



THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

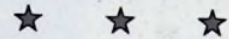
Vol. 84 No. 8, May 23, 1981

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NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

IN THIS ISSUE

W.A.
CONFERENCE



VIC.-TAS.
CONFERENCE



EVANGELISM
AT IPSWICH

Helping Improve the Quality of Family Life



Brian and Joan White

Because of the current pressure on marriage and the family the Caringbah church is seeking to strengthen and enrich existing marriages and family life. Through their minister, Brian White and his wife, Joan, they are providing a ministry to our churches in the form of a seminar designed to improve the quality of marriage and family relationships.

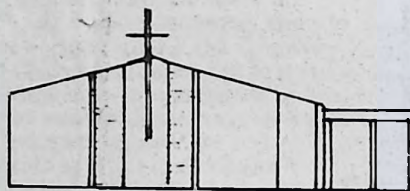
The subjects covered in a four night seminar are: Husband-Wife Relationships, Priorities, Communication, Resolving Conflict, Christians and Sex, Parent-Child Relationships. Homework projects and workshop sessions encourage the interaction of those involved. The seminar concludes with a re-affirmation of the marriage vows.

Over 500 have attended one of the 10 seminars already conducted and the feedback is quite encouraging.

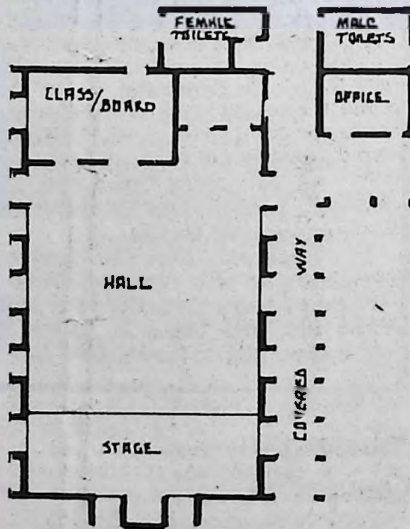
"We feel we have just been remarried," a couple commented warmly at the conclusion of one seminar. One older man sadly asserted "I only wish you had come along 20 years ago. It may have saved me a lot of heartache."

Brian, enthusiastic about the response of those attending, says, "It seems to be scratching where people are itching. I am grateful that our church board shares our vision to help others in this needy area."

DARWIN CHAPEL, FIRST STAGE



ELEVATION



Darwin Plans

The first stage of the Darwin church building is soon to commence. It will be constructed according to cyclone regulations. It will include a multi-purpose hall, a smaller meeting room to be used as a day-care centre, a kitchen, a toilet block, and off-street parking and landscaping. The cost will be \$125,000.

The chapel is in Malak, a new housing suburb in a new housing area which will have 10,000 people in the near future. It is readily accessible to all of Darwin, but especially the "dormitory suburbs". It is far enough away from other churches to

Hospice Care in Victoria

Loving, high quality health care for patients with a terminal illness is often a matter of chance rather than choice. At a time of considerable physical and emotional stress, the patient and his or her family may seek vainly for professional assistance in a caring atmosphere. Now, however, Victoria is taking an important step aimed at overcoming this unsatisfactory situation.

On Tuesday, June 16, the Victorian Association of Hospice Care Programs (VAHCP) will officially take form at a public meeting to which all interested people are invited.

The convenor of the proposed association's steering committee, Dr Trevor Banks, from Geelong, describes hospice care as "a program of total care that provides help in a positive way both to the patient who is terminally ill, and to the family. It aims to relieve the physical, emotional, social and spiritual suffering that often proves overwhelming at this time."

While hospice care is medically coordinated it involves many other health professionals in home care as well as inpatient and out-patient hospital services. But however and wherever the care is provided, the main aim is to bring relief to the sufferer and to give continuing support to the family.

Since 1938, the Caritas Christi Hospice in Kew has filled an important need. In April the Melbourne City Mission Hospice Program received its first patients and the Geelong Hospice Care Association plans to be operating by the end of this year.

It is now quite evident that there is a strong surge of interest in improved care of patients who are terminally ill and a coordinated approach is likely to be the most successful strategy.

Last year, plans were drawn up for a National Convention of Australian

Continued on page 21

render an effective community ministry that would not otherwise be possible.

An appeal for gifts for the Darwin development is being made by Federal Home Missions. It is expected that every member of the Brotherhood will want to make a gift.

THE AUSTRALIAN
CHRISTIAN

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ON MY MIND

LOVE IS COMMITMENT

Ray Hawkins

Ray Hawkins is a graduate of the N.S.W. Bible College and has had ministries in N.S.W. and Queensland. He is Associate Minister at Mayfield in N.S.W. with special responsibilities for the ministry to the newly established church at Maitland. He has on his mind the need for all who are married or contemplate marriage to look again and again at their commitment in marriage. He has prepared the beautiful statement below to help us to do just that.

As I take you to be my wife I am making a promise to love you. But, what is love?

Love is the commitment that I make of myself to you.

I am committing myself to you, unashamedly and unreservedly, so please care for me.

I am committing myself to your total welfare, the enrichment of your personality and the fulfilment of yourself as a person.

When I say I love you — it is an expression that reveals the choice of my mind and heart. For I willingly choose to forego my selfish inclinations, and bid farewell to those ego fantasies for other women, and choose to give myself totally to you.

Though my hands may be rough from toil, I will seek with these hands to treat you tenderly. They will plan and prepare for your security, your satisfaction and will protect you from the "wolves" of the world.

In love I give. It is the freewill decision I make to share with you my hopes, dreams, successes and failures, laughter and tears. For you are my choice for lover, companion, helper and friend. You and you alone have access to my person and I long that you will receive me with an act of commitment too.

Love is commitment, in the good times and the bad. It does not depend upon circumstances, climate or the cost of living. In our old age you will still know, yes even with interest, the commitment I've made in our youth.

So, in saying I love you. I'm declaring that by an act of my will, rather than by the stirrings of an emotional encounter, I give myself to you.

I ask only that you receive me. Then in the receiving I trust that you will respond. Then in the responding you will make that sovereign act of your will and commit yourself to me. Then I too will begin to know what it means to be loved as I endeavour to know how to love.

Missionary Convention

April 10-12 the Swanston St church held it's Annual Missionary Convention.

The main speaker was the Rev. Geoffrey Bingham, of Adelaide, Executive Director of the "New Creation Bible Teaching Ministry". Mr Bingham formerly served as a missionary in Pakistan, and then as Principal of the Bible College of South Australia.

Much blessing was evident, and a number of people have sought guidance regarding their future service for God.

The church supports a missionary "family" of 16, serving on various fields throughout the world. During the weekend some of these missionaries were present, and all the missionary family

were represented through up-to-date audio visuals prepared and sent to the church by these missionaries to keep the Christians informed of their work and situation.

At each convention a spontaneous love gift offering is given at the Sunday morning services. The target of \$14,000 was suggested this year — the amount received was \$16,046.

A target for faith promise renewals was set at \$700 per week for the year ahead; the slips returned gave a total of \$814, giving an expected amount of \$42,360 annually for the missionary family.

It was announced during the convention that the senior minister and his wife (Mr and Mrs Allan Webb) will this year carry out another ministry of counselling and encouragement to returned students throughout South East Asia.

Ron Elbourne Leads Forward Looking Conference

Under the leadership of Conference President **Ron Elbourne** of **Glen Waverley**, the Conference of the **Victorian-Tasmanian** churches from April 30 to May 3, saw consistently large numbers at all sessions.

The C.W.F. Conference was held all day on the Thursday under the leadership of **Helen Banks** of **Belmont**, with **Terry Lane** as guest speaker on "The Church and the Media". The new President is **Daphne Ashlin** of **Footscray**.

On the Thursday night the Combined Presidents' Reception saw **Helen Banks** leading the worship and **Ron Elbourne** preaching. He said that the Lord adds people to churches where Christ is central in the lives of members, where there is a clear focus concerning biblical priorities for the church, and where the church is warm and accepting and concerned for people's needs.



Ron Elbourne
New President

The Conference came to its climax in a packed Town Hall on the Sunday night for the Combined Gospel Celebration. **Ron Brooker** was inducted as the new President. His 91-year-old father of **Hinrichsen Brooker** fame was able to be present. The preacher was **Barry McMurtrie** of **Wollongong**. There were seven decisions and several other inquiries.

Business and other Matters

Business sessions on Friday and Saturday were refreshingly forward looking and optimistic.

Lois Smith, Secretary of the **Victorian-Tasmanian C.W.F.** gave results of research into women's work in



Daphne Ashlin, incoming C.W.F. President.



Income President, **Ron Brooker**, with wife **Dorothy** and mother-in-law **Jess Cleland**.

the churches, revealing the need for more outreach to non-church members and more participation in the mission of Christian women by younger women. The C.W.F. has active plans for this to happen in local areas.

Julie Simpson, associate minister and Christian social worker at **Morwell** offered positive suggestions to churches for the International Year of the Disabled, such as being informed about disabled people, accepting them as people and not oddities, helping them to reach their potential, working with local helping agencies, ensuring that church buildings and toilets do not add to the handicap, and working for more and better community facilities.

Rob Leach, President of the **A.C.T. Conference** was Conference guest and outlined his Conference's 10 year plan: a net growth of 100%, a building at **Belconnen**, a new congregation at **Tuggeranong** by 1991, development of the **Lyons** property, a retirement village, an additional member of the ministry team, and continuous 10 year planning.

Words of Wisdom

Reports were interspersed with symposia of speakers who pointed delegates to possible future directions. Some of their distilled wisdom follows.

"Plan from goals rather than from techniques."

"Aussies love Christianity but not the church. Why?"

"There is a great range of possibilities for expressing the priesthood of believers besides the Sunday morning service."

"In-service training of elders would help to reduce losses."

"Don't knock the numbers game. Numbers are people."

"Our churches are beginning to have rekindled consciences concerning evangelism."

"Business men on church boards sometimes sit on their brains because they have been made to feel that their contribution is unworthy."

"Be a minister to the unchurched as well as to the churched."

"The taxi-driver mission of the church ... meeting people where they are and taking them where they want to go."

"Training to develop skills, Education in the scriptures, And Ministry of practising what has been learned."

New Conference Officers

A feature of the Conference was the high standard of worship sessions led by **Harvey Miller**, **Harvey Clark**, **Wal Gibney** and **Keith Pitt**.

The new Conference officers are President, **Ron Brooker**; President-Elect, **Bruce Alcorn**; Secretary, **Clive Ward**; Assistant Secretary, **Ray Brough**; Treasurer, **John McRae**.

An Impression

It appears that the **Victorian-Tasmanian** Conference has exhausted all of the possibilities of controversy and debate on all of the many contentious issues that have sometimes occupied it in the past, and that delegates and members have realised that such controversy has been largely non-productive. The Conference seems to have entered a new era where delegates and churches accept one another, along with all of their differences, and get on with the business of the Kingdom of God in the areas of evangelism, service, caring, social justice, spiritual growth and fellowship.

Bible Crisis in Poland

"Instead of thousands of Bibles, we need millions!" These were the challenging words of **Barbara Enholc-Narzynska**, Executive Secretary of the **Bible Society in Poland**, during her visit to London in late March.

The worldwide demand for the Bible is particularly evident in Poland as the Word of God is being discovered in a new way by the people of this Eastern European country. Last year 240,000 Scripture items were circulated in this country of 35 million people.

The biggest problem facing the **Polish Bible Society** is the severe paper shortage. The country is experiencing an acute shortage of foreign currency to pay for imports. To counter this situation, the **United Bible Societies (UBS)** is mounting a campaign to donate paper for Bible printing in Poland. There are no obstacles with importing paper from abroad. Because of the nationwide paper shortage, the large printing houses are hungry for work.

The **Bible Society** bookshop in **Warsaw** had no stock of **Polish Bibles** throughout January and personal shoppers are now restricted to one Bible per person to conserve stocks.

