

...From the Principal

John Woodhouse

In this time of international tension and conflict the Bible reminds us of God's final purpose for his world: "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9b). The prophet Isaiah tells us that the consequence of this universal knowledge of God

will be the end of all conflict, not only between humans, but also throughout God's creation. "They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain" (Isaiah 11:9a). We can all see that only God could bring about such a state of affairs. Isaiah knew that. He, too, lived in a time of terrible international conflict. However he knew God's promises, and so looked forward to the day when

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit" (Isaiah 11:1).

Our Lord Jesus Christ is that shoot from the stump of Jesse (Acts 13:22-23). He has come. He has begun to reign (1 Corinthians 15:25). The knowledge of God that will one day fill the earth is now advancing through the gospel of Jesus (2 Corinthians 4:5-6). The peace that will one day come to all creation is capturing human hearts and transforming human relationships through the gospel of peace (Ephesians 2:14). God's final purpose will be realised when Christ comes again. Those who do not know God on that day will face the punishment of eternal destruction (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9). The work of Moore College is the knowledge of God. Our students study many things, but the purpose of it all is that they might know God and be equipped to share the knowledge of God with others by preaching and teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. Students and faculty recently spent a week engaging in gospel mission in Cronulla, The Hawkesbury, Bowral, Berry, Springwood, Camden, Greenacre, Narrabeen, Highgate Hill (QLD), Melbourne and Christchurch (NZ). Please praise God for making himself known through the preaching of His word in these places.

The challenges Moore College is facing arise from God's rich blessing. Record numbers of students (287 full time students this year) are coming from many places to be equipped as servants of the gospel. Our buildings and facilities are stretched to the limit. We anticipate an even bigger enrolment next year. To provide for the training of future students these facilities will need to be expanded substantially. Will you please help us by your prayers and whatever support the Lord enables you to give so that our college may teach and equip more and more with the knowledge of God?

Time for War ... What does the Bible say?

Andrew Cameron

In any discussion of war, it is unlikely that 'the Church' (i.e. the mass of Christians) will speak with 'one voice' on the matter. That is because of two complementary aspects of the Bible's teaching. On the one hand, the Bible teaches that people powerfully pursue their own goals at the expense of others - they 'sin' against each other - and such a world requires rulers who sometimes enforce peace by means of coercion (while resisting the temptation also to sin). Yet on the other hand, God intends for human societies to live in peace, without death and bloodshed, and redeems people for himself who are committed to this peaceful life, now and in future.

Therefore Christians condone some forms of coercion, but are pacifist to the core; and these two impulses will be spoken by different Christians at different times in the debate.

The Old Testament records many wars, some of which God commanded or assisted (e.g. Ex. 17:8-16; Num. 31:3-7; Deut. 20:1-4; Josh; Jud. 3:10; Isa. 45:1; etc.). But God specifically

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Graduation

A record number of men and women – 79 – graduated with diplomas and degrees from Moore College this year. Students wanting to be better equipped for ministry whether that be in the Sydney Diocese as clergy, lay ministers, missionaries overseas or back in their jobs.

On a dull gray night hundreds of family and well wishers came to the ceremony in the imposing Great Hall at Sydney University and enjoyed the moment with someone they cared about. The service included rousing hymns 'Crown him with many crowns' and 'All praise to the Lord'; John Woodhouse encouraged the graduates to "Guard the gospel that has been entrusted to you", and told them to identify with it, be prepared to suffer and be rejected because of it but not to be ashamed to testify of it. Some of the areas of work that the students will be involved in include – clergy for the diocese; prison chaplaincy; multi-media editor; university workers; CMS training for mission work; faculty at Bible Colleges in Vanuatu, Chile and Thailand. The Lord is truly doing a great work!

