



# ASSEMBLIES Outreach

Price: \$32 per annum  
or \$5.50 per copy

April 2018

FAITH  
IS MORE  
VALUABLE  
THAN



## Greeting

**1** Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup>according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the obedience of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood. May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

## Born Again to a Living Hope

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefeatable, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded, through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and full of glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

<sup>10</sup>Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, <sup>11</sup>inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. <sup>12</sup>It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

## 1 Peter 1:7

Also in this issue: Out & About in NSW  
News from Commended Workers  
Youth Leaders  
'Awake Sydney' Prayer Summit  
Sports Ministry & Evangelism  
Internet Corner (... and more)

The NSWAEM publishes this bi-monthly magazine to offer opportunities for NSW Commended Workers, Assemblies, Para-Assembly activities and other kindred bodies, to share information about their ministries, to encourage others, and to encourage prayer.

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Written contributions to *Assemblies Outreach* magazine are welcome and actively sought from NSW Assemblies and any associated ministries and individuals.

Please submit your assembly news, people profiles, letters, etc, for the **June 2018 issue before:- 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018.**

Contributors enjoy reasonable liberty in their expression of opinion and exposition of Scripture within the boundaries of a biblical evangelical Christian faith. Neither the Editorial Team, the Board of NSW Assemblies' Evangelistic Mission, nor Commended Workers are to be held responsible for every view that may be expressed in these pages.

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Mr C. H. Winrow, Mrs M. J. Winrow,  
Mr D. Gordon

Subscription costs are shown on the cover & at [www.cb-nsw.org.au/aem/Mag/subs.html](http://www.cb-nsw.org.au/aem/Mag/subs.html)

Printed by the Blue Star Print Group.  
81 Derby Street, Silverwater NSW 2128  
Phone: +61 2 8748 2312

## Advertisement and Prayer Request

### The PSSM Mailbox Club

(formerly known as the Postal Sunday School Movement)

is asking you to join us in prayer as we seek the Lord's will for a new President. A number of our previous Presidents have come from Brethren Churches and we are seeking the Lord for His direction as we search for a new person to fulfil this important roll.

We thank God for how He has used this ministry since 1933 and look forward to what He has in store for the days and years ahead.



Terri Good  
PSSM Mailbox Club



Phone (07) 5433 1628  
Address PO Box 357  
Morayfield QLD 4506

# First Glance

by Colin Winrow, Editor.



Dear Readers,

Welcome to this April 2018 edition of the *Assemblies Outreach* magazine.


As the Lord has provided a variety of articles again for this issue, it has become apparent to me that there is a major ‘flavour’ of youth and sport in its content.

Perhaps my mind has been biased in that direction by the background events in Australia as it’s been compiled in the late March - early April time-frame. The footy season has begun and, overlaying all other sports, has been the 2018 Commonwealth Games held on the Gold Coast of Queensland from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> April. Who could escape the news from “the Games” on TV & radio, in newspapers and magazines, and streaming to our mobile phones and computers? Of course it helped that we, the host country, topped the medal tally with 80 Gold, 59 Silver and 59 Bronze!

It took me back to the year 2000, when we hosted the Olympic Games in Sydney. Some of us competed, and more of us served as volunteers and

hosts, but the competition was tougher and so our medal tally was much lower than the Games this month. Still, it was fun and exciting and some people got medals, trophies or certificates to treasure.

There was a lot of evangelism activity too – before, during and after the Olympics – with an overarching theme of “More than Gold”.

As precious as that metal is, the Scriptures explain there are more important things God wants in our lives. Wisdom (Prov 3:13) and Faith (1 Peter 1:6-7) are two that spring to mind. Hence the illustration on this magazine’s cover:– *“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.”* (NIV) 

## CONTENTS of this Issue:

‘Out and About’ in NSW.....	4	Sports Ministry & Evangelism ..	17
Praying for NSW Assemblies .....	6	Book Review – “41 will come” .....	22
ATI Prophecy Conference .....	8	What our teenagers need most .	23
News of Commended Workers... ..	9	CCCAust(NSW) Youth Strategy	24
The Christian Brethren Archive	13	How to Answer .....	26
Young Adults .....	15	‘Awake Sydney’ Prayer .....	27
Help young people get involved	16	Internet Corner.....	29

# 'Out and About' in NSW Assemblies

compiled by Colin Winrow

If you attend a NSW assembly, or you work with any associated Christian Brethren ministry, please feel free to submit your local news or event dates to this 'Out and About' section so we can inform and encourage people in all our assemblies and churches. Short items (even if only one sentence) are welcome and can be mailed to the Mission office at PO Box 20, Pennant Hills, NSW 1715, or better still, e-mailed to:

[outreach-mag@optusnet.com.au](mailto:outreach-mag@optusnet.com.au)

Also, please email your wording for **Notices** or **Coming Events** to be included on the NSW Christian Brethren website to:-

[webadmin@cb-nsw.org.au](mailto:webadmin@cb-nsw.org.au)

\* \* \*

The first Coordinating Conference for 2018 was held at the Kings Park Community Church on 1<sup>st</sup> February. The next meeting will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Copies of the new CCCAust Handbook for 2018-19 have been shipped to all churches and assemblies. More copies can be obtained from Bradley Scott, if required.

This Handbook is a great resource for church leaderships to have. It is now 231 pages in length and includes CCCAust information for all Australia. A map for each state & territory shows where our churches and assemblies are located. Besides the information about each congregation's ministries, it contains lists of Marriage Celebrants and Itinerant Teachers etc and information about numerous para-church organisations at national and state levels.

I must confess there are some I had not heard of before, but I think they have just undergone growth and name changes. For example, ACCS (Australian College of Christian Studies) was formerly Emmaus Bible College, see new website:-

[www.ccs.edu](http://www.ccs.edu)

and AMOS (Australian Mission Outreach Support) is a conservative Christian ministry supporting and promoting the work of Aboriginal Communities, Missions, and Missionaries in Australia and is carried out by short-term mission outreaches:

[www.amosmission.com.au](http://www.amosmission.com.au)

The **Awake Sydney** Prayer Summit was a great success on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Youth leaders from 11 denominations came together to pray for the youth of Sydney and to discuss matters about future cooperation and growth. There is to be an outreach event next year with Franklin Graham and partnership to support this was also discussed.

\* \* \*

This year Camp David (which is for people aged 18+ who have an intellectual disability) will be held from 28<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June at the Yarramundi camp site, by a combined team drawn from the Lutanda and Hands & Feet organisations. More volunteers are needed too. Please contact Reuben Torrance on 0426 797 382.

