

fellow workers

news from around the presbyterian church of victoria

NOW INSIDE
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JESUS IS THE WAY: TEACHING THE KIDS



The gospel was shared in front of an amazing backdrop, painted for the purpose by Catherine Wentworth.

The urgent Christian gospel message of ROCK—Reaching Out to Clayton Kids (and beyond) was proclaimed to children (and adults) in the week before Easter, in the open air at

Namatjira Park, Clayton. Fine weather prevailed during the mission. Praise the Lord!

The death and resurrection of Jesus (God the Son), repentance and forgiveness from sin, and the cleansing of sin

by Jesus' blood were the essence of the ROCK message in the lead up to Good Friday.

The specific theme of this mission was, 'Jesus said: "I am the way, and the truth and the life"' (John 14:6). That theme was the focus in the various gospel presentations by spiritually gifted ROCK team members.

Holy Spirit inspired gospel songs, bible stories, skits, dramas and testimonies centered on Jesus the Saviour as the only way, truth and life.

Attendances were encouraging. Child attendances ranged from eighty-nine on Monday to one hundred and thirty-five on Thursday. Adult attendances were notably higher than last year, ranging from about twenty on Wednesday to about sixty on Thursday. Also, many passers-by paused, or lingered, to hear the gospel of Jesus.

Praise and thanks to God for Holy Spirit enablement in proclaiming the gospel of Jesus to receptive gatherings in the park this year! God willing, the next Summer ROCK mission will be in early January 2015 at the same venue, Namatjira Park, Clayton. Please pray!

*Dr Des Gaffney
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church*

Ashburton ReNEWed

Ashburton's story is perhaps the story of many of our churches.

We find ourselves with a relatively small and aging congregation that no longer reflects the surrounding community. But where there is a heart for the Lord, there is life and renewal.

**Australian Presbyterian World Mission and Presbyterian Inland Mission*

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Submission deadline for next edition: 1 August

A grateful thank you and a loving reminder

The title of this article expresses two thoughts. First, I want to let all of you who prayed for me know how much you mean to me and how thankful I am for your intercessory prayer. I have been deeply touched by the many who asked about my health and recovery. Second, I want to lovingly remind you to practice self-care as part of your Christian walk.

On 1 March 2013, I was taken to a neurologist who requested that my friend and designated driver immediately take me to the hospital. Like most Emergency Room visits, there was the typical haggling with the triage staff and what always seems like an eternal wait. In my case, after I finally got in to see the first doctor and have a scan, everything went quickly, almost too quickly for my comfort and ability to take it all in.

I am very fortunate to have sojourned on this earth for approximately sixty years before experiencing my first serious health crisis. After a quick assessment, a young intern told me that he thought I was a lot sicker than I thought I was. I remember so clearly the head of ER and a surgeon walking into the little cubicle that I was occupying and telling me that they had fifteen to thirty minutes to get me into surgery, and that I could die before, during or after surgery. The scans showed that I had a large subdural haematoma* on the left side of my brain.

By this time my speech was slurred, and when presented with a form to sign, all I could do was make a few illegible marks on the paper. The doctors repeated the severity of the situation, and the only response I could make was, 'To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.' They didn't know how to reply, other than to reiterate the severity of my immediate state and the details

of my upcoming surgery. Then they apologised that there would not be time to wait for my family to arrive at the hospital before surgery.

I remember nothing else until I came out of the anaesthesia. All feeling had returned to my extremities, and I could talk and be understood. The next few days were boring; being confined to bed in an immobile state was like a prison sentence for me. It was a Romans 8:28 experience, though, as it gave me a little insight into how people to whom I minister may feel when they are confined.

I have subsequently heard many different accounts of what happened and of my current state of health—don't believe every rumour you hear! Some

home. Over the next few weeks I knew something was wrong. I was losing control of my right side, and even typing became a challenge. Moreover, while working at home (and possibly due to my diminished control) I had a second accident, hitting myself in the head with a timber post that I was removing. In the early weeks of 2013, I remember walking down Collins Street with a colleague; he asked me what was wrong and I just blamed it on arthritis. A short time later, while enjoying a social evening with a friend, I heard the question a second time. I tried to cover up by overcompensating, while trusting that it would just get better on its own. It had always worked before.

In late February 2013, I preached

in one of our country churches. I struggled through the first half of the sermon, but finally had to stop and tell the folks that I did not know what was wrong, but that I was getting sicker by the minute, and that I would have to close in prayer and leave. Two men from the church offered to drive me home. Knowing that it would take them six hours for the round trip, I did not want to abuse these good-hearted brothers, and refused their offer. While on the road, my right leg

became so unresponsive that I was forced to drive a manual

exclusively with my left foot. I became alarmed, and stopped at my local hospital before going home. Here I received lip service, but was told that no one was in the neurology department, so I would have to come back later, and I was sent on my way. I suffered at home for a week before finally being rushed to the hospital.

Since resuming full time ministry and the visitation of churches in early January, I have encountered many who are amazed that I am still up and about! Some have been surprised that



Robert snuck in a safari while in South Africa .

people thought I was in a car accident, while others believed I had fallen on a tree branch that pierced my brain. As for my recovery, some have reported that I am confined to a wheel chair, totally debilitated, with dribble running down my chin; and the list goes on.

The truth of the matter is that I did hit my head on a mirror bracket that was being installed in the parking garage of the Grand Hyatt. I think that I only momentarily lost consciousness. I complained to Wilson Parking; then, against my better judgement, drove

***Subdural haematomas** are blood clots formed underneath one of the protective layers of the brain. They usually occur after a traumatic blow to the head such as a fall, assault or road accident.

Symptoms can include severe headache, lethargy, confusion, slurred speech, visual disturbances, limb weakness and neck stiffness.

Untreated subdural haematomas can be fatal.



I was well enough to take all of my accumulated holidays, twelve weeks in total, to fly to South Africa to represent Australia in the Bi-Annual Evangelism Explosion Congress (sneaking in time for tourism and an African Safari) and to fly to the USA to see family and friends. Between the hospital stay, rehabilitation and holidays, I missed half of 2013. One of the collateral lessons that I learned was the value of time off, seeing and doing new things, and reuniting with family.

Now for the second part of my title, 'A loving reminder'.

While I may have studied and taught on the importance of self-care in the past, I did not do a very good job of it myself. 'Practice what you preach, preacher!'

'Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.' (1 Corinthians 6:19-20, ESV)

'Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.' (Philippians 2:4, NIV) Notice that this verse assumes that you are looking after your own interests! The only qualification is, don't just look after yourself, but also look after others.

'In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church - for we are members of his body.' (Ephesians 5:28-30, NIV) The assumption here is that we take care of our own bodies... but do we? We're supposed to care for ourselves just as Christ cares for us!

