

## New PCV Healthcare Chaplaincy Appointments Celebrated



On Sunday afternoon, 20th October 2013 at Donvale Presbyterian Church, colleagues, family and friends of three new PCV Healthcare Chaplains gathered together for their joint Commissioning Service.

The Chaplains are **Mrs Christine LePage** (Paediatric Chaplain, Northern Health), **Mr Ian Waller** (Paediatric Chaplain, Western Health) and **Mrs Janine Motyer** (celebrating her permanent appointment to the role of Pastoral Care Worker at Kirkbrae Presbyterian

Homes following the completion of a two-year internship period).

The Chaplains were commissioned by Rev Miles Fagan, the Convener of the Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee, and Rt Rev David Palmer, current Moderator of the PCV. Guest

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## Victorian General Assembly Report

### Highlights

'Highlights' are, of course, very personal, and other commissioners would undoubtedly have their own — perhaps the wonderful start given to the Assembly by the opening service on Monday evening, with outstanding preaching by the Rt Rev David Cook,

Moderator General of the PCA, emphasising the importance of passing the gospel on to the next generation, or one or more of the many interesting and challenging guest speakers, such as Patrick Sookhdeo of the Barnabas Fund, or one or more of the excellent reports and helpful deliverances of

the Assembly's committees. But for me the highlight of the Assembly was the first of the three expositions of the Assembly Expositor, Rev Dr Jared Hood, given at the Tuesday morning Communion Service. Dr Hood's expositions were focussed around a Calvin quote given him by the Moderator, the Rt Rev David

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\*Australian Presbyterian World Mission and Presbyterian Inland Mission

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PYV needs leaders

Submission deadline for next edition: 1 February

# A jumping castle in our church

Children's holiday program at Leongatha



Pokey (mascot), David Jensen, Josh Crawley and Katie Boys. A scene from the drama, based on an Olympic theme. This is team sub-zero as they plot how to cheat to defeat team RK.



Chris Rump (LPC) motivating the grade 4-6 children in their contest against team members.

Spring was in the air! Actually, it was wind and rain, but that didn't stop the first holiday program for the Leongatha Presbyterian Church in a long time.

Aided heavily by the ROCK team from St. Andrews PC, Clayton, and eight locals, a team of about thirty youths and young adults (actually, some were of the more mature variety) spent the best part of four days together sharing the love of our Lord with some local children and their parents.

Starting on Monday night, with a

free sausage sizzle and drinks—red lemonade is off the agenda for next time—the Lord saw us hold the event indoors, revealing the insight of the church architect of twenty years ago in allowing space within the building for a jumping castle. What vision.

Just about all of the program was held indoors, opening up new experiences and creativity for a team used to outdoor programs. Tuesday to Thursday mornings saw the program proper, with singing, acting, mucking around, dressing up, craft, bible story-telling,

an ongoing drama, and a lot of loving fun. We had between fifteen and twenty children each morning, plus some parents, and the feed-back from all was very positive, with much appreciation expressed to the team. And the building? Well it held up well, with a carpet clean the next day bringing it back to better than normal—except for that one carpet tile that had turned a bit red. Oh never mind!

*From all your friends at LPC*

## New Elder at Heathmont

The congregation at Heathmont is rejoicing in the strengthening of our Session by the ordination and induction of Endre Papajcsik on Sunday 25th August. The ordination was carried out by Rev Andrew Venn as his last official duty as minister of the parish.

*J. D. Fraser  
Session Clerk*

## A warm welcome for Rev Steve North at Ballarat South

The parish of Ballarat South has been vacant for some eighteen months, so it was with significant joyfulness that a new minister was welcomed on the night of 2nd October, 2013.

The Rev Steve North, from New South Wales, was inducted into the parish in a meaningful service. Steve and his wife Lisa were welcomed at

supper after the service. Both presbytery and parish rejoice that the Lord has filled the vacancy and begun a new ministry in Ballarat South and we look to him for the fruit and the blessing that he alone can give.

*Keith Allen  
Clerk, Ballarat Presbytery*

## VACANCIES CHURCH OF ST ANDREW - CANBERRA



The Pastoral Charge of the Church of St Andrew has become vacant following the retirement of its Senior Minister, Rev Joy Bartholomew, and Colleague, Rev Arnold Bartholomew.

Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of Australia who would like more details on either of the positions of Senior Minister or Colleague are invited to contact the Parish Office for a comprehensive package of information. For further information please contact the Interim Moderator or Session Clerk.

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FELLOW WORKERS



# 'Land of Opportunity': ESL at Ashburton



What greater privilege could there be than to provide a felt need of some of the most disadvantaged people in our local community, while at the same time making known God's glory, and helping congregation members to grow in their gifts? That's how I feel about Ashburton church's ESL (English as a Second Language) classes.

After a lot of preparation, including training, advertising, and gathering necessary 'tools', we ran our first classes at the beginning of Term 3 this year. Students had the options of morning, afternoon, and/or evening classes, with some staying for more than one. That first day three students walked up with very little English, and we were off and running.

Students cannot always attend regularly, due to other commitments,

but many let us know how they are going, and sometimes we have been able to help with practical needs. Evening classes were last to 'take off' but now have a group of enthusiastic regulars meeting each week. We even have a subgroup of primary aged children that learn at their level while their parents are in the adult class.

Our lessons begin with an hour or so of general conversation class. We cover relevant topics and issues, and focus on pronunciation, comprehension, appropriate grammar and idioms, and anything the students request along the way.

We then break for refreshments, when there is opportunity for informal English conversation. We finish with a Bible component where we read a Bible passage, answer and discuss comprehension questions and discuss

applications. This Bible segment is not compulsory, of course, and we always make this clear to new students. Without exception, though, students have expressed interest in learning more about this aspect of Australian life.

