



ASSEMBLIES
Outreach

August 2013



Kings Park Community Church

a summary of its history (see pages 23 to 26)

Also in this issue: Out & About in NSW Assemblies
Praying for NSW Assemblies
Blacktown Festival and Faith CC
Teaching in Burundi
Letters (... and more ...)

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

You are free to make use of the information in this publication and to reproduce it for your personal use or for the church you attend. Material must not be sold or republished for commercial purposes unless you obtain written permission first.

If material from this publication is used or quoted in any other publication (including web sites) due acknowledgment should be made. Please contact the Editor (refer p31) with any inquiries about reproducing this material.

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

Please submit your assembly news, people profiles, letters, etc, for the **October 2013 issue before:- 13th Sept 2013**

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 Home Workers are to be held responsible for every view that may be expressed.

Editorial & Production Team:

Mr C. Winrow, Mr G. Hayden,
Mrs. M. Winrow.

Subscription costs for 2013 are shown at:-
www.cb-nsw.org.au/aem/Mag/subs.html

Printed by Dominion Colanco Print Group.
PO Box 6999, Silverwater NSW 2128
Phone: 02 9648 2888



STEWARDS FOUNDATION

Consider "*Working Together*" with Stewards when your church has financial needs

Established to support the Christian Brethren Movement,
the Foundation:

- Provides loan finance for new projects, extensions, vehicles, office equipment etc
- Accepts funds on deposit at competitive interest rates
- Arranges Insurance
- Funds Christian Schools
- Acts as trustees of Church property
- Administers gifts, bequests, endowment funds
- Owns, operates and funds Christian Retirement Villages



*Assisting Christian Community Churches of Australia and related
Organisations, Brethren Missionaries and Brethren Workers
both practically and financially*

PO Box 230, South Hurstville NSW 2221

P: 02 9547 3110 F: 02 9547 3116

M: 0419 747 227

admin@stewardsfoundation.com.au

www.stewardsfoundation.com.au

Dear Readers,

Once again, I trust you all will enjoy the content of this new issue of the NSW Assemblies Outreach magazine. Have you tried the PDF version which has been available for over 6 years now? You may find it more convenient in some circumstances. For example, if you are away from home for an extended period of travel.

As always, please feel free at any time to write or telephone me with your comments about the magazine, its content, or suggestions for future articles.

Since we last published, two people who have been deeply involved with the magazine's production in past years have gone home to be with the Lord in heaven. These are Mr Philip Kinmond and Mrs Norma Perrett.

Philip passed away on 6th June after a long period of poor health. He was 81 years of age and is survived by his wife Ruth and their children and grandchildren. Philip had been very involved with the NSWAEM and the Outreach Book Service since 1981, and he was the

Editor of this magazine from 1987 to 1991.

Philip's inventiveness was illustrated at Outreach, where he introduced computer typesetting and set up a darkroom to develop photographs. His attention to detail was also displayed in what he accomplished in this role.

The next Editor was Mr Peter Perrett who passed away in 2004. His wife, Norma Perrett was a great help to Peter in that work and his many roles in the NSW Assemblies. She continued to be active in the Lord's work until fairly recently when she suffered a mild stroke. A subsequent fall and hip operation led to her passing away on the evening of 21st July, aged 83.

Norma was farewelled by her family and friends, many from West Pennant Hills and St. Ives assemblies, at a Thanksgiving Service, held in the Magnolia Chapel, Macquarie Park Cemetery on 25th July. □



CONTENTS of this Issue:

'Out and About' in NSW.....	4	Emmaus - new premises	20
Prayer for NSW Assemblies	6	The Blacktown Festival & FCC.	22
'Blessed Assurance...' website	7	Kings Park CC - our history	23
'By the Lake' (John 21)	10	e-Letter	27
Teaching in Burundi.....	13	Internet Corner	29
News from Home Workers.....	16	NSW A.E.M. Information.....	31a
Evangelism at your door!.....	18	Adverts.....	31b, 32

'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 NSW Assemblies. Short items (even if only one sentence) are welcome and can be mailed to the Mission office at PO Box 640, Burwood, NSW 1805, or better still, e-mailed to:

outreach-mag@optusnet.com.au

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

webadmin@cb-nsw.org.au

* * *

Brad Scott emailed: "We had a great weekend at the SIU Conference (on 14,15 June at Camp Toukley) and were greatly encouraged by the messages shared by Al Stewart, Paul Strahan and Derek Torrance.

"These messages have been uploaded onto the new CCCAust(NSW) Inc website, so if you have a chance, please visit it and download a copy of the messages to catch up on what was shared at the conference.

www.cccaustnsw.com/conferences

"If you right click on the files, you'll be able to download them to your computer or smart-phone to hear at your own convenience."

* * *

An insert in the latest *Spearhead* magazine, published by GLO Ministries,

advertises that the Smithton Training Centre in Tasmania is seeking staff for 2014. This GLO College of Ministries is now 'Fully Accredited' and is already receiving enquiries for local and international students for next year. In general, all staff at the College trust the Lord for their financial support. The positions vacant in 2014 include the College Principal, Training Supervisor, House Parents and Catering Staff.

If you are interested in being involved in that ministry please phone Keith Cruickshank (03 6452 1061) or email:-

keith@gloministries.org.au

* * *

The Christian Outreach Book Service (OBS), in the rear section of Burwood Gospel Chapel, has a good range of Greetings Cards in stock – each includes a verse of Scripture, and most only cost \$1 each! There is a wide range of card types including birthdays, weddings, wedding anniversaries, births, baptisms, bereavement, get well, and encouragement.

Several assemblies in NSW have regularly bought in a stock of these cards and made them available for purchase. Card racks have also been placed in other places such as retirement villages, where the residents are grateful for the convenience of on-site purchase.

If you want more information contact Cynthia Riseham on 9715 5520, or write to PO Box 640, Burwood, NSW 1805. or email:-

aemcobs@bigpond.com

With the Lord

Raymond John Cooke went to be with the Lord on 23rd June, aged 85. He was a true shepherd of the Lord's people, a very humble man, and a peace-maker. Much of his adult life he spent in fellowship at Oatley Assembly. Ray was a capable Bible teacher, an elder in the assembly for many years, and a member of the Sydney Festival Male Voice Choir. His knowledge of hymns and hymn tunes was truly astonishing. He will be very sorely missed.

His funeral service was held at Oatley Gospel Chapel on 28th June 2013. Ray is survived by his wife, Coral, and his son and 3 daughters.