\* \* \*

**New Heights Christian Church** is seeking expressions of interest for the role of a **part-time pastor** with their church for 2018 and beyond. At this ➤

stage the position involves 10 hours per week but this may increase in future as the role develops and support grows. NHCC is an independent evangelical church associated with the Christian Community Churches of Australia. Membership is currently around sixty people. The church building is on the western side of Lake Macquarie near the rapidly developing areas of Cameron Park and West Wallsend. For a job description and other details please apply to:-

[elders@newheights.org.au](mailto:elders@newheights.org.au)

## Meetings & Events

(Note: for the **latest details** please be sure to check on these two web pages:-

<http://www.cb-nsw.org.au/events>

[www.cccaustnsw.com/events](http://www.cccaustnsw.com/events)

### 2018:

- 3 May **Coordinating Conference.**
- 4 May **Autumn Fashion Parade** of Ladies Winter Clothes for residents & friends at Elouera Gardens; starting 10am with morning tea, donation \$5.
- 5 May **Thrive 2018** - Women's Conference. "Unexpected Journey – lessons in discipleship", Kings Park C.C. speakers: Connie Durate & Hope Miles.
- 12 May **'Awake to Israel'** (ATI) "Second Coming Conference" at Epping G.C; from 9.30am to 4.30pm. (see advert on page 8)

- 26 May **'Pathfinders'** at West Pennant Hills C.C; 7pm Topic is 'A Call to Serve'.
- 28 May **Camp David** at Yarramundi Camp site (5 days)
- 9 June **'Awake to Israel'** (ATI) meeting at Epping G.C; 2.30pm.
- 23 June **WMC 2018**, "Hearts for the Harvest" at Campbelltown Christian Community Church, 18 Alderney Street, Minto. 10am to 3pm.  
(see advert on page 25)
- 21 July **SIU Conference.**
- 2 Aug **Coordinating Conference.**
- 25 Aug **'Pathfinders'** at West Pennant Hills C.C; 7 pm start; – Variety Night.
- 1 Sept **RENOVO Youth Conf'nce.**
- 1 Nov **Coordinating Conference.**
- 24 Nov **'Pathfinders'** at West Pennant Hills C.C; 6pm start; Christmas Celebration.

### 2019:

- 24-28 June **IBCM7** will be held in Pomezia, near Rome next year. See page 29 for more details. □

**Please submit any news items, letters, adverts or short articles for the June 2018 magazine on, or before, 11<sup>th</sup> May.**

# Praying for NSW Assemblies

mainly compiled by Bradley Scott

*Please take some time-out every week to pray for our churches, assemblies and para-assembly ministries and the work of God in our nation.*

## General Prayer Points:

- ☆ Pray for our Church family as we seek to make our Lord known in our communities especially after our Easter services and programs.
- ☆ Pray that our churches can be salt and light in our changing world, that we can show the love of Christ through the way we interact with our neighbours, friends and family. May people see Christ in us.
- ☆ Pray for the upcoming THRIVE Women's Conference; that it will be a time of refreshment and encouragement as we consider how we serve God in a changing Community.
- ☆ Pray that we as churches will not forget that even as society changes, we have a sovereign Lord who is in control and we as His people are still on the offensive, taking the Good News of Jesus to a world of people who need this wonderful news.
- ☆ Pray that our church elders will have wisdom as they lead our local churches.
- ☆ Pray for the Boards of our para-church ministries as they lead

and provide vision for these ministries. Where applicable, may we see the Boards of these organisations support and provide services that help connect churches to the community. May these boards support our local churches as they share Christ in their communities, CCCAust(NSW), ACCS, AMOS, Lutanda, Stewards, CCM, Hands and Feet, CBCS, GLO, CMS, AEM, ACM, AMT, WMC.

## Grace Point Community Church

Pray for the church Eldership:  
Upuse Ah Wong, Palemia Alalatoa, Viliamu Aufai, Jason Chang, Kalati Perese, Kaio Toailoa.

Please pray for:

- ☆ our DA lodgement last month.
- ☆ Fairfield Council to allow churches to establish in the area.
- ☆ our mission team to Ethiopia in the first week of April.
- ☆ our church planting team both locally and globally.
- ☆ our local churches' new additional families to the fellowship – to open their hearts & receive the gospel message of Jesus. ➤



- ☆ the new church plant in Apia Samoa to be the light of Jesus in the community.
- ☆ the gospel of the Lord Jesus to be the main focus and message of our local churches.

**Grace Point Mt Drutt**

Pray for the church Eldership:-  
Akuino Fuamatu, Danny  
Tuimaseve, Tolu Vaafusuaga,  
Mafi Mataafa, Kalala Mataafa.



**Please submit any news items, letters, adverts or short articles for the June 2018 magazine on, or before, 11<sup>th</sup> May.**

**WOMEN'S MISSIONARY PRAYER & SUPPORT FELLOWSHIP**

Under this banner two groups meet each month, except January. The weekly Global Prayer Matters issued by AMT form the basis for focussed prayer. These points are amplified by information from personal letters received from missionaries.

Whenever a missionary on furlough is available, as many as possible from both groups meet at Eastwood Chapel, and after the prayer time continue fellowship at Page's Cafe (in Koorong Bookshop, West Ryde) over lunch. More information may be obtained from:-

**Lillian Fleming 9858 5436 or Jackie Sardar 9785 3439**

**Meetings to be held in 2018**

The time slot is 10.30 am to 12.30 pm, with a cuppa available from 10am. Tea and coffee are provided.

**Cherrybrook Christian  
Care Centre  
(on Fridays)**

**Oatley Gospel  
Chapel  
(also on Fridays)**

<b>11 May</b>	<b>8 June</b>	<b>13 July</b>	<b>10 Aug</b>
<b>14 Sept</b>	<b>12 Oct</b>	<b>9 Nov</b>	<b>14 Dec</b>



And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings...  
Acts 17:26

# The & the Future Nations

**Saturday 12th May 2018**

**Second Coming Conference**

**Epping Gospel Chapel**  
Cnr Carlingford Road & Duntroon Ave.  
9.30am - 4.30pm

**Speakers:**

**Ron Jarlett** (Awake to Israel) 10:00am

**The Nations - The Beginning**

**Paul Cohen** (Celebrate Messiah) 11:30am

**The Chosen Nation - ISRAEL**

**Kevin Rosolen** 1:30pm

**The Nations in the Tribulation**

**Greg Willis** (Timeline Ministries) 2:45pm

**The Nations in the Messianic Age and Eternity**

LUNCH PROVIDED: Bookings essential. (Sorry, Special diets please BYO)

RSVP: 29 April 2018 Ron (02) 9502 1967 [ronj@speednet.com.au](mailto:ronj@speednet.com.au)

**Awake to Israel**  
History • Culture • Events • Prophecy • Living Faith  
—To declare unto you all the counsel of God. Acts 20:27

[www.awaketoisrael.org](http://www.awaketoisrael.org)

*A love offering will be taken for the speakers.*





**Geoff & Liz Folland**  
**4 Oronga Avenue**  
**Baulkham Hills NSW 2153**  
**2 March 2018**

**1. Praise God for Good Weather!**

Orientation-Week is so weather dependent. Last year it was raining most of the three days. The year before it was hot (40°/104°F). This week the weather was warm and sunny. It was such a blessing to be able to meet hundreds of students. The follow up has shown that we have met many who are genuinely interested.

**2. Praise God for New Students!**

I often tell our leaders that the start of each year is like Christmas. Each new student we meet is like a present that God gives us, we just don't know what it is yet. Standing on the road outside of Notre Dame (because we aren't allowed to do ministry on this private campus) produced contact with only two guys (and about 20 girls) who wanted follow up. But God had other ideas! Each of our small groups has been overflowing with new students who have become aware of us through word of mouth.

I'd arranged to meet Alex, one of the 2 from the quizzes. I arrived in the cafe, only to be greeted by two of our student leaders. They introduced me to Alex. I said I was glad to meet him and looking forward to chatting. He looked confused during our few minutes of small talk. It turned out he wasn't the Alex I was expecting to meet! But my Alex was sitting at a table nearby. And the new Alex was interested in finding out more

too. So I ended up meeting both Alex's together!

