

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

Registered for Australia Post
Volume 93, No. 2

Publication No. VAR 0761
17 February 1990



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Rapid Waters

The Waters brothers, from left, Martin, Rohan, Andrew and Rodney, competing in Red Cross Murray Marathon. The Waters, of the Explorers Canoe Club, established a course record and finished third on handicap.
—Story page 3

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Vol. 93

No. 2

17 February 1990

Managing Editor: Chris Ambrose
Assistant: Geoff Alves

Issue	Deadline
3 March	21 February
24 March	14 March
7 April	28 March

Address for All Correspondence
(including all subscription payments)
PO Box 101

North Essendon 3041
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After Hours (03) 337 8349



Member
publication of the
Australian
Religious Press
Association

National logo of
Churches of Christ
in Australia



"The Australian Christian" is published
by the Board of Management of the
Australian Christian, a Department of
the Federal Conference of
Churches of Christ in Australia.

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Printing by New Litho Pty Ltd,
63 Sunbury Cres,
Surrey Hills 3127

Responsibility for electoral material is
accepted by Chris Ambrose,
3 Hamlyn St, Essendon 3040

This publication is indexed in the
Australasian Religion Index

ISSN 0004-8852

Advertising Rates

Displayed: \$4.40 per column
centimetre

Classifieds: \$9 for the first 25 words
and 10c for each additional word

Guest Editorial

Sometimes, Something Is Missing

by Alan Morris

When I entered Woolwich Bible College in 1942 I wanted to be a minister of the calibre of those who touched and inspired my life and above all to fulfil the call of Christ to ministry.

As much as I wanted to I did not become an outstanding orator like some of our great preachers of the time, but I did my best.

My perception of being an adequate minister of the Gospel came very early and clearly. It came in the words of our Lord and in the demonstration of those words in his life: "I am among you as one who serves," (Luke 22:27) along with other statements in John 12:25-26, John 13:1 and Mark 10:45: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." The Lord's ministry was people orientated and I discovered that those who were successful ministers were those committed to pastoral ministry. Sad to say the most inadequate area of training in my college years was the preparation for counselling. What wonderful opportunities for training exist today.

One minister whom I respected and whose church was bursting at the seams was most inadequate in the pulpit but a mighty man among the people. My years of ministry in parishes, as a chaplain in the army and hospitals and amongst the aged has reinforced my belief that the title "minister" is the most adequate to describe the role of those in the ministry of the Church. Lord Tennyson wrote, "My idea of heaven is the perpetual ministry of one soul to another." Our Lord, through his great trial—the temptations, the experience that was to set the standard of his ministry and the use of his divine powers, was himself refreshed when "angels came and ministered to him".

"Times", we say, have changed, but human need is the same. We live in a world drawn together by technology into an immediate neighbourhood yet loneliness is a disturbing characteristic of our time. Professionals such as doctors have restricted their house calls, the tradesmen no longer call, the corner shop has by and large gone and—dare I say it?—the professional clergy seldom call. That seems to be what I hear. There is much anti-clergy and anti-church feeling about but never in a community where God's people are truly at work and a congregation is visibly led



and nurtured by a good pastor.

The "home" visit I have found to be most important. The home is the place where pressures are being felt and openness often discovered. One hears of the appreciation of those who call with meals or nurses who make home visits.

The encounters of Jesus with men and women, as recorded in the gospels, are

so meaningful as he deals with their humanity. Those encounters continue when as his followers we commit ourselves to people.

"Given to hospitality" is another area that is sometimes missing from the life of the church as we become more institutionalised.

Finally, I would like to mention something about communion. So simple, so sacred, given to us by the hands of the Lord. Constantly reminding us of his presence as we share it together each Sunday.

Is our ministry offering it in areas where it can be most significant, such as at home or hospital, during a time of sickness, incapacity, age or stress, for people who are not able to attend at church?

We urge our people to attend the house of God—what of those who need the church in the home?

Thank you for the opportunity to share and to say: "Sometimes, Something is Missing".

• Alan Morris was born at Ipswich, Qld, and was a foundation student at Woolwich Bible College in 1942. He has had ministries at Hamilton, Albury and Wagga Wagga, NSW, Fullarton and Clovelly Park, SA, and Wembley, Inglewood, Subiaco, Wembley Downs and Dalkeith Road, WA. He was an army chaplain for 32 years, a hospital chaplain at the Repatriation and Royal Perth Hospitals and is presently honorary chaplain at Bethesda Hospital. He was Chairman of the Churches of Christ Homes Board, serving on aged persons boards in SA and WA for over 35 years, and served on the Youth Committee and the Christian Centre Board. He was WA Conference President in 1964 and 1984. He married Ivy (nee Roffey) in 1945 at the close of his training. With three children, Robert, Bronwyn and Chris, and five grandchildren, Alan's life has been blest with a loving and supporting wife for over 44 years of marriage.

The Murray Waters



From humble beginnings in 1969 when 10 paddlers completed the 400 km journey to raise \$250 the Red Cross Murray Marathon has developed into the largest, toughest and longest canoe race in the world.

The journey, from Yarrawonga to Swan Hill, is now governed by a race committee, supervised by water patrols and backed up by full land crews.

The race now raises nearly \$150,000 as more than 300 boats make their way down the river in five daily stages.

The four Waters brothers hit on the right combination this year and completed the course in the record time of 25 hours, 25 minutes and 59 seconds.

The brothers, Andrew, 19, Rohan, 22, Martin, 25, and Rodney, 28, were competing as part of a contingent from the Churches of Christ Explorers Canoe Club.

The Explorers took no chances in their preparation and took along a chaplain and masseur in their party to make sure that body and soul were equally well looked after.

The Waters crew are no strangers to the Murray Marathon.

Their father, Vin Waters [from the Footscray, Vic, church], has completed the course 18 times.

Each year the family has made its annual "pilgrimage" to the river, and each of the brothers has completed the

marathon in a variety of canoe styles.

But this year the Waters had something special planned.

After putting in hours of preparation each week on the Maribyrnong River in K1 and K2 kayaks to build up fitness levels, the real focus of their attention was taking shape in the Baptist Church hall in Tottenham.

They had never built a K4, and over a period of months the 36-foot Olympic-specification balsa and fibreglass kayak gradually took shape.

It was put in the water only three days before the marathon.

"It was the flagship of the marathon," Vin Waters said. "Everywhere along the course people lined the banks to cheer as the boys paddled past."

The crew had its share of drama and luck. On the first day they had to wait in hope while they passed over a snag that ran the length of the boat.

It touched the rudder, but miraculously did not damage it. They hit three other snags downstream and each time the rudder emerged unscathed. When the presentations were made, the Waters had the shortest time, established a course record, became the first crew to break six hours for the long 96 km second-day leg from Tocumwal to Picnic Point and achieved third place on handicap.

—Story courtesy of the *Essendon Gazette*

The Paddlers' Padre

Milton Oliver joined the Explorers Canoe Club this year for the first time as chaplain. His report:

Early on Boxing Day paddlers and land crew made the annual pilgrimage to Mulwala on the Murray River for yet another Red Cross Canoe Marathon. While the dedicated land crew and serious paddlers arrived by mid-afternoon, it was no surprise when the Waters contingent made a very belated grand entrance well after dark—and minus the evening meal that they had faithfully promised to supply!

Over the few days of the marathon the land crew, the paddlers and our five-year-old mascot, Dean Oliver, became a close knit, if nomadic, little community and many great moments were shared together. In all eleven paddlers braved some pretty daunting conditions to wave the Explorer flag and set an example of sportsmanship unequalled in the water. Many commented to me later about the outstanding demeanour, behaviour and goodwill shown by our paddlers.

No marathon paddler could hope to survive without the strong support of a lively and innovative land crew. Each night weary hands and muscles were expertly treated and soothed by Dr Cerceeda Tipping and expert masseur and naturopath Paul Davies, while hungry tummies were satisfied with plenty of good food and an endless supply of slapstick humour.

Mascot Dean issued a tough challenge by trying to stay up latest each night and by wearing the same clothes each day. He was trying to imitate Vin Waters, and even started talking almost as much as Vin does too!

Each night the chaplain raised some important issues in devotion time, as we confronted with the challenge of

Jesus Christ in today's Aussie setting and how we could be responding to him.

My necessary equipment and odds and ends, thrown in at the last minute, were popular, and the "Padre's Pasta Dish" was a hit, too, on the third night.

At the finish line the crowd warmly received the Waters, who had to be assisted from their K4, "The Great White Shark", exhausted, although Andrew still had enough strength to croak a request for food.

Later, as Rohan attended a media interview on behalf of the team, and to which spectators were listening on loudspeakers, he was asked by the interviewer, "What makes the K4 team so special? Surely as brothers you must have some fights out there when things get hot?" To which Rohan replied, "I think we got rid of any of that during our training. But as well as being brothers, we are also brothers in Christ! He went before us each day and paved the way for us out there."

This was one of the rarest kind of sporting interviews where the response of Christian living came to the fore naturally.

There was nothing contrived about Rohan's response, in fact several mornings we had prayed together as a team about how God could use our witness in his own way without orchestrating events.

This was my first marathon and I hope it won't be my last. I've made some important friendships and learned to share with others, affirming their unique value and respecting their unique talents. These talents grew and created adventure, which all ages, sexes, personalities and vocations thoroughly enjoyed.

Lower Blue Mountains Building Project Progressing Well



New building at Blaxland under construction

Progress on the new building for the Lower Blue Mountains church, at Blaxland, NSW, has been pleasing and the members are eagerly looking forward to using this new facility. The

building has created a great deal of interest among residents in the local community, with many favourable comments received about its pleasing design. Construction began in October last year and church members have been working side by side with the builders and tradesmen in a voluntary capacity.

When completed, the complex will consist of a multipurpose hall, a smaller meeting room, a kitchen and toilet facilities, a church office and foyer

and off-street parking. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by May, with Sunday services and other activities commencing in the building soon afterwards.

The official opening is planned for 21 July. The incoming State Conference president, Keith Farmer, will be the speaker.

The church currently meets each Sunday morning at a local school hall. While the church has found the school's facilities to be excellent they are anticipating that many other community activities will be possible in their own building, particularly during the week. Several new outreach projects have been planned to take place when the building is completed.

Church members would like to express their appreciation for the practical and financial support received from the Brotherhood for this building project. Many churches have contributed generously to the cost, which has assisted the church in meeting unexpected increased construction costs.

"The Best Camp I've Ever Been To!"

Where's that? It's the camp where very few games were played, as it turns out, but where discussions raised in the study sessions continue in small informal groups long after the studies are over.

It's the camp where the Word of God is the subject matter discussed in the dormitories. It's the camp of which many have said, "I'll be back next year." The camp is held in a quiet river valley at the Campagners for Christ camp site at Cheshunt, Vic.

Favourable comments were made at both of the one-week camps that were the 41st annual Cheshunt Camps of the North-East District Churches of Christ.

One experienced senior camper wrote, "The whole group was united...not cliquy...they mixed well and respected the authority of the leaders."

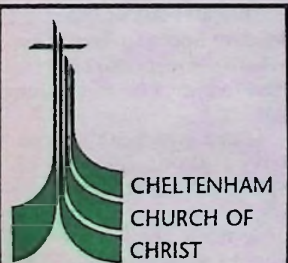
Clearly the Cheshunt camps are well received, and the site plays a vital part in this ministry.

At the senior camp there were 35 campers and leaders while the junior camp numbered 66. Campers come from not only the North-East but also from interstate, but the organisers would like to see more from Melbourne churches.

Improvements to the site have been greatly appreciated. The cooks liked the updating of the kitchen but more is still to be done. It's planned to upgrade the boys dormitory, the eating/meeting hall, including the kitchen, and the toilet blocks. A live-in working bee is planned for the long weekend in March.

For further information on the camps or the site ring the caretaker on (057) 29 8258.