* * *

Meetings & Events

(note: for **the latest details** please be sure to check at:-

www.cb-nsw.org.au/events.html

2013:

- | | | | |
|---------|---|--------|--|
| 24 Aug | Women's Conference at St. Ives CC; 9am to 4pm. Topic is "God of Comfort". | 12 Oct | 'Awake to Israel' at Epping Gospel Chapel, 2.30pm. |
| 24 Aug | "Pathfinders" for the over 55s; at WPHCC; 7pm. | 14 Oct | Women's Mission Convention Coffee & Dessert Night ; starting at 7.30pm in Kings Park Community Church, Unit 1, 13 Turbo Road, Kings Park. Speakers: Tamara Filmer and Julie Loudon. |
| 14 Sept | 'Awake to Israel' at Epping Gospel Chapel, 2.30pm. | 15 Oct | Ditto but at Oatley Gospel Chapel, 20 River Road, Oatley. |
| 18 Sept | Prayer for Israel at Epping Gospel Chapel; 10am to 12. | 16 Oct | Prayer for Israel at Epping Gospel Chapel; 10am to 12. |
| 20 Sept | Spring Fashion Parade of Ladies Summer Clothes; Elouera Gardens Retirement Village, Cherrybrook, starting 10 am with morning tea, \$5pp entry. Ladies Auxiliary's Secretary 9872 4603. | 19 Oct | CBCS Annual Thanksgiving Service at Elouera Gardens, Cherrybrook. |
| | | 2 Nov | GLO Explo Day 2013 "Senders and Goers"; Riverstone Community Church, starting 9.30am. |
| | | 7 Nov | NSW Coordinating Conference ; 7.30pm; (venue TBA) |
| | | 9 Nov | Christmas Shopping Morning (with Cafe) Elouera Gardens Retirement Village; 9am to 12 noon. 9872 4603. |
| | | 9 Nov | 'Awake to Israel' at Epping Gospel Chapel, 2.30pm. |
| | | 13 Nov | Prayer for Israel at Epping Gospel Chapel; 10am to 12. |
| | | 16 Nov | "Gym Jam" Youth Event (in partnership with Word of Life) at Riverstone Community Church. □ |

Prayer & Praise Requests from NSW Assemblies

compiled by Brad Scott for July & August

General Prayer Points:

- ☆ Pray for our Church leaders that they will be open to the Spirit's leading as they lead our churches.
- ☆ Pray for wisdom for us as we look for church planting opportunities in NSW.
- ☆ Pray that our churches will have a passion to evangelise our communities.
- ☆ Praise God for 3 kids who committed their lives to Jesus at the July Camp at River Park, and please pray for those following them up.

Spanish Community Bible Church:

Pray for:

- ☆ Ruth who is going on a short term Mission trip to Peru, for safety and a motivated heart to reach out to unsaved souls.
- ☆ Spiritual Growth in the church, as there are new families attending, and that the church will be faithful in telling the good news.

Praise God for:

- ☆ the youth impact in the community which has been a great encouragement for the church.
- ☆ Protection against the attacks of Satan, as the church honours God's name in the community.

St Clair / Erskine Park Christian Church:

Pray for:

- ☆ We would value your prayers for a number of the assembly families who are experiencing some major relational struggles both in the work place and home.

Praise Points:

- ☆ Thank the Lord for the unity in the Assembly.
- ☆ Thank the Lord for the Assembly's willingness to serve the Lord as He leads.



St Ives Community Church:

Pray for:

- ☆ fruitful application of our current teaching from Acts where we have been learning about the 'Unstoppable Gospel' of Jesus Christ.
- ☆ a strong, faithful and enthusiastic start to the term for our various ministries – including SRE, playgroup, ➤

Youth group, home groups, and pray for wisdom and grace for all who lead and serve.

Praise God for:

- ☆ the recent school holiday camps at Camp Kedron and for the number of young people who responded to the teaching. Pray for the teams from St Ives preparing for the upcoming camps there.
- ☆ the ladies group who have been challenged and encouraged by a recent two-day intensive retreat to complete a study called 'The Course of Your Life'. Pray that their enthusiasm for what they have learnt together will bear fruit across the church and in the community.



Tambourine Bay Gospel Chapel:

Pray for:

- ☆ Our outreach in the local area through a tract letter box drop in September.
- ☆ Encouragement and guidance for a small ageing Assembly.

Praise God for:

- ☆ The excellent reception in the new RNS Hospital, St Leonards with Hymn Singing on Sunday nights.
- ☆ The recent Overland Ministries trip to isolated schools in Western NSW with SRE classes.



"Blessed Assurance Promise Box" website

by Gary & Joanne Akehurst



We have been developing the website BlessedAssurancePromiseBox.com since 2009, when we returned to Sydney after nearly 19 years of work with the assembly-based Queensland Mailbox Bible Club, in Brisbane, that sends out, and marks, free Bible correspondence lessons nationally and internationally.

Most of the Bible teaching recordings on our website came from collections of cassette recordings made by Hugh & Marie Fletcher and Des & Dorothy Baird.

Hugh and Marie recorded for Outreach Tape Ministry, which is now part of the NSW



>8

Assemblies Evangelistic Mission. They recorded Bible teaching at conferences, camps and by visiting speakers, around the wider Sydney area. Hugh continued in this ministry, after he retired from secular work, until December 2004. In 2009 he started a mighty work of digitising all the 'master' recordings which he originally stored on tape cassettes. Altogether he made available to us 1819 recordings! He finished this large task only a few weeks before he passed away in February 2012.

Since then we have found more of Hugh's original recordings in private collections. **We are more than happy to accept more private or assembly collections of recordings.** We are thankful to have the cassette collections of Emmaus Bible College and the assemblies at Eastwood Christian Fellowship in Sydney, and Acacia Ridge Gospel Hall, Brisbane.

Des & Dorothy Baird of 'Sound Words Tape Ministry Queensland' based in Brisbane, ended up with



a collection of about 5,000 cassettes. Des and Dorothy were involved in a reel-to-reel tape ministry for "shut-ins" (people who were unable to get to

meetings) in Ireland before coming to Australia. Can you imagine Dorothy collecting the heavy reel-to-reel machine, with a one year-old baby in arms, a three year-old trailing at her feet, and with the precious tape recorder getting to ride in the pram!

After arriving in Australia, Des and Dorothy did a similar work to Hugh and Marie, but in the Brisbane area. They went full-time in 1990, as Des couldn't keep up with the demand for recording and distribution while holding down a full-time job. He made a great start digitising his cassettes, but eventually we brought them all to Sydney, along with the 8-deck digitising system that Des very kindly gave us. While Hugh had to soldier-on digitising cassettes one by one, we are so glad to be able to digitise eight at a time with the help of Barbara Feehely, a local friend.

There are now **more than 6,500 recordings from over 800 speakers available on the website**, which we let people know about through Facebook. We have joined every assembly Facebook page that we could find, letting them know of the website. We have also emailed Assemblies worldwide.

Whilst any of the recordings can be downloaded from the web site via the internet, **we also make available CDs and DVDs containing selected recordings – free of charge.** We believe "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" or a recording on a CD or DVD is more likely to be listened to than one on the internet. This is especially ➤

Our digitising setup, with 8 tape-decks feeding into one computer, still running Windows XP.



true for some people of the older generations who are not used to the internet, and of the poorer people of the world who may have very limited access to the internet, if any.

The CDs we send out are all 'audio' CDs and only run for 79 minutes, so we can only fit 1 or 2 recorded messages on each. This is OK for those people who don't want too many recordings or who only have access to a CD player.

