from witnessing the Lord's supper.

I have attended communion services where only adults are present, undisturbed by little voices, the rustling of paper, the rolling of a Jaffa on the floor, or the occasional cry of distress. The children have all been segregated for worship and Christian education in another part of the building. They never attend a morning service or witness the Lord's supper or worship with their families, except for the few who attend services when Sunday School is in recess.

Even the Teachers

There are many teachers in these schools who never get to communion either, even when a second service is held or opportunity provided at evening services. If teachers have a fairly low concept of what is supposed to be central to Christian worship one is not surprised at what has evolved among us with its segregation of the young from their families; something which flouts all of the latest concepts of Christian education.

The Family Service

Some churches have realised the disaster of such segregation during worship on Sundays. They have introduced the family service. Some of these services are excellent. The children participate with the rest of their families without the impression being given that "this is a children's segment" with patient adult observers waiting for the real thing to begin.

But then the weekly tragedy takes place. Just as it all moves towards the dramatic highlight of the whole service, the observance of the Lord's supper, the children go out to classes. It is very appropriate for them to go to classes during the post-communion part of the service. It would be just as appropriate to turn the whole thing around and have classes and sermon first, with the observance of the Lord's supper together as a climax.

Not Enough Time

But apparently it has to be so because the teachers complain that there is not enough time for the lesson. Yet I attended a family service with full family participation, including the Lord's supper, and the children were off to lessons after 25 minutes, and it did not seem rushed. In fact it was beautifully timed. And 35 minutes is enough for any lesson! How many adults would appreciate a 35 minute sermon?

Some Questions

I ask the question, "What are we doing to our children?" There are of

course other questions for us to answer. Do we let them partake of the emblems and thus really participate in the Lord's supper? The New Testament is silent and is neither for nor against it. If the children do participate it would seem appropriate to receive the emblems from the hands of their parents until they have made their own Christian commitment.

And if we are really to celebrate the gospel, how appropriate are the little goblets and the biscuit crumbs passed to us in our seats, and sometimes called a "feast"? Are there more creative and imaginative ways of living with our children through the gospel drama until it gets into them so much that they feel a part of it?

What are we doing to our children?

WORLD VISION MAN KILLED IN EL SALVADOR

The violence that is racking the small republic of El Salvador in Central America has claimed the life of a World Vision official. **Jose Alfredo Lainex Cisneros** was manager of the World Vision La Magdalena development project. Jose was speaking in the local Assemblies of God church when his assassins burst into the building and dragged him from the pulpit and shot him in front of the church.

World Vision will continue to work in El Salvador despite the danger to its staff. The staff is entirely Salvadorean and they have made it clear that they will stay with their people where they are needed. Earlier the World Vision office in San Salvador, the nation's capital, was rocked by a bomb blast. Nobody was injured.

The agency has just approved a further emergency shipment of aid into El Salvador which includes 10,000 mattresses and 100,000 cakes of soap.

Extremist and para-military groups are particularly violent towards the El Salvador church. It is believed that they are responsible for a series of posters that have appeared with the slogan — "be a patriot, kill a priest." Right-wing terrorists have threatened the life of the new bishop of San Salvador, **Arturo Rivera Damas**.

International Stars at Explo '81 Perth

It has been announced that **Ken Medema**, the blind singer, pianist and composer, who has an extraordinary ability to communicate, will be performing at **Explo '81 — Perth**. **Robert Colman** will also be singing, and in addition, two artists from the eastern states namely **Chris Foley** and **Glenys McDonald**.

For further information please contact **Explo '81 — Perth** office at P.O. Box 6163 Hay St. (East), Perth, 6000 or phone (09) 325 2333.

Congregation Worships in Madang Christian Centre



Mixing concrete



Steel frames go up

Sunday March 8 marked an important day in the life of the Church of Christ at Madang. It was the first time the congregation met for worship in the Madang Christian Centre. The 100' x 30' building still needs to be completed, but the roof was on and the concrete floor in. The building consists of a worship area, a pastor's study and library and a covered area for other activities.

Michael Burgar has headed up the project from the Papua New Guinea end

and Horace Christensen, David Lowe and Merv Muller have shared as members of the work team from Toowoomba, Queensland. We are very grateful to all those who have been partners in prayer, time, effort and money to get stage one off the ground. To complete the project two houses are to be built; one for the pastor Pekene, and one for an ex-patriate family. When that is achieved it will be a day for further rejoicing.

Two Voluntary Workers for Vanuatu

Sister Sandra Wood and Norm Cornwell are planning to assist in the mission work in Vanuatu (formerly New Hebrides), as voluntary workers.

Sandra Wood comes from the Uniting Church and grew up in Spotswood, Victoria. Her work as a nurse led her to a ministry in the Australian Inland Mission and more recently at the Community Hospital, Fitzroy Crossing, W.A. It will be a great asset to have Sandra's assistance at the Ndui Ndui Hospital, Aoba Island.

Retirement for some people means an opportunity to tackle new tasks. Norm Cornwell is one of these people. With his skills as a motor engineer and a wide range of other practical abilities he will find plenty of opportunities for service in Vanuatu. Norm will be ably representing his home congregation at Cheltenham, Victoria.

The example of these people could be a stimulus to your thinking. Could you share in a similar way?

Wycliffe Translator Executed in Colombia

Wycliffe Bible translator Chester Bitterman has been executed by terrorists in Colombia, South America who had held him captive since January 19. He leaves a wife and two small children. The terrorists had demanded that Wycliffe cease its work in the country.

S.I.L. has worked in Colombia since 1962 and currently has over 200 members in the country, working in 36 language groups. There is an urgent need to pray for the protection of all these members and their families.

There has been heavy coverage of the above event in world press, especially Colombia, including the denouncement of the terrorists by the President of Colombia. Also reports of widespread spiritual awakening and revival amongst Colombian Christians. The execution took place in the early morning of Saturday, March 7.

PARTNERSHIP IN INDONESIA WORKERS NEEDED

On behalf of the Australian Churches of Christ, the Federal Overseas Mission Board continues to financially support the Institute Oikumen Indonesia in its leadership training programs.

With the approval of Federal Conference the Board now wishes to extend its involvement in Indonesia by sending two married couples who will work in partnership with the American Churches of Christ/Christian churches in establishing a program for the training of Indonesian pastors.

The board, therefore, is seeking applications from Bible College graduates with initiative and leadership qualities and a gift for Bible teaching to minister in Indonesia.

If you have the required qualifications and after prayerful consideration would like to make further enquiries or offer for missionary service in Indonesia, please write to:

Ron McLean, Executive Director,

**Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board,
P.O. Box 320,
Unley, South Aust. 5061.**

BOOKS TO READ

LISTENING TO THE GIANTS

by Warren Wiersbe (Baker's) \$13.25

Warren Wiersbe's "Listening to the Giants", is a valuable compilation of biographies and associated sermons. He has captured the essential aspects of some of the great preachers of the last 180 years and has presented them in a manner which arouses interest and holds the attention.

Beginning with a brief family history, Wiersbe outlines the course of these men's lives, highlighting important events such as conversion experiences and the beginning of their ministries. As a bonus to some of the biographies, Wiersbe has compared and contrasted a few of these "giants", to allow us to gain a clearer perspective of their individual theologies. We are also able to see into their minds and to better understand why these men thought and preached as they did.

The sermons presented with each biography reflect an area that is now past. Good oration was of utmost importance and it would appear that each of these "giants" commanded attention as they did because they were excellent orators with a good command of the English language. As such they were able to draw and hold the attention of thousands of people. Nonetheless, the sermons of these men still have the ability to challenge and inspire today.

A valuable supplement provided with this book contains lists of books to turn to on such subjects as the miracles, parables and sermon series, followed by Books of Quotations, the importance of the Thesaurus, Anthologies and what books constitute a basic library. Wiersbe concludes his book with a section outlining seven marks of maturity of the minister. They are a valuable reminder to ministers and lay people alike, of the essentials of Christian maturity.

This is not a book that will appeal to everyone. It is good reading for ministers seeking a guide to further study and to those interested in the men of the past who helped to mould the church into what it is today.

— Grant Simpson

CONVICTS, CLERGYMEN AND CHURCHES

by Allan M. Grocott (University of Sydney Press) \$20

Subtitle — "Attitudes of Convicts and Ex-convicts towards the churches and clergy in New South Wales from 1788 to 1851.

Australia never was a Christian country. It was the last inhabited continent to hear the gospel, and the coming of the church to Australia was the first presentation to any major country in the history of Christendom.

Grocott's work is well researched with meticulous care, with full indexes and bibliography. He presents a fine analytical conclusion to his study.

The conclusion reached in the opening pages, is that the churches failed to win the hearts of the convict community.

He develops the thesis, powerfully presented by Manning Clark, that most of Australia's convicts were long-term, irrefragable criminals, beyond hope of redemption and conversion. Violence, cruelty and hostility marked their personal habits.

The churches were not equipped to cope with the situation. The church, by its association with the Government, the official class, and with its capacity to inflict punishment, failed the people it was called to serve.

The clergy were inevitably naive and gullible and frequently from the bottom of the ecclesiastical barrel. The Wesleyan contribution of constantly seeking conversion saw few glimmers of light in the convict darkness, but evangelical hope kept alive the gospel.

That the church today is so strong considering the common attitudes of the government, officialdom, and citizens of our early beginnings, is nothing short of a miracle. The early seal of the colony of New South Wales portrayed a drawing of a church

in the distance, and the fact that the church has come as close as it has to the centre of community life is a miracle of God's grace.

We commend this book to all interested in the early beginnings of our land and in the church's mission. It is a good starting point towards a consistent pattern of study leading toward the bi-centenary.

— Gordon Moyes

REASON ENOUGH

by Clark H. Pinnock (Paternoster Press) \$5.40

An argument for the belief in the Christian message. Clark Pinnock looks at the truth of the Christian message in the light of five circles of evidence. The five circles relate to the questions. Does the gospel give life meaning?, Is religious experience credible?, Do the heavens really declare the glory of God?, Did the Son of God actually come to earth? and Does Christian Faith change lives? The answer to all these questions is a resounding yes. This is an excellent book to give to the intelligent inquirer about the Christian faith.

THE FINALE

by Calvin Miller (Inter Varsity Press) \$5.60

An allegorical, poetic presentation of the battle for the world and the final victory of the Singer over the World Hater. This is based upon the book of Revelation and is a sequel to his other poetic presentations "The Singer" and "The Song". For anyone who enjoys allegory and poetry with a Christian presentation of a different manner this would be greatly appreciated. The book is enhanced by line illustrations that help to visualise the poetry.

HOW? The Search for Spiritual Satisfaction

by David Gooding (I.V.P.) \$1.15

This little booklet is aimed to help people who are trapped on the treadmill of pleasing God by their actions. This pamphlet shows that the way to spiritual satisfaction is by a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Excellent as a give away pamphlet easily read in a short time.

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



"DO YOU EVER GET A BIT CURIOUS AS TO WHAT GOES ON HERE BETWEEN EASTERS?"

HAPPENINGS

Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones a well known Bible expositor died on February 28 at the age of 81.

Between January 1979 and March 1980, 212,810 persons have formally applied to immigrate to Australia.

The stadium in which Hitler presided over the 1938 Olympics will be site of Jesus '81 Berlin Airlift. Seven rallies will be held there June 5 - 7. The three evening meetings will be evangelistic, and the four daytime meetings will include worship and Bible teaching.

100 churches in South Vietnam have been closed since the Communist takeover or are being used for other purposes. Some 50 pastors have been sent to re-education camps. In spite of all this some churches are experiencing growth.

The Thai Immigration Department has recently ruled that there will be a freeze on issuing visas for new missionaries who wish to enter the country. It is not clear whether this indicates a basic change in the government's attitude toward Christianity in general.

In northern Burma Assemblies of God membership has soared to 50,000 from 13,000 in 1966. This has happened even though missionaries have been banned for the last 14 years.