—Report from the North-Eastern Churches of Christ, in conjunction with the Murray Region Committee of Campagners for Christ



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Hope for Port Fairy



Roy Hope

Roy Hope commenced a part-time ministry with the Port Fairy, Vic, church on 7 January. He was inducted by Don Smith, Executive Director of the Department of Mission, Education and Development.

Roy completed a lay ministry training course at the Churches of Christ Theological College, Mulgrave, during 1989. He is well known in the area, having been actively associated with the Portland church for a number of years.

The Port Fairy church is making good progress with attendances swelled by many holiday visitors.

Roy and Margaret may be contacted at 95 Banks St, Port Fairy 3284, phone (055) 68 1367.

The church is currently being assisted by a subsidy from the Vic-Tas Department of Mission, Education and Development.

Christian Projects General Manager

Christian Projects has finished its first year of trading and believes there is enormous potential to provide services to church members and also, more specifically, to raise money for church projects. To capitalise

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on that an additional staff member has been appointed.

Warren Murray will be joining the team as General Manager. He is chairman of the elders at Northside Community Church in Sydney, Chairman of the Department of Church Development and Education, and was NSW Conference President in 1987-88.

"Warren will inject new vigour into the organisation," enthused Bob Smith, CP President. "We're excited about the possibilities with Christian Projects, and another person on the staff means more sales and better service. We're going all out to reach our goal of giving \$10,000 per week to churches by the turn of the century."

Christian Projects' range of goods and services includes stationery, insurance, the CP security bond, home videos and audiotapes, travel opportunities and a retirement/investment service. Contact Christian Projects at P0 Box 140, Carlingsford 2118, for more information on any of their products, or phone 008 242 904 (in Sydney 872 2825).



Warren Murray

Honorary Fellowship for Colin Wheat

For almost 100 years the London Central School of Religion, an independent study institution, has served the church worldwide. A number of Bible and theological colleges in Australia use the facilities of this English college for examination and accreditation purposes.

Principal at Momonup



Bob and Rhonda Whan

Have you ever packed to make a journey while unsure when you would be going? It would be even more difficult packing and arranging for an 11-month absence from your home while still not knowing your departure date.

Bob and Rhonda Whan were in that situation until 24 January, when they finally heard that their entry visas for Papua New Guinea had been approved. With 28 January the departure date there were many hasty last-minute arrangements to be made.

Bob and Rhonda will be living at Momonup for the next

11 months. Bob will be the principal of the Men's Bible School at the request of the PNG Conference of Churches of Christ. Bob has come from ministry at the Wagga Wagga, NSW, church. He and Rhonda previously served in Papua New Guinea from 1968 to 1979 and so are well suited to assist with the work at Momonup.

David and Rhonda have been released by the Wagga Wagga church for a 12-month period. David Jones has commenced a ministry with the church.

There is a need for more experienced ministers willing to serve as pastor advisers in Papua New Guinea. Please contact the Overseas Mission Board, PO Box 320, Unley 5061, phone (08) 271 3620, if you are interested.

H. Colin Wheat has had contact with the London Central School of Religion for a number of years and has now been invited to become an Honorary Fellow of the college.

Colin is now in his seventh year of ministry with the Manning, WA, church in Perth and is lecturing at the WA Bible College in church history and New Testament exegesis. He also wrote courses for and lectured at the NSW Churches of Christ Theological College.

L. C. F. Higgins

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Bangladesh—Education for Change in Kurigram

Kurigram district in Bangladesh is home to a large landless population: some two-thirds of the people own either no land or not enough to grow food for their own needs. The district is particularly vulnerable to both floods and drought.

Among the landless families, most adults cannot read or write. Four out of five children from these families do not have the chance for even the most basic education.

Basic Education Is Vital

A local voluntary agency, Eso Kaj Kari (EKK), works in co-operation with Caritas Bangladesh in Kurigram district. Its main focus is to reach the people living in poverty with practical education programs for children and adults. In February, Force Ten will contribute towards EKK's program of literacy and basic life skills education.

Over the next three years, EKK plans to set up a total of 90 "Functional Literacy" centres where adults can attend classes. Each class has between 20 and 25 students. It costs EKK about \$A75-100 to set up an adult literacy centre.

Children's Education

In recent years EKK has turned its attention to children's schooling as well as adult liter-



acy. It plans to establish 10 "feeder schools" for children in Kurigram. Each school will cater for 50 or 60 children.

Training for Change

Education, for EKK, is not an end in itself. By organising people into groups that share the same problems, EKK community workers encourage them to look for ways to improve their lives.

Once the groups are formed, they can begin such self-help projects as handcraft production, fish farms, gardening and goat rearing. They can learn about their legal rights. They

support each other in times of need and find strength in numbers. They can take out larger loans for fish farms, poultry and handcraft projects and other schemes to provide food and income.

One Bangladeshi village broke the poverty cycle with some help from the church when a group of 20 landless labourers was able to secure a loan of \$900 to set up a small fish pond. With the money and some of their own, they excavated a pond and stocked it with fish. The fish provided a valuable addition to their usual diet of rice, lentils and (once or

twice a week) vegetables. Within a few years they were able to repay the loan. Money earned from selling the extra fish went back into the group's funds. Now the group has bought a second pond from its own savings.

In its three-year program, EKK plans to build on the work it has been doing since it began in 1980. This will mean reaching over 3,000 with basic literacy training and involving over 15,000 in self-help groups.

As a Bangladeshi woman, who recently learned to read, says, "So much can be stolen from us, but education cannot."

1989's Top 10

Each year *Christianity Today*, a respected American Christian news magazine, lists the news stories that the staff see as the most important stories of the year that impinge upon the church.

1. Decline of Communism. Their choice for the major news story of 1989 was the decline of communism. The lead paragraph summarised 1989 by stating: "More than any other year in this decade, future historians might well look back on 1989 as a landmark, largely because of the virtual political revolution in Eastern bloc nations."

2. Abortion. The second choice was the US Supreme Court's decision in *Webster v. Missouri*, which sent the abortion battle back to the states.

3. Televangelist and Accountability. The highly publicised trial and sentencing of Jim Bakker to 45 years in prison marked the end, religious broadcasters hope, of a troubled era.

4. Drugs. Issues related to drugs held a bigger place on the agenda of the church.

5. Crackdown in China. The flickerings of democracy in China were quickly snuffed out, raising concerns about the

future of religious freedom in Hong Kong, which China will take over in 1997.

6. Moral Majority Calls It Quits. The organisation that embodied the emergence of the religious right as a powerful political force closed shop.

7. NCC Woes. The sudden and bitter resignation of the National Council of Churches' top executive highlighted a year of fundamental restructuring of the ecumenical organisation.

8. World Evangelisation. Two worldwide conferences highlighted an emphasis on reaching the world with the gospel.

9. Evaluating Bush. The jury is still out on the new presi-

dent, who has sent out mixed signals on issues of importance to Christians.

10. Missionary Dangers. The risks assumed by those who witness in the world's trouble spots were especially evident in 1989.

Vietnamese pastors Ho Hieu Ha and Nguyen Huu Cuong arrived in Los Angeles on 12 January after agreeing to emigrate to the United States as a condition for their release from prison. The two pastors, who travelled with their immediate families, were met by officials of the Christian & Missionary Alliance.

• 1990 Is Churches of Christ in Western Australia's Centenary Year

Centenary Celebrations Begin in Western Australia



Jodi Drown, Warwick, serving at the Australia Day Tennis Tournament

The West Aussies are celebrating 100 years of Churches of Christ ministry in their state. The first of many major events planned for the year was the Australia Day Tennis Tournament on 29 January at McCullum Park. It was a marvellous day with 234 players and plenty of supporters.

The day nearly didn't happen—45 mm of rain poured down all day Sunday from a big rain depression, but cleared for them on Monday! City and country people came together, there was plenty of competition and the day was thoroughly enjoyed. It was a cool day of 26° with a gusty wind blowing. Warwick had 55 players involved and Harvey 26.

Winners on the day were:

Mens "A"	Richard & Greg Esmond	South Perth
Mens "B"	Brian Taylor & Barry Johnson	Harvey
Mens "C"	Peter McCaskey & Denis Wilkinson	Warwick
Mens "D"	Andrew Croot & Anthony Marcon	Murdoch
Ladies "A"	Diane Bond & Betty Fabry	South Perth/ Rivervale
Ladies "B"	Avril Smyth & Michelle Ingham	South Perth/ Whitfords
Mixed "A"	David & Raema Stanford	South Perth
Mixed "B1"	Audrey Marshall & Rob White	Harvey
Mixed "B2"	Roger & Sue Denton	South Perth
Mixed "C"	Kaye & Stuart Godber	Nollamara
Junior Girls	Lee-Anne Shreeve & Angie Wilson	Warwick
Junior Boys	Cameron Yorke & Matthew Reid	Bullcreek

Following the tennis, many of the weary players and families stayed on for tea. The 96FM Skyshow followed as a spectacular music, laser and fireworks display on the Swan River. They were all part of a crowd of 400,000.

It was a marvellous beginning to what will be a tremendous year of celebrating our partnership in the gospel as Churches of Christ in WA.

WA Archives

On "Proclamation Day", 21 October 1890, T.R. Bates arrived in Perth from South Australia and in response to a resolution of the 1889 first Intercolonial Conference of Churches of Christ, set about "planting the cause in Western Australia". The first meeting to "break bread in memory of our Lord" was held at Veryard's Temperance Hall, Barrack Street, on 2 November 1890.

1990 is therefore the centenary year for Churches of Christ in Western Australia and an exciting program of activities has been planned.

One centenary project is the collection and collation of important historical documents and photographs for storage in the State Battye (History) Library of WA.

A small committee of very interested and committed Churches of Christ members is trying to find this material, at present located in old church cupboards and members' at-

tics and garages!

An appeal in *The Western Christian* has already resulted in valuable historical material coming to light.

Could it be that some previous WA members/ministers have material tucked away that could be of value to the Archives Committee?

Particularly wanted are past issues of *The Christian Evangelist* (1912 to approx. 1934) and *The Western Christian* from vol. 1, no. 4 (April 1935) to vol. 7 (1941) and also October 1942 and April 1944.

If you think you may have some material please contact the Convener, Merle Peacock, at either 142-146 Beaufort Street, Perth 6000, or 9B Mary Street, Waterman 6020 (home phone (09) 246 2110).

If you do not wish to part with your historical document perhaps you could arrange to have it photocopied on acid-free paper and then send the copy to WA.



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Letters to the Editor

Letters are limited to 200 words

Standards

To the Editor,

As Christians surely our standards in every area should be above those of the world.

The proliferation of "Kids Klubs" is not only degrading those beautiful children God has entrusted to the church, but is bringing English expression down to the lowest level. One would not think they were in any way connected with a Christian organisation.

Are we as a people ashamed to honour the name of Christ, or indeed to make a marked association with the Christian church?

It is time for people in Churches of Christ to stand up

for the name above all names.

Christian Endeavour has unashamedly identified itself with Christ and the church in name and motto down through the years.

—Dorothy Elliot
(Jannali, NSW)

Theocracy versus Democracy

To the Editor,

I believe G.L. Butler draws a long bow in attempting to take Churches of Christ with her in saying we accept democracy ("AC" 3 February). I am certain there are many members who still believe it is a theocracy, with the oversight of godly men, sound in faith and doctrine.

Laodicea comes from *laos*, people, and *dikas*, to rule, rule

of the people, and presents us with the chilling picture of Christ outside his church. How much more desirable to seek the Philadelphian commendation "since you have kept my command".

G.L. Butler's rather cavalier dismissal of 1 Timothy as a denial of freedom, and as casting doubt on the efficacy of the blood of Christ begs the question, are we to judge scripture, or do we let it judge us? Who is on trial here? The Holy Spirit speaking through the apostle Paul, or, maybe, it could just be us.