One lady told me she had often wondered about the churches she saw around the place, and what their names meant. I had to describe baptism to explain the Baptist churches, and of course 'Presbyterian' is a long and strange word, and she wanted to know what it meant.

A young man asked me the same question. When I explained that a presbyter was an elder, he beamed in recognition. 'Ah, that's my church!' he said.

He was Korean and the son of an elder.

Whether students are familiar with Christianity or totally unfamiliar, all are keen to learn and understand more, without the adverse reaction or disinterest we get from people who have lived in Australia longer.

I am so glad that God has led and blessed this opportunity for us to reach out to these newer Australians. I know what it is like coming to this 'Land of Opportunity' and entering school without a word of English. I remember wonderful people who helped us as a family to find our feet. It is our amazing opportunity now to bless others in the same way.

*MarJo Angelico  
Ashburton Presbyterian Church*

## Brief news from around the Presbytery of North West Victoria

The Presbytery has formed a new appointment parish called the parish of **Northern Lakes**, comprising the congregations of Kerang, Swan Hill and Pyramid Hill. A new manse is being sought in Kerang and it is hoped that an appointment to the new parish will be made soon.

At **Sunraysia**, the small congregation has been blessed by a six-month stint in the pulpit by the **Rev Dallas Clarnette**.

At **Rochester**, PTC exit student **Stuart Withers** was ordained and inducted in

July. **Rev Dr Douglas Milne** was the guest preacher for the occasion.

At **Eaglehawk** members have recently enjoyed a trip to the Bible Museum in St Arnaud. **Steven Arbuckle** continues his ministry as Home Missionary there.

At **St John's Bendigo** the congregation recently held its annual Seafarer's Service. Guest preacher was **Commander Mike Oborn** from HMAS Cerberus. A recent working bee has seen the addition of a data projector and screen in the church.

The church plant '**Reforming**' (South East Bendigo) is making progress in their new venue of the Spring Gully Hall (each week at 5pm) and is celebrating the arrival of **Knox Russell**, a baby boy for **Russ (& Aimee) Grinter** (church planter).

*Rev Philip Burns*

# New PCV Healthcare Chaplaincy Appointments Celebrated



Mrs Janine Motyer, Mr Ian Waller and Mrs Chris LePage were commissioned by Rev Miles Fagan, the convenor of the HCCC.

*Continued from front page*

preacher on the day was Rev Theo Fishwick with the Bible read by Mr Mark Sketcher, the CEO at Kirkbrae.

Mrs Kathy James, Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Co-ordinator for the HCCC, introduced the Chaplains who each shared with the congregation something of the work and ministry in their unique setting.

The HCCC and wider PCV celebrate these commissions as rich evidence of God's great kindness, grace and patience as the Church seeks to walk step by step with him. Many have seen, over more than a decade, the foundations being laid for these growing ministries of compassionate care in health settings. Each appointment builds on the faithful and formative work and ministry of others: Rev Theo Fishwick, the PCV's first formally appointed Chaplain to the Royal Children's Hospital; Mrs Anne Lawry, former Pastoral Care Worker at the Epworth Freemasons Hospital; Rev Keith Bell, Theo's successor at RCH who then went on to take up joint appointments at both Northern and Western Health; and Rev Wally Gear, the current full-time Chaplain at Kirkbrae.

We praise God for his great faithfulness to us, as we consider this rich history and celebrate the encouraging evidence of further growth. Below is some information about each of the Chaplains commissioned at this special service.

Mrs Christine LePage was appointed by the HCCC in March 2013 to her role as Paediatric Chaplain to Northern Health at the Northern Hos-

pital in Epping. This role is currently funded by HCCC for two days a week through the Harold Hughes Trust. Chris has been involved in chaplaincy work for many years, with a background in education and more recently in healthcare settings. Chris completed the hospital component of her training at the Austin hospital and has worked in various pastoral care roles including locum work at the Austin, Royal Children's and Royal Talbot hospitals. She recently completed a Graduate Diploma of Divinity at Presbyterian Theological College.

Mrs Janine Motyer was formally appointed from July 2013 to an ongoing role as Pastoral Care worker to the nursing home and hostel of Kirkbrae Presbyterian Homes. Prior to her current appointment, Janine completed the first two year pilot program for pastoral care training in the PCV, jointly funded by HCCC (through the St Andrews Foundation) and the Social Services Committee. Her training incorporated elements of Clinical Pastoral Education at the Austin Hospital, units of theological study at Melbourne School of Theology and work experience in a training role at Kirkbrae.

Mr Ian Waller was also appointed in March 2013 to his role as Paediatric Chaplain to Western Health at the Sunshine Hospital. This role is currently funded by the HCCC for three days per week through the Harold Hughes Trust. Ian's original training was in physiotherapy—he and his family have spent several years working overseas in educational, medical and ministry settings. In recent years Ian completed a Masters of Divinity at Mel-

bourne School of Theology and began to explore his interest in pastoral care ministry. Ian completed the hospital component of his training at the Peter McCallum Cancer Centre.

Healthcare Chaplaincy is a specific form of chaplaincy ministry with an emphasis on providing compassionate presence, listening, care and prayer in the name of Jesus for those who are sick in a variety of health settings. Healthcare chaplains are generally mature and experienced people who have undergone training in theology, pastoral care, counselling and clinical pastoral education (CPE). Often they have a background in health or education. The Victorian healthcare system, by Government regulation, encourages the participation of health chaplains from a full range of faith groups in Victoria, recognising differences in religion and practice across the population spectrum of our state. This means Christian Chaplains can find working in hospitals challenging and must navigate and at times create boundaries when working with patients, families, other practitioners and in group settings.