Time For War ... *(continued from front page)*

forbids some wars (Deut. 2:4-5,9,19), and there comes a time when God's Kingdom is no longer expanded by 'holy war', with God even allowing his own people to be taken captive in war (e.g. Daniel 1:1-2). There is a 'time' for war (Eccl. 3:8); yet God's ultimate goal is for a world of peace (e.g. Isa. 2:2-4), and much bloodthirsty warfare is condemned (e.g. Isa. 33:1). This complexity has to do with the history of God's salvation of planet earth, which you could discover more about by joining the Moore College correspondence course Introduction to the Bible (ph. 9577-9911). Read the full transcript of Andrew's article on the Anglican Media website - www.anglicanmedia.com.au/index.php/article/articleview/622/1/9/ or contact Sue Bennett on 9577-9797 for a copy to be sent to you.

Lecturer and Church Builder

Keith Mascord – graduated this year with a degree of Doctor of Theology.

Keith Mascord, formerly full-time and now part-time lecturer at the College, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Theology at the recent Moore College graduation. His thesis topic was: The Contribution of Alvin Plantinga to Christian Apologetics. Alvin Plantinga is one of the worlds foremost philosophers, and a founding member of the Society of Christian Philosophers. Keith takes issue with Plantinga at various points, but has become well-known for his frequent references to Plantinga in lectures, almost as well known as for his unwavering passion for touch football!

Keith left full-time lecturing at the College at the end of 2001 to begin work at Green Square Community Church, St. James, Beaconsfield, in the Parish of South Sydney. Keith is seeking (under God) to grow a church in the rapidly growing Green Square Development area (encompasses all or some of the inner city suburbs of Beaconsfield, Zetland, Rosebery and Alexandria). The projected population of the area is 25,000.

The church has grown slowly, but steadily from a very small beginning. Just recently an evening service has begun designed to meet the needs of the people moving into the area. Two MTC student families have arrived this year: Paul and Angela Beeston; Neil and Emily Durrant. Their contribution is already deeply valued.

Keith is married to Judy, and they have 5 sons ranging in age from 24 to 11. Only two are now living at home.



First Year Out

Jennie Baddeley

My experience of College is one of surprise. We came down from Queensland so that my husband, Mark could study and were grateful I was able to study for four years also - an unexpected joy. The benefit of this has been in serving our brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as to our relationship. Training together meant that Mark and I had the chance to reflect on God's word together at a depth that we would not otherwise have had the opportunity to explore. As a result we have a greater understanding of how to challenge and sharpen each other. We have very different learning and communicating styles and areas of strength and weakness, but our focus and orientation is the same. College has solidified that. We trust each other in ministry in a way, which we didn't prior to College.

For me, I now find myself in many different contexts needing to explain what the Bible teaches about a variety of things to different people. I continue to be astonished at how coherently the Bible fits together, speaking one simple, yet complex message with a disarming unity. College has helped open my eyes to this inner coherence. Now when I speak or answer questions I feel more in synch with the rhythm of the Bible.

Mark now teaches part time at College, and I find myself a (part-time!) 'faculty wife', as well as being part of the faculty of Mary Andrews College - all part of a series of events which astounded Mark and I, and which we could never have predicted.

We continue to be amazed at the many, many places that our fellow students are going to in order to proclaim the message of our Lord Jesus. As College grows, the potential for this increases even further. It is a privilege to be a part of such a community and mission.



Prayer Support Group

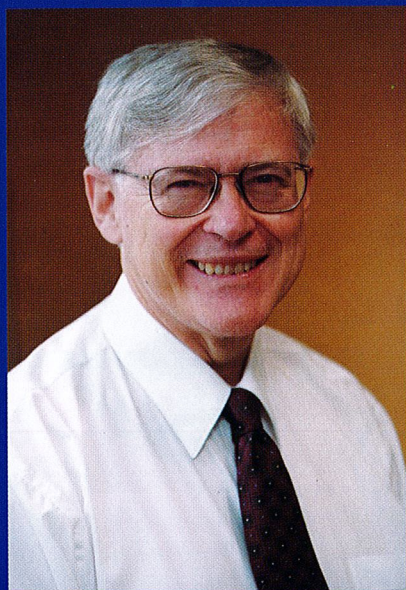
Mary and Barbara

Barbara and I commenced our involvement with the Moore College Prayer Support Group (Moore College Women's Auxiliary) in 1972. We were both convinced of the power of the Word of God taught in our church St. Philip's Caringbah and impressed by the quality of the men and women being trained at Moore College.

