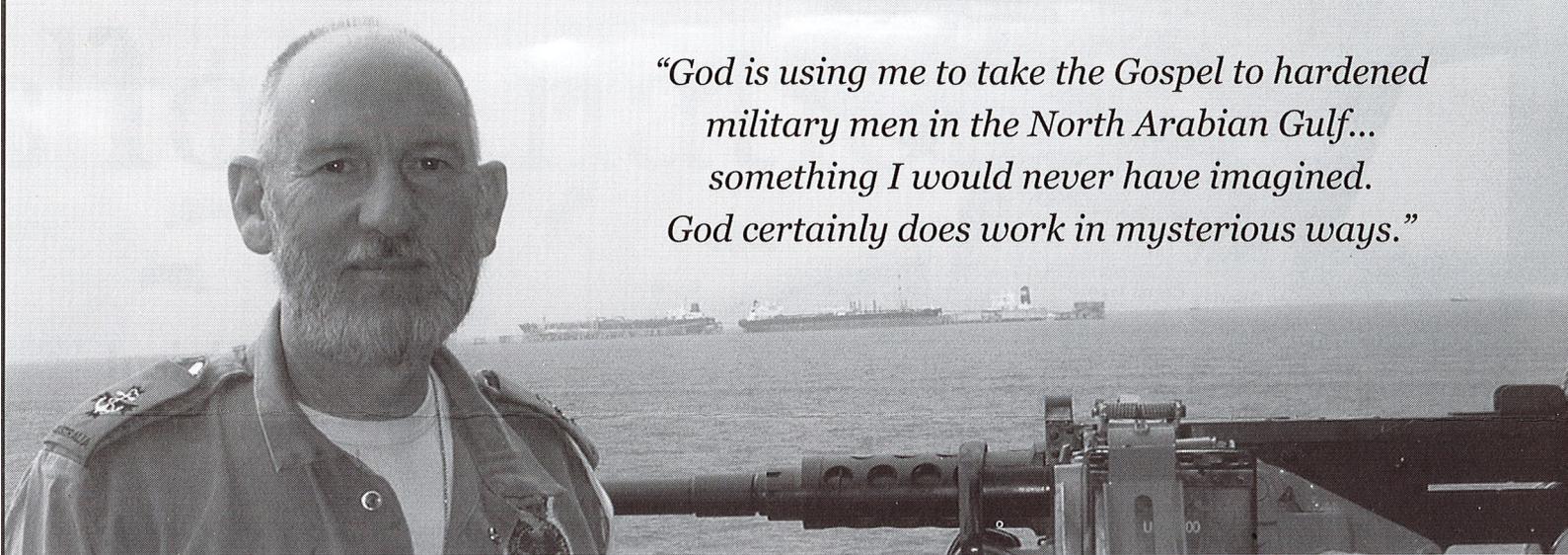




MOORE MATTERS

MID-YEAR NEWS 2004



“God is using me to take the Gospel to hardened military men in the North Arabian Gulf... something I would never have imagined. God certainly does work in mysterious ways.”

God at War...

Moore Graduate Alan Asplin, a naval chaplain writes from the Persian Gulf on HMAS Stuart.

Excerpts from his Diary...

Sat. 24 Apr. 04

7.00pm – Report of explosion involving a USS patrol boat. STUART goes to ‘action stations,’ and proceeds to area to assist. Two further explosions near the Al Basra Oil Terminal. We are involved in recovering the killed and rescuing the injured sailors from USS FIREBOLT. Spent several hours ministering to and praying with the traumatised injured and their rescuers. Escorted injured to hangar for evacuation by helicopter and then the body bags.

Sun. 25 Apr. 04

5.45pm – Conducted Anzac Day Dawn Service on flight deck (60+ attend).

Then a pastoral walk-around to check on Ship’s Company.

4.40pm – Transfer to USS FIREBOLT. Met with the crew by walking about the boat, and conducted Memorial Service on the foc’sle for 3 sailors who were killed. I reminded them of the benefits of Christ’s death and resurrection; that physical death is not the end of the matter. Service included prayers for relatives of the dead, for the injured and their families, and for the crew. On completion I was available for any that wished to talk more about the incident.

Mon. 26 Apr. 04

PM – Walked around the ship to check on those involved in the rescue of the terrorist attack victims.

Tue. 27 Apr. 04

6.30am – We looked after personal washing of 180 overalls for the US Marines stationed on the Kwahr Al Amaya Oil terminal, as they have no water or facilities other than bottled drinking water.

Wed. 28 Apr. 04

8.00am – Laundry Hand for other US Marines from USCGC WRANGELL’s crew.

Thu. 29 Apr. 04

Visit to the ship, via helicopter, of Minister for Defence, Senator Hill.