Taking care of your body, your health, and your emotions is not self-ish, because your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. You are a tool of the Holy Spirit; he uses you for his purposes. But if you damage that tool by running yourself into the ground,

until you are tired, sick and emotionally exhausted; or if you ignore warning signs and say, 'It will go away,' like I did, then God cannot use you very effectively. I saw the signs, but I did not take the time to do something about them. Like many men, I do not like to go to the doctor and chose to just 'soldier on'.

If God has called you into ministry, be assured that he will take care of you better than a corporation takes care of its workers. In your concern about helping others, you have to set an example and take care of yourself.

There is a short story about a lumberjack who assessed his production: *On Monday and Tuesday he had cut eight trees each day. Since he was paid for the number of trees, it occurred to him that he could increase his pay by getting up an hour earlier and cutting a tree before breakfast. According to plan, he cut nine trees on Wednesday. On Thursday, he also skipped breakfast, thinking he could again cut down an additional tree, but he only cut down eight trees. Trying to increase his output on Friday, he decided to also cut a tree after dark rather than relaxing (self-care) with his co-workers in the bunkhouse. His production declined, and he was only able to cut down seven trees. On Saturday, he did not add any new hours, but he cut his foot while felling his last tree by lantern light. He cut down only six trees on Saturday. Taking time out to see the camp doctor was out of the question but he decided he could increase his output for the week if he worked on Sunday. However, by Sunday he was tired, hungry and his foot was hurting, so he cut down only five trees. On Monday morning, he saw the foreman, who told him he was not cut out to be a lumberjack. He quit his job and*

"By this time, my speech was slurred. All I could do was make a few illegible marks on the paper."

went home. Do you know anyone on that same path? It is not uncommon for ministers to feel that the number of functions they lead or participate in is tantamount to their sense of worth.

Having others assume parts of my job in my absence served as a necessary reminder that I am not indispensable; most of the work went on quite well in my absence. Particular thanks goes to Ben Palmer, the Department Secretary of the Ministry Development Committee.

With a return to work after a significant absence, I am told that it is not uncommon to discover that hurtful things have been said about the former patient. This also happened to me. For the first time in close to three decades of ministry, false things were said about me, allegations that were easily debunked, but they gave me a little insight into the hurts

and plights of others. In some way I should be thankful for this as it gives me more understanding and compassion for others in similar circumstances. We need to adjust our thinking to focus on encouragement and pastoral care! The positive side of the experience was the love and support I have received from my team and the wider church.

Again, I thank all those who prayed for my recovery. Please accept this challenge to listen to your body, your emotions, and the internal testimony of the Holy Spirit. You will most often know when something is wrong. When this happens, seek the medical help that is necessary; seek the spiritual help that is necessary and DO NOT IGNORE THE SIGNS. Don't wait until 'time out' is imposed upon you to take time out to reassess your life, ministry and ultimate goals.

Robert L Carner

Shine: an encouraging start

Leongatha Presbyterian Church held our first youth and young adults focused event under the banner of 'SHINE' on the afternoon of Sunday 27 April.

The aim of this and future similar events is to provide an informal time of singing modern Christian songs and hearing contextually relevant biblical teaching to encourage the younger generation. We had thirty-five people attend (including participants), with more coming to join in on the time of fellowship over a light meal. This was a very encouraging start. The message was given by Steve Messer, a

qualified minister and member of the Drouin congregation, who took up the theme of 'Shine' by focusing on Jesus, the Light, from the first few verses of John 1. We thank God for the provision of all the resources we needed, including audio equipment, which was generously loaned to us. The music was led by a group of musicians from St. Andrews PC, Clayton.

We are truly grateful for the generous support that St. Andrews gives to our small gathering here in Leongatha, not only in providing people support for our special events, but through their ongoing encouragement and faith in God for the ministry here. As the

pastor at Leongatha, I am also very grateful for the faithful encouragement of the members of the Presbytery of Gippsland, and our parish moderator, the Rev Mark Smith. We would welcome anyone who would like to join with us on these occasions as we seek to be faithful in bringing God's word to our community here in South Gippsland. We would greatly value your prayers.

Gary Wentworth
Pastor LPC

Empowering Mother Tongue Translators

by English tutoring



Bible in our own language. Once our people (who are 99% Buddhist) hear God's Word in our own language, they will believe.' He has now resigned from his job as a Social Worker to become a Bible translator.

These mother tongue translators have enrolled in the Serampore College Diploma of Bible Translation. (Serampore College was set up by William Carey two hundred years ago outside Calcutta.)

However, for these mother tongue speakers to succeed in becoming competent Bible translators, they need to learn English. Most of the available Bible translation resources are only in English. Would you be willing to invest three or four weeks to help these mother tongue translators to learn English?

Translation Workshops in 2014:

March 22 – April 10: 3 weeks

June 13 – July 11: 4 weeks

September 17 –

October 8: 4 weeks

In South Asia something truly amazing is unfolding. A national student Christian organisation has become burdened that many pastors in their own country don't understand the Bible in their national language.

Each year when they sponsor seminars for pastors and evangelists, they are frustrated in teaching because of the lack of understanding of the Bible. Now they are recruiting mother tongue translators from three languages to begin translating Luke into their own language.

One pastor said, 'I never dreamed that it would be possible to have the

Translation Workshop Activities:

Mother tongue translators

#1: take their Diploma of Bible translation studies

#2: practice their computer skills

#3: do translation assignments

#4: take English classes

Assignments for English tutors:

#1: help MTTs with English pronunciation

#2: help MTTs understand Bible commentaries in English

#3: converse with MTTs in English

Total Costs:

Airfares, visas, insurance:

\$1,400 (approximate)

Accommodation/food costs:

\$1,300

Total costs:

\$2,700

For more information:

email Proshikhon@wycliffe.org

So Long, Farewell... and all the very best to John and Mary Woodward

On April 8, Ballarat Presbytery organised a shared luncheon, where we gave thanks to God for John Woodward's valuable ministry in the Presbytery.

Over the years, John has cheerfully served Presbytery as Clerk of Presbytery, Moderator of Presbytery, Minister at Ebenezer-St. John, Moderator at

Castlemaine-Carisbrook, Moderator at Kaniva-Nhill, and taken on other vital duties as his diary allowed. Presbytery adjourned for lunch at twelve-thirty, and Clerk of Presbytery, the Rev Emeritus Keith Allen, spoke briefly about John's significant contributions to Presbytery and the wider church, and presented him with a small token of appreciation on behalf of Presbytery.

About twenty-five people, including children, attended, and a few apologies were received that included the Rt Rev David Palmer and Rev Dr John Wilson. May God continue to bless

John and Mary as they move back to New South Wales in the near future. It is definitely a loss of a co-worker here, but surely a gain for our brethren in NSW. John and Mary, we wish all God's richest blessings upon you and your future ministry, from everyone in Ballarat Presbytery. Once again, the ladies at Ararat Parish need to be commended for putting on a beautiful spread of food, and we thank them for their warm hospitality.