I read 1 Corinthians 14:34 as she suggested, but kept going to verse 37 which says, "If anybody thinks he is a prophet or spiritually gifted, let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command."

—Bill Woff
(Southport, Qld)

"Bind Us Together Lord"

To the Editor,

Churches of Christ is a family of churches that holds in common several specific beliefs and practices not adequately found in any other denomination.

We express our "familyness" through State and Federal

Conferences, and undertake through departments and committees of these conferences the wider missions.

The Department of Christian Union has a vision of another expression of "familyness" in the area of our commitment for the union of Christ's people as in his prayer of John 17.

This vision is of all Churches of Christ in Australia sharing in a common worship and commitment service on the Sunday preceding the Week of Prayer for Christian Union. This was put forward in a "Service for Christian Union" last year but very few churches participated.

This letter is to ask all churches to use that service on 27 May with a sense of oneness with all our sister churches and an acknowledgement of obedience to Christ's prayer.

A copy of that service was sent to all churches last year but in early April will be published in this journal for churches to make their own copies.

If this version is accepted we would propose that in future years states will in turn prepare the common service.

—David Allison
(Secretary, Department of Christian Union)

Letters from Tertius

Worship

To the Editor,

From time to time conflict breaks out in our church between those who want more contemporary worship and the traditionalists; between those who want a bit of "oomph" in the services and those who like it the way it is.

Some have even made threats to go down the street to St Vitus Fellowship where they have a mix of froth and bubble, while others have threatened that any change will have them going off to St Solemnicus up the road.

I was thinking about it the other night and said to my wife, "We all seem to be on about what sort of worship we personally prefer. No-one seems to think what sort of worship might appeal to non-church-goers if we could ever persuade any of them to attend."

My wife said, "No-one seems to think about what sort of worship might be acceptable to God!"

As usual she hit the nail on the head.

Yours solemnly (and ecstatically!)
Tertius



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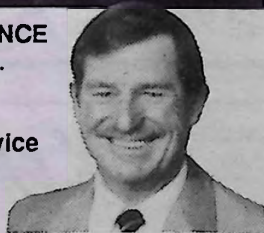
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Women in Tigray Carry Burden of Drought



Two girls, aged 13 and 9, carry water back to their village in Tigray

More than 2.2 million people in Tigray, Northern Ethiopia, are now facing starvation due to a lack of rain. Community Aid Abroad is currently the only major Australian agency working in Tigray, working hard to prevent a repeat of the devastating 1984-85 famine.

In Tigray, young girls and women are largely responsible for carrying water up to 16 km each day, from the waterholes to their villages.

Two Australian Community Aid Abroad technicians, Peter Morrison and Shane Dolan, are teaching students from the Relief Society of Tigray (REST) how to construct village wells.

Peter and Shane trained nine students in well construction last year. Each student then constructed a well of their own, which the Community Aid Abroad technicians monitored. Each of the wells can supply

water for up to 1,000 people. The simplicity of the wells will ensure more wells will still be dug even after the departure of the Australians.

But it is not just the trainees who are benefiting from the Community Aid Abroad project. The whole village is brought in from the beginning to discuss where the best site for a well is and during the last dry season, women started vegetable gardens, drawing on the water supply from the new wells.

This project follows Community Aid Abroad's long-term development philosophy: "If you give a man a fish you feed him for a day; if you teach a man to fish you feed him for a lifetime."

Funds from this year's Walk Against Want will ensure the Tigrayan well's project continues and gives hope to an area

Aid Workers at Risk in El Salvador

An international delegation representing the world's leading aid agencies has called upon the Australian Government to press for immediate negotiations toward a peaceful settlement in El Salvador.

The call comes amid increasing threats to the safety of aid workers in El Salvador and growing military interference in the operations of much-needed development assistance programs.

Russell Rollason, the Executive Director of the Australian Council for Overseas Aid, was a member of a six-person delegation sent to El Salvador by the International Council for Voluntary Agencies to examine the deepening crisis.

While in El Salvador the delegation met Salvadorean President Alfredo Cristiani, the Minister of Defence, General Rafael Humberto Larios,

and other high-ranking military leaders.

The delegation also held talks with United States Ambassador, William Walker, European Community ambassadors and representatives of churches, voluntary humanitarian agencies, trade unions and other people.

Immediately after the visit the delegation went to the United States for meetings with United Nations Secretary-General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, US Deputy Secretary of State Laurence Eagleburger and other members of the State Department.

"El Salvador is a nation at war with itself and the poor are the victims," Russell said.

"International action, including action by Australia, is urgently needed to prevent El Salvador becoming the Lebanon of Central America."

Historic House Sold

Last June the Old House at Cox Lane, Hoseley, Marford, North Wales, was sold, so ending the ownership of the Davies family of what is believed to have been the meeting place of the first Church of Christ in England and Wales.

In the late eighteenth century the Old House at Cox Lane was the home of Charles Davies and his wife Mary. The Davies family made carpets and ran a tailoring business. Their employees, who lodged at the farm, attended family worship in the building on Sunday afternoons from 1793 onwards.

Charles Davies was immersed at the Baptist church in

Wrexham, and in 1809 he baptised over 30 people at Cox Lane. The membership spread, but it was not until 1835 that they found out there were other congregations in Britain with views like their own.

Successing generations of the Davies family lived in the house until Miss Nora Davies left in November 1988, at the age of 96, for a nursing home.

The last entry in the British Churches of Christ Year Book for the Cam-yr-Alyn church, the church established at Cox Lane, was in 1961, when there was a membership of 14.

—compiled from information supplied by Fred Rees and Alan Rackemann

devastated by drought and famine. The 1990 Walk is being held nationally on 25 March. To participate in the Walk and help people help themselves, please ring 008 033 595 or pick up an entry form at any branch of the ANZ Bank.

**Introduce
The Australian
Christian
to a friend.
Special offer on
page 24**

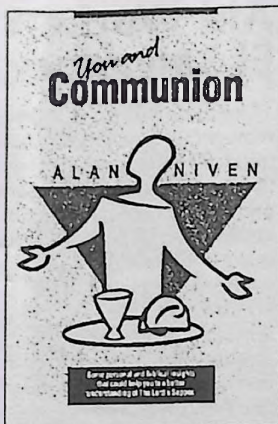
Media Review

New Communion Resource

You and Communion is a new publication written by Alan Niven as a resource for new members and those interested in looking at issues relating to our observance of the Lord's Supper.

The booklet, which sells for \$2, is the second in a new series of resources for new members. Brian White's *Your Baptism*, published in 1989, has become a best seller for the Federal Board of Christian Education's new range of titles. Copies may be obtained from the office of the FBCE, 52 La Trobe St, Melbourne 3000.

The Federal Literature Department co-operated with the FBCE in the publication of the booklet. This publication partnership is now well established and will see a number of new titles issued during 1990-91.



those hard questions that often arise.

—Andrew Ball

Living as the People of God

The Relevance of Old Testament Ethics
by Christopher J.H. Wright (Inter-Varsity Press) \$12.95

A discussion of the relevance of Old Testament ethics to living as a Christian today. Christopher Wright starts with an examination of the basis of Old Testament ethics: "The importance of this point for our ethical understanding of the Old Testament is that we must take account of the fact that so much of its ethical thrust is necessarily social. It is not simply a compendium of moral teaching to enable the individual to lead a privately upright life before God... They were conscious of being different from the rest of the nations. In the first place, they believed in the uniqueness of their own historical origin as a nation—namely, the election of Abraham, the national deliverance from slavery in Egypt, the covenant at Sinai and the gift of the land... In the second place, they were repeatedly reminded of their strict religious distinctiveness... The third aspect of their distinctiveness was ethical. The purpose of their historical experience and of their religious faith and observance was to nourish a national system of social life that was consistent with God's own character and in contrast to the ways of 'unredeemed' nations round about." (pages 34 ff)

Christopher Wright argues that there is a triangular framework to Old Testament ethics that hinges around the theological angle, the social angle and the economic angle and that any discussion of ethics needs to take account of each aspect. Following his general discussion on this basic thesis he then looks at various Old Testament ethics themes such as: economics and the land; politics and the world of nations; righteousness and justice; law and the legal system; society and culture and the way of the individual. Each of the discussions has a major examination of the way the modern society can learn from the whole of God's law, including the Old Testament. An excellent book that should be read by anyone concerned about our ethical position.

—CRA

Papers

Wilderness and Garden

Zadok has produced the first of a projected series, "Theology of Everyday Life Study Guides".

The first study guide is titled *Wilderness and Garden: Biblical Principles for a Christian view of the Environment*. It provides the opportunity to study the environmental principles that the Bible proclaims. Eight studies deal with such issues as God's relationship to the created order, human responsibility, the earth as a wilderness for wonder and enjoyment, and the earth as a garden to be managed for human needs.

Wilderness and Garden, TEL Study Guide No. 1, is available from the Zadok Institute for Christianity and Society, Blackall St, Barton 2600, phone (062) 73 1634, for \$5 including postage. For purchases of 10 or more there is a 20% discount.

Books

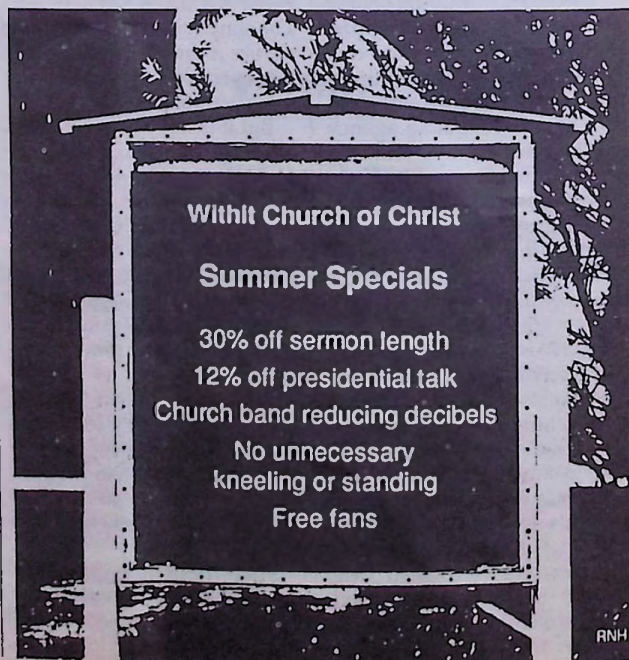
Running Smoothly

A Procedural and Legal Guide for Youth Groups
Edited by Margaret Parry and Jim Gearing (Joint Board of Christian Education) \$8.50

So often those involved in youth leadership give a low priority to finances, insurance, annual reports and other such matters. Time commitments, intensive pastoral care of young people and programming issues tend to make the job of youth leadership extraordinarily demanding to the point where many overlook their procedural and legal responsibilities.

This book provides a detailed analysis of the responsibilities involved in running a youth organisation. It is also a practical guide on planning meetings, keeping minutes, managing finances, securing adequate insurance and observing copyright regulations. The contributors are all experienced professionals who succinctly outline the key principles necessary to effectively cope with the organisational aspects of youth ministry.

This book is really relevant to any group or auxiliary in the church, not just the youth group. It is one of those books that needs to be in your library for quick referencing and referral for



A Quiet Christmas?!



"A quiet Christmas!" I thought to myself as I packed our bag. The plans of a quiet Christmas had ended with a knock on the door. "John, you have to come. You are on the program to open the chapel. If you don't come who will do it?" A hurried discussion was held in the bedroom and then the answer was given. "Okay, I will come tomorrow and I will bring the family with me. We will stay through to Sunday afternoon but we have to be back at Yamen for Christmas Day as I am on the program here."

So the next day found us on the boat travelling to Buten. "The walk from Buten to Munyiit is an easy one. You'll have no problems," said the ever-optimistic John to me. "Easy walk!" I thought to myself as I inched past the sago with giant thorns. He'd forgotten to tell me about the stroll through the sago swamp!