Our chaplains also find it a privilege to work with God each day, trusting in his sovereignty to guide their engagements with patients and that he will work his purposes out in each encounter as they seek to care for the sick, serve the Lord Jesus and put their trust in him.

*Like to know more about training and workplace opportunities in healthcare chaplaincy? Please contact Mrs Kathy James Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care Co-ordinator  
Health & Community Chaplaincy Committee  
chaplaincy@pcvic.org.au*





# Sorrento celebrates 125 years of worship



Rev John Brennan is the minister at Sorrento, where the church building was made of local limestone 125 years ago.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Sorrento, celebrated its 125th anniversary on Thursday 17th October.

Around sixty people gathered in the historic limestone church to sing praises to God 'with cheerful voice' and to celebrate the fact that people have been meeting for worship at Sorrento for 125 years.

The worship service featured favourite hymns from the past 125 years, with Bible readings and a reflection on the history of the parish included between the brackets of hymns.

The minister at Sorrento-Rye, Rev John Brennan, gave a timely message from 1 Peter 2:5. He reminded us that the 'church' is not a building; rather it comprises the people who meet for worship. They are the 'living stones'.

The inaugural church service, on 17th October 1888, commenced with the singing of 'All People That On Earth Do Dwell', and that is how our anniversary commenced also. The afternoon concluded with 'high tea' in the Church Hall. Among the visitors were Rev Dr. Dallas Clarnette and his wife Beverley, who had an additional reason to celebrate the day - it was their 54th wedding anniversary!

Special presentations were made at the anniversary service: to Mrs Anne Bell, now retired, for her many years as church organist, and to Mrs Jean Stirling (Secretary) and Mrs

Bonnie Cairns (Treasurer) for serving as office bearers in the Ladies' Guild/ PWMU for 36 continuous years—they are still in those roles.

The Sorrento congregation praises God for His faithfulness over the past

125 years, and trusts Him to provide and guide for the future.

*Michelle Brennan*



Top left: Anne Bell recently retired as church organist, having attended Sorrento Presbyterian Church all her life.

Top right: church hall interior, where high tea was served after the service.

Bottom left: Rev. Dr. Dallas Clarnette and wife Beverley celebrating their 54th Wedding Anniversary.

Bottom right: Jean Stirling (on left) has been Guild Secretary for 36 years; Bonnie Cairns (on right) has been Guild Treasurer for 36 years.

# Victorian General Assembly Report

Continued from front page

Palmer:

*Christ was given to us by God's generosity, to be grasped and possessed by us in faith. By partaking of him, we principally receive a double grace: namely, that being reconciled to God through Christ's blamelessness, we may have in heaven instead of a Judge a gracious Father; and secondly, that sanctified by Christ's spirit we may cultivate blamelessness and purity of life.*

From this Dr Hood brought us three memorable expositions — but the first, on Union with Christ, with his text from Song of Songs 2:16, 'My beloved is mine, and I am his', was my 'highlight'. How wonderful it was to be reminded how this neglected text is not merely about marriage, but about the promises of God's covenant, about Christ, his great love for us, our love for him as our beloved, and our fellowship with him.

## Remembering and Acknowledging Important People

Traditionally, Assemblies begin with what are sometimes referred to as 'formalities.' Included amongst these is the approval of a 'Royal Address' — an assurance of loyalty and of our prayers for the Queen. It also approves 'Loyal Addresses' to the Governor General, the Prime Minister, and to our Premier, reminding them of their place under God, and assuring them of our church's prayers for them. Please pray for them!

Early in the Assembly the Moderator welcomes new members, ministerial and elders' jubilees are commemorated, and ministerial and elders' deaths since the last Assembly remembered. This year the Assembly noted the long service of Rev Peter Locke (60 years since ordination), Rev John Cromarty (50 years since ordination as an elder), elder Rex McCarron (50 years an elder), elder Wally French (50 years as an elder), elder Neil Hamilton (60 years as an elder), elder Elizabeth Cutler (40 years an elder)

and elder Gilbert Bell (65 years an elder). We remembered the passing of Rev Alexander Thomas Stevens (1919 – 2012), Rev Henri Antoine Joyeux (1931 – 2013), Mr John Harold Gething, home missionary (1942 – 2013), elder Harold Evans and elder Jacobus Louws. We rejoice in God's goodness in giving his church such faithful servants.

## Significant Decisions

Amongst the more significant decisions taken by the Assembly were:

- the appointment of Rev Dr Jared Hood to the position of Old Testament Lecturer at the Presbyterian Theological College, Victoria for a term of seven years.
- the re-appointment of Rev Dr John Wilson as Assembly Clerk for a five-year term on a full time basis and with expanded responsibilities.
- the response to advice that its policies and practices for protecting against and dealing with sexual abuse within the church are not sufficient to meet Victorian law. The Assembly resolved to approve in principle the replacement of its *Breaking the Silence* policy and procedures with the proposed *Safe Church – PCV* Policy, Code of Conduct and procedures for handling complaints modelled on the PCA (NSW) version (July 2011) of *Breaking the Silence*, adjusted according to Victorian law. (In the interim, the principles and practices of PCV's existing *Breaking the Silence* policy will apply in so far as they are appropriate.)
  - to establish a Safe Church Unit (SCU), with suitable staff to be appointed.
  - to approve new policies and code of conduct: 'Our Policy Statement' and 'Our Code of Conduct.'
- place the Safe Church Unit organisationally under the Assembly Clerk.
- fund the cost of the Safe Church Unit by an annual levy on parishes which is to be based on the number of communicants and adherents in a similar manner to the way the insurance costs are recovered from parishes.

It is sad that such measures are

necessary, but we must act to protect the vulnerable, to comply with the law and to honour the name of our Saviour by giving diligent attention to these serious matters.