SO

FULLARTON (W. J. Philp). W. Philp and G. Grundy assisted in R.C. service "Twelve Stations of the Cross" ... C.W.F. attended Easter service at Lenswood ... Glen Osmond Baptist Church worshipped with us on Good Friday ... C.W.F. conducted W.D. of Prayer service at Glen Osmond Rest Home. First service in new recreation room ... Guild entertained patients from Home for Incurables at Mitcham Reserve ... Ralph Potter speaker at C.W.F. \$25 given to Royal Society for Blind ... C. Battle elected Elder and G. Philp deacon at A.G.M. ... 4 km rally held in building ... Williamstown Choir featured in evening service.

VIC

FOOTSCRAY (M. Keatch). Sunrise service out of doors held on Easter Sunday. District churches attended service ... Film "Bringers of Happiness" screened by Mr Rees of Leprosy Mission ... B.S. picnic after church plus walk-athon for support of Indian girl ... Special recognition service for Mrs Daphne Ashlin incoming State C.W.F. President ... Young adults meet monthly ... Two families welcome in.

SHEPPARTON (Greg Deuble). Training course for those involved in helping at services ... Care share groups started in homes ... Family camp planned ... Centenary celebrations to be held in Nov. ... Ladies travelled to Melbourne for Conf ... Communion service held Good Friday ... Minister and family back after two week mission at Rockdale, N.S.W. ... Working bee held at manse ... Follow up program for planned giving held at Family Centre ... Y.P. attended Youth Happening at Belgrave Heights ... N.E. and Riverina Conf. held at Yarrowonga ... One baptism.

ESSENDON (M. Ashworth, H. Schaefer). C.W.F. street stall raised \$282 ... 14 attended C.W.F. Rally held by W.R.O.C. at Williamstown ... S.S. re-established under teaching of M. and J. Ashworth and H. Schaefer.

GLEN WAVERLEY (R. B. Elbourne, K. R. Milne). Church responsible for Emmaus Guest Home communion services in May ... Easter Camp at Cape Patterson attended by 40 families plus day visitors. Tennis Club led open air worship service Easter Sunday ... C.Y.F. Devonshire Tea entertainment night raised over \$150 ... Counselling Centre sponsored public forum on 'Letting Go' — separation and loss ... Waves (Forms 3, 4 co-ed group) held weekend camp at Belgrave Heights ... North Balwyn youth choir sang in evening service.

MT CLEAR (Mark Dunn). Men visited Melbourne churches on board update program ... Church together with playgroups went to local theatre to see "Joni". Profit of \$140 made ... Musical

night held with Jones family featuring Trevor Coad on electric piano ... Y.P. attended "Youth Happening" at Belgrave Heights and camp at Hall's Gap ... 60 attended family picnic at Moorabool Reservoir ... New attenders at S.S. ... Church delivered four Encounter leaflets leading up to Easter to every home in vicinity of church ... Sound strip "The Champion" used in Easter evening service ... Special Easter services included Good Friday when Dawson St. joined service. Easter Sunday services centred around "Families."

NUNAWADING (P. B. Burnham, E. C. Keating, C. H. J. Wright). Pre-Easter meditation led by ministers on evenings leading to Good Friday ... Over 30 families attended Easter camp at

Creswick ... Cabaret style gospel service featured local talent ... C.W.E.F. held Big Red Night with novelty "red" supper. Proceeds to bus fund ... Some participated in Walk Against Want ... Family cluster groups for young marrieds held in homes ... C.Y.F. and Y.A.F. participated in service at Chelsea ... Jim Wright spoke at C.M.F. Dedication service ... Section 7 tennis won grand final ... Springfield Rd. held basketball parade and presentation ... Welcome dinner given to new people worshipping with us ... Church advertising on Alex Kenworthy's "Night Line" on 3AW ... Young Wives dinner speaker Glenda Prior on teaching migrant children ... Following social action questionnaire 100 offers for service in various areas ... Sunshine Singers recent guests.



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OLD

KEDRON (David Hamilton). Annual Meeting held. Merv Russell Board Chairman and Nancy Shepherd Secretary ... At beginning of Holy Week meal shared to commemorate Passover with traditional items. Foot washing and communion service held on Maundy Thursday ... C.M.F. held open bowling night ... Y.A.Y.M. held family day at Scott's Point with beach Olympics. They also entertained Northside Teleinkers with afternoon tea at Woody Point ... C.M.F. arranged outing to see historical "Early Street".

SO

EDWARDSTOWN (R. Combridge, C. Cunningham). Thanksgiving day services were highlighted ... Over \$900 in special offering for new churches ... State C.E. choir presented "Come Together" at evening service ... Gordon Stirling guest speaker ... Tuesday night Bible study on prayer well attended ... Thursday evening prior to Easter Passover and institution of Lord's Supper re-enacted ... Special Easter services conducted along with Easter camp at Mt. Compass ... Ray Smith, N.S.W., has accepted call to ministry from 1982.

MARION (E.P.C. Hollard). On Palm Sunday procession of witness held from Brighton C. of C. to St. Judes C. of E.

where a service was held ... Easter Sunday service well attended with many visitors ... Robert Clymer, Conf. Pres., preacher on Conf. Sunday at morning service ... Glenelg and Marion church choirs combined to form Conf. choir ... Marion now third largest church in state ... One decision recently ... Large cross erected on wall of chapel near communion table.

WO

RIVERVALE (B. Thygesen). 13 Y.P. attended Easter Camp at Narembeen. Two made re-dedications ... 21 present at C.W.F. with Roberta Thygesen bringing devotions ... Five baptised on April 27. Three re-dedications at service ... Film of working bees on new manse shown at after church supper ... Sally Lawson to serve at Roelands ... Attendances increasing ... Early prayer meeting on Friday mornings now 6.30 a.m. ... Mother's Day tea held. "Sher Group" presented items ... Ladies to remodel church kitchen.

WEMBLEY DOWNS (John Somerville). Picnic, cricket match and evening service held at Perry Lakes ... Church family camp held at Crippled Children's Seaside Holiday Home. Focus on Year of Disabled. Visiting 'handicapped' speakers ... Sunday morning conference on 'The Church and Unemployment' led by Dennis Ladbrook and 'Chaplaincy in Industry' with Dennis Hughes ... Interchurch fellowship on Palm Sunday held on local school lawns ... Trevor Walkington elected Elder ... David Wil-

liams has joined army and stationed at Puckapunyal ... Robyn Cant and Trevor Walkington elected to D.C.E. ... Greg Cant now working as group leader in Aboriginal Hostel at Cue.

NORTHAM (M. Randall). Claude Roediger awarded certificate for service to Town Council. ... Harvest Thanksgiving held ... Year's program presented at church luncheon ... Ladies participated in C.W.C.I. day convention. Mrs Beryl Wykes speaker ... Six women attended live-in convention at Orange Grove ... Choir sang at Conference Sermon session ... Hearth Lenders meetings included progressive hobbies and book night ... Minister study leader at Morawa Youth Easter Camp and also South West Family Camp ... Worship services now at 10.15 a.m.

MORAWA (D. Randall). Easter camp held at Lindsay and Noelene Carslake's property. Kevin Caulton study leader, Morris Randall worship leader, Dwight Randall director. 60 Y.P. attended with many re-committing their lives ... Prior to camp working bees held to improve facilities for camp ... Six welcomed into fellowship ... D. Randall to conclude ministry at end of 1981.

CASTLEMAINE (Peter Haylock). Peter Haylock conducted Easter service at Uniting Church ... Deacons meet with minister at 8.30 a.m. for prayer ... Half yearly meeting held ... B.S. family service held ... Young Marrieds group growing ... Country/city visit to be held with Box Hill in June ... Sing-a-long held in home of Duncan and May Bain ... Baby dedication service held ... B.S. anniversary address given by Dawn Kuhle at Kyneton.

HELP THE CHRISTIANS OF VIETNAM TO REBUILD THEIR CHURCHES

Despite the years of strife and bloodshed, the Evangelical Church of Vietnam has survived. It has between 200,000 and 250,000 members, mostly in the south of Vietnam. They are allowed to worship and witness quite openly, which they do - but they face one major problem.

During the Vietnam war, many of their church buildings were destroyed or badly damaged. Now, to help strengthen their witness, they want to rebuild them. They have already raised a lot of money locally. And help has come from churches in Africa, Europe, the U.K. and the U.S.A. But considerably more money is needed.

Will you help the Christians of Vietnam to rebuild their churches - and so help to revitalise their worship and witness? They would deeply appreciate such a gesture of support. Please send the coupon, with your generous, tax-deductible donation, today.



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AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

C.W.F. CAMP REPORTS

CALOUNDRRA QLD.

150 women met at Camp Cal to share in the Q.C.W.F. camp where Mrs Bess Wylie led the devotional studies entitled "Don't be a Jonah! Be Aware!" One of the many interesting facts was, "As God was concerned for Ninevah, so we must show concern for those in our world." "We are the living, loving, caring body of Christ."

Mrs Dorothy Armstrong drew us close to God as she led the Communion service in the Open Air chapel. She spoke of God's gift, Christ's gift, the Holy Spirit's gift, and our gift.

On Saturday afternoon Aileen Draney shared Missionary experiences with us, and Ivy Holloway led us in a time of prayer. To conclude the program, we saw a film on the life of John Petersen. His messages in song were an inspiration.

Dell Kiesiker. Qld.

LONGWOOD S.A.

"A Search for Wholeness" was the theme of the annual camp held at Longwood in the Adelaide hills. Alice Saunders World C.W.F. representative led the studies; i. "From Brokenness to Wholeness", ii. "Divine concern for Wholeness", iii. "Liberation and Wholeness" based on Luke's Gospel.

A film on the DeBolt family, and the visit of 9 disabled people on the Saturday, to share their experiences and ideas of fitting more easily into society were part of the program during this International Year for Disabled Persons. Physical exercises, delicious food, an hilarious concert, and a Communion service in the chapel added to a wonderful weekend.

Jenny Drilling. S.A.

HALL'S GAP VIC.

Pam Bowers, Minister Kaniva, led Hall's Gap C.W.F. camp of 50 ladies, and a spirit of love and fellowship was evident. Singing was led by Marion Feary, with Elsa Williams at the piano. Dot Ellis cooked the tasty meals.

Studies prepared and led by Joan Fewster, minister in S.A., were based on 1st Kings, and showed how the kings had trouble when they disobeyed God, and how Elijah proved what real obedience and faith can mean. Lessons were applied

TODAY'S WOMEN

to our lives telling us that "God doesn't change."

Early morning quiet times were an inspiration with Margaret Gordon and Evelyn Harmer leading us before our quiet time alone.

Judy Wheaton illustrated her talk with slides of Fitzroy Crossing W.A. where she and her husband worked with the U.A.M.

A panel of four ladies answered questions.

Ladies visited Ledcourt Homestead, classified by the National Trust. It is near Hall's Gap and is owned and occupied by Coopers, members of Stawell Church of Christ.

Mrs Helen Banks, State C.W.F. President, and Mrs Ruth Houston, Country Representative, gave talks. A focus on World Mission Evangelism Conference held in Melbourne in 1980, was given by Joan Fewster, Churches of Christ representative.

Sunday morning offering of \$110 was given to the State Aborigines Board, with a recommendation that it be put towards the purchase of a bus at Albury.

Communion service held outside was led by Pam Bowers, with others taking part. Evening devotions were given by Stawell and Horsham ladies. Helen Banks closed with devotions.

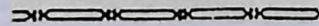
B. Crouch. Vic.

NSW CAMP

Mrs M. Macdougall, President, led 83 women in camp at Stanwell Tops. Programs were a combination of spiritual, social and intellectual topics. The camp was called the "Ing." camp because all subjects ended in "ing". We learnt about living, sharing, caring, catering, serving, worrying, writing, communicating. Talking, listening, eating, swimming, walking, a little sleeping, in the case of one woman, sketching, were learning subjects. There was a little working, a lot of raining, and laughing on Saturday night. Music and singing by Beryl Cole, Merylin James, Joan Touzell, and original poems by Pat Kerr and Muriel Naylor were also part of the program.