Hui Lim
Promotion Officer
Ballarat Presbytery

Bombala

a place to rest, relax and be renewed...

Bombala Presbyterian Church would like to invite anyone in ministry who needs a break to come and use their manse.

Bombala is a place where you can spend time with God without any pressure or deadlines. If you are planning on travelling through Bombala and would like a place to stay, please contact Glad (see details below) so that keys etc can be arranged. If you wish to donate something towards the cost of your stay that's up to you. If you would like to take a service on the Sunday to encourage God's people that's up to you also. There are no conditions. Just bring your own linen. We would like to see the manse used by those in ministry so that they would be encouraged to continue in ministry.

Check out these websites for more information:

<http://www.visitnsw.com/destinations/snowy-mountains/bombala-area/bombala>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombala,_New_South_Wales

**Enquires to Glad Hurley: berniehurley41@gmail.com
or 02 6458 3316.**

Attention PCV Ministry Wives

In August the HCCC is again providing a Day Conference for the wives of Ministers and Home Missionaries. PTC Students' wives are also welcome.

'Paying it Forward'

Saturday 2 August

Robert White Hall, First Floor
156 Collins Street Melbourne
10 am to 2.30 pm

Our speaker, Anne Harvey, will help us take a closer look at Titus 2.

This will be followed by workshops and panels. Please mark the date and plan to come. For further information contact Elspeth Slater at

elspeth.slater@bigpond.com or Ph. 9720 7842 or M. 0439 553 071



FELLOW WORKERS

Ashburton ReNEWed

Continued from front page

More and more young families are moving into the community. It is also becoming more multicultural, with new immigrants and international students. There is a place for a strong evangelical and Reformed witness, where the love of Christ is lived out in relationship with one another and the gospel is shared as bridges of friendship are built into the community.

A small beginning has been made with our ESL program, and we are delighted that this is growing solidly this year. Students are open to the Bible segment and are often keen to understand more about it. Growth and increasingly diverse needs have put pressure on our resources, but this is a healthy problem.

Among the Ashburton congregation there is a desire to see the church grow, but more importantly to see the Kingdom grow as people are saved. There is renewed spiritual life and personal growth, but the greatest challenge we face is a lack of human resources. The lack of families with children and of young adults also means that it is difficult for visitors in those categories to decide to be the first to stay on and build.

Recognising this, Melbourne East Presbytery has supported a proposal from the congregation to initiate a church plant. Wishing not to place a burden on any one church to provide a team, we are seeking to gather a team of people from various churches who are excited by the prospect of grassroots church renewal and are willing to commit themselves to the challenge.

We understand that Jesus is the head of the church, he builds his church (Matt 16:18) and he provides

the resources necessary. At the same time, we believe that he wishes us to seek his wisdom, plan strategically and act in faith, confident that he loves his church and desires it to be strong and to provide a clear witness.

We are currently preparing and equipping the existing congregation for this new stage in the church's life. It is our prayer that we may gather a church planting team over ensuing months, begin team building and be ready to launch a 'reNEWed' church at the beginning of 2015.

We also pray that this initiative might provide a working model for church revitalisation that may be used elsewhere.

In undertaking the plant we are seeking people who will commit themselves to the Ashburton congregation for two to three years, not simply with a view to warming the pews but to being involved in 'ministry.' We desire a team of people who above all love Jesus and are committed to making him known. Being part of the plant involves a commitment to be fully immersed in the life of the church, and to help raise

the church's profile and build bridges of friendship into the surrounding community. We desire to be a church that makes Christ known in both word and deed.

We are praying particularly for families and young adults who will 'fill out' our congregational profile, strengthen leadership and musical ability and, above all, have a heart for gospel outreach.

How can you help? First, please pray for us. We value the prayers of fellow congregations as we know that our Lord chooses to

carry out his purposes in response to our prayers.

Secondly, you may know someone who would be interested in being a part of an initiative like this— please let them know about it.

Finally, you may be feeling the Lord's 'pull' to be involved. We are seeking to work with Sessions of other parishes in establishing a church planting team. So if you have an interest, please talk to your pastor or elders first, and then with their blessing contact Rev Barry Oakes (tel 0412 714 040 or email broakes@optusnet.com.au) for more information.

*Rev Barry Oakes
Ashburton Presbyterian*

'We are seeking to gather a team of people from various churches who are excited by the prospect of grassroots church renewal.'

Harvest Thanksgiving Service at Kirkbrae

Sunday 13 April was Harvest Thanksgiving day at Kirkbrae. Members of the Scots Church were present for the service and Mrs Margaret Conradi spoke. She gave an update on the work of the Flemington mission and how there is now a developing outreach to refugees who are living in the area.

The residents of Kirkbrae have generously supported the work of Scots Church Mission at Flemington for several years through gifts to the

larder for food parcels. This year the trestle tables were laden with goods and Rev Wally Gear gave an occasional sermon from Psalm 65. After the service there was a good time of fellowship around a cuppa and the goods were loaded into cars to be taken directly to the mission.

Thanks again to all who made a contribution—it was well received.

May the Lord bless you.

Rev Wally Gear



Congregation and produce at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service at Kirkbrae.

Getting stretched

How sad when our church stays rather bland and parochial, when it could, via a process of vigorous stretching, become wonderful—visionary, passionate, innovative, deeply concerned, prayerful, missional... sublime.

How can we thus be stretched? Look at what the Saviour took his disciples into: strident opposition; spiritual birthing happening before their eyes; the audacious questioning from arrogant leadership; the plight of the maimed, the sick, the poor and disenfranchised; the agony of death; the calling of some to abandon all to follow him; evidence of immediate moral reformation; deep and feeling compassion; the passionate call, 'come' to the burdened and weary; the miraculous evidence of Messiah in their midst; and more.

They could hear, see, look at, touch, taste, handle and smell the reality of Christ and Christ-likeness.

And oh, did they feel stretched? This stretching transformed them into followers who would die for their conviction.

How can we be stretched? Do the same! Go to the hovels, debate with the opposition, visit the dispossessed, see the plight of the poor and the rich, agonise with those who have been gravely disappointed with the church, sacrifice our goods for the benefit of others, vigorously pointing others to Calvary's cross, and as Australians, learning a much greater engagement with the much wider world.

Readers, in 2004 the General Assembly of your federal church decided to become a member of the World Reformed Fellowship.

So why do this? Is it part of the stretching process of our denomination?

Here are some reasons as spelt out on the website, and with which your PCA General Assembly agreed:

'The mission of the World Reformed Fellowship is to promote understanding, cooperation and sharing of resources among our membership of evangelical and reformed Christians in the advancement of the Gospel.

'The vision of the WRF is simple - "That the strengths of some might become the strengths of all in the service of Jesus Christ" (see Paul's prayer in Ephesians 4: 11 - 13).