## Special Encouragements

Of the many encouragements of the Assembly, four matters stood out to me as especially encouraging.

The first is PYV. The Assembly approved a restatement of its aim and objectives: *PYV aims to glorify God by assisting the congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in the development and nurture of youth for the service of Christ Jesus*. PYV is doing a great work for the present and the future; praise the Lord!

The second was Dayspring Day; how wonderful that children are being encouraged and enthused in the work of mission — congratulations to Cassie Hood and the PWMU!

The third was the report of the Social Services Committee, and especially progress in maintaining and improving Kirkbrae, its aged care facility at Kilsyth. How good to see that important work in good shape.

The fourth was PCV progress in church planting. Reports by Russ Grinter, Peter Owen and Richard Wilson caused us to rejoice in God's goodness. The Assembly resolved to 'note with gratitude to God the progress of all four church plants and be especially prayerful for Darebin Presbyterian Church, Point Cook Presbyterian Church and Reforming Church, Bendigo as they each enter into their second year' — and we will!

## Other Matters

The Assembly:

- recognised the work of its Archivist, Mrs Chris Palmer and of her associates.
- encouraged congregations to avail themselves of resources offered by the Ministry Development Committee to engage in evangelism training and use opportunities to share their faith.
- accepted the advice of the Board of Investment and Finance to make grants from funds held for GAA purposes to support the work of the Presbyterian Church in South Australia and Western Australia.
- resolved to pray for METRO and youthMETRO work and trainees.
- commended parishes which had fully subscribed their allocations to its General Mission Program.
- encouraged support for the Bible Society in Australia.
- thanked God for the blessings of





# engage<sup>'14</sup>

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Rev. Nello Barbieri

Engage '14 Conference Chairman

## Teach Us to Pray: The Lord's Prayer and the Gospel of Jesus

New Resource from the GAA Christian Education Committee!

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the CENC's Colloquium, and encouraged Christians to be informed about the policies and platforms that their parliamentary candidates support, especially on the important issue of same-sex 'marriage'.

- encouraged the people of the church to pray that the Lord would send labourers into his harvest fields, especially to the countless millions who have not yet heard the gospel.

- commends the PresAID 2013 Christmas Appeal to all congregations and Boards of Management for safe water for villages by Lake Victoria, Uganda, and for the Presbyterian Church of Timor Leste.

- rejoiced with Belgrave Heights Christian School in the Lord's blessing on it and its gospel ministry.

- honoured the ladies of the Home Mission Workers Association.

- encouraged support for the work of Christian Witness to Israel in reaching the Jews of Melbourne with the gospel.

- urged prayer for military chap-

lains as they minister in the name of Christ to ADF personnel at home and overseas.

- urged diligent prayer that the Lord will provide gifted pastors and teachers to candidate for the ministry of our church.

- heard a most encouraging report of progress at Cranbourne Home Mission Station, and approved the Presbytery ordaining Licentiate Peter Roberts, appointed there.

- urged prayer for hospital chaplains, and especially Christine LePage and Ian Waller (Northern and Western Hospitals)

- reappointed, with thanks to God for her valued ministry to ministers' wives, Miss Elspeth Slater to the position of Pastoral Support Worker, PCV Ministry Wives.

- in the light of the ongoing conflict in Egypt and Syria, urges congregations to give generously to the Barnabas Fund as a practical expression of our love and concern for our fellow Christians.

- established an ad hoc committee on Development of Presbyterian Christian Schooling in Victoria, to report back to the 2014 Assembly on the challenge of developing such schooling – please pray!

- resolved to adjourn its meeting to the 6th of November to consider appeals 2-7!

Rev Peter Phillips  
Deputy Clerk

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# Partnership



**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION**

**[www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au) 8 Sylvan Grove, Picnic Point, NSW 2213 | (02) 9792 1373**

**After January 2014, 81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood NSW 2134 • [national@apwm.org.au](mailto:national@apwm.org.au)**

*The Australian Presbyterian World Mission exists to glorify God by facilitating the spread of the gospel to people overseas and Aborigines within Australia.*

## Motor Isaac Yat

Motor Yat was born in Sudan during the years of the civil war. He was raised in a non-Christian family and became a Christian through his sister taking him to church.



He attended a Muslim high school in Khartoum, Sudan. At school he was one of 7 Christians out of 2,500 mostly Muslim students.

He undertook theological training in Egypt before moving to Melbourne as a refugee. In Melbourne he belonged to the Clayton Presbyterian Church while serving as a youth leader at the Church.

In 2009 Motor returned to Sudan as an APWM missionary serving with the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan.

Motor is based in the city of Malakal and his primary ministry is in the training of Church elders. He runs workshops for elders looking at:

- their role
- their call and qualifications
- how they are elected

He preaches and also runs training on witnessing for Christ and conducts youth conferences.

Motor is currently in Australia for Home Assignment.

His support level is at 65% meaning that we need to raise a further \$25,000 per year before he can return to South Sudan. Please join with us in praying about this.

If you would like Motor to speak at your church or group then please contact him on 0412 207 581 or [yat.mission@gmail.com](mailto:yat.mission@gmail.com).

If you would like to support Motor then you can

- visit our website <http://www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance>
- email [finance@apwm.org.au](mailto:finance@apwm.org.au)
- phone APWM National on (02) 9792 1373

## A New Home for APWM



In January 2014, the APWM National Office will move from its present location in south-west Sydney to Burwood in the inner western suburbs. The office will be housed in the grounds of the re-developed Presbyterian Theological Centre. This will enable the Director and office staff to have greater contact with theological students, ministers, elders and church members who visit the PTC. Burwood is a centrally located and so will be very convenient for meetings. From January 2014 the APWM National Office postal address will be:

81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood, NSW 2134.