Cuba released 37 American prisoners in a pre-Christmas goodwill gesture. Two of the prisoners had been sentenced to 24 years for dropping Christian literature from an aircraft which ran out of fuel and landed on Cuba's southern coast.

diary

NATIONAL
 April
 17 Good Friday
 May
 24-30 Christian Literature Week
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
 April
 17-20 Easter Camp at Longwood
 17-20 Canoe Camp
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
 April
 8-12 State Conference
 May
 3 Christian Education Day
 9-16 Explo '81
VICTORIA
 April
 12 C.M.F. Annual Rally
 16-20 Easter Camp
 30-May 3 State Conference
 May
 4-7 Ministers' Seminar

Non-Alcoholic Beverages business flourishing

Many people, disturbed by the bad facts of alcohol and the road toll, and a lot of other bad news about the ravages of the misuse of alcohol, but still desiring to be part of the social scene with its "graces", are turning to non-alcoholic wines and beers. These are increasingly on sale in supermarkets and are available in many hotels and restaurants. They will become more available in eating places as people ask for them. Church people could well memorise some of the most popular names and brands and make a point of asking for them each time they dine out. They should be able to inform the restaurateurs where they can be obtained.

We have indicated that we will publish the names of firms selling non-alcoholic beverages for the information of our readers, provided such names are sent to us. We have a list sent from South Australia. They are Peter Wishart, Grapevine Cellars, 127 Unley Rd., Unley; Keith Garrard, Vineyard Cellars, 466 Goodwood Rd., Cumberland Park; Arnold Tobleson, Lynn's Health Gourmet, 336 Magill Rd., Kensington Park. There is also a Non-Alcoholic by Choice Restaurant run by Wilhelmina at 13 Duthy St., Malvern.

We have heard of people invited to or attending B.Y.O. functions taking along their own non-alcoholic beverages and attracting numbers of interested inquiries and some impromptu "tastings".

Year's Start Exciting

It has been an exciting year at the Keilor East (Vic.) church, and the year has only just begun!

The year started on a positive note when over 100 from our church family met together at a series of Fellowship Gatherings. The purpose of the gatherings was for members to meet over a meal and enjoy each others company in pleasant, informal surroundings. Mrs Gwen Atkinson catered for the meal which formed the basis of the evenings.

So far this year the church has rejoiced in two baptism services and two rededications.

Our minister, Cheryl Johnson, has recently commenced work as a Community Project Worker at the St Albans Technical School. As Mrs Johnson continues to minister with us on a two day basis, it is a challenge for the whole church to minister to one another and the community.

Sects

Last year "The Australian Christiana" published two articles by Adrian van Leen on the Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses. These have been reprinted in pamphlet form by Concerned Christians Growth Ministries, P.O. Box 6, North Perth, W.A. 6006.

The pamphlets are available at a cost of 5c each (plus postage) or at a cost of \$3 for 100 or \$6 for 250. These form an ideal resource for members as they often have these two groups knocking on doors.

INNER SPRINGS

ME, CRUCIFY THE CHRIST?

On the sports page of a daily newspaper, my attention was arrested by a large headline. "CRUCIFIED!" Its location in the paper told me that it had nothing to do with Easter or death on a cross. Nevertheless I read on. The article concerned a well-known cricketer who had been rejected from a forthcoming test match.

As I reflected on that man's feelings — his deep disappointment, his loss and sense of separation, I knew that it had everything to do with Easter. Rejection is at the very heart of the Crucifixion. And the Son of God knew every aspect of that anguished condition!

Rejected by those in authority who refused to acknowledge his claims. Rejected by his family who laughed him to scorn. Rejected by the crowds who one day praised him, and the next day cried "Crucify Him." Rejected by his friends who failed to understand either him or his ministry. Finally the ultimate in rejection — his sense of separation from the one who had sent him into the world!

Would I, would you, crucify the Christ? Have I, have you rejected anyone lately? Too busy with our own pressing needs to hear a cry of need, to write a note of comfort or encouragement, to offer a word of praise or ease another's loneliness? "Inasmuch" said Christ, as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

So close the cries! And I must share
 Today in market place,

My loaf, my cloak, my ardent prayer.
 How can I ask for grace

To bind the world's deep wounds that bleed
 And blindly fall my neighbour's need?
 I either lift these to His touch
 Or lose His cherished "Inasmuch!"

Our Father, re-awaken us to the high cost of Calvary. May its agony pierce our own hearts into a responsive love and desire to serve Thee at any cost.
 Amen.

Matt 25:31-40

Florence Rosier

Don't get your crowds mixed!

Page 13

I have heard many eloquent Palm Sunday and Good Friday sermons where the pulpit orator has said, "The crowd that shouted Hosanna on Palm Sunday shouted Crucify him on Good Friday." The orator has then gone on to talk about the fickle crowd and hurled his barbs at the worldly masses, who were not present to hear him, to the immense satisfaction of the faithful.

Don't Blame the Galileans

This is good dramatic pulpiting, except that it is wrong. The Palm Sunday crowd consisted mainly of Galileans coming to Jerusalem for the Passover celebrations. The Good Friday "crowd" was not a great horde, but a relatively small group of very angry, very noisy and very persistent chief priests, elders and scribes, probably Sanhedrin Council members and some of their staff. We must not blame the Galileans for crying out, "Crucify!"

What Happened to the Galileans?

But we are entitled to ask, "What happened to the Galilean crowds who thronged Jesus into a boat by the seashore, and who ate the loaves and fishes, and who flocked to him in fields and villages and towns, and who later joined his kingly procession into Jerusalem?"

They were not at the cross. The betrayal and the trial were done quickly in a single night and Jesus was on the cross the next morning and dead before the end of the day. It was all done in a corner while the celebrating Galileans were in the temple or shopping in the festal markets.

All Gone Home

We read of no significant response to his resurrection by Galileans. The only certain Galilean appearance was to his disciples by the sea. Apparently they were not at Pentecost. Probably they had all gone home. It was mainly the Jews of the Dispersion who remained for the seven weeks until the Feast of Pentecost. They would be wealthier and more likely to have hospitable connections in Jerusalem.

Nor do we hear of the setting up of churches in the towns of Galilee . . . Capernaum, Bethsaida or Nazareth! It was the dispersed Jerusalem church that pioneered in Samaria and Antioch, and the returning Pentecost converts who set up churches in Damascus and Rome.

Just Another Messiah

Yet most of Jesus' three year ministry was to Galileans. Galileans "heard him gladly". Galileans were healed. Galileans hailed him as a possible messiah. They did not shout, "Crucify him." After all the excitement they just went home and forgot about him. They had expected a different sort of messiah from what he turned out to be. Earlier they had forsaken him when he refused their crown. When it appeared later that he would be a king, they responded again. But when they heard that at last the establishment had caught up with him and killed him, they put the whole thing out of their minds as one more aborted messiah-ship.

Did Jesus Waste His Time?

Did Jesus waste his time for three years teaching and healing and feeding the Galilean crowds?

It was not time wasted. Out of these crowds he found eleven men who would launch his message to the world. He found another couple of hundred or so who would back them up (Acts 1:15, 1 Cor. 15:6). He needed to touch the thousands to get a few trustworthy disciples to carry on his work.

Out to the Masses to Save a Few

Surely this is telling us what should be obvious. That is that Christ's present body is similarly called to teach and heal and feed the masses, because they need to be taught and healed and fed; and that if we do, from among them will come a few top class disciples.

Billy Graham preached to 12,000 people on a frosty night on the Manuka Oval in Canberra 1,300 responded. Most of these, like the Galileans, slipped away, in spite of highly organised follow-up. But a few men and women became disciples and are still a power in their churches.

Some Become Disciples

Thousands of Sunday School children, Explorers, Brigaders and C.Y.F-ers, slip through our hands (a lot more than should). But sometimes a boy or a girl a family become disciples.

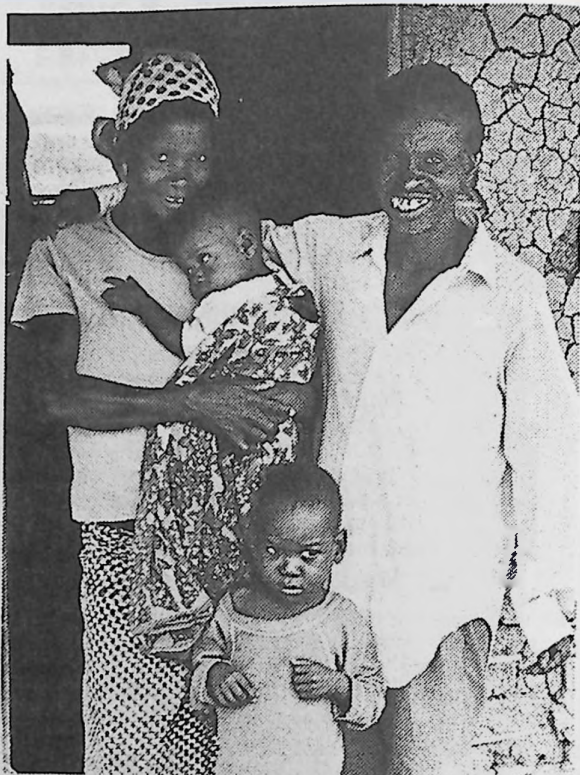
I know a church that ministers to up to a thousand people a week and spreads its net widely into the community. From time to time a splendid family is discovered.

Many to be Called

Jesus told us that "Many are called but few are chosen." It is easy to hide behind this verse in our small churches and to comfort ourselves that small is beautiful. But that is not what the Lord intended. He sent us to call the masses in order that some would respond. Hiding ourselves in our little church services and select little in-groups is not calling the many.

Mass Evangelism

We are called to touch the lives of the masses through missions, coffee hours, socialising with our acquaintances, through Sunday Schools and youth groups and auxiliaries, through beach missions, through the media, through preaching, teaching, healing, serving and feeding, through play groups and senior groups, and in every possible way, that "by all means we will save some." We will not be discouraged by the many who turn away, because there will always be those who will stay because they find that we "have the words of eternal life". (Editor).



Good News for all ...

Jesus asked his followers to evangelize the world. His own life was an example of what evangelism means. He cared for the whole person. When he saw physical suffering and hunger he overcame them. When he saw evil he attacked it and gave the fullness of life.

World Vision, as a Christian agency, is committed to caring for the whole person, body and spirit. Through meeting the poor's physical needs we express the love of God.

Many times this leads to the opportunity to directly witness to non-Christians about Christian values and the love of Jesus.

The majority of World Vision's relief and development aid projects are carried out in conjunction with the indigenous Christian churches. For example, World Vision and the Churches of Christ work side by side at the Cedeco Agricultural Training College in Zaire, Africa. The college trains the students in agriculture and

animal husbandry. These students return to their villages to teach others.

Because of the support of thousands of Australian Christians World Vision is able to continue this vital Christian ministry. Be a part of this ministry and express your Christian concern for the poor of our world.




**WORLD VISION
OF AUSTRALIA**

BOX 9944, GPO, MELBOURNE, 3001.
PHONE: (03) 699 8522

Please send me more information about:

- Childcare Project Partners
- Contributing to the Refugee Fund
- World Vision International Clubs
- Other World Vision programs
- I'd like to make a \$ _____ donation to _____

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____

Address _____

State _____ Postcode _____

Phone _____ P75.113

GIFTS \$2 AND OVER ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

I would like to pay by Bankcard

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Signed _____

Registered Office: World Vision of Australia, 29 Coventry St., South Melbourne, Vic.

T.E.A.M. — A Course for Lay Workers

— George Warren

"What an impact our churches could have on their communities if they each had 30 people or more committed to ministry.

"You don't mean full time do you? Our church could never afford it."

"No, of course not. But 30 people each doing one job thoroughly and effectively . . . visiting, planning worship, caring, leading groups or teaching would provide a magnificent resource for full time ministers to build into a ready team."

"But church members are only volunteers. Our people aren't trained for those sorts of jobs. Having to visit a person they had never met would frighten half of them out of their wits."

"Well, we need to train them."

"But we've had training programs before and they haven't really made much difference."

"What we need is ON THE JOB TRAINING. Training that gives people skills, and opportunities to practise those skills. A program that enables them to grow in faith and is a blessing to them, making them feel part of Christ's team of workers in the local church."

"You mean a course that provides training in particular skills, Education in the faith, and practical opportunities for ministry all in one."

Such a course is already in the pipeline and shall be published by the Vic-Tas Department of Mission, Education and Development in June-July this year.

Practical Application of Skills

A manual is being produced for each subject and it will include Bible input where appropriate, basic principles relating to the particular subject, assignment work providing opportunities for the practical application of the principles and skills learnt and procedures for the conducting of six small group sessions.

Tutors will be recruited and trained by the Department for the task of leading the

Small Groups — Where To Now?

