

fellow **workers**

— news from around the presbyterian church of victoria —

TESTED BY FIRE

After the flames, Geelong West Presbyterian lives on



'In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.'
1 Peter 1:6-7

Some of the building remained standing after the fire, but nothing was able to be salvaged. For more pictures, see page 4.

Posted on April 19, 2016

My church burned to the ground on Friday.

When I say 'church', I mean the building. And when I say 'burned to the ground', I mean complete destruction.

But through the flames, Geelong West Presbyterian Church (GWPC)

lives on.

Though I currently attend Surrey Hills Presbyterian for my training to be a minister, I'm still a member at GWPC.

After the Christian Union, GWPC was the first place where I received regular preaching that simply explained passages, and went consecutively through books week after week. It will

always be special to me for that reason. After years of hearing sermons that went all over the place in the Bible, finally the Bible was opened up to me in a way I could understand. I was shown how to read the Bible through preaching.

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Easter ROCK mission draws a crowd



The Christian Gospel ROCK (Reaching Out to Clayton Kids, and beyond) Mission was presented to children (and the general community) during the school holidays, after Easter, at Clayton, Victoria.

Bible passages pertaining to the death and resurrection of Jesus were dramatically portrayed in the open air, at beautiful Namatjira Park each day between Tuesday 29 March and Friday 1 April 2016.

Praise the Lord that fine weather, with mainly light winds, prevailed at the park during the four days of mission. There were evidently a few scattered light showers elsewhere in neighbouring suburbs during the first two days, but not at the park. Magnificent, mild Melbourne weather with bright sunshine and light winds was enjoyed on the last day of mission, Friday.

The team of thirty-seven members, mostly teenagers, was united and zealous in the Holy Spirit as they

presented the Gospel message of Jesus. The ROCK team operates under the authority of the Presbyterian Church, Clayton. The scriptural Gospel of Jesus was proclaimed in lively songs, stories, skits, plays, drama and games.

Let us give thanks to God for the blessings of Easter ROCK as a witness in the community to the love of God. ROCK team members Nick Boys (as Jesus), his wife Jess (as Mary Magdalene) and Peter Roberts (as the Centurion) were inspirational and convincing. Michael Jensen and Murray Niel were austere, intimidating and scary as Pharisees. Several other team members exercised their gifts realistically as Bible characters in support, notably the repentant thief. As one visitor expressed: 'God is in this place!' Alleluia!

Daily attendances of children and adults from Tuesday to Thursday averaged one hundred. On the last

day, Café Day, there were 106 children and 93 adults (including other children in their care) totaling 199. A latecomer brought the total to 200 for the day.

Numerous persons, passing by, lingered to watch on the various days, particularly during the daily drama episodes.

Thanks are extended to the Kingston Council for making the facilities at the park available for mission. Thanks are also expressed to the Clayton pastors' prayer group for their prayer and moral support. Thanks to the many friends who prayed for the Easter mission. Please pray for the next summer ROCK mission, God-willing, in early January 2017.

*Dr Des Gaffney
ROCK Committee
Presbyterian Church Clayton*



PWMU Country Rally:

Fellowship and Fun



Ladies enjoying morning tea.

Enthusiasm was palpable on Thursday, April 21 as PWMU members and friends gathered in the lovely facilities at Somerville PC for the annual Country Rally. It was great to meet up with friends not seen for some time, renew acquaintances and settle in for an interesting programme centred on missionaries.

Flinders PA, led by the President Kerry Jensen, were the hosts for this year's Rally. Kerry and Carolyn Wentworth sang Stuart Townend's version of Psalm 23. Kerry also paid tribute to the faithfulness of the Flinders PA in supporting missionaries who had hailed from their area over the course of many years. The ladies in the PA then gathered at the front to sing a ditty written about the PA, to the tune of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, which was well received.

The main attractions of the morning, though, were the guest speakers Ben and Penny, new missionaries who spoke of their call to mission work and their intended service. The enthusiasm of the audience for their presentation was shown in the generosity of the of-

fering, which was for Ben and Penny's support.

Good fellowship was shared over lunch, and then a short programme was conducted by PWMU State Council. This included a quiz on the



Flinders PA ladies singing their ditty.

missionaries who are supported by PWMU, followed by a ditty thrown together by Council over lunch time, and sung to 'This is the Day'. Council members were introduced, and then a short talk on the topic of prayer was given. Bookmarks were distributed that contained an overview of prayer points pertaining to missionaries. The day concluded with attendees breaking up into groups to pray for our various

missionaries.

Other meetings

The Country Rally was the second meeting conducted by PWMU this year. In March, a meeting was held in Melbourne at which Laszlo and Eva Mihayli were the guest speakers. Their talk was thought provoking, showing as it did the parlous state of the church in Hungary and Romania, which is greatly in need of prayer and Bible teaching.

PWMU meetings are a great opportunity to hear from missionaries. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 16th June in the Robert White Hall, 156 Collins Street. Rhys and Rhondda Hall will be speaking.

In August, the annual Thanksgiving Rally will be held on Thursday, August 18th, also in the Robert White Hall. This is run in a seminar format and the topic will be 'Engaging with Muslim People'.