After joining the group we realised how little was known about the College out in the parishes so we found our niche in the preparation of a M.C. video named 'Moore College is your College' which we and others took out to many different parishes to encourage interest and prayer for the College and its students. It was good to see the increase in people's desire to pray for the College and those asking for copies of the Prayer Bulletin.

Barbara and I have found our involvement with Moore College to be a great encouragement to our own spiritual lives. We mix with many of the young wives and are encouraged by their commitment and zeal in their faith. The Lecturers' wives are impressive Christian women, a source of inspiration through their commitment to the Lord. The aim of the Prayer Support Group is to encourage more and more people to pray and support the College. We have seen so many answers to our prayers over the years.

"Help!" says Archbishop



"I ask you to commit yourselves wholeheartedly, knowing that God is clearly at work, knowing that the work is absolutely vital, and knowing that the need is as great as any of you will have placed before you..."

We are not always sure what good cause merits our financial and prayer support. There are always so many good works to do. But I am saying to all who love the gospel and who are reading these words, that this is a cause and this is a time when you need not hesitate. I ask you to commit yourselves wholeheartedly, knowing that God is clearly at work, knowing that the work is absolutely vital, and knowing that the need is as great as any of you will have placed before you. **I am without embarrassment, therefore, in asking you to give generously, frequently and consistently to the cause of the college, and to begin by doing so at once.**

We urgently need your support...

- ~ **For Building** (tax deductible) – Projects include:
 - A faculty house at MooreWest; 10 units at MooreWest
 - Renovating the Properts building in King Street for a large hall.
- ~ **The Principals Discretionary Fund.** - for needy students at college.
- ~ **The Library Fund** (tax deductible).
- ~ **General Fund** – finances three members of faculty.

YES!

I would like to contribute to Moore College...

- ☐ I wish to become a regular donor and give a tax-deductible donation monthly.
- ☐ Please deduct monthly donations of _____ from the credit card below.
- ☐ Please deduct monthly donations of _____ from my bank account by direct debit. (Please contact Vicki King on 9577 9798 for the authority form.)

OR

- ☐ I wish to make a single donation of ... \$25 \$50 \$125 \$250 \$500

☐ Building Fund (tax deductible)

☐ General Fund

Church Attended: _____

☐ Cheque / Money Order (payable to 'Moore Theological College')

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Card No. _____

Signature: _____

Expiry Date: _____

/

Title: ☐ Rev ☐ Dr ☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Miss Other: _____

Surname/Last Name: _____

First/Given Name: _____

Address: _____

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PRIVACY POLICY: We collect personal information to send you a receipt, provide a newsletter and other college information. You may have access to your personal information that we hold. Moore College does not sell, rent, or exchange personal information with any other organisation.

Please return to Sue Bennett, Director of Development, Moore Theological College
1 King Street, Newtown NSW 2042 or telephone (02) 9577 9797



Evangelist or Minister?

John Dickson

For the past 15 years I have engaged full-time in seeking to 'do the work of an evangelist', first as a singer in a rock band, then as an itinerant speaker and writer during and after my time at Moore College, then in a dual capacity as a half-time evangelism consultant for the North Sydney Region and half-time evangelist for St Clement's Mosman and, finally, as a 'garden-variety' Anglican clergyman here in beautiful Roseville.

This last phase is for me the most surprising. I had always believed that if I were ever to become a normal curate or rector I would - almost by definition - have to sacrifice my ambition to reach out to new people. This belief has proved completely unfounded. In fact, I suspect that my most useful evangelism to date is taking place in and through my current role as an Assistant Minister with responsibility for a particular congregation.