At this stage the new phone number is unknown. The web and email details will stay the same. The office will be in the very top of the older building on the corner.



## 2014-2015 APWM Directory

In early 2014 our new APWM Directory will be available. It will be distributed via churches so please look out for your free copy. The Directory is a great way of keeping up to date on who is serving with APWM and where they are located. It is a great aid to the APWM Email Update Prayer notes.

Please note that the Directory will NOT be available in a digital format.

“AFTER THIS I LOOKED AND THERE BEFORE ME WAS A GREAT MULTITUDE THAT NO ONE COULD COUNT, FROM EVERY NATION, TRIBE, PEOPLE AND LANGUAGE, STANDING BEFORE THE THRONE AND IN FRONT OF THE LAMB. (REVELATION 7:9)”





# APWM CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE 2013

THIS CHRISTMAS WHY NOT GIVE GIFTS TO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND AT THE SAME TIME HELP SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE THE BASICS THAT WE TAKE FOR GRANTED? THE ITEMS BELOW CAN PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF CHRISTIANS AND OTHERS IN OUR PARTNER CHURCHES IN MYANMAR AND EAST TIMOR. ALL GIFTS WILL BE CHANNELLED THROUGH OUR PARTNER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN THOSE COUNTRIES.

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**BLANKET (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$6 will provide a blanket for a child in a rural school.

**UMBRELLA (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$6 will will provide an umbrella for a child in a rural school.

**BAG OF RICE (MYANMAR OR EAST TIMOR)** A gift of \$20 will provide a bag of rice for a family in East Timor. A gift of \$25 will provide a bag of rice for a family in Myanmar.

**BIBLE COLLEGE BOOK RESOURCES (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$30 will provide book resources for the Reformed Bible Institute in Yangon.

**STATIONERY FOR ONE RURAL CHILD (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$30 will provide stationery for one rural child in Chin State, Myanmar.

**EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR ONE CHILD (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$40 will provide educational assistance for one year for a child.

**MEDICINE FOR BIBLE COLLEGE STUDENTS (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$50 will provide medicine for students at the Reformed Bible Institute in Yangon.

**VITAMINS AND MEDICINES FOR A RURAL VILLAGE (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$50 will provide vitamins and medicines for a rural village in Chin State.

**GUITAR (EAST TIMOR)** A gift of \$60 will provide a guitar for a rural congregation.

**GOAT OR PIG (EAST TIMOR)** A gift of \$60 will provide a goat or pig for a pastor's family to help them economically.

**GENERATOR FOR A RURAL VILLAGE (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$300 will provide a generator for use in a rural village in Chin State, Myanmar.

**COMPUTER FOR A BIBLE COLLEGE (MYANMAR)** A gift of \$700 will provide a computer for the Reformed Bible Institute in Yangon.

*Please note that while the prices above are correct at the time of printing there are some variations due to inflation overseas and fluctuations in the exchange rate.*



## APWM CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE 2013 ORDER FORM

### HOW IT WORKS

1. You choose the item(s) on our list that you would like to purchase for your friends/family.
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3. We will send you the cards you have ordered. You are then free to give these cards to your friends/family for Christmas. The cards state which gift(s) you have purchased, on their behalf, for someone in East Timor or Myanmar. The card does not state the monetary value of the gift.
4. APWM then sends the money to our partners in East Timor or Myanmar. They will then purchase the gifts locally and distribute them to those in need.

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BIBLE COLLEGE BOOK RESOURCES (M) \$30		
STATIONERY FOR ONE RURAL CHILD (M) \$30		
EDUCATION FOR ONE CHILD (M) \$40		
VITAMINS & MEDICINES RURAL VILLAGE (M) \$50		
MEDICINE FOR BIBLE COLLEGE STUDENTS (M) \$50		
GUITAR (ET) \$60		
GOAT OR PIG (ET) \$60		
GENERATOR FOR A RURAL VILLAGE (M) \$300		
COMPUTER FOR A BIBLE COLLEGE (M) \$700		
GENERAL DONATION FOR MYANMAR		
GENERAL DONATION FOR EAST TIMOR		
<b>TOTAL</b>		

- ☐ I enclose a cheque / money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or
- ☐ I have made a Direct Deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Please tick here if you do not wish to receive cards and simply want to make a donation for these items

Please note that if any item is over-subscribed then the money will be allocated to a similar need.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

suburb \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# VISITORS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA AND FEDERAL PWA CONFERENCE

At the recent General Assembly of Australia, it was our privilege to host a number of visitors from some of our Partner Churches.

- a) The Rev Daniel Marcal, Moderator of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Timor Leste;
- b) The Rev Daisuke Kimura of the Presbyterian Church in Japan with the Rev Dan Iverson, Team Leader of the Japan Mission Team;
- c) The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, Pastor Kaloronga Ova and Mrs Rose Ova;
- d) Attending the Federal PWA Conference, Mrs Lefai Chillai (President) and Mrs Cyrilene Bani (General Secretary) from the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union (Vanuatu).



*The Rev Daniel Marcal, Moderator of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Timor Leste, addresses the General Assembly.*

in Japan the Church has to deal with the fact that 95% of the Japanese have never heard the gospel.

On the weekend prior to the General Assembly our visitors spoke in eight separate churches across Sydney thus enriching the life of our Church. This was enhanced through participation in various events conducted by the Federal PWA. On the Tuesday evening of the General Assembly our visitors addressed the Assembly about the life of the Church in their home country.

It was tremendous to spend time together as brothers and sisters in Christ and share together.