*Mrs Esther Vayne
PWMU*



In the hall at lunch time.

'We have felt very supported'

A letter from the Geelong West Session



The remains of the church building were knocked down in the afternoon.



By now I suspect that you have all heard that the Geelong West Presbyterian Church buildings on the cnr of Pakington St and Waratah St were burnt to the ground in the early hours of the morning on Friday, April 15. While some structure remains standing, the whole site was condemned and nothing was able to be salvaged.

This came as quite a shock and surprise to the congregation. Our meeting place of 102 years is no longer as we knew it in a physical sense. However, it's a great reminder to the congregation to not hold on to our possessions too tightly, but rather cling to that which will last—our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

It has been really encouraging to see how the community of Geelong

West, the local faith community in Geelong and the wider PCV has responded these last few days, offering their concern, encouragement, prayers and practical support. We really have felt very supported.

Session accepted Ashby Primary School's gracious offer for the congregation to meet in their hall for Sunday worship. It was great to be together as we reflected on the goodness of our God, supplying all we need for life and faith shown through the many years of faithful ministry amongst and through our congregation.

What can you do? Keep praying for us. Below are some suggestions to guide your prayers.

- Praise God for the 102 years of

ministry that we have had in the Geelong West Church.

- Give thanks also for the provision of a temporary meeting place at Ashby Primary School.

- Ask God to help us grieve appropriately while hope for our future takes shape.

- Pray for great wisdom for those in leadership, for unity as we move together, for

patience for all and a deep knowledge of God's presence with us.

*On behalf of the Session of Geelong West
Drew Chittenden
Session Clerk*



Our meeting at Ashby Primary School, two days after the fire.

Tested by fire

Continued from front page

And so on Sunday my family joined them once more. Meeting in the Primary School next door, there was sadness, but a strong confidence in the sovereign God.

Though the building has been lost, the church, the gathered people, remain, and perhaps stronger than ever. The building, and all that was in it, was a great resource for ministry. What the Lord had given, he has now taken away – at least temporarily.

But ministry continues. It is sad – a beautiful 102-year-old building, with so many memories has gone. The location of so many weddings, baptisms, funerals and regular faithful Sunday services is gone. An important landmark in busy Pakington St is now a pile of rubble.

Tears have been shed. But the people, the true church, are not lost, and God's plans have not been thwarted.

The faith of GWPC has been, literally, tested by fire (1 Pet 1:6-7), and they can rejoice in all God has done for them. What someone meant for evil, God will use for good (Gen 50:20). The church has experienced something that will draw them together in a way they haven't had to before. They will be tested with patience and uncertainty, and their faith and godliness will continue to grow, as they are transformed from one degree of glory to another (2 Cor 3:18). And, assuming everything goes well, a new and even better building will be built through insurance money – a building where even more ministry will be done.

GWPC is very aware, humbled, and thankful for the prayers from other churches. They've also been made aware of the presence they had in the community – people unconnected with the church are saddened by the loss

of the building.

Continue to pray. Pray that as GWPC continues to sing praise to their God, and as they pray to him who holds the world in his hands, and proclaims his word faithfully, that God would do his saving and maturing work. Pray that through this event, more disciples of the Lord Jesus would be made. Pray that they would keep looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of their faith (Heb 12:2). And pray that his will would be done through this time of trial.

Jesse Walz

Jesse Walz is married to Bec, and they have a four-year-old boy and a one-year-old girl. They attend Surrey Hills Presbyterian Church. Jesse is studying theology at PTC, and Bec is a stay-at-home mum.

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Church Planting In Victoria



Valley Presbyterian Church celebrated five years of existence in May!

Richard Worth, writer and researcher from North Geelong PC, gives us an update on the state of progress of our five church plants for your prayers.

Church Plant One: 'Valley Presbyterian Church'

Valley Presbyterian is in Doreen—a brand new suburb on the North Eastern fringe of Melbourne with 40,000 mostly white middle class people, with big homes, big mortgages and all the stress and work that goes with them.

The Pastor: Richard Wilson (married, four children) started from scratch five years ago and now has an average attendance of about 150 on a Sunday morning, meeting in a school hall.

Valley Presbyterian has made connections into the community through engaging with community fairs, letter box drops, door knocking, the Internet and Facebook. Reaching out to the local children through the Summer Wipeout program in January has been a great way to connect with local families.

Pray: 'We don't lack places to plant churches, we lack suitable church planters. Pray that the Lord would raise up a new generation of church planters amongst us.' (Richard)

Church Plant Two: Darebin Presbyterian Church

Darebin PC is in Darebin/ Thornbury—part of the inner suburbs of the big city. Some of the original Greek/ Italian community remains, but now mostly well educated, well paid city workers who enjoy the ambience of

living in the heart of left wing cafe culture.

The Pastor: Aaron Boyd (married, two children) and his sixty to eighty members have been blessed to meet in the 'Aborigines Advancement League' building on Sundays at 4:30 pm. It is not an ideal building or time, but space is very hard to find, and as Aaron says, 'The church is not a cruise ship, it's a life boat! You're there to save others! You give up comfort!'