The next morning I awoke to the sound of the steady rain on the moritar (leaf) roof. "It's

raining, Mummy," said Joshua with great delight. I tried to share his happiness but my track record of keeping upright in the mud is rather poor. Nevertheless, we made it to the new chapel without a mishap. The singing outside was vibrant and alive. Then it was time to search for a seat and take part in the first official service in the building.

"If your children cry during the service, please take them out," said the man leading the service. As if on cue Joshua and Ben began to cry so out I went dutifully and heard the rest of the service from outside in the rain.

After the service and some lunch, it was time to go. Thinking of the track and the five inches of rain that had fallen in the last 24 hours, I picked up a stick and then shook the many outstretched hands as we made our way out of the village.

"Did you enjoy the weekend?" asked John as I slid down the bank towards the sago swamp. I responded with a look

that said, "Don't bother me now, I'm trying to stay upright!"

"Well, did you enjoy the weekend?" asked John again as the boat wound its way through the swamp grass.

I thought for a little while and then responded with a definite "Yes!" I enjoyed the greeting we received at Buten. I enjoyed catching up with a friend and having a chat as we walked through the village. I enjoyed the walk to Munyiit despite the sago tree. I enjoyed our welcome to Munyiit. It was great to see familiar faces and to catch up on their news. It was good to make new friends and to meet some of the people with whom John works closely. It was fun to watch Joshua

playing with the kids and things around him.

It was uplifting to be sharing in the joy of opening a new chapel. It was humbling to become aware of how God had worked in people's lives freeing them to worship him and proclaim him King. It was heartening to know that though culture separated us, in Christ we could be one. Once again, it brought me to my knees to thank God for that Christmas so long ago that was the reason for me being in this land and with these people.

A quiet Christmas may have had appeal but looking back I wouldn't have missed our weekend at Munyiit for anything.

—Hazel Bassett

Holiday That Helps Others

Several Australians recently returned from an experience of building 20 homes for needy families in a remote village of the highlands of Papua New Guinea. The innovative program was sponsored by Habitat for Humanity, an ecumenical Christian organisation that is involved in the construction of homes for people who are in need of decent, affordable shelter.

The group, which was comprised of lay people and clergy, skilled builders and novices, travelled with a group of 19 other Australians to Lae, where they were joined by 17 from the United States. From Lae, the group travelled by truck to Tumung, a remote village in the highlands rainforest.

There are no phones, electricity, motels, stores or restaurants in Tumung, so the volunteers had to fit into the traditional village life style. This meant sleeping on the floor and eating rice and taro that had been cooked over an open fire in the family "kitchen".

After six days of hard work, the goal of building 20 houses was achieved. The homes were built almost entirely of local timber, which is harvested from the rainforest with the use of a semi-portable sawmill.

To conclude the dramatic week of work and fellowship, a dedication service was held where each new homeowner was presented with a Bible.

The Papua New Guinea workcamp was a part of a global village project that has built houses in 13 locations around the world. Habitat for Humanity is active in over 500 locations, including Sydney, where they will be building five houses in Plumpton in the near future. Wherever Habitat works, the principles are the same: homes are built for needy families using volunteer labour and sold to the families on a no-interest mortgage. An important part of the volunteer labour is the effort of the homeowners themselves, who have to contribute at least 500 hours of sweat equity to the project. In Papua New Guinea, the homeowners and their relatives provide virtually all of the labour for their own homes plus one or two days per week for the rest of their lives.

Habitat for Humanity plans to return to PNG in January of 1991 and take an additional group of volunteers to its project in the Solomons. For more information on workcamps or the program in Sydney contact Ted Swisher on (02) 899 4409.

Visiting Canberra? Stay with a Church Family

A number of Canberra church families offer accommodation in their homes at basic bed and breakfast rates to help raise funds for "Home Mission" extensions in the ACT

If you would like to enjoy friendly "one of the family" hospitality in Canberra write for particulars to:

Lyn Swift
34 Ylman Street,
Waramanga 2611
Phone (062) 88 2050

Barbara Kennedy
6 Sharp Place,
Melba 2615
Phone (062) 58 1360

Advance bookings appreciated

Happenings

The 9th Christian Conference of Asia will be held in Manila, the Philippines 5-13 June 1990. The theme of the Assembly is "Christ our Peace: Building a Just Society".

The Reformed Bishop of Cluj, Gyula Nagy, has resigned and his colleague Bishop Laszlo Papp of Oradea has fled the country in the wake of anti-Ceausescu sentiment in Romania. Both bishops had collaborated closely with the regime.

In response to requests the Swiss airline Swissair has decided to have Bibles available in French, German and English on its flights.

The 4th International Christian Youth Conference will be held in Mexico City, 7-14 August. Over 1,200 young adults, aged 17-30, from 40 countries are expected to attend. The event is sponsored by the World Methodist Council and is open to young adults from all denominations. Brochures and further information from Craig Mitchell, Brisbane UC Synod office (07) 377 9777 or Ken Anderson, Serendipity Australia (08) 374 0592.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence believes that 500,000 (1 in 8) Australian children are growing up in poverty.

Evangelist Billy Graham received the 1,900th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the first clergyman to be so honoured for a preaching ministry through radio, television and film, in a special ceremony in front of Mann's Chinese Theatre on Hollywood Boulevard.

10 US church leaders have called for an end to anti- and pro-abortion sloganeering and a recognition that abortion is a complex moral issue that cannot be reduced to "simple rights and wrongs". The 10 note that they are not united in their views on abortion, but all share a "deep and abiding reverence for both the

mystery of human life and the freedom of conscience".

Metro Manila, the Philippines, has an estimated 60,000 street children. Many of them have been abandoned by their parents and some of them are prostitutes. Others are beggars who return to their families at night.

Thousands of Chinese students are turning to the Christian faith in the bitter aftermath of the brutal suppression of the pro-democracy movement of 4 June 1989, but the Chinese church is experiencing difficulties disciplining these new intellectual converts.

As many as 30 children a day arrive unaccompanied at Frankfurt international airport from war-torn nations such as Iran or Sri Lanka. Their parents, knowing that West German law does not require visas for under-16-year-old visitors, send the children hoping they will find a better life. Most are placed in orphanages and then into school. At 18 they can apply for citizenship.

The Cambodian Protestant Church is making its most aggressive attempt in 15 years to gain government approval. The church, which claims to represent all Protestants, initiated the process by sending a formal letter to the Government requesting permission to own and operate a church, but the ongoing civil war between the Cambodian army and a coalition of three resistance groups has tied up the process.

Messianic Jews (believers in Jesus who retain Jewish identity and practices) are not entitled to automatic citizenship under the Law of Return, according to a ruling of Israel's Supreme Court published recently.

Jehovah's Witnesses are reported to be "raring to go" now that bans on the sect are being lifted in East-

ern Europe. Polish officials registered the Jews as a religious organisation last May. Recognition followed in Hungary in June. A Watchtower Centre is being established in Warsaw.

Third World governments allocate half their total spending to arms and debt servicing, at a cost of nearly \$1 billion, or \$400 for every family.

More than 4.5 million people died in wars during 1988 and more than 75% of these people were civilians. Most of the civilian casualties were old people and children, those least able to find shelter quickly and most vulnerable to hunger and malnutrition. War was defined as any armed conflict involving at least one government and that had caused at least 1,000 deaths. 18 of the 22 wars were listed as civil wars.

Australians now gamble \$21,000 m each year, according to the organisers of Gamblers' Awareness Week. That is \$1,312 for every man, woman and child. Much of the growth in gambling has come because the advertising of gambling, once banned from the media, is now promoted by governments themselves.

The first Queensland CWF rally of 1990 is being held on 27 February at the Leichhart church at 10 am with guest speaker Iris Armstrong.

The theme of the 1990 Queensland CWF camp is "Moving Into the 90s—Serving Together because of Love". The camp is being held at Camp Cal 9-11 March. Study leader is Nancy Spencer. Registrations (cost \$28) to Robyn Heath, 14 Ancona St, Strathpine 4500. Phone (07) 205 2608.

A recent survey in Great Britain shows that 42% of regular churchgoers fall asleep in church.

The first comprehensive national survey of charl-

table giving has found that one in four Australians makes a cash donation to a religious group each year. The figures show that although a smaller proportion of Australians give to religious causes, they give more generously. The average religious donation is \$80 annually, compared with \$24 for handicapped groups.

The Soviet Union's first Bible Society, established by Latvian Christians in December 1989, is seeking membership in the United Bible Society. While the Latvian Bible Society was organised by Lutheran and Baptist churches to make Bibles available throughout that country, founders said they hoped to involve Catholics in the future. The Society will distribute Bibles in both Latvian and Russian and will request donations to finance its work.

New Czechoslovakian laws permit the publication of Bibles and Bible-related materials and lift limits on the importation of Christian literature, according to the head of the Bible Society in Czechoslovakia. About 180,000 Bibles and New Testaments are expected to be published by the state printing house in Brno each year and additional Bibles will be printed by the Czechoslovakian Bible Society on a press recently donated by the Netherlands Bible Society.

A bomb planted by narcotics terrorists exploded next to the Bible House in Bogota, Colombia, on 6 January, causing extensive damage to the building. No staff were injured in the blast. Bible House was badly damaged and will probably have to be demolished.

Churches in East Germany have called for the reinstatement of Christian holidays, which were abolished in 1967. They want Easter Monday to be observed and are still considering if Ascension

Day should have public holiday status.

Jews face the prospect of being outnumbered by Arabs in Israel, according to studies conducted by the University of Haifa. In the occupied territories figures released recently show that the 75,000 Jews who have settled there since 1967 have been more than matched by Arab birthrates. Arabs make up 80% of the population of western and northern Galilee "and are growing stronger in the areas of resistance".

Joyce Brand has retired from the position of Director of Nursing at Bethesda Hospital, Perth, WA, after completing 20 years of valuable ministry. Wendy Cowie has been appointed the new Director of Nursing.

The International Hospital Christian Fellowship is holding its next World Conference in Exeter, England, 3-13 August. Registrations and enquiries to International Field Co-ordinator, Baron van Nagelstraat 9, 3781 AP Voorthuizen, Netherlands.

Barbara Mackay, of Griffith, NSW, widow of drug fighter Donald Mackay, visited Bavaria to see the passion play at Oberammergau ten years ago. Inspired by what she saw, she came back to see if Griffith could do something similar. The outcome will be the world premiere of a new musical, "Nicodemus", at the Griffith Regional Theatre at Easter.

After 35 years as director of Melbourne Youth for Christ, Clive Stebbins will retire in April. Affectionately known as "Australia's oldest teenager", Clive will be succeeded by David Wraight.

The Haggal Institute for advanced Leadership Training held its first-ever training session in Beijing, China, in October, with 30 prominent Chinese Christian leaders participating.

Federal Conference in Brisbane in October

Federal Conference is being held this year in Brisbane, 8-14 October.

The Conference will be held jointly with the Queensland State Conference and will be preceded by a National Ministers Seminar at Camp Cal, Caloundra, 4-6 October.

Plans are being formulated so that this can be a great time for all the family.

A special program is being planned for primary school children called "Adventures in the City". It will be worth their missing school for the educational opportunity of travelling to Queensland to see first hand something of the sunshine and excitement of this great state.

A Youth Forum is also planned and child-minding facilities are available.

The Conference format will be changed to enable all the business of Conference to be completed in morning, afternoon and evening sessions on Monday and Tuesday, 8-9

October, so that the Conference Convention can proceed uninterrupted on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

There will be a range of elective seminars, a special Lunch Time Bible Lecture and Women's Conference during these days, with some great evening programs, including a Presidents' Reception, celebration of 100 years of sending out the first overseas missionary and foci on youth and on the future. The conference will culminate in a great worship celebration in the Brisbane City Hall on the Sunday morning.