In Vanuatu the Church faces issues associated with increasing secularisation and rapid change, in Timor Leste the Church has to deal with the relative youth of the nation and the lack of training for pastors,



*The Rev Daisuke Kimura of the Presbyterian Church in Japan with the Rev Dan Iverson, Team Leader of the Japan Mission Team addresses the General Assembly about the state of Christianity in Japan.*

Addressing the General Assembly the Rev Daisuke Kimura from Japan said "This is my first visit to your country. I acknowledge that seventy years ago my country attacked yours. But I also acknowledge the words of Paul in Ephesians chapter 2: the cross of Christ has removed the dividing wall of hostility. This has been confirmed in this generation, for you have responded to our hostility with kindness and sent us missionaries with the gospel of Jesus Christ. And for that I say thank you." Daisuke is a church planter in Sendai, one of the cities directly affected by the March 2011 tsunami.

When Christians from different cultures gather together in Christ, it is a foretaste of that great day when people from every tribe and tongue will gather around the throne of God to worship Him (Revelation 7:9). What a privilege to have a preview of this in this life!



*Our visitors from Vanuatu together with former missionaries to Vanuatu. L to R: Mrs Jenni Smith, Mrs Rosemary Zurrer, Rev Dr Ian Smith, Mrs Cyrilene Bani (PWMU Secretary), Mrs Sue Camden, Pastor Kaloronga Ova (Moderator), Rev Walter Zurrer, Mrs Rose Ova, Rev Darrell Thatcher, Mrs Lefai Chillai, Rev Robert McKean, Mrs Margaret Thatcher.*



*Moderator General, the Rt Rev David Cook with Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, Pastor Kaloronga Ova.*





# Bimbadeen Christian Training and Conference Centre

Few Australian Christians have heard of Bimbadeen, the Christian Training College that has played a significant role in the life of the Australian Aboriginal Church. Bimbadeen commenced in 1979 and since then has trained approximately 160 people for varied ministries in Churches. In recent years the College has been in recess.

Bimbadeen is located at Cootamundra in south west New South Wales. It has played a strategic role in the training of leaders for the Aboriginal community in eastern Australia.

The General Assembly of Australia has given oversight of Aboriginal Ministry to APWM. Within New South Wales this has involved the support of Rick and Kayleen Manton who pastor the Mount Druitt Indigenous Church in Sydney's western suburbs.



*Bimbadeen Christian Training College.*



*Rev Rick Manton in the Bimbadeen Library.*



*Brothers in Christ, Rev Jim Elliott & Rev Rick Manton.*

A few months ago the members of the APWM Aboriginal Subcommittee met at Bimbadeen to consider the ways in which APWM could assist the College in restarting. One of those present said "We want to be a mission force, not a mission field!" It was a good opportunity to consider some of the challenges facing our Aboriginal brothers and sisters.

One of the issues being considered was the development of a relevant theological curriculum. The Rev Dr Ian Smith Principal of PTC Sydney, joined the gathering to share his experience in theological education in Australia and Vanuatu. Please pray for this vital ministry.



*L to R: Rev Jim Elliott, Mrs Kayleen Manton, Mr Terry Manton, Rev Rick Manton, Mrs Olga Manton, Rev Dr Ian Smith, Mrs Sybil Shaw, Mr Bob Quinn and Mr Alex Shaw.*

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# FEATURE TRACKS

AN UPDATE FROM THE PIM

No. 4 2013

PROCLAIMING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BY WORD AND DEED

## DIRT, DUST AND DROUGHT ... BUT NOT DESPERATION

### Roger and Margaret Crane amongst cattle stations and cattle people

We all know the general rule that you don't kick a man when he is down. It is generally accepted among pastoralists in this part of the world that the live cattle export ban (they would call it a debacle), knocked them down. It was not just anti-Canberra sentiment in the bush. It was genuine deep down righteous anger at what, to them, was a totally ill-considered decision made by those who were a long way away from the realities of the situation. Many of those same pastoralists would claim that the drought, on top of all that, is just too much. When you think of the situation, things just don't seem to sit right. This opens the door to a discussion on "...How can a loving, caring God...?" and so it goes. Everybody seems to want to blame God for the bad. To ask if they ever thank God for the good things is to tread into dangerous territory and it is sure to evoke some animated responses! Gently we take the opportunity to point out that God often uses the bad, to cause us to appreciate the good.

Into this situation PIM seeks to bring fresh air. The extra storage space on the vehicle means we can bring all sorts of little gifts and books (including His Word) to those who have little about which to smile in the current circumstances. We are looking forward to functions in Townsville when we will be given Christmas cooking and gifts to distribute as we travel. It is a pity that those in Townsville cannot see the faces of the recipients as the gifts are delivered!

What are some of the practical realities out here in the North Patrol? There are many times when the camera is just not adequate to convey the scenes of hectare after hectare of dust. It is easy to blame the lack of rain and think that that is all there is to it. Sadly some of the damage is self inflicted where there has been overstocking in the good years.



Consider the man who fences off his dams in the dry times and installs a pump to run the water into a trough. The other option is to run the risk of weak cattle walking out towards the water, breaking through the fragile crust, and getting bogged. The bore runner, whose job it is to check these troughs and dams two or three times a week, carries a rifle for such occasions. That is quicker and kinder than the crows.

A dam is dry so you send the young ringer out with the digger, the value of which would be measured in six figures, to clean out the dam, and he approaches the job with enthusiasm. All goes well until, with minimal warning the right hand front wheel disappears from view below the apparently firm surface. Six hours later, with the grader attached to the dozer attached to the digger it is extricated. Back at the shed the owner demonstrates the use of the high pressure sprayer to blast off the mud, hands' the sprayer to the young bloke and says "See you tonight!"