**3. Praise God for Minji**

Last year Minji was one of our key student leaders. She graduated and over the summer raised her support. She started serving full-time as a missionary during O-Week. Last week was her first week on campus. She's been gathering many new students ... including introducing me to a couple of guys. Through Minji I met Jack, whose grandfather is Ian Jagelman (a founding leader in the C3 church denomination).

Friends, we really appreciate your friendship, encouragement, prayers and financial support. We couldn't do this ministry without you.

In His grace,

Geoff & Liz Folland

Power to Change Australia

**Aaron & Shelley Daniell**  
**6 Talavera Close**  
**Raymond Terrace NSW 2324**  
**22 March 2018**

Hi Friends,

It's been a very full couple of months. We appreciate your ongoing prayers and support. Please let us know if can we be praying for you!

**EvangelismSHIFT update**

Our new facilitators did an exceptional job in sharing God's word, their lives, and practical insights in our first round of seminars. We praise God for His provision of each one of them. This week we begin our second round of seminars with >10

our four new EvangelismSHIFT groups in Melbourne, Sydney (2) and Casino.

Please be praying for the Australian facilitators: Jessie Skelly, John Fleming, Maggie De Leeuw and Matthew Munn. Pray also for our Philippine team led by Mel Dianga, as well as John North and myself as we all continue to rely on God to lead us in equipping His church to live as witnesses for Jesus Christ.

### **MC2 - Multiplying Churches**

Because of our commitment to movement building, AFCI was invited to attend the Global Church Movements (GCM) Conference in the Philippines earlier this month.

This invitation came at a time when churches we are working with through EvangelismSHIFT are now asking us for help in training their people to go beyond living as witnesses for Jesus to become multiplying disciples who start multiplying churches.

With this in mind I attended the GCM Conference to evaluate the effectiveness of a training process called MC2. It is being used across the globe and could be used to build on the foundations of EvangelismSHIFT to benefit the churches we are working with.

We praise God for this opportunity and are prayerful about our next steps with MC2.

### **Love is a gift! Celebrating 18 years of marriage!**

Thank you Lord for your gift of marriage. Thank you to those who have sown into our marriage and encouraged us over the years. You know who you are and we thank God for you.

Please continue to pray for our Lord's provision for us as a family as we trust Him with our current monthly budgeted shortfall.

Would you like to know more about how you could help us cover the monthly commitments? Please email or call us. We would love to hear from you.

### **Doug & Jenny McNaught**

**46 Barnetts Road**

**Winston Hills NSW 2153**

**4 April 2018**

Dear Brothers and sisters,

Thank you again for your fellowship, prayers, support and care during the last few months. We appreciate everything that you do for us and look forward to the times that we are able to visit you. Jenny has been going down to OLMC to do exam supervision this week. It is the year 12 half yearly exams. She also plans to do supervision for other exams down there this year. She has been doing this for many years and enjoys getting together with the other ladies who supervise there as well.

She is still involved with some ladies from church & in the community and keeps busy as she helps them with their various appointments and other activities.

We have been quite busy, again, visiting various churches and assemblies around Sydney during the last couple of months. We expect, in the Lord's will, to have another month in April. It was a pleasure to spend Easter with a couple of assemblies, remembering the Lord's death, burial and resurrection. There are so ➤

many things to be thankful for, not just at this time of the year but every day as we remember the great price our Saviour paid to purchase our salvation.

I have been busy, again, going to football training and attending matches. The season starts this Saturday and we have been playing trial matches so far. There has been a large turnover of players this year so I have had to get to know quite a few new players and some new coaches.

We played a match against a team from Fiji and I was able to pray with both teams in the middle of the pitch before the game started. Afterwards both teams came together and the Fijian players sang some hymns in their own language. It was quite inspiring.

One of the retired players, who volunteers with the team, told me that I have a much better superannuation package than he does because my superannuation is out of this world!

I am still working on my book, **The Most Interesting Relationship**, and there is a lot more work to do.

Thanks again for your support, prayers, love and fellowship.

Much love,

Jenny and Doug McNaught  
e-mail: doougmcnaught@gmail.com  
(This address IS correct.)

**John Angus**  
**35 Bandicoot Drive**  
**Blackbutt NSW 2529**  
**28 March 2018**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ (at NSWAEM),

I write to thank you for the recent gift which is greatly appreciated. As you

know, I have been unwell and somewhat restricted in my ministry as a result of my condition. (A knee replacement for the left leg, and a more serious replacement of the femoral artery in the right leg.) Your gift is a help with the medical expenses.

In spite of these problems we do our best. I have recently prepared a small outreach leaflet to be given with Easter Eggs. It raises the question of why Good Friday should be called Good. May some hearts be challenged as they consider this question.

Christian Media Services Inc continues to be a blessing through outreach in English and Arabic.

Yours in the Lord Jesus Christ,  
John.

**John & Irene Hills**  
**16 Stewart Street**  
**Campbelltown NSW 2560**  
**9 April 2018**

Dear friends,

Late last year and early this year has been a roller coaster for the Satellite TV work.

It started with the US organisation through whom we broadcast, telling us they would have to close some of our broadcasts.

They also trust the Lord for funds to broadcast, and not long after the bad news, we heard that they had received funds to continue. Not only that, they also gave us free of charge our own App. So now we continue broadcasting in Arabic and English via Satellite, App, and also YouTube. The satellite broadcasts alone give us a potential audience of over >12

2 billion people, and the others massively increase outreach potential.

I am still responsible for production of the English TV programs, as well as Radio program recordings and editing.

Jamil Choucair has a huge workload, filming and editing the Arabic programs as well as his involvement with the Arabic Church at Guildford.

They are doing a great job especially with the Tuesday evening service and the work with refugees.

Please pray that many will tune in, hear the Good News and respond.

Tomorrow I have cataract surgery & in another month the same on the other eye. For obvious reasons I am hoping I don't have any complications with my eyesight.

I recently recorded Al Watson from Walk Thru the Bible. Al went through the Old Testament and the New Testament, and the videos of these talks are available from the Australian website:

[www.walkthru.org.au](http://www.walkthru.org.au)

**Gary & Joanne Akehurst**  
**PO Box 1100**  
**FIVE DOCK NSW 2046**  
**20 March 2018**

Dear email prayers,

This newsletter has arrived a little late as we have been away to Brisbane for Tim and Wai Wai's engagement party, followed by a week at Cabarita Beach, mainly swimming and relaxing. It was such a blessing to be at the party, seeing another step Tim has taken with a lovely young Christian lady and also to meet their church family, Student Life University friends, Wai Wai's extended

family and re-meet assembly friends. We also visited QMBC, Bethany Hall and Wollongbar Christian Church.

Wai Wai would appreciate prayers for her thyroid issues. She has been really blessed with support and is looking forward to seeing a GP soon to get on track.

Joanne has just been for her umpteenth blood test, but she is still on the same tablet chemotherapy and is still quite well considering.

We were sad to see our good friend and co-worker, Barbara Feehely, move to Woonona, north of Wollongong. She has been digitising 16 cassettes a week for more than 7 years. Over that time she would have digitised more than 5,000 cassettes. Her work has been very much appreciated and we know the Lord will bless her for it.

Now we are hoping that someone else will volunteer to help us. We have been receiving a lot more orders for DVDs and CDs, which is wonderful, but it is all more work. The work isn't difficult and there are a few different jobs that volunteers could do, so if you are interested in helping, or you know someone who may be interested, please contact us.