"FRIENDS OF ALL NATIONS"



"I would like to write about what 'Friends of all Nations' has meant to me.

Two years ago I wasn't the same person as I am now. I wasn't interested in anything. The days went so slowly. Now they go fast. I didn't go out much because I was so shy and I couldn't stand to talk to people I hadn't met before. Since I started to go to 'Friends of all Nations' it has been so easy to talk to different people.

When I was asked to speak about Christmas in my country last year at the Howrah Ladies Christmas night, it was a big thing for me and I didn't know if I could do it; but everyone was smiling and friendly and God helped me.

Last year in June I started in a Small Group which meant a lot to me. Now I have started going to Art classes. I wished before that I could be involved in more things, and now I am not so afraid.

The love and caring from my friends at the Church has made a big difference to my life."

Siv. Lindburg. Tas.



THINK ABOUT IT!

Faith is meant to be used, to cope with trials, to believe when we pray, to resist temptation, to allow God to recreate us. James 1: 2-8, 12-26.

CHRIST IS NOT HERE — HE IS RISEN.

Was it possible to be unmoved in the Holy Sepulchre, a tiny marble lined room with a rose coloured marble slab where Christ was lain? I stood and watched as people bent and kissed the cold marble, unfeeling to the touch.

I turned away and struggled out past the next lot of sightseers with cameras at the ready. I was even more disappointed when I viewed outside the Holy Sepulchre more altars of other faiths, all claiming a share of the honour of this special place. The Shattered Cross still exists today — that which should unify and enrich only serves to segregate and divide.

Later, we went to the Garden Tomb and were asked to consider what we knew of Calvary. Calvary was outside the city wall, alongside a busy highway so that those crucified could be a warning. It was a rocky hill that looked like a skull — these things I saw.

According to the New Testament, the tomb and garden of Joseph of Aramathea had special characteristics. It was a rich man's tomb specially hewn out of the rock, not just a cave. With the stone rolled away, one could stand and look into the tomb just as Mary had on that first Easter morning. No matter what evidence there is to point to this being the tomb, the most important fact is that what took place in Joseph's garden was the most significant event in all history, and the message that echoes from the Garden offers the greatest Good News to all mankind.

The secret of the Sepulchre of Jesus is not its eminence but its emptiness. Devout faith in a Risen Saviour is more important than dogmatic tradition.

So if I only went to that one place, I can say I was glad when they said unto me, "Come and tarry awhile in the land of the Lord."

Marjorie Conning. Vic.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

One morning last November, 200 members of the Salvadoran army surrounded a San Salvador school in which a press conference was being held and arrested the six leaders of the coalition opposed to the present regime in El Salvador.

The six mutilated corpses were later found dumped on the roadside. No charges were laid against the killers, nor against those responsible for the bomb which later desecrated the cathedral where the bodies lay in state.

A few days later the bodies of four North American women — three Catholic nuns and a lay missionary — were discovered in a cow paddock. All had been tortured and shot; at least two had been raped. Although the half-hearted official investigation was inconclusive, circumstantial evidence implicated Government troops in the cover-up, if not the actual atrocities.

With this disclosure, the tragedy of El Salvador made headlines worldwide. Until then, despite 9,000 deaths throughout 1980, including the brutal murder of Archbishop Romero in his cathedral, El Salvador had been just another Third World non-entity.

★ ★ ★

What is going on in El Salvador, and what concern is it of ours?

Stated bluntly, a small powerful elite which controls most of the cultivated land is being confronted by increasing unrest among the vast majority of poverty-stricken workers who generate their wealth and incomes.

Whilst the rich amass great wealth, conditions for the rest of the population (5 million in all) are appalling. Four fifths of Salvadoran families earn less than the subsistence minimum of \$800 per year. Unemployment is at 30 percent. Illiteracy and infant mortality are high. There has been no democratic election since 1972.

Fearing a Soviet-inspired revolution "in its own back yard," the United



States has pledged millions of dollars in military aid to assist the dictatorship in keeping in check dissatisfied elements.

"Keeping in check" means assassinations like those mentioned above, usually preceded by torture and mutilation. Around thirty occur each day.

Although that analysis may seem abhorrent to those of us who are by and large pro-American, it can no longer be avoided.

A colonel in the Salvadoran army told *Newsweek* (March 9) that most of the violence against the people by right wing "death squads" was probably perpetrated by the U.S.-backed armed forces.

Former U.S. Ambassador Robert White believes the policy of sending military aid and military advisors can only worsen the situation. The real cause, he argued before a Congressional committee in February, is not communist meddlers from outside. It is social injustice within. "The chief killers of Salvadorans," White charged, "are the Government security forces." He then challenged the Congressmen: "Do you really want to associate yourselves with that sort of killing?"

Apparently they do. Congress more than trebled military aid from \$10 million to \$35 million.

★ ★ ★

This approach seems doomed to almost certain failure, as the Vietnam and Iran experiences testify.

Virtually all commentators outside Washington agree that to undercut "the left" and thwart communist gains, what is needed is not a stronger dictatorship, but basic land reform. President Duarte, the military junta's front man, recently told the *New York Times*, "it is of no use to have the greatest and best army in the world if the people are dying from hunger."

True, some attempts at reform have been made, and true, the United States has also increased economic aid. But effective change has not yet taken place.

★ ★ ★

This situation is relevant to Australian Christians in several ways:

1. Many of those suffering in El Salvador are Christian brothers and sisters — Protestant and Catholic. Out of love for them we must echo the words of Archbishop Romero's last sermon: "I beg you, I plead with you, I order you in the name of God — stop the repression."

2. Professing Christians are amongst those doing or assisting the killing. The Salvadoran Government describes itself as Christian Democrat. The U.S. President and millions of his supporters profess to be born again. Surely the new birth implies compassion, and a concern for justice and peace.

3. At the root of America's involvement is its self-image as "the leader of the free world," which has led many to regard the secular state as the ultimate focus of loyalty. Isn't this idolatry?

4. Australians are morally and politically complicit in America's involvement in El Salvador.

5. We are committed to the truth from Scripture that God consistently opposes oppression and protects the rights of the poor.

6. Australia has the opportunity through diplomatic channels and overseas aid programs to foster real reforms.

★ ★ ★

May our prayer be that Australians and Americans together hear God's message from the New Testament: "Come now you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you . . . Behold the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter." (James 5).

★ ★ ★

Answer to last issue's Mustard Seeds Quiz: Karl Marx

This month's question: Jesus spoke in parables to make his message easier to understand. True or false?

JASON'S HOUSE

ALL RIGHT, JASON... IF AMERICA AND AUSTRALIA ARE AS BAD AS YOU SAY, THEN TELL ME THIS... HOW MANY PEOPLE DECIDE TO LEAVE THESE COUNTRIES...

... COMPARED WITH THE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES FROM COMMUNISM...? COME ON...? HOW MANY?

INCLUDING OR EXCLUDING SUICIDES AND DRUG DEATHS?



New F.M. Radio Station on Air



Roger Brown showing James Porter (Federal Member) how to use the studio controls.

The combined efforts of the churches in Mt Gambier, S.A. have resulted in the establishment of a non-commercial F.M. radio station. The station broadcast in stereo for the first time from May 15-20 in a test transmission. The concept was developed in 1979 by Church of Christ minister, Roger Brown and developed with support from all churches as a community project. A licence for regular broadcasting is anticipated later this year. The station, known as "Blue Lake Community Broadcasters" will be operated by volunteers, mainly from the churches.

During the trial broadcast, some 26 specific Christian programs, of various styles and interests, were heard.

The main studio has been completed at a cost of \$15,000 and is located in rented premises in the main street. Federal and State Government funds have been provided to assist the development. Local giving has exceeded \$5,000.

Many other community interest groups and non-commercial organisations are joining the churches in meeting the needs of city residents. Christian programs will include worship services, devotional and inspirational messages, a comprehensive Christian news service, the full range of Christian music, special segments for children and the elderly, reporting of significant Christian events and counselling services.

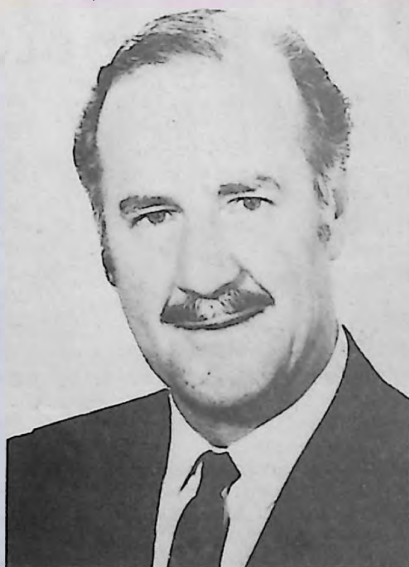
It is believed to be the first station established by the churches in non-metropolitan areas to combine Christian programs with other high quality community interest programs. Denominational heads, most of the Christian agencies, such as World Vision, Bible Society etc. and over 300 local Christians, have given their active support for the project.

In 1982, the church has released Roger Brown for a five months project to firmly establish the Christian interest programs on the station.

Church secretary, Doug Fimmell, is treasurer of the organisation, and a Director.

The Campbell Edwards Trust and The Morris Family Trust have each contributed \$100 to this project.

Life Enrichment Crusade



Geof Fletcher

The Croydon (Vic.) church will conduct a "Life Enrichment" Crusade led by the Rev Geof Fletcher between June 18-28, 1981. Geof Fletcher is Director of Lay Institute for Evangelism, N.S.W.

The Crusade will include segments for leaders, men, ladies coffee hour, couples

and young people. The Crusade will seek to deepen the Christian experience of church members, help them to share their faith and make an outreach to people in the community.

Anyone wishing to make enquiries about details could phone (03) 723 1457.

OPEN FORUM

UNDERSTANDING

To the Editor,

I recall being at a church camp and listening to a particular gentleman berating the sins of alcohol. However, I could not help but notice the rolls of fat on this same gentleman when in the ablution block. Also the number of chocolates he managed to consume during the same camp. As Tertius explained in 'Tampering with God's Word', it is so easy condemning the 'sins' of others.

Surely, if the church wants to engage in a witch hunt, the operative word should be 'understanding'. There is a danger that if we do not try to understand the sins of others, we might commit even greater sin. For how are we to know that in our condemnation of the homosexual for instance, we might cause him to have mental traumas which might cause depression and even suicide.

It sometimes may be salutary to remember that when we point the finger at someone there may be three pointing back at us.

If for no other reason I will continue with my subscription of 'The Australian Christian', just to read Tertius.

— D.C. Jeffries (Brisbane, Q.)

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

To the Editor,

When we go for a drive or a trip my wife looks for historic old buildings . . . especially churches. We were in one such the other day. I was fascinated by its stained glass windows. The colours were rich and the stories they represented were vividly portrayed. I can still see them clearly in my mind.

We walked around the outside of the church to admire its well kept grounds. Looking at the windows from the outside was an exercise in contrasts. They were dull and grey and drab against the sandstone walls.

I was thinking of this when we were driving home in one of those silences that the wife and I enjoy together. Suddenly a rare truth dawned upon my usually unimaginative mind. That is, for those of us inside the church the Christian stories and the Christian life are beautiful, colourful and meaningful. But for those outside the church they are drab, colourless and meaningless. That is obviously why so many are outside of the church, because from their angle, all that we are and stand for looks totally uninteresting and uninspiring. But what to do about it?

I had no answer to my question until the wife and I were walking home from church on Sunday night and passed St Chad's. Their lights were still on. In the deep darkness of the outside their stained glass windows were beautiful in all of their colour as the light from the church shone through them. And I thought that maybe the outsiders won't see the beauty of the Christian story and the Christian life until they feel the darkness. And until in the darkness Christians bring them the light of love and kindness that helps the outsiders to look up from the darkness to glimpse the beauty of the Christian story and the Christian life.