Last November John Mallison wet the appetites of over 180 people for the Small Groups concept. Since this successful seminar run by our Department of Mission, Education and Development, many of our churches are working towards the development of small groups programing. Having had a taste they are keen to make this concept an integral part of their whole church's diet.

Follow-up Small Group Seminars

George Warren has already run two follow-up training events on Small Group Leadership. He is involved at the moment in leading a six-session course delving into the dynamics of groups and ways in which churches can make the most of them for nurture and evangelism. This course at Doncaster is associated with their "School for Christians."

Introducing People to the Church

There is great potential within the Small Group idea for introducing people to the life of the church. In the smaller fellowship they can find a person to person

small group sessions and supporting the group members in their practical assignments.

TEAM — A Course in "People Care"

The first of the TEAM courses to come off the press will be one in "People Care". Topics to be presented in this course include "How to Listen Effectively," "How to visit in Homes and Hospitals," "Helping the Bereaved" and "Support for People Carers."

Trainees will be encouraged to make a number of visits to both homes and hospitals reflecting upon the experience and how they can improve their own effectiveness.

Other "TEAM" Courses

Other TEAM courses being prepared for this initial program are the "Whys and Ways of Worship" and "Churches of Christ — Past, Present, Future." Both are related to practical ministry, evangelism and planning within the local church.

Each subject in the course extends over a short six-week period that, while intensive, allows busy people the opportunity of re-arranging their schedule to fit in this limited time commitment.

Sponsors Invited

Churches are invited to sponsor one of these TEAM groups in their area during some time in the latter part of 1981. They would need to guarantee a basic core of people, provide a comfortable venue for up to 15 people and facilities for making tea and coffee. The basic core group would be supplemented by others from neighbouring churches.

The Department of Mission, Education and Development would like to hear from potential sponsors by June 30.

warmth and belonging that is missing from the wider group.

Both Frankston and Tootgarook churches have recently commenced a group program within their churches. Frankston has 10 groups and Tootgarook four. These, of course, are only seen as the beginning. As the groups develop and attract more people they will divide giving birth to new groups.

Providing Resources and Training

A list of ideas for Contact and Evangelistic Groups compiled from the Mallison Seminar by Neil and Dianne Whiteside is now available at the Department of Mission, Education and Development.

John Mallison's book "Creative Ideas for Small Groups in the Christian Community" is also available.

George Warren has some time available this year for churches wishing to hold a follow-up seminar or training for Small Group leaders. Please contact him at the Department (03) 662 2377.



Camping Growth in Western Australia

Increased registrations for the May 1980 children's camp resulted in the setting up of an extra camp. Over the Vacation period a total of 135 campers and 40 leaders were involved in three camps.

Camp Leadership training for the 1981 camps is now progressing.

Campsite development will proceed with the recent purchase of the 54 acre store Parkerville property. Obtained from the McLaren family of the Eastern Hills church at below market valuation, the Committee expresses appreciation for their generosity.

Camp-Cal a Major Site for Queensland's Christian Education Program

Alan Male the Honorary Director of the Department of Youth and Christian Education highlights the fact that thousands of people per year use the ever-improving facilities of Camp Cal at Caloundra.

In addition to the major complex of the camp the smaller campsite known as Shady Rest continues to be well used.

Accommodation facilities in the small group units of the "C-Breeze" complex or in the family village of Calypso-Court make Camp-Cal one of the show pieces of the brotherhood and functionally excellent for any type of Christian Education program.

Regular large camp programs held at Camp Cal bring together, youth, children's and family groups for intensive periods of sharing and growing in the Christian faith.

Queensland's Department of Youth and Christian Education is a department "on the move". It is activist in programs which promote the relevance of Jesus Christ for young people. In more literal terms it was on the move with its relocation from the Ann Street Offices to new premises in 363 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane.

Exciting Changes in New South Wales Ron Kallmier

A new body responsible for supporting and encouraging ministry in local churches will be formed during 1981 when the Department of Christian Education will join with the Home Missions and Men's Work departments. In the areas of Youth Work and Christian Education the challenge facing people involved will continue for a number of years. Urgent attention to major issues will be needed as well as the maintenance and further development of current aspects of the work.

Camping

Numerically the most successful program of the Department of Christian Education, the Junior Camps during 1980 had their biggest attendances ever. At every age level the campers see camps as an exciting experience. Some come to make new friends while others are keen to talk about problems and to deepen their faith. Camping programs benefit the churches.

Christian Education

This has been in transition for the past 15 years. While some Sunday Schools continue to grow, others able to hold numbers and provide a satisfying ministry with children, some have begun to experiment with new times and new ways of ministry with children, youth and parents in response to a lack of interest in the more traditional programs. The new

ways and the old ways both need guidance. Increasing demands for training and ideas have been received by the Department's staff recently. The winds of change are still blowing in this aspect of the work.

Young People

Young people connected with our churches are facing a much less certain future than 10 years ago. Family breakdown, diminishing employment prospects, and a lack of direction and self worth are critical issues facing our youth. It is vital for the church of today and tomorrow that more mature Christians seize the opportunities to support and encourage young people.

Families

Families are increasingly becoming the focus in evangelism, worship and Christian Education. This positive move has the added possibility of encouraging the local church to see itself as the extended family.

Challenge

Perhaps the greatest challenge for the new department will be to encourage the raising up of men, women and young people who will be 'models' of the Christian life in the church and in the world. Whatever the 80's have in store for the church we will need more people who are willing and able to say, "Copy me as I copy Christ".

Positive Directions for Youth Work in S.A.

A major conference looking at directions of youth work in the South Australian churches for the 1980's arrived at the following conclusions.

★ The future will be positive for churches which take seriously the youth groups as an "involvement in ministry" of the total church life.

★ Youth groups which seek only to entertain young people will lose them. Young people want to participate in groups with Christian direction and purpose.

★ There is a desperate need for youth work to be recognized as an important part of church life and elders and officers' boards must be active in their support of the youth groups.

These findings came at the end of the conference arranged by the State Conference President and the Department of Christian Education director. Major papers were presented by key resource people and included *The Role of Youth in Church Today* by Deidrie Palmer of the Uniting Church and *Programming and Evangelism* by Rob Combridge.

Situations of effective and creative Youth work and evangelism by the Broken Hill and Enfield Heights churches were shared.

Conference participants came away knowing what factors helped youth groups in local churches.

- (1) Committed young people.
- (2) A clear sense of purpose.
- (3) Capable and enthusiastic leaders.
- (4) An awareness of needs and contact with young people.
- (5) An ability to accept others.

(6) A vital Christian faith.

Factors which hinder the local church youth groups were isolated as follows.

(1) A pressure from the church for instant success.

(2) An ingrown membership and attitude.

(3) An alien church worship and program to youth culture with a lack of communication between age groups.

(4) Lack of good resources for youth.

(5) Lack of knowledge about models of program possibilities and effective leadership.

(6) Difficulties in witnessing.

Birribi

Christian Learning Centre providing training for leadership in the local church now offers 23 courses covering the areas of Personal Christian Growth, Pastoral Care, Youth Work, Children's Ministry and Outreach and Evangelism.

A program sponsored by the South Australian Department of Christian Education.

Renewal in Children's Ministry

Dawn Benjamin the worker in children's ministry with the South Australian churches sees the future being in churches structuring for a total approach to children's ministry. Creative ideas of children's ministry in 5 years time have emerged from discussions with local churches.

Dawn's report and work has been greatly appreciated.



W.A. Country Churches included in Training Seminars.

1980 was a year of activity for country churches. Seminars and workshops on worship, creative communication, youth work, Sunday Schools and general church work were conducted in a number of country churches through the year.

Exchange programs between city and country youth groups further developed the sense of belonging together within the Brotherhood.



OBITUARY

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

CLEAVER, Anne

At the age of 44, Anne Cleaver died. With her family, Anne was associated with the Copping church and then later with her husband, Henry, and her children, Vicki, Michael and Leanne, was a member at Nubeena. The last few years were spent in Hobart where she was a foundation member of the Howrah congregation. Anne was a faithful member and worker in each of the churches with which she was associated. Late in 1979 she discovered that she had cancer and her doctors gave her, at most, six months to live. She sought prayer for healing and received a great spiritual blessing and a measure of healing. However, permanent healing was not manifested. Through the next 14 months she was a tremendous witness to her faith in Jesus Christ. During those months Anne continued to trust in the power and love of God and to the end believed that God could heal her. Her family and friends deeply mourn her death but her witness will remain with us. A large number of people gathered at her Memorial Service led by George Powell and Cec. Neville.

— George E. Powell

HINE, Beatrice Alice (5.1.81). Beatrice was one of 12 Howard children, a pioneering family in the early development of Churches of Christ in South Australia and in farming the land, especially on Kangaroo Island. It was there that Beatrice spent most of her early days. She was married to Harold Hine in 1938 at the Church of Christ in Green St., St Morris, by the late H. R. Taylor. Thereafter Beatrice spent much of her life at Copeville where Harold farmed. The Hines came to reside permanently in Adelaide in 1954. Beatrice had a long association with the Kensington Park church (formerly known as the Baulah Rd. church) as it developed out of the Green St. cause, along with her sisters, Dorrie (rec. dec.) and Mabel (now at St George's Rest Home). She is also survived by another sister, Mary (Mrs Wheaton — mother of Thelma who is the wife of Albert Jones) and a brother Alan. She had a firm faith and loved and served Christ's church. At the service conducted by the writer and assisted by A. W. Jones, sympathy was extended to Harold and other family members present at the Kensington Park Chapel and at the Centennial Park crematorium.

Darrell Thoday.

LEE, Hazel

With the passing of Hazel Lee another link in the heritage of the Doncaster church was broken. The 12th child of a family of 14, the daughter of Henry and Marion Crouch, her family connections go back to the beginnings of the church in 1863. Hazel was born in 1898 and lived all her life within the Doncaster community, first on the orchard property of her parents and then on the property of her husband William Lee. Hazel was a quiet, gracious lady, who never sought an up-front position and will be remembered for her role in the School Mothers' Club, the Children's Hospital Auxiliary, the Comfort Fund, the W.C.T.U., the

Women's Fellowship of the church and the Templestowe Bowling Club, of which she was a foundation member. In 1944 Hazel underwent an operation for cancer, and her husband was told "There is no hope, she will not live." She endeared herself to a wide circle of friends in the community and church. Six years ago, she underwent major surgery again and this brave little lady once again pulled through and came home. She never complained and always seemed to be intent on protecting the people around her. In 1980 her husband Bill died. This for her was a sad loss because of the beautiful marriage they had together. At her own insistence she stayed on in her own home, and with the support of a good neighbour, meals on wheels and the Council. The chapel at Doncaster was crowded for the occasion. She will always be remembered, with her husband Bill, as being the humble, loyal people, who while never assuming leadership roles, are of the kind that make the life and ministry of the church what it is. Hazel died in the faith loving God, and proving through the years of her suffering, God was able to keep and God was all she needed. To the very end she thought of others, and the knitting she took to hospital and the two parcels of knitted goods for the Children's Hospital, waiting to be delivered in her home, are warm symbols of her care for others. We commend Jack and June, and the grand-children, Barbara, Ian and Lynette to God and share with them the pleasure of having known this gentle lady.

— K.D.H.

MORPETH, Frederick

Born at Gateshead in County Durham in 1910. Frederick was a man of humble origin, who endeared himself to a great many people. Growing up in England's Industrial north, he became, with his first job in a mill, associated with the coal industry. At the beginning of the war at Bexhill in Sussex he met Amelia Vitler (Millie) and they were married. With Dianne, Wayne and Jean they made a family, who through the

war years lived and worked around London. In 1947 Fred moved with his family to Australia, and both he and his wife were baptised and joined the church at Rivervale W.A. In 1979 Fred moved to Melbourne to be near his son Wayne, who was living at Doncaster. In the two years they were associated with the church, they endeared themselves to a wide circle of friends. Fred was a man of simple, uncomplicated faith. He could not stand falseness or sham. He accepted people for themselves and looked for the good in all of them. Following a stroke and admission to the Austin Hospital, Fred lived for two weeks. He died a simple man of God, loved and respected for himself. The size of the congregation in the Doncaster chapel was an indication of how quickly Fred and his wife had built a circle of people who loved them. We commend his family to God's love and care. — K.D.H. MOWSAR, Alice Florence.

