THROUGHOUT HIS ministry Rev Dr Paul Logan has stood beside people in both difficult and wonderful circumstances. He has celebrated the marriages of 1079 couples and has kept a record of them all. One memory that stands out concerns a homeless man who had made a temporary home living under the steps of the church hall.

“One day he came to the manse front door at North Sydney and while Margaret went to get him some food and drink he came across to shake hands with one of the guests who had just arrived for the wedding and to whom I was talking. The guest happened to be the then Prime Minister of Australia.

“My thought was, ‘where else in the world could a homeless man come up and shake the hand of the leader of the country and no one bat an eye lid?’. I thank God for the freedom of this country and the fact we have just changed governments by the scratch of a pencil and not through a bullet from a gun.

“I thank God for you all. Anything I have been able to do is only because of the grace of God mediated to me through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour and in the gifts He has given me.”

[Thanks to the Presbyterian Pulse for permission to publish this story in New Directions.]
**Standing ovation for retiring Assembly Clerk**

by Karen Thornton

REV DR Paul Logan’s intention to resign from the role of Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia has been known for some months - and won’t formally happen until the end of 2014 - but that didn’t make his final Assembly any less poignant.

Dr Logan’s resignation after 22 years’ service was received and accepted at the end of the second day of the week-long event in September. As there will not be another General Assembly for three years, the 2013 meeting was his last in the Clerk’s role - and the final opportunity to thank him and his wife Margaret for their many years of work in the Lord for the Church.

The thanks came enthusiastically and loudly - in the form of acclaimation and an emotional standing ovation. Dr Logan has also resigned as Clerk of the PCNSW General Assembly, a position he has held since 1 January 1995, and will Clerk his final meeting in July next year before bowing out of that role on 30 December 2014.

In his letter of resignation tabled at the 2013 State Assembly, Mr Logan said he had been privileged to serve the Church in the role after having been Assistant to the Clerk from 1978-1994 - a total of 26 years.

“In September 2014 I will reach the age of 75 years and know it is time to hand over the reins”, he said. “God has given me strength, patience and perseverance and I hope that because of that I have been able to bring sound advice and wisdom in the exercise of my responsibilities in that position.”

In moving a motion of thanks to Dr Logan at the GAA, held at the Chinese Garden of Friendship in Sydney, Rev. Bruce Meller noted that Dr Logan had accepted the Clerkship at a time when the Church was facing significant organisational disruption and doctrinal turmoil and had been able to build on his predecessor’s work to give himself available just as much to younger members of the Church as to more established members.

“We extended to Dr Logan kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, impartiality, integrity and an understanding of the procedures and practices of the Church that is rarely paralleled, he set out to forge a harmonious approach to the business of the Assembly. Those emphases have blessed the Church increasingly throughout his period in office. Humbly and courteously, Dr Logan made himself available just as much to younger members of the Church as to more established members and he well deserves the respect and honour that are uniformly accorded to him. His administrative efficiency and keen eye for detail have been precious to Paul during his long and demanding period in office.

“Humbly and courteously, Dr Logan himself available as much to younger members of the Church as to more established members and he well deserves the respect and honour that are uniformly accorded to him. His administrative efficiency and keen eye for detail have been precious to Paul during his long and demanding period in office.”

**MINUTE OF APPRECIATION**

By leave of the house, the Rev. B. M. Meller moved:

(1) Record its thankfulness to Almighty God for the labours of Mr Logan, the Rev. P. G. Logan, as the Clerk of this Assembly for the past 22 years.

(2) Note that Dr Logan accepted the Clerkship at a time of significant organisational disruption and doctrinal turmoil and has immediately displayed his vast comprehension of the operational and strategic challenges confronting the Assembly. His service has been consistently distinguished by an appreciation of the importance of relationships that had, in some cases, faltered out of sight,” Mr Meller said.

(3) Provide a copy of the foregoing minute of appreciation to the Rev. Dr Paul Logan as a mark of the Church’s personal esteem for him and as an expression of its gratitude for his devoted and labour in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ the Church’s only King and Head.

(4) Extend the Church’s personal thanks to Mrs Margaret Logan for the generous support that she has provided to Paul during his long and demanding period in office.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. P. Baron, the Moderator, and carred with acclamation. The Moderator presented copy of this minute of appreciation and invited Mrs Logan to come forward, the Assembly also recognising her contribution to the Church with a standing ovation. The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer, thanking God for the work of Paul and Margaret Logan.

Rev. Bruce Meller (Deputy Clerk), Rev. Peter Barson (Business Convener) and Rev. Dr Paul Logan (Clerk)
ON A balmy spring night in Sydney the Chinese Presbyterian Church, Surry Hills, was comfortably full to witness the commencement of the forty-eighth session of The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

We were encouraged by a brief address from outgoing Moderator-General David Jones and the keynote sermon from incoming Moderator-General David Cook. While the two messages marked a transition in leadership, they also confirmed a continuity of conviction in the power of Bible-centered Gospel proclamation.

It was poignant and telling that when Anglican Bishop Peter Tucker responded on behalf of welcomed church leaders, the bible verse he said many had commended to him as summarising David Cook’s life and ministry was from the very passage his ministry was from the very passage.

The denomination’s two messages marked a transition in leadership, they also confirmed a continuity of conviction in the power of Bible-centered Gospel proclamation.

The report of the outgoing Moderator-General, David Jones, led to the consideration of a proposal to enact a working group called Mission To Australia, a cooperative body composed of representatives of the church planting and ministry bodies in the State Churches. Part of Mission To Australia will be a continuing Moderator-General’s church planting task force. For the first time in our church’s history we now have a body tasked with coordinating church planting and revitalisation from a national perspective.

This led to consideration of a communication from the Presbyterian Church of South Australia, which reported the great need in Adelaide for national support lest our works there founder. Mission To Australia will take up Adelaide and South Australia as its first task.

The Finance Committee and Church Trustees submitted their reports for consideration. The denomination’s national budget for the next three years was finalised at a last sitting once a matter to do, the National Assembly was considered.

The Code Committee was directed to continue working on a proposal to update regulations relating to the composition of GAA committees. Over the next three years they will consult with committees, Presbyteries and State Assemblies to formulate a well-supported proposal.

At the afternoon session we received a delegation from the Presbyterian Women’s Association who informed us that the Australian Executive will be based in New South Wales for the next three years. We were assured of the prayers of women around Australia for the mission and ministry of our Church, and the Assembly extended its thanks to the PWA for their kingdom service.

Rev. Dr J. Ligon Duncan then preached the first of a series of three sermons over the days of the Assembly.

In addition to the reception of a report overflowing with information, Relations With Other Churches brought Rev. Dr Flip Buys, Associate International Director of the World Reformed Fellowship, and Rev. K. Zylistra representing the Presbyterian Reformed Church to extend greetings to the Assembly.

The Christian Education Committee reported on their progress in producing resources, including an upcoming book, edited by David Cook and featuring eight chapters on essential doctrines written by various Australian Presbyterian authors. The book will be available in time for a series of three day preaching seminars in which David Cook, David Jones and Peter Barnes will be conducting around Australia next year.

The Assembly received a communication from Rev. Dr Paul Logan submitting his resignation as Clerk Of Assembly to take effect December 2014. (See story on page 1.)

The evening session saw reports from the Australian Presbyterian World Mission and PresAID.

Rev. Daniel Marcel of East Timor, Rev. Dan Iveson of Japan and Rev. Kalonqo Ova, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, addressed our meeting and brought fraternal greetings and spoke of their hopes for the future.

On the report of the Assembly relating to the decision of one of our State Assemblies to form an independent body, the Assembly considered a request to place the jurisdiction over the assembled General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia was conducted with the usual sense of purpose to see business through that final day of three day meetings.

The Assembly considered a request from the New South Wales Assembly for a formal declaration on a particular matter, and the General Assembly affirmed that it is vital that pastors and elders affirm the practice of covenant baptism of infants as being biblically grounded, and that they are not free to openly oppose the practice.

The Finance Committee’s report was finalised, with the confirmation of our national budget for the next three years.

Rev. Dr. J. Ligon Duncan preached the third and final Assembly exposition, this time identifying seven points about pastoral life from Acts 20 after which we continued to receive a number of reports and questions of initiative in both patrol work and church planting.