'While specific regional or national expressions of the universal church do, in many ways, embody characteristics of the Body of Christ, there are other characteristics of that Body which transcend those expressions. It is those other characteristics that the WRF seeks to set forth in its commitments and in its activities.

'The World Reformed Fellowship seeks to provide:

- A network for communication and sharing of ministry resources among such Christians

- A forum for dialogue among such Christians on current issues

- The opportunity for such Christians from one region of the world to share their unique spiritual and theological perspectives with such Christians from other regions of the world, all within the framework of the evangelical Reformed faith

- Regular occasions, some for such Christians in specific regions of the world and some for such Christians world-wide, to come together for worship and dialogue and resource-sharing.'



WRF Board members in Potchefstroom, South Africa, 2013.

Of course there is much more to the WRF, all of which can be found on the website, wrfnet.org.

Since 2004, Drs Allan and Mairi Harman, Dr Bob Thomas, Dr John Wilson (all from Victoria) and I have been significantly involved with the WRF. We are confident to return to our PCA General Assembly with encouragement to continue our beneficial association with the WRF.

But how does this affect us at the local level?

As members of the Presbyterian Church we want to be as broad as possible in our application of the gospel of God's wondrous grace.

Our Lord Jesus, when he was handed the scroll at Nazareth, was citing Isaiah when he taught, 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And then he said, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'

That certainly both stretched and stirred the locals! But what he said was the whole point of Jesus' ministry. A gospel that touches everything to do with human existence. Everything. 'For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to



reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.' (Colossians 1:20)

Ministering good news. Good news of freedom from the grip of Satan. Good news of peace. Good news that touched the poor, the prisoners, the blind, the oppressed. All Spirit-inspired.

Now, as we look around the world church, we face the challenges of which Jesus spoke. We call some of these challenges by different names, but they're essentially the same challenges—mission, human trafficking, abuse of children, slavery, organ transplant scandals, killing of the unborn, evangelism, justice, the plight of refugees, and more.

The gospel must touch all areas.

WRF attempts to address these issues from a global world perspective. Syrian Christians face obstacles far greater than we can imagine. We get their perspective. Christians in Iran, Myanmar, South Africa, Somalia, USA, PNG, and Australia: we get perspectives from all of them, and address the question of how 'the strengths of some become the strengths of all in the service of Jesus Christ', which is the central pillar of the desired outcome of WRF.

And so, at the next March 2015 Assembly of the WRF in Brazil, those who contribute to the presentations, debate and discussions will be from Bangladesh, Turkey, USA, Iran, Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, UK, Indonesia, Germany, Ireland, Australia, Uganda, Hong Kong and more.

We will be attempting to disseminate global considerations of the matters which in tiny ways affect us all, so that we might be more mature in thinking the issues through from a global perspective, thus resulting in the application of the gospel at the local level being more effective... and through the process, stretching us in our thinking and application of the breath-taking breadth of the gospel.

Your General Assembly of the PCA has made a decision to be an active participant in the World Reformed Fellowship. Our commitment is to make this more valuable throughout our church.

Please consider joining the membership as individuals and church institutions/departments by following the prompts on the website (wrfnet.org), and be stretched!

Robert Benn

Member of the WRF Board of Directors



FELLOW WORKERS

Colin and Alison Morrow commissioned

On Friday 7 March, Sunraysia Presbyterian Church met together with representatives of the Presbytery of North Western Victoria for the commissioning of Colin and Alison Morrow.

Rev Phil Burns, as Presbytery Moderator, led the service of commissioning. Rev Dr Robert Carner (Ministry Development Director), Rev Andrew Bray (representing the Victorian state moderator) and Rev Mark Smith from Drouin (representing the Presbyterian Inland Mission-PIM), were all in attendance.

It was an unusual service because Colin, formerly an elder at Donvale Presbyterian Church, was commissioned as the new Home Missionary for Sunraysia, while both he and his wife Alison were also commissioned as PIM Patrol Padres to the Mungo Patrol which covers South Western NSW and North Western Victoria.

Mark Smith preached from 2 Corinthians 1 on 'Ministry in God's Strength'. Andrew Bray highlighted that the eyes of the wider church were on the work being undertaken at Sunraysia combined with PIM's Mungo patrol. He recognised the challenge of undertaking two such diverse roles as something which could not be completed without the Lord's hand in the work.

Phillip Burns, after hearing the singing, was caused to remark on both the obvious joy and the volume of the singing of God's praises from what appeared to be a small band of the faithful.

Tony Zirngast, Elder from Sunraysia and Clerk of Presbytery, outlined the steps that brought the church to this point and acknowledged the work of those who had provided supply

preaching and pastoral support during the time of the vacancy.

Following the service everyone adjourned to the manse for supper, photos and a general happy time.

Colin commented, 'I am humbled that the Lord has enabled me to take on this role. I will seek to serve faithfully with all my strength in working to build God's kingdom in this place and indeed out on patrol.'

Alison Morrow, although saddened to have left behind a new granddaughter, was really excited to take on the challenges of being a PIM Padre and a support to her husband in Sunraysia.

'May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you...'
Psalm 67:5

*Tony Zirngast
Clerk, Presbytery of North Western Victoria*

News from Maroondah

The Presbytery of Maroondah has great pleasure in announcing that, on Sunday 16 February this year, Rev Tony Archer was inducted into the parish of Woori Yallock. There were over one hundred people present for this service of rejoicing, conducted by the Moderator of Presbytery, Rev Dean Carroll, with Rev Tony Bird preaching the occasional sermon and delivering the Charge to Tony Archer. Following the service, the ladies of Woori Yallock presented a sumptuous afternoon tea, which was appreciated by all who attended.

It was even more satisfying for Dean Carroll, as he had demitted this

charge twelve months earlier, and now, after only a year's vacancy, it has been filled. Presbytery are confident that the work in this area will continue to be in good hands, as Tony Archer knows the area well since he was the Minister at nearby Warburton prior to his work in the mission field. The congregation is very pleased to welcome the new manse family as they have already settled in and look forward to service in the local community.

On Sunday 2 March, the Presbytery of Maroondah conducted a commissioning service for Elder Colin Morrow and his wife, Alison. This was part of the evening service at Donvale

Presbyterian Church, where Colin had been an elder. The Moderator of Presbytery, Rev Dean Carroll, conducted the commissioning and Rev Clinton Le Page preached the sermon. Both members of the Presbytery and Donvale elders offered the Morrows the right hand of fellowship, as Colin had been a very active member of the Donvale Session for many years, also being Moderator of Presbytery in the late 90s. There were many visitors for the service, which was followed by a time of fellowship over a tasty supper.

*J.D. Fraser
Clerk, Presbytery of Maroondah*

OLD TESTAMENT INTENSIVE 2014 for MA(Th); MDiv; BTh; GradDipDiv



Preaching from the Book of Judges



SPEAKER Dr. Richard P. Belcher, Jr., from RTS, Charlotte, where he is the Professor of Old Testament.