We have picked up the 1,000 or so cassettes that came from Adelaide and are starting to digitise them.

Many recordings (some audio, some video) have been added to PromiseBoxAudio.com since the last newsletter. We have had an incredible increase in orders over the past 3 months, from 33 in October- November 2017 to 94 in the last 3 months.

May the Lord bless and keep you all.

Gary & Joanne



# The Christian Brethren Archive

by Jessica Smith, Archivist

In the 1820s a group of like-minded Christians in Dublin became frustrated with the established churches, and decided to begin anew. A leading figure in these meetings, clergyman John Nelson Darby, took the fundamental principles of these early meetings and founded a new gathering in Plymouth in 1831. In 1848, the Brethren movement divided into the Exclusive Brethren, who followed Darby, and the Open Brethren, who preferred to retain their congregational autonomy.

The Brethren have a long history of evangelism and missionary work, and Brethren assemblies have been established in over 100 countries. Today, the Open Brethren have an estimated 2 million members worldwide, and the Exclusive Brethren number 46,000.

The Christian Brethren Archive was established in 1979, in Manchester (U.K.), and is now the world's largest



*Part of the Christian Brethren Archive*

archive relating to the Brethren. The collection consists of four parts.

## **Printed Material:**

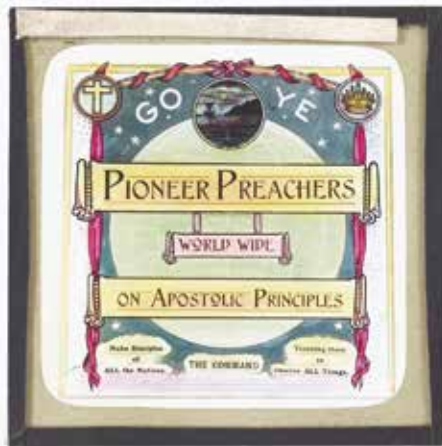
There are just over 17,000 books, pamphlets and tracts, some purchased, and donated by Christian Brethren organisations and individuals. It is one of the most comprehensive collections of printed material produced by and about the Brethren.

➤14



*Part of the Main Library at the University of Manchester*





*Two of many items in the Archive*

### **Periodicals:**

There are over 300 periodicals and journals, dating from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present, a number of which are still active, and accrue new issues on a regular basis. There are many periodicals relating to Brethren mission work.

### **Archival Material:**

This includes records of Brethren assemblies and organisations, and of individuals of significance. There is unique material relating to the formation and early days of the movement. There is also a large collection of correspondence with Brethren mission workers around the world, and visual materials, including photographs, lantern slides and paintings.

### **Digitised Material:**

The collection's digitised material includes the correspondence and scrapbook of John Nelson Darby, the Fry manuscripts, the journals of Dan Crawford and E.H. Broadbent, and a collection of lantern slides relating to mission work. All are available to view via our website.

### **The Brethren in Australia:**

The Christian Brethren Archive contains several publications on the history of the Brethren in Australia, and notes meetings and ministry around the country. The periodicals include reports of Australian mission work, and there is also correspondence relating to the work of the Brethren in Australia.

All readers are welcome to visit the Christian Brethren Archive to consult the material that we hold.

For more information please visit our webpages:

[www.library.manchester.ac.uk/search-resources/special-collections/guide-to-special-collections/christian-brethren-collections/](http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/search-resources/special-collections/guide-to-special-collections/christian-brethren-collections/)

To contact the Archivist, email:  
[Jessica.Smith@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Jessica.Smith@manchester.ac.uk)

There's another particularly beautiful library which is part of Manchester University – the John Rylands Library. It's well worth having a look at the pictures of it online!



# Young Adults: are our church leaders, doing right by them?

by Sean Nolan

Data shows that young people tend to leave the Church in their late teen years. Keeping them in our congregations at this time in their lives can be a real challenge – a challenge that we need to embrace because young adults are the ‘engine room’ of the church, but how do we do this?

So often doctrine is the basis of the discipleship process that we undertake in our churches. This can be a positive thing as good Bible teaching is an essential element to any local church or Christian organisation. However, when we look at the life of Jesus and the discipleship journey that He took His disciples on, we see a remarkable thing. Jesus was all about relationship and He gave doctrinal teaching in the context of relationship. Firstly, Jesus wove the truths that He wanted to convey into the everyday realities of His life with His disciples and He used simple (as opposed to simplistic) examples from their lives to teach and instruct. Secondly, Jesus allowed them to lead.

It has been said before that: no one, ever, would launch and build a locally impacting, as well as internationally reaching, ministry and then just leave it in the hands of their apprentices after three years, but Jesus did exactly this.

Jesus built and discipled through relationship and then left His ministry in the hands of those He had sowed into. I find this very challenging and it has some real implications for us, I would suggest that Jesus’ life and way of ministry challenges us to

make relationship our primary form of discipleship, it also challenges us to step back and allow those who are younger to succeed (if need be by trial and error). Doing what Jesus did and journeying with people, allowing them into our very lives, homes and families is intimate. It costs us something, but it is so richly rewarding for them and for us.

When it comes to young people who are struggling to be ‘regular in church’, can I kindly encourage us all (myself included) to not give them doctrinal realities, but rather to reach out through relationship: a coffee, a house repair, oil change, baking session etc. Let’s do discipleship as the Master did, allowing people into our worlds and trusting God to build the relational collateral and then to, in key moments, steer their life into the light.

Acts 2: 46-47

*“Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with a joyful and humble attitude, praising God and having favour with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved.”*

1 Corinthians 16: 6-7

*“and perhaps I will remain with you or even spend the winter, so that you may send me on my way wherever I go. I don’t want to see you now just in passing, for I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord allows.”*



# Help Young People to get involved

by Sean Nolan

Purpose Driven Youth Ministry. This was the title of an international best-selling book by Ps Rick Warren a few years ago. This book posited the idea that purpose drives the healthy Church forward. The emerging generations are very much moving away from traditionalism – ‘I go to Church because my family did’. They are looking for a purpose, a cause.

It is important to footnote that the Gospel is much more than a cause, it is the redemptive message of God for all humanity. That said, presenting missional work in the context of a cause can be very beneficial, especially when dealing with the younger generations.

Recently a number of movements have arisen out of various causes: ‘Me Too’, ‘March for our Lives’ are examples of fast moving movements that arose around social causes. Young Christians should be encouraged to rally around the ‘cause’ of the Gospel, the message of help for the hopeless, love for the unloved and ultimately reconciliation with God through Christ, via us.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 to 20a, the apostle Paul says the following:


*“All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.”*

Notice the phrases: “and gave us the ministry of reconciliation” and “God making his appeal through us”.

Living and sharing the message of Christ is the mission of the Church and a worthy ‘cause’ for young Christians to give their lives to.

Can I encourage us to think through making this the purpose that drives our Churches and the primary ‘cause’ that we put in-front of our youth, as opposed to ‘accidentally’ asking them to adhere to various traditions or liturgical methods. I love the saying: marry your mission and date your methods. I believe that any youth or young adult group that has a missional purpose at its centre it going to be effective and “bear much fruit”.

The ‘cause’ of the Gospel is best thought of as something that is part of our very selves: we want to avoid the idea that our purpose exists in a program, that mission is something done through an outreach initiative each week.