Pray: 'Pray that growth would come as we preach the Gospel, that we would be able to stand on our own feet financially, and that we might find a better meeting space.' (Aaron)

Church Plant Three: Warragul Presbyterian Church

Warragul is 100k from the CBD, in West Gippsland. An attractive, mostly Anglo country town of 17,000 that was the source of all the dairy products for our iconic Australian 'Peters Ice Cream' for many years. With so many new people moving to Warragul, it is a great place to proclaim the good news of Christ.

The Pastor: Chris Dean (married, two children) introduces himself and the gospel into the community through part time work (optometry), door knocking, serving on the local Christian school board, and toy library. Average attendance is sixty-eight, meeting in the local high school.

Pray: 'It would be great if our church could attend a stall at the monthly Farmers Market with volunteers to engage our town with the Hope of Jesus.' (Chris).

Church Plant Four: Point Cook Presbyterian Church

The fastest growth in Victoria is adding to the 52,000 people already in Point Cook. They are middle class, ethnically diverse (20% Chinese, 14% Indian, 7% NZ, and many others) and live in big houses with bigger debts, long working days and even longer hours in gridlock getting to and from work.

The Pastor: Peter Owen (married, five adult children) pastors a diverse church of about fifty people in which every adult man and woman works. His ministry is built around preaching, pleading in prayer and pastoral work.

Pray: 'Residents of Point Cook are struggling to find community because everyone is so new. They work long hours, 'staying alive' is exhausting and families hardly have time for one another. As a church our biggest need is to build a sense of belonging together within our fellowship. I spend a lot of time pleading for God's glory.' (Peter).

Church Plant Five: South East Bendigo Presbyterian

Bendigo is a town of 100,000, two hours from Melbourne. They meet in the local high school, right next to La Trobe University and 5,000 students.

The Pastor: Russell Grinter (married, two children) cares for fifty people, twenty of whom are students. His ambition for those students is to see them carry the Gospel with them when they leave Bendigo and find employment across Australia.

Pray: Bendigo needs Jesus. Bendigo once grew wealthy from gold. Pray that they would find greater wealth in Christ and his rich blessings.

Flourishing in a Crooked Generation

PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

SAT 10TH SEPTEMBER
9:30AM - 12:30PM

Speaker: **Fiona Miller**

(wife of Principal of Queensland
Theological College)



RSVP Karlene
Mobile: 0458 203 886

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Clayton
CNR CLAYTON RD & SHANDEAU AVE, CLAYTON

Scots' Day Out



The annual Bendigo Scots' Day Out this year was held on 13 February in beautiful Rosalind Park in the heart of Bendigo. It is a day to celebrate all things Scottish, from the pipe band competition to broadsword fighting and a short-

bread competition. This year the Bendigo Presbyterian Churches (Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Reforming) decided to make use of our Scottish history and hold an information stall at the event.

Our involvement arose as several of our members had attended the event in past years and thought it would be an easy way to tell people of Christ in our town. Our main aim for the day was pre-evangelism, making ourselves known in the community with information of church history from Scotland, Australia and Bendigo. After an afternoon of prayer and planning, our team of volunteers (decked out in Presbyterian blue of course!) spent the day chatting with people passing by our tent and giving out shortbread, water and information as needed.

Our biggest drawcards for the event were a large map of Scotland (with historical facts), children's colouring pages and a visit from 'John Knox'. These allowed us to engage in conversation with people who may have otherwise passed us by because they weren't interested in



'John and Knox'
(John Sutherland and Knox Grinter).

church. It was a very encouraging day and we are looking forward to more involvement in the years to come. Many thanks to those who volunteered time and prayers and thanks be to God for making the day a success!

Esther Kerr

Kids' Club at Sorrento and Rye



Recently, I was asked by a parent, 'Is there anything interesting for kids to do after school?'

'Yes, Kids Club!', I answered. After months of praying

and planning, Kids Club was started at Rye Church Hall in Term 1 to provide a safe, fun and comfortable place for primary school children after school. We do many interesting activities such

as board games, crafts, bible stories (starting from Creation) and singing (Sunday School Songs). Light refreshments were also provided. In term 2, Kids Club commenced at Ellen Grant Hall, Sorrento, and in Term 3 will be back to Rye, and term 4 at Sorrento. We meet every Friday, 3:30 pm to 5 pm. We are thankful to God for the wonderful facilities at Rye Hall and Ellen Grant Hall, and hope to utilise them more for the glory of God, and be a blessing to our local community. Special thanks go to all the helpers from the Parish who come along to help and to support this program.

*Hui Lim
Associate Minister
Sorrento and Rye Parish*

Canterbury elects new Elder

At the last meeting of the Presbytery of Melbourne East we were advised that a new Elder had been elected, ordained and inducted at Canterbury Presbyterian Church. Presbytery congratulates Canterbury on this great achievement.

Presbytery's prayer is that Elder Steve Clancy may be greatly blessed in fulfilling the duties of an Elder. Presbytery is pleased to know that we have people within our congregations who continue to display a godly character and have a firm grasp of Gospel truth.

*Kevin Childs
Clerk of Presbytery
Presbytery of Melbourne East*

Partnership



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION

2016 #2

www.apwm.org.au • 81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood NSW 2134 • (02) 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.