Yours meditatively,
Tertius.

The city's streets are his parish

Peter Chapman, 32, single, was last month commissioned by the city churches in Scots Church, Melbourne, to minister to the street people of Melbourne.

Day by day, night by night, Peter walks among the homeless young, the destitute travellers, the busking community, the lost, the lonely and the alienated of the city.

He has met the groups, the Lebanese and the Australians who have made the City Square their home base. He is starting to know the people of the Mall.

He began his work only a few weeks ago and already he has had much more contact with people than he had expected.

"I've got to know and be involved with the buskers."

He's also had quite a deal to do with homeless young people and has put them up at his home when it seemed appropriate.

Peter's address is 99 Russell Street, Melbourne — an apartment in the Scots church hall building.

At the time he spoke with me he had a young Dutchman staying with him. He's found that many international travellers have problems. And he has found numbers of spiritually lonely and lost have gravitated towards him.

Peter Chapman is officially director of "City Life" — an independent, interdenominational body, funded by private individuals and with some support from city churches.

Its objectives are to develop a caring outreach and Christian presence on the streets of Melbourne. The scope of the ministry is as wide as possible.

Before taking up his new work Peter was for several years youth worker with the Broadmeadows "Care" mission.

Churches which are backing him include Wesley Central, St Paul's Cathedral, St Francis' Roman Catholic Church, Scots Church, Collins Street Baptist and the Mission of St James and St John.

— Church & Nation

Pope's trips don't help ecumenicity

"Experience has shown that the Pope's trips, and especially the recent one to Germany, serve only to enhance the image of the Roman Catholic church and that of papal primacy. But on no account can they be called a serious ecumenical dialogue."

This statement is reported to have been made by the church council of the Evangelical Reformed Church of the St Gall Canton, Switzerland — in reference to the visit of the Pope to Switzerland in June.

The Council of St Gall said that the very brief meetings which representatives of non-catholic church organisations might have with the Pope did not merit the name of dialogue.

Editorial

"BAD BLOOD"

Stanley Graham was a dairy farmer near Hokitika on the South West of the South Island of New Zealand. He was a good farmer and proud of his herd of prize cows.

Paranoid

As the years passed something went wrong with his body chemistry and he became increasingly paranoid. He became convinced that his neighbours were trying to poison his cows. He threatened one of them with a gun. The police were called and Stanley shot four of them and disappeared into the mountains. Before it was all over four more men were shot . . . including Graham. It was one of those human tragedies that happen from time to time and are best forgotten.

But they are making a film of it called "Bad Blood" with no less a star than Jack Thompson. Why?

"The Exterminator"

A soldier in Vietnam was on patrol when a mate saved his life. Later the mate was beaten up by a gang of thugs and left a quadraplegic. Something cracked in the spirit of the veteran of Vietnam, and on his friend's behalf he set out on an orgy of violent revenge.

Now they have made a film of it called "The Exterminator", complete with a slow motion beheading, a strangulation, a mobster being fed into a giant mincer, a mutilation of a prostitute with a soldering iron and other violence. Why?

Media Violence

We've come a long way since pre-TV days when Christian Educators solemnly told wide-eyed Sunday School teachers that they should not tell children of the crucifixion until they were in their early teens, lest they become emotionally disturbed. Now you have to clear the bodies out of the back of the TV set after the children's shows, so that the adult programs can commence!

Violence and Violence

But there is violence and violence. Probably most children (and adults) are not greatly damaged by the violence of such shows as the Incredible Hulk, the Phantom, the Saint or Superman.

Inevitably the goodies win and the baddies lose and justice is seen to be rewarded and evil punished. And the violence is incidental to the story. But films like "Bad Blood" and "The Exterminator" and others seem to glory in violence for its own sake and in human tragedy for some ghoulish satisfaction.

They appeal to latent sadistic urges to wallow in the unwholesome, for the profit of the film makers. These urges are present deep in the psyche of all of us, but because we are social beings (and many of us Christians) we keep them controlled. To titillate them is neither good for society nor for ourselves.

"Exterminator" Banned

The South Australia Attorney General recently exercised his authority to ban "Exterminator". The correspondence columns of the Adelaide press have been running hot with emotive letters for and against his stand, written by people who of course have not seen the film. The privilege of viewing it was given to a select group of representative parliamentarians who later reported along party lines. The Attorney's men were duly horrified. The rest said that it was a bad picture and one that they would not choose to see, but that it should not have been banned.

A spirited defence of human rights and the right of freedom of choice for intelligent adults was made . . . by the distributor of the film!

Meaning of Freedom

Probably the best statement came from journalist Stewart Cockburn who reminded his readers that the fight for freedom of speech and freedom of information and freedom of action was won in pre-media days. And then it was a fight for noble ends. It was a fight for people to be able to worship as they wished, to be free to express their political opinions, and to be free from the oppression of church and state. He reminded his readers that the basic freedoms were never freedom to exploit the human mind and to pollute the social consciousness for gain by making millions out of man's basic urges and by an insidious debasing of human values.

God Won't Strike Us

God, of course, is not going to "strike us" if we open our minds to whatever the telly and the silver screen dole out to us.

But we can slowly and surely diminish ourselves as whole persons if the censor in our own minds is allowed to become so slack that anything slips past into our consciousness and then into the subconscious which determines so much the sort of people we are.

Paul had a good word to say in the sleezy days of Greek licence and Roman orgies in the first century. It is in Philippians 4:8.

An Affirmation of Faith

We confess that Jesus is the Christ,
the son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Saviour of the world.
In Christ's name and by his grace
we accept our mission of witness
and service to all people.
We rejoice in God,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in the covenant of love
which binds us to God and one another.
Through baptism into Christ
we enter into newness of life
and are made one with the whole people of God.
In the communion of the Holy Spirit
we are joined together in discipleship
and in obedience to Christ.
At the table of the Lord
we celebrate with thanksgiving
the saving acts and presence of Christ.
Within the universal church
we receive the gift of ministry
and the light of scripture.
In the bonds of Christian Faith
we yield ourselves to God
that we may serve the One
whose kingdom has no end.
Blessing, glory and honor
be to God forever. Amen.

— From the Preamble of the
Design for the Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ).



BEST OF BARRY McGUIRE (Sparrow SPR 1039) and BEGINNINGS John Michael Talbot (Sparrow SPR 1040)

These are both compilation albums although of different kinds. On "Best of" Sparrow have 12 of Barry's best songs from his first 10 years of Christian singing. They include six from his Sparrow albums and another six from the earlier (and far better) Word albums. The later material fades into middle of the road vagueness compared to the very explicit and uptempo early songs. A track from the ultra-successful "The Witness" is also included. (Best: Love Is, Peace, Calling Me Home.) Talbot's album is a mix of his first two (and lesser known) albums. He shows the early development of his classical/country/folk style that culminated in *The Lord's Supper* and *The Painter* Lps. The stand out track is "Would you Crucify Him". These are worthwhile compilation albums — the first as a summary and the second as an introduction.

MIDNIGHT FIRE Randall Waller (Tunesmith TS 6006)

This is an excellent Christian rock album. Randall is based in Sydney, however, this was recorded in California with a little help from such friends as Chuck Girard, Terry Clark, Randy Stonehill and Larry Norman. The subsequent music and production is superb, although these "heavies" in no way take over the album. Randall is seeking to reach non-Christians with

his music and words and I feel he does it best of our Oz artists. A number of the songs utilize the potentially vague "you", however, there is no mistake who the person is that Randall is singing about. Best tracks: *Lady of the Night*, *I Need You*, *Always Waiting*.

THE STAND Chuck Girard (Good News GNR 8112)

After his last very commercial album, it was interesting wondering where Chuck was going to go next. Well, it is a very well balanced album, with both rock and ballads. Each song has real content that is aimed particularly at Christians, or pseudo-Christians, whether they be busy ones (*Busy Day*), compromising ones (*Border Town*), or newly converted ones (*The Stand*). There is not one track on the album that misses (that's a rare thing!). The production and musicianship is top-rate and the content and teaching can't be faulted. My favourite track is *Soldier*. Highly recommended.

RANDY MATTHEWS (Spirit ND 2005)

Randy was one of the first contemporary Christian singers. His earlier albums were recorded on a label Word Inc. founded for the purpose — Myrrh. I was surprised to discover that it's five years since Randy has released a studio album. This self-titled set is a worthy follow-up to the earlier material. He has gained an almost Joe Cocker gravelly voice as he sings songs mostly penned alone or with San Dee Tillee. The exceptions are the first and last tracks. The first (*Which Side Are You On*) is actually a song by Arlo Guthrie (Woody's son), who has himself recently become a Christian. The album is full of tight, well-done rock songs — some for non-Christians. Best: *Which Side are You On*, *Miracle Man*, *Sweet Relief*.

SHALLOW WATER Servant (Tunesmith TS 6000)

This is an album suitable to use as a witnessing tool. It is commercial sounding rock, with challenging words about materialism, pride, helping others and commitment. The members of *Servant* live in a Christian community where they put into practice what they're singing about. Best: *Water Grave*, *Shallow Water*, *Holy Roller Blues*.



C. BUENO

"YOU SHOULD COME AROUND MORE OFTEN, DIBBLE.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD USE THE SLEEP!"

A Tribute to Keith A. Jones

For a number of years health limitation required Keith Jones to limit his activity and on Saturday morning, April 18 he suddenly died.

A cremation service was followed by a Thanksgiving service in the College of the Bible Chapel on April 22. It was led by S. H. Wilson assisted by A. B. Clark with a tribute being paid by the writer.

Keith came to College from Western Australia in 1926 and graduated in 1930. During College days he served with our churches at Hawthorn and Hampton and continued at the latter in a full-time capacity until 1934. During 1934 he studied youth work in England prior to taking up the Directorship of the Victorian Youth Department. He led this work until 1941 and developed camping activities and pioneered the Good Companions and Explorers as important parts of the youth program in Victorian churches. He lived in College from 1934 to 1940 and in 1935 served as Housemaster during the overseas absence of the late A. R. Main.

The first marriage in the new College Chapel in June, 1941, was that of Keith Jones and Alma Cowper. In this year they transferred to South Australia for a ministry with the Maylands church. During the six years in South Australia Keith was active on Brotherhood Committees and was President of Conference in 1946.

At the beginning of 1948 he took up duties with the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, and served as Secretary and Housemaster. For 22 years he continued in this ministry. As he moved around Australia, representing the College, he inspired confidence and won the love of many people. He became knowledgeable of our people in many places. After retirement at the end of 1969 he continued various activities and served as secretary of the Association of former students of Glen Iris.



Keith and Alma Jones

From 1958 to 1966 he served as secretary of the Federal Conference Executive. He was also involved in various Victorian Conference Committees and was Conference President in 1957.

When Keith came to the College in 1948 he and Alma entered into active membership with the church at Gardiner where he became a deacon and then an elder and was finally made a life elder.

In every relationship he was a concerned person who loved and was loved. His work was not done with a fanfare of trumpets but with quiet efficiency. He could be trusted without question and his discernment was most reliable. The great personal impression that he made was that of a Christian gentleman who was kind, friendly, humble, gentle and genuine. His friendship was something that many treasured. A. B. Clark remarked that he appeared as nearly perfect as a human person can be.

We are grateful for a life so well lived for

77 years, for a faith that made it easier for others to hold faith and for a passing that came peacefully and quickly when the quality of his personality was still in full bloom.

— E. L. Williams.



Birribi (Aboriginal word meaning fresh water crossing place) Christian Learning Centre came into being three years ago in South Australia. The idea was to train youth leaders for involvement in their local church at the leadership level in a practical way rather than at a theoretical level. There was also the idea that those involved would live in a community.