We send out most recordings on DVDs. Many people think of DVDs as videos, but whilst we do send out a few video DVDs, most of the DVDs we send only contain audio recordings – as MP3 files – like the recordings stored on iPods and smart phones. DVDs are a very efficient way to send out a large number of such recordings. One DVD can contain 700 to 800 messages in the MP3 format.

So, **currently, we have a set of 8 DVDs containing more than 6,300 recordings.** Of course, no one is likely to listen to all these recordings, but it is easier for us to send a set of 8 DVDs than to make 8 CDs that may contain as few as 8 recordings.

These audio DVDs can be played on normal DVD players or on most computers. The recordings can also be

copied onto devices like MP3 players and smart phones. We encourage the further duplication of the recordings we distribute, but on the basis that they will not be sold or altered.

Recently, we have added a video recordings page to our web site, although our main focus is still on audio recordings.

From March to May 2013 we sent out, free of charge, **86 orders for 662 DVDs and 34 CDs.** The following are the number of orders we have sent to each country since we started; (to countries in bold in the last 3 months):–

Australia 245, India 127, Philippines 9, USA 10, New Zealand 7, Canada 6, Nigeria 5, Zambia 14, Tanzania 2, Scotland 2, Bahrain 2, South Africa 2, United Arab Emirates 1, Zimbabwe 1, Sri Lanka 1, Qatar 1, Ireland 1, England 1, Romania 1, Gambia 1, Malawi 1, DR Congo 1, Uganda 1, Ghana 1, Malaysia 1, Jamaica 1, Vanuatu 1, China 1.

There are still thousands of cassettes to be digitised but we are happy to prioritise the digitising of recordings of any speaker that readers of this magazine may want on CDs or a DVD. Just make contact and let us know your requirement.

May the Lord richly bless you all.

Gary and Joanne Akehurst.

Contact details:

PO Box 1100

FIVE DOCK NSW 2046

phone: 02 8097 7002

akehursts@iinet.net.au



By the Lake (John 21:1 to 14)

by Doug McNaught

In the April 2013 issue of Assemblies Outreach magazine, we began a series of short articles about things that occurred in the 40 days after Jesus Christ's resurrection. Here is the 7th in the series

While we talk about the Lord Jesus Christ, and the fact that He was dead but is now alive, it is interesting to look at a Biblical definition for life. In Genesis 1:20 we notice that creatures with life move. Further down in that chapter we notice (v30) that living things also eat and the third characteristic of life is found in Gen 2:6, man has the breath of life and is a living soul. Later in Genesis we discover that life is associated with blood (Gen 9:4) that life has blood. The Lord Jesus Christ showed each of these signs of life as we can see in this chapter, except for the fact that His blood had already been shed for the forgiveness of sins.

Before the Lord Jesus Christ went to the cross He told His disciples "But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee." (Matt 26:32) After the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the grave the angel in the empty tomb told the women "And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you." (Matt 28:7)

The disciples waited in Jerusalem until they saw the risen Lord for themselves so that they could confirm the fact that He was alive and then they

headed back to Galilee just as He commanded them.

The Sea of Tiberias is another name for the Sea of Galilee; the Romans ruled the ancient Land of Israel and the local rulers changed the names of some cities and landmarks to gain favour from the Romans.

When the Lord Jesus Christ first called Simon and Andrew they were fishermen but He told them that they would be "fishers of men" (see Matt 4:18,19) However, Peter had denied the Lord and wasn't sure what to do with himself after he returned to Galilee. Peter, James and John were fishermen before they left their former lives to follow the Lord Jesus

Christ, so while they were waiting with some of the other disciples they decided to go fishing again. When the Lord had called James and John to follow Him they left their nets with their father Zebedee. Presumably Zebedee still operated the business and gave them access to one of the family's boats that evening.

Even though some of them were experienced fishermen, they were unable to catch any fish, though they worked hard all night. (Perhaps, Peter remembered that night about 3 years earlier when the Lord Jesus Christ used his

*'The disciples ...
headed back to
Galilee ...'*

boat to teach people beside the Lake and then later told him to go out and do some fishing (see Luke 5:3-6). On that occasion they had fished all night and caught nothing but when the Lord Jesus Christ told them to cast out their nets they caught enough fish to fill two boats.

By the time it was morning the men must have been very tired and extremely frustrated from all the hard work but when the sun rose they saw the Lord Jesus Christ on the shore although they didn't realise that it was the Lord. He called out and asked them if they had caught anything and they said "No." The Lord told them to cast out their net again so that they could catch some fish. This is reminiscent of the His words beside the sea in the early days of His ministry (see Matt 7:7, 8).

On that first occasion when the Lord told Peter to cast out his net again he questioned the Lord – but on this occasion the disciples just did what they were told. Some people suggest that the Lord saw a dark shadow of this shoal of fish and told them to cast the net into the shoal, while other people suggest that the Lord caused the shoal of fish to swim into their net. It doesn't really matter which of these two is true, the only important issue is that the Lord performed a miracle.

When the Lord Jesus Christ performed miracles He did so with a definite purpose (compare John 9:3, for

example). When the Lord Jesus Christ first called the fishermen to follow Him, He told them that they were not called to catch fish but to catch men. They had gone back to their old way of life because they weren't really sure what to do. He showed them that they would not be able to catch any fish unless He was in control of the situation. They were wasting their time by going back to their old way of life.

As soon as they saw the net full of fish, John knew that the man on the shore was the Lord and he told

Peter. These men lived in the days before lycra and space-age clothing. When they went fishing they stripped their clothes off so that they could keep their clothes dry and work without the hindrance

of clothing. However, they would dress themselves as soon as they came back to land for the Jews found nakedness offensive (compare Gen 2:25, with 3:7, 9:24, 25, and Ex 32:25). As soon as Peter realised that it was the Lord he put on his coat and swam to the shore. Before Gethsemane, Peter had been quick to tell the Lord that he would not deny Him (see Matt 26:35) and we know that he was impetuous so he was quick to jump into the sea and swim to the Lord. Even though he did deny that he knew the Lord while the Lord was being tried, Peter knew that the Lord was gracious and forgiving and he wanted to go to the Lord as quickly as he could.

*• Peter knew the
LORD was
gracious and
forgiving ... •*

>12

The other disciples were a bit more circumspect and they didn't want to lose all the fish that they had caught so they dragged the net back to the shore with them.

When the disciples arrived on the shore they found that the Lord had started a fire and was cooking some bread and fish. The Lord didn't need any of the fish they had caught. He knew that the men were hungry after fishing all night and would need something to eat so He prepared the meal that they needed (compare this with John 4:31-34).

Some people try to find symbolism in the fact that they caught 153 fish but when Moses spoke to Israel about the Lord's word he said, "But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it." (Deut 30:14) The Lord's words are simple and don't require special knowledge but the simplest person can understand them.

The disciples were so surprised at the large catch that they actually counted the fish just to make sure that they weren't imagining anything. The net wasn't designed to hold that many fish but it didn't break – another miracle.