Cyclone Pam: Vanuatu One Year Later



JONATHAN TARIP FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VANUATU HANDS VOUCHERS FOR THEOLOGICAL BOOKS TO THE CLERK OF THE SOUTHERN ISLANDS PRESBYTERY.

In March 2015, Cyclone Pam hit the nation of Vanuatu. Cyclones are a regular feature of life in Vanuatu but this was the most intense cyclone the South Pacific has known in living memory. Thank you to the members of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for your extremely generous donations for our brothers and sisters.

Some of the money was given immediately to the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu to meet urgent needs. In consultation with the Church the rest of the money is being used for relief projects such as:

- repairs to Church-owned school buildings
- replacement of buildings that were severely damaged



STUDENTS FROM SOUTHERN ISLANDS BIBLE COLLEGE LOCATED ON TANNA, WHICH WAS SEVERELY AFFECTED BY CYCLONE PAM.

- repairs to Church buildings
- vouchers to enable pastors to re-stock their library. At last year's Assembly book vouchers were distributed to Presbyteries to enable them to select books sent from the Presbyterian Church of Australia and some ordered from the USA.
- the reprinting of the New Testament owing to the fact that many were damaged or destroyed by the cyclone



SOUTHERN ISLANDS BIBLE COLLEGE CLASSROOM REBUILT WITH FUNDS FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA.



MELIWO BIBLE SCHOOL BUILDING PAID FOR BY THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA TO REPLACE A BUILDING DESTROYED BY CYCLONE PAM

- fees for students at Bible Colleges who came from the islands most badly affected by the cyclone. Such students rely upon family income from the family farm or business but these were often severely affected by the cyclone.

Owing to the scale of the disaster and the shortage of building materials, these projects have taken some time to be completed and we are only now receiving photos. Thank you very much for your generous partnership!

PresAID and Santo Bush Mission

One of the projects supported by PresAID's Christmas 2015 Appeal was the Santo Bush Mission's need for a water pump for its farm and training centre.

Located on Vanuatu's largest island, the farm trains its workers in practical aid to remote villages in Vanuatu. In addition, the centre will be training people from these villages in practical skills such as carpentry.

The Santo Bush Mission is a ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu and is led by



TUENI WAN, SANTO BUSH MISSION LEADER

missionary Tueni Wan from New Zealand. Tueni is a man full of vision and enthusiasm for the growth of the gospel in Vanuatu.

APWM greatly values the partnership of PresAID and the generosity of those who gave toward the water pump.



SANTO BUSH MISSION FARM WATER PUMP HOUSE

“

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



JOHN & ROSEMARY EVANS AND FAMILY

JAPAN: THE NEXT STEPS

John and Rosemary Evans and family recently returned to Japan after 5 months home assignment in Australia. They now enter a particularly exciting phase of their ministry as the groundwork of the last few years begins to come together.

The task now is to assemble the Chiba City church planting team. It is hoped that within two years they will begin to meet as a church. The team includes Adam and



NATHAN & TOMOKO STEWART AND FAMILY

Helane Ramsay (APWM/CMS) and Matt and Carly Chase (Mission to the World). Please pray for the Evans as a family that they will know God's sustaining hand as they transition back into life in Japan.

Nathan and Tomoko Stewart continue to develop their partnership support and have recently been visiting churches to speak about ministry in Japan. Their plan is to help a Japanese congregation in Osaka reach out to people through English language ministry. Their current support level is at 50%.

APWM is planning to commission them on Sunday 23rd October if their support level is near 100%. If you would like to have them speak to your congregation then please contact Nathan on 0422 853 800 or nathan@stewartfamily.id.au or finance@apwm.org.au or use the form on the last page of this newsletter.



MARTIN EAGLE

MARTIN EAGLE

In January-February Martin was in Australia to attend the Wycliffe six week Summer School and have a brief holiday. Martin will next be in Australia in February 2017 for

home assignment. Martin's support account needs extra pledges to enable him to return to Myanmar after home assignment.



LAUREN CRASE

THE BURDEN OF LOVE

It was with great joy that **Lauren Crase** was recently commissioned for service in Timor Leste at the Browns Plains Presbyterian Church. Part of that joy sprang from the fact that Lauren grew up in the congregation and is the first person to be sent out by Browns Plains as a cross-cultural missionary.

During the commissioning hands were laid on Lauren. She later commented "Those hands were heavy but I thought 'This is a burden of love'". Lauren will be serving in a remote area in Timor Leste through outreach, discipleship, teaching English and in healthcare. Lauren is due to depart in early May.

Lauren has served in remote Timor Leste on three previous occasions but this time will be located there for two years.

Please pray for God's wisdom as she settles into ministry.

POSITIONS VACANT

Teacher of English for Academic Purposes – Talua, Vanuatu

Oversee development of the Foundation Year and Bachelor of Ministry students' academic skills, particularly in the area of English. Qualifications • a love for Jesus • at least one year of Bible training (long term applicants) • where possible relevant English as a Foreign Language teaching qualifications and/or experience • flexibility and patience.

Primary and Secondary Teachers: Ethiopia

Qualifications • a love for Jesus • academic qualifications appropriate to the area being taught • professional accreditation. SIM in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia needs 24 teachers in its mission school. Such a school enables missionaries to stay on the field instead of having to return home for the education of their children.