The first 12 months saw five involved in the training program with Noel Holmes as the supervisor. There were some problems involved in getting churches to support those young people who were undertaking the course and seeing them as leaders with in the church.

Arising from the first year's experiment it was decided to keep the live-in community. As well because of the demand by not only youth leaders but others, a variety of lecture/seminars were offered to all who wished to be involved. The changes saw 72 involved in various courses. The loss of the full-time in-service training came about partially because of the tighter economic climate and partially because of the original participants' involvement creating interest from others in their churches for some part-time learning opportunities.

This year Birribi is offering 23 courses in a variety of areas. The main areas are Personal Christian Growth, Youth Work, Outreach and Education and Children's Ministry. The courses are designed to supplement the local church especially in the area of leadership training. It is also assumed that those participating in any of the courses will grow in their own personal development and spiritually through their involvement.

Gerald Rose, Christian Education Director, explained that the courses were designed on an inductive approach rather than on lectures. Each course has a written outline but at the first session those involved negotiate the goals and the material is then fashioned to meet these goals. It is also assumed that participants will themselves have inputs to share with others.

An attempt to keep the community approach as one ingredient of the course is again one integral part of this year's operation.

The Birribi, Christian Learning Centre, is located at 251 Payneham Rd., Joslin and information on all the courses can be obtained from the D.C.E. Office, 104 Grote St., Adelaide.



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HAPPENINGS

The Bible Society has appointed Rev Stewart Jones as their National Scripture Distribution Consultant.

"Opal Chips" the paper of the 'Catacomb Church' of Coober Pedy has a unique distinction. It has now become the town newspaper.

There was a large response to an invitation to take up missionary service at the memorial service of Chet Bitterman, the Wycliffe translator murdered by terrorists on March 7 in Colombia.

Rev Eustace Kamanyire has been elected as Bishop of the Ruwenzori Diocese of Uganda. He returned to Uganda after its liberation in 1979.

Young people are from Namibia, South West Africa, who fled into Angola, to escape military conscription. The students are now being taken to Zambia to continue their studies thanks to airlifts from the Lutheran World Federation and the United Nations High Commission on Refugees.

Mother Teresa will visit Sydney later this year to attend a National Conference on Handicapped Children at Macquarie University sponsored by the Festival of Light.

Trevor Huddleston, Anglican Archbishop of the Province of the Indian Ocean, is the new President of the Anti-Apartheid Movement.

The number of candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood has boomed in Latin America. Greatest increases have been in Brazil, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Columbia, Argentina, and Chile. One seminary in Santiago Chile which had no students in 1970 now has 121 seminarians.

Athletes in Action the basketball team of Campus Crusade for Christ won the Philips World Basketball Championships held late last year. They won the final by a very narrow margin after the opposition teams officials disputed the result.

Despite the fighting in El Salvador, aid agencies are still attempting long term development work. At Sansonate, World Vision is setting up a co-operative food store

which will be run by the local peasant community. It is hoped that the project will be self-supporting by September. Seven members of the community will manage the store. A number of Protestant churches are co-operating with the project.

Legal history was made in Greece when the New Testament was read in public in a modern translation. This was previously an illegal act, but the court ruled instead, 'The reading of the Gospel in the demotic language does not harm the State or the Church.'

China now has 18 film studios, of which four were devoted to making scientific and educational films, one to animated films and another to documentaries.

Three evangelical churches in Lyons (France) have been set on fire deliberately. Two were destroyed, the third seriously damaged, but no one was injured. The reasons for the fires are unknown.

The Hungarian Bible Society has heavily criticised the continued smuggling of Bibles into the country. Such practices undercut the sales of the new official translation, published in 1976, and which was helped by money from the West.

The Rev Canon Peter Kong Kit Kwong, aged 44, was consecrated on March 25 as Hong Kong's first Chinese Anglican Bishop. Kwong became the ninth bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Hong Kong and Macau.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE 1981

Western Australia's 84th Annual Conference was held in the Christian Centre, April 8-12, 1981. Frank Raymond was the Conference President, with his theme from II Corinthians 5:18, "The Ministry of Reconciliation."

The Conference was memorable for several reasons — the admission to our Brotherhood of the wholly Aboriginal church at Looma; the best attendances for years; and the passing of a motion to withdraw from the W.A. Council of Churches and to disassociate from the Federal link with the World Council of Churches.

The Conference addresses were given by W. A. preachers, G. B. Carslake, K. C. Denton and R. Taylor. Musical items were provided by Mrs Lesley Hogben, the Warwick singing group and the Northam choir.

The Presidents' Reception Tea was a great success with a large crowd present; the tables filled the dining hall and the adjacent City Church Youth Hall.

Representatives from other churches were invited and a greeting on their behalf was brought by Mr L. Watson of the Baptist Union.

A special feature this year was that all available Past Presidents of Conference and their wives were there as invited guests. 22 Past Presidents were able to be present, with terms of office going back to 1934 when Roy Raymond, Frank's father, was Conference President. They were introduced individually and Allen Pyne responded on their behalf. Country preachers and new preachers to the State were also introduced to the assembly.

The Women's Auxiliary Conference on April 8 was presided over by Mrs Elsie Taylor just 75 years after her grandmother, Mrs D. A. Ewers, was President of the first Women's Auxiliary Conference

in 1906. Over 300 women were in Conference and at their luncheon. A well attended evening rally, at which Brice Wells was the speaker, concluded a great day.

The first item of business on the Saturday was a thrilling and historic moment when the church at Looma, inland from Derby and some 2,000 kms. north of Perth, was admitted to our Brotherhood. The members of the church there are all Aborigines and we were delighted to have two of them with us during Conference — Limerick Malanuka and Sandy Spinks. The membership is well over 100 but because of their walkabout habits there are usually only about 50 or 60 in Looma at any one time.

It was also good to have with us Wally Chapman, visitor from the Park Hills Christian Church, El Paso, Texas. He was trained at Kenmore College. He brought a greeting from our American churches.

Almost two hours were spent in deliberative groups where comments, questions and suggestions were made and recorded. Responses from the committees were typed, duplicated, assembled and sent to all of the churches by the following weekend. The following plenary session, when the printed reports were received and adopted, was shorter than in past years; there was little discussion from the floor. Preceding the consideration of its report, each committee was given 5-10 minutes to present a brief segment highlighting its work and program.

After the luncheon break the motion to sever affiliation links with the W.C.C., A.C.C. and the W.A.C.C. was introduced. By arrangement two speakers, in about 20 minutes, presented prepared statements supporting the motion and two speakers did the same in opposition to the motion.

After a reasonably brief debate the motion was carried by a substantial majority.

On the Sunday afternoon a crowded auditorium enjoyed the inspiration of the final rally of Conference. It included some enthusiastic singing by the congregation, a musical segment by the Northam choir and a stirring message from Robert Taylor.

Frank Raymond's leadership through the year was acknowledged as he was presented with a copy of God's word. The incoming President, Robert Taylor, was introduced and he responded suitably, announcing the theme for his Conference Year as "He Speaks With Authority."

The special offering for the Preachers' Provident Fund amounted to \$520.

The next Conference is planned for March 31-April 4, 1982.

MAGAZINE CEASES PUBLICATION

The student community of the College of the Bible announces with regret that there will not be a College magazine published this year.

The decision not to publish has been made as a result of financial problems, mainly due to decreasing sales of the magazine.

BAPTISTS AND CHURCHES OF CHRIST (2)

We continue our letter to Charles concerning the difference between Baptists and Churches of Christ.

Ministry and Church Government

Both Baptists and Churches of Christ believe in the priesthood of all believers and thus the ministry of the LAOS (people) or laity. Churches of Christ have been strong on what they call the mutual ministry, meaning the right and responsibility of all Christians to fulfil whatever ministry they are capable of. Mutual ministry applies in the worship of the church and in its caring and outreach ministries.

Churches of Christ and Baptists both believe in the autonomy of the local congregation, but both have accepted the practice of local churches working together through state and federal conferences that enable co-operation, between churches, but having no authority over them.

At the local church level Baptist churches are governed by deacons, elected by the congregation. Normally Churches of Christ have followed the New Testament precedent and have had both elders and deacons (Acts 14:23; 15:16; 1 Timothy 3: 8-13).

Both Baptists and Churches of Christ have an ordained ministry, but neither group has what might be called a "clergy class".

The Doctrine of the Church

Baptists and Churches of Christ both believe that the New Testament is the authority for the faith and life of the church.

The history of the Baptist movement has conditioned it to be more concerned with the individual, the local congregation and the denomination, than with the church as a whole.

Their Anabaptist ancestors in Europe were tragically persecuted both by the church of Rome and by the Reformers, in the name of "the Church". In England they were the left wing of dissent and part of the Separatist movement which worked to try to bring about the separation of church and state. They fought and suffered for the cause of individual freedom against the strongly entrenched and fiercely oppressive Church of England. "The Church" was their enemy.

Not Keen on Visible Union

Hence Baptists have an historic distrust of churches with a powerful centralised structure, and of movements that they believe might be leading in that direction. So while Australian Baptists co-operate with other churches within limits, they are not very keen on the idea of Christian union or the visible unity of the Body of Christ. They are proud of their Baptist denominational heritage and of their historic name, and they wish to keep it the way it is.

Churches of Christ traditionally have deplored denominationalism and have hoped for the breaking down of denominational barriers so that the unity of Christ's Body might be manifest to the world, so that the world might be won to him (Ephesians 4:4-6; John 17:20-23).

Page 13

The Name of Christ

Churches of Christ believe that denominations or party names are divisive (e.g. Baptist, Lutheran, Presbyterian). They have preferred to describe the church as it is; Christ's church, the Christian church, or the church of Christ. Every congregation of believers on earth is a church of Christ, whatever denominational name it may use. Churches of Christ prefer to describe a local congregation for what it is, a church of Christ. They believe that all congregations together are better known for what they are as churches of Christ. Churches of Christ do not use their name in any exclusive sense, and would like to see all Christian congregations describing themselves in this way and thus using the uniting name of Christ rather than divisive denominational names.

Disturbed about Diversity

Churches of Christ have always had strong convictions about the New Testament doctrine of the church as the Body of Christ, loved and redeemed by our Lord (Ephesians 5:25-27). They think of the whole church as Christ's Body, with Christ as its head and the Holy Spirit as its dynamic life force, continuing Christ's mission on earth. Hence from the beginning Churches of Christ were disturbed about the division of the church into a proliferation of sects and denominations, a division that stultified its life and spirituality and impeded its mission. They believe that the division of the Body of Christ is contrary to the mind and will of our Lord who prayed for the visible unity of his Body so that the world would be won to him (John 17: 20-23; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13; Ephesians 4:1-3; 13-16).

Divisions Could be Healed

So Churches of Christ believe that their mission is to plead for the unity of all Christians. They believe that this unity can come about if Christians will get back behind the historic divisions of the church and restore New Testament Christianity. They have talked of their *PLEA*, the plea for Christian unity through the restoration of New Testament Christianity. They believe that the divisions in the Body of Christ could be healed if Christians could discover from the New Testament, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the mind and will of Christ for the contemporary church. They believe that the unity in diversity that would thus result would commend itself and the gospel to the world.

Restoring New Testament Christianity

Baptists also believe in restoring New Testament Christianity in the interests of liberty and truth. Churches of Christ share this with them but go of the Body of Christ, something in which Baptists are not very interested. Churches of Christ are not interested in union as an end in itself, but as a means to evangelising the world, which after all is the church's major function (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; John 17:20-23).

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.

AMBROSE, Mrs G.
(13.4.81). Mrs Ambrose died at the age of 87. She was baptised in June 1923 and had been in continual membership with the Ipswich church since that time. Her association with the East Ipswich church goes back to the very early days of that church. For the last 13 years she has resided at Orana House, Lauriston. Sympathy is extended to her son Ken, her sisters Mrs Dobbie and Mrs Rowe and to other family members.