The Lord told them to come and dine with Him. The first time that we read about dining in the Bible is in Gen 43:16. This was the first step in the process of Joseph forgiving his brothers and effecting reconciliation with them. All the disciples forsook the Lord and fled when He was taken captive before His crucifixion (see Matthew 26:56). Now the Lord Jesus Christ called them to dine with Him so that they could be reconciled.

If we have given up everything to follow the Lord we can be sure that He will never forsake us but will always provide everything that we need.



**WOMEN'S MISSIONARY
PRAYER GROUP**

Further meetings in 2013

in Burwood Gospel Chapel

(rear hall) 10.30 am – 1 pm,

on the second Friday of each month:–

13 September 11 October 8 November

All women are invited to be part of this important ministry.

Tea and coffee provided, BYO lunch.

Enquiries:

Lillian Fleming 9858 5436 or Freda McKeown 9661 6001

Teaching in Burundi

by Doug McNaught

The airport in Bujumbura, Burundi, is a cavernous, colonial building. There are three entrances from the apron; one for arrivals, one for departures and one for important people. There are police guarding the entry for important people to make sure that no one has delusions of grandeur. The bank at the airport doesn't have facilities for credit cards but my visa had to be bought at the airport! I had to borrow some money from some church members to buy the visa. On the way home the boarding passes were written by hand.

There is no doubt that Burundi is a poor country. According to the CIA World Factbook¹, Burundi is the 4th poorest nation in the world, with only Somalia, Zimbabwe and the Democratic Republic of Congo (195th) poorer. Burundi can be contrasted with her northern neighbour Rwanda, which lies 22 places higher on the poorest nations table. The first non-African country on that list is Afghanistan at number 185.

Both Burundi and Rwanda have similar ethnic structure but Rwanda is better known for the fact that she experienced a huge convulsion of ethnic violence in 1994, when approximately 800,000 people were killed in 100 days. The ethnic violence in Burundi occurred over 10 years between 1993 and 2003 and there is anecdotal evidence to



suggest that even more people died. However, since that time the country has been seeking reconciliation and is much more peaceful.

The CIA World Factbook also tells us that 68% of the population in Burundi live below the poverty line and 40% of the people in Rwanda live below the poverty line and 36% of people in Afghanistan live below the poverty line. This brings us to the major problem in Africa today, grinding poverty. When people struggle every day to find enough to eat, they have little energy to lift themselves out of the poverty cycle.

The Bride of Christ Worldwide Church in Burundi is working to prepare the Church for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. When the Lord returns to the earth He will take His bride away and then there will be the >14

marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev 19: 9, 17). These people also take James 2: 14-16 seriously, which is very important in a country where many people are poor and hungry. The people in this church regularly feed hungry people near their compound. They don't have a building to worship in but a walled enclosure with corrugated iron roof and an earthen floor and are looking to the Lord to help build a church as headquarters for all their outreach and development work.

They have developed a system to train people in various trades and a development bank to provide low cost, long repayment loans to people in Burundi. Young people have opportunities to experience work at approved sites.

There are opportunities in many areas including building trades, car mechanics and hospitality. When the students have graduated they have access to low cost, long-term loans to buy tools and establish their business.

The church has also been involved in some other projects. They have helped some poor farmers in the provinces to plant Moringa² trees. These produce seeds containing oil and when harvested they help improve nutrition and boost food security. For farming families living a hand-to-mouth existence, these trees can provide nutrition for their growing children. As time goes by these farmers can grow more trees and have a cash crop. Pastor Jean-marie Nibizi was in the process of negotiating with a middleman in Rwanda to sell the seeds so that they could be pressed to

make oil and then sold to provide an income for these farmers.

They are also developing some cottage industries in some communities. Burundi has over 150 rivers that can be dammed but people washing clothes and animals and bathing themselves have polluted these rivers. The pastor has developed a solar powered system for purifying water using simple water bottles. He has also manufactured a simple solar light. Local people working in their own homes can produce all these things and develop an income stream for themselves.

I visited Burundi in May this year to give some in-service training to their pastors. Some had to come from other towns. It cost them two days average wage to come to the training sessions and another two days wages to get home again. They stayed for the entire time of the course. My main aim was to teach these church leaders to understand and interpret the Bible. Once they learn how to do this and gain some



experience they will be able to train the next generation of leaders. ➤

I believe that a local church should be led and trained by local people as soon as these people are ready to pass their skills on to their own people. We had a worthwhile course with about ten local leaders learning these skills.

While I was in Burundi, I was asked to conduct a short crusade in the local church at Roziba. My first question was, how could a simple Bible teacher run a crusade? The answer is simple: just stick to the simple message of the Bible, speak well of the Lord Jesus Christ and trust the Holy Spirit to work.



*The Crusade, inside the church ▲
and outside ▼*



Burundi offers many opportunities to invest and the rewards are out of this

world. There are many opportunities for people to be involved in the work, either by staying at home and praying or visiting for a short time. Everyone who wants to go will have to pay their own airfares and other costs and it is a good idea to have US dollars when you arrive in the country.

At this stage I don't have plans to return to Burundi but I have regular contact with the people there and will go again if the Lord leads.

If anyone is interested in visiting Burundi they should first contact me and I will introduce them to my contacts in the country. Living expenses are relatively less than in Australia – 10,000 Burundi francs is less than A\$10, but fluctuates with the exchange rate.

Burundi has two national languages, Kirundi and French. Anyone who can't speak either of these languages will need to have an interpreter.

Many people, today, are telling us that the twenty-first century will be the Asian century. However, Africa is full of many young people who are hungry to learn and develop themselves if they are given the opportunity. This century could well prove to be the African century.

Footnotes:

- ¹ The World Factbook 2013-14. Washington, DC: Central Intelligence Agency, 2013. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>
- ² Scientific name: *Moringa oleifera*.



News from some NSW Home Workers

Daya & Mary Nand
9th July 2013

There are three small Assemblies I have been ministering at and have been encouraged by the Lord's blessings.

At Bankstown Gospel Hall the mainly elderly believers continue faithfully with a Sunday School in the morning. Two sisters are now assisting. The morning and evening services have visiting speakers and are of real blessing. We have had some Bible characters studies. Some weeks ago I arranged for a special Saturday afternoon training session on how to reach children for the Lord. It was conducted by the Campus Crusade for Christ and was attended by 17 believers from 4 Assemblies. One recently told me it had a great impact on the Assembly he attends. Through the regular Sunday morning prayer meetings missionary letters are read and gifts are distributed to them. So smaller assemblies do have a major role in the work of the Lord worldwide.

Concord Assembly is busy with various activities and are planning a monthly Gospel outreach mainly to contact ex-Fiji-ites of whom some have been in fellowship years ago but have not maintained regular contact here in Sydney. Also there are many family members who went to our Sunday schools and the Gospel schools. Please pray for real blessing.