Alice Mowsar was buried at the Wagga Wagga Cemetery on December 19. Miss Mowsar was 80 years of age. She has served the church at Wagga Wagga as organist, Sunday School teacher and Christian Education leader. She was a gracious lady who in her life time was known as a competent dressmaker. T. Grant and W. Caspersoun officiated at the funeral service.

PRICE, Geoffrey Morris

Born in 1942, the second son of Edward Morris and Madge Price, Geoff with his brothers David, John and Robert, was part of a very warm and caring family. His whole life was associated with the church. First at Swanston Street, he was involved as a Sunday school pupil, Sunday school teacher, Youth Fellowship leader, Young Adult leader, Board member and Treasurer. At 11 he made his decision during the ministry of Keith McNaughton. Geoff studied in the U.S.A. at the Institute of Fashion Design and returned to work in the family firm of "Lucas". In 1967 he married Jutta in the Lutheran Church in East Melbourne, and in

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1972 they linked with the church at Doncaster. With Simone and Petie, they were a family, well known, highly respected and very much loved by the congregation. Geoff served as a member of the Board and was active in young married programs. His earlier involvement and interest in Asian studies contributed to the establishment of what is one of Australia's most exciting ministries, the Asian Christian Fellowship. In 1972 Geoff underwent an operation, and for the last 10 years has had to fight a battle involving surgery, chemo-therapy and hospitalisation. Through all of this time, this strong man, who was a member of the Wesley Head of the River crew in the late 1960's never surrendered his faith and his courage, and his willingness to talk about his illness, and to encourage other people. The chapel at Doncaster was filled to capacity, for his Memorial Service. A tribute to a man who truly was a man of faith and a man of God.

— K.D.H.
SIMPSON, Gerald (21.12.80). He came to Australia from Lancashire in the early 20's and later his bride, Florence, came out to join him and share some of the hardships of the great depression. Gerald came to be associated with the church at Green St., St Morris, and later when the church was established at Beulah Rd., Kensington Park. In 1940 he was a foundation member. Florrie became active in the Sunday School work and Gerald was to become a board member, board chairman and elder. Gerald became an impressive speaker, both at the Communion table and in the pulpit, and served as a lay preacher in a number of places, even in England when visiting his mother. Ill health dogged him for much of his life and he endured numerous operations and considerable pain and incapacity. His great loves were the Lord Jesus, Florrie, the growing of flowers and canary raising. He opened his home to many who sought friendship and faith while firmly upholding his Christian convictions. He stood out among his fellows on account of his devotion and service. Many attended the service at the Kensington Park Chapel and at the Centennial Park crematorium, conducted by the writer and assisted by W. N. Bartlett.

— Darrell Thoday.
STEVENS, Edith. Following a period of ill-health, Edith Stevens died and Gardiner church lost one of its most loved members. Born in Nelson, N.Z. into the well-known Bell family, she spent her early years in active service of the church there. About 40 years ago she came to Melbourne and there she met and married Leslie Stevens, and they set up their home in Gardiner. Her husband pre-deceased her by two years. Throughout all her life she entered fully into the work of the church and rarely was she absent from any of its services. A gentle and retiring person, she supported generously and encouraged the leaders in various departments of church life. She had a deep love for our brotherhood. Always hospitable, her home was a centre of friendship for new church members, the lonely, the disadvantaged. The "shut-ins" received her constant love and care. When members moved away to other areas they were not forgotten, and for many years she and her husband posted regularly, at their own cost, the church paper. C.W.F. and W.C.T.U. found her a tireless worker and members of "The Little White Ribboners" never failed to

receive birthday greetings from her. She is survived by her sons, Keith and David who are active in Christian service. Allan Clark conducted services at the church and crematorium.

WILLIAMS, Mrs Daisy Maud.

(12.2.81) Daisy Kennedy was born 84 years ago at Bleak House. Her earlier background was in the Yanac Methodist church, as Sunday School teacher and organist. In April 1923, she married Arthur Williams, and became involved in the church work at the 'Mud Chapel' Sandsmere, until its closure in 1928. Arthur and Daisy then travelled over dirt roads, almost impassible in the winter, to attend the Kaniva church where Daisy was well-known for her 17 years in the Sunday School as teacher and Superintendent. Principal Emeritus Lyall Williams, (Arthur's brother) in his tribute, indicated that Arthur and Daisy were happily married for 58 years. Daisy was a lady without guile, a gracious goodwill to all, no sharpness of tongue. She was very hospitable, elastic in the walls of her home; never ruffled and a lovely sense of humour remained to the end. Her two centres were her home, and the church where she devoted her life to Christ. For the past two-and-a-half-years, she was hospitalised, with Arthur a daily visitor, caring for her needs. We give thanks to God for Daisy's witness, her strong faith and quiet devotion to her Lord. Daisy was one of four sisters Olive (deceased), Ivy, Lylie, and Florrie. Brothers Will and Albert are deceased. The children are Murray, Valarie, Jean (deceased) and Rex; there are 12 grandchildren and one great grandchild. We extend our love and sympathy to her husband, children, sisters, and families. The service was conducted by the minister P.

Bowers, with Charles Dow and E. L. Williams participating.

WITHERS, Leslie Herbert

(12.12.80) Members of the Coburg church and former members of Moreland were shocked by the sudden death of Les. Withers. Les was born in Lismore, N.S.W. in 1907 but moved to Coburg at the age of seven with his parents and his sisters Elsie (White) and Min (Cheal) and brother Arthur. After schooling he took up an apprenticeship and ultimately became a foreman engineer. The Withers family were foundation members and very active in the Moreland church. Here Les met Georgie (Dowd) and they were married in 1934. Their marriage was blessed with two daughters Josie (Mrs Howard Weedon) and Valda (Mrs Mervyn Jenkins). At Moreland Les played cricket and led various C.E. groups. He served on the plan, as a deacon and for many years as treasurer. He carried out each responsibility with quiet dedication and dignity. When Moreland closed Les and Georgie transferred to Coburg. He was a skilled handyman and was often discovered working quietly on some practical job with Georgie helping him. Les was always a gracious down to earth Christian, a friend, counsellor and encourager. The service was conducted in a crowded Coburg church by the writer with Howard Weedon speaking on behalf of the family. — Keith Milne

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VIC

OAKLEIGH (Dr C.J. Mackenzie). Church host to Women's World Day of Prayer ... Minister accepted invitation to continue ministry beyond 1982 ... Annual meeting held ... Church gave eight Gideon memorial Bibles as tribute to Frank Mathieson.

SWANSTON STREET (A. Webb, B. Morton, R. Haverfield). Record attendances during February ... Goal of 100 new members set for 1981 ... Various Y.P. studying in Bible Colleges shared testimonies in evening services ... Group of overseas students conducting Sunday afternoon services in high rise flats. Three have made commitments ... Goals for this year's Missionary Convention (April 10-12) is \$14,000 for Love Offering and \$35,000 (or \$700 per week) for a faith promise renewal offering.

SHEPPARTON (Greg Deuble). Discipleship classes commenced ... Spiritual preparation rallies in preparation for Bill Glass Crusade ... Womens World Day of Prayer held in church. Mrs Bertha Morris speaker ... Explorers Club started ... Good Companions under way ... Y.P. attended camp at Boort Baptist ... New church seating from efforts by C.W.A.F. ... Two baptisms at 11 a.m. service and five baptisms at 7 p.m. service.

GLEN WAVERLEY (R. B. Elbourne, K. R. Milne). Discovery groups recommenced to study "The Expanding Church" ... K. Milne leading pastoral group in studies on aspects of pastoral care ... Worship service and luncheon held for C. of C. chaplains, hosted by R. B. Elbourne as Conf. Pres. ... Counselling Centre sponsored Family Life Seminar on sex education ... Recent guest preachers Ray Stedman and Lindsay Dewberry ... Weekend camps held for Fishing Group, Waves, C.Y.F. and Youth 1 ... Twenties Connection led open-air worship service in Jells Park ... Guest speaker at C.W.F. meeting represented Migrant Welcome Group.

SOUTH YARRA (Peter Nelson) Homecoming speakers were Viney Longthorpe, Alf White, and Peter Nelson ... Ladies heard Mary Dorning on Leprosy Mission in Thailand ... Girls' Club commenced year with a barbecue, swimming and roller skating ... Gospel Singers entertained Elderly Citizens with a gospel concert in church hall ... Church expresses sympathy to Mrs Elliot and Mr & Mrs Redman on the death of relatives.

NOBLE PARK (K. Clinton, L. Mayes). C.W.F. entertained residents of Christian Guest Home ... George Powell, Hobart, guest speaker at a.m. service and p.m. healing service ... Married couple welcomed into fellowship ... Repairs to buildings.

CROYDON (L. S. Dewberry) Harvest Thanksgiving service held, followed by lunch and afternoon tea in gardens of Kretschmar family at Wonga Park ... New church complex nearing completion. Official opening of extensions, car park

and Retirement Village planned for April 26.

QLD

MARGARET ST., TOOWOOMBA (Bruce Armstrong, Ivan Alves). Bert Bade retired as treasurer after second term lasting 15 years. He remains an auditor ... Loretta Proellocks Captain of Girls' Brigade, Ian Williamson Captain of Boys' Brigade, Merv Muller B.S. Supt ... Bethel commences N.T. studies. Meeting at Mylo Aged Person's Home ... Small groups proposed ... Weekly newsprint enlarged to eight pages.

SA

BALAKLAVA (Graham Lawrie). Jeff and Jeanette May returned from Indonesia with new son — Aslito. Large crowd farewelled May's as they left for Blackwood ... Graham and Judith Lawrie and family welcomed at family luncheon. Manse parties held on four Sunday evenings to meet the minister and inspect renovations ... D.C.E. conducted

workshop for 14 B.S. teachers on behaviour problems ... Board held retreat. Discussed Action Groups and decided to continue them ... N.D. Conf. held at Balaklava. Ben Mason guest speaker.

UNGARRA (M. Westphal) Two decisions at recent service ... Two members students at Kenmore ... Tom Varney visiting speaker, sponsored by local Gideon Camp ... Harvest Thanksgiving produce given to Mark McKenzie, A.E.F. pastor in Pt. Lincoln ... Three baptised at family day service at Redcliffs. Share meal followed.

NSW

CHATSWOOD (D. Hayman). Church business meeting held ... 365 Friendship Centre meets weekly with average attendance 100 ... Congregational goals for 1981 being discussed in series of three Wednesday p.m. group studies.

BURWOOD (R. A. Powell) Barney Brogan, Elder, Peninsular Bible Church California, guest speaker. Mr Brogan conducted seminar at St. Ives for ministers and church Leaders ... George and Wendy Elliott have returned to P.N.G. after furlough.

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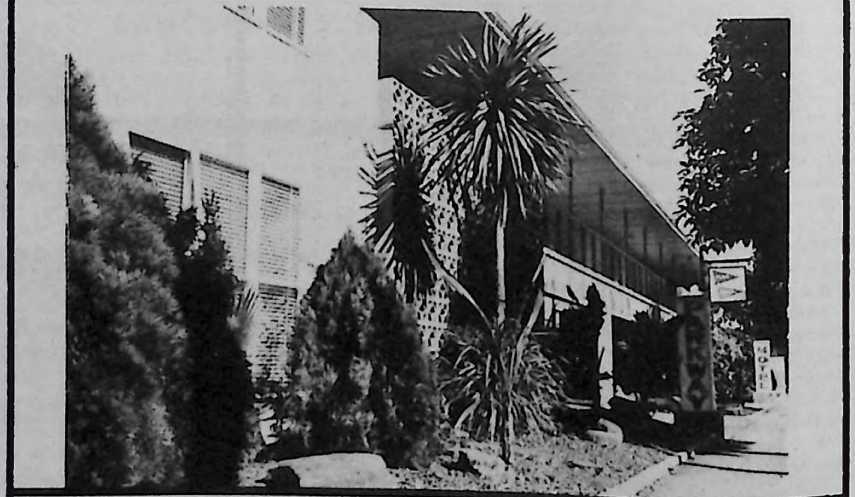
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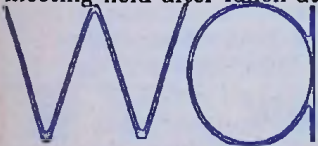
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HAMILTON (W. Flett) New Life Singers sang at gospel service . . . S.S. picnic held in grounds of Tahlee Bible College. Travel by church bus . . . Bill Flett and family entered second year of ministry . . . Friends Club celebrated fourth birthday with a day outing to Speers Point Park . . . A.B.M. held.