Here's why. First, through my preaching I am able every week to hold up before a hundred or so people God's vision to reach out to Roseville and the world. This is not to say I end every sermon with: "We are all evangelists - let's get out there preaching!" Rather, I am able to show from beginning to end that the God of the Bible intends to win the allegiance of the nations, to bring mercy to sinners. In other words, under God, I have the opportunity each week to inspire people to see the 'big bad world' as God's world, God's passion. Urging people to play their part in reaching that world then becomes easy.

Secondly, in publicly and privately exhorting people to be godly - to be generous to the poor, sexually pure, humble in positions of power, gracious in conflict, and so on - I am actually playing a part in helping St Andrew's Roseville to be a 'light on its stand' and a 'city on a hill'. According to Jesus, and our experience, this has the potential to lead onlookers to begin 'giving glory God'.

Thirdly, in crafting the weekly church service so that our time together Sunday morning is comprehensible to all (1 Cor. 14: 15-25) and an act of 'declaring the praises' of God (1 Pet 2: 9), I am engaged in a powerful tool of mission - the corporate worship of God's people.

Our growth in the last year or so has come not only through our evangelistic preaching and Simply Christianity courses but also, if not especially, through our 'normal' weekly service, wherein visitors hear the Scriptures, the prayers and our praises of God, and begin to believe that 'God is truly amongst us' (1 Cor 14: 25).

All in all, my role as a 'normal' minister is proving very satisfying as an 'evangelist'. Only now do I appreciate that when I was sitting at Moore College in doctrine classes learning ecclesiology, in ethics seminars grappling with moral issues, in New Testament tutorials studying Greek exegesis, and in biblical theology lectures coming to grips with the sweep of the Bible, I was in fact being prepared to fulfill my current ministry, that is, to do the work of an evangelist.



BOOK REVIEWS

Contending for God in Islam and Christianity

Michael Raiter

Michael Raiter, head of the Mission Department, worked in Pakistan with CMS and most recently with Interserve. He is frequently invited to speak on mission and answer questions about Islam. *Contending for God in Islam and Christianity* was the title of the lecture given at the 2002 Leonard Buck Lecture in Missiology. Michael compares and contrasts different Christian and Islamic views of contending for God (popularly referred to as jihad).

Available from Moore Books
RRP: \$9.50

Contending for God in Islam and Christianity

Michael Raiter

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand.

"To Translate, or not to Translate."

- That is the question. Peter Bolt

The opportunities for our Correspondence Course (PTC) seem to keep on coming. People from all over the globe praise our course as offering something unique in providing a good grounding in the Bible and Christian understanding. It is being used to strengthen the laity and to help to prepare those who will become pastors in the churches.



As it becomes known in other countries, the question of translation becomes an urgent one. For the last couple of years Bishop Josiah Fearon, of Kaduna Diocese, Nigeria, has adopted our course to train his evangelists. Seeing the benefits of the course in its effects in the lives of these men, he now sings the praises of the PTC far and wide! But now he is keen to see the course in the Hausa language. This will make it available to people, not only in Nigeria, but also throughout West Africa.

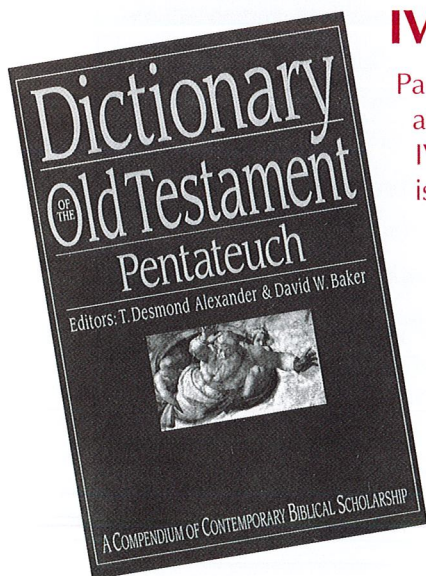
Samuel Stephens, of the India Gospel League, is part of a movement that has seen 33000 churches planted since 1992. IGL has committed itself across the next decade to educate in God's Word the many people who have been converted. Sam