Queensland Conference will fit their business sessions into Saturday, 13 October, from 8 am to 5.30 pm. while visitors tour the sights.

You really will not want to miss it!

A variety of differing types of accommodation are being arranged, which include family-sized (up to 6 persons) apart-

ments, motel accommodation and private accommodation with church families.

And of course there are caravan parks and other private arrangements that people can make.

Tour programs are being organised to the Sunshine Coast, the Gold Coast and to the Lockyer Valley and Toowoomba. Special tours are

also to be arranged to the Churches of Christ facilities in the South East Queensland region. A special post-Conference tour to fabulous North Queensland is also on the drawing board.

This is a Federal Conference you really won't be able to afford to miss!

See the advertisement on this page for a registration form.

See Canberra— Stay with Friends

What is there between Melbourne and Sydney?

Albury, Goulburn...yes...but there's one that you might have missed.

Canberra...the capital city of our country.

A City without a Soul?

When did you last visit your country's capital? Too expensive, and inconvenient to leave the Hume to see it? Do you still think Canberra is too "sterile, planned and artificial, or has no soul"?

Think of it this way. With the 900 km plus journey between Melbourne and Sydney, just too far for a one-day trip, why not do it in two and arrive fresh? Spend the half day visiting Parliament House—that's the new one on the hill.

What's the Science and Technology Centre? Come and find out. And see the marvellous Voyagers Spacecraft exhibition, which is on for the next two months.

And how about extending your stay to two nights seeing you've come for one, anyway. You'll be so pleased you did, because your hosts will make you feel so welcome, so at home, and be so willing to allow you to enjoy your time in Canberra.

Take a trip to Cockington Green miniature village, or the National Library on the shore of Lake Burley Griffin. Canberra has got a history—St John's School House and Blundell's Cottage, also by Lake

Burley Griffin really reward an hour spent there.

Outdoors people can't help but be impressed by the scope for water activities provided by Canberra's suburban lakes, the excellent golf course, bowling greens, and indoor sports centres (ideal in both the middle of summer as well as the middle of winter).

And Where To Stay?

Contact Barbara Kennedy, 6 Sharp Place, Melba 2615, phone (06) 258 1360, or Lyn Swift, 34 Yiman Street, Waramanga 2611, phone (06) 285 1344 (bus. hours) or (06) 288 2050 (after hours), and book with Canberra Churches of Christ's "Operation Tourism".

Prices are good. Just \$20 per night per adult, \$15 per night for adult students, and \$10 per night for children under 16 years. Evening meals can be provided at \$10 for adults and \$6 for children.

A special family rate of \$50 per night (for two adults and two children) is also available. Compare that to motels. And you are also able to enjoy the company of fellow Christians to make your stay even more worthwhile.

Your money is directed towards the Canberra Church Development fund.

Those who have seen how Lyons, Belconnen and now Tuggeranong churches have grown over the past few years can testify that the fund has been value for money.

Come to Federal Conference Brisbane 8-14 October 1990

Please send me information and a registration form for the Churches of Christ in Australia Federal Conference in Brisbane

Name

Address

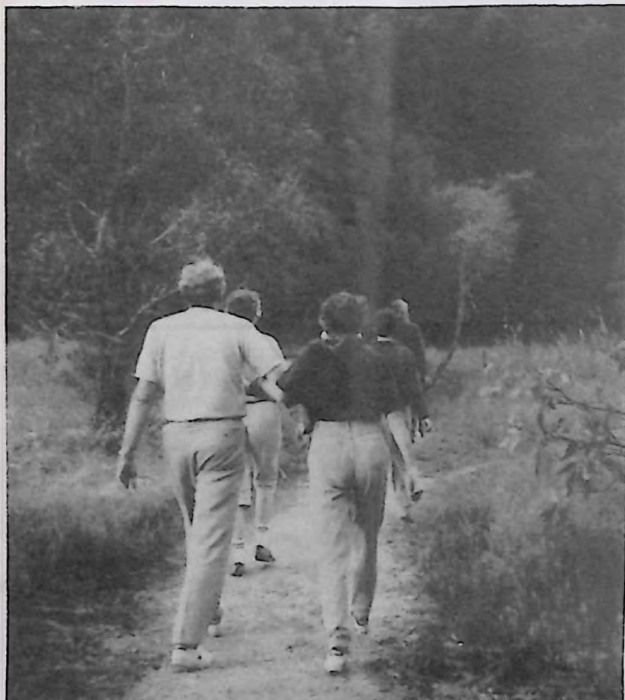
..... Postcode

Phone No. (.....)

Very early registration (single): Prior to 31 March 1990	\$20
Very early registration (family): Prior to 31 March 1990	\$25
Early registration (single) 1 April 1990 to 30 June 1990	\$35
Early registration (family) 1 April 1990 to 30 June 1990	\$40
Registration (single): From 1 July 1990	\$50
Registration (family): From 1 July 1990	\$55

Post to Federal Conference Arrangements Committee
Secretary, Mrs C. Forster, PO Box 508, Kenmore 4069

Twilight Walks



Exploring Canberra by foot

When most churches would have been winding down for the Christmas vacation, Ainslie, ACT, people were busy organising special summer activities for their members.

During January, a series of twilight walks were organised by Joy Wiltshire, Co-ordinator for the Creative Living Centre. These walks have been especially laid out by ACT Parks and Conservation and are classified as Canberra Nature Walks. At 7 o'clock each Monday, 15-20 eager walkers of all ages participated in these walks and thoroughly enjoyed them,

finding such exciting sites as cork trees, old structures and birds and wildlife that they never knew existed in such close proximity to the city centre.

The Creative Living Centre has an exciting program organised for the 30 people who take advantage of this Monday afternoon activity. During the vacation they barbecued in several beautiful areas around the city, and this year they plan such events as a visit to the new Parliament House and a meeting there with the local member, speakers on such topics as

Have Bus—Will Travel

A bus ministry with a difference has become a regular feature at Maylands, WA.

What began five years ago as a series of day trips to outer suburban and near country areas has now extended into places further afield with stopovers of a couple of nights in motel accommodation.

These excursions provide:

- An opportunity to promote tourism, with the added advantages of group rates and seeing not only the regular attractions but also those off the beaten track. People who don't generally travel far will join these excursions.

- Christian fellowship within

the group as a time of sharing is enjoyed in each other's company over an extended period.

- Interaction with outer-suburban and country churches. We generally share a meal with a local church (and often an impromptu concert). These times are very special and strengthen the ties between churches.

In all 12 churches have so far been visited as part of our organised touring plan. We encourage other churches to consider this ministry as a tangible way of expressing the caring nature of our life together.

—Trevor Streeton
(Convener)

CTBYPSCCE

From the late 1940s through to the 1960s CTBYPSCCE (City Temple Brotherhood Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour) provided a meeting place each week in the city of Sydney. It grew to be one of the largest Christian Endeavour societies in Australia and gave the members opportunities not available in the local

meteorology, immigration, psychology, health and the garden. They plan to visit the National Gallery and War Memorial and to indulge in relaxing activities at the Ainslie church. The Living Centre has been a very successful venture for the Ainslie church as well as an outreach to other like-minded people in the community.

church to lead and participate in worship and devotional meetings. Throughout Australia and overseas CTBYPSCCE members are in the forefront of Christian service and witness. Every time a number of members meet, the conversation turns to "Why don't we have a get together?" so a reunion has been arranged for 17 March 1990 at Stanwell Tops Christian Conference Centre. Anyone involved with CTBYPSCCE during its lifetime is welcome to attend. Limited on-site motel accommodation is available for country and interstate guests. For catering purposes, registration is essential. Forms are obtainable from NSW churches or contact John Hunter on (02) 451 4187 (home) fax (02) 316 6048 or PO Box 39, Botany 2019.

Church of Christ SOUTHPORT

now meets in
Parklands Drive
8.55 am

Worship and Communion
6.30 pm

Gospel Celebration
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Les Lawlor says...

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Fortieth Anniversary



Rex Sharrad

Photo courtesy *The Mildura Midweek*

The Red Cliffs, Vic, church held a special service on 21 January to mark the 40th anniversary of the ordination of its minister Rex Sharrad.

Rex was ordained to the Congregational ministry in Milang, SA, on 20 January 1950. Rex retains his credentials as a Uniting Church minister.

In the 40 years since that date his ministry has taken him to Papua New Guinea, various army bases throughout Australia, and ministry in the Sunraysia area for the past 21 years. He is best known in Sunraysia for his 16 years service as chaplain to the then Mildura Technical School.

On leaving the school, Rex accepted a position as a part-time industrial chaplain. The position was extended to include three major service industries covering about 260 km².

In 1988 the Red Cliffs Church of Christ, without a minister, approached Rex to become its part-time minister.

In March 1988 he was inducted into the ministry of the church and he and his wife Phylis were welcomed into membership.

His comments were, "This has been a wonderfully happy arrangement."

Rex is also very well known in Sunraysia for his work with the Mildura Marriage Guidance Service, which he helped form in 1973.

Asked to name his chief concern in ministry, Rex sums it up in one word: "people". While his first priority is to serve God, his desire is to serve people.

Rex Sharrad places his wife Phylis at the top—with her love and support being a constant source of encouragement.

Fund-Raising Expert to Visit Australia

Herbert C. Barnard knows how to solve one of the church's greatest problems—raising money without raising trouble. As Vice-President of the Christian Church Foundation he helped build an organisation that, in three or four decades from now, will provide more than half of the basic support for the world outreach of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Herb's visit to Australia is sponsored by Christian Projects, whose own objective is to build a \$5m fund that will provide \$10,000 per week for innovative projects in Churches of Christ in Australia. While he is here Herbert Barnard will hold consultations with churches and departments in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane. The purpose of these consultations is to develop our own understanding of effective and ethical fund raising.

Herbert Barnard retired on 31 December 1989 as Vice-President of the Christian Church Foundation. He served on the Foundation staff for almost 20 years. His responsibilities included consulting with those who desired to make gifts, bequests, trusts or annuities on behalf of all Christian Church causes.

He also served as development consultant for the homeland and overseas ministries of the Christian Church.

The Foundation is a General Unit of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that promotes, receives and administers funds for all parts of the Christian Church in the United States and Canada. Its assets currently are more than \$30m. Compare this to 1964, when its assets were \$4,000, and 1970, when they were \$119,000, and you will see how successful Herb and his colleagues have been in fund raising.

Before coming to the Foundation staff, Herbert Barnard was on the staff of *World Call* magazine and served as pastor of Eastgate Christian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana; Cascade Christian Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Yalesville Baptist Church, Yalesville, Connecticut, and Sharon Christian Church, Sharon, Kansas.

Herbert Barnard holds a BA degree from Phillips University and a MDiv degree from Yale University School. He served in the US Army during World War 2.

He and Mrs Barnard, who will be accompanying him to Australia, have three grown sons.

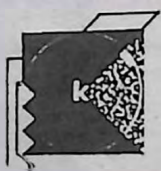
For further information about these consultations, please contact:

Sydney—Bob Smith (02) 630 7533, Melbourne—Don Smith (03) 662 2377, Adelaide—Keith Horne (08) 231 1911, Brisbane—J. Deutschmann (07) 378 1988.

—Robert Smith

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Classifieds

BIRTHS

BJOREM On 17 January 1990, at 9.32 pm Ted and Julie Bjorem by God's grace welcomed to this world Danae Marie Bjorem. 10 lbs 0 ozs 22 inches.

CUTLER (WIGNEY) Julie and Richard thank the Lord for beautiful, gorgeous, precious Melissa Jane, born on 22 December. Brothers David and Robert believe it's "Magic!"

DEWBERRY (HUGHES) Mary and Lindsay give thanks to God for the safe arrival on 17 January of Luke Ashley, a brother for Christopher.