Most properties have a small patch of green grass around the house. It is much like an oasis in the desert when you come home at night. It can be debilitating for the wife to live in dust and dirt all day long and the grass does help to keep the dust down just a little bit. You also soon discover that it is discreet to slow to a walking pace about 200+ metres from the house. Perhaps the most concise sign we have seen – “Dust Sux!” – makes things very clear.

Many people are feeding hay, protein lick, cotton seed and molasses to keep the stock alive. The law of supply and demand however means that the prices of such items are going through the roof but what is the alternative. To take animals off such things in a hurry can have detrimental consequences but with supplies running low, those same people find themselves between a rock and a hard place! The financial problems don't just stop there. There is really little option to boarding School, especially in the secondary years and the fees are a huge cost. In



the towns the storekeepers are helping as much as they can but lines of credit do have their limits. Sadly, in several instances the banks have stepped in and have foreclosed on some properties. Welcome to life in the bush!

Despite it all, the overall the attitude out here is positive – if you hang in there for long enough the rain will come and every day brings it one day closer! People are learning to watch out for their neighbours and are always ready to help when and where they can. For us this can often mean the discernment to know when an invitation to stay the night is, in reality, a request to stay. When times are hard and visitors are few a night's company can be so appreciated, and we need Godly wisdom as to when and how to speak out His Word on such occasions.

Please pray for the Christians on the properties. Few and far between they may be, but they are there, they are faithful in their witness, and they are much in prayer for those around them. Right now the physical fields are certainly not ripe for harvest but the people surely are – and there is a major lack of ministers in the area! We are thankful for the privilege of being His messengers in these trying times.



## GETTING READY TO GO

### Latest PIM workers, the Alsops prepare in earnest



On return from holidays in England, David flew to Dubbo (NSW) and collected the PIM Land Cruiser and Camper Trailer which we will be using for the time being in the Central Patrol. He drove back to the Brisbane area where Kathy was staying with family.

We broke our journey from Brisbane to Biloela at Dalby and spent some worthwhile time with Greg and Janet Cripps of the South Patrol. They have only been in the work for just over 6 months but are “experienced” compared with us! We picked up many useful ideas from Greg and Janet that we may be able to use in our ministry. We valued our time of sharing, relating many

shared experiences and found that we had gone through similar ups and downs in our Christian walks.

We rejoice to have definitely experienced the power of God in the way events have transpired while in England on holiday, on our return here to Australia as we prepare for our first patrol in November. Pray with us: for guidance as we take up PIM work for the first time; for the ability to cope with Summer heat; and for rain in the huge area of central Queensland we cover.





# LAURIE AND GWEN PEAKE

## Faithfully sharing God's love over the years in the Leichhardt Patrol

We aim to be on patrol 8 times a year, (over 2-3 days at a time), which enables us to visit each property in our area, twice a year. We are fairly flexible as to when we go, to fit in our farm work and local congregational ministry.

As we set out, we were again made conscious that within our patrol was a rapidly developing Coal Seam Gas field. A very large new power line quickly brought this home to us. All along the way, we saw men at work digging trenches and laying huge gas pipes to complete the line that will carry this gas to Gladstone for liquification and export by 2015. Accommodation camps are springing up everywhere to house workers numbered in the thousands that are putting it all together. Unfortunately these men are working up to 12 hours a day for 28 days straight before having 10 days off. In our view of the 10 Commandments this is immoral. Sadly, this CSG project is rightly nicknamed "the Marriage Breaker". Because of the hours the miners are working, there is no opportunity for us to make contact with them. This whole project is a big worry for graziers who fear the serious possibility of the ruination of our Great Artesian Basin leaving us without this vital natural water resource for our cattle. Much of our talk on Patrol with those we visited was around this issue and also having to deal with gas companies which they find extremely tedious.

We wended our way through stops signs and mining works, travelling 300 kms in our two days and visiting 19 properties with 5 owners absent. We found several opportunities to lend a helping hand as drought takes hold of our area. We helped one lady take a tilly load of cotton seed to feed drought affected stock, helping her to shovel it into all manner of containers including hollow logs, old bath tubs and ½ 44 gal drums. It gave us an opportunity to extend love and support to her in these difficult times. On another property we helped a couple feed heifers which have been selected as future breeders a gourmet meal of hay, straw, cotton seed meal and molasses. Then we loaded a round bale of hay onto the tractor and took it up the paddock and rolled it out to feed the rest of the herd as



they came running for their hay.

On a few occasions we were able to read the Scriptures accompanied by Our Daily bread which we left with the folk, inviting them to follow the practice of daily readings. This is an important aim of our patrol work. A grandfather and mother were most appreciative of my gospel

presentation to their grandson who was visiting them, helping them out through the school holidays. A great lad, a willing worker and willing to give serious thought to the weighty matters of life. Along the way we discussed the venue and program for a Christmas service which are planning to hold in this outside veranda situation at the start of December. We are also planning 3 other Christmas services in our patrol area.

Join us as we pray: that many people we visit will attend the Christmas and other services held from time to time; for much needed rain; for harmony between farmers and mine workers; for spiritual fruit for our labours to give us the will to keep on going on.





# MALLINSON MISSION ACCOMPLISHED...

## At the Mt. Isa Church...

We have concluded of our three months with the Mount Isa Church and the North Australia Patrol. It has been a fruitful time with the folk in Mount Isa as we have encouraged, and been encouraged in the Lord.

We have participated in the regular Bible Study and commenced a Young Adults Study on Friday evenings. A Church member has taken leadership on our departure. The men met for a scrumptious breakfast and talk, while the ladies were encouraged at a morning tea. Our 4 wheel drives were thoroughly tested on a church adventure barbecue day around some of the old mine areas. Before we left, we held a PIM partnership night, showing the PIM Centenary DVD and praying for the ministry to those in isolated areas of our vast continent. We have also been able to meet with many of the Church folk in their homes and attended to the requirements of Session and Committee. Living in the Caravan Park for the period has enabled us to 'speak a word in season' to the many enquirers including

Park staff. We had some interesting talks with one young couple travelling round 'Oz' and they joined us for worship before they went on their way. As with last year when we were in the Kimberley, the PIM signs on our car and van have attracted many comments and questions. Two new young families have attended worship and showed interest in joining the fellowship through these contacts.