heard of our course and of its effects in Nigeria and approached us to see if the course could be used to educate his Educators and Pastors. After a pilot scheme in January 2002 conducted by Manoj Chacko, a graduate of the College, a small team consisting of Dr Mark Thompson, from our faculty, Manoj, and David Hann, a current student at the college, conducted two programs in February 2003. Sixty pastors attended.

Translation is a big issue. We have translations in Spanish and Chinese. We have begun Tamil and Hindi. Will we go into Hausa? And there are the further requests from our graduates and friends working elsewhere: Italian, French, Russian, Portugese, Slovenian, ... And Moore graduates are going to more and more places -- what then?

Because we produce a course, the translation is simply the first step. We also need someone locally who can set up and administer the course. The fields might be white for translation, but should we go this way?

Each translation of one subject will cost about \$1000. A locally levied enrolment fee per student would then fund the ongoing costs of administering the course. If we are going to translate then we need to find donors who can give towards the \$1000 it costs to translate a subject. It is amazing to think how much help that sum could be for people understanding God's Word through the Moore PTC in their own language.



IVP DICTIONARY - Old Testament

Paul Williamson, a member of faculty has contributed articles on the Covenant and Abraham. It's the latest release in a series of reference books published by IVP. Four previous volumes have been published on the New Testament and this is the first on the Old Testament. Cost: \$64.95

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What Opportunities!

- A Chronicle of Events from India. By Mark Thompson



On Sunday 2nd February 2003 David Hann and I flew out of Sydney for Chennai, India. We arrived in the evening and were taken to the India Gospel League's '(IGL) Church Growth Centre'. An initial briefing with the India Gospel League's training officer (Benny) made clear that the expectation was that I would teach all of the units for both programs and that David Hann and the Rev. Manoj Chacko would be involved in the small group work to follow each teaching session. This was not what we had expected but we had been told that 'in India, all plans are in pencil'. What this meant was that I was teaching Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and there was an exam on Thursday.

The pastors invited to attend this course were some of the regional trainers of church planters in southern India. These men are church planters themselves, have responsibilities for a local church, but also oversee the work of others in their area.

The second program, conducted in English though translated at every point into Tamil, seemed more effective than the first set which was untranslated. The language barrier is a significant one, and even those familiar with English do not use it as a first language and find quick comprehension of English prose difficult.

*The opportunities are enormous.
These 'barefoot pastors' who live at a
subsistence level, ministering
among the outrageously poor and with
little training are crying out for help.*

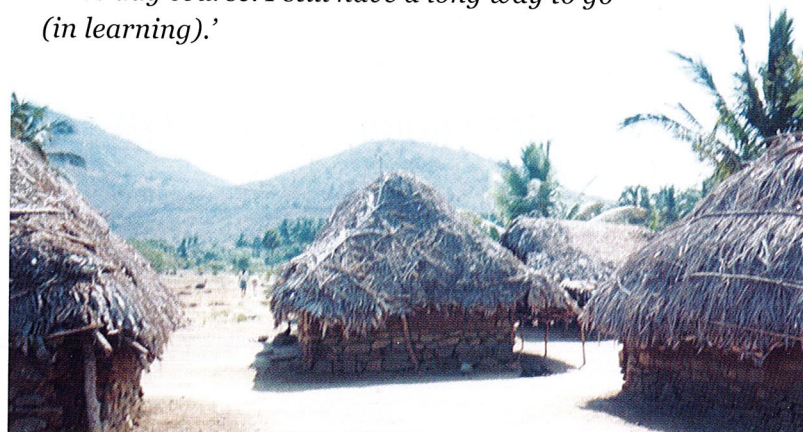
Many of the stories are both challenging and daunting (e.g. the man working in a people group where there are only three or four converts and his relatives speak of Christianity as a 'low caste religion').