WAGGA WAGGA (E. W. Taylor, T. Grant). Dedication of second manse followed by inspection. Section of back yard adjoins church property and has become play and child minding area . . . Lucy Scott, now attending W.E.C. College in Tasmania, spoke at evening service . . . Chaplain Roy Aitkin has spoken at several services . . . Church supporting TV program "Turn Around Australia" on local station.

INVERELL (Ian Morton). Heather Morton President of C.W.F. . . Y.P. held planning night . . . First Coffee Shop for 1981 had 42 present . . . Woman baptised at Y.P. gospel service . . . Revised Women's World Day of Prayer service held in Baptist church . . . Annual Keswick Convention had Ivan Bowden guest speaker . . . Howard McFetridge returned to N.C.A.E. for third year . . . S.S. social evening held . . . Annual meeting held after lunch at church.



CARNARVON (Barrie Mesbert). Monthly visit, involving a round trip of over 1200 km made to Roebourne Fellowship . . . Regular contact with recently formed church at Looma (near Derby) . . . Barrie Yesberg has attended the Explo 81 seminar on ministry.

NORTHAM (M. Randell). Men travelled to Men's Convention in Kelerberrin when Northam male Quartette sang . . . C.W.F. new format has monthly meeting for business, study and fellowship with "Hearth Tenders" home meetings as outreach . . . A women's newsheet being published each month titled "Adam's Rib" . . . Week night bible studies on

witnessing . . . Adult bible class studying teachings of J.W.'s . . . Recent speakers F. Raymond (Conf. Pres.), K. Caulton (Y.C.E.D.), and P. Bowring . . . Over 60's club entertained by the women, also rostered for afternoon tea at P.C.U. at hospital.

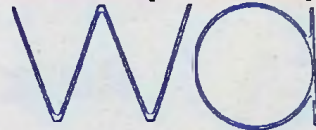


MOUNT CLEAR (Mark Dunn). Woman baptised . . . Church family camp held at Snake Valley C.E.B.S. . . . Theme for year is "Growing Together" . . . Mt. Clear shared with other Ballarat C. of C. in annual Begonia Festival combined communion service at Memorial Theatre. 600 attended . . . Men's breakfast held by churches in Coles New World cafeteria. 75 attended. Brian Morgan of Peninsula Bible Church, U.S.A. was speaker . . . Family service held in new auditorium at Mt. Clear Tech . . . Four involved in R.I. at Mt. Clear Primary.

WEST PRESTON (D. Wissmann). C.W.F. held weekend at Alexandra . . . Friday early morning breakfasts held at manse . . . Squash club started for Y.P. every second week . . . Bible study group meeting in homes . . . Social evening held . . . New floor covering for Youth Centre. **NORTH ESSENDON** (Robyn Scafer). Christmas carol afternoon held as outreach . . . Christmas day service held with Essendon Uniting Church in our building . . . During minister's holidays own members preached . . . Two working bees held . . . Church saddened by death of Mrs E. Trevillian . . . S.S. under leadership of Rhonda Hurwood assisted by her mother . . . C.W.A.F. have donated 10 Bibles to Gideons in honour of Mrs Trevillian. \$80 donated to Bowl of Remembrance and \$50 for Bibles for China . . . Gordon Stirling conducted special series to assist all involved in service plan.

CHELSEA (P. Bradley, S. Ogden). One of assistant leaders of Explorers baptised at morning service . . . 11 attended Senior

Explorer's camp at Sheeppark Flat near Howqua River . . . Target morning attendance for a year when 10 a.m. service included Explorer church parade.



SCARBOROUGH (Leroy Randall). Associate minister called . . . Faith promise offering on target . . . Five baptised . . . Baby dedications held . . . 50-60 at studies on assurance and outpouring of Holy Spirit . . . Ray Schmitt spoke on Aboriginal work . . . Church picnic held and Pairs and Spares held a prawning night . . . Mrs Foote, Director of C.O.C. Nursing Service, spoke to C.W.F.

BUNBURY (G. Butler). 17 made decisions. Baptisms held including a family of five . . . Extensions being considered due to packed services . . . Youth clubs and Endeavor Club have record attendances . . . Mission with Des Nelson in May . . . Minister attending School of Successful Ministry with Explo 81 . . . Fellowship saddened by accidental death of Ricky Fowler . . . Different Bible studies held throughout week with 80 meeting.

WEMBLEY 40 Y.P. held camp at Manjimup on Labour Day long weekend. Manjimup church joined campers for Sunday morning service . . . Kevin Denton spoke at Men's Fellowship . . . Joyce Bolton spoke on mission work in N.G. at C.W.F. . . . John Bond conducted four seminars on "Sharing your Faith".

KALGOORLIE (L. Gibb). Inter-church supper and fellowship held after evening gospel services . . . Family film night screened "Just Last Summer" . . . Miriam Prins attending P.B.I. . . . C.W.F. holding regular fortnightly meetings. Speakers have been Pauline Gibb and Shirley Robertson . . . Church held hot food stall at Community Fair . . . Younger youth group formed and numbers increasing.

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Departing September 5th we spend 25 days in South Africa, 9 days in Kenya, and 3 days in Mauritius. Our Group Leader is Tom Paterson (former Director of Road Transport, Commonwealth Department of Transport) assisted by Val Steward of Sydney. Fare from Melbourne or Sydney is \$4250.00 or South Africa section only at \$3016.00.

7. ALICE SPRINGS AND THE RED CENTRE with A.C.T.S./AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC

A few vacancies remain on this popular tour departing on 16th September with Pam Bartlett of the A.C.T.S. Melbourne Staff. Send for details. Pensioner concession.

8. A 16 DAY CAMPING TOUR TO CENTRAL AUSTRALIA FOR THE UNDER 35s.

Departing October 3rd we visit Mildura, Peterborough, Wilpena Pound, along the Birdsville Track, Boulia, Alice Springs, Ayers Rock, Coober Pedy, Clare, Adelaide etc. Bring only your sleeping bag, eating utensils & toothbrush. Price from Melbourne is only \$448.00.

9. VISIT WEST AUSTRALIA AT WILD FLOWER TIME with A.C.T.S./AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC

Our 18 day annual tour to West Australia departs on October 19th by luxury air-conditioned coach for the trip to Perth. On the return 2 nights are spent on the train. Prices are from Melbourne 1st class rail \$1231 (economy rail \$1186); from Sydney \$1308 (1236); Adelaide \$1093 (1048); Brisbane \$1450 (1378). Pensioner concession applies.

10. POPULAR TASMANIA TOUR WITH A.C.T.S./TRANS OTWAY

This is real value. We leave by air on Monday October 19th and visit Launceston, Devonport, Somerset, Zeehan, Queenstown, take a Gordon River Cruise, Hobart, Huon Valley, Port Arthur, Richmond, St. Helens, etc. Our 10 day tour is by comfortable coach, we have good accommodation, and two meals per day. Prices are from Melbourne \$575.00; Sydney \$867.00; Brisbane \$754.00 & Adelaide \$659.00.

11. A.C.T.S. TOUR TO NEW GUINEA & NEW BRITAIN

Departing on October 21st this 13 day tour takes us to Port Moresby, Lae, Goroka, Kundiawa, Mount Hagen, Wewak, Rabaul, etc. With good accommodation, this is very good value. Leader is Rev W. M. Constable, Director of Australian Church Travel Service. Price from Sydney \$1590.00 or Melbourne \$1899.00.

12. SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING

Departing on October 25th this ever popular 18 day tour visits Christchurch, Tekapo, Mount Cook, Oamaru, Dunedin, Gore, Milford Sound, Te Anau, Manapouri, Queenstown, Alexandra, Haast Pass, Fox Glacier, Greymouth, Pictou, Wellington, Napier, Rotorua, Waitomo, Auckland, etc. Price from Melbourne \$1075; Sydney \$1040; Brisbane \$1070. An optional 4 day extension to the Bay of Islands is offered at a supplement of \$256.00. Group Leader: Mr Sirrell Grimmer of Wodonga, Victoria.

13. VISIT U.S.A. WEST COAST WITH A.C.T.S./SM TOURS

Our next U.S.A./Canada Tour will leave with Rev Gordon Kemlo in April/May 1982. In the meantime, why not visit the West Coast as an individual with an SM Tours Group. Departing on October 30th the fare from Sydney/Sydney is \$1604 for 17 days.

14. GO CRUISING WITH A.C.T.S./SITMAR IN BEAUTIFUL FAIRSTAR — from Sydney.

July 12 — Brisbane, Whitsunday, Cairns, Ambon, Manila, Hong Kong, Singapore, Bali, Darwin. 29 nights/9 ports. Fares from \$1525 — \$4703. Brigadier F. Denney.

October 21st — Lautoka, Suva, Savu Savu, Apia, Pago Pago, Vavau, Nukualofa, Noumea, 10 nights/8 ports. Fares from \$1045 — \$2645. Rev Eric Atkins.

January 31st 1982 — New Zealand Cruise — Milford Sound, Timaru, Pictou, Wellington, Auckland, Bay of Islands. 14 nights/6 ports with Rev & Mrs W. M. Constable. Fares from \$855 to \$2030.

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QLD

KEDRON (David Hamilton). Family camp had Col Smith directing studies, Karen Stevens on music in worship and Nancy Shepherd taking square dancing ... Three Sunday nights in small groups ... Christianity and the family, the church and the handicapped and a Bible study on Ephesians with the fourth night a gospel service ... Baptism held ... C.W.F. had Helen Trudgian as guest speaker, donated articles for a combined Austcare stall and shared in World Day of Prayer at St Gerards ... C.M.F. held planning session.

BAROLIN ST., BUNDABERG. (B. M. Nowitzke). Conf. Pres. R. K. Sansome addressed church ... Family night barbecue at beach attended by 50 ... Annual meeting held. Reports indicated progress in all departments.

ANN ST. At annual meeting church decided to increase support to Home Missions by \$100 per week ... Bryon Howlett, Minister of Disciples of Christ and Secretary of Canadian Bible Society, guest speaker during Australian stop-over ... 64 attended annual camp at Camp Cal. Jeff Watson leader and Graham Barber, Nambour, was study leader ... C.W.F. held favorite recipe session. At same time presentation made to Mrs Frank Ewers of groceries for Kenmore College.

VIC

MALVERN (P. Nelson, R. Harrison). Family service prepared by Mary Murdoch. Lunch and outing to Dandenongs followed ... Annual meeting held. Ordination service conducted by ministers for new officers ... Lenten Bible studies commenced combining with Caulfield Uniting Church ... Library established and book stall organised by Rosalie Page ... Men painting exterior of church.

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TAS

LAUNCESTON (M. D. Hamilton, R. J. Allison). Trevor Mackay, visually handicapped, interviewed at evening service ... Miss Ursula Voos spoke at C.W.E.F. ... Special meeting of ladies met Daphne Ashlin ... One of our "Little Churches" distributed 500 correspondence Bible invitation leaflets in Newnham area ... C. Cripps appointed to Eventide Homes Committee ... Engaged Couples Course commenced.

HOBART (G.E. Powell, J.D. Morrow). Combined service held for Collins St. 109th anniversary. Service included setting apart of three newly appointed Elders. Family picnic at Risdon Brook Dam followed and a number of Vietnamese friends joined in ... Annual meeting held. Three new appointments to board ... Covenant Group commenced for those committed to witnessing and evangelism ... Investigations of feasibility of aged persons' units with J. Holloway from Melbourne ... Howrah Evening Fellowship had film "Devil at the Wheel" screened ... Small groups underway with new groupings. Seven new leaders ... Basil and Nettie Golder celebrated golden wedding ... Ministers attended Ray Stedman Seminar in Melbourne.

nsw

PADSTOW (Ed Holt). Greg Clarke elected secretary, Stan Gordon treasurer and Colin Holmes new deacon ... Family church format commenced in February attracting new people ... 35 attended family camp ... Sonja van der Broek has entered N.S.W. Theological College with church support ... New work at Moorebank, began 12 months ago, has 32 meetings in local primary school for family worship ... Kerry Laws from Belmont successful applicant for full-time



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Scripture teaching in local girls high school.

GILGANDRA March 16-22 special week with young people. Childrens after school "Our Adventure Week" led by Judy Gordon from C. of C. Dept. of Christian Education assisted by Lois Quayle as local organiser. Average attendance of 127 with 210 children registered. Saturday afternoon fun on a farm including devotions. Sunday directed to help youth with Paul Cameron and helpers from Thornleigh.