**Mission is something that we are; it is to be interwoven into our daily realities and become as seamless and natural as breathing.** 

**Please submit any news items, letters, adverts or short articles for the June 2018 magazine on, or before, 11<sup>th</sup> May.**

*Rev Samuel Ashe, an 18th century English clergyman, clearly saw the need for interaction between church and sport. He used to spend his Sunday afternoons hiding in the trees by the local sports field. He would bide his time until the football came near him - then he would catch the ball and pierce it with a pin. He could then go home pleased to have stopped his parishioners from sinning! <sup>1</sup>*

*Hopefully, this article (written in 2014) identifies more constructive ways of engaging with the world of sport!*

No reasonable person can deny the importance of sport in the modern world:–

- The FIFA Football World Cup takes place in Brazil in June-July this year 2014.

- The 2010 World Cup was shown on TV in every single country and territory on earth, with 3.2 billion people around the world, or 46.4% of the global population, watching at least part of it.<sup>2</sup>

## **Theological catch-up**

Christian ministry to sport largely began in the 1950s but has grown exponentially to the point where there are currently over 50 ministries with a specific engagement with sport in the UK alone. Some form of Christian ministry to sport exists in 180 countries of the world. However, the growth has been spontaneous and often uncoordinated. This process has had certain consequences, for example, in terms of theology.

Jim Mathisen, from Wheaton College, has written, 'The fact that the current [sports ministry] movement still operates in the absence of any clearly articulated theology of sport is troubling . . . no theology or hermeneutics

is broadly shared within the movement'<sup>3</sup> While Mathisen's comment remains true in the sense that sports ministry still operates from no generally accepted common theological foundation, more and more material on sport and Christianity is being published at an academically respectable level.<sup>4</sup>

## **Broad scope**

Sports ministry broadly falls into two categories: ministry *to* sport and ministry *through* sport.

- **Ministry to sport** means serving sport in the name of Jesus; sports chaplaincy<sup>5</sup> is a good example of this. The term 'serving the people of sport' is also used. This is helping the (often) elite sportsperson to practise their sport Christianly as well as bringing church to them when competition stops them getting to a local Sunday service.

- **Ministry through sport** is seeing sport as an evangelistic opportunity. This might involve running sports events with an evangelistic purpose, starting a church sports team to draw in outsiders, operating a fitness centre for the community as part of the church's programme, or distributing leaflets or video material with a gospel message >18

in the language of sport, often using the testimony of high-profile Christian athletes.

Sports ministry works at all levels and age groups. The following vision statement of one UK ministry summarizes well the task that the majority of Christian sports ministry organizations are engaged in:

- **Christians** *everywhere* living out their faith in sports clubs and teams.
- **Churches** *everywhere* engaging with their local sports communities.
- **Sports people** *everywhere* having the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.<sup>6</sup>

### Major event ministry

In recent years, Christians have seen the potential of a major event in their country or city as an opportunity for service and witness. This type of ministry began in the 1990s and has grown significantly over the years, particularly at the Olympics and football World Cups:

- A £2 million campaign around the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics involved over 2,000 volunteers from 40 countries serving on mission teams, the production and sale of 500,000 Christian resources and the distribution of half a million free bottles of water.

- The athlete family home-stay programme hosted 280 guests from 20 nations for 2,000 nights of free accommodation.

- Church-organized events attracted over 500,000 people.<sup>7</sup>

Major event ministry has often been

very effective but can sometimes lead to problems with the event's organizing committee. They may feel that a particular Christian publication conflicts with official publications or could mislead the public into believing that there is an official relationship between the publisher and the organising committee.

A ministry report on a recent major sports event referred to a plan to distribute over 500,000 pieces of spiritual literature with testimonies of faith at three community fan zones in the city. While one may rejoice at this evangelistic enterprise, one might also question how the city authorities view the task of picking up the discarded leaflets and whether the reputation of the Christian community has been enhanced by this exercise—or the reverse.

One may also ask how the organizers of a Christian conference would feel if a commercial or political organization were to leaflet delegates to their event. The potential longer-term effects of a major event evangelistic bombardment and the effectiveness of, say, handing out 'tracts' to people who are just wanting to have a fun day out at a sporting event, need to be considered.

### Sports chaplaincy

The chaplaincy programme at the London Olympics was arguably the most comprehensive ever conducted at an Olympic Games, with 162 chaplains accredited in three separate categories to serve the athletes and others in the Olympic Village, the workforce and volunteers and the media. This was ➤



an excellent example of servant-hearted Christians working with the Olympic organizing committee to add value to the event.

The chaplaincy opportunity was created by the foresight of the Bishop of Barking who had created the post of 'Church of England Olympics Executive Coordinator' five years previously. The person appointed, Duncan Green, describes his journey of service to the organizing committee in a forthcoming book.<sup>8</sup>

### **Sports outreach**

At the grassroots level, some Christian-based sports outreach projects are being recognised by secular sporting networks as valid forms of engagement through sport to tackle problems in society. A good example is the Ambassadors Fathers' Football project, which won the Beyond London 2012 Innovation award for reaching out to support poor, marginalised immigrant fathers in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.<sup>9</sup>

When the Africa Cup of Nations was held in Egypt in 2006, the organizing committee was short of volunteers. The Christian community rallied round and recruited the required help. A Christian leader was given the role of Head of Volunteers and a place on the organizing committee.

He said afterwards, 'It was an incredible opportunity that God gave to the sports ministry in Egypt, to be at the heart of such a big sports event. Ninety percent of the people I was working with—volunteers, organizing commit-

tee, government—were not Christians. But all of them knew I was from a Christian church. I believe this is real sports ministry—not just working in the church but taking the church outside'.

The London 2012 and Egypt 2006 experiences show how an attitude of servant-hearted support for the organizing committee of a major sports event is often appreciated and can build bridges between the Christian community and the sports administrators.

### **Disability sport**

At the 1992 Paralympics, admission was free. The organizing committee did not think that anyone would pay to watch disability sport. In 2012 in London the Paralympics were virtually sold out for every event. The quality and the profile of disability sport have increased dramatically over the past few years. However, the Christian community has largely ignored disability sport. In the UK perhaps 2 of the 50 sports ministries explicitly include disability sport within their programme of activities.

If the theological reflection on sport has been sparse, the Christian thinking about disability sport has been almost nonexistent. The publication of a book later this year will represent a welcome contribution to the field.<sup>10</sup>

### **Prophetic engagement**

Christians have been criticized for failing to have any prophetic engagement with sport. Tom Krattenmaker,<sup>11</sup> for example, has lamented the lack of interest in issues like racism, exploitation of women, financial corruption, >20

or excessive violence in sport. When the 2014 Winter Olympics in Russia brought Russia's anti-gay legislation into world spotlight, there seemed to be silence from the Christian sports ministry community.

### Theological implications

The increased application of theological reflection to sport is to be welcomed. However, it must be recognized that the process has only just begun:

- Ministry underpinned by a sound theological base will be stronger and hopefully more effective.
- Greater theological understanding will help Christians to interact positively with sports' governing bodies and to serve them rather than appearing simply to want to use the sports event for their own purposes.
- It will also help Christians address and give leadership in relation to the ethical issues which pervade sport.
- Ministry which respects the integrity of sport without compromising the integrity of the gospel is likely to reap long-term fruit.

### Lessons and suggested responses

The 'incarnational' model emphasis of sports ministry, where Christians enter the world of sportspeople, reflects the Pauline emphasis in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 with a playing, participating, and supporting level of involvement that requires a huge commitment in terms of time, vulnerability, and intentionality in relationships. This is a lesson for other spheres of evangelism that can sometimes emphasise a programme/event/'come to us' approach.