The Assembly authorised a group of ministers to take up the 150th anniversary of the formation of the Reformed Church in 2017 to the 2016 General Assembly.

Rev. Bruce Meller was elected Clerk of Assembly and Rev. Lesleigh Hall was elected to serve as Reporter for the Assembly to take effect 1 January, 2014.

David Cook dissolved the Assembly in the context of closing comments that affirmed our denominational commitment to the effective proclamation of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks to the GAA and webmaster Michael Wharton the sermons preached through the week are available at the website (www.presbyterian.org.au) for listening or downloading.

The sermons from Rev. Dr J. Ligon Duncan.

* One sermon from Moderator-General 28th April 2013
* One sermon from Rev. Dr David Burge
* One national address from past Moderator-General Very Rev. David Jones

David Cook signs the Assembly Bible as a record of his affirmation of the GAA

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Open House at St Paul’s
QR codes reveal the full story
by Deaconess Dianne Parker

THE BRISBANE Open House program, operating since 2010, allows city residents and visitors the opportunity to explore the architecture, engineering and history of many of its best buildings. This year, St Paul’s was one of the featured churches, opening its door during October. In a new development it combined the traditional 19th century National Trust architecture with 21st century technology by labelling all the points of interest (such as organ, honour boards, memorials etc) with ‘QR codes’. These codes gave visitors with smart phones the opportunity to go to the church website which presented many extra details and high quality photographs of each particular feature.

A group listening to the organ being played by Mrs Donnelle Rouse with one of the elders, Doug Milne, who helps Neil Taylor to maintain the organ, on the right hand side of a 130-year-old pipe organ were able to enjoy listening to the organ. Some budding organists were able to test their skills under the eye of professionals. Those interested in the inner-workings of a 130-year-old pipe organ were also able to see some of the ‘secret compartments’ deep inside the instrument.

Many of the 200 people who visited the church over the weekend could be seen taking advantage of this convenient way of conveying information. The website received many hits during the weekend. The church pays tribute to the skill and tenacity of one of our members, Mrs Helen Murray, who spent many hours preparing this wonderful guide.

The idea had been seen by one of the church members in a church overseas while travelling earlier in the year. On the special website, Helen used historical material prepared for the 150th celebrations and Dr Russell Cowie’s book, A History of St Paul’s.

On both days, visitors were also able to enjoy listening to the organ. Some budding organists were able to test their skills under the eye of professional organists. Those interested in the inner-workings of a 130-year-old pipe organ were also able to see some of the ‘secret compartments’ deep inside the instrument.

Many who came to visit us made the comment, “We’ve often driven past this building and wondered what it was like inside” – a remark which was gently answered on at least one occasion with the words, “We are open for worship every Sunday”. As an exercise in outreach this was a unique opportunity for the church family members who were also able to get to know their neighbours, and visitors from further afield.

The nature of inner city life with secure buildings and residents who work long hours makes contacting those who live nearby almost impossible, so this was a good opportunity for them to drop in on us and some did.

In addition a number had made the journey from Ipswich and other places further away, whilst some were overseas visitors from places like France and Russia.

Although we are a little out of the central city area, we still had quite a number of visitors and those who were involved felt that the time was well spent.

If you would like to explore the church, you are always welcome to Sunday Services at 9.30 am or 6.30 pm.

However, if you’d like to explore our online Guide go to www.stpaulspcguide.blogspot.com.au or use the QR Code found on that website.
Pray, Live, Serve .... but do you want to be great?

by Naomi Reed

One of the reasons that verse strikes me is that in Nepal, the concept of servanthood is common. Most families have younger members serving in the household, and offices have lower caste staff members taking on that role.

And the thing that strikes me about the servants is their attitude, far more than their actual work.

It’s not just that they clean up the crumbs, it’s the way they do it. They’re thankful and humble and considerate. They’re grateful that they have work and they can buy rice. They’re teachable and respectful. They know who they are, and that without that work, they’d be on the streets, starving. That’s why they’re grateful. That’s why they serve.

It reminds me that it doesn’t matter what work we’re involved in – whether we’re writing the next 5-year plan for the biggest mission organization in the world, or we’re helping with the cleanup – we’re to have the attitude of a servant. We’re to remember who we are in Christ and who we would have been today if Jesus hadn’t died in our place.

And it’s only in remembering God’s mercy to us that we’re thankful and grateful and considerate ... and we get out of bed, wanting to serve.

Out of bed, wanting to serve

by Naomi Reed

out of bed, wanting to serve

Your honour, rather than our own.

And in desiring Your honour, help us to serve, genuinely. Amen

[Naomi Reed is a returned missionary, author and speaker. Her five popular books and an audio book, (The Promise) are available at good bookstores everywhere. To order more information, please contact Naomi Reed, or join My Seventh Monsoon on Facebook.]

The journey from southern Sudan

by Derek Bound

While in Kakuma, the potential of Angelo and Maria was recognized by some of the foreign aid workers and so they were personally sponsored to boarding schools.

In the meantime Angelo’s elder brother had made it to Australia or wiping up the crumbs, and offices have lower caste staff members serving in the household, and offices have lower caste staff members taking on that role.

And the thing that strikes me about the servants is their attitude, far more than their actual work.

It’s not just that they clean up the crumbs, it’s the way they do it. They’re thankful and humble and considerate. They’re grateful that they have work and they can buy rice. They’re teachable and respectful. They know who they are, and that without that work, they’d be on the streets, starving. That’s why they’re grateful. That’s why they serve.

It reminds me that it doesn’t matter what work we’re involved in – whether we’re writing the next 5-year plan for the biggest mission organization in the world, or we’re helping with the cleanup – we’re to have the attitude of a servant. We’re to remember who we are in Christ and who we would have been today if Jesus hadn’t died in our place - we would have been on the streets, perishing.

And it’s only in remembering God’s mercy to us that we’re thankful and grateful and considerate ... and we get

Stand back and watch God work

by Rob Johnson, Session Clerk

We had 12 children the first day. By Wednesday we were up to 29. Then on Friday night about two-thirds of the children came along to a barbecue and brought their parents and siblings to hear them sing, receive awards and taste the desserts the children had prepared under the supervision of our two 80-year-old cooks.

Some of the parents and grandparents tell us the kids are still singing the songs they learnt.

And another mother told me that she had enjoyed eating chocolate crackles. I said I was surprised that any of them made it home for her to taste. "No", she said, "they didn’t the kids wanted to make them again at home''.

You see the theme for the week with Wes and Di’s program was Mr Chef and that appeared on all our posters and enrolment forms. So thanks to our two young 80-year-old cooks, each day the children cooked something different and got to take it home (except as a rule nothing ever made it home).

Looking back now, it is uplifting to see how God has worked here to turn a catastrophe into a raging success as He so often does.

From the resources and the wonderful group of children He gave us, to the training, knowledge and skills we gained from working with Wes and Di over the past few years, it truly was a joy to watch a generous God for His people.

It just goes to show, the kids don’t need to be running around everywhere madly to have fun, and that the children [our leaders ranged from a 55-year-old to an 80-year-old] to have a good relationship and work with children. You just have to be willing to put God in control.

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SOMETIMES I wish I had a crystal ball so that I could be prepared for all of life’s surprises.

On the other hand, I think it is best that I don’t know. If I saw all the challenges life had in store for me I wouldn’t have married, completed a degree, made friends, joined a church, entered the work force or had children.

I don’t know anyone who hasn’t been scarred from life, who hasn’t made sacrifices, been betrayed, been judged, felt misunderstood or felt shame, heartache, pain and despair. Who would want to approach life aware of all the difficulties it will face? Life is painful!

However, I believe that pain also enhances life. If I never experience life’s pain, then how can I understand forgiveness, love, gratitude, perseverance, humility, faith and hope? These are the treasures of life’s pain, then how can I understand perseverance, humility, faith and hope? These are the treasures of life.

However, I believe that pain also enhances life. If I never experience life’s pain, then how can I understand forgiveness, love, gratitude, perseverance, humility, faith and hope? These are the treasures of life.

Joy (Andrew’s mother) and Andrew in ICU at the PA Hospital two days after the accident.

Andrew was late, when he didn’t answer the phone calls.

I don’t know what the paramedic finally answered my call, but I knew that someone was watching over the person you love every minute.