Theological Lecturer – Talua, Vanuatu

Full-time lecturer needed at the Talua Theological Institute, the Bible College of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu.

Qualifications • a love for Jesus • academic

qualifications – either a Bachelor or a Master's degree in theology

Please contact APWM for more information.

Please note that all positions require the raising of partnership support.



BMIN STUDENTS AT TALUA

TIMOR LESTE: HELP NEEDED

Some years ago, Rob Duncanson, the minister at Darwin, asked himself “Where is the nearest Presbyterian Church?” The answer was in Timor Leste (East Timor). That one question led us to the rich partnership we have today with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Timor Leste.



ROB DUNCANSON AND A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH IN TIMOR LESTE

In Timor Leste we:

- facilitate inservice training seminars for pastors, many of whom have fairly basic training
- provide funding for pastors to travel to Synod meetings
- provide a grant of \$16,000 per year to provide the church with a guaranteed income to run its basic infrastructure
- assist with the translation of materials into Tetum, the national language

It’s an encouraging relationship as we see lives transformed as leaders grasp the implications of the gospel, first for themselves and then for the people whom they lead and teach.

In recent years the our Timor Leste funds have run down a bit. If you feel led to financially help this ministry then please get in touch with us.

HOW DOES SOMEONE APPLY TO SERVE WITH APWM?

1. Talk to their local leadership

The first thing is to talk to their minister and church elders. They will be able to help determine if the applicant has the gifting and temperament for missionary service. They will interview the applicant and if they think they should proceed then they will refer the applicant to the APWM State Committee.

2. Talk to the mission agency

When someone wants to serve with a mission agency they should begin the

application process with the agency, in parallel with their application to APWM.

If they hope to serve with one of the PCA’s Partner Churches, they should contact the APWM National Director to discuss the opportunities available.

3. Submit the APWM application forms

Application documents are available on the APWM website: <http://www.apwm.org.au/serving/how-do-i-apply/>

There are various application forms to complete both for the mission agency and APWM.

4. Meet with the State APWM Committee

When all of the documents are received arrangements are made for an interview with the APWM State Committee.



ALEX KOWALENKO SERVES WITH EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN MISSION IN PORTUGAL

Applicants intending to serve with Partner Agencies are interviewed and accepted by the State Committee. A successful applicant is a member of APWM in dual membership with the Partner Agency.

Applicants intending to serve with a Partner Church are interviewed by their APWM State Committee, and after that by the APWM National Committee.

Once someone is received as an APWM missionary, Presbyterian congregations are encouraged to get behind them in raising prayer and financial support to enable them to go to the field to which is God is leading them to serve.

SUPPORTING THE GOSPEL IN MYANMAR

APWM supports the Evangelical Reformed Church of Myanmar through sponsorships provided to students at the Church’s theological college (Reformed Bible Institute) and also to pastors who work in rural regions of Chin State in north-west Myanmar. Students train at RBI in Yangon,

and many go on to serve the church in Chin State once they have graduated. This year the sponsorships will be \$500 per student, to be given before June. If you would like to support the Myanmar church in this way please contact Sheryl Sarkoezy in the National Office for more information.



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
(02) 8073 7490

www.apwm.org.au/supporting/finance

NEW APWM DIRECTORY
2016-2017

The 2016-2017 APWM is now available. This provides information on all our current APWM missionaries and is a great resource for prayer. The Directory has been sent out to congregations and more are available by contacting the APWM National Office. Please note that a digital version is not available because of security issues.



EMAIL UPDATE

Every two months the APWM National Office produces 'Email Update'. This provides two months of prayer points for APWM missionaries all around the world. If you would like a copy sent by email then please send an email to Sheryl Sarkoezy

national@apwm.org.au or phone Sheryl on (02) 8073 7490. Please provide the name of your minister so that we can check that you attend a Presbyterian Church.

For security reasons we do not make this available on the internet.

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.



INCLUDING APWM IN YOUR WILL

If you would like to include APWM in your will, then you may like to use these words as a guide:

"I give to the Presbyterian Church Property Trust for the National Committee of the Australian Presbyterian World Mission [here insert a description of the bequest

together with the amount of money or description of property or other gift] free of testamentary charges and duties for [here insert 'its general purpose' or the specific purpose you desire] and I declare that the receipt of the Secretary of the Trust shall be sufficient to discharge to my Executors."

Please provide this wording to your Solicitor when seeking advice and assistance in drawing up your will.

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN WORLD MISSION

NATIONAL OFFICE

81 Shaftesbury Road, Burwood NSW 2134 T: (02) 8073 7490
Sheryl Sarkoezy E: national@apwm.org.au • Bruce Campbell E: finance@apwm.org.au

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Kevin Murray
M: 0421 366 720
E: kevinmurray@apwm.org.au

FEDERAL CONVENER

Alex Shaw T: 0403 778 151
E: alex_4_shaw@internode.on.net

www.apwm.org.au

STATE CONVENERS

Qld Kim Dale E: kdale7@bigpond.com
NSW Robert McKean E: nswconvener@apwm.org.au
Vic Douglas Bennett E: douglas_bennett@wycliffe.org.au
Tas Vacant
SA Gary Ware E: gjware@internode.on.net
WA Darrell Thatcher E: waconvener@apwm.org.au



ON TRACK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

ISSUE 2 2016

PROCLAIMING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST
BY WORD AND DEED

EARLY BEGINNINGS

Laurie and Gwen Peake are PIM's longest-serving members. They have served in three different Patrol Areas. This is a little bit of their story.