DATE August 4th - 8th, 2014

ADDRESS 684 Elgar Road Box Hill North **TO REGISTER** registrar@ptc.vic.edu.au **ENQUIRIES** 03 9898 9384

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Start here, go into all the world...



ON TRACK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

ISSUE 2 2014

PROCLAIMING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
BY WORD AND DEED

GOSPEL OPPORTUNITY: MOUNT MAGNET, WESTERN AUSTRALIA SUPPORT REQUESTED FOR OUTBACK WORK

Mount Magnet, Western Australia, is a mining town located 6 hours drive north-west of Perth. It is a regional centre with a population of around 500 people.

The Mid West Patrol is based in Mount Magnet. The current Patrol Padre, Bert Pierce, together with his wife Penny is due to retire sometime this year. They have served the people of the patrol and community with great distinction over many years and will be greatly

missed. The PIM has a church building and manse in Mount Magnet.

Who will reach the people of the Patrol and community with the gospel after the Pierces leave?

The town and patrol has a significant Aboriginal population and for this reason the Australian Presbyterian World Mission has entered into a partnership with PIM to help fund the cost of the new Patrol Padre for the Mid West Patrol and Mount Magnet PIM church.

Late last year APWM & PIM interviewed Surendra and May'an Wesley in relation to the upcoming vacancy at Mount Magnet. Surendra was born in India and May'an in New Zealand. Both have lived in Australia for extended periods and have experience in rural and outback environments. Surendra has just completed his theological studies in India.

The mission field is clear. The new potential workers have appeared. The



Mount Magnet PIM Church

next step is to raise the needed support for this ministry. APWM has set the goal of raising \$30 000 as year in team support for Surendra and May'an. APWM is looking for people to become prayer and financial partners in this gospel initiative to the people of outback Western Australia. Will you consider becoming a partner?

If you would like to be part of this ministry, please use the RESPONSE FORM on the LAST page of ON TRACK.



Surendra, May'an and Gabriella Wesley

NEW LOOK FOR PIM CLEAR EMPHASIS ON REMOTE MINISTRY REINFORCED

The PIM has begun its second hundred years of ministry with a newly designed logo and a revamped corporate look.

Reflected in the new logo and colour scheme are both the ministry, and the remote localities that the PIM serves in.

The new logo is shaped like a road sign. The intersecting circles and Southern Cross represent PIM's unique Christian mission. The colour scheme was specifically chosen to represent the

aridness of much of Australia's landscape.

The Superintendent of the PIM, Stuart Bonnington, said the design of the new logo was just what PIM was looking for. 'It is fantastic' he said.

The new look for the PIM will be phased in over the next three months.

The new logo was officially launched at the PIM Rally held at Donvale Presbyterian Church in Melbourne on the 30th of January. It was approved by

the Full Committee of the PIM when it met in Sydney the day before.

It was designed by Hilary Bruce a friend and supporter of the PIM.



ALSOP'S SENT OUT PIM PRESENCE IN DROUGHT AFFECTED CENTRAL QUEENSLAND



The Superintendent with some members of the Central Queensland Presbytery and David and Kathy Alsop the day after their commissioning service to the work of the Central Patrol

JOIN US IN JUNE IN BELTANA STRENGTHENING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

We are asking for help to proclaim the gospel clearly in one of the remote areas of Australia.

Offered is a chance to be part of a team to "make disciples of all nations" Matt 28:18-19 and to have a taste of what it is like to work for the Presbyterian Inland Mission.

Why: to reach the residents in Beltana and the small surrounding towns, stations and travels with the message of God's love and saving grace through Jesus' death and resurrection

When: June long weekend every year, while we are the PIM team in SA

Where: Beltana (small township at the northern end of the Flinders Ranges)

How: provide dinner, entertainment (we may have a Christian bush poet, looking for other entertainers) and a short evangelistic talk on Saturday night, Church service and lunch

on Sunday morning in Beltana's Smith of Dunesk Mission building. Details will be finalised when we know who is coming and what gifts they bring.

Accommodation: Beltana Station (they cater for tourism as well as being a working sheep station – with a few cattle, camels and alpacas). Please check them out on Facebook or website.

Accommodation types: motel room type (men's quarters), bunk room (shearers quarters) and facilities for campers. It also has a huge communal area and a homestyle restaurant / cafe.

Award winning.

FAQ

Do I need a 4WD to get there?

No. The roads are sealed until the last approx. 10km. The dirt road is routinely used by the local school bus so is usually in very good order.

How do I get there?

Mostly participants drive. One family flew to Adelaide and drove to Beltana in a rented car. One couple used it to launch their grey nomad sojourn around parts of Australia.

What else is there to do out there?

Photography / painting/ sketching – brilliant scenes and the ancient ruins at Puttapa springs and Beltana township make great subjects.

4WDing – on the station and in the Flinders

Experience a different way of life – check out station life or the local small towns in the area. Recommend Copley bakery award winning quondong pies. Blinman for arts and crafts. Check www.beltanastation.com.au, www.arkaroola.com.au, www.igawarta.com (excellent Aboriginal cultural experience) & www.flindersranges.com

Saturday morning us used for letterbox dropping and a working bee on the Beltana Mission Church building (over 130 yrs old) and grounds.

Sunday afternoon is open to whatever the group wants to do. Last year, the people who were interested in outreach to local aboriginals were taken to some settlements and David introduced them to Christian workers doing just that, some went to Puttapa Springs/ ruins of the original homestead and some stayed and put their feet up.

There is more that we can tell you. Please contact us for further information.

David and Gae McDonald, John Flynn Patrol, SA

GETTING READY FOR THE MUNGO PATROL FURTHER STEPS ON THE JOURNEY TO THE OUTBACK

The first PIM vehicle to receive the new PIM logo is that of the Mungo Patrol based out of Mildura. Colin and Alison Morrow will use this vehicle in their work.

Colin said 'PIM appreciates greatly the support of Gary Fulton of Metro Signs (www.metrosigns.com.au), Ash, Vaughan, Dan and the other members of the 'team' who worked so hard to get the artwork, printing and applying of the signs done so quickly and with such great professionalism.'





DROUGHT RELIEF APPEAL THE WORST DROUGHT EVER IN SOME AREAS OF THE OUTBACK

The PIM is delighted at the interest and support shown by our Moderator General, Rev David Cook, for the needs of a large part of our country which suffers under severe drought conditions at this time. We write to add our support to his appeal and to let you know something of our approach to the issues involved.

The PIM has been working in these areas and has been the Presbyterian Church's main organisation for ministering in the ups and downs of Outback life for over 100 years. We have been particularly presenting the needs of these areas due to their severe drought conditions for the last 18 months.

Our regulations appoint us to do various things including *"the provision of relief from suffering and hardship, conducive to the advancement of religion"*.

At our last PIM committee meeting in Sydney PIM Superintendent, Stuart Bonnington, confronted us with graphic pictures of the desolation of these desperate areas.