Sun. 02 May 04

10.00am – Conducted Church Service in Captain’s cabin.

11.00am – Transferred to shore. I commenced the service with the Marines’ and then heard the Muslim call to prayer in the adjacent room (the Oil Terminal workers are Iraqis) this was quite a surreal experience. After the service I visited the Marines manning the machine gun posts that had not been able to attend the service.

1.00pm – Another service, some Marines in the room did not want to participate but elected to stay in the room and clean their weapons. Another surreal experience! They heard the Gospel! Later, I walked around to meet those who could not attend and met a US Naval Officer who wanted me to minister to his men. On a platform suspended several flights of stairs beneath the terminal I conducted an impromptu service: Ps. 23 with sermon, the Lord’s Prayer and prayers for them.

4.00pm – Returned to STUART sweaty, grimy and wet but what a privileged day! Paul’s words were ringing in my head, ‘Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!’

God is using me to take the Gospel to hardened military men in the North Arabian Gulf; thousands of miles from home in Australia; something I would never have imagined. And I’ve only been here a few weeks with another three and a half months to go!!! God certainly does work in mysterious ways.

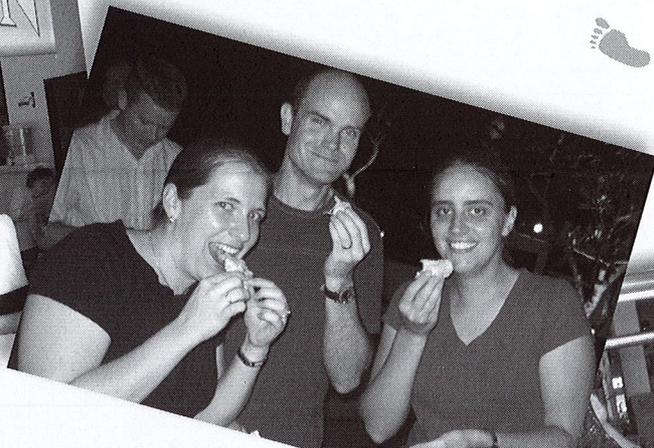
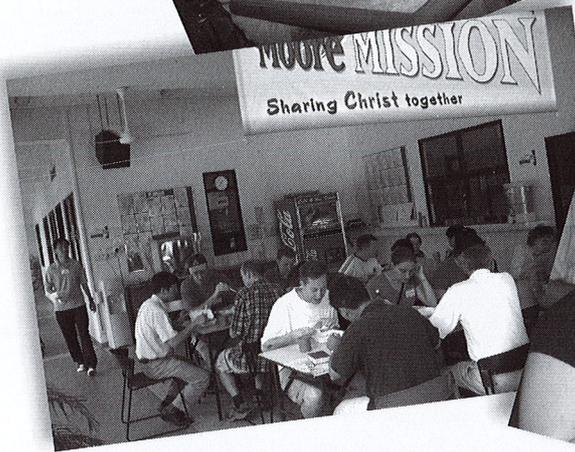
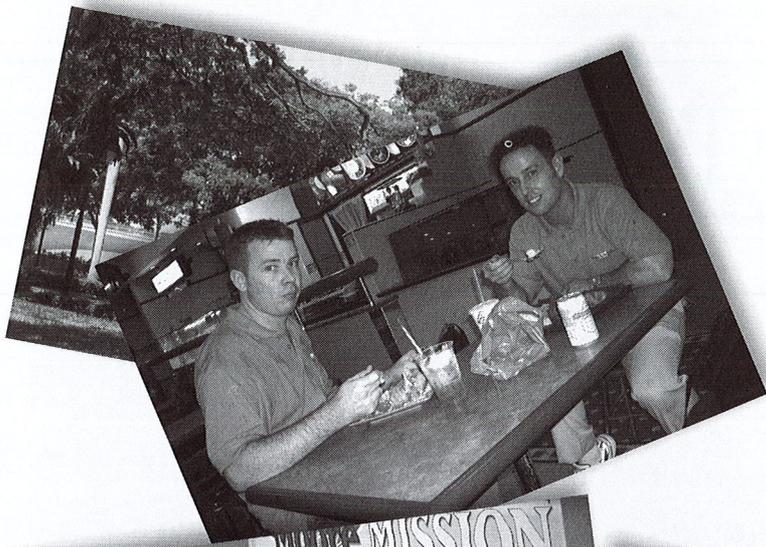
IN THIS ISSUE

Moore Mission Reflections	2
Insights from Students into other Missions	3
Keeping on keeping on.....	4
Thousands study the Scriptures	4
Miranda.....	4

INVITATION

Prayer Supporter’s Dinner
Wednesday 8th September 2004
Call Vicki for more details 9577 9798

“Go and of a



Moore Mission Reflections

Aussie Christians from Moore College - partners in sharing Christ in Singapore

Excerpts from Pastor Christopher Chia's Singapore newsletter.