Easter Teach-in

The House of the Gentle Bunyip, Truth and Liberation Concern, Fusion and Scripture Union will hold a teach-in over Easter on the theme "Servants in a Strange Land" (following Christ in Australia today).

This will be held at Blackburn High School April 17-20, Speakers will be Morris Stuart, Athol Gill, John Smith, Alan Marr and Mal Garvin. John U'Ren is co-ordinator of the weekend.

The aim of the teach-in is to challenge the people of God to live the gospel authentically in Australian society.

Details are available from the Master's Workshop on (03) 428 4937.

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Ray Stedman

Recently Ray Stedman and fellow members of the ministry team of the Peninsular Bible Church in Palo Alto, California were in Australia conducting a series of seminars and other meetings. In Melbourne these were organised by Clive Ward and many Churches of Christ ministers and elders were involved in the seminar. To enable country and Tasmanian ministers to attend the Christian Projects Ltd. and Christian Building Trust paid part or all of their travel costs to enable them to attend the seminars.

The following is a summary of an interview conducted with Ray Stedman and other members of the team as well as some of the thoughts expressed during the Seminar.

Ray Stedman is well known for his books "Body Life" and "Authentic Christianity" as well as for the emphasis on expository preaching at the Peninsular Bible Church.



Q:— How did Peninsular Bible Church commence?

A:— It grew out of a Sunday evening fellowship of a group who were interested in studying God's word. They developed various principles over a period of several years. Then in 1950 I was called to be their first minister. This was my first ministry straight out of Dallas Theological Seminar. In many ways we started in the normal ministry pattern although they had developed such ideas as the importance of the eldership and the unanimity of decision making at the elders meetings.

Expository preaching has always been a major part of my ministry style. Change came over time as we applied the principles of Scripture to our church life. Our first start in the multiple ministry was along conventional lines when we called a youth minister.

Then we saw that **Bob Smith**, who was a founding elder, was doing so well in Bible teaching. He quit his job and came on the staff as a full-time pastor (for one year originally) in a training ministry.

Q:— What is the current staff level at P.B.C.?

A:— After some discussion the team settled on the figure of 12.

Q:— How does the eldership work at P.B.C.?

A:— When the eldership meets they must pray and discuss and search the scriptures to find the will of the Lord. Each decision must be made as an uncoerced, unanimous decision even if that means waiting for several years for a final decision which can be frustrating to some people.

The eldership must make the major decisions but it must learn to delegate as much of possible the smaller decisions — e.g. the upkeep of buildings, etc.

In our setup the elders oversee anything on the local level. Any other areas of concern then come under the umbrella of **Discovery Ministry**.

Q:— What is Discovery Ministry?

A:— The **Discovery Foundation** was

started 10 years ago as a way of getting the messages into book form. It is virtually our printing arm. It handles such activities as books, messages in the form of papers, tapes, teaching seminars such as this current trip to Australia and a radio ministry that we have in the U.S.A. It also handles our Bible studies that have been developed from the tapes.

(Information can be obtained from **Discovery Publishing, 3505 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, California 94306, U.S.A.**)

Q:— How is the staff related to the eldership?

A:— Several of the staff are also elders. All staff are able to attend elders meetings but it is the eldership that make the final decisions.

Each of the staff develops a lay staff to help him in discipling, training, etc., depending upon the individual.

Q:— What organisation occurs at P.B.C.?

A:— The key to most of the work at P.B.C. is involving people in small groups in intensive Bible study. Everyone is encouraged to be associated with small groups which are involved in prayer, Bible study and outreach.

Each of the staff is involved in discipling a small group who will then be involved in discipling others.

Outreach projects and other activities arise from the concern of individuals or small groups who are moved through their study of Scripture. We have had a group go to Guatemala and be involved there in evangelism. Other groups are involved in such activities as prison visitation.

Q:— During the Seminar mention was often made of the gift of helps. What is that?

A:— We see this as a gift that is focussed on individuals. This is the capacity to see a specific need that another person can meet.

We see the ministry of service as

performing a ministry in a general weekly sort of task — e.g. setting up church, the flowers, etc.

Q:— There is a strong emphasis on gifts at P.B.C.?

A:— Yes, we believe that Scripturally each individual in the body of Christ is equipped with unique gifts that he must use to enable the Christian body to function. If the body is to grow to maturity then each individual must use these gifts. We see that not all the ministry team have all the gifts. At least half of the staff are not trained at theological college and each member of staff is working in their area of gift and are not burdened down with large amounts of other activities in which they are not gifted. We allow time for each person to more fully develop their gift.

Annual Conference

The Central and Northern Districts Annual Conference was recently held at Echuca. 131 attended despite the occurrence of weddings in member churches. The guest speakers on the theme "The Distinctive Disciple" were Mr and Mrs Keith Pitt from Yarrawonga.

Ron Westmore, President, presided over the sessions with Keith Lacy as song leader. The musical group "Yarrawongs Sonlights" led by Paul Stothard provided items throughout the day. Others who provided items were Mrs Clark, Mrs Ladgrove and Mrs Hipwell from Echuca.

During the afternoon the Conference broke up into women's session, men's session and young people. Mrs Gwen Henderson, Boort, presided over the women's session and welcomed the incoming President Mrs Holly Thomas from Bendigo.

Following a gospel message the incoming officers for 1981 were inducted to their positions. The new President is Peter Haylock from Castlemaine.

— Alice Broad (Conf. Sec.)

Dramatic mail response from Japan and China

FEBC's Director of Programming, Frank Gray, reports a dramatic increase in mail from Japan to their "Voice of Friendship" station KGEI in San Francisco. An average of 100 letters a day from Japanese listeners has been arriving at the shortwave station since announcer Koji Kaneko arrived from Tokyo to commence live programming. The programs attract a large segment of that country's youthful shortwave listeners.

Statistics just released from FEBC's Hong Kong office, indicate a large upswing once again in the mail response from mainland China. The dramatic increase in December 1980 brought 1,744 letters into FEBC's Hong Kong office compared with 883 in November and 613 in December 1979.

This brings to 9,320 the total response from China for 1980. Analysis of these letters reveals an increasingly high percentage of letters coming from those who had already written. Up to as many as 99% of those letters have been requesting friendship.

VIC

ORMOND (G.O. Stibbe). Eileen Treloar, The Patch, baptised in our chapel ... Ross McKelvie and Brian Knee spoke of trip to Indonesia to work on mission station for Asia Pacific Christian Mission ... \$550 donated to C.O.C.O.A. ... John Whittaker, organist for 50 years,

celebrated 80th birthday ... Aileen Draney participated in evening service ... E.W.F. cake stall raised \$156 ... Bruce and Glenys Waters, Wycliffe Translators — Ramingingin, took part in gospel service ... Combined family service with B.S. followed by picnic at Jell's Park ... Working bee painted manse.

NUNAWADING (E. C. Keating, P. B. Burnham, C. H. J. Wright). Fellowship Day saw members at various homes for barbeques followed by gospel service at church. Children involved in service ... Chief Superintendent of Police, Alan Coysh, spoke to "Unhitched" on juvenile delinquency ... Various people leading children's segment of worship at Springfield Rd. ... Rhae Nelson S. S. Supt. at Springfield Rd. Annual picnic held at Burwood Boys' Home ... C.W.E.F. shown how to trace a family tree ... C.Y.F. held camp at Crystal Creek ... 84 girls involved in netball ... Jim Wright leading Know Your Bible studies ... E. C. Keating lecturing at C.O.B. ... Paul Burnham involved in I.T.I.M. police chaplaincy ... Guest artists have been Free Flight, Julie Bates and Celia Whittle

... C.Y.F. attended production of Godspell.

MARYBOROUGH (K. Haythorpe). S.S. picnic held at Log Cabin, Creswick ... Minister and elders attended Ray Stedman Seminar in Melbourne ... Annual meeting held ... Mission Band recommenced after 12 month lapse ... Working bee built new fence at manse ... Minister has bought his own house near church ... Attendances growing.

**STAWELL
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November 1981.

Past members and ministers are requested to help with information on the history of the church, and with the loan of any photographs of the church and members.

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DAY VISITORS WELCOME

Friday, April 17

10.45 a.m. Dr J. Graham Miller, 3.00 p.m. Mr Bryan Greenwood,
7.00 p.m. Canon John Chapman.

Saturday, April 18

10.45 a.m. Dr. J. Graham Miller, 3.00 p.m. Canon John Chapman/Mr Bryan Greenwood, 7.00 p.m. Dr. Sam Kamelason.

Sunday, April 19

11.00 a.m. Dr. J. Graham Miller, 3.00 p.m. Canon John Chapman,
7.00 p.m. Mr Bryan Greenwood.

Monday, April 20

10.45 a.m. Dr. J. Graham Miller, 3.00 p.m. Canon John Chapman.

Further enquiries from Convention Office.
Phone 836 6839, A.H. 439 6197.

Box Hill on the Move

Ministry Team:

David Brooker, 4th year student of the College of the Bible has joined the ministry team at Box Hill for 1981 and he is sharing with Don Thomas the pastor to the Senior Christians of the church, and Steve Downie who is senior pastor.

70th Church Anniversaries:

Gordon Moyes who grew up in the Box Hill church has accepted the invitation to be the guest speaker at a Men's Breakfast to be held in the Wesley Church Hall Oxford Street, Box Hill on Saturday May 2, at 7.00 a.m., and he will speak at the worship service Sunday May 3, at 11.00 a.m. Gordon Moyes has always spoken



Steve Downie

with affection and conviction of the background and nurture that he received at Box Hill in his formative years.

Purchase of Property:

The congregation overwhelmingly supported the Board to purchase some prime real estate of 100' frontage immediately adjacent to the present church property. It is expected that this purchase will be used as a manse and the present manse will be monitored for its use as a Youth and Pastoral Centre.

Service to be televised:

The ABC will televise the service on Sunday December 6 and the National Boys' Choir will take part in the service. Mr Downie will be the preacher.

Trends in Community:

A high rental area resulting in a mobility of children and young marrieds. A change from the classic middle class suburb to a more diverse community. The expected Transport Centre in 1984 is predicted will make Box Hill one of the most sought-after suburbs in Melbourne.

Worship and Evangelism:

The congregation is now well educated to the disciplines Mr Downie placed on timing in services, themes and purpose, variety and inspiration. Newcomers week after week, and the interesting kind of people who are responding to the evangelical call reflect the trend in the community and confirms the shape and style of the ministry team.



UNLEY Col Smith, W. Bartlett and I. J. Chivell share regular preaching. Average attendance of 35 ... Dr Keith Bowes welcomed "home" as recent guest speaker ... Church saddened by the deaths of Mrs Amy Blundell and Miss Vincent.

BROOKLYN PARK (Graham Agnew). Mayor Steve Hamra and Conf. Pres. Bob Clymer attended opening of new Friendship Centre in house adjacent to church. Response to programs encouraging ... First series of Discovery Groups included study of book "People Caring for People" plus Bible study on Acts ... 24 hour prayer vigil to mark commencement of church year ... S.S. in strong position. Several new teachers and scholars. S.S. children and parents attended family service ... Young married woman baptised ... Rob Timbs, singer/guitarist, special guest at evening service ... Over 20 teenagers attended weekend camp in Adelaide Hills ... Systematic leaflet distribution bringing valuable contacts.

Boronia's 60th

The 60th anniversary of the Boronia (Vic.) church was held March 14-15. 170 went "Down Memory Lane" on the Saturday evening. Don Maguire, whose parents were among the original members, compered with Alan Rowe providing entertainment.

E. L. Williams, a member for 50 years, brought the address at the 10.15 a.m. service on the Sunday morning. 280 attended this service. Lunch was provided and during this time tapes and greetings from past ministers and members unable to attend were heard.

"Into the Future" with the young people was the feature of the evening service. The service was led by Andrew Brough and Neil Lawson with Iris Lawson preaching.

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APRIL 19th Easter Sunday Services 9.15 & 11.00 a.m. & 7.00 p.m.

MINISTRY TEAM: Allan Webb, Bruce Morton, Ray Haverfield.

● Overseas Missions

Flying to Papua New Guinea

Miss Aileen Draney flies back to her ministry in Papua New Guinea on April 21. After 21 years service in our mission work it will be like "going home." Our prayers are with her as she continues her ministry at Gokto where the Bible School is now located.