My husband and I know that we may never hear from you again, but we do hear from you every day.

We want you to win. We want to release you to be free. We want you to be able to live a purposeful life.

If you can sort yourself out – and we believe that you can – you have the potential to positively influence so many young boys like yourself and turn this whole thing into a win.

We hope to hear from you, but if we don’t, we wish you all the best.

~O~

29 August 2011 started like any other week.

Andrew woke early to go for his morning walk before work while the kids and I got ready for work and school. We weren’t aware that ‘normal’ ended for us within minutes of Andrew starting his walk.

Joy (Andrew’s mother) and Andrew in ICU at the PA Hospital two days after the accident.

He was given a four year sentence for driving under the influence of marijuana and meth at the time of the accident.

No one would want to approach life with grieved bodily harm, while adversely affected by an intoxicating substance.

He was a four year sentence suspended after serving twelve months in custody.

Andrew, Dianne Parker and Sjoerd Hesling at work in the Presbyterian archives.

Andrew, Dianne Parker and Sjoerd Hesling at work in the Presbyterian archives.
ON THE second anniversary of my husband's accident, 29 August 2013, our family delivered 200 hope bags to the ICU at The Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Our car was crammed with packing boxes, buckets and crates — all containing hope bags bulging with all sorts of goodies. It was a challenge to get all the boxes, buckets and crates from the car to ICU and I am sure that even the ICU volunteers, social workers and nurses were wondering where everybody would pack their bags.

Our family sat in the familiar waiting room and we chatted excitedly, laughed and hugged our guests as they arrived. Not the behaviour you would expect to find in the waiting room and we chatted about everything would be stored.

After the families were delivered to ICU 2C, we left the ICU at The Princess Alexandra Hospital and headed home. It was the most beautiful morning. Speeches were given, stories were told and tears were shed.

What a day! Our car was crammed with packing boxes, buckets and crates — all containing hope bags bulging with all sorts of goodies. Our family sat in the familiar waiting room of ICU! We chatted about everything; we chatted and we chatted. It was amazing how we shared so much in that waiting room.

I got so far, I had done all the items in the hope bags covered. Although they were provided by other people, I could organise it myself. When it came to making the hope bags, I quickly realised that, due to financial constraints, I would not be able to make 200 bags or print the brochures. I knew that I would have to ask for help. This would leave me vulnerable. I called our pastor and asked him if I could ask the congregation for help and half expected him to say no.Funny enough, he said yes! I stood before the church and shared my vision and passion for this project and humbly asked people to contribute material or money towards it.

I hear that I will not do justice in explaining the enormity of people's generosity.

The same morning I shared, I had to leave early to take my daughter to work. I came back to pick up the rest of the family to go to lunch. During the week our pastor had taken us to take (ICU, 2C, BIRD, QCAT, lawyers, rehabilitation) which left me feeling like a pinball in a pinball machine. I knew we had to change our path but I hope to shine a light on it so that you do not feel like you are lost in the dark.

The Lewis family - Samuel (15), Haley (17), Andrew, Stacy, Sophie (13)
Three generations of authors

David Bennett and his family are living proof that skills can be passed from generation to generation. David, who attends Creek Road Presbyterian Church, began writing professionally in 1985 when his first book, William Booth and the Salvation Army, was released. Since then, he has had fifteen books published, with sales of nearly 60,000 copies. Earlier this year his William Booth book was republished, and he has just signed a contract on a book about cricket and Christian missionary, CT Stud. While David’s books are usually biographies or theological books, his daughter, Lynne Stringer, had her debut novel published in June this year. Called The Heir, it is a young adult, science fiction romance and is the first book in the Verndon Trilogy. The second book in the series, The CROWN, is due out in November.

If that wasn’t enough of an indication that the writing gene had been passed on, Lynne’s son, seven-year-old Kaden, recently won a class in a school for his writing. I write something else.” Lynne seems to have inherited this love of writing from me.”

“Writing, to me, is a passion,” said David. “Whenever I think about retiring, I write something else.” Lynne also gave the background to his own ‘journey’ in Biblical Theology, including the development of courses for local church members during his 14 years on staff at St Stephen’s Coorparoo.

QTC STUDENTS and guests had the privilege of hearing from respected theologian Graeme Goldsworthy on 28 October about his life’s work in the field of Biblical Theology. A former part-time member of Faculties at QTC (then the Presbyterian Theological Hall), Graeme is the author of such books as According to Plan and Gospel and Kingdom and has had a significant impact on how the Bible is taught in Australia and around the world. He did a great job of emphasising his Presbyterian ‘roots’ and ‘credentials’ (as a former parish at St John’s Anerley!).

In the first session, Graeme outlined the development of Biblical Theology in Australia in particular, focusing on the influence of Donald Robinson, a teacher at Moore Theological College and subsequently Archbishop of Sydney. Graeme also gave the background to his own ‘journey’ in Biblical Theology, including the development of courses for local church members during his 14 years on staff at St Stephen’s Coorparoo.

In the second main session, Graeme offered a range of ‘reflections on Biblical Theology’. His passion for the gospel and commitment to reading all of Scripture as pointing to and fulfilled in Christ came across clearly, not only in his teaching, but also in a wealth of illustrations from his wide-ranging and significant ministry experience.

It was also in this session that he revealed (much to the Principal’s delight) that his mother was Irish! In the final session, Gary Millar then joined his new-found Irish brother on stage for an extended conversation which focused on the importance of teaching the Old Testament, the legitimacy of making moral application from the Old Testament as long as it is set in a ‘gospel framework’ and a range of Biblical Theological issues raised by the audience. All at QTC were delighted to welcome back one of its most famous ‘sons’ for what was a rich and highly engaging day.

QTC welcomes back Graeme Goldsworthy

CA N A N Y O N E HELP?

This photograph was recently sent to Archives and we are hoping that someone will be able to identify the ladies. It was taken at the first PWMU camp at Alexandra Headland in 1947. If you are able to help, please email archives@pcq.org.au or contact Dianne or Lynda on 3251 4100.

If anyone has significant old photographs relating to the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, the Archives would be happy to receive them (or copies of them) for its records. Any names and dates which would help identify them would also be appreciated. Copies can also be sent to Archives. These will be scanned and returned immediately.
DIRT, DUST AND DROUGHT ... BUT NOT DESPERATION

Roger and Margaret Crane amongst cattle stations and cattle people

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

Into this situation PIM seeks to bring the truths of the Gospel. It is self inflicted where there has been a drought. The challenge is to continue to shine the light of the Gospel in the darkness that is settling in. We do it through the medium of word and deed. The extra storage space on the stockyard is being pressed into service for the delivery of the Word on such occasions. Please pray for the Christians on the properties. Few and far between may be, but they are there, they are faithful in their witness, and they are much in prayer for those around them. Right now the physical fields are certainly not ripe for harvest but the people surely are – and there is a major lack of ministers in the area! We are thankful for the privilege of being His messengers in these trying times.
MALLINSON MISSION ACCOMPLISHED...

At the Mt. Isa Church...

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

We have participated in the regular Bible Study and commenced a Young Adult Study on Friday evenings. A Church member has taken leadership on our departure. The men met for a scrumptious breakfast and talk, while the ladies were encouraged at a morning tea. Our 4 wheel drives were thoroughly tested on a church adventure barbecue day around some of the old mine areas. Before we left, we held a PIM partnership night, showing the PIM Centenary DVD and praying for the ministry to those in isolated areas of our vast continent. We have also been able to meet with many of the Church folk in their homes and attended to the requirements of Session and Committee. Living in the Cauvin Park for the period has enabled us to ‘speak a word in season’ to the many enquirers including Park staff. We had some interesting talks with one young couple travelling round ‘Oz’ and they joined us for worship before they went on their way. As with last year when we were in the Kimberley, the PIM signs on our car and van have attracted many comments and questions. Two new young families have attended worship and showed interest in joining the fellowship through these contacts.

...and in the North Australia Patrol

Our Patrol involvement has been on days not spent with the ministry to the Church. Building on previous work by Roger and Margaret Cran, we have had successful visits to some properties and called on many others. Our travels took us to west to Camooweal, south to Boulia, and van has attracted many comments and questions. Two new young families have attended worship and showed who was visiting them, helping them out through the school holidays. A good lad, a willing worker and willing to give serious thought to the weighty matters of life. Along the way we discussed the venue and program for a Christmas service which are planning to hold in this outside veranda situation at the start of December. We are also planning 3 other Christmas services in our patrol area.