—Gordon Feeney

OLIVER, Vernon Louis
(3.4.81) After an illness of seven months Vern died. Vern began his walk with God at the age of 14, when he accepted Christ in the Morsham church. That decision was to be his strength in the years that followed. After his marriage to May Rowland 30 years ago, his farming work was to take him into S.A. where he became widely known and loved. Vern was Churches of Christ through and through. The Noarlunga Central church has experienced much answered prayer on Vern's behalf, and will miss him from the fellowship. Through his illness Vern never lost his faith. To May and their children, Graham, Roger, Julie, Sheryl and their husbands, and to Meredith, we extend our deepest sympathy and support with our love and prayers. The writer, with Mr. Hunting and the Rev. P. Sarre (Francis Congregational) officiated at the service.

M. Munyard

ROBERTS, Mrs Ethel M.M.
(22.4.1981). Born in 1893, she was one of 5 children in the Parker family. In her teens she met Basil Roberts and they were married in 1910. Their only child was Thelma (Mrs Len Begbie). The family lived successively in Malvern, Broadford, Caulfield and Frankston. Mr Roberts died in 1973 at Frankston. Mrs Roberts was a faithful wife. Mr Roberts worked shifts as a tram driver and Mrs Roberts cheerfully fulfilled all the chores this involved. Mr Roberts suffered much ill health and Mrs Roberts cared for him with patience and love. For their livelihood her son-in-law and daughter endeavoured to develop a nursery. To help, Mrs Roberts took their sons Don and Ken into her home and cared for them. Mrs Roberts was manifestly practical, generous and considerate towards others. She served voluntarily with the Queen Victoria Hospital, the Melbourne District Nursing Service and the Red Cross Society. She was a loyal and consistent church member. She was regular in church attendance, generous and practical in her support of C.W.F. and faithfully in her stewardship of time, talents and treasure. In 1974 Mrs Roberts entered the Christian Guest Home Oakleigh. Services were conducted at a funeral parlour and at the Frankston Cemetery by the writer. Condolences are given to her family (daughter and son-in-law, three grandchildren and six great grandchildren).

—W. W. Saunders

VIC

PYRAMID HILL (C. G. Henderson). Steady increase over 12 months in morning attendance. Average now 52 with 33 communicants. Plans underway to increase evening attendances... Choir formed, age ranging from 9-15... Seminar arranged by Minister's Fraternal in Boort and Pyramid High Schools with Bruce Lesley and Richie Gunston... C. E. travelled to Bendigo to view 'Joni'... S.S. attendances up... Jolly Juniors, primary school children, weekly stories around Psalm 23... Ladies K.Y.B. group studying Mark... Mrs Holley Thomas visited C.W.F. with part of her salt and pepper shaker collection.

MARYBOROUGH (K. Haythorpe). Combined Easter service held Good Friday. B. Thomas, Uniting Church, speaker... Fred and Mavis Davies celebrated ruby wedding at family service... Youth club members attended camp at Belgrave Heights... Several study groups operating during week... Ladies Aid celebrated birthday with luncheon.

CHELSEA (P. Bradley, S. Ogden). Tom Frazer, final year C.O.B. student, has accepted call to minister in 1982... Good Companions recommenced under leadership of Mrs Jan Scott... Nine, including student minister, shared in Intermediate Explorer inter-club tent camp at Cathedral Ranges.

SANDRINGHAM (J. & E. Clapp, T. Williams). Church at Hampton now known as Sandringham Church,

Hampton St... Inaugural service held on May 24... Elections for joint board. Four Elders are Os Cooper, Doug Allen, Liz Benjaminen and Maisie Purvis... C.W.F. jumble raised \$130... Maureen and Barry Jenkins fund raised \$126... Good Companions sixth in outdoor sports. They held South American night with Bible Society material... Support group operating... Four Easter services held including Maundy Thursday... Church saddened by death of Dot Lanyon.

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Evangelism at Ipswich, Queensland

Amazing Grace Crusade

The three congregations of the Ipswich church (East Ipswich, Bundamba and Redbank Plains) shared together in an Amazing Grace Crusade with Bill Gaunson of the North Balwyn church.

The Crusade was held March 11-23 the venue being the Coal Miners National Hall at Booval.

The Crusade resulted in 28 primary decisions and 10 re-dedications.

As a climax to the Crusade a Thanksgiving Dinner was attended by 127 adults, whilst 40 children were entertained at a children's party at the East Ipswich Hall. At the dinner Bill issued a challenge to the church, and following a short gospel address, five young people made primary decisions. The thank offering amounted to \$1,040.

The Crusade was drawn to a close as five of the soloists who had shared in Crusade sang together, "My Tribute".

Two highlights of the Crusade were primary decisions made by five girls from a Uniting Church Family Group Home for Teenage Girls. These girls had witnessed the baptism of their social worker (Julie Davies of the East Ipswich congregation) some weeks previously, and were able to share in a number of the Crusade activities.

The other highlight involved three teenage boys from Redbank Plains. Last December, while walking home from a friend's home, they were all injured in a freak car accident. The accident claimed the life of the fourth person in the group. This young man was the only one of the group to have committed his life to Christ. The church rejoiced as one by one these other three young men committed their lives to Christ.

Six discipleship classes are being conducted for those who made both primary decisions and re-dedications at the Crusade.

Wings of Light

The Crusade was followed later by a visit from the "Wings of Light" musical team from the U.S.A. This group of 13 singers and musicians are currently on a four month tour of Fiji, New Zealand and Australia. Their visit is sponsored by Youth for Christ.

They conducted the 9.30 a.m. service at East Ipswich, providing a rich experience of worship through a 50 minute presentation of music, singing and congregational participation.

The flexibility of the team was demonstrated as they changed the presentation to suit an older congregation at the 11.00 a.m. worship service.

As a result of their visit, several new families have expressed interest in being involved with the East Ipswich congregation.

Open Air Campaigners

A further two weeks of evangelism will take place in July with a team of Open Air Campaigners.

This program will include after school activities at Bundamba and Red Bank Plains, gospel concerts (including shopping centres), house meetings, coffee



Wings of Light Gospel Team

— Photo courtesy "Queensland Times", Ipswich

mornings and a number of dinners aimed at reaching particular age groupings.

Ministry in high Schools

Ipswich State High School — Janelle Coleman of the East Ipswich congregation is the co-ordinator of an exciting and growing I.S.C.F. group at this school. This group has grown from seven students and one teacher to 50 students and four teachers. Young people who claim to be gnostic and members of cults have been attending this group. This group meets on Monday, on Wednesday they meet for prayer, and on Thursday, 25-30 Grade 8 students meet for their I.S.C.F. program. Last year there were no participants from this class. A further outreach is planned through a camp at Sonshine Ranch in May.

Bremer State High School — Mrs Dorothy Rice (wife of the Ipswich minister) is involved in the R.E. program at this school. Although R.E. is on a voluntary participation, the school principal has requested that the whole student body (approximately 1300 students) come together every six weeks for a special program arranged by the R.E. team. These special programs of music and a guest speaker have had a good reception in the school.

Bundamba State High School — John Cupitt of the Redbank Plains congregation graduated from Kenmore Christian College last year, and this year has commenced training as a Campus

◉ Continued on Page 16



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Darwin on the Move

Services at the Darwin Church of Christ are now held at the Malak Primary School until our own building is completed. The school is located in Malak Crescent approx. 500 yards from our church land. Service times are 10.30 Worship and Communion and 7.15 Gospel Service. If you are in town ring 27 9572 for information.

An operation tourism is effective during the dry season to aid the building fund. \$10 per night per person for bed and breakfast. Caravan sites are also available.

Please contact Mrs Anne Nebauer, 11 Adina Cres., R.A.A.F. Base, Darwin, 5790. Telephone (089) 80 5509.

URC approves Covenanting Proposals in UK

Proposals that five English Churches should covenant together as the first step towards organic unity have now overcome a second major hurdle when they won the approval of a substantial majority at the general assembly of the United Reformed Church.

The proposals would mean the URC accepting Episcopacy into its system as part of the means whereby all five covenanting churches, the others being the Church of England, the Methodists, the Moravians, and the Churches of Christ, would agree to recognize each other's ministry and sacraments.

Since it represents the union of the Congregationalists and the (English) Presbyterians, the URC has inherited a healthy tradition of distrust for Bishops. That has not stopped it from endorsing the proposals, which will return to next year's Assembly for a more thorough vetting. The Church of England's General Synod gave the proposals provisional approval in February, though by majorities that may not be enough to ensure final approval in July 1982.

The URC Assembly also gave final approval to plans for union with the Churches of Christ, which is to come into effect in September this year — reducing the number of churches actually covenanting to four from the original five. — EPS.

Evangelism at Ipswich

● From Page 15

Life Director with Youth for Christ. A large part of his ministry involves being on this campus of almost 1,000 students several days each week. John has been steadily gaining an acceptance in this school situation, and is developing a counselling and sharing ministry. Opportunity has been given to address these young people at assembly.

The Ipswich church has grown from 132 active members when the first Church Growth Seminars were held to an active membership of just over 300 at the present time. The church has set a growth goal to reach a membership of 350 at the end of 1981.

— B. A. RICE

Low Alcohol Content Beers and Wines

John Williams is the Secretary of the S.A. Temperance Alliance. He sends out a little magazine called "P.A.C.E." In one issue that came to our desk we noticed a reference to low-alcohol-content drinks. Curious about where temperance people stood on these drinks we wrote to him.

I notice in your P.A.C.E. handout a reference to "low al" wines and beers.

The secular press has of course referred to these as being able significantly to reduce the road toll and other alcohol related problems.

In the past Temperance organisations have been reluctant to say much about these, and indeed have opposed them as being subtly dangerous thin edges of the wedge. The idea was that these would coax abstainers to become drinkers, and that they might start young people drinking.

My query is, has there been a change of attitude amongst temperance societies on this matter? Are they now putting their weight behind their use in place of harder stuff, for the sake of society? Also how do wine and beer drinkers react to them? Do they taste "as good"? And what do the "big vested interests" such as breweries and wineries think about them?

As a complete layman on such matters and totally without expertise, it seems to me that if "low al" drinks are going to save lives and homes and people in an alcohol-orientated society, some one should be pushing them.

Every good wish.

Yours sincerely, — Gordon.

Dear Gordon,

Thank you for your letter.

Actually the S.A. Temperance Movement has no policy on 'low al' wines and beers but most would adopt the view that abstinence is the best method but

that any way that lowers pure alcohol consumption is a step in the right direction. I would most likely promote 'low al' for drinkers more strongly than most other people.

Realistically 85% of the population does consume alcohol and I try to encourage these people to at least cut down their alcohol intake.

The responsible person consumes lower alcoholic beverages. L.A. beer now has between 8% to 12% of the beer market. Hotel keepers tell me the 'young bucks' still want the highest alcohol content available. Education never seems to get through to that group.

As for taste, I believe taste is something that is personal and is acquired. Over the years I have had a wide range of views from 'the same' to 'nothing like the real thing'. Biasses come through. Breweries and wineries usually state that their expertise as putting liquids into bottles. They claim that they are just as happy putting non-alcoholic beverages into bottles as alcohol provided they can sell it. It is my belief that in the future the liquor industry will lower the alcohol content of their products.

A few years ago when Coopers launched 'Trak' the first L.A. beer, I was invited to the launching ceremony and was interviewed by the four television channels as well as the radio stations. Coopers placed absolutely no restrictions on my comments. Coopers last week came out with a new L.A. beer and have produced some good 'ditty' type advertisements complete with cartoons.

The argument that low al and non al leads to the consumption of alcoholic beverages is slowly disappearing. Some folk do not like the colour or the shape of the bottle, the label etc., but they are becoming fewer in my experience.

With kind regards, — John.

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-Up! (03) 848 1546 or 848 8636

ALBURY: Albury Singles Club (060) 25 1910.

NUNAWADING: Unhitched (03) 877 6077 or 873 4531

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

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

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

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Latest on The Changing Moods ...