SILVER WEDDINGS

PITT—BROAD Raeleen, Alison, Adrian and Rebecca announce with love and thanksgiving the 25th Wedding Anniversary of their parents—Keith and Frances, whose marriage was celebrated at Pyramid Hill Church of Christ on 27 February 1965 by Mr Gordon Henderson.

THANKS

WILLIAMS Mr & Mrs E.L. Williams thank all who sent messages of congratulations & good wishes for their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

DEATHS

SEARLE (nee WISEMAN) At Ararat, suddenly 11.1.90, Joyce Evelyn went to be with her Lord. Daughter of late Faith and Herbert Wiseman. Loved and loving sister of Ada, Lorna, Patricia, Winsome and Neil. A patient sufferer at rest.

IN MEMORIAM

SIMMONS (LUNN) Helen, passed away 15 Feb 1985. As time unfolds another year, Treasured memories keep you near. Forever in our heart—Mum, Dad and Judith.

ACCOMMODATION

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Church of Christ—Boronia Double Celebration

10 am, 4 March 1990

Induction of Andrew Henley
to team ministry

69th Church Anniversary

Speaker: Miss Phyl Davis

Luncheon following service

RSVP (03) 762 5209 21 February

Churches of Christ Theological College

invites you and your friends
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Pastoral Care

presented by

Dr Lewis A. Born
Senior Minister

Doncaster Church of Christ
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on Monday evenings

26 Feb; 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar; 2 April
7.30-9.30 pm

Course Content

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How to Care—Skills in Caring
Caring for the Carers
How Not to Care
At the End of Caring

Registration Fee \$35

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**Department of Mission, Education
and Development**

52 La Trobe Street, Melbourne 3000

• On the Move with the President Busy Months

The last months of 1989 were very busy. In August there was a very successful Australian Affiliation of Voluntary Care Associations (AAVCA) Conference in Brisbane. I presented a paper on handling change in the aged care field from a management perspective. I was involved in church services at Camp Hill and at East Ipswich.

In September I had the opportunity to attend the annual Conference of the ACT Churches in Canberra followed by the half-yearly meeting of the AAVCA. I also delivered a paper on residents rights in aged care facilities to a Queensland Nurses Union seminar.

August and September were times of preparation for the annual Queensland Conference of Churches of Christ. The Social Service report revealed that during the previous year the department had provided care to 5,036 persons, of whom 1,536 aged persons received care, 131 children with behavioural problems, 581 child day care, 2700 homeless persons and 88 other persons. The operational expenditure of the department for the year was around \$15.74 m.

October began with the Queensland ministers seminar followed by Conference. Among the significant decisions of Conference was the decision to negotiate the effective withdrawal from the FAB and to direct this work to the Aboriginal and Islanders Board of Conference.

Following Conference I set off, together with Don Cranston, of Merrin and Cranston, architects, Don's wife, Elva, an activities therapist, and my wife, Margaret, a social worker, for an overseas study tour of aged care facilities. We visited facilities in Switzerland, West Germany, Holland, Denmark, Canada and the USA. We were particularly impressed with the work being done by Evangelisches Johannes Werk in Bielefeld and in Denmark. In the United States we spent time with the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and also had opportunity to meet with Donald Manworen, Deputy General Minister and President, to discuss some areas of mutual interest between Churches of Christ in Australia and the Disciples. It was also an opportunity to call on the world Convention President, Harold R. Watkins.

On 24 November I attended a meeting of the Australian Heads of Churches in Sydney. In early December I went to Melbourne for some discussions with David Allison of the Department of Christian Union, my first visit to the Churches of Christ Theological College at Mulgrave and to meet with the Federal Conference Executive. A further meeting was held in Melbourne in December to negotiate the transfer of the Aboriginal and Islander work to the Queensland Conference.

—Don Stewart

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World Convention

The WCCC constitution states: "The World Convention of Churches of Christ exists in order more fully to show the essential oneness of the churches in the Lord Jesus Christ; impart inspiration to the world Brotherhood; cultivate the spirit of fellowship; promote unity among the churches; and to cooperate with Christians everywhere toward the unity of the church upon the basis of the New Testament. The World Convention may in no way interfere with the independence of the churches or assume the administrative functions of existing ongoing organisations or institutions among us."

WCCC was first organised in October 1930 in Washington, DC, USA, when 9,000 attended. It normally meets every four years and the next World Convention will be held in Long Beach, California, 5-9 August 1992.

Past World Conventions have been held in Washington, DC, USA, 1930; Leicester, UK, 1935; Buffalo, USA, 1947; Melbourne, Australia, 1952; Toronto, Canada, 1955; Edinburgh, UK, 1960; San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1965; Adelaide, Australia, 1970; Mexico City, Mexico, 1974; Honolulu, USA, 1980; Kingston, Jamaica, 1984,

and Auckland, New Zealand, 1988.

It is the policy of the WCCC to contribute in some manner to the work of the church in the areas where the World Conventions are held. Some of these projects in the past included: Mexico City—an offering for overseas mission work in Mexico; Honolulu—Bibles for a prison ministry; Jamaica—establishing and continuing support for a medical/dental clinic at Oberlin High School; Auckland—a special offering for the hurricane damaged churches in Jamaica.

The World Convention is the only world organisation within our Brotherhood that ties our churches around the world together in one unbroken fellowship of love and concern.

For further information on World Convention or an application form for the 13th Assembly contact the Secretary, Australian Committee of World Convention of Churches of Christ, Ron Brooker, St Helier Road, The Gurdies 3984. Phone (059) 97 6227 Fax (059) 97 6404.

Speaker Available

Aileen Draney, who recently retired as a missionary in Papua New Guinea, will be visiting Victoria in May and will be available to speak at services 9-23 May.

Churches interested should contact promptly the Secretary of the Victorian Overseas Mission Committee, Dorothy Geyer, on (03) 853 8558.

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Mukinbudin, situated 300 km east of Perth in Western Australia's wheat belt, is a town of 300 situated in a shire of 820. 120 of these people attend the Church of Christ. As many of the members are farmers, the Sunday communion service is held at 4.30 pm. This is followed

every week by a fellowship tea at 6 and the evening service at 7. Sunday School is held at 3. Almost everyone stays for the tea and the 7 pm service, and this has helped to encourage the togetherness of the fellowship.

The modern building was completed ten years ago, when a move was made from the old site a few blocks away.

It is very practical: folding doors can be opened to make one large meeting area from

front to back that can accommodate 300 people. This has attracted much attention from visitors.

The property next door to the church was bought and the house on it was demolished to

is married to Judy, also a graduate of Perth Bible College, and they have two children, a girl, 13, and a boy, 10. John's main emphasis is on exegetical preaching.

As well as the services and

However, young people who are not employed locally or on the family farm may have to move away. In the seven years of John Barlow's ministry 65 people have transferred, but at the same time evangelistic

outreach has attracted a similar number, ensuring the size of the church has remained the

Focus on Mukinbudin

provide parking space. A new manse was built seven years ago.

The minister is John Barlow. John has been at Mukinbudin for seven years and has been asked to stay for three years more. John and his family were converted at Maryborough, Qld, and shortly thereafter he accompanied his parents to the Aboriginal mission at Carnarvon, WA.

He then attended Perth Bible College, graduating in 1973. He

Sunday School, other regular activities of the church include two Bible studies a week, a youth group, Christian Women's Fellowship and a Know Your Bible study group. Special prayer meetings are held from time to time. The church is now seeking to establish a Christian school. Two members are at present at the New Tribes Bible College.

Mukinbudin is a very settled area. A number of families have three generations attending.

same.

Mukinbudin is also a very conservative area, in politics as in religion. A high proportion of the population attend church (there are also Uniting, Catholic and Anglican churches, incidentally all in the same street) and this imparts a high moral tone to the community.

Given the nature of the area and the steadfastness of its members, the continued presence of the Church of Christ in Mukinbudin seems secure.

God's Word

Philippians

by Dennis Nutt

Philippi, originally called Krenides (Little Fountains) because of the numerous springs that arose in the mountains on the north, was renamed when it was conquered by Philip of Macedon. Philippi was a major settlement with several satellite towns and gold mines nearby made it wealthy.

Philippi was captured by the Romans in 42 BC and became the scene of the final conflict between Brutus and Octavian (Augustus). It soon became a proud Roman military colony and an important source of revenue.

There is abundant evidence for the authenticity of the book of Philippians. It is quoted as Paul's by the early church fathers and appears in all the lists of canonical writings among the epistles of Paul. Some scholars

have denied it to Paul, but on grounds that are no longer regarded as serious. The style, diction and spirit are all characteristically Pauline.

It is now generally agreed that the letter was written from Rome, although some have placed its composition at Caesarea. The environment shown within the letter, the different groups of people it includes, the references to the praetorian guard and Caesar's household (the public service) and Paul's expectation of a speedy decision (3:23) all suit Rome as the place of writing. Paul's desire to visit them shortly (1:25, 27, 2:24) also suits Rome. If he was at Caesarea he would still have been directing his thoughts towards Rome.

A date of composition cannot be determined with certainty. Most scholars assign it

to the later period of Paul's imprisonment. Therefore we are looking at a date between 60 and 64 and probably closer to the later date.

The immediate cause of the letter was a contribution of money to Paul from the Philippi church (2:25, 4:18). It was not the first time they had acted in this way (4:15, 16; cf 2 Corinthians 11:9). An opportunity to do it again had been long wanting (4:10). Paul sent the letter with Epaphroditus (2:25, 28), who had worked with Paul but was now ill (2:27, 30).

This is Paul's most personal letter. The tone is frank and hearty while the mood is cheerful even under oppressive circumstances. It is also a very practical letter. The leading thought is joy and gratitude. The word rejoice or synonyms of this word appears 16 times in this short letter. The letter is also theologically important. Philippians 2:5-11 is a key passage for the doctrine of the Person of Christ. There is also

discussion on justification by faith (3:9) and the parousia (1:6, 2:10, 11, 3:20, 21).

There are some very real lessons in this book for the church of today.

• Dennis Nutt lectures at the NSW Churches of Christ Theological College. This is the first of a series of articles on Philippians. They will be interspersed with the studies on Malachi, begun last issue, and a series on Biblical concepts.

God's Moment

The table is set,
We are hushed and still.
In this mystic tension we
sense your presence,
For here you meet us:
At this point, between retrospect and prospect;
In this present, between past and future;
In this now, between was and will be;
In this moment, plucked from eternity.

—Garry Harris

Building Bridges

by Marjory Baker

Having to prepare a talk about "Bridging the Gap" recently set me thinking about what an important part of our Christian life this can be. Jesus Christ, of course, is the ultimate example of making it possible for us to cross the abyss of sin and destruction and be united to God our Heavenly Father.

A bridge is a means of arriving at a place or state that otherwise would be totally inaccessible. Bridges don't just happen, they are made to meet a need and require time and planning and effort.

Maybe the churches and community groups could work together to find an avenue to reach the youth in an area, giving them a sense of belonging and a wholeness in Christ while at the same time keeping them off the streets.

Womens groups could start coffee mornings or craft groups to reach the lonely and shut-ins. With so many migrants and refugees now in our midst, there are endless opportunities to bridge the gaps of culture and race to help them reach the other side safely into the community. Bridges mean a two-

way communication, a flowing backwards and forwards, giving and taking.

In my own personal life I thank God for the people he has given me to bridge the difficult gaps in my life. I thank him for loving and Godly par-

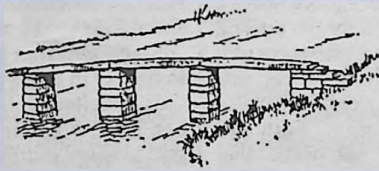
ents, teachers, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, ministers, ministers' wives, my own husband, fam-

ily, relatives and friends, but most of all I thank him for Jesus. He said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

I thank him for my involvement with different denominational groups, which has formed bridges of friendship across Australia and overseas.