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

PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

www.pim.org.au

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2013 PATROLS COMPLETED

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

PATROL IN CAPE YORK?

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

LAURIE AND GWEN PEAKE

Faithfully sharing God’s love over the years in the Leichhardt Patrol

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

As we set out, we were again made conscious that within our patrol was a rapidly developing Coal Seam Gas field. A very large new power line quickly brought this home to us. All along the way, we saw men at work digging trenches and laying huge gas pipes to complete the line that will carry this gas to Gladstone for liquification and export by 2015. Accommodation camps are springing up everywhere to house workers numbered in the thousands that are putting it all together. Unfortunately workers numbered in the thousands that are putting it all together. Unfortunately

We found several opportunities to take hold of our area. We helped

and mining works, travelling 300 kms

in the Leichhardt Patrol

A very large new power line quickly

conscious that within our patrol was a

As we set out, we were again made

who was visiting them, helping

the folk, inviting them to follow the practice of daily readings. This is an important aim

Daily bread which we left with the folk,

aiding hand as drought
takes hold of our area. We helped

one lady take a silly load of cotton

seed to feed drought affected stock, helping

her to shovel it into all manner of

containers including hollow logs, old

bath tubs and ½ 44 gal drums. It gave

us an opportunity to extend love and

support to her in these difficult times.

on other property we helped a couple

feed heifers which have been selected as future breeders a gourmet meal of hay,

straw, cotton seed meal and molasses.

Then we loaded a round bale of hay

onto the tractor and took it up the

paddock and rolled it out to feed the

rest of the herd as they came running for

their hay.

On a few occasions we were able to read the Scriptures accompanied by Our

we wended our way through stops signs

and mining works, travelling 300 kms

in our two days and visiting 19

properties with 5 owners absent.

We found several opportunities to

lend a helping hand as drought

takes hold of our area. We helped

10 days off. In our view of the 10

Commandments this is immoral. Sadly,

this CSG project is rightly nicked

named “the Marriage Breaker”. Because

of the hours the miners are working,

there is no opportunity for us to make

contact with them. This whole project

is a big worry for graziers who fear the

serious possibility of the ruination of

our Great Artesian Basin leaving us

without this vital natural water resource

for our cattle. Much of our talk on

Patrol with those we visited was around

this issue and also having to deal with
gas companies which they find

extremely tedious.

We will be looking forward to signs

of life in our area and ways to

support our farming folk to

broaden their businesses.

We also held a Number 12 service

in the Leichhardt Patrol

a big worry for graziers who fear the

ruination of our Great Artesian Basin.

...and in the North

Australia Patrol

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### APWM CHRISTMAS GIFT CATALOGUE 2013 ORDER FORM

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

**ORDER FORM /PAYMENTS**
Please fill out your details and enclose your payment (cheque or money order made out to APWM). Please DO NOT send cash. If you would like to pay by Direct Deposit the details are:

- **Bank**: Westpac
- **Account Name**: Australian Presbyterian World Mission
- **BSB**: 032 260

Write your name in the description box and email finance@apwm.org.au informing us of your deposit.

Please mail your order form to: APWM Christmas Catalogue 8 Sylvan Grove, Picnic Point NSW 2213 and we will send you the cards you have ordered.

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

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

**Name**

**Address**

**suburb** __________  **Postcode** __________

**Phone** __________  **Email** __________

### APWM is moving!

God-willing, from January 2014, the APWM National Office will be located within the grounds of the Presbyterian Theological Centre, Burwood in Sydney. This will enable the Director and office staff to have greater contact with theological students, ministers, elders and church members who visit the PTC. Burwood is a centrally located and so will be very convenient for meetings. Details regarding the phone number and postal address will be available later this year. Our web and email details will stay the same. We’ll be in the very top of the older building on the corner.
Caloundra PC Mission to Kenya 2014

by Rev. Ian McIver

Once again, in January 2014, a team will be going to Kenya from Caloundra PC.

This will be their first visit to Kenya and Africa for five of our team members; the other four are new “old hands” for whom Africa has worked its magic into their hearts. Our team will be led by Ian and Norma McIver and also consists of Margaret Kennedy and Erin Higgins from our 2013 team, along with Erin’s mother Irene, Joshua and Kirkdale Shanahan, who have had considerable experience on APWM Youth Work Parties in Yamin and, James and Rachel Cran.

Once again we will be going to the Agape Hope Orphanage in Nairobi, and then to church planting ministries on the western side of the Rift Valley. Our last two days will be spent enjoying a visit to the Maasai Mara Game Reserve before returning to Nairobi for the flight home.

Our team leaves on Monday 20 January and returns on Saturday 25 February.

Some readers may be concerned about anyone going to Kenya in the wake of the terrorist attack on the Westgate Mall in Nairobi. However, the reality is that there is far more frequent news of violence and gun related massacres in the United States than there ever is in Kenya. Kenya has a history as an ally of the west and the recent attack was related to Kenya’s determination to help stamp out terrorism in the horn of Africa by stationing some 5000 troops in Somalia. For that alone Kenya deserves our support.

We must count ourselves blessesd that, unlike the United States or the United Kingdom or Kenya, so far we have not borne the brunt of terrorism. Long may that continue.

Reformation Weekend Events at Caloundra PC

Dr Allan and Mrs Mairi Harman were welcome visitors to the Caloundra Presbyterian Church for its Reformation celebrations during the last weekend in October. The Harman’s live in retirement in Grafton and Allan is a former Principal of PTC Melbourne and a former Moderator-General of the PCA.

Dr Harman was the after-dinner speaker for a Congregational dinner on Saturday evening and spoke of the on-going importance of the rediscovery of the Gospel truth of justification by faith for 21st century Australia.

Indeed, our circumstances are very similar to those the Apostolic Church faced in the 1st century AD – we too live in a multi-cultural, multi-lingual and multi-ethnic society as did the first century Christians. In what may seem to be an increasingly threatening social context, we too should embrace our day as an opportunity for the Gospel and for the Church to reach out into the market place of 21st century Australia.

On Reformation Sunday Dr. Harman preached from Romans 8:1-7 at both morning services, and began by reminding us of the importance of the Book of Romans for Martin Luther’s conversion.

In particular he spoke of what Luther sometimes referred to as the “Pauline” psalms [Psalms 32, 53, 103, 130 and 143] that find their Gospel fulfillment in Paul’s letter to the Romans.

But reformation must not only be viewed as an historic event; it must also be viewed as a present and ongoing reality for the Church, so Dr Harman underlined for us again the grace of God for our salvation in Christ, and for our Christian walk as the Holy Spirit fulfills His ministry in our lives.

We were very grateful for the Harman’s visit and pray the Lord’s blessing for their on-going ministries in their retirement years.

THE FIRST few months as Moderator have been both a blessing and a challenge.

Apart from the monthly Board meetings of Prescare and Fairholme College, I have had the honour of representing the Church at the Annual Law Service, the 197th anniversary of the St Paul’s Congregation and the Police Remembrance Day Service.

I have also had the opportunity of having lunch with the Principal of Emmanuel College and morning tea with the staff of Prescare. I have also attended the Speech Nights of Clayfield and Brisbane Boys’ College.

I have had the privilege of preaching at Ann Street, Wavel Heights and Eatons Hill and I thank the Ministers and Congregations for giving me that honour.

Please pray for the continued ministries of these congregations.

Once again we will be going to Kenya from Caloundra PC.

Our last two days will be spent enjoying a visit to the Maasai Mara Game Reserve before returning to Nairobi, and then to church planting ministries on the western side of the Rift Valley. Our last two days will be spent enjoying a visit to the Maasai Mara Game Reserve before returning to Nairobi for the flight home.

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In particular

• Ann Street with the pending arrival of the Very Rev. David Jones as their new minister.
• St Paul’s as Rev. Andrew Gardner retires at the end of the year.
• Eatons Hill and Wavel Heights as they serve and minister to their community.
• Please pray that the Lord will bless us all as we, as a Church, seek to serve the Lord and ‘Go share the Gospel’.