"Australian Christian" readers will be interested to learn of the activities of **The Changing Moods** since their 10th anniversary 12 months ago. 1980 was a very successful year, with performances at numerous churches within the Brotherhood and at other denominations from Werribee to Montrose and from Cheltenham to West Preston. The highlight of the year was the variety, gospel concert at Box Hill High School which raised nearly \$1000 for the "Leukemia Auxiliary of the Royal Melbourne Children's Hospital". Other highlights were the performances at the Swan Hill church as part of their 70th Anniversary celebrations and participation in a variety concert.

The initial part of 1981 has been exciting with performances at a number of churches over the Melbourne Metropolitan area. At the moment we are busy preparing for a performance at Pentridge Gaol (which should prove to be very interesting) and our first weekend away for the year at Kaniva. We are also looking forward to our fund raising concert at Box Hill High School later in the year along with another country trip, this time to Yarrowonga. I think that it's appropriate to mention how much we enjoy ministering to the many churches we visit, and also how much we appreciate the fellowship and hospitality of the people we meet.

The trip to Kaniva has been organised by the church to coincide with the Town's Centenary year. The group will be performing in concert at the Kaniva Town Hall on Saturday June 6, and all proceeds will be donated to the Kaniva Hospital's fund for extensions. On Sunday June 7, the group will be participating in a combined service again at the Town Hall.

At the conclusion of 1980 we were sorry to see a couple of long standing members leave us after many years service. We have been able to cover these losses by recruiting some capable musicians and singers, we now have **Allan Van Dammo** on keyboards along with **Trevor Booth** (drums), **Andrew Smith** (bass), **Gailann Sutton** (flute), **Ian Ferris** and myself on guitars ably lead by **Ernie Walker** on reeds and in his capacity as Musical Director. Conductor **Harold Plummer** is responsible for the vocal aspect of the group and is well supported by a good chorus of singers and some very talented soloists. (By the way, **Harold** (848 1093) or President **Andrew Smith** (848 1872) would love to hear from anyone interested in joining the group!) **Bronwyn Booth** and **Christine White** take care of the Choreography and I must also mention **Kevin White** and **Warren Williams** who do a great job with our lighting effects.

I would like to thank all those who have supported us over the years and who will no doubt continue to do so.

— Phil Davey, (Secretary)

Seminars in Christian Communications

Dr James Engel, noted evangelical communications specialist, is coming to Australia in June to conduct seminars in Sydney and Melbourne. Dr Engel, is Director of the Billy Graham program in communications at Wheaton College, U.S.A.

The seminars are being organised by the School of Marketing in the University of New South Wales and by **Pilgrim International Limited**, the Christian communications organisation with headquarters in Sydney.

The seminars for church leaders and Christian executives are entitled "Marketing for the non-profit organisation and fund raising for the '80s". They will focus on the relationship of organisations and their clientele and issues such as fund raising, stimulation of prayer and volunteer activity.

The seminars for clergy and church workers are entitled "What's gone wrong with the harvest?" These

seminars will discuss a communications strategy for the church and for world evangelism.

The seminars, each lasting one day from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. with light luncheon provided, will be held in Sydney on Tuesday, June 9 and Wednesday, June 10. The seminars in Melbourne will be held on Thursday, June 11 and Friday, June 12. The venues will be St Andrew's House, Sydney Square, Sydney, and the auditorium, St James Old Cathedral, Batman Street, West Melbourne. The fee for each seminar will be \$35.00 for individuals.

To register for the Sydney seminars write to Miss Rhonda Heyman, Registrar, Engel Seminars, Pilgrim International Limited, 62 Pitt Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000 (telephone (02) 27 8981). For the Melbourne seminars, to Miss Jenny Barnett, Registrar, Engel Seminars, Anglican Information Office, Cathedral Buildings, Flinders Lane, Melbourne, Vic. 3000 (telephone (03) 63 2531).

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BIRTHS

DUNN (SAUER) Mark and Jan announce the arrival and welcome with love their twin daughters, Elissa Joy and Wendy Beth (Identical) born Thursday 30th April, Ballarat Base Hospital weighing in at 5lb. 9½ oz. each. Thanks be to God.

ENGAGEMENTS

HAMILTON-CRAWFORD Annetta and Mark, together with their parents, Glenys and Dean Hamilton, Ella and Tony Crawford of Launceston are very happy to announce their engagement.

DEATHS

FRASER Gladys Clara, Wife of Will Fraser of David Street, Georgetown, N.S.W., passed away peacefully after a long illness in the morning hours of May 7th at Kara Nursing Home, Mayfield. "Absent from the body present with the Lord."

IN MEMORIAM

NOTMAN Alexander George 21.5.80. Treasured memories of our loved husband and father. Wife Vi., Ron and Joan, Jan and Phill, Marie and John and grandchildren.

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VIC

HORSHAM (Wally Gibney). Church tennis team won 'B' grade premiership. Adelphi Tennis Club gave life membership to Eric Butler, Mrs Dawn Brooke and Miss Dianne Frieble... Good Friday service held... Dinner and P.S.A. held for members 60 years and over. Speaker Wes James of Boort.

OAKLEIGH (Dr. C. J. Mackenzie). Married woman baptised... C.W.F. won decorated stall competition at local shopping complex for fourth year... Minister attended Ministers' Seminar at Monbulk... Evening services reverting to 5.00 p.m.... Children presented "The Music Machine"... Good Companions growing.

RINGWOOD (K. & S. Ludgater). Easter special musical "According to John" staged at Civic Centre... Dedication service held for 14 babies... Square dance very popular... Evening service at 5 p.m. during winter... 9.15 a.m. family service growing... Over 50 attended

Brotherhood Rally in Melbourne Town Hall... Keith Ludgater attending Asian Christian Conf. in Bangalore as Aust. C. of C. representative... Recent guests Graham Scott, Brian Powell and Brough family.



YOUTH DIRECTOR WESLEY CENTRAL MISSION

A Youth Director is required to co-ordinate the total youth program of the Wesley Central Mission. This would involve administration of Daniel's Den drop-in centre and coffee shop on weekends and a weekend crisis centre; organising camps for children and underprivileged youth; the team training of volunteer youth leaders; organising occasional Youth Concerts; visiting street youth contacts at home when in personal need or sickness, and organising occasional youth rallies in Wesley Centre.

The applicant must be a dedicated Christian willing to become involved in the Mission's total program. This dedication will be evidenced by an active involvement in the Christian Church.

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8.15 p.m. Program and supper

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60th Anniversary

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Sunday May 31st
11 a.m. Worship and Praise
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After church luncheon

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MARRIAGES

● Leanne Tyers to Warren Matherson, Maryborough, Vic. ● Bev Hamilton to Brian Cox, Robyn Dawe to Malcolm Culverhouse, Kedron, Qld.

DEATHS

● Dot Lanyon, Sandringham (Hampton St.), Vic. ● J. E. Webb, Oakleigh, Vic. ● Helen Maud Wilmot, Launceston, Tas. ● Jack Williams, Tootgarook, Vic. ● Bert Lassig, Barollne St., Bundaberg, Qld.

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- 3. ACTS GRANT TOUR OF BRITAIN** — See Britain in depth. Leaving on August 1st this 37 day tour gives 29 nights in Britain with a 4 day stop-over in Kuala Lumpur/Singapore. We tour England, Scotland, Wales with adequate time in London, Highlights will be visits to the Isles of Skye and Iona, and the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Our Group Leader is Rev. Les Hatton, Chaplain St. Andrews Hospital Melbourne. A value tour at \$3485.00 from Melbourne or Sydney.
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- 5. 36 DAY TOUR TO AFRICA** — 10th World Orchid Conference in Durban. Departing September 5th we spend 25 days in South Africa, 9 days in Kenya, and 3 days in Mauritius. Our Group Leader is Tom Paterson (former Director of Road Transport, Commonwealth Department of Transport) assisted by Val Steward of Sydney. From Mel or Syd: \$4250.00 or South Africa section only: \$3016.00.
- 6. ALICE SPRINGS & THE RED CENTRE WITH ACTS/AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC** — We have 2 places left on 16th September departure, 4 on 6th August and 3 on 23 September. Hurry for a place on these popular tours.
- 7. PILGRIMAGE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY & UNDERSTANDING** — This small group will leave for Auckland on September 5th then via Rotorua and Waitomo to TeKuiti from where they will visit the Madonna Falls — scene of a vision of the Virgin Mary and a place of healing. Price is \$695.00.
- 8. A 16 DAY CAMPING TOUR TO CENTRAL AUSTRALIA FOR THE UNDER 35's** — DEPARTING OCTOBER 3rd WE VISIT MILDURA, PETERBOROUGH, WILPENA POUND, along the Birdsville track, BOULIA, ALICE SPRINGS, AYERS ROCK, COOBER PEDY, CLARE, ADELAIDE, etc. Bring only your sleeping bag, eating utensils & toothbrush. Price from Melbourne is only \$448.00.
- 9. VISIT WEST AUSTRALIA AT WILDFLOWER TIME WITH ACTS/AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC** — Our 18 day annual tour to West Australia departs on October 19th by luxury air-conditioned coach for the trip to Perth. On the return 2 nights are spent on the train. Prices from Melbourne 1st class rail \$1231 (economy rail \$1186); from Sydney \$1308 (1236); Adelaide \$1093 (1048); Brisbane \$1450 (1378). Pensioner concession applies.
- 10. POPULAR TASMANIA TOUR WITH ACTS/TRANS OTWAY** — This is real value. We leave by air on Monday October 19th and visit Launceston, Devonport, Somerset, Zeehan, Queenstown, take a Gordon River Cruise, Hobart, Huon Valley, Port Arthur, Richmond, St. Helens, etc. Our 10 day tour is by comfortable coach, we have good accommodation, and two meals per day. Prices are from Melbourne \$575.00; Sydney \$667.00; Brisbane \$754.00 and Adelaide \$659.00.
- 11. ACTS TOUR TO NEW GUINEA & NEW BRITAIN** — Departing on October 21st this 13 day tour takes us to Port Moresby, Lae, Goroka, Kundiawa, Mount Hagen, Wewak, Rabaul etc. With good accommodation, this is very good value. Leader is Rev. W.M. Constable, Director of Australian Church Travel Service. Price from Sydney \$1590.00 or Melbourne \$1699.00.
- 12. SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING** — Departing on October 25th this ever popular 18 day tour visits Christchurch, Tekapo, Mount Cook, Oamaru, Dunedin, Gore, Milford Sound, Te Anau, Manapouri, Queenstown, Alexandra, Haast Pass, Fox Glacier, Greymouth, Picton, Wellington, Napier, Rotorua, Waitomo, Auckland etc. Price from Melbourne \$1075; Sydney \$1040; Brisbane \$1070. An optional 14 day extension is offered at a supplement of \$258.00. Group Leader - Mr Sirrell Grimmett of Wodonga, Victoria.
- 13. MIDDLE EAST ADVENTURE TOUR** — 31st December - 31 days. Visiting Egypt (9 nights); Israel (10 nights); Jordan (3 nights); with Bangkok (4 nights); Singapore (2 nights). A fascinating trip with the Rev. Paul Harrison of Brisbane Baptist City Tabernacle. From Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide - \$3349.00.
- 14. VISIT U.S.A. CANADA IN 1982** — Departing April 6th 1982. Details of this 36 day comprehensive tour with Rev. Gordon Kemlo will be available shortly. Register now for advance information.
- 15. GO CRUISING WITH ACTS/SITMAR IN BEAUTIFUL FAIRSTAR** — from Sydney, January 31, 1982. New Zealand Cruise - Milford Sound, Timaru, Picton, Wellington, Auckland, Bay of Islands. 14 nights/6 ports with Rev & Mrs W.M. Constable. Fares from \$855 to \$2030.00.