Our approach is to provide:

1. Diaconal aid, through our funds given for this purpose or set aside by us for this purpose. These funds are always stretched beyond their limits. In the past we have helped people with grocery bills, education and health expenses, and many other needs that overwhelm them.
2. Ministry to the spiritual and emotional needs of suffering people.

Our funding, whether we talk of PIM or the PCA as a whole, is minuscule compared to the funding of some other aid agencies, and the Prime Minister has said that he will announce a drought relief package next week, which we expect will be in the order of millions of dollars.

The one thing that governments and most other aid agencies cannot and will not do, is provide **funding for the greatest need** that these sufferers have – the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In my first year of PIM ministry in WA, I learnt a very important lesson. I visited an area which had been hit by severe drought conditions. The area was not only a physical desert, but was overwhelmingly arid in spiritual terms. As I headed home after one particular patrol I remember feeling extremely discouraged and helpless. The problem was not that people were presenting me with issues that I could not cope with, it was that no-one was presenting me with any issues at all! They were closed towards, and defensive against any outsider coming along to 'solve their problems' before disappearing back to the city. Of course I did not know that this was their attitude at the time – I just thought I was an ineffective evangelist and hopeless padre! After the season broke and the dry land drank its fill, I found myself visiting again in the same area. When I went to properties and commented "whoa, it looks so much better than it did 6 months ago!" they then opened up and were happy to speak to me as a friend. Some commented, about how they had so many 'experts' coming when times were tough, but that they had all gone back

to the city now, patting themselves on the back for the good job they had done, and yet had no concept of the struggles that continued as people tried to put their lives back together.

Forgive the length of the story, but I think that it illustrates the point that the best way to help our drought suffering people is to provide them with regular ministry.

PIM attempts to do that, along with bringing diaconal aid and often simple and small gifts (toiletries etc) to show the love of the Presbyterian Church for people in the bush. The above story illustrates, I think, that ministry in crisis is tough, and sometimes of limited effect. What we need to do, is to develop ongoing relationships which will be the foundation of much more effective ministry.

The areas most affected by drought, are areas where there are no Presbyterian Churches (and few other churches as well).

In recent correspondence from David and Kathy Alsop, one of our Queensland Patrol teams, they said:

"On the 2 patrols we have done in drought stricken areas, graziers have not shown any need of monetary handouts in the quantities we could give (they need mega bucks) BUT they just want to talk, and talk, and talk without us looking at our watches. They bandy about different ideas they have to "drought-proof" their properties and are grateful to talk to people who know about cattle farming and the industry. Often it starts with the wife giving us a cuppa, then the husband turning up for a "quick" break and he stays talking for a couple of hours. We always give the "Challenge" and a word of testimony of how God has helped us through hard times on the land. In such situations we have always been invited back and ... "Camp here whenever you want" and ... "No-one like you has called in for a long time".

PIM, as the main agency of the Presbyterian Church of Australia working in these areas, asks you to pray for us, and consider how you may be able to support the great financial needs of ministry in these remote areas? You can give to the Moderator's appeal or direct to PIM.

With warmest Christian greetings, and deep thanks for your partnership in the Gospel of Jesus our Lord,

Rob Duncanson | Convener, Presbyterian Inland Mission
Mob 0413 021 716 • Email: convener@pim.org.au

FROM ROGER CRANE QUIET ENCOURAGEMENT FROM NORTH QUEENSLAND

Great news from here is that a scan yesterday showed no sign of lymphoma after four sessions, session five concludes tomorrow and only six will be needed. We are in Praise mode in a big way (Feb 25th).

'Thanks for your prayers, please keep going friends' – Roger and Margaret Crane
PIM North Queensland Patrol.



Roger Crane (North QLD patrol)

PIM THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS AND BEYOND

Please contact Robert Benn if your congregation, presbytery or church group in NSW would like an interesting and informative PIM presentation. 02 4757 4144 • 0431 062 853



NT PRESBYTERIANS

“THE DESERT SHALL REJOICE AND BLOSSOM”

Alice Springs:
Sunday 10am 20 Parke Crescent, The Gap
Keith Bell 08 8953 7748

Darwin:
Sunday 10am Kormilda College, Berrimah
Sunday 5pm Palmerston Library
Rob Duncanson 08 8945 7878

WWW.PIM.ORG.AU

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www.pim.org.au

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Roger and Margaret Crane E: rcrane@pim.org.au M: 0439 515 163 North Patrol Qld

Laurie and Gwen Peake E: lpeake@pim.org.au Leichhardt Patrol Qld M: 0427 486 677

Colin and Alison Morrow E: colinmorrow@pim.org.au; alisonmorrow@pim.org.au

M: 0407 220 005 Mungo Patrol NSW/Vic

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Rob and Jeanette Duncanson E: convener@pim.org.au M: 0413 021 716 Darwin PIM Church

RESPONSE FORM

Name _____ Phone () _____ email _____

Address _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Donation – PIM general funds	
Donation – PIM Mid West/Surendra Wesley	
Total	

Payment details:

☐ Cheque enclosed (Payable to Presbyterian Inland Mission)

☐ Charge my Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card No. Expiry date ____ / ____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

Return with payment to:

PIM
PO Box 4014
Croydon Hills Vic 3136

Ph: (03) 9005 8256

Fax: (03) 9876 1941

email: admin@pim.org.au

Partnership



APWM
Australian Presbyterian
World Mission

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

2014 #2

www.apwm.org.au • 81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood NSW 2134 • 8073 7490 • 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.

South Sudan: Rhys & Rhondda Hall and Motor Yat

The current conflict and bloodshed in South Sudan is bringing a great deal of heartache to our South Sudanese brothers and sisters. APWM has three missionaries serving in South Sudan:



Motor Yat

Rhys and Rhondda Hall have just completed home assignment in Australia. They serve with ACROSS and have just returned to the southern centre of Yei in South Sudan. As Westerners they will be relatively safe.

Motor Yat serves in the northern centre of Malakal which has been severely affected by fighting with much damage

to the town. The house which Motor was renting has been looted. Motor was recently in Australia on home assignment and is now in Ethiopia where he is ministering to South Sudanese refugees until the situation in South Sudan becomes clearer. Thank you to those who have been praying for the ministry of the gospel in South Sudan.



Rhys and Rhondda Hall

Missionaries Needing Financial Support

PARTNER CHURCH MISSIONARIES IN NEED OF INCREASED REGULAR FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

Motor Yat has returned to South Sudan despite insufficient partnership support. This was for family reasons and to enable him to assess opportunities for ministry to South Sudanese refugees.

Andy and Rosemary Williamson will serve at Talua and conclude in August 2015. In the meantime, they will be dividing their time between Australia and Vanuatu. This is for health and family reasons. In order to do this, additional support is needed. Andy and Rosemary are currently in Australia raising support.