How can I be involved with the people in my Church if I'm not seeking to help others over the rough spots in their lives. Lord help me to reach out with an open heart and mind to gather in your precious lambs to follow the Shepherd to whom we belong. Lord, let it start with me to help them bridge the gap!

• Marjory Baker is a member of the Belrose, NSW, church.



In Debt to Your Father

by Graeme Batley

Especially before the introduction of primary schooling to Papua New Guinea, the father assumed the key role in the rearing of his sons. He instructed them in the ideals of social behaviour and gave apprenticeship training on gardening skills, building a house, making a canoe etc. A son was encouraged to model his life on the patterns of his father and so by his demeanour exalt his father's name.

An ideal father would also behave very generously towards his children, catering for all their immediate needs with food and clothing and, whenever possible, even sharing small gifts of money with them. But much more than this, as the children reached adolescence the father would carefully divide his ground and through his own labour and sweat establish gardens to guarantee his sons their own future livelihood.

Thereafter a son was always required to acknowledge his indebtedness to his father from his substance. As the son showed his thoughtfulness and appreciation, his actions would indeed honour further his father's name.

A rebellious son who regarded lightly his debt to his father brought great shame upon himself and his father. If the son would not mend his

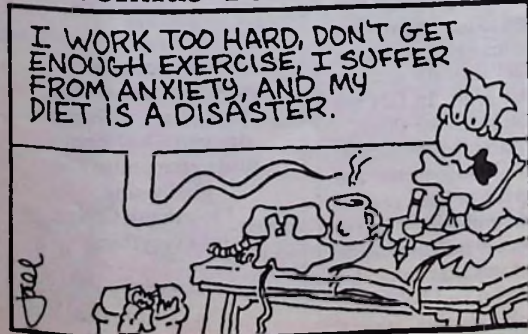
ways, ultimately the father had no choice but to reject his son and send him away.

In the Christian realm, the relationship of the people in PNG to God as their Father must observe these same obligations. For the Father has bestowed fertile ground freely as a gift to his children. It is through the Father's providence of sunshine and rain that the people's gardens produce sufficient quantities for subsistence agriculture to occur. Life is far from easy but the people continually thank the Father for the way he supplies their daily needs. Moreover they are aware that God honours those that honour him, but will ultimately reject those that reject him.

In Western society we frequently now no longer esteem our fathers. We have lost touch with the relevance of our environment and our dependence upon it for our survival. The ground has become an asset for exploitation, our work ethic emphasises our achievements, and our sophistication has denied us the opportunity of seeing God caring for all our basic needs. By comparison, through the importance placed on relationships and their simplicity of life style, the Samban culture in PNG emphasises its debt to God and its duty to bring honour to his name by responding to him appropriately. It seems a pity to me that as family values in Australia are being eroded, and super-technology seeks to satisfy all our modern comforts, we have become oblivious to our debt to God our father and the obligations that places upon us.

—Samban, PNG

Pontius' Puddle



A Protest That Worked

by Maurice Keatch

In October last year I went to the Mildura Centre Shopping Plaza and found it decorated for Halloween. Employers in some shops were dressed as witches and the like. I wrote to the management, expressing my disappointment at this and giving a brief background to Halloween. I suggested that their action set a precedent and should be continued in their presentation of a Christian Christmas. I recommended much light, to contrast with the darkness of Halloween, choirs and individuals to sing carols, readings of the Christmas story from scripture, setting up a full-size manger scene in the main concourse of the plaza and staff dressed as wise men, angels or shepherds.

The plaza promotions officer rang me, commented on my objections, and indicated that she had arranged for a number of local choirs to sing carols. A couple of weeks later she rang again to tell me that the committee of management had given me approval to erect a manger scene in a prominent place inside the plaza. It took some time to plan this and, in particular, to track down two mannequins from a couple of dress shops. With the help of some of the Dareton, NSW, people we erected a manger scene 2 m high by 1.6 m square. The mannequins were dressed as Mary and Joseph, and the baby was a doll.

Comments were favourable, and quite a number of shoppers stopped for a while to consider the true meaning of Christmas. A couple of days ago I received a letter of thanks from the promotions officer, and offering the opportunity of present another "bigger and better" scene this coming Christmas.

So some protests are still worthwhile!

The Child and Tears

by Dave Vincent

On the wall of my lounge is a framed picture of a weeping child. Six tears are seen running down his little cheeks. His face speaks of sadness. His eyes speak of fear. Yet those same eyes speak of hope—the hope of help from someone who cares, who accepts, who loves.

My heart aches as I think of the many thousands of children who are very similar to the boy in the painting. They cry! They are sad! They are scared! Unlike the boy in the picture many have almost no hope of ever being helped. Nobody seems to care.

But our Lord does. He has a very special place in his heart for children. Remember when the disciples turned the children away. He made time and I believe those children were really helped because someone cared for them.

Paul in 2 Corinthians 2:4 says: "For I wrote you out of great distress and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to grieve you but to let you know the depth of my love for you."

As a "part-time(?)" children's worker I have met many sad children. The way they have talked to me has been full of words of emotion, confusion, and often deep hurt.

One little boy, no older than nine, desperately wanted his mummy and daddy to love each other again. He was sick and tired of living in two different homes with his mother living with another man and his dad living with another woman.

A little girl called Susan feared going home. She had become a Christian, and because of the home situation, was physically and mentally scared to go home. She stopped eating she was so upset.

My wife and I were able to counsel and pray with six children who were all from broken or problem homes. All were Christians but the agony in the way they talked and the way

they prayed was heart wrenching. They went home knowing that their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is with them and will help them in their "family" situations.

What of non-Christian children in similar situations? Many have nobody to turn to. Often they are quite alone.

Several years ago we heard a knock on our door. In walked Elizabeth, just eight years old. She was ready for Girls' Brigade one hour early. It was a cold winter night. Both her parents were not home. (Father did not work and mother was a heavy drinker and an angry, nasty type.) Her "tea" consisted of one sandwich. She was cold and hungry. She was poorly dressed and very cold. We found a cardigan for her, even though a few sizes too large. She said she was "happy". But was she? All the time Elizabeth was at our house she was restless. She looked worried. We did all we could for her. We tried to be what her parents could not—or would not—be for her.

As Sunday school teachers, scripture teachers, Brigade leaders etc. we all need to be "father figures" and "mother-figures".

I am convinced that more and more children come to children's meetings needing more than just spiritual lessons. They need someone to talk to, someone to trust, someone to love and to give them love.

So many, many children do not have any family figure to look up to. We can be that figure. We need to be prepared to open our arms wide so that a child can feel warmth and security in our arms. In fact we have to even bleed for them.

Some children have suicidal tendencies. Many more are growing up full of hate, resentment, anger and distrust. Yet all are so deeply hurting inside and God knows that so well.

What are you and I doing in regard to this tender, special

area? A child's faith is simple. A child's keenness to learn is (or should be) at a high level. When children learn that their teacher or leader is someone they can really trust and love and in whom they can find acceptance and security, then that is something worthwhile and priceless. This I am convinced is what all children's workers should aim to be and do.

Many children have no one to turn to in times of real need. Our so-called civilised culture has lost so much of the true meaning of "family", togetherness and unity. Today our culture is full of self, selfishness and self-justification.

2 Corinthians 1:4 says, "God comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

Let us all pass on this same message to the children of this country of ours.

• Dave Vincent is a member of the Mt Druitt, NSW, church. He and wife Beverley have three children and have been involved in children's ministry since 1979.

I See

I see

Sunlight—streaming through my kitchen door,
Making patterns on the floor;

Warmth enclosing me where I sit,
And I thank you God, for all of it.

I see

Grass once brown now lush and green,
Lawns, where bare dry earth had been,
Birds give praise and gladly sing,
I too thank God for everything.

—Shirley Kloester (Ararat, Vic)

Discipleship

•Elizabeth Rutley, Esme Braun, Ken Gossner, Georgetown/Hailton, NSW •Francis & Hazel Brinas, Mornington, Vic •Peter & Sandy Evans, Mackay, Qld •Clinton Rivers, Lyon, ACT •Joe Gardona, Ascot Vale, Vic •Brine & Joy Lofberg, Thornleigh, NSW •Evan Ramsden, Bradley Page, Juli Littlefair, Scarborough, WA

Marriages

•Leanne Francis to David Robertson, Mariae Stevenson to Peter Burford, Naracoorte, SA •Sharon Strahan to Dale Trotter, Scarborough, WA

Deaths

•Albert Bender, Georgina Sessions, Georgetown/Hamilton, NSW •Elizabeth Rodgers, Maidstone, Vic •Carol Lane, Ebony Lane, Warrnambool, Vic •Dawn Buckenara, Scarborough, WA

Changes

Peel St, Ballarat: Minister—Vince Gibbs, 209 Main Road, Ballarat 3350. Phone (053) 31 7580.

Johnson, Cheryl—Phone numbers: (03) 397 5715 (Williamstown church office), (03) 819 7674 (Serendipity Positive Christian Singles Group), (03) 397 7410 (Williamstown manse).

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Keilor East Church of Christ

Induction Service
RON SCHEPIS

Sunday, 4 March
10.30 am

Guest Speaker:
Dr Gordon Moyes

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Saturday, 17 March 1990
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Centre

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Rosevale Church of Christ Centenary Celebrations 1991

Past Preachers, Members
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proposed booklet.

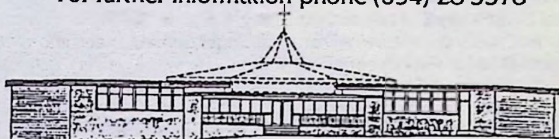
Enquiries:
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Opening—New Complex—Stage 1 Gisborne Church of Christ

Saunders Road, New Gisborne
Saturday, 3 March, 1990 at 2.30 pm

Sunday services, 4 March 1990:
10 am Worship Service
7 pm Gospel Outreach

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Training Officer

The Council for Christian Education in Schools is seeking to appoint a Training Officer.

The position is a full-time appointment and theological and educational qualifications are preferred.

The Training Officer will work in the Primary School area of the Council's work and will be required to do some country travelling.
Applications close 9 March.



Further information can be obtained from
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Obituaries

Obituaries are limited to 100 words

Buckenara, Kathleen Dawn (29.1.90) Dawn's bright personality has been an inspiration to all at Scarborough, WA. Dawn accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord at a 1959 Billy Graham Crusade, rapidly growing in faith and teaching four religious instruction classes per week. Her compassion and care for elderly folk was a mark of her servant attitude. Cruelly struck down by an accident in 1986, she was confined to a wheelchair and constantly in pain, however this did not stop her speaking out on social issues, and her faith never wavered. Later cancer brought her life to an untimely end. She is survived by her husband John, four sons and seven grandchildren. ♦

—Margaret Croucher

Holbrook, Bet

Bet Holbrook, a member of the Maylands, SA, church for over 45 years, died just after Christmas, aged 72 years. Born in Moonta, she was wife of Doug, mother of John and Ruth, and grandmother of two. She was a keen sportswoman (golf, bowls, tennis) and gardener and in earlier days had worked in both nursing and baking. Bet was a warm person and will be missed.

—Richard Lawton

Lane, Carol and Ebony

(26.12.89) The tragic circumstances of a road accident surround the death of Carol Lane and her youngest child, four-year-old Ebony. A mother of six, Carol had only recently come into a personal relationship with Jesus. To see a life beginning to blossom with the love of Jesus was a delight to behold, and to find refuge, peace and hope in the knowledge of Jesus is a tremendous blessing at this time. Many lives have been touched by the tragedy. The crowded service of tribute contained recognition of

the simple life and faith of a loving mother and a fun-loving child.