Eastwood assembly recently baptized an elderly lady from China. She and her husband had come over to visit their daughter and her beautiful children, but they do not speak English. However her

daughter had been sharing the Gospel and the mother attended the Eastwood meetings. What an encouragement it was to hear her testimony (which was interpreted) and her faith in Christ was clearly expressed in her desire to be His disciple. One of the factors leading to her conversion was the practical love of the Assembly members for her daughter! It really challenged her to observe the good works of real love by "strangers" in a foreign land. I was unaware of a sister being baptized that Sunday and throughout the week was really wrestling about a subject to prepare. It was a clear direction from the Holy Spirit for me to speak about "Women ministry!" Our political situation in Australia had been the arguments on gender and whether our last Prime Minister was really facing her problems because of that. So I believed the Lord was guiding me to encourage our beloved and faithful sisters in their services for the Lord. But it apparently was also a special blessing to this new convert standing in the baptistry while she was encouraged by interpretation to serve the Lord as a woman. Please pray for her husband.

Please pray for Mary and I as we undergo some medical checks and treatments and as we continue by His grace to serve Him. One recent development is the move to commence a practical and prayerful interest in the work and workers in Fiji. Reports from there are most encouraging.

God bless, and many thanks for your prayers. ➤

Doug & Jenny McNaught,
12th June 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We had an interesting month in May when I visited Burundi. I have written a report for your information – see pages 13 & 14 in this magazine.

We are now settling back into our routine with seven visits to various assemblies during June.

Thanks again for your prayers, support and fellowship during the last few months.

Yours in His Precious Name,
Doug McNaught

Geoff & Liz Folland,
(extracts from 3 letters)

(From 4th to 9th July Geoff and his family were at Student Life's first National Mid-Year Conference (MYC) in over 20 years! It was held at Mt Tamborine, Qld. – Editor)

How did it go? Geoff wrote on 16th July... "We returned from Student Life's national Mid Year Conference last Wednesday evening excited and exhausted..."

"Hundreds of students gathered together from across Australia. Missionaries and students from our four partnership countries - West Asia, Japan, Papua New Guinea and Canada. So many stories of life-change. Great teaching by John North on the theme of 'All of Him in All of Us for All of Them'. Worship rocked, led by former Macquarie Uni Student Lifer and now CRAM associate, Chris Gilbert. We loved hearing stories from around the world of dozens of Muslims coming to faith and of students at the university

in PNG being overwhelmed by need for good discipleship in that spiritually hungry country.

"I led 8 hours of training for students from around the country - and some US summer project students - on how to help fulfil the Great Commission by building spiritual movements that "win-build-send" students. It was great to hear them evaluating the state of their own campus groups, share stories about how they had been engaged in the win-build-send process and think about how to be more effective in the future. Liz met with students from journalism/media degrees to discuss how to live for Jesus while pursuing those careers."

On 29th July, amongst other news items, Geoff shared that... "Bill Hodgson has served as CCCA's national director for almost 15 years. Two years ago, just when I joined the national leadership team for CCCA, we began a transition process because Bill indicated he wanted to do some different things in ministry. Last Thursday we announced that Allan Gibson will become CCCA's new national director. Personally, I have really enjoyed working under Bill's leadership, and Allan had a huge influence on me when I was leading the ministry at Macquarie. So, I'm feeling really good about the transition - and I'm glad I can finally talk about a major thing I've been working on!

Thanks so much for your prayers, partnership and encouragement. We couldn't do this ministry without you.

In His love and grace,
Geoff & Liz" □

Would you be interested in using an effective evangelistic tool as you seek to be involved in telling others of the good news that Jesus Saves?

Emmaus Correspondence School (ECS) is currently taking orders for the 2014 Emmaus **Bible Gems Calendars** and we would like to give you the opportunity to understand the ways in which Assemblies & Churches have used these calendars in the past.

As the end of the year approaches and many have 'Carol Services' and end of year activities these calendars have been handed out to residents of local areas as a gift. Others have used them as they visit previous contacts they are working with to encourage them in reading the Scriptures.

We often receive phone calls from those who have received calendars and wish to continue their daily reading of the verses.

The calendars are A4 size when folded and open up to A3 size when hung. A beautiful colour A4 photo is there for each month and the bottom A4 section is for the days of the month with a verse of Scripture on each day and room to write your appointments. We are proud to say that 7 of the 12 photos this year are taken by Ray Jennings who is a member of West Pennant Hills Community Church and he donates these photos for use in the calendars. In past years, some folk have cut off the photos and framed them! If you are purchasing 100 calendars you can have your church details and logos printed on the flap of the calendar at no extra cost.

In purchasing these calendars you not only can use them in reaching out to your local community and friends but the sale of these calendars helps to fund the cost of giving a calendar to each prisoner in NSW jails. This year we will need to print around 12,000 to supply every prisoner. Inside the calendar are 2 offers of free ECS courses – "The Bible - what's in it for you?" and "Saviour of the World". It's so exciting to see how quickly these offers are sent in to ECS to be supplied to the recipients. In 2013 we've had an increase in the numbers of courses sent out and the number of courses completed. This has been very encouraging.

This is a comment from a student:-

"I do hope you can get me some second-hand books which will help me with my course and to show me the right way back to Jesus as my Saviour. I enjoy the course and the letters I receive from you with my next courses. I will try to work a lot harder so I can get up in the 100% mark from now on. I am changing my life since I have been doing your Bible study course."

Another student wrote . . .

"I am lost and I want to be saved. I am lost I know as I have led a life of sin and pain. God has spoken to me and I know this is what I want to do."

The way I was going I would expect to of gone to Hades, but that was yesterday. I have always been a believer in God but have not lived by his rules. Today however I have asked for forgiveness for my sins and have let God into my heart and try to live by God's way. It is hard but well worth it for God." ➤

If your Assembly or Church has not received a calendar order form and you would like to place an order please contact the ECS office on 9873 3152 or send an email to:-

ecsnsw@emmaus.edu.au

or phone me, Faith Connell, on 0412 970 446 and I will be happy to help you.

Maybe you are not able to use the calendars but could we ask that you remember this work in your prayers and especially that those who do receive the calendars will read the verses for each day and that through the use of the courses many more will come to know our Lord as their Lord and Saviour.

Many thanks.

It is time to order your Emmaus Bible Gems 2014 Calendar

EMMAUS BIBLE GEMS 2014 Calendar

Fold Down Ad FLAP

YOUR ADVERT HERE

One Colour
BLACK ONLY

YOUR CHURCH NAME
YOUR ADDRESS
CHURCH ACTIVITIES & SERVICE TIMES
CONTACT NUMBERS

Minimum order
100 copies

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER

A **Dedication and Celebration Service** was held on Thursday, 13th June 2013, at the College's new Macquarie Park premises.

The celebration started with a BBQ at 4:30pm attended by staff, faculty, and many of our current students. It was great to catch up with our 2013 graduates who were present and to learn what they have been doing since leaving College. Being the last day of Semester 1 students were able to relax knowing they had a few weeks free from study – so it was a time of great fellowship and good food.