We pray that we will experience the Lord’s presence as we go in the power of being surrounded by the Lord’s protective love and by the prayers of His people.

But then the “bottom line” question that we must ask ourselves when we follow the Lord Jesus, Who has promised to be with us “always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20)? Is it faith in a sovereign God? Or is it faith in ourselves, in our ability to do what is right? The answer should never be hard to find. As we go to Kenya our team places itself in the hands of a sovereign God. Having said all that, your prayers will be much appreciated.

In 2013 we had a strong sense of being surrounded by the Lord’s protective love and by the prayers of His people.

We pray that we will experience that same protective love as we go in 2014.

This small group of ladies from Burdekin had pleasure in presenting the local church with $750 as a contribution to supporting their valuable work in Burdekin schools.

The money was raised by holding a “Bookfest” on a Saturday in July under the enthusiastic leadership of Ruth Stockdale. Books of all sorts were donated by many folk from Ayr and Home Hill and many from both towns came to look and buy.

A small Friendship Cookery Book containing recipes that friends delight to share is printed as needed and copies are given to PIM padres, Marjaret and Roger Crane based in Charters Towers, to give to women they meet on their outreach patrols.

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• Please pray that the Lord will bless us all as we, as a Church, seek to serve the Lord and ‘Go share the Gospel’.
As the Christmas season approaches once more, praise God for the Christ Child - a baby boy born to the young woman Mary so long ago - who grew up to become the Saviour of the world, by suffering and dying on a cross for our sins.  

WENDY HENRY TALKS WITH LORRAINE EASTWELL ABOUT NURTURING OTHERS AND BEING NURTURED HERSELF

Wendy: Welcome Lorraine!

L: Welcome Wendy!

W: How have you experienced through this ministry over the years? What are the highs and lows that stand out for you as you reflect on it all?

L: Over the years many things have changed. We spent a lot of years, from Thursday evening to Sunday lunch, at Dakabin – a great camp site, with great speakers and activities which allowed us to care for one another and form great friendships with other Christian women. We had a lot of fun together, cried a lot, and were enormously blessed by the teaching from God’s Word. When self-catering was no longer possible at any camp site, and the double bunks at Dakabin were becoming inaccessible for many participants, we found a new site at Brookfield that catered for our needs better. It’s a lovely site, in the bush on the edge of the city, but sadly, costs have risen and numbers have dropped. But we are grateful to God for his increased blessings in recent years. The highs for me have been many terrific speakers, including Lesley Ramsay, Jenny Salt, Claire Smith and Christine Jensen – to name a few. The greatest impact on me was in 2008, when I was at an all-time low and Jenny Richardson came on board at the last minute with studies on “Hope”.

W: So, let’s talk about the “New Directions” Bible Study Retreat! How has it grown, changed or developed over the years?

L: So, right now, “Be Nurtured” is in a stage of growth and changes. We now meet from Friday night to Sunday afternoon – a lot more convenient for many, but a sad loss for some. We’ve left the retreats to the hands of others. The allow us to concentrate on great Bible study, as well as building meaningful relationships and networking. We hope to make each session appealing in its own right, so that those who can’t come for the whole weekend, can still take part in a meaningful way. I’d like to recommend the 2014 “Ladies Bible Study Retreat” to all women who long for an opportunity to study God’s Word for a couple of days, just one day, or maybe even half a day! Beate Trake is coming to share God’s Word and we are excited about how God will work in us.

W: How do you see this new-look retreat fitting in to the overall ministry women have to women?

L: Overall, I see this opportunity as just one way for women to longer women in our world – but rarely get to do!

W: Now just recently Lorraine, you’ve had an opportunity to be encouraged and nurtured in your own growth, through a new course for women at QTC. What was that like for you, both personally (to be on the receiving end!) and also in this ministry of ministering to one another?

L: This year I was blessed to attend the Mw6 (Ministry to Women) course at Queensland Theological College. I loved being back in the classroom, receiving great Bible teaching and being involved in the lives and experiences of many women. The course taught me how important it is that the Bible places importance on our relationships and consequently the encouragement and nurture that develops between women. The concept of older women teaching younger women, is a great way of sharing our experiences, so it is our responsibility and privilege to become theologically sound in our living and our words, remembering that words are an important tool for spreading the Gospel, which is our most important job.

W: On a personal note, can you share with us the most nurturing experience of your own life?

L: Personally, I am grateful that my parents, who became Christians when I was just a wee girl, nurtured me in my own Christian faith from a young age. I was privileged to receive great Bible teaching in my teens, and then nurtured both professionally and spiritually by Este Christian nursing sisters during my nursing training.

W: What about when life presented its challenges and you needed nurturing yourself to hold it all together?

L: Graham and I had been married less than three years, when our baby boy became acutely ill and died. This was a tragedy like no other, and sadly we were left to our own devices for healing and restoration. I thank God that He loved us and that we loved each other. Church continued as though nothing had happened to us. There were no small groups or gender-based groups... just church on Sundays and the admonition from those older and wiser that we “needed to get on with life and get over Alistair’s death”. I recognised that we needed compassion and empathy and so when my Mum invited me to go to a CWCI Gospel-centred convention, I went. I found that I had so much love poured into me. I met a large group of women who loved me without even knowing me (and who loved my Mum as well), who wiped away my tears, who gave me encouraging words and who shared the message of the Gospel. It was here that my healing began, and through me, Graham could heal too. Later that year we were transferred to Townsville, and found an extension of that love and compassion in the church there.

W: But that’s not the end of your story... is it? What happened next?

L: God gave us four more lovely babies (one at a time)! and we made it to 2006 in a variety of ways. That year in October, Graham was unexpectedly diagnosed with cancer and God released him from this life and took him home in early June of 2007. This separation by death was catastrophic for all of us, and we really struggled for a long time, and still do... often. At that time I was cared for and nurtured by my Christian boss, non-Christian work colleagues, teachers from schools where we had taught RE for lots of years, men from Graham’s local Minister’s Circle at Helensvale and many friends.

W: And so, with those experiences behind you (and yet always with you), can you tell us what it has been like for you to open up and share your home in a young woman in need of nurturing?

L: Now I am living in my own wonderful home (clearly organised by God) and am kept busy in ways I never imagined! I very happily attend Creek Road church and am involved in a small way there with the women’s growth groups. Since coming here I have been able to fulfill a desire in ministering to a young single mum and her little one, while she continues her studies for a year. I loved that, though of course the experience brought its limitations. But with all of that, I see God’s hand at work in my life – nurturing, curing, loving, protecting, being my every-present company, my strength and my courage. The Good Shepherd has indeed walked with me through the valley of the shadow of death, where no evil will befall me, and I have great hope that I too will one day sit at His banqueting table.

W: Thanks Lorraine, for being so transparent as you’ve shared your story with us. We pray that God Himself, through His Holy Spirit and His Word, will always be your source of nourishment and strength as you continue to serve Him, just as you have done in the past!
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Stunning retirement living
Display Suite opens at Corinda

Construction of PresCare’s Kingsford Terrace retirement living development is charging ahead. PresCare Project Manager Ken Howatson says that during October earth works were in full swing, with the site turned into a revolving door for 13 B-double trucks operating over 20 days.

“The result was the removal of an estimated mountainous 25,000 cubic metres of soil from the site”, Ken says. “This is the equivalent of 10 Olympic-sized swimming pools.”

Favourable weather conditions have also allowed for almost non-stop progress on the impressive new Display Suite, on-track for its December grand opening. With the Cliveden Avenue entry road finished, a row of mature poinciana trees now adorns one side of the driveway.

The Display Suite’s stunning bathroom and kitchen tiling and cabinetry were among the finishing touches last month. From the comfortable and plush Display Suite interiors, visitors will enjoy an enormous apartment window enabling magnificent vistas of the Kingsford Terrace site.

In keeping with the Kingsford Terrace development, a welcoming entrance to the Display Suite has been achieved through lush landscaping.

“A selection of mature trees has been transplanted along the Morecom Avenue fence line”, Ken says. “It was important to PresCare to have established gardens and landscaping for potential residents to see right from the start. That way they can really visualise what their new home will look like.”