On April 18, Ron McLean, Executive Director of the Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board goes to Papua New Guinea. One of his tasks will be to conduct the Bible studies at the annual meeting at Bunapas.

Writers' Workshop funded in Indonesia

The Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board sent \$3000 U.S. for Indonesian writers to be trained during April 1981.

In a letter of thanks, the General Secretary of the Scripture Union Council, Rev. Obed Sahulata told of the effectiveness of the last workshop in February 16-22. 21 university students attended and prepared 42 Bible studies. It is hoped that 52 studies will be produced so that University students can use one each week for the next year.

Harold Gross on Furlough from Thailand

Friends of Harold Gross will be glad to know that he plans to fly from Bangkok, Thailand for furlough from March 25-May 21. His address will be 39 Mast Gully Rd., Upwey, Vic. 3158.

Ugandan Aid

World Vision is providing \$2000 worth of vaccine to help children in five areas of Karamoja. A serious famine has gripped this northern part of Uganda.

Each year families are broken up as herdsmen take their cattle to districts where there is grass and water supplies. Because of the current drought the men have also taken their families. In these cattle camps, there is no milk or meat for the children.

In conjunction with the Anglican Church, World Vision is supplying the vaccine to halt outbreaks of measles.

Kenmore Commencement

The students and staff of Kenmore Christian College spent a weekend on February 20-22, at Mount Tamborine for the commencement of the College year. Studies were presented by Chaplain Denby Holmes from Sydney and were a challenge to unity of love.

The work of Overseas Missions was represented as well as a challenge to consider a faith promise for mission work.

Lectures commenced the following Tuesday.

New Lecturer

Miss Jan Christensen B.Ed.St. has joined the Faculty. Miss Christensen studied at K.C.C. and has had experience in education and a continuing interest in missions and Christian Education.

Convocation Service

On February 27, Kenmore Christian College held its Convocation Service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The meeting was led by Professor A. F. Wilson, Chairman of College Board, who was assisted by members of the College staff. Items were brought by the Kenmore Ambassadors and by Mrs Connie Roberts. The Principal, Mr F. Ewers,



Joses Sale — new student from Vanuatu

introduced 14 new students to the congregation, and they were then welcomed to the College by the Student President, Terry Williams. Two of them replied — Wayne Kelly, a young man re-entering College to continue his course, and Joses Sali who has come from Vanuatu to begin his studies.

Bruce Armstrong from Margaret Street, Toowoomba gave the convocation address. His talk, "Priority in Service" was a challenge to the church membership, to serving ministers and to the students.



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BIRTHS

ZIELINSKI (CONNING). On March 13, 1981 to George and Beth a son Christopher George.

90th BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MILLER Albert. Congratulations Dad on reaching your 90th birthday on 7.4.81. Love from Ross, Vera, Margaret, Gwenda and families.

DEATHS

BATES Daisy Violet on March 17 at Emmaus. Loved mother of Keith, mother-in-law of Alice, grandmother of Bronwyn (Mrs Allsop) and Llewella. Aged 93. In God's care.

CLEAVER, Anne passed peacefully away on Jan. 26, 1981, at the Royal Hobart Hospital. Loved and loving wife of Henry, loved mother of Vicki (Mrs Rushton), Michael and Leanne, mother-in-law of Gary and loved Nanna of Matthew. (1 Thess 4:14). We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will take back with Jesus those who have died believing in Him.

IN MEMORIAM

ELLIOTT Allen George. April 6, 1980. In loving memory of our dear husband and father. Fondly remembered by his wife Dorrie, sons Franklyn and George and their wives and families.

SHERLOCK (nee Owen) Gertrude, late Ascot Vale and Ormond churches. Treasured memories of our beloved Mother, called home on April 10, 1980 aged 88 years. "You will be forever in our hearts." Nancye and Gilbert Johnson, Lloyd Sherlock.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION WANTED

Information or photographs relevant to Stawell Church required for borrowing prior to 75th Anniversary. Contact P. Matthews, 21 Childe St., Stawell or ph. (053) 58 2571.

ACCOMMODATION

HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. Active members of Brooklyn Park Church going Interstate at end of May for 3 months. Looking for trustworthy retired couple to look after their modern home — easily maintained garden, close to shops and transport — **RENT FREE.** Reply promptly to C. and M. Chester, 11 Mackirdy Street, Fulham, S.A., 5024.

TO LET

OCEAN GROVE. Well furnished flat accom. 6. Easter or May holidays. 200 metres main beach. Phone (03) 850 3355 after 6 p.m.

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AUSTRALIAN AND IMPORTED Delivery available. Weddings catered for. Wine tastings organised. Non-Al Cellars, Shop 3, Palmers Arcade, 938 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill. Phone (03) 88 8152

Celebrate 90 years

of worship and service to the community at

ASCOT VALE

Sunday May 3rd, 1981 at 2.30 p.m.

Special guest speaker
— Mr Keith Horne

All former members and friends welcome

Hospitality available

Basket tea at 4.30 p.m.

LOVE OFFERING to support continuing vital outreach ministry

Further information

(03) 376 0306

MID-WEEK WORSHIP FORUM

Offering an opportunity for you to — hear significant sermons by church leaders.

- enjoy worship
- listen to quality items from leading musical groups and soloists.

now held at the **Camberwell Church of Christ**, Wednesday nights 7.45 p.m.

SPEAKERS

April 8th, Ken Clinton — Subject — Spiritual Renewal.

April 15th, Jeff Deuble — Subject — Youth Work Trends.

April 22nd, Alan Hardie — Secretary, World Christian Action.

April 29th, Colville Crowe — Subject — **Enjoy the Bible:** A resource to keep us going in today's world.

Sponsored by the **Wattle Park Church of Christ** in co-operation with the **Eastern Regional Churches in Melbourne.**

A PLACE FOR YOU?

Opportunities for serving Christ exist in countries overseas.

VANUATU

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

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- ★ Suitably qualified ministers to assist in a teaching/pastoral ministry.

For further information please contact:

Mr Ron S. McLean, Executive Director,

**Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board Inc.,
P.O. Box 320, UNLEY, SOUTH AUST. 5061.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST WITH GORDON MOYES

Sponsored by Box Hill Church of Christ

Saturday morning 7.00 a.m.
2 May, 1981

**Wesley Uniting Church Hall,
Oxford Street, Box Hill**

Tickets \$3.00

Ring **G. Wigney (03) 88 2111**



PERSONAL

DISCIPLESHIP

● Charmaine Taylor, Veronica Taylor, Kathy Hansen, Fred Little, Daryl Winmar, Terry Evans, Trevor Kershaw, Glen Kershaw, Pam Kershaw, Rex Ugle, Judy Ugle, Raylene Taylor, Gary Taylor, Andrew Wilson, Paul Newman, Greg Stephens, Max Jetta, Bunbury, W.A. ● Johan De Kock, Fiona Kennedy, Liz Wilkie, Helen Wilson, Rex Campbell, Scarborough, W.A. ● Warren Ackery, Chelsea, Vic ● Robyn Dowding, Kedron, Qld.
 ● Nick Lavendar, Chatswood, N.S.W. ● Peter and Sue Wilson, Bob and May Wallace, Ted Popelier, Wayne Levett, Helen Brown, Shepparton, Vic. ● Mrs Margaret Mackie, Inverell, N.S.W. ● Warren Draney, Derek Vanderpoel, Margaret St., Toowoomba, Qld. ● Angela Furnell, Debra Glover, Deirdre Howard, Coral Tucker, Balaklava, S.A. ● Les Bailey, Jacie Iverach, Martin Cousins, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W. ● Mrs Lorraine Shaedy, Mount Clear, Vic. ● Mrs Bobbie Wilde, Joanne Shepherd, East Keilor, Vic.

MARRIAGES

● Gloria Atkins to Captain Copeland, Burwood, N.S.W. ● Glenda Wall to John Hateley, Mount Clear, Vic. ● Anne Kavanagh to Laurie Newland, Sue Walsh to Brian Cambridge, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W. ● Jennifer Howard to Alan Baker, Balaklava, S.A. ● Narelle Fletcher to Russell Bielefeld, Margaret St., Toowoomba, Qld. ● Roger Burr to Jacqueline Goodwin, Grote St., S.A. ● Margaret Wallam to Allan Winmar, Rhonda Wallam to Graham Taylor, Julie Stephens to Trevor Kershaw, Gail Moon to Doug Hovell, Bunbury, W.A. ● Michelle Wesley to Rodney Donaldson, Glanis Davies to Greg Hornsby, Scarborough, W.A. ● Christine McMillan to Greg Aldridge, Ormond, Vic. ● Leanne Padey to Ross Masterson, Chelsea, Vic. ● Julie Bartlett to Neil McLelland, Maryborough, Vic.

DEATHS

● Ricky Fowler, Bunbury, W.A. ● Mrs E. Trevillam, North Essendon, Vic. ● Natham Buckenara, Edith Prior, Scarborough, W.A. ● Dennis Russell, Jane Russell, Maryborough, Vic.
 ● Miss May Ashwood, Chatswood, N.S.W. ● Mrs Evelyn Veitch, Balaklava, S.A. ● Miss Alice Mowser, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W. ● Pastor H. E. G. (Bob) Anderson, Mrs I. (Belle) Knight, Semaphore, S.A.

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 52 La Trobe Street,
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70th ANNIVERSARY

at

BOX HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

14 Court Street, Box Hill

with **GORDON MOYES**



All past members and friends welcome at the celebration of worship and friendship

11.00 a.m. Worship Service

12.30 p.m. Luncheon and P.S.A. with Gordon Moyes

"My Boyhood at Box Hill"

Please ring G. Wigney

(03) 88 2111

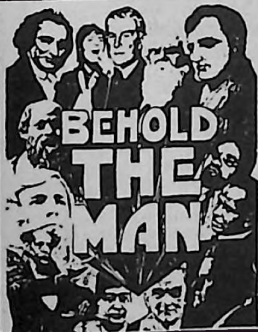
DIRECTOR WANTED FOR A.C.R.O.S.S.

The Africa Committee for Rehabilitation of Southern Sudan has an immediate need for a Deputy General Director who will live in Nairobi and provide operational and directional control for the field and administrative activities in Africa. This includes the supervision of all senior executives, synthesis and analysis of reports, financial management and project proposal guidance.

The applicant should be 40 to 50 years old, preferably married, with experience in management, rural development and African affairs. The need is for a mature Christian with spiritual vision who is able to consider a long-term commitment.

Preliminary enquiries should be made to

Miss Denise Bell, World Vision of Australia, Box 399C GPO, Melbourne, 3001, Telephone (03) 699 8522.



A special invitation (enquiries (03) 857 6444, 862 2892) to people looking for the opportunity to share the message and meaning of EASTER with an unsaved friend.

TWO SPECIAL EVANGELISTIC SERVICES AT NORTH BALWYN CHURCH

(18 Walnut Rd.)

April 15th, 7.45 p.m. "BECAUSE HE DIED..."

April 22nd, 7.45 p.m. "BECAUSE HE LIVES..."

With the church's own choirs and singers, and speaker

BILL GAUNSON

"The preaching of the cross ... the power of God ... to save those who believe." (1 Cor 1:18, 21).

N.S.W. Theological College News

Keith Farmer wishes to express his sincere appreciation to those who have communicated their prayer and practical support for his ministry with the Churches of Christ Theological College in New South Wales.

He also wishes to thank the Faculty and Students of the College of the Bible and the Victorian Brotherhood for their expression of gratitude during and after the Recognition Service of February 19.

Ashwood Trust Fund

This fund was established to help pay the costs of graduates of the Churches of Christ in N.S.W. Theological College (formerly Woolwich Bible College) who are studying at an Australian University in order to more effectively prepare themselves for ministry with Australian Churches of Christ. You are invited to apply to the College Board for a grant from this fund. Write to: The College Board, P.O. Box 140, Carlingford, N.S.W. 2118.



ENQUIRE TO: Principal

Dr. Keith Farmer
P.O. Box 140, Carlingford N.S.W. 2118
Phone (02) 630 7185.

DEVOTE YOURSELF TO THE READING OF SCRIPTURE, TO PREACHING, TO TEACHING.
(1 Tim. 4:13).

CLUBS FOR SINGLE PEOPLE

Churches of Christ have clubs for Singles (people who are unmarried, separated, widowed or divorced) in the following centres:—

DONCASTER: One-Upl (03) 848 1546 or 848 8636

ALBURY: Albury Singles Club (060) 25 1910.