Being open to supporting an incarnational approach in evangelism, and in envisioning, equipping, and supporting any sportspeople in the congregation to be the church's evangelists to their sports friends and local sports club, can be an effective strategy to help the church engage with its local sports community. Supporting Christian parents of sporty children as they engage with others around their child's sport, through alternative church meetings and visiting children at their sports activities, for example, is also essential.

Another lesson applicable to other spheres of evangelism is that the serving emphasis within sports evangelism can break down many barriers and open up doors for other evangelism opportunities. Such an approach may not yield short-term results but the long-term favour that emerges (eg through sports chaplaincy) can lead to real growth of influence for the gospel.

Churches should also be open to serve in the community through sport, for example in providing volunteers, coaches, pastoral care, or a meeting place for a local sports club, school, or college. There should also be a conscious decision to value and prioritise disability sport more that has happened up to this point.

Seeing sport as a gift from God, valuing it, and seeking to engage with sport as those who care about it, must represent a fundamental part of how Christians see the world of sport in future. Let us get involved in the world of sport and win it for Christ! ➤

### End Notes:

- 1 Richard Holt, *Sport and the British* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), p 39
- 2 [www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com)
- 3 Jim Mathisen, *A Brief History of Christianity and Sport in Deardorff II, Donald, and John White (eds), The Image of God in the Human Body* (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen, 2008), p 34.
- 4 For a list of the main books, see <http://www.veritesport.org/index.php?page=topten>.
- 5 For more details of sports chaplaincy, see Andrew Parker, Nick Watson, and John White, *Sports Chaplaincy: Trends, Issues and Debates* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2014). Published in late 2014.
- 6 [www.christiansinsport.org.uk](http://www.christiansinsport.org.uk)
- 7 *More than Gold*, London 2012 report.
- 8 Duncan Green, 'Sports Chaplaincy at the Olympics and Paralympics: Reflections on London 2012' in Andrew Parker, Nick Watson, and John White, *Sports Chaplaincy:*

*Trends, Issues and Debates* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2014). Published in late 2014.

9 <http://www.beyondsport.org/the-awards/entries/view.php?Id=2226> and <https://witness.theguardian.com/assignment/51d59f4fe4b07c36b3600238/433744>.

10 Andrew Parker and Nick Watson (eds), *Sports, Religion and Disability* (London: Routledge, 2014).

11 Tom Krattenmaker, *Onward Christian Athletes (Turning Ballparks into Pulpits and Players into Preachers)* (Lanham: Rowan & Littlefield, 2009).

**The author, J Stuart Weir**, is Executive Director of Verité Sport ([www.veritesport.org](http://www.veritesport.org)), a Christian Mission to the world of sport. He has worked at the Olympics, Paralympics, Commonwealth Games, Football World Cups, and a host of athletics events. He supports Christians in elite sport and has written extensively on sport and Christianity. □

# Long Term Mission

## WEST PENNANT HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH MISSIONS CONFERENCE

SUNDAY 20 MAY 2018

3:30PM - 7:30PM

DINNER INCLUDED

WPHCC.COM

SPEAKERS INCLUDE  
PAUL & LINDA  
TIM & ANNA  
BEN

# You can't always judge a book by its cover

by M. Winrow

## 41 Will Come by Chuck E. Tate - a book review.

Last time I wrote a book review (When I Lay my Isaac Down), I read the book mainly because the title appealed to me, because I have a grandson called Isaac and he has Asperger's syndrome.

This time however I read the book because I wondered why someone would write a book with the title '41 Will Come'. It has a really boring cover (black), and to look at has nothing that appealed to me. However I was a little intrigued because as I unpacked a large pallet of books for CLO's Prison Ministry work, more and more of these books appeared. As we were stacking the shelves with the books, I thought that perhaps it was time I read the back cover – and this is what it said – "God is with you. Your story is not over. You are not defeated. In the Bible, it rained for 40 days and 40 nights. But day 41 came, and the rain stopped. The people of Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Then year 41 came, and a new generation entered the Promised Land. For 40 days, Goliath bullied Israel and dared anyone to fight him. Day 41 came, and David slew the giant.

"Do you see the theme? Don't quit. Don't give up. God will come through for you. Perhaps you're stuck in a downpour or lost in one of life's deserts. Maybe you're facing someone or something that could 'take you down'. No matter where you are on your journey, your 41 will come – it's on its way."


I found this book inspiring and motivating. I think the author does a



great job illustrating the importance of standing steadfast in faith while awaiting God's promises. **41 Will Come** is a practical book that will encourage and inspire your faith. The author does a masterful job of casting a biblical vision of hope that resonates with the soul. He weaves biblical truth with practical examples and sometimes uses humour. This book will make you laugh and make you think, as it enriches your faith in the goodness of God.

For all of us who have ever doubted God, faced discouragement, or wondered whether we would survive overwhelming hardships, (and I think that would probably encompass all of us at some time or other), then you really should read this book. It will encourage you to hold on, and to believe that God is always on-time and that His plan will be worked out in your life.

I so enjoyed reading this book,...and I think you will too. **41 Will Come!**

It's available from Koorong Bookshops as a Paperback, eBook, audio book, or on a CD. 

# What our teenagers need most

by Jacob Mitchell, Youth Worker  
CCCAust (NSW)

## Now isn't an easy time to be both a teenager and a Christian!

Sure, in some ways it's never been an easy time to be a teenager and a Christian! The gods of approval, of pleasure, and of an autonomous lifestyle have often grown more appealing in the teenage years. For many generations youth have had to weigh up whether Jesus is really worth it.

But it's no overstatement to say that the present generation of youth are growing up in a range of hindrances that no previous generations have had to overcome.

Australian culture has moved over the last two decades from being relatively irreligious yet tolerant of religion to being religiously intolerant of tradition religions. Youth are no longer told that they are free to believe whatever they want as they were in postmodernity, but are now told what they must and must not believe. It is now considered immoral by our culture to believe in Jesus of Nazareth and to adopt His views on life, community and sexuality.

Technological advancements have put pornography into the hands of every child in the form of a smartphone. Whereas previous generations had to sneak and steal to get their hands on a dirty magazine, almost all teenage boys are now exposed to pornography between the ages of 9 and 13.

Genuine friendship and community, once provided in the church, now has to compete with artificial online community. Youth group games of dodgeball cannot hope to compete



with the dopamine rush that teenage boys get from a night of playing high intensity video games online.

Teenage girls on Instagram and Snapchat are consuming more images than ever before which portray unrealistic standards of beauty. Tragically, at a younger and younger age, they are urged to view themselves as sexual objects.

Teachers at most high schools, once upon a time, were relatively silent on issues of faith and morality. Now they are vocally opposed to the Christian worldview and teenagers are made to feel foolish for believing the claims of the Bible.

Our youth need help! They are in a perilous situation.

When Jesus looks out at the crowds in Matthew 9 we are told that "He had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." (Matt 9: 36). This word rendered 'compassion' in English - literally carries the meaning of a twisting of the spleen! It is not a light compassion - Jesus' gut is wrenched at the state of the lost crowds.

So too should ours be by the state of our youth. They are like sheep - vulnerable to these many attacks; so often with nobody to lead or protect them. ➤24



## What our teenagers need most (cont'd from p 23)

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Jesus urges His disciples to “pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.”