Laurie became interested in Patrol Ministry very early in life. At about 6 years old he met an Australian Inland Mission Patrol Padre who showed him a photo of his Land Rover bogged in a creek on Cape York. Laurie decided then and there that this was the work for him.

As the years passed, Laurie progressed through school and worked hard on the family farm in Wandoan, Queensland. For many years he harboured the dream to serve in mission of some kind, but for a season the Lord did not open any such doors. Laurie learnt to content himself with being a faithful servant of God and witness to Christ as a farmer in their local community.

Laurie married Gwen and together they began to build a life on the family farm. Through many struggles and trials and the ups and downs of life on the land,

they learnt much about God's faithful provision for His people. In mid-1981, both Laurie and Gwen began to get a sense that their time on the farm was coming to a close. Their hearts were drawn to the many opportunities and needs in Home Mission work. They applied for Home Mission service, hoping that they would be given a posting close to home so they could keep an eye on the farm. Instead, they were posted to Atherton in northern Queensland. This turned out to be a wonderful blessing from the Lord, as the faraway posting made it impossible for them to monitor the farm. So, after appointing a manager to keep the farm going, they headed off for three exciting years in Atherton.

In Atherton, Laurie learnt 'on the job' about running a local church, working with elders, conducting funerals and weddings. Fulfilling and challenging ministry opportunities, and the time to spend days off exploring the beauty of the area, ensured this season of ministry remains a highlight of Gwen and Laurie's life.

It became clear that to continue on in effective ministry, Laurie would need to submit himself to some formal theological studies in Brisbane. After a hard-fought four years, slogging through the curriculum, ably supported by Gwen whose work as a teacher kept them fed and the bills paid, Laurie emerged from the college as a qualified minister.

After graduation Laurie and Gwen were presented with several possible options for ministry in Queensland. After thought and prayer, they volunteered for ministry in the Charleville-Blackall parish. This



Laurie and Gwen Peake

role included not just local church work, but PIM Patrol ministry in the area. The idea of Patrol Ministry, first discovered by Laurie as a six-year-old boy, was being fulfilled.

On commencement of the Patrol work, the Peakes received very little instruction on what they should actually do. They were told where the boundaries of their Patrol Area were and that they would need to get to Mt Isa to collect their patrol vehicle.

They learnt as they went and over eight years they met many wonderful outback characters, shared the gospel with all sorts of people, and introduced many Christians to the concept of 'friendship evangelism'.

On one patrol, Laurie took along a Christian fellow by the name of Tony. At the start of the patrol Tony said, "I can only see this being a social mission. You know, cups of tea with old ladies." It wasn't many days on patrol with Laurie before Tony had to conclude, "Well, it certainly wasn't a social mission!"

In time, the Peakes were reassigned to South Australia where they lived in the



Laurie keeping an eye on the herd

little town of Quorn, south of the Flinders Ranges. Using the experience they had gained in Queensland, they developed a series of Patrol routes through the remote areas of that dry and dusty part of the continent, taking the Gospel with them wherever they went.

After many adventures in South Australia and many conversations seasoned with the Gospel, Laurie and Gwen moved back 'home' to Wandoan. These days Laurie and Gwen are back on their farm where they grow Wagyu beef cattle and Laurie is minister of the small

Presbyterian Church in Wandoan. But they haven't stopped Patrol Ministry. Most months they head out for a few days to visit outlying properties in the rugged Leichhardt Patrol Area, taking the Good News of Jesus to people who are still far from God.

WITH THANKS TO THE RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA...

Millions of PIM promotional brochures have been printed, at no cost to PIM. These are so widespread you probably even have one in your purse or wallet right now! What a blessing it is to have something of the story of the Australian Inland Mission, PIM's predecessor, told on the face of the twenty-dollar note!

The life and ministry of John Flynn are depicted on the note. Much of the imagery conveys the story of Flynn's most famous initiative, what has now become the Royal Flying Doctor Service. But if you look closely on the right hand side of the note, you will see another man. This man, astride one of the camels purchased by Flynn, is Rev. Coledge Harland, one of the early AIM Patrol Padres. From around 1919 to 1921, Harland had the largest parish in Australia: over three hundred thousand square kilometres of outback South Australia. Harland patrolled this territory on the back of a camel. It is reported that in one five-month period he rode more than 1500 miles on that camel, ministering to the people of the outback.

Today, PIM Patrol Teams have traded in the camels for Land Cruisers and the

like, but the core of the ministry still remains the same. There are people living in remote and isolated parts of our enormous continent who, in the ordinary course of their lives, have very limited contact with Christians, the church or any solid gospel message. It is these people that PIM seeks to reach with the Good News of Jesus.