Surendra and May'an Wesley. We are working with Presbyterian Inland Mission to send to Surendra and May'an to Mount Magnet, Western Australia, to serve as PIM Padres which will include a ministry to Aboriginal people.

If you are able to pledge support for any of these missionaries then please use the form on page 4.



PARTNER AGENCY MISSIONARIES IN NEED OF INCREASED REGULAR FINANCIAL SUPPORT:



Graham and Sue Hammond serve with Wycliffe/SIL in ministry to Indigenous Australians. They serve in an important role and need more support to continue their ministry.

John and Karine Woldhuis serve with SIM in Ecuador in training and resourcing national pastors. They are currently in Australia on home assignment and need additional support.

If you would like to support any of these missionaries then please contact their agency. If you need help with this then please contact our office.



“

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)

”

UPDATES

WHY MISSION?

Joy Venning from Canterbury is now serving at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Dehra Dun, India. The following is an extract from a talk she delivered at her commissioning

Why mission? Because Jesus is King!

As Creator and Redeemer, Jesus is the rightful ruler of the world. He deserves all glory and honour and praise from people from every nation, tribe, and language. When I was in India, I saw people worship almost everything apart from Jesus – cows, monkeys, snakes, elephants, stone and gold. It was confronting to see so much rejection of the true God, as people worshipped His creation, instead of the Creator.

But it's more than that – it is also personal - Jesus is King of my own life. The day that I was redeemed from my sin, and brought into the family of God, changed everything. 2 Corinthians 5 tells us: "He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again." I no longer live for myself, but for Jesus.

My day-by-day Christian life seems like an ongoing battle for kingship. Will I be the king of my life – and make choices and investments that are good for me and my own ambitions, my self-centred hopes and dreams? Or will I live with Jesus as King of my life. Will my actions, attitudes, priorities and lifestyle reflect his lordship? Will I walk in obedience to Him? Deciding to go on mission, meant saying "No" to lots of great things here in Melbourne. It's been a good test of my attitudes and motivations – but it's been challenging to make day-by-day commitments to choosing the bigger cause of the gospel, than things that might seem good in the moment.

Many of you will know the story of Les Miserables, and I love that part in the movie, where the boys are upstairs in the room getting all excited and rallying for the revolution that will begin the following morning. "Red – the blood of angry men! Black – the dark of ages past!" It's all very inspirational! Then Marius comes in. He is the one who has just fallen in love with the girl, floating around day-dreaming. He's distracted and not on board with the revolution. The boys accuse him of being flaky. His friend, the leader of the revolution, manages to bring him on side, by reminding him: "Now there is a higher cause – we strive towards a higher goal – our little lives don't count at all."

While I know my little life does count to Jesus, nevertheless, I love his bigger vision of life and how that drove his choices and priorities. I have something greater to live for than being the greatest soccer player, owning my own house, or having the best looking husband, or whatever might make me feel good today. All these things are good things – but today – with an opportunity to GO, they are all worth giving up for the sake of the mission.

So, why mission? Because Jesus saves.

The Bible says that the gospel is powerful to save. I believe that our God is a saving God, who loves to show mercy, and loves to bring people into His family. And how will they believe unless they are told? As Christians, wherever we are, we should be faithful in sharing the gospel with those who haven't heard. Which is a big part of why at Canterbury, we've been committed to training young people to be able to be on mission for Jesus at school and at home. Going to India is just an extension of the same commitment to the gospel that we have here at

Canterbury, just in the global sense. We have the opportunity to invest ourselves in seeing people across the other side of the world come to know and trust Jesus! It's so exciting!

So, why mission? Because of the Church.

The Indian Church and the Australian Church are on the same team. A group of sinners, saved by Jesus, worshipping God! It's kind of the same as our partnership at Canterbury with Skipton Presbyterian Church. We have an opportunity to take our teenagers on mission with another Church, so we can share our resources, help them be a witness in the community, and work together to share the gospel in that place. I see India, as the same thing, just further away, and with cows instead of sheep! We are all on the same team, and if I can go to India and serve in the church there, it's a great expression of the global church, on mission together, just in different places. So here, at Canterbury, please pray for the church in India, that God's Word will be taught, that the Christians would be faithful despite danger and trouble, that they will have courage to live for Jesus in their culture.

In India, I will have an opportunity to serve in a Bible College. This is where young men and women come to train to prepare to be pastors and Bible teachers. They will eventually go all across India, and the whole wide world to teach the Bible in churches and communities. I'm excited to be able to love them and serve them as they prepare for ministry. It's exciting to think of the way God will use these individuals as he builds his church in India. And it's exciting to be able to be part of it!"



Joy teaching some Sunday School children.



Martin Eagle

MARTIN EAGLE

Martin Eagle has completed his home assignment and returned to Myanmar in mid-May. He will teach at the Reformed Bible Institute, the Bible College of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Myanmar. For more information on Martin please see matt2819.com/myanmar

MEAL FOR MISSION

Each year we encourage congregations to hold an annual 'Meal for Mission' as a way of raising awareness about overseas cross-cultural mission and as a means of providing financial support for APWM's overseas projects. We encourage you to choose a country from the list that can be found at www.apwm.org.au/partner-churches/ There you can download information sheets about each of our Partner Churches. Please encourage those in the congregation to give the cost of one meal toward the work of overseas mission.



Vanuatu: Lecturers Needed

During the next 16 months some significant changes will take place in our ministry at the Talua Ministry Training Centre in Vanuatu. Talua is where the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu trains its pastors.

At the end of 2014, **Glenn and Rachael Connor** will be concluding their ministry. They have been heavily involved in the Diploma programme and training nationals in discipleship.



The Connor family

In August 2015 **Andy and Rosemary Williamson** will conclude their ministry. They have been heavily involved in the Foundation Year programme, which prepares students for study



The Williamson family

at the degree level and in the establishment of Vanuatu's first indigenous Bachelor level degree, the Bachelor of Ministry.

These changes mean that APWM is seeking to fill three vacant positions at Talua. Please note

that each position requires the raising of Partnership Support.

1. Dean of Studies Commencing mid – late 2015

The Dean of Studies

- has responsibility for the care and development of the Bachelor of Ministry program.
- maintains standards set by the Asia Theological Association.
- oversees the Registrar and Librarian.
- lectures in the Bachelor of Ministry program & communicates with sponsors of the B Min program.

Qualifications:

- a PhD in a theological discipline or working toward obtaining a PhD.
- pastoral-evangelistic experience;
- cross-cultural experience (preferred) & training in education (preferred)

2. Lecturer: Bachelor of Ministry program

Commencing early 2015

The lecturer will

- lecture full time in the Bachelor of Ministry program
- carry out responsibilities at the college determined by the lecturer's abilities and Talua's needs

Qualifications:

- a Master's degree in a theological discipline, preferably a research Master's degree;
- pastoral-evangelistic experience
- cross-cultural experience (preferred)

3. Head Teacher: 'English for Academic Purposes'

Commencing mid to late 2015

The head teacher will

- oversee the development of the Foundation Year and BMin students' academic skills, particularly in the area of English.
- have special responsibility for coordinating the Foundation Year program
- organise and oversee guest lecturers for English and academic skills.