At 6pm everyone moved into the double lecture room for the Dedication and Celebration Service. Dr Leonard Smith, Principal of Emmaus Bible College, opened the service in prayer. This was followed by presentations from Ariel Cinco, BTh graduate, and Joshua Miles, MTh student who shared their hopes and plans for the future. Each graduate was presented with a certificate in recognition of their studies at Emmaus. Mr Anthony Kottaridis was awarded Emmaus' 2013 Academic Achievement Award for the highest GPA of the graduating students. Anthony also received the Award

from the New South Wales Council for Christians and Jews in Biblical Hebrew at the 2013 Sydney College of Divinity Graduation Service in May. We praise God for our students both past and present; our Registrar, Chris Haeusler, prayed for them and for their future endeavours that they would fulfil the roles the Lord has for them.

Mrs Karen Ryan, second year BTh student, then asked everyone to join in singing two popular songs in praise and worship to God.

The dedication followed – with Dr Smith explaining why we do this, "To 'dedicate' carries the notion that something is given over to God to be used for His service. It's a sign that we are committing all that we do here into His hands. Dedicating the building enables us to welcome the Lord Jesus Christ officially into all that we do. It also presents the opportunity to make declarations especially of things that are yet to come. I reflect on 2 Timothy 1:12, 'it is always good to remember that God is able to keep that which is committed into His hand.'" Mr James Kelly, a member of the College Board, then dedicated the building and the work of the College to the Lord in prayer.

Mr Graeme Janes, General Manager, gave the Bible reading from 2 Timothy 2:1-15 and Dr Smith began his message by focusing our attention on verse 15, '*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the Word of Truth.*' ➤

He told us what a privilege and blessing it has been to be part of our graduates' journeys at Emmaus over the past three years or so. In 2013 nineteen students graduated with awards such as the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology, Bachelor of Theology, Master of Arts and the Master of Theology. This is the first time in the College's history that postgraduate students have been part of our celebration service. We praise God for this and His many other blessings to us.

Continuing in verse 15 Dr Smith showed us how the students have carried out these instructions to the best of their abilities. I quote, "Be diligent', conveying the idea of doing something with intense effort and motivation. Although some mornings there was not too much intense effort or motivation, I must say, from some students. It was probably more like lunch time when they actually got motivated."

Our students have achieved their goals through hard work and study but that it is not just about study, "as the verse continues we read: 'to present yourself to God as one approved,' It is a standing alongside of, or before, God, of presenting oneself for inspection, in order to be approved by Him. ... and fit for service."

Dr Smith went on to say that "throughout their studies our students have been instructed on how to correctly handle the Word of Truth and to carry it wherever they go. It

is the Gospel that we should be ready to share. It is the great commission that we send our 2013 Graduates out with."

Please continue to pray with us for our graduates and our current students.

Emmaus has been serving the Lord for fifty four years by equipping men and women for His work and it is our prayer that we will continue to do as Ephesians 4:12 says, '...to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.'

If you would like to find out more about studying at Emmaus Bible College please contact us to obtain a prospectus kit, either via our website:-

www.emmaus.edu.au

or by telephone: 02 9876 4370

or by email;

registrar@emmaus.edu.au



Psalm 119 v105

**"Your word is a
lamp to my feet
and a light for
my path."**

The Blacktown Festival

by John Tan

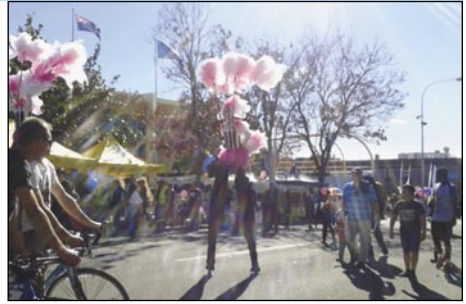
How does a little church become relevant in the community around it? How can people come to notice and visit us when we are in a small street near the heart of town?

We at Blacktown Faith Community Church have been trying to answer this question. One effort we tried was at the recent Blacktown Festival.

The Festival was held on the 25th of June. A section of the heart of Blacktown City was blocked off from traffic, so that little stalls were able to line the streets. Numerous organisations like the Cancer Council, the Red Cross, some shops and the local mosque ran these stalls. Samples are given away. Some charged for face painting or food or toys.

The police, the fire brigade, the boy scouts and some other groups paraded through these streets at the appointed hour. All around, it was a day of fun in the community spirit for the people of Blacktown.

Our church participated by running one of the stalls. We were categorised as not-for-profit, so we were not allowed to sell anything. Instead, we prepared bookmarks, calendars, fridge-magnets



and tracts to give away. Our giveaways spoke about peace with God. In addition, we ran craft for children at the stall to help attract people to us.

Many of our church members came to help. Some friends from the Burwood assembly also helped. We managed to meet many people in the community that day, and to introduce ourselves.

Many people passed us by, but some stopped to talk to us and find out about the church. Yet others happily accepted our freebies but did not stop to talk.

Among the exciting interactions we had were with:

- A visitor from an Anglican church who thought we were doing something good – and intends to use the same idea in her community next year;
- An Afghani who wanted to talk about the concept of truth and its spiritual significance; and
- A guy who thought that church leaders should not lie about their age by dyeing their hair. Instead, they should act their age and receive the respect they deserve as honest people who has gained experience that comes with age.

Meanwhile, we continue to try to connect through other efforts such as Holiday Kids Club and sausage sizzles. Please pray for us. Thank you. □

Kings Park Community Church

– a summary of our history

by Dawn Scott

A church is a family. Any family that has been together for over twenty years has many memories of the highs, lows, struggles, and the mundane during its journey. All of these experiences help to shape that family into a unique unit. Kings Park Community Church, originally NorWest Community Church, is a unique family. This is a part of our story.

In 1987 some of the young people from Parramatta assembly spent a week at a camp at CYC Mt Victoria. After the camp they followed up a lad from Quakers Hill who had been interested in spiritual things. From that contact a Youth Group was started in the area. One of the families contacted during that time had members who came to know the Lord Jesus and are now worshipping regularly with us.

At roughly the same time, another group of people who also attended Parramatta Gospel Chapel began discussing and praying about starting a new church further west. Interest grew, the idea was taken to the church resulting in a decision to go ahead, and a group of 27 people moved out under the leadership of Trevor and Bernice Young, Ray and Margaret Darnell and Graham and Dawn Scott to plant a church in the Quakers Hill area.

Thus, NorWest Community Church came into being on December 30th 1990 when the first service was held in the Doonside Community Centre. It was

literally a church on the move, meeting in various local venues including Quakers Hill Community Centre, Quakers Hill Primary School hall, T1 then U3 on the Nirimba Campus, and Barnier Public School Hall.

A church office, which included a shop and counselling room, was located in Marayong Plaza. This served as our base in the area until the church on the corner of Douglas and Eastern Roads was purchased from the Anglicans in 1992.

Playgroup relocated to our new property once we had the facilities; later the 5-8s and 9-12s clubs, and various other activities, took place as needs arose. We also had the potential to develop the property to expand for growth. After about 3 years the Sunday morning congregation outgrew the building and Sunday services were relocated to TAFE and later to University buildings at the Nirimba Educational Precinct. The old church began to be used on Sunday mornings by our Spanish-speaking congregation, led by Francisco and Gilda Juan. They had initially rented the building for use on Sunday afternoons but after some time became a part of NorWest CC.