Early November saw the launch of a Circle of Friends event at the Milton Display Suite. Guests, including couples who have already committed to the Kingsford Terrace community and lifestyle, enjoyed a glass of champagne and freshly prepared canapés while hearing from the architect and others involved in the project.

The Kingsford Terrace Sales Team is thrilled to be moving to the Corinda site where they welcome visitors for inspection of the new Display Suite.

“The new Display Suite demonstrates just how spectacular these apartments will be”, says Sales Manager Matt Rowe.

To make an appointment to view the brand new Kingsford Terrace Display Suite, contact Matt and the team on 1300 287 672.

Two new books for archives...

PAST MINISTER of the PCQ, Rev. Dr Noel Wallis, continues to write on his favourite topics, Biography and History. Dr Wallis began writing and publishing titles in 1986 with the biography of Rev. Dr Harold Whitney, “The Warhorse”, and he has continued his writing under four main headings - family history, biography, historical events and national service. Just over two dozen titles are secured in State and National Libraries for present readers and for posterity. Some have been gifted to the University’s Fryer Library as well as the PCQ archives. As those who put pen on paper, and have the result printed and bound, know, the merit is both labour and finance taxing, but rewarding.

Noel has given copies of his two most recent publications, John Dunmore Lang and Mowbraytown to PCQ archivist, Deaconess Dianne Parker, for inclusion in the archives.
Country comes to City Sunday service

by Angela Hamilton

IT IS fair to say that Graceville Presbyterian Church has undergone some radical changes of late. We have been pushed to think more seriously about how to reach our community.

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit comes, not just to be with the disciples, but to be within them (Acts 2:38). The Holy Spirit is the counsellor within the believer. He leads us in the battle against the flesh (Romans 8:12-14). He reminds us that all believers are adopted into God’s family and can call God, Father (Romans 8:15). He helps us when we don’t know what to pray (Romans 8:26).

God cannot be more with us than by being within us and He is within us, in the person of the Holy Spirit. Believer, you are never alone. There will never be any sound reason for you to suffer from separation anxiety.

The Christian is never alone, never abandoned. What a privilege it is to be in the flock of a Shepherd Who knows and cares for sheep so well. This is why the ministry of the Holy Spirit is so precious to the believer.

The Lord Jesus assured His disciples that His leaving them was to their advantage for His ascension meant the coming of the Holy Spirit (John 16:7).

From the Moderator General

Separation Anxiety

to come to Him (Matthew 11:28) and assures us that He will never leave us (Matthew 28:20).

King David tells us that even though we walk through the valley of death (surely the loneliest of all journeys), God the Shepherd will never leave us, “your rod and your staff they comfort me” (Psalm 23:4).

Therefore let us cast off every vestige of separation anxiety, knowing that absolutely nothing in the world God created can separate us from “the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord!” (Romans 8:39).

An American country music group, Lady Antebellum, sings a song called “Never Alone”. It is a lover’s promise never to leave his loved one – it is a nice, but uncertain sentiment.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is certain, since He comes to us from God, given to us because of the work of the Lord Jesus and that work is eternally effective and certain (Acts 2:32-33).

IN 2014 QTC will, for the first time, offer a course in Biblical Counselling. They will be partnering with Christian Counselling & Educational Foundation (CCEF) in Philadelphia to run the course, which will be delivered via a combination of online subjects and intensives.

Students will engage with CCEF who, through the work of David Powlinson, Paul Tripp and others, have been so helpful in equipping the church across the world in this area. Our prayer is that this quality course here in Australia will be exciting to be working with CCEF who, through the work of David Powlinson, Paul Tripp and others, have been so helpful in equipping the church across the world in this area. Our prayer is that this quality course here in Australia will be exciting to be working with.

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The Street-Preacher's Guide to Fruit Picking

By Ian Hodge, PhD

Thus, when Eve was confronted with the option “to be like God” she knew very well what it meant. It meant that she would now become just like God, making up her own rules. She would be the one who no longer simply obeys God but now has the freedom to make her own rules. She would be the one who makes such things as lying, cheating, stealing, adultery, fornication, murder and false witness, as well as a myriad of other things. Thus, when the Street-Preacher begins to list the “sins” of the people as lying, cheating, stealing, etc. he is merely attacking the rotten fruit. Instead, he should cut down the rotten tree which is the real problem. And then only can preachers on the street or elsewhere actually carry out fruit picking.

Thus she would wonder why there is little fruit among the people. It’s because there are many people who believe that fruit is not a problem. In fact, this is the Greek word for fruit picking. The fruit picking will be the removal of the rotten fruit. But when it comes to human sin, rotten fruit comes from a rotten tree.

The Street-Preacher should not preach as if he is a farmer, for he will not be able to prove it with his hands.

Thus, Street-Preachers should give up fruit picking and instead take an ax to the rotten tree of human autonomy, and replant with the tree of knowledge.

They should abandon fruit-picking and instead take the task of human holiness, and see that the “trees” which produce good fruit.

Now the original Hebrew makes it clear that to “know good and evil” (Gen. 3:5) is “to make, or determine.” Thus, to be like God means that Eve, and through her to Adam and the human race, would now replace God as the one who makes the rules. God is sidelined out of the equation.

Thus you see that the real “tree of sin” is the one which flows everything else. It is the tree of human autonomy which it is the goodness of God that leads to lying, cheating, stealing, adultery, fornication and a myriad of other things.

But when the Street-Preacher begins to list the “sins” of the people as lying, cheating, stealing, etc. he is merely attacking the rotten fruit. Instead, he should cut down the rotten tree which is the real problem. And then only can preachers on the street or elsewhere actually carry out fruit picking.

By Ian Hodge, PhD
Two great camps at Moogerah Dam

Fun and Adventure

LET ME sum up Fun and Adventure Camp in the following way.

#fun #awesome #dannyandryan #wildwildwest #whatsinrome #shani #selfies #formal #disco #amazingtalks #greatleaders #thanks #isthatkirstyjohnson #fun #instantfashion

The End

What? Not familiar with the ‘language of hashtag’? Ok, well let me revert to the traditional method of camp reviewing - an article.

On the second week of the school holidays, 144 campers headed out to beautiful Lake Moogerah for a week of Fun and Adventure (#funawesome). You see, there were the 144 campers who filled the camp up in just two weeks on our online registration page. They had been counting down the days for camp for a whole school term. We asked Danny Mitchell and Ryan Holmes (#dannyandryan) to come and talk to us on the book of Romans, and this is exactly what they did. Mixed in with a whole bunch of great activities, the week was an absolute blast.

On the Wednesday night, everyone dressed up as a Cowboy or an Indian (or a horse), and we battled it out for the West (#wildwildwest). This was a fantastic night of fun, frivolity and Wild Wild West action. The day time activities were great as well. We pulled out the massive plastic water slide (#waterslide), and sent campers slip/sliding their way to the bottom of the hill. We also went tubing.

Unfortunately Moogerah Dam was closed so we transported the campers by coach out to Maroon Dam where we had five boats and a jet ski tow around the lake for three days (#stackeditonthetubes). This is always a great highlight of camp, and this year was no different as we also had a 24 seater dragon boat canoe to use as well. Now that was a challenge!

During the talk times we got to see Robert the Roman and his friend Jimbo muddle their way through an Ancient Roman sitcom called #whatisinrome, and everything was going well, until Shani Feldon (#shani) decided to gatecrash the play by upstaging Robert and photographing herself (#selfies). But that’s ok, we got our revenge...

The week always concludes with our traditional formal dinner, and this year, the leaders worked extremely hard to put it on outdoors. Yep, the formal dinner was the first ever held outdoors. Yep, the formal dinner was the first ever held outdoors. It was a fantastic time of fellowship and individuals who continue to support this ministry in prayer and in other ways.

Of course, camp is not camp without a dress-up night and we had some fun. Woody from Toy Story turned up for the Kesmo Pie (#eskimo) Fest was held on Sunday morning, proving that you can have plenty of fun without the need for drugs or alcohol. What a great way to end the week!

But back to the talks (#amazingtalks). Over the course of the week, both campers and leaders alike were challenged in our understanding of sin, and just how big a problem it is. We were left pondering this for 24 hours before being shown just how amazing God’s grace is. This was quite a profound series of talks, and it challenged everyone. We spent nearly 40 minutes in small groups after each of the talks, with our leaders asking questions and sharing their lives with the campers (#greatleaders). The response was amazing. God was quite clearly at work in the hearts of both campers and leaders alike over the course of the week. PTL!