## ...and in the North Australia Patrol

Our Patrol involvement has been on days not spent with the ministry to the Church. Building on previous work by Roger and Margaret Crane, we have had successful visits to some properties and called on many others. Our travels took us to west to Camooweal, south to Boulia, south west to Urandangie and north to Adels Grove. The properties visited are located in the third of the North Australia Patrol which lies within Queensland.

## 2013 PATROLS COMPLETED

### Thank you Greg and Janet

PIM workers Greg and Janet Cripps have returned to their other 'job' – working on their property near Dalby after completing their first set of patrols.

## PATROL IN CAPE YORK?

### Call for prayer

Prayer is requested for wisdom concerning the revival of Patrol work in Cape York. Please join the PIM in asking the Lord for his direction, guidance and will in this matter and the future potential of conducting a fifth PIM Patrol in remote and outback Queensland.

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# We need more leaders...



PYV aims to glorify God by assisting the congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in the development and nurture of youth for the service of Christ Jesus.

I google 'teenager' and my screen fills up with words like 'suicide', 'self-harm', 'drugs' and 'sexting'. But those words—thankfully—don't seem to fit with the teenagers I know.

Have you ever seen a bunch of fifteen year-old guys sprawled on a deck, reading the Bible? Have you witnessed a room packed to the brim with kids aged 12 to 21, singing about the grace of God? Can you imagine a New Year's Eve party where two hundred kids shout, 'HAPPY NEW YEAR!' and then cluster into small groups and fervently pray for each other, their churches and the world?

These are the teenagers I know. I'm not making this up, I promise. This is what teenagers do at PYV (Presbyterian Youth Victoria) camps. There's also the 'unimportant' stuff—the games of ultimate frisbee, the costumes, the canoeing, the crazy competitions and the moments of utter hilarity that have you rolling on the floor gasping for breath.

Of course these same young people still face all the horrible issues that sin has wrought on the world. That's why we exist—to assist parents and churches in shining the transforming grace of Christ into young lives.

'As a young teenager from a church with very few young people, PYV was my beacon,' says Sonja Otto, who is now the admin officer for PYV. 'Having the chance to get together with other young people, hear the Word preached

in a way helpful to me, and to be able to study the Word and talk through life's issues in such a forum had a tremendous impact on my life and who I turned out to be. I believe in what PYV is doing.'

We now run more PYV camps than ever before, which is a testament both to the grace of God, and to the need we're fulfilling. More teenagers are growing in faith at our camps than ever before. But it does mean that we need more leaders than ever before.

'PYV needs more young people to put their hand up and say, "I want to help PYV. How can I serve?"' says Joel Otten. Joel is a twenty-something bloke from Frankston who has served as an activity leader, study leader, music coordinator and study coordinator at camps.

You might be thinking that you're too old. You're not. It's true that most of our leaders are in their late teens or twenties. But there is such a wide range of roles we need filled, from music to prayer, 'camp parents' to catering, sound desk to activities, study leaders to bookstall helpers... there is something you can do.

It's not only about camps, either. Joy Venning, Youth Worker at Canterbury PC and former PYV council convenor, says, 'The most memorable moment for me was leading the PYV Mission Team in 2012. Seeing young people serving Jesus in a different culture and stepping out of their comfort zones for the sake of the gospel was a

humbling and encouraging experience.' PYV Mission trips like this can't happen without mature Christians with a passion for mission and young people teaming up with us.

Serving with PYV can be both challenging and rewarding. Joel shares, 'The speaker got the campers to respond on little cards. One person from our group wanted to talk about becoming a Christian! That was most exciting. I kept that little card and put it on my corkboard. I often look at it and think about the number one thing we're doing on PYV camps or in youth group at home. We want to see young people know Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and to grow in maturity as they walk closely beside Him.'

'I think it's very easy to go to PYV camp to be served rather than to serve. It's one of the biggest heart problems we face even when we go to church! PYV is no different. As a leader, you're surrounded by awesome Christian leaders who are your friends and a great speaker, so the temptation is to think that you're there for yourself. Leading means serving, it means sacrifice. Jesus did that very well but I think it's the hardest thing for me. It's the mentality of, "I'm not here to have my own fun, but to serve Christ. That might mean giving up something that I want to do for the advancement of God's Kingdom."'

Chiara Bilyj

PYV Council Member

Want to know more about serving God with PYV? Call the office on 0434 198 156 or go to [pyv.org.au](http://pyv.org.au). While you're there, download a Summer Camp form at [pyv.org.au/camps/summer.html](http://pyv.org.au/camps/summer.html) and give it to a teenager.

## COMING EVENTS at PTC in 2014



**PTC COMMENCEMENT SERVICE, CONFERRAL OF DEGREES AND THE AWARDING OF PRIZES**

**DATE** Friday 7th March 2014 at 7pm

**VENUE** WERNER BRODBECK HALL, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VIC  
156 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

**SPEAKER** The Hon John Anderson, OA, MA

**MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY (for degree or audit)**

**Semester One** The Doctrine of the Trinity with Dr Andrew Moody

**Semester Two** Old Testament with Dr Richard Belcher

**MINISTRY CONFERENCE**

**DATE** March 18th - 20th

**MAIN SPEAKER** Rev Iain H Murray

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# PTC

## I bet you didn't know you're a journalist.

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