All of our creative attempts to develop the property over a number of years were thwarted. The old church, which was Heritage listed, needed expensive major structural repairs that we considered unwise for us to invest in. The Spanish folk agreed to >25

Opening and Dedication weekend, 5th to 7th April 2013

(We had 3 functions, the Dedication and Opening of the building, a Saturday night celebration, and the Sunday morning celebration and worship services.)



The church building



Our Music Team



Rob McDonnell welcomed everyone



Yvonne Robertson & David McDonnell



Graham Scott opened in prayer



Brad Scott told our history



Ross Bunyon opened the building



Mark McCrindle – the message



Trivia night - Saturday



More of Trivia night



Trivia night prize winners



Janine Wilkinson interviews children



Children's band - Sunday



Filipino girls after Sunday worship

join with the English-speaking group at Barnier School (it had moved there in mid 2002) and the building was sold late in 2009.

Property searches

Over the years a number of attempts were made to purchase a property. Among them were the Quakers Hill Plaza, a disused shopping centre, the vacant Catholic church and surrounding property, and a good sized tract of land on which we were gazumped. Brad Scott devoted countless hours to searching for property. His commitment and vision to the project bore fruit when a free-standing, two-unit, double brick building in an industrial area at Kings Park was discovered. By refurbishing the smaller unit in the building to use for the church, and leaving the other area intact and occupied by a powder coating business, the project became financially manageable. This time all the negotiations progressed to a point when both parties were satisfied, finance was available, the council gave us approval and the first stage of the building was completed at the end of January. The first service in the church with our new name was held on 27th January, 2013.

The builders have made structural provision in the smaller unit for a mezzanine floor. This will proceed when finance permits. The largest expense for that project will be the installation of a lift. As the church grows, our plans are to eventually develop the larger unit. For now, we

are so thankful to the Lord for all He has already given us.

Leadership changes

Initially, Trevor Young was our self-funded pastor. He and Bernice, his wife, worked tirelessly in the years they were with us, contributing to the teaching, leadership, financial support, pastoral care and administration of the church. In 1997 they chose to move on.

Early in the life of the church, the elders could see the leadership potential of some of the young men in the church. They were mentored and encouraged to step into leadership when the occasion arose.

David Hunt who was a committed and gifted Bible teacher and had been part of our congregation was invited to take on the role of Teaching Pastor in 1997 for a five-year period. He married towards the end of his time with us and subsequently moved to Brisbane.

Since 2002 we have used the gifted teachers from our congregation to do most of the teaching, occasionally inviting guest speakers along. The arrival of Ross and Trish Brown and family from Zambia in 2003 meant that we now had another capable Bible teacher to add to our pool. He is now responsible for a large portion of our teaching.

Stephen Torrance, was employed part time by the church, and began working for two days a week at Barnier School as a Christian worker. Whilst there, he initiated a number >26

of worthwhile projects, including a breakfast club for those children who came to school without breakfast, and a coffee morning for parents that included helpful courses taught from a Christian perspective. He assisted 'special needs' children, helped children with behaviour problems and generally assisted when needed. A Monday lunchtime club, Kidzone, was also started, running with the assistance of a number of willing church helpers for the time the church met at Barnier. Many children heard the gospel there and accepted Bibles.

At present, Stephen is employed for two days each week as a Chaplain at Kellyville Public School, and one day each week by Kings Park Community Church. He does a great job of conducting most of our marriages, funerals and child dedications.

Over the years we have been excited to have people from other countries and cultures join our congregation. We currently have people from 23 different countries worshipping with us. In 2008, our first Filipino couple, Ariel and Beverly, joined us. Other members of their family and friends also came and now they bring along friends they meet in day-to-day living.

Ariel completed his BTh at Emmaus Bible College in 2012 and, with Beverly, heads up the expanding Filipino group. They have a Tagalog service on the first Sunday afternoon of each month. On other Sundays they join with the English-speaking congregations.

The Spanish-speaking congregation joins the English-speaking service each Sunday morning where Becky Juan interprets for them. We have provided them with headsets so they can hear the message in their heart language.

Last year we appointed our first Youth Pastor, Eliseo, who is the son of our Spanish-speaking pastor, and his wife. He also completed his BTh at Emmaus in 2012. For two days a week he works as the chaplain at Seven Hills North Public School.

It is encouraging to see a large number of teenagers and young adults actively involved with serving in various roles in the church. We appreciate and thank God for them – knowing that the future of Kings Park Community Church is in responsible hands.

Together we thank God that we are gradually settling into our new building and have great expectations of becoming an integral part of our local community.

Our story will continue, added to by another generation, and maybe another... until Jesus returns.

We affirm and relate to the words penned by Joseph Hart (1712 – 1768) so many years ago:

*How good is the God we adore, our
faithful, unchangeable friend ...*

*we thank Him for all that is past and
trust Him for all that's to come.*



E-Letter to the Editor

From: Daya Nand; 11th July, 2013

Dear Editor,

I refer to the e-letter from brother Gilmour (in the July 2013 issue). It was good to read that “no translation is perfect.” This would also refer to the beloved King James Version. However it is sad to read of the criticisms of other versions which are called evil and translators as being deliberately changing doctrines and in particular, references to the precious blood of Christ and His Deity. As a Bible teacher for over 50 years I have visited many assemblies and witnessed the confusion regarding the correct version of the Bible. Personal Bibles are not even taken to church in some cases because preachers use different translations and the audience find it difficult to relate to them.

I have noted:

1. There are those who will use only the AV because of the view that it is the best and closest to the originals. They need to remember that only the original manuscripts were Divinely inspired.

2. Also the AV translators were biased towards the Anglicans. J. N. Darby in the preface of his translation refers to that and gives examples. The word ‘Bishop’ stands out.

3. I have also told enquirers that the word baptize is a transliteration because it could not be translated as sprinkling! As a result thousands of Christians were literally drowned in

the rivers because they dared to be immersed!

4. Furthermore Professor Bullinger in his book on the Holy Spirit points out how the AV translators wrongly used Spirit with a capital S when it should have been a small ‘s’ – causing wrong interpretations and practices of the Person and His activities. In pointing out those errors he mentions “since the original edition of the AV in 1611, many editions have been printed by the three great presses (Oxford, Cambridge and London) and in these, great modifications have been made, and changes have been introduced from time to time.... we may further say that none of the current editions of the AV exactly represents that of 1611.”

It is so sad to observe the many elderly and faithful saints dearly holding on to the beloved AV believing that to be THE attitude against the false and demonic perversions of any newer translations. In assemblies where the elders have recommended the use of the NIV because it is more understandable to the various ethnic groups whose mother tongue is not English, the dear older saints continue with their belief in being faithful to the AV. They are being robbed of much blessing as a result.

W.E.Vine in his excellent well-accepted Dictionary mentions many instances where the AV needed corrections. Evangelical scholars,

➤28

Bible teachers and evangelists, Elders and missionaries are constantly using modern translations with much blessing in the salvation of sinners and the edification of believers.