—Peter Broadbent

Lindus, Keith

(21.1.90) Keith, aged 72, died just six weeks after his wife's death. He had been a member of the Maylands, SA, church for nine years, after previously being a Mormon. Keith was very outgoing: several people have come to worship simply because Keith, a complete stranger, sensed a need and invited them. He was also very generous. He used his ticketwriting skills to inscribe books that were presented as memorials or as mementos. He had been a steelworker, bus driver, conductor, bread carter and sales representative. He was known before Christmas to get a bus load singing carols in lieu of paying their fares!

—Richard Lawton

Reed, Dorothy May

(12.1.90) After a long illness Dorrie Reed, a stalwart of the Goolwa, SA, church, was called "home". Dorrie was a loving Christian lady of gentle humility yet quiet authority. She displayed a strong character throughout her 89 years, but tempered this with a keen sense of humour. Dorrie had creative talent and enjoyed painting landscapes and winning prizes for floral art and gardening. She used her suffering to be more sensitive to the needs of others. Dorrie took a lively interest in many community causes. Her main love was Christ and the church. Graeme Ritchie, Goolwa minister, led the service, when tributes were given by Merve Lawrie, elders Dick Spencer and Brian Skewes, and Rick Sercombe.

—Rick Sercombe

Sessions, Georgina Sneddon

(11.9.89) Georgina was baptised in the Merewether, NSW, church in 1912, beginning an active association with our Newcastle churches. When the Hamilton church was established in 1923, Nan was welcomed as a foundation member. She married Fred Elliott and they served together till his early death in 1946. Her distinctive contribution was as Ladies' Guild secretary from 1930 to 1955. Steve Sessions and Nan were married in 1954. Steve predeceased her by 10 years. 91 years is an incredible life's journey. The Hamilton church will miss Nan's ready wit, even temper, great faithfulness and timely wisdom. Daughter Jean, brother Norman and other family joined in giving God thanks.

—Bill Flett

Church News

Vic

MAIDSTONE (Wes Rodgers) During Dec a special children's service was held ... Two Christmas services with Tottenham Baptists ... Sympathy extended to Rodgers family on death of Wes' mother ... Units completed. Tenants living in them. Official opening expected 25 March ... Brian Rodger spoke. Wes speaker at other services ... Iris Gates in WGH after stroke ... Congratulations to Tom & Olive Hampton on golden wedding.

MORNINGTON (Ian Cartmel) We share our joy at the decisions of Elsie Smith, Helen Rogers & Francis & Hazel Brinas. Frank & Hazel were baptised at Frankston church. Appreciate this help from Frankston ... Many visitors during holidays including some from brotherhood churches and this support is encouraging ... Leadership studies February & March ... Geoff Barnett & Ray McKenzie assisted during holiday of Ian & Glenys Cartmel & family.

WARRNAMBOOL (Peter Broadbent) Pre-Christmas family service included "Hey, Hey" presentation ... Church shocked by tragic death of Carol & Ebony Lane on Boxing Day. Prayer for surviving family members ... Combined New Year's Eve service held as part of "The Tent Event", arranged by Baptists & held for 10 days ... Many visitors worshipping with us during summer.

ASCOT VALE (Ross Bourdon) Witticks celebrated golden anniversary ... Joe Gardona baptised & received healing in his leg ... Brendon Hedgcock made a commitment. Church presented him with a concordance ... Annie Vincent given NIV Bible ... Howard Willard preached four nights ... Minister & family & three other families attended DMED camp at Halls Gap. **BENTLEIGH** (A. McMillan) Successful 60th church anniversary celebrations held 29 Oct ... Regional carol service enjoyed 17 Dec, also Christmas morning with Caulfield congregation ... Concerned members met for prayer & Bible study during holidays ... Fellowship enjoyed with over 40 at Terry's home at Dromana on 23 Jan ... Working with other churches & organisations in municipality for day seminar to display life styles for elderly.

LATROBETERR, GEELONG (Dr C.J. Mackenzie) CWF & East Geelong Autumn Club enjoyed two outings ... Neil Hayward & Greg Illingworth guest speakers in Jan ... Minister speaking on Nehemiah over several weeks ... Many members ill

during holidays ... First monthly family evening service featured puppeteers from Manifold Heights church ... Paul Bauer entering theological college ... CWF catered for Andrew McKnight's 21st birthday. **MARYBOROUGH** (Bruce Anderson) We rejoice in welcoming our new pastor Bruce Anderson, wife Sandra & children ... Condolences extended to families of Arthur Harkin, Rita Branton, Harry Mottram ... Elsie Drake celebrated her 85th birthday Jan ... Choir members resume practice twice monthly ... KYB recommenced 14 Feb ... Church annual meeting planned for March ... WEF will meet on regular basis each month ... Anonymous donation \$310 to piano fund.

WA

CARNARVON (Donald Bone) Salvation Army Bridge Program has withdrawn from Carnarvon so Peter & Vera Hoare farewellled ... Ugle family have returned to minister in South West of state ... Carole & Jeff Littlefair entered Bible College in Adelaide. They have ministered to small groups in Onslow for past two years ... Ladies enjoyed baby shower for Jordan, son of Gordon & Denise Musulin, & Mitchell, son of Ian & Chris Holliday.

WEMBLEY (John Timms) Church blessed with visiting speakers during minister's vacation. Thank you to Jack Bond, Carl Carmody, Alan Morris & David Timms ... We praise God for Geoff Green's recovery from recent sudden illness ... Good to see Yvonne Kallane home on leave from RAN & also to visit National Youth Convention.

MANDURAH (Bill & Gay Addison) Induction service 4 Feb of Bill & Gay Addison by Des Croot in Mewbourne Centre, where service held since sale of church ... Picnic lunch on foreshore ... Purchase of three acre block with big home, tennis court, heated pool. Possession end of March ... We thank many prayer groups & churches for providing speakers, also Home Mission Executive, who worked to help us relocate.

SCARBOROUGH (Nigel Merrick) New ministries established, greatly motivating fellowship ... Fred & Sandy Hay attending linguistics course prior to service in Gabon ... Six Bible College students this year—Geoff Dunning, Brad Parker, Graham Sansome, Raye Richard, Nigel Pyle & Max Randall ... Guest speakers David Althorpe, Stuart Wesley, Morris Randall & Jim Nottingham ... Nigel Merrick gave inspired sermon on forgiveness.

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Church News

Qld

MACKAY (Gabriel Babare) Mackay's new minister formally welcomed at special service on 21 Jan. Gabriel & Janelle Babare come after serving at Cairns & Kenmore, & more recently Kenmore Christian College, where Gabriel was a lecturer. Members joined for picnic lunch after service ... Church's former pastor, Norm Flett, left in Sept to serve at East Ipswich ... 28 Jan Peter & Sandy Evans baptised at special afternoon service.

ROSEVALE (Ralph Bennett, David Mansell) Annual picnic New Year's Day good time of fellowship. Concert at night enjoyed by all ... Mr & Mrs Ralph Bennett holidaying in USA ... Arrangements being made for 100 years of witness in district. Celebrations to be held New Year's Day 1991. Past ministers & members requested to write to Trevor Christensen, Tarome, MS 461, Kalbar 4309, with any memorabilia and attendance at centenary functions.

SA

NARACOORTE (Grant Simpson) A great time had by 33 at family camp, Nelson, Vic. Bruce Anderson, minister, Mt Gambier, led studies on "decision making" ... Recent services featured Jim Keatch, Associate State Minister, & films "Under Arrest" & "Signposts Aloft" ... 24 ladies enjoyed Christmas meeting hosted by CWF ... Many families attended ROCK Christmas tea with items by children & adults also included. Evening was great success.

NSW

GEORGETOWN/HAMILTON (W.J. Flett) Churches combining for services over holidays ... Sunday School's 50th anniversary celebrated with functions for past scholars throughout year ... Church's 50th celebration May 1990 ... Sunday School graduation to take place following breakfast at McDonald's ... Carlingford student, Greg Bruggemann, to continue for third year ... Darren & Kim Ogilvie set apart as caretakers at Camp Swansea ... Robert, Carolyn Marchesi & children returned from France & undertaking WEC training Launceston.

EPPING (S. Curkpatrick, D. Moyes) Recent dedication of 25 teachers for childrens ministry ... Large number of children commenced Sunday School. Church

reaching out to over 100 children each week ... Inter-generational worship planned for last Sunday each month ... JBCE Living Faith curriculum being used throughout the church ... All-age music & singing practice session during each week for Sunday services.

THORNLEIGH (Franklyn Elliott) Special feature of 4 Feb am service was dedication service for leaders & staff of Bible School, 12-15 Cell Group & newly commenced Kids Club, which will be held on Fridays ... Highlight of pm service was baptism of Brine & Joy Lofberg.

Brine & Joy were baptised by John West, Franklyn Elliott was preacher. At conclusion of service three came forward in response to invitation.

WENTWORTH FALLS (Frank Clark) At a meeting between Wentworth Falls, North Katoomba & DCD it was decided that Wentworth Falls church has no chance of growth & that it should amalgamate with North Katoomba in order to establish one Church of Christ on the Upper Blue Mountains. From 18 February worship at Wentworth Falls will cease & combine with

North Katoomba at Victoria & South Streets at 10.15 am. **FAIRFIELD** (Ted Bjorem) Steve & Merilyn & family welcomed into fellowship. They make complete four generations, together with grandma, J. Dwyer, mother of Steve, Ethel Wladysiuk ... Safe arrival of Ted & Julie's baby Denae ... Principal at Westfields High invited Ted to be chaplain of school ... Denis has received his sight after an operation ... Strong links between Carramar, Canley Heights, Merrylands & Fairfield through camps & combined services.

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New Legs for Moses

Moses Masaba has just received a new pair of artificial legs.

Ten years ago, in Kampala, Uganda, a crying, naked baby was found abandoned on a garbage heap.

Some caring people took the baby to an orphanage and named him Moses.

However, with his legs crippled, Moses could only crawl around on the floor.

When Christian Blind Mission International heard about Moses, they arranged for him to be transported to the Nyabondo Handicapped Centre in Kenya, which is supported by CBMI.

Following an operation, Moses was fitted with splints and crutches, and with the help of a therapeutic specialist, he learned to walk upright for the first time.

Since then, Moses has outgrown his shyness and is an alert and happy young boy. As he continues to grow he is periodically



Moses Masaba

fitted with a new set of artificial legs.

Christian Blind Mission International is grateful to supporters in Australia, whose gifts have enabled many children like Moses to receive assistance.

The Last Word

Prayer must have priority. Prayer must be our bolt to lock up the night, our key to open the day. Prayer is power. Prayer is wealth. Prayer is health to the soul.

—Leonard Ravenhill

Several paratrooper recruits were lined up in an aircraft for their first jump. As they began to shuffle towards the open doorway the sergeant in charge halted them.

"Stop!" shouted the sergeant. "There's someone without a parachute!"

"What's the panic?" said the recruit concerned, "we're only practising aren't we?"

★★★★★

"I gave that person 30 cents for saving my life."

"And?"

"And I got 25 cents in change."

★★★★★

"Wilkins," said the boss, "the pay office tells me that you have asked them to pay your salary direct to a bank account in the far north of Canada. Isn't that a bit odd, seeing that you live here in Adelaide?"

"Well boss," said Wilkins, "I don't earn very much, and I wanted to make sure my money goes a long way."

★★★★★

Customer: How much are your eggs?

Storekeeper: \$1 a dozen and 50 cents if they're cracked.

Customer: Well, then, crack me a dozen!

★★★★★

A minister startled the congregation one Sunday morning by announcing that there would be no prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings. The congregation began to buzz and the deacons got upset. A special meeting was called and the deacons took the minister to task. How could the church go on with no prayer meetings?

Finally the minister had an opportunity to respond: "Friends, what you don't seem to understand is that we have not had a prayer meeting in six months!"

★★★★★



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