So then we ought to be praying for workers to rise up to care for this generation of Australian youth.

Our youth need leaders.

Leaders to give them care and guidance in how to stand firm in the way of Jesus in an extremely difficult time.

Leaders to engage with them on their level and not to shy away from dealing with the difficult issues that they are facing. Our young people need leaders who love them enough to share the

gospel with them in a way that paints a picture of Jesus that is more compelling than any alternative worldview that the world tries to sell them.

Our teenagers need this more than games, or activities, or trendy music.

Please be praying for leaders to be raised up across the CCCAust network to lead our teenagers.

Please get in touch with me if you would like to chat about how we can best support the youth and leaders in your church.

Jacob Mitchell  
(jacob@cccaustnsw.com)



## CCCAust (NSW) Youth Strategy

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At the Coordinating Conference in February this year, Jacob Mitchell shared the outcome of his study into our Churches' Youth groups which showed conclusively that we are losing kids from our youth system as they get older (12 to 18 years).

CCCAust has appointed Jacob to work with Church Youth Leaders to try and stop this loss of young people from our churches. As a result of the study the following four personal Goals have been set by Jacob to try and rectify the current trend.

- Mentor 4 youth leaders in 2018;
- Arranging training for individual youth groups – targeting specific needs to help that youth team;

- Provide two general training days for all youth leaders to help them improve their youth skills;
- Prepare written articles to encourage youth through the monthly Prayer and Fasting emails and to encourage church leadership to empower their youth within the church.

If you would like help with your specific church youth situation, please contact Jacob to have a discussion.

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# Hearts for the **HARVEST**

WOMEN'S MISSION CONVENTION 2018

**SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2018**

**TIME: 10AM - 3PM**

**VENUE: Campbelltown Christian Community Church**  
18 Alderney St, Minto



"Do all the good you can, By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can, In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can, To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can."

— John Wesley

# How to Answer: “Science proves that God is not real. How can you say he is?”

by John North, AFCI Australia

The rise of science has led many to believe that Christian views are outdated and ignorant. For this reason, you need to know how to respond to people who say that science proves that God isn't real.

When the Dark Ages gave way to the Enlightenment in the late 1600s, the Western world was changed. So many things that had seemed mysterious and magical/spiritual could now be explained by science. Although none of the claims of *Scripture* were set aside by science, many of the beliefs of *Christians* were. This led great segments of society (particularly those 'enlightened' by education) to the conclusion that through science all spiritual explanations of life would eventually be set aside. For centuries, humanists expected that any reference to spiritual realities would die away as science progressed. They predicted that the Bible itself would be discarded and forgotten.

How wrong they were. As westerners have been exposed more to eastern and animistic cultures, they have encountered and personally had spiritual experiences. In our day, the existence of spiritual powers and beings is accepted. Yet the view still persists that science rules out God.


When you encounter someone with this view, point out that our experience of the universe is so tiny that it is impossible to rule out the existence of God. All a person can say is, "I personally have not yet experienced God."

Let the person know that while they may not have experienced God, you have! Share your story with them. Talk about answered prayer and what God is doing in your inner life.

Talk about the evidence of millions of people around the world who have had their lives totally transformed by Jesus.

Point out that many of the greatest scientists in the world today are firm believers in God and, in fact, see God as the only explanation for the realities in their fields of science! A quick search on the internet will show you many of the stories of these scientists. Forward some links of these scientists' testimonies to the person you are talking to.

As you discuss God with people, be sure to remember that your goal is not to win an argument, but to help this person open their heart to God. If you see that the person's heart is hard and not open at all to you or your discussion, then stop pursuing the topic.

When you find someone whose heart is open and seeking, then spend a lot of time with that person and look for ways to remind them that it is not just about discussing things to a conclusion, but there is a living person named Jesus Christ who is reaching out to them and waiting for them to trust him. 

**Please submit any news-items, letters, adverts or short articles for the June 2018 magazine on, or before, 11<sup>th</sup> May.**

# The 'Awake Sydney' Prayer Summit

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This article comprises major portions of the Summit's official report.

Prayer Summit key scripture (John 3:17):

*"For God did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."*

## Preamble

The Awake Sydney Prayer Summit was held at the Salvation Army National Headquarters in Redfern on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, for a day of prayer and connection. The Youth Directors of Sydney's largest Protestant denominations, who in-turn represent thousands of local churches, gathered together with a delegation of key leaders from their respective movements to ask God to move with power in our city.

The gathering was formed around a Vision Document that was jointly created. The central idea of this document and the gathering is as follows: "To understand on a citywide scale, the true heart and message of both Jesus Christ and His followers. A 'reformation' within our city of what Christianity actually is, namely: a force of love and not hate, an institution that protects and does not harm, that is essential to daily life and spirituality, rather than being irrelevant."

## The Gathering

The keynote address was given by Rev Dr John Dickson from the Centre for Public Christianity. He spoke from Matthew's Gospel about conviction and compassion, these two working together as a framework for cultural engagement. Dr Dixon climaxed by presenting prayer as the most essential element of evangelism. Ps. Sean Nolan, who convened the gathering, spoke from 2 Corinthians 5 and Luke

1 about how we are called to be ambassadors of the reconciliation that God brought about through Christ. That representing the name (identity) of Jesus and all it encompasses is our primary task.

There was a brief panel MC'd by Jeanette Nolan with Dr John Dickson, Mark McCrindle and the Honourable Paul Green MLC.

The NSW Premier, the Honourable Gladys Berejiklian was welcomed to the Summit. Jeanette Nolan and Rev Steve Dixon prayed for her personally and her Government. The Premier addressed the Summit, sharing about her personal faith as a Christian.

Ps Nolan then presented the Premier with a Bible that had been signed by the leaders present, including all the denominations' Youth Directors.

Ps Nolan shared the desire of the Church to support her and to, in line with Biblical teaching, honour her and her government as God's appointed leaders. The Premier was thankful and moved. Importantly, nothing was asked of the Premier, she was prayed for, honoured and encouraged.

The Summit climaxed with the head Youth Directors of nine major denominations kneeling in prayer, jointly asking God to move afresh and anew in our City, State and Nation. The devotional booklets were handed out (see below), including one to the Premier, and copies for her cabinet. ➤28

## The 'Awake Sydney' Prayer Summit (cont'd from p 27)

### Forward vision

After the main Summit, a private meeting was held between the nine Youth Directors. The following points were recorded:-

1. The group agreed, strongly, that this had been a monumental day of prayer, influence, unity and networking.

2. The group agreed to meet every six months to pray together, hosted on rotation. Rev Craig Roberts offered Anglican Youth Works to host the next gathering. To be assessed yearly.

3. The group agreed to organically support each other through resource sharing.

4. The group agreed to centre prayer around organic growth through existing denominational youth infrastructure.

Additionally, there was mention of the Franklin Graham outreach in early 2019 and that a number of the Youth Directors would be willing to partner together to support this event. This was seen somewhat as an answer to prayer, and also seen as an evangelistic

opportunity that could utilise this key Youth network.

The combined Youth Directors would like to thank the Salvation Army for hosting the gathering, as well as the Bible Society for preparing and printing the devotional booklets, Inspiring Hope for managing the operations, administration and event management, and the Hon. Paul Green MLC for arranging the visit of the NSW Premier.