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TAS

HOBART (George E. Powell, John D. Morrow). Half day chains of prayer held at both Howrah and Collins St. culminating in a Last Supper service held at 10 p.m. Maundy Thursday, based on dramatic presentation of the Last Supper, with the disciples and Christ seated around the table . . . Children's Church workshop conducted to familiarise those involved in teaching methods. 40 involved in 10 workshops . . . Community Hymn. Singing recorded at Collins St. and broadcast on May 17 . . . Committee set up to investigate aged persons housing . . . "Friends Of All Nations" program received Government grant . . . Youth involved in statewide camp at Bicheno over Easter . . . E.W.F. progressive dinner aided Collins St. Renovation Fund . . . A.C.W.F. monthly Winter Luncheons commenced.

NUBEENA (Cec Neville). On March 7 Boys Brigade billy cart derby attracted large crowd . . . Boys Brigade won their

Hospice Care in Victoria

From page 1

Hospices which was held in Adelaide. About 50 people were expected to attend, but nearly 200 arrived, including doctors, clergymen, nurses and politicians.

Following the Adelaide meeting, Dr Banks became the convenor of the steering committee for VAHCP together with Dr J. Buchanan, Dr W. Moon, Rev. R. Scott and Rev. F. Somerville (chaplains), Sister M. Brigid RSC, (religious sister), Miss M. McNicol (nursing sister) and Miss B. Donnelly (social worker).

The meeting called by the steering committee will be held in the Bowden Auditorium, Royal Women's Hospital, Grattan Street, Carlton, on Tuesday, June 16, at 8.00 p.m. Those wanting more information could contact Dr Trevor Banks, 40 Roslyn Road, Belmont. (Phone (052) 43 2988) or Miss B. Donnelly, Anti-Cancer Council, Victoria. (Phone (03) 654 2411).

cricket match city v. country by 80 runs . . . 85th Annual Convention held on March 29. Dr Bill Tabbernee speaker on Sunday morning — Harold Street, former minister, speaker at evening service . . . 32 enjoyed Easter hike under leadership of Willis Christian . . . Frank Nicol, Hobart, guest speaker at evening service.

LAUNCESTON (M. D. Hamilton, K. J. Allison). 26 Y.P. attended Easter camp at Bicheno . . . Henry Dubbeld spoke on "Christian Marriage" and engaged couple shared what they had learnt at an Engaged Couples Course . . . Church saddened by sudden death of Mrs Wilmot . . . Over 100 attended C.W.A.F. special Mothers' night . . . C.W.A.F. shared in evening service on May 10 . . . One young person made confession at recent Bill Newman Crusade.

SO

NOARLUNGA (M. Munyard, F. Hunting). Over 200 presented for commissioning service of recently formed 23rd Company Boys' Brigade State Pres. G. Ratcliff delivered charted to M. Munyard who commissioned officers and boys. Address given by Rev. P. Threapleton, Battalion Pres . . . 149 attended second monthly family service at 9.30 a.m. . . . Temple Day offering on same day exceeded \$8,300 . . . Special meeting approved recommendation to proceed with tenders for new worship

centre and resident funded cottage complex for elderly and retired people.

NSW

BURWOOD (R. Powell). 61st Anniversary celebrated May 3. Open day at S.S., including prize giving and talk by Miss Judy Heath commenced day. Ron Hewitt, Teloopa, guest speaker. Middle-aged man baptised and four families welcomed into fellowship. Picnic lunch held at Cabarita Park along with S.S. parents . . . Boys Brigade "Anchor Boys" group formed to cater for 5-7 year olds . . . Over Easter B.B. No. 2 section combined with Greenacre B.B. for camp at St Albans. Three boys made confessions of faith during camp.

THORNLEIGH (Paul Cameron). On Mother's Day nearly all taking part in service were mothers. On the same day the setting aside of the Elders was held. The Elders are Fred Atkins, Ron Bartholomew, Vic Dallinger, John Ellery, David Garrett, Ed Newton and Phil Neville.

ECHUCA (Arthur Symes). On April 25 Y.P. rendered two items at Bendigo Youthquake . . . Church auction raised \$255. Ladies made \$103 on their trading table . . . B.S. increasing in numbers . . . Men's tea guest speaker Max Broadway, hospital social worker, actively involved in Salvation Army youth work . . . C.W.F. meetings held monthly.



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Deane Olafsen

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the suffering and the sadness of the sick — and also the place for the sick answer, the religious cliché, the glossing over of human pain and anguish with pious platitudes — but there is a place to meet the challenge of representing the person of Christ. This is a stimulating, frightening, spirit stretching and enriching personal experience.

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How One Church Did It

The church at Ararat has about 70 members. At a recent gospel service they had 165 present, most of them adults, and most of them non-members. How did they do it?

Family Guest Service

In faith they decided to try a family guest service. It was a "special" with guests participating, but that is not what filled the place to overflowing. Invitation letters brought the crowd. Each member was provided with as many as he could use of a printed letter in which he filled in his name and that of his wife in the spot for the signature and in which he filled in the names of their friends after the word "Dear . . ." The letter is below.

Not Every Sunday

Of course on the next Sunday night the church did not have 165 present. But valuable contact had been made with 100 people. 100 people were feeling warmer towards Jesus Christ, his gospel and the people of the Ararat church, and thus open to further approaches by the church. Any of these people feeling need for help or for God in the future will be more likely to turn to the local Church of Christ. This was one more way of making the local church visible. It was one more way of following Paul's injunction that by "all means we may save some".

The Letter

Ararat,
29th March, '81

Dear Peter and Helen

I would very much like to have you as my Special Guest at our "Family Guest Service" at the Church of Christ, High Street, on Sunday, April 12th, at 7.00 p.m.

The service will not be a concert, but there will be two talented guests present and contributing to the worship.

— Mr Tom Coad, who is well known in Ballarat for his delightful Gospel singing, and

— Mr Frank Clarke, who is a teacher at "Ewing House," the Ballarat School for Deaf Children. He will also be known locally for his regular "Good News Spots" on 3BA. Mr Clarke will speak with the children in a special segment.

With Will Erwin at the organ and Bev. Stevens at the piano, Bert Stevens will be leading bright singing.

I look forward to you accepting and being with me in this "Family Guest Service". Yes, I will contact you again before then.

Sincerely Frank and Merle Gason.

Jesuits Unwelcome

"Sweep South America clean of Jesuit priests" is the cry of anti-communist delegates representing 20 Latin American countries, meeting in Argentina.

The order has been blamed for promoting guerilla movements under the guise of evangelism.

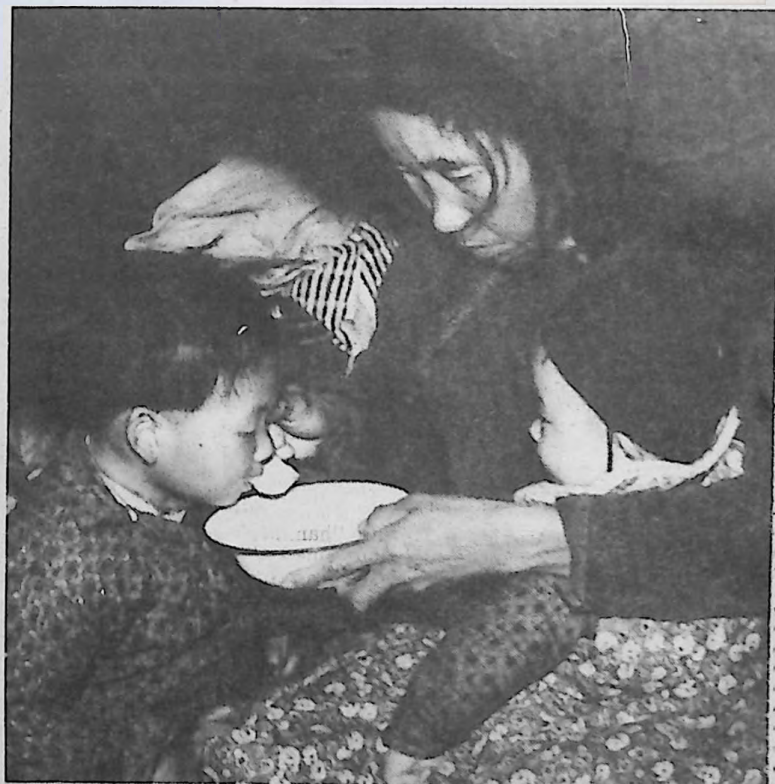
At the same time many church officials say that the Jesuits are bringing new hope and a commitment to Christ among the Latin people.

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Ambrosia by Chris Ambrose

FELLOWSHIP

We talk often in our churches today about the importance of fellowship and we encourage many to be involved in fellowship and yet many are not very good at fellowship. Over this last weekend at the Coburg church a couple of examples led me to think about this more fully. We had a fancy dress night as a Regional Board fund raising function. A great time was had by all.

As well over the weekend we had several people around for a meal. We sat and gossiped over the meal table and later around the fire as it was freezing. We talked about church, unimportant trifles, concerns and we shared our normal selves. From this casual informal conversation a deeper understanding of each other grew and fellowship was enhanced.

Mary has often said that it was through the friendship of some of the people in the Launceston church that she came to be involved in Churches of Christ.

Today we live in a fairly mobile society. Many people move because of their jobs, education or the availability of housing at a realistic price. For many this means the loss of contact with family and friends. For some with young families this means the loss of grandparents and many grandparents lose the joy of seeing their grandchildren grow up. This time of moving is a great time to look at what is important in a personal life. It can also lead to a sense of loneliness. If our church is an open caring church then it show concern for these moving people.

One of the main aims of the church is to win people to Christ. If we are true to the Great Commission we will be concerned that people come to a living,

saving relationship with Jesus Christ. This is tremendous. However if at the same time people are not truly showing that new commitment in their spiritual life and they are falling out of the practice of corporate worship of God then we are failing in our task.

The Church Growth school has at least taught us to be aware of the problem of the church losing out through people disappearing through the back door. In some cases it is because they have lost the burning faith they possessed, mainly through apathy. Sometimes it is over a doctrinal issues. However most often this back door loss is because they have lost that elusive quality of "fellowship". They end up finding it via work, the bowls club or somewhere else. Then gradually God becomes less important in their lives.

One problem that does arise sometimes in churches that do major on fellowship is that we have great fellowship with each other but outsiders find it very hard to come into that fellowship. Most people are shy and nervous in a new setting. They are afraid to open up themselves in case they are hurt emotionally.

As churches we should examine ourselves. Just how much good fellowship and friendship do we show? Are we concerned about the fringe people as people from whom we can learn and grow? Are we caring about the visitor and newcomer who comes into contact with the church? First impressions are very important and will affect the way a person views a particular church for a long time. Why not sit down and look at the biblical understanding of fellowship and see how well your church measures up.

THE LAST WORD

Sick or well, blind or seeing,
bond or free, we are here for a
purpose, and however we are
situated we please God better
with useful deeds than with many
prayers or pious resignation.

— Helen Keller

My pepper plants just don't progress.
My beans seem in a stupor —
To me, my garden looks a mess —
The bugs, though, think it's super!

— Marie D. Boehringer



The other day I heard my five-year-old boy screaming in the playroom, and when I ran in I found the baby pulling his hair.

"Never mind," I tried to comfort him, "your baby sister doesn't understand that it hurts you."

I hadn't been out of the room for a minute when more shrieks sent me running back. This time the baby was crying:

"What's the matter with baby?" I asked the boy.

"Nothing much," he replied calmly. "Only now she knows."



Little Mary had been brought to town for the day and it was her first experience of a passenger lift.

"Wasn't it funny?" she said, as she came out. "We went into a little house and then the upstairs came down."



The candidate for a state office forgot for the moment that he was speaking in a school gymnasium to people from small villages nearby. Wanting to be sure to promise them enough to assure their votes, he told his listeners that he would see they got one-way streets when he was elected. At this one old villager got up and asked, "If we only have one street in town and you make it one-way, how do we get back home?"



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