Qualifications:

- a Master's degree in Teaching English for Academic Purposes or equivalent.
- experience in teaching.



Talua Students

For more information, please contact Kevin Murray at APWM kevinmurray@apwm.org.au

Training Nationals

One of the most effective things that we can do in cross-cultural mission is to train nationals to minister to their own people. APWM does this primarily through supporting theological education. Please consider sponsoring a student from one of the following countries:

BANGLADESH

In Bangladesh we support the Presbyterian Theological Centre in Gazipur which is the Bible College of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bangladesh. An annual scholarship costs \$1200.

VANUATU

In Vanuatu we support the Talua Ministry Training Centre, the Bible College of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, where the Connors and Williamsons serve. An annual Bachelor of Ministry scholarship costs \$3000.

If you would like to sponsor a student or contribute toward a scholarship then please use the form on page 4 or email national@apwm.org.au or contact APWM National on 9792 1373.



PRAYER AND FINANCE Response Form

Please send to: **APWM**

81 Shaftesbury Rd, Burwood NSW 2134

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Church _____

I would like to support the following:

Missionary's Name _____

☐ Please send me the missionary's prayer letter.

☐ APWM ministry in a particular country _____

Please indicate an amount

☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100

☐ other \$ _____

Please indicate how regular your payment will be:

☐ one-off ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly

☐ half-yearly ☐ yearly

Four Ways to Give

1 Cheque (made out to 'Australian Presbyterian World Mission')

2 Credit card ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Name on card: _____

Expires: ____/____

Signature: _____

Date of first payment _____

3 Direct debit

Your account name(s): _____

Signature _____

BSB _____

Account number _____

Bank name _____

Date of first payment _____

4 Direct deposit

Account: **Australian Presbyterian World Mission** BSB: 032-260

Account number: 151207

Please write your name and the surname of the missionary you are supporting in the description box.

Please also email finance@apwm.org.au telling us that you have made a deposit and provide the name of the missionary that you are supporting.

Enquiries

finance@apwm.org.au • 8073 7490

www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance

A New Office for APWM National

APWM has moved into its new office at 81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood. It is now located within the buildings of Christ College, the Presbyterian Theological Centre. We are grateful for the very warm welcome we have received. Due to the slowness of one of Australia's largest telecommunications companies it has taken many months to obtain a new phone number. Our new number is (02) 8073 7490. This has meant that all of the publicity that we would normally send out early in the new year has been delayed. It will now be sent out as soon as possible.



TEACHING IN VANUATU?

Brian and Judy Cullen are APWM Associate Missionaries teaching at a Presbyterian Church High School in Vanuatu. They will finish serving at the end of 2014. There is a need for a Christian maths/science teacher and other teachers at Tata Secondary School on the island of Santo near the Talua Ministry Training Centre. Is God calling you to serve in such a ministry for a minimum of two years? APWM Associate missionaries are usually self-funded. If you would like to know more then please contact Kevin Murray.



Brian & Judy Cullen

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION

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SA Gary Ware E: gjware@internode.on.net

WA Steve Woods E: macstevewoods@yahoo.com

Moderator's mission trip



Esther, Rachel, Chris, David and Joshua in Nepal.

Each year the Moderator and his wife are asked to visit some of our missionaries. Last year we went to PNG and saw Mavis Price, Calvin and Ruth Mathys and their family while Catherine Carpenter from St John's Hobart chaperoned us at Ukarumpa, the SIL centre.

This year we went to South Asia to spend time with Daniel and Courtney and then two weeks with John and Lyn Ellis at Dehra Dun in March.

Daniel, Courtney and their children, Esther, Joshua and Rachel are very much in the thick of things in their location. Their new baby, Keziah, was born several weeks after we left. They are busy with language study, hands-on involvement in a children's home and a crucial role for Daniel in an indigenous ministry that is involved in village church planting and community development. They have secured excellent accommodation at a very reasonable rent. Daniel seems such a natural for mission work; it was a privilege for us to live with the family and to observe them at work and play, but we also had time for meeting local Christians and some sightseeing.

We should be prayerful concerning this family, not least for their safety. Please take the opportunity to meet or catch up with them as they return May 24 on home assignment. There will also be an opportunity to meet and hear from the remarkable leader of the local partner organisation, Bhab Ghale later this year at Donvale PC In August.

We flew next to Delhi to be met by John and Lyn, and then had a fairly hair-raising seven hour trip by car to the Presbyterian Theological Semi-

nary, Dehra Dun. India is colourful and vibrant, with people everywhere. The roads are something else again with pedestrians; bicycles; carts pulled by men, donkeys, horses, or bullocks; scooters; motor bikes; 'autos' and 'vikrams' (tricycle taxis); cars in various shapes and sizes; lorries, all overloaded and all vying for advantage. I have some amazing

video clips taken travelling in an auto in old Delhi.

We acclimatised to hard beds and bucket showers and enjoyed the time greatly, meeting many people and of course students who couldn't come at 'David' or 'Chris', invariably addressing us as 'sir' and 'mam' whatever



Chris with friends from the Seminary.



A day for sightseeing with the Ellises.

age they might have been. Up to 75% of the eighty-six students (two-thirds men, one-third women) come from the northwest of India and some neighbouring countries.

Over the course of the three weeks I was privileged to preach six times,

take a couple of ethics classes and lead some bible studies and devotions: sixteen specific ministry opportunities. We visited a Christian School, visited several homes and David attended an all day Presbytery meeting. I have come home with various requests from Dr Chauko to be followed up: TEC/ College, PWMU, CENC!

One day we visited Rishikesh, which is a famous Hindu yoga and meditation centre on the Ganges, and then went on to a nature reserve. Alas we saw no tigers or elephants but lots of spotted deer and peacocks strutting their stuff. At Rishikesh a monkey jumped on Chris, clawing her shoulder, necessitating a round of rabies injections.

John and Lyn's work is greatly appreciated: John for his lecturing, pastoral care and mentoring of the soon to be ordained Pastor Sumit, pastor of Good Shepherd PC (the English language congregation at PTS). PTS has about eight congregations meeting on its site on Sundays. Covenant, a Hindi speaking congregation, is the largest,

then there's Good Shepherd and various other mother tongue congregations – Nepali, Chin, Mizo, etc. Lyn is like a mother to the students. The Ellises have maintained the pattern of hospitality that they established at Clarinda in the 1990s.

Everyone seemed to appreciate our visit. I remember the surprise at Ukarumpa last year that

was expressed by more than one individual that the sending church cared enough for its missionaries to send its Moderator on a visit of encouragement.

Rev David Palmer
Moderator, PCV

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