I still use the AV but need to refer to other translations because "Bible students have discovered that by comparing translations they can gain new insight into Scriptural truth, and a new awareness of the relevancy of the Word of God to contemporary life." (a quote from the publishers' Preface of a Parallel Bible.) So I pray for a healthy discussion on this topic of translations without demonizing those we disagree with by recommending ONLY the AV as being the Word of God.

[Note from Editor: I think most readers will be acutely aware that the subject raised by brother Arthur Gilmour (p26 in our June issue), and further discussed above by brother Daya Nand, is rather contentious and can (in the worst cases) cause heated argument and division in the Church at large. I therefore propose to not publish any further correspondence on the subject in this magazine, for at least 12 months. If anyone wishes to discuss further the matters raised with these two brothers, please do so, person to person, by phone or by email.

Daya's email address is now:-

maryanddayanand@gmail.com

Arthur's is on p26 of the June issue.] □

AWAKE TO ISRAEL

History • Current Events • Prophecy • Evangelism

**Meetings are held monthly, February to November
2nd Saturday, 2:30pm at Epping Gospel Chapel
Cnr Carlingford road and Duntroon ave, Epping NSW**

Our Purpose is as follows...

- To stir each other to study what the word of God says concerning Israel and our relationship to Her as gentile believers both now and in the future.
- To encourage the believers in Israel in whatever way we can.
- To facilitate and be involved in evangelism and discipleship of Jewish people.
- To Pray for Israel.

**For further information please visit the website at www.awaketoisrael.org
or email : mail@awaketoisrael.org - Telephone enquiries: 02 9869 7164
Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and together search the Scriptures.**

Awake to Israel is a ministry of Epping Gospel Chapel and combined Christian Brethren Assemblies of Australia



In the June issue of this column, I mentioned *Christian Media Magazine* and its focus on helping people to use the social media for sharing the Gospel and Kingdom values.

I ended that item with “It made me wonder about the experiences that leaders in our Brethren churches in NSW may have had with using Facebook or Twitter to spread the Gospel to today’s citizens? Would anyone like to email or phone to tell me about their ‘experiments’ with these programs?”

Subsequently, I was thrilled to receive an email from a brother John Tan. I have reproduced his email below and hope it will inspire others to share their thoughts on this topic either with John or with all of us!

“My name is John Tan. I am a part of the leadership team of the Blacktown Faith Community Church assembly:

www.fccblacktown.org

I am also an AMT missionary, formerly connected with FEBC radio.

I noticed your paragraph asking about leaders “in our Brethren churches in NSW [who] may have ... [used] Facebook or Twitter to spread the Gospel to today’s citizens”. I thought to share with you what I do ...

I first took interest in using the internet’s social networks for evangelism purposes during an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) conference in Chiang Mai, about 4 or 5 years ago. I signed up on ‘Friendster’ because of the potential it had, and moved over to Facebook when it be-

came more popular than Friendster. I started connecting with Twitter after attending a seminar on using social media for business that was held in Chatswood last year.

On **Facebook**, I have a circle of friends in different countries. I use the medium to stay connected with these friends. I would post something to my Facebook wall usually daily. I limit myself not to do too much, since life is busy enough without letting this habit overtake me. On Wednesdays, my post will be one line from the recent Sunday sermon. On other days, I would share a line from something - sometimes a piece of Scripture, sometimes just an observation in life or something witty, sometimes a link to a hymn or a webpage that I have read and thought to be interesting. Sometimes these things have Christian/spiritual significance, sometimes they are just trivia. I mix it up so that my Facebook friends will continue to connect to me as a friend, rather than as a full-time preacher.

I use **Twitter** slightly differently. I would spend about 5 minutes per day on Twitter - that is the minimum I learnt from the seminar in Chatswood. On Wednesdays, I share the same post as what I share on Facebook.

Everyday, I would scroll down my Twitter page, and speed-read a few pages of posts. If anything catches my attention, then I would respond to one of them. My response is usually >30

a Bible verse, but it might not be. But even if I do not respond to anybody, I would post between 1 to 2 tweets per day. The tweet can be the same as my Facebook post. It can be a response to somebody else's tweet. It can be a Bible verse, or a link to a webpage, or to a blog-post (if I have a new blog post). I would hash-tag a couple of keywords in my posts, so my posts appear on my page as well as a couple of others. I occasionally re-tweet somebody else's tweet. My tweets do not always have Christian/spiritual significance, but they usually do.

Then I would click on one of my hashtags, I read what else has been posted on the same keyword, and choose to follow somebody who has used that word. I follow between 50 & 70 people at a time. I drop the people that I have been following the longest when I exceed 70. It has been interesting to interact with people from different walks of life from all over the world through Twitter. Some of the discussions with Muslims and Atheists, etc. has been quite intense, but I often just tweet a Bible verse at them and leave it at that.

I also run a blog -

<http://noconvert.blogspot.com>

to connect with post-modern thinkers around the world. This blog has run for several years. I write about something I have been thinking about,

but I write in the form of questions - not as though I know it all, but so as to prompt a post-modern thinker to think with me. I pray that some of these will see Jesus as they think through these things. I send up some Bible verses to direct them towards Scripture after my blogposts to help direct their thoughts in this way. I tweet the URL to my new blogposts. I write 5 posts/month.

I also limit what I post ... deleting the older ones after a while, partly for some privacy and partly so that I don't end up eating my words later.

You may want to pray with me that these connections bring people to saving knowledge of Christ."

In a subsequent email John pointed out "Three themes were meshed together in what I shared with you. How I got excited re: web evangelism; what I do with it daily; and how I address my privacy/time concerns."

John confirmed people may contact him if they want to discuss more. He said "Who knows? Maybe this might lead to a workshop at some stage in the future, which may empower more people into web evangelism, and of course; every Christian should be free to evangelise in accordance to their gifts and their style."

John Tan's email address is:-

john.l.tan@gmx.com



PLEASE submit your news items, short articles and letters for the October 2013 magazine on, or before, 13th September.

N.S.W. ASSEMBLIES EVANGELISTIC MISSION

ACN 001 037 690

OFFICE & BOOK SERVICE

Rear of 29 George Street,
BURWOOD, NSW 2134
P.O. Box 640,
BURWOOD NSW 1805
Ph: 9715 5520 Fax: 9715 5528

CHAIRMAN of BOARD

Charles Williams

BOARD MEMBERS

J. Pretty, K. Price,
C.J. Riseham, C. Winrow.

SECRETARIAT

Graham Hayden
Email: aemcobs@bigpond.com

MAGAZINE

Editor - Colin Winrow
0412 596 104
Email: outreach-mag@optusnet.com.au

AIMS

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

Further information about the Mission can be read on the NSW Brethren web site at:– www.cb-nsw.org.au/aem/

A TRADITION OF CHRISTIAN CARE & CONCERN



FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED
FUNERALS CONDUCTED THROUGHOUT SYDNEY

Please call Richard Spiteri
for personal care and attention

Members of the Funeral Directors Association of NSW

24 Hour Care Line ☎ 8883 4561
www.christianfuneralsosydney.com.au

Richard and Deborah Spiteri, proprietors

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 110 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 Sugar Loaf 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 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.