Perhaps the greatest single aid to the successful presentation of the course was the presence of Rev. Manoj Chacko. He was able to help me see where some questions were coming from, preventing me from making outrageous cultural blunders, and facilitated the progress of the course and the visit at every point.

IGL bore the significant costs of the conferences. They have genuinely put their money where their mouths are. They are genuinely concerned for the best possible training for the pastors and church planters.

Comments from those on the course include...

- **'Good for understanding and preaching.**
It helps us present the Word correctly to God's people.'
- **'Pastors are like captains of ships;** but we are presently at sea, drifting with no destination...this course helps me to know the location (new heaven and a new earth) and helps me steer towards that.'
- **'There will be reformation in my church due to this course!'**
- **'Very useful...helped me to learn how we should interpret the Bible. Helped me to see the Old Testament as 'the shadow' of the New Testament.'**
- **'With no opportunity to study theology or go to bible school, I now know better from this three day course. I still have a long way to go (in learning).'**



Students

The Earnshaws

‘G’day, we’re Deb, Rod and Tim Earnshaw. We grew up in a Christian home in Wagga before going to university at ANU, UNSW and Wollongong Uni respectively. All of us were impacted by university ministry during our studies and ended up doing MTS at Wollongong Uni and UNSW. Tim came to college last year and was joined this year by his elder siblings. We have a younger sister Kate who is living in Wollongong and waiting for college to offer her a place!

The three of us haven’t lived in the same city for 10 years and now we all live within a couple of hundred metres. Despite being the brunt of a few jokes around college we love being here together and being able to share the things we’re learning.

On Sundays we are student ministers - Tim catches a bus to St. Paul’s Seaforth, Rod takes the train to Pennant Hills Baptist Church and Deb drives to St. Michael’s Wollongong. In the future Rod is keen to continue in Baptist ministry, Deb and Tim are thinking about overseas mission work or a university ministry.

We’d love you to keep praying that God would call people, even whole families, into his kingdom.

A student – 1986 to 2004?

Claire Smith



Who would have thought when I came to study at Moore College in 1986, almost on a whim, I would still be studying here eighteen years later?

In that time I have gained a husband (Rob), and a son (Nathanael), a B.Th. and an M.A. (Theology). We have long since moved from our tiny place in Campbell Street, Newtown and after ten years at Christ Church St Ives have now moved to St Clement’s, Mosman, where Rob works as a part-time assistant (the other half at Sydney Missionary Bible College).

When I first came to College it was simply because I wanted to know more about the Bible for my own benefit, but in God’s providence I have since had countless opportunities to teach women the Bible, that have taken me from lounge rooms in country NSW to auditoriums at universities. Recently this has been with Evangelism Ministries (Dept. of Evangelism).

But for 2003 I have taken leave to work on an M.Th. in New Testament that I started years ago. So instead of spending hours on the road driving to and from speaking engagements, I’m spending hours at my desk, hoping to find the words that will finish my thesis.

MOORE NEWS

Lunch and College Tour

Come and enjoy lunch with the students and tour the college lecture rooms; the houses - accommodation; the library with nearly 200,000 items and the rare book collection; the 1882 skating rink that we hope to turn into an all-purpose hall or the new library.

Individuals and groups welcome.

Contact Sue Bennett on 9577-9797

Praise the Lord!

That 33 & 35 King Street have been fully renovated, and the families have moved in.

Bequests

If you are making your will out in the next little while please think about including Moore College. Please ring Sue for a *Bequest* brochure which gives the words that you need to use (9577 9797).

The New Chef

We are very blessed to have our new chef, Warren Darwall... he cooks fantastic meals!

Moore Babies

Moore College students are doing their best to reverse the Australia’s declining birth rate. Last year 37 babies were born at College, this a 10% increase in the College population!