Moore Mission has come and gone! The “real” work of “following up” and “building up” has begun!

Over 5,000 flyers were distributed at bus stops, marketplaces and street corners and we estimate that about 250-300 “new” people attended the more than 30 events planned over 9 days.

Events included sports, music concerts, Pilates exercise, movie discussions, outings, Aussie theme nights and wine tasting! How we ever managed to share the gospel with wine still baffles me.

We've had about 70 positive responses: 28 new Christians and 42 “seekers” as well as about 16 people who have signed up for our Just for Newcomers classes. We must continue our work in praying for them, accompanying them to classes and services and building them up.

The Moore College Team was impressed with the love of our hosting families. The early church grew because hospitality sheltered God's preachers. It is not easy to allow people into our homes. I hope it expresses the opening of our hearts to God (2 Corinthians 8).

It was heart-warming to watch the participation of so many making the effort to invite friends to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. Some began praying and planning months ago. Some began the week before!

I am certain we will learn lessons in key areas: user-friendly events, evangelistic events, helpful testimonies, clear talks and godly conversations.

On a personal note, it has been 14 years since I graduated from Moore College and began ministry in Singapore. I have

been praying that we would have Moore Mission to train future students and spur on the church.

It was particularly encouraging to see our Ministry Team put faith into practice. Their leadership, servant-heartedness, perseverance and longsuffering were on display as they prayed, planned, phoned, e-mailed, shuttled, talked and cleared up event after event.

The Moore Team learnt about cross-cultural missions from our food and fellowship! It was very good for me to hear the quality of their teaching and the faithfulness of the men and women training for ministry.

I pray they would likewise have seen something of the truth of God's word in our lives, the love we have for one another and the unshakable oneness we share in Christ.

make disciples all the nations..."

Insights from Students into other Missions

St. George North - Andrew Cameron's chaplaincy group

Crocodile was an interesting taste that was enjoyed by many of the Asian community that came to the Aussie Bush Tucker night. This was one of the activities enjoyed by the Chinese congregation and their friends, many of whom came through leafleting done by the team.

Andrew Cameron spoke at a parenting night that was sold out. Many more people turned up to it than they expected – the sausages ran out on the sausage sizzle! There were lots of activities for the kids – jumping castles etc! There was a great need amongst the community for help with bringing up their kids.

One student stayed with an Asian family where the wife had an inquiring faith but she was worried about the scripture that she thought said you must leave your husband and do the Lord's work. The student was able to explain this passage and the woman came to the Lord.

Melbourne - Doncaster Emma

They have a great outreach to the community and a special outreach to nursing homes. When students visited the nursing homes some of the people wanted to talk about death and what this would mean and this gave the team the opportunity to talk about Jesus. One man became very teary as he realised that God would forgive all his sins.

The church combined the Mission with their 150th anniversary. People gathered for many events, one being an organ recital given by a student, Col Adamson, where the gospel was shared through the various hymns.

Caringbah - Sarah

Sarah spoke of the absolute joy of staying with Christians from the church. The folk told her that they had been praying for College since before Sarah had been born! She spoke of the great joy she experienced when she came 'home' each day to people who wanted to listen and then rejoice in the Lord for the way he was answering prayers. She said it was amazing how this couple came at 7am to pray with the group. What a great encouragement they were!

Sarah spoke of a parishioner who found that her neighbour was interested in a dialogue group and so there and then planned one in her home! She asked others to come, including two other non-Christian ladies.

At one stage the Team shrunk by two as both were called home, as their fathers were sick. One father died. The team pulled together very well and really carried each other's burdens.

West Wollongong - Kathryn

Kathryn was invited to speak to a Women's Walking group. The women's Bible Study group decided to ask women who were not Christians to walk with them and over the years they had been able to share the gospel with many of them. Kathryn presented the gospel message and there was good discussion after it.

Macquarie Anglican Church - Jake

There was a great deal of planning that had gone into the Mission, in fact, the Mission had been going four weeks before the Moore College Team came! The Team came in and supplied support to the congregation. The church was prepared to try almost anything to share the gospel with the people in the area.

Rooty Hill St Albans MBM - Steve

Some of the most enjoyable times were spent in the home of Ray Galea with his family. Ray is the minister of Rooty Hill and graciously opened his home up for Christian fellowship.

The church was incredible. People got up early and helped distribute leaflets at the train station at 6am; they took time off work to join the team in the schools and other events; they came door knocking, where we met a Year 12 boy who was very interested in hearing the gospel. Groundwork had been done with him by a couple of members of the church!