### Leaders were in attendance from:

CCCAust(NSW), Baptist Union, Churches of Christ, Salvation Army, Adventists, Australian Christian Churches, Hillsong Church, Presbyterian, Anglican, McCrindle Research, Bible Society, and the Centre for Public Christianity.

Others committed to the vision but unable to attend were Hope 103.2, C3 and the Uniting Church.

A booklet of devotionals from 13 of the leaders was published.

This was generously paid for by the Bible Society and is also available via the Bible App. (<http://bible.com/r/2vM>)







Here are some more items on the Internet and World Wide Web which readers may find interesting or helpful, and worth a visit via their own computer, smart-phone or other device.

Please Note: to make it easier to visit these websites they have been included as 'hot-links' in the PDF version of this magazine. They are also included as 'hot-links' on the NSW Christian Brethren website at this web-page:-

[www.cb-nsw.org.au/useful-links/Links-AO.html](http://www.cb-nsw.org.au/useful-links/Links-AO.html)

\* \* \*

We have mentioned the **PSSM Mailbox Club** in this magazine before (also see advert on page 2) – well, it is now partnered with BES:-

[www.besweb.com](http://www.besweb.com)

“Welcome to the Bible Educational Services website!

“We produce a range of free to download Bible lessons and courses for children and young people, with the aim of teaching “the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders He has done.” (Psalm 78:4)

“By linking up with partner organisations our aim is to make this resource available to as many people as possible, free of charge, and in their native language.

“For more information please watch this video.” (Access the video via the website’s home page.)

\* \* \*

“Reaching people with dementia;” is a new suite of resources, produced by HammondCare, called “**Faith for Life**” and can be accessed on webpage:-

[www.faithforlife.com.au](http://www.faithforlife.com.au)

which is part of the HammondCare website. There it says:

“Faith for life: Biblical resources for people with dementia is a suite of products designed specifically to be accessible for people living with dementia and those who support them. Dementia design principles have been used to ensure Faith for life is a beautiful and enabling set of faith resources.

“Each product has been developed with the direct involvement of people with dementia and those who support them, alongside advice from the Dementia Centre and Bible Society Australia.”

\* \* \*

### INTERNATIONAL BROTHERS CONFERENCES ON MISSION

[www.ibcm.net](http://www.ibcm.net)

The International Brethren Conference on Mission (IBCM) brings together every four years national leaders and others who work within the Brethren movement across the world. The aims are biblical reflection, mutual encouragement and insight, fellowship, strategic thinking, and, we pray, renewed guidance from the Lord.

The seventh Conference (**IBCM7**) is (DV) to be held at the Hotel Selene, Pomezia, near Rome from Monday 24 June to Friday 28 June 2019.

➤30

The conference will be followed on Friday afternoon 28 June to Saturday afternoon 29 June by extra sessions organised by the Brethren Training Network. (Note: these additional sessions will be at extra cost to those who choose to stay on to participate in them.)

The main speaker will be John Lennox, and more information about the Conference can be found in the coming months at:-

<http://www.ibcm.net/ibcm7.htm>

“In response to the Great Commission, the Brethren movement has been remarkable in its missionary work for Christ in the past 180 years. As a result, there are local churches connected with the movement in at least 155 countries in the world, and assemblies are being planted in new countries even today.

“There are 25,000-30,000 congregations worldwide, with more than 2 million people worshipping together Sunday by Sunday, and thousands of additional preaching points, many of which will blossom into new congregations. In many countries, there is much vision and dynamism for Christ from which we can all learn. So it’s good for national leaders and other workers from different countries to meet regularly for fellowship, prayer, biblical reflection, renewed experience of the Lord, networking, exchange of information, and discussion of common questions – above all for mutual encouragement in the work to which God has called us.

“We have much to learn from one another, and the six global IBCM conferences so far have spawned new work and co-operation in many countries and between countries. There are now also flourishing regional conferences associated with IBCM, as well as the consultations and work of Brethren Training Network, and we rejoice in these.

“So we do hope that you will be able to join us in Rome in June 2019. Up to 800 participants can be accommodated, and we hope for 120 countries to be represented.”

\* \* \*

Christian Radio Missionary Fellowship (CRMF PNG) has sent us a copy of its annual “Contact” magazine giving highlights of their work in PNG.

It also contains brief information on each member of staff, and introduces their fresh CRMF website:

[www.crmf.org.pg](http://www.crmf.org.pg)

Comments about the website are requested – to help improve it.

The website mentions a fascinating gadget called **WiFiBible**. Read all about it and its impact in PNG at:-

[www.wifibible.org](http://www.wifibible.org)



**Please submit any news items, letters, adverts or short articles for the June 2018 magazine on, or before, 11<sup>th</sup> May.**

# **NSW ASSEMBLIES' EVANGELISTIC MISSION (NSWAEM)**

ABN 81 001 037 690

## **AEM OFFICE & CHRISTIAN OUTREACH BOOK SERVICE**

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## **AIMS**

- To support the expansion of evangelism and church growth, primarily among Christian Brethren Assemblies.
- To offer opportunities in this *Assemblies Outreach* Magazine for Commended Workers, Assemblies, Para-Assembly Activities and other kindred bodies, to publicise and explain their ministries.
- To generate funds, through the Christian Outreach Book Service and other means, toward the support of NSW Commended Workers.
- To provide appropriate teaching for Christians.

Further information about the Mission can be obtained from its website at:-  
[www.nswaem.org.au](http://www.nswaem.org.au)

## **A TRADITION OF CHRISTIAN CARE & CONCERN**



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*Richard and Deborah Spiteri, proprietors*

## Christian Brethren Community Services

Providing communities of continual Christian care  
Residential and specialist care provided to the aged, frail aged and those living with dementia.



Elouera Gardens



Cherrybrook Christian Care Centre



Glenhaven Gardens



Carinya House



Lynden Grove



Groves House

### **Elouera Gardens Christian Retirement Village, Cherrybrook NSW**

Elouera Gardens comprises 75 independent living units with 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units, surrounded by pleasant gardens. It offers a wide variety of styles and sizes of units and a supportive Christian community.

### **Cherrybrook Christian Care Centre, Cherrybrook NSW**

Set in well established gardens, and with an enviable reputation for delivering a high standard of care, the 120 bed Cherrybrook Christian Care Centre provides high and low level care and special support for people living with dementia.

### **Glenhaven Gardens Retirement Village, Glenhaven, NSW**

Glenhaven Gardens offers modern and spacious 2 and 3 bedroom villas. The village comprises 24 air-conditioned and private units, with either a garage or carport. All units are wheelchair accessible for those who need a little extra room to help with their mobility.

### **Carinya House, Glenhaven NSW**

Carinya House is a 60 bed care centre providing high and low-level care support in a setting where residents enjoy the tranquil bushland setting and partake in a very full and stimulating recreational program. It includes a secure dementia support area and also offers ageing-in-place.

### **Lynden Grove Retirement Village, Cardiff Heights, NSW**

Lynden Grove has 44 modern 2 and 3 bedroom villas. It has a semi-rural outlook with picturesque Mount Sugarloaf as a back drop. It is in a pleasant and quiet bushland setting, yet close to local shopping centres.

### **Groves House, Cardiff Heights NSW**

Set on a ridge with panoramic views to the mountains, Groves House is a 60 bed care centre providing high and low-level care, dementia care and ageing-in-place to the people of Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and the surrounding districts.

For more information about any of our services please don't hesitate to call our Client Services Team on 02 9842 4111.