Oh did I mention the cricket (#matches)? England won... and by England, I mean Ben Baker’s team. And of course, we all enjoyed posting our photos on instagram during the week - you can check out the hastag #enfieldina to see over 200 photos of camp (#isthatkirstyjohnson #fun #instantfashion). We can’t wait for next year. But I’m telling you now... spots will fill like wildfire. This year it took two weeks for camp to fill up. Next year will be even quicker. Make sure you ‘Like’ Fun and Adventure Camp on Facebook so you get information regarding the online registration.

Kids’ Weekender II

OVER 85 campers attended the most recent Kids’ Weekender Two Camp at Lake Moogerah. Coming hot on the heels of Fun and Adventure Camp, KW2 was quick to get into its stride with the Cowboys and Indians theme utilized well to run fun and engaging activities; and more importantly, allowing the narrative of Scripture to be presented within the illustration of ‘The Wild Wild West’.

Steve Hay and Dave Bigg from Acacia Ridge Presbyterian Church took the campers through the story of Creation, the Fall and the New Creation, as the campers spent their group times researching and thinking about Genesis 1, Genesis 3 and Revelation!

The memory verse from 2 Corinthians 5:17 was the glue that held the picture together as the campers sang about how God loves the Cowboys and the Indians, and rapped to ‘Everyday Old will be New Again’.

It was a fantastic time of fellowship as we sang and studied our way through a whirlwind tour of scripture. And it was the week ends leading up to camp doing their own scriptural studies having been asked challenging questions by Steve Hay, and being encouraged to up the ante in their own walk with the Lord.

The leaders, as well as the campers, were keen to think these things through and it was awesome to see the creative ways the small group leaders went about sharing their lives with the campers.

We had a lot of fun away from the Bible talks as well, as we had five boats tow the campers around the lake for three hours on Saturday afternoon and a fantastic Wild Wild West Fest was held on Sunday morning, including Knock ‘em Downs and a Jumping Castle generously donated to KW2.

Of course, camp is not camp without a dress-up night and we had Cowgirls, Indians, Cacti, Cows, Horses and even Jesse and Woody from Toy Story turning up for some fun.

A big thanks to our new camp caterer, Troy Wilkins (Creek Road Springfield), for committing to our camps as our new CHEF, and he even makes ESKIMO PIE! What a legend! With our Kids Weekender Camps concluded for another year, we look forward to going ‘Under the Sea’ in 2014, and creatively presenting the gospel to a whole new set of campers, and many who will return again.

Thank you to the many churches and individuals who continue to support this ministry in prayer and in other ways.

We look forward to more great memories next year.
A day without laughter is a day wasted

Lorraine says. “I heard all about tea and a chat with Thelma recently”, morning hearing all about it. Young to present the new Donations Philanthropy Manager in September. appointment of Lorraine Nothling as is being reinvigorated with the PresCare is deserving of which delighted the residents. “I spoke to the children, who are Vela volunteer Ruth Gavarotto says. at one of her Sunday School classes”, Petrina’s Sunday School class had bookmarks that the children of who brought along a collection of Petrina Enchelmaier and her children Bass and Wills residential blocks. sharing prayers, stories and morning prayers, stories and morning direction. Glenda says. “We were also pleased to see that respect is being shown to older people in accordance to God’s direction. Psalm 71:7-18 was the text on the back of the beautifully handmade bookmarks” – O God, You have taught me from my youth; and to this day I go unwearyed and unbroken. Now also when I am old and grey headed, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare your strength to this generation. Your power to everyone who is to come. (NKJV)

It was also discovered that there was a connection between some of the residents, Heather McDonald and Petrina – as Heather was one of the first borders at Clayfield College and Petrina was the music captain in her senior years. It just goes to show, we are all connected one way or another!...
What’s on in 2014

March 11-13 

Preaching Week

“That everyone might know his name” 

QTC’s 3rd annual Preaching Week promises to be the best yet! A great line up of speakers headed by Ray Orval (Calvary Chapel, Christ Church Bible Ministry, Sydney), and Doug Green (Western Laver Theological Seminary, Philadelphia) will explore the challenges of preaching in Australia today so ‘That everyone might know his name’. In addition, the B seminar workshops will ensure that everyone has the chance to get set up for a fresh teaching series in church in 2014. See the website for more details.

August

August will be packed full of great teaching as QTC partners with other Christian organisations to bring to you these world-class speakers.

Don Carson : August 25

Matt Chandler : August 25

Dr Michael Horton : August 23 : Talking Theology

September

September promises to be a valuable conference to attend.

Kathleen Nielson : Date TBC

The Gospel Coalition. Author of the Living Word Bible studies, she speaks often at women’s conferences and loves working with women in studying the Bible.

October

October 18: Children’s Ministry Conference

It’s anticipated that Colin Buchanan will join us at the Children’s Ministry Conference next year. Colin has years of experience making God’s word understandable and memorable for kids. He is, without a doubt, Australia’s best-loved Christian children’s artist. Colin began his working career as a teacher and has a proven track record for helping kids engage with ideas in the Bible, so this is sure to be a valuable conference to attend.

2015 Don Carson returns

Don Carson will be returning to QTC in July 2015 to conduct a series of lectures and speak at a church worship service.

You can register at www.qtc.edu.au/ministry2women

Ladies Bible Study Retreat 2014
The Unexpected Jesus

Guest speaker Beate Teale

5pm 23rd May to 2pm 25 May, 2014.

QCCC Brookfield 179 Gold Creek Rd, Brookfield

The committee of women responsible for the arranging of the Ladies Bible Study Retreat in May 2014 (formerly Be Nurtured) has been busy preparing for a great weekend of encouragement, fellowship and good Bible teaching. We have made some changes to how the weekend is conducted, and we think there is much to look forward to.

We pray that many of you will be encouraged to enjoy this time together as this is something we often say we wish for...time to really immerse ourselves in God’s Word and fellowship together.

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 Ministries to Women

A 12-week course for women serving in local churches

Ministry to Women (M2W) is for women who would love to be equipped to serve Christ more effectively. The focus will be on understanding, teaching and applying the gospel of Jesus to ourselves and to other women in the context of one-to-one relationships, small groups, and evangelism to women.

The course will run on Mondays from 10am-1pm starting February 17 and will cost $250 (including reading material). For more information and a course outline visit www.qtc.edu.au/Ministry2Women

To get an application form email registrar@qtc.edu.au

QTC QUEENSLAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

To be a valuable conference to attend.

PREPARE - CUSTOMIZED VERSION

PREPARE and ENRICH have been used for many years by those working with couples planning to marry, couples wanting to strengthen their relationship and facing new challenges, and couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship.

The inventories have a reputation for accuracy, reliability, sensitivity and relevance. PREPARE-ENRICH CUSTOMIZED VERSION has been used to great effect for 4 years now. It is accessed via the internet and is customised to suit each couple. Training in the use of this new resource will be available at Brisbane Boys’ College, Toowoong on Thursday 12th December. For registration details, contact the trainer, Graham Cole, on 3300 3558 or at gcole@bbc.qld.edu.au

WANTED

Large organ copy of the Revised Church Hymnary. Comprises 2 volumes - one Psalms and Paraphrases; one Hymns. Contact Keith Black Mobile 0428 460 436 or phone 3459 0580

BOOK OF FAMILY WORSHIP 2014

The Book of Family Worship is running late this year but should be printed in late November and available mid December. Orders can be placed by emailing lynda@pcq.org.au or phone (07) 3251 4100.

UNIT TO LET

CALOUNDRA, beachside units, from $300/week. For details contact Ray on 0427 990 161 or raydje@bigpond.com.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES

Any changes wishing to make changes to their entry in the White Pages should contact Church Office on 3251 4100 or email churchoffice@pcq.org.au

Margaret Wetherall

Children’s Author

Margaret Wetherall (as featured in The Perfect Surprise for Mrs Sunshine, ND June/July 2013) is an independent, self-published author with several Christian picture books designed for children aged 4-8.

Great for gifts or the Sunday School library, books currently on offer include the Easter story, the Creation story, and a third introducing children to the positive traits of mothers, mothers-in-law and grandmothers featured throughout the bible.