Many people living on the land struggle through drought and flood and experience suffering and hardship that those of us who live in major towns and

cities are largely protected from. However, isolated Australians still have the same basic problem that each of us has, regardless of where we live. Our sin separates us from God, and we need a Saviour to deal with that. Of all the things that can be done to help the people of the 'Inland,' the most important is to introduce them to Jesus.

So, next time you pull out a twenty-dollar note, why not pause for a moment and pray for Australians living in remote areas, and the PIM Teams who will be taking the Gospel to them today?



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES IN PIM

A number of Patrol Areas across the continent are currently vacant. In many of these areas there is little or no Christian witness and very little opportunity for people to hear the Gospel. PIM is seeking expressions of interest from people who might be interested in joining our team.

If you love the Lord, have a desire to share the gospel with people and are available to live a somewhat nomadic lifestyle, then we'd love to have a chat.

We currently have patrol opportunities in NSW, WA, Central QLD, as well as

potential to help develop new patrol areas based out of the Darwin and Alice Springs Mission Churches.

To learn more, please visit our website, find us on Facebook or give our CEO Andrew Letcher a call on 0438 868 964.



Taking the Word of God into the vast Australian outback.

NEWS AND PRAYER POINTS

The mining boom might be over, but the Sunday School at the Mt Magnet church is experiencing something of a boom of its own. Eight or more kids are now in regular attendance on Sunday mornings before church. For many of these children, this is their first exposure to the Gospel message. Please pray for May and Surendra Wesley as they teach these kids, and try to connect with their parents.

* * *

A number of PIM team members have had health concerns recently. Please pray for the health and wellbeing of each team member.

* * *

Over Easter various outreach events were held by PIM teams in different parts of the country. Please pray that these events will deepen the relationship people have with their local PIM team and that further Gospel opportunities will grow out of these.

An Easter Outreach event was again held at the Smith of Dunesk Mission building in Beltana, SA



WANDERING AROUND WITH ANDREW LETCHER



Andrew Letcher

Thirty years ago, as a kid, I left Tasmania with my family when we moved back to Melbourne for Dad to take on a new parish. In February, I was able to return to Tasmania for the first time in three decades. It was wonderful to revisit many places from my childhood and to visit St Andrew's Launceston where Dad had been the assistant minister for five and a half years.

The purpose of this trip to Tasmania was to visit churches to share the ministry of PIM with them and to explore the possibility of PIM re-engaging with Patrol work in that state. The PIM Mackersey Patrol Area, covering the Midlands area of Tasmania, has been dormant for some time now.

The distances in Tasmania are relatively small, given that many mainland PIM Patrols Areas are much larger than the whole state of Tasmania! But once you get away from the main highways, and down some of the back roads, you soon

find there are many remote and isolated communities and properties with little or no Gospel witness. These are exactly the sorts of places where PIM can make a difference.

One of the highlights of this trip was to see what God is doing in and through the Presbyterian Church in Tasmania. We visited many congregations, enjoyed some terrific preaching and warm fellowship. Despite the inevitable challenges and the ups and downs of Gospel ministry, it was great to see the church in Tasmania standing firm and shining a light in their state. The Word is being faithfully proclaimed and joyful believers are gathering together to worship our God.

Please join me in praying for God's people in Tasmania and for the opportunities that exist there to proclaim the name of Jesus in cities, towns and homes.



PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

www.pim.org.au

NATIONAL OFFICE

PO Box 4014,
Croydon Hills VIC 3136

OFFICE MANAGER

Mike Timmins
T: 03 9005 8256
E: admin@pim.org.au

CEO

Andrew Letcher
M: 0438 868 964
E: ceo@pim.org.au

CONVENER

Les Fowler
M: 0427 521 083
E: convener@pim.org.au

PIM PADRE TEAMS

Chris and Sandra Woonings
E: cwoonings@pim.org.au M: 0428 665 123 Southern Patrol WA

David and Gae McDonald
E: dmcDonald@pim.org.au M: 0438 218 551
John Flynn Patrol SA ('Smith of Dunesk' Beltana PIM Church)

Greg and Janet Cripps E: gjcripps@pim.org.au M: 0407 406 628 South Patrol Qld

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

Surendra and Ma'yan Wesley E: swesley@pim.org.au P: (08) 9963 4125 Mid West Patrol WA
(Mt. Magnet PIM Church)

PIM CHURCH WORKERS

Keith and Jenny Bell E: kjbell@pim.org.au M: 0438 719 956 Alice Springs PIM Church

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

RESPONSE FORM

Name _____ Phone () _____ email _____

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Donation – PIM general funds		Donation – PIM John Flynn/David and Gae McDonald	
Donation – PIM Mid West/Surendra Wesley		Donation – PIM Mungo/Colin and Alison Morrow	
Total			

Payment details:

☐ Cheque enclosed (Payable to Presbyterian Inland Mission)