NUNAWADDING: Unhitched (03) 877 6077 or 873 4531

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

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

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

Australian Visit to China

The Australian Council of Churches has agreed to an exchange visit with the Christian community in China. The Executive Committee has accepted the invitation for a team of Australian Christians to visit China in 1982.

The ACC hopes the visit will "assist the growth of a deeper understanding of China within the Australian churches and community, and encourage friendship between the Christians in China and Australia." It is expected a team of Chinese Christians will visit Australia in 1983.

The Sanzi Association, or the Patriotic Three Self Movement, was the only protestant Christian organisation that was allowed to continue operating throughout the period of the Cultural Revolution. The work of this group greatly strengthened the self-respect and self-reliance of Chinese Christians and enabled the Chinese church to end its foreign dependence and become self-governing, self-supporting and self-propagating.

STEP OUT IN SERVICE

STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS BACKGROUNDS ARE
PREPARING THEMSELVES FOR GOD'S SERVICE.

**ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE HIM IN FULL
TIME SERVICE?**

THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST BIBLE COLLEGE IN N.S.W. IS READY TO EQUIP YOU FOR SERVICE, OFFERING SPIRITUAL, ACADEMIC, PRACTICAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES OF TRAINING.

Thank You

I am delighted to write on behalf of Verlie Ellis, Ruth, Andrew, Judith and Tim and the New South Wales Conference Executive to say thank you to our members across Australia who have responded to the appeal for help to the Ellis family following Rex's death.

Personally I have been challenged by the various letters that have come from all over Australia expressing thanks to God for Rex's ministry. It is great to realise the impact we can have, as we are available to God, in our contact with others.

The contributions received amounted to \$31,400 which together with the amount coming from the Preacher's Provident Fund and some personal savings has allowed the family to purchase a home in 4 Killeen Street, Wentworthville, New South Wales and we are all very grateful for what you have done in making this possible. This response will be a permanent reminder to the family that our love for them is real and that it goes beyond mere words.

May I leave you with the words of 2 Corinthians 9:8 N.I.V. "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all you need, you will abound in every good work." — Kevin E. Crawford.

Survey by L.I.F.E.

L.I.F.E. used to be the Lay Institute for Evangelism. With a change of methods they have a change of name, Lay Involvement for Evangelism. A recent survey conducted by L.I.F.E. in a number of churches reveals the following felt needs of members, in order . . .

The need to be able to share faith personally.

The need for the local congregation as a body to be involved in outreach.

The need to have answers in the area of family relationships.

The need for a better self-image.

The need for more adequate personal Bible study and prayer.

The need to understand more clearly the work of the Holy Spirit.

Omission

From the obituary of H. E. G. Anderson ("A.C." March 7) was omitted a comment that at the time of his death he was serving the Semaphore (S.A.) church as its minister. We apologise for this omission.

WHERE TO GO AND STAY

Balook Guest House
2,000 ft. above worry level
Between Bulga and Tarra Valley National Parks, South Gippsland
Fern Gullies, Lyre Birds', Wildlife, Scenic drives, Fishing, Home-cooked meals. Relax in Christian atmosphere and beautiful surroundings. Week-end Houseparties welcomed.
Your hosts: Peter & Ruth Richmond & Ken & Judy Danes, Balook, Vic., 3971 Phone Mount Tassie (051) 96 6141

Extra Meetings needed for Crowds

Crowds forced officials of Arena Mexico to shut the doors of the building as thousands of people stood in the streets and at least 3,000 over seating capacity filled the aisles, stood under balconies and in doorways to hear Billy Graham as he began the Mexico City Crusade.

The people, noted for their custom of arriving late for any event, surprised Christian workers by arriving at the Arena up to three hours before the meetings began and two hours before the doors were opened. Immediately, church leaders requested that two evangelistic meetings be held each night to accommodate the crowds wanting to get in. Mr Graham agreed, stating that it is the first time that he has done this in many years.

Mexico has a protestant population of only four million, yet for the first time in Mexico's history, national television, radio and the press sought extensive interviews with Mr Graham when he arrived. The major television news programs and newspaper stories brought public attention to the gospel.

Earlier plans to use the larger Estadio Inde Olimpico for the Crusade meetings had to be changed when the stadium became unavailable. Publicity committees had only three days to tell the city's 15 million people about the new location. Yet, both Protestants and Roman Catholics brought their friends and the government gave "extra official" support.

Philippines Floods

Canned food and water purifying tablets are being rushed to Mindanao Island by World Vision following serious flooding.

4,000 people have been left homeless. A larger number of families have had their crops destroyed. Already the agency has sent in 137 sacks of rice.

Don Butler and David Hammer above the 26th Parallel

David Hammer, new Assistant Secretary of the Federal Aborigines Mission Board has made his first official visit to our northern Aborigines work, with Secretary, Don Butler. They called on our main centres at Onslow, Port Hedland and Carnarvon.

Neil and Anne Ewart are at Onslow where they have been able to do several years of consolidating work because Neil was able to run one of the Aboriginal Trade Training Schemes. During the evenings of the visit Don and David saw the steady stream of callers for clothes, assistance, and just a sympathetic ear. They noted the need for a cyclone-proof shed for the storage of clothing and other goods which at present are kept in a canvas-covered trailer.

On the way to Port Hedland the team stopped at Rowbourne for fellowship with associate workers Bruce and Sandra Anderson who were at the time unpacking a small computer for use with their work with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Ross and Helen Norling are working at Port Hedland with a parish 1000 kilometres across. Part of the good response to their leadership is Ross' registration in the town as a driving instructor. The two officials discussed with the two leaders the outreach needs in places like Looma, Camballin, Noonkanbah, One Arm Point, Broome, Derby and Fitzroy Crossing, from which young people come to Roelands Village and to Bamburra Hostel in Perth. (Ross Norling and Ron Roberts are surveying the area.)

The Carnarvon work has been going for 35 years with its dual mission of child care and outreach. While the visitors were there a new open air Sunday School commenced just outside of Carnarvon, attended by 19 children, one snake, dogs, flies, and several adults, in a temperature



Ross and Helen Norling Outreach workers at Pt. Hedland

of 38 degrees Celsius. Shortage of staff and overdue work needing to be done on buildings are a reminder that while the Government subsidises the child care, Australian Churches of Christ are responsible for finance and workers for the rest of the mission program.

According to John

A production of the play "According to John" is to be staged by Gospel Theatre Productions at the Karralika Theatre in Mines Rd., Ringwood East on Saturday April 11 at 7.45 p.m. and on Sunday April 12 at 2.30 p.m.

The production has been sponsored by the Ringwood church. Tickets cost \$3.00 with various concessions available and information can be obtained from (03) 870 2788 or 870 2888.

"According to John" was first performed at Swanston St., six years ago. It has been estimated that 50,000 have since seen this production.

DIRECTORY OF FEDERAL CONFERENCE

39th CONFERENCE, ADELAIDE, OCTOBER 19-24, 1982

COUNT IT ALL JOY

PRESIDENT: Barry J. Gear, 7 Nimitz Rd., Elizabeth East, S.A. 5112. Phone (08) 255 5771.

CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS SECRETARY: Ted. W. Heard, Churches of Christ Centre, 104 Grote St., Adelaide, S.A. 5000. Phone (08) 278 8979.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN: L. S. Dewberry, 11 Jackson St., Croydon, Vic. 3136. Phone (03) 723 1487.

SECRETARY: Lindsay L. Smith, 181 Station Street, Aspendale, Vic. 3195. Phone (03) 90 8774.

TREASURER: G. E. Page, 8 Tanner Street, Glen Waverley, Vic. 3160. Phone (03) 233 2238.

FEDERAL HOME EVANGELISM: Secretary, L. L. Smith, 181 Station St., Aspendale, Vic. 3198. Phone (03) 90 8774. Treasurer: G. E. Page, 8 Tanner St., Glen Waverley, Vic. 3160. Phone (03) 233 2238.

ABORIGINES MISSION BOARD: Forward donations (tax deductible) to: Old: Mr W. Berlin, 2 Crawford Road, Redcliffe, Q. 4020. N.S.W.: Mrs G. R. Garrett, 24 Forest Glen Cres., Belrose, N.S.W. 2085. Vic.: Mr A. Bagot, 57 Warrigal Road, Surrey Hills, Vic. 3127. S.A.: Mr J. E. Wehr, 4 Cloo Street, Fife, S.A. 5070. Tas.: Mr R. Morffew, 26 Derwent Ave., Geilston Bay, Tas. 7015. W.A.: Mr L. Komorowski, 28 Kelengedy Dr., Riverton, W.A. 8156.

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PREACHERS PROVIDENT FUND: Hon. Sec., J. R. Ashley, Treasurer/Manager: M. H. Titterton, P.O. Box 232 Gympie, N.S.W. 2227

FEDERAL SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD: 52 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, Vic. 3000. Director: F. M. Cambridge. Tele: 862 1411.

(Changes of information are as notified by appropriate department.)



Ambrosia

by Chris Ambrose

Nobodies of the Bible Sethur

Recorded in Numbers 13:13 as one of the spies that Moses sent into promised land of Canaan. His name means concealed (by the deity), which states what happened to him. Although he and another nine of the 12 spies saw a rich land, they were afraid of the might of the present occupants and argued against attempting to conquer it.

The only two who argued that God would lead his people were Caleb and Joshua. They trusted God and believed in his promises whereas the others were discouraged by the situation as they saw it.

How often we have people in our churches who whilst seeing the tremendous possibilities of a situation, chicken out because of the many problems that seem to be encountered in the move. In many situations we have to be realistic and look at our resources and judge which is the best course of action. At times God calls us as individuals or as members of a group to a plan of action. Are we going to follow God's call or will we be frightened by the enormity of the obstacles like Sethur?

Silvanus

Mentioned in 2 Cor 1:19, 1 Thess 1:1, 2 Thess 1:1 and 1 Peter 5:12 all scholars would regard Silvanus as the same person as Silas who was a leading member of the Jerusalem church. He was one of the faithful workers of the gospel who seems to have worked with many of the leading lights of the church and yet has not been greatly recognised. It is great today to see people who are very busy working for the Kingdom of God often

in important positions but who are very willing to share their work and in fact to take second fiddle to someone else who is better known.

He first comes to notice working in the Jerusalem church with Judas Barsabbas (Acts 15:22f). He was then chosen by Paul to accompany him on his second missionary journey because of the fight Paul had had with Barnabas over John Mark. He seems to have been involved in ministry at Beroea and later to have joined Paul at Corinth (2 Acts 16-18). His relationship with Peter seems to have been as his scribe, actually writing out the letter we now know as 1 Peter.

He appears to have been a highly literate man who wrote letters for others. As a minister in association with Paul he was no doubt a teacher as well. We know nothing else of Silas.

Today we need men and women like Silas in our churches. People who are workers, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, who teach others and who are literate. We need people who can express themselves.

As I am involved with one of the publishing areas of our churches I know that we need people who can write and express the truths of their faith to the ordinary person. I struggle to try and reflect my faith fortnightly in this column and am criticised (by Gordon Stirling and my wife) for my lack of polish. Anyone with an interest or a flair in writing should be used by the church.

We need Christians who can write for "The Australian Christian" of the Literature Department as well as for local papers and any other avenues. People outside the faith will listen to a well presented message. If you have a gift please use it like Silas (Silvanus) used his.

THE LAST WORD

My theology is now in four little words — Christ died for me.

Spurgeon

Reaction To Easter

Where is your faith when the risen Christ rolls away the stone and unwinds the raiments of death to walk the earth alone?

If this were the day of resurrection, would your faith arise and share the narrow path with Him and transfigure to skies of Heaven? Or would your doubting faith be too earthy and frail, and hiding beneath the cast-off raiments, lie an emtombed empty grail?

Undine B. Charlton



A big shot is a fellow who has his name printed on company letterheads because no one can read his signature.



Uncle Ben, a very cautious and frugal old man, put on his best clothes one day and went down to have a look at the city.

As he was standing on a street corner, a ragged stranger approached, asking, "Will you give me a quarter for a sandwich?"

Uncle Ben gave him a good looking over, then said, "Lemme see the sandwich first."



The best place to find a helping hand: at the end of your arm.



"Don't think for one minute that you can go over my head!"

Chen Day

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