Locally published and produced in Brisbane, each book is beautifully illustrated and full-colour illustrations on every page. For sales and more information, including other picture books and junior chapter books, visit www.margaretwetherall.com.au

Let the Word Begin

From Creation to Graduation

Mothers of the Bible

2014 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS SERVICE

on Sunday, 15 December 2013

CALOUNDRA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Cnr Ormuz Avenue and Kalinga Streets, Caloundra

commencing at 7.00 pm

Singing of favourite Christmas Carols

Special Guests: The Amen Choir

Delicious supper

Christmas light display

View our activity scene during supper
Weipa Brass Band 1913. Photograph taken by Reverend Edwin Brown near the church at the original Weipa Presbyterian Mission, Spring Creek, Queensland. Photograph digitally reproduced by the National Archives of Australia from his Army service record. Brown Family Album, Cape York Collection, Hibbert Library, Weipa. Most of the caption details are derived from information written by Rev Brown on an original postcard photograph held by his descendants and copied for the Cape York Collection. The late Mrs Ina Hall of Weipa also accorded the author with identification.

Albert’s Chair

As described in the last issue of New Directions (‘The missionary chair’, page 5), a century ago, Presidents of the Queensland Presbyterian Missionary Union (PWMU) started using a timber arm chair made by a young man named Albert Mackenzie at the Weipa Presbyterian Mission.

Although details of his early life are limited, it appears that Albert and his sister Annie were removed from their family near Burketown and sent to the Weipa Mission to be raised in the dormitory system.

In 1913, he made the chair for a display at the Chief Protector of Aborigines Office at the National Agricultural and Industrial Association Exhibition (the Ekka) in Brisbane. After display, the chair was presented to the PWMU at the Missionary Offering Service at St Andrews Church on 6 August 1913. It is currently used by many PWMU presidents at the Church headquarters in Ann Street, until it was transferred to St Paul’s Church.

Finally the chair was donated by the PWMU to the National Museum of Australia, Canberra in November 2010.

Family History

The author is an historian with the National Museum of Australia, Canberra. He has been a member of the family for many years, through his mother’s family who was associated with the Cape York Mission of the Weipa Mission community.

He has heard about Albert from his late Mrs Ina Hall, Albert’s niece, during the 1980s. Through contact with the descendants of Revered Edwin and Mrs Thelka Brown, the founding missionaries of Weipa, copies of photographs were obtained for the Cape York Collection at Weipa. Among the photos were several of Albert, whom Mrs Hall identified as her uncle.

Albert was a member of the mission brass band in the same year that he made the chair, the photo above shows Albert with the band.

Little information about his later life was recalled at the time, but in connection with a new project by the National Museum of Australia to develop a war memorial for Northern Australia, the author was recently given significant leads by Mrs Hall’s daughter, Naprnan Elder Mrs Mary Ann Coconut.

She recalled that Albert may have served in the Australian Imperial Forces during the Second World War and this led to the discovery of his service record.

John Albert Mackenzie (1898?-1965)

by Geoff Wharton

John Albert Mackenzie probably was born at Burketown. Albert’s death record remains uncertain. He gave the date as 15 March 1906 on his Australian Military Forces attestation paper in 1940, yet in a Commonwealth statutory declaration in 1942, he cited his birth date as 15 March 1893. Afternoon births have been born about 1898, because his age was given as 15 in a Queensland Presbyterian Church publication in 1933.

Albert was of mixed descent and according to details provided by his widow in 1965, Albert’s parents were John Mackenzie, a farmer, and Nelly (surname unknown).

Albert’s parents were removed from their family by Queensland Government officials in the early 1900s and sent with his sister, Annie (whose language name was Tintema), to live at the Weipa Mission. This was during the time of the founding missionaries, Edwin and Thekla Brown (see photo).

The author has not been able to find a birth registration for Albert in Queensland Registrar-General records.

It appears that Albert left Weipa about August 1918 to April 1920. Ayr Presbyterian Church in North Queensland recorded their last occasion of his presence on 5 August 1943 and at the time of his discharge from the Army.

By the 1950s he was living in Innisfall, advising his address in 1955 as 29 Gladys Street.

Although Albert married Emma in 1922 he was living at Sunlight Farm near Ayr in North Queensland and he and his family were living at Cameron Street, Ayr when he enlisted in the AIF in 1940. It is probable that he returned to that district after discharge from the Army.

When Albert married Emma in 1922 he was living at Sunlight Farm near Ayr in North Queensland and he and his family were living at Cameron Street, Ayr when he enlisted in the AIF in 1940. It is probable that he returned to that district after discharge from the Army.

By the 1950s he was living in Innisfall, advising his address in 1955 as 29 Gladys Street.

Given that Ayr and Innisfall are northern sugar towns, it is probable that Albert worked in the sugar industry for some of that time.

Details supplied by Emma on Albert’s death certificate indicate that he was also employed as a linesman with the Commonwealth Postmaster-General’s Department (PMG).

About 1950 Albert moved to Sydney to live with his daughter. Albert Mackenzie passed away on 3 September 1965 and was buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Rosebud, Sydney on a March 1965.

Albert’s Chair

Mackenzie at the Weipa Presbyterian Women’s Missionary Union (PWMU) of the Queensland Presbyterian 1913. It remained in use by many Missionary Offering Service at the PWMU at the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition (the Ekka) in August 1913. The Chair was presented to the PWMU at the Missionary Offering Service at St Andrews Church on 6 August 1913. It is currently used by many PWMU presidents at the Church headquarters in Ann Street, until it was transferred to St Paul’s Church.

Finally the chair was donated by the PWMU to the National Museum of Australia, Canberra in November 2010.

Albert’s Army Service

1940-1943

Albert Mackenzie enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force (AIF) of the Australian Military Forces at Ayr, Queensland on 2 April 1940 for overseas service.

He embarked for the Middle East on 15 August 1940 and arrived in Middle East on 12 October 1940.

Throughout the war Albert served in the POWU and was placed on the General Details of the POWU and the Australian Army in 19 November 1943, having served his country for 3 years and 7 months.

Albert’s service record indicates that he was awarded the Africa Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal 1939-45 and the Australia Service Medal.

When Albert married Emma in 1922 he was living at Sunlight Farm near Ayr in North Queensland and he and his family were living at Cameron Street, Ayr when he enlisted in the AIF in 1940. It is probable that he returned to that district after discharge from the Army.

During Albert’s service with the unit, his Commanding Officer was Lieutenant-Colonel Dr Gordon Fitz Hill.

On 15 August 1942, 2/4 ACD was transferred to Touloumb near Alzouir, West of Alexandria in the Nile Delta of Egypt, where it was operational by 26 August. The unit accommodated 775 Australian Military Forces patients by 7 September 1942. No doubt Albert would have had a busy time as a member of the medical rehabilitation teams caring for the patients.

Albert’s service record and 2/4 ACD Routine Orders show that on 24 January 1943, he embarked in Egypt on His Majesty’s Transport ship Li for return to Australia.

Those Australian Army in Palestine. The Australian 9th Division embarked at Port Tewfik and El Shatt on 3 September 1942. No doubt Albert would have had a busy time as a member of the medical rehabilitation teams caring for the patients.

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Acknowledgements

The author gratefully acknowledges advice received from Albert’s great-niece, Mrs Mary Ann Coconut and earlier advice from Mary Ann’s late mother, Mrs Ina Hall, at Naprnan community, which assisted so much in finding details about Albert’s family and his Army service. Dianne Parker and Lynda Rackley have kindly assisted with the history of the chair during its time with the PWMU and St Paul’s Church. The author also thanks Garth O’Connell, Assistant Curator, Military, Heraldry and Technology, Australian War Memorial, Canberra, for his excellent support with research about Indigenous servicemen. Historian Bob Pipetz kindly inspected the records of 2nd/1st and 2nd/4th Australian Convalescent Depots at the Australian War Memorial to determine the locations of these units at particular times. The resources of the Australian War Memorial, the Cape York Collection, Hibbert Library, Weipa; Community and Personal Histories, DATSIMA; the National Archives of Australia; the National Museum of Australia; Queensland Presbyterian Archives and the State Library of Queensland have all helped to develop the story of John Albert Mackenzie.

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