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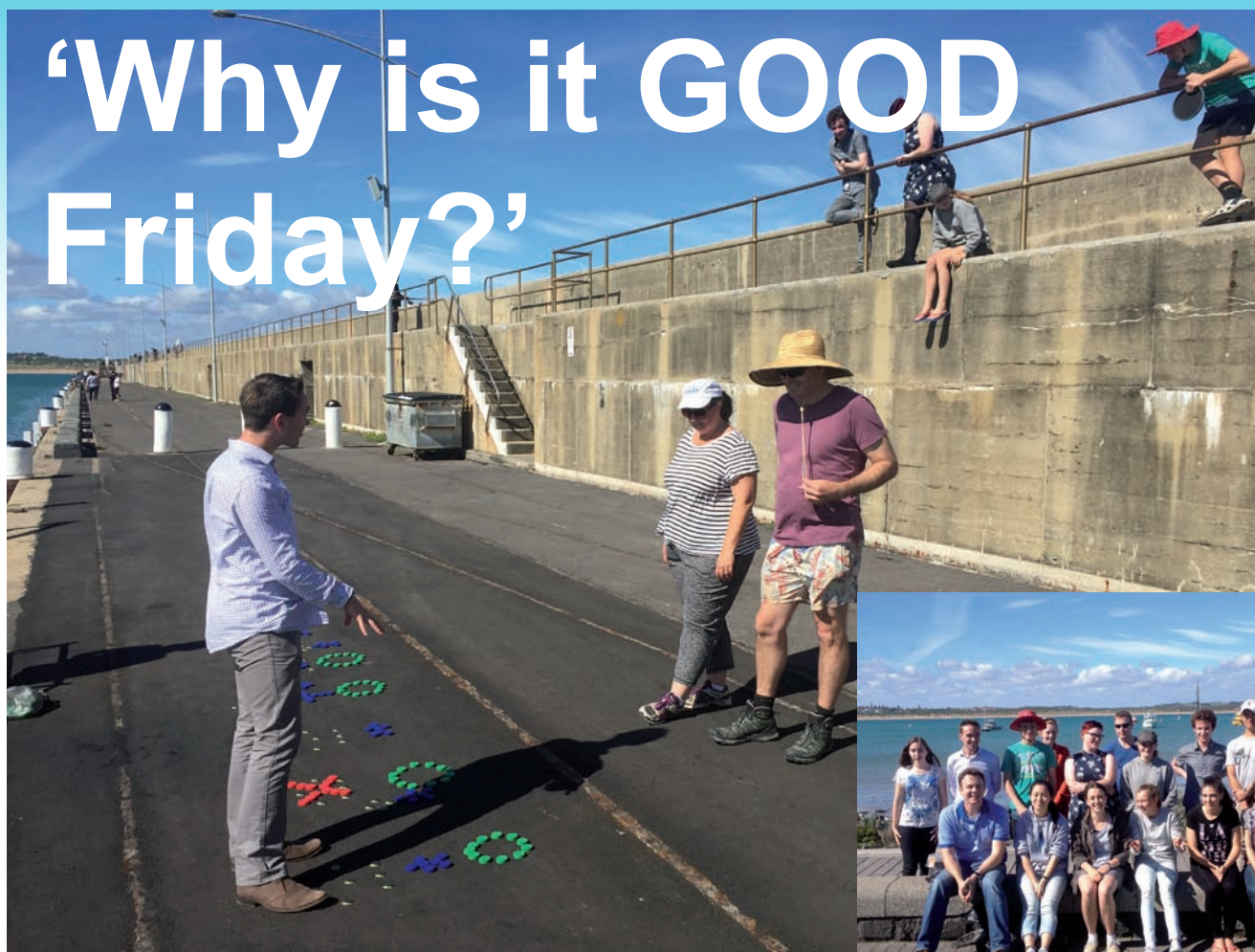
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PIM
PO Box 4014
Croydon Hills Vic 3136

Ph: (03) 9005 8256
Fax: (03) 9876 1941
email: admin@pim.org.au

Youth InC asks,

'Why is it GOOD Friday?'



Nick in action! Right: The Youth inC group from Warrnambool Presbyterian.



'G'day, do you know why today is called Good Friday?'

For the last two years Youth inC (Warrnambool Presbyterian church's youth group) has learnt the '2 ways to live' gospel outline and then used bottle tops to help explain the gospel to people on Good Friday. Initially, it was more of a training exercise to help our teens learn the gospel and grow in confidence by explaining the gospel to strangers. However, God has been very gracious and this year a number

of teens got to explain the gospel to people from which a few great conversations occurred.

There is possibly no other easier day to share the gospel! Our approach is to set up our bottle top display in a public place with a large number of people walking past. We say hello and ask people if they know why today is called Good Friday. We then ask them if they have 3 minutes for us to explain why it's called Good Friday using our colourful bottle tops. Most people we

spoke with were happy to listen. It's always scary the first time, but the more you do it the easier it becomes.

So next Good Friday afternoon instead of eating too many hot cross buns or watching the Good Friday appeal, why don't you get your church, youth group, bible study or mates to join you to share the Good News?

Toby McIntosh
Warrnambool Presbyterian church

*'Let us consider how we may
spur one another on toward love
and good deeds.'*
Hebrews 10:24

 fellow workers

Encourage and inspire your fellow believers by sending your articles and pictures to ed.fellowworkers@gmail.com. Please remember to ask the people in your pictures (or their parents) for consent to publish them.

The submission deadline for the September edition is **Monday 1 August**. Thank you for your partnership in this ministry of encouragement. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

-Chiara Bilyj, Editor