INVITATION

Alumni & Friends Day

Alumni and those in ministry are invited to the first **OPEN DAY** at College -

Wednesday 30th June 9.00am-3.00pm

The day will be: A reunion; fellowship; an opportunity to hear a number of brief inputs from faculty on theological currents of today; time to hear about the challenges we face in the parish.

\$10.00 or donation. Please indicate to Sue Bennett on (02) 9577 9797 or e-mail sue.bennett@moore.edu.au if you are able or unable to come.

Keeping on keeping on...

Gordon Smee is 91 and was in the Class of 1931.

Gordon writes from the Orange area ...

"The time is drawing near for my calling home. I hope you will rejoice with me when that call comes. What a wonderful Master he has been all the days of this pilgrimage. What joy to be with Him in heavenly places.

My time at Moore was crucial to my life. The commitment to our Lord was made when I was seven; it was at Moore that the decision was made between music and ministry.

Once a week I take Scripture and Music at Euchareena School. From 1953 until 1960 I took Scripture there and again for the past eight years... They now have a promising Chamber Music Group."

Gordon has several acres of garden and comments that there is a lot to do with fencing, fallen trees and pest eradication and the drought. He uses bore water to keep it well looked after.

He says, "The computer which was provided for my ninetieth birthday has been a wonderful asset and challenge." - Particularly in the writing of his memoirs and hymns.

Thousands study the Scriptures...

Over 4000 people are studying the PTC course, 120 of whom graduated last month. The graduates came from all states in Australia and countries such as Argentina, Indonesia, PNG, Singapore, Sweden, UK and Zambia. The course is studied in 41 countries around the world including Chile, China, East Africa, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines and the USA.

Last year, Steve Liggins, Peter Sholl and Stuart Holman, went on PTC teaching trips to Kenya and Uganda while Ken Noakes and a team from North Sydney went to India. This July, Paul Dale will be taking another team to India and in August, Roger Cunningham

will take a team to Kenya and Uganda. For information on the PTC course please ring Elizabeth 95779911 (or Freecall 1800 806 612 outside the Sydney area).

Please pray for the clear direction of this work. Pray that God would raise up people to mark the exams and people who can translate the course into various languages.

Miranda

Stephen Gibson (Senior Minister)

"Our Beyond the Walls mission week with the Moore College Team was very exciting and encouraging. We asked our Bible Study groups to take the initiative in designing and planning activities or events to which they would be happy to bring their friends, neighbours and relatives, and most took up the challenge. The Team members with the staff were able to resource these activities thus keeping the control and ownership with Bible Study groups. Our desire was to see more grassroots initiative in evangelism, especially among adults and less staff driven, top down events and the Team members were terrific in making this possible.

Activities included: a pamper morning for women, two parenting seminars on Raising Kids with Values, classes and ISCF groups in both the High schools and primary schools including a seminar for the whole of Year 11 at Pt Hacking High, a wine tasting night, visitation to three senior groups and a retirement village, a Grumpy Old Men's Health morning, an ESL class, three youth group Outreach nights, an 18+ band night, a Men's Retreat, a couple of informal dinner parties, a Food and Recipe night and the Sunday services on Mother's Day when the whole congregation had made a special effort to bring the relatives to church with them, including our 5pm Youth church that had a Fogies at Five night for parents and grandparents.

As a result of the Mission two Introducing God courses have begun with around 20 people signing up, but in addition I believe we have seen a renewed impetus for adult evangelism in the parish."

YES!

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to Moore College...

Enclosed is my cheque for \$ _____

OR My Bankcard / Visa / Mastercard details are:

Cheques/Money Order payable to
'Moore Theological College'

Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

Building Fund (tax deductible)

Library Fund (tax deductible)

General Fund

Principal's Discretionary Fund

Title: Rev Dr Mr Mrs Ms Miss Other: _____

Surname: _____

Christian Name: _____

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Church: _____

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(W) _____

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OR

I wish to become a **regular donor** and give \$ _____ Each (month/quarter/half-year or year) from my credit card (details above)

I would like information about the Glebe Board Supporter's account where the interest on the account goes to Moore College

I would like to make Direct Debit donations to Moore College...

~ Westpac Cnr Market & Clarence Sts

Moore Theological College Building Fund BSB: 032008 Acc No: 631698

Moore Theological College General Fund BSB: 032008 Acc No: 631655

Could you please notify Sue Bennett that you are donating in this way - 9577 9797

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**PLEASE RETURN TO Sue Bennett, Director of Development
Moore Theological College 1 King St, Newtown NSW 2042
or Tel: (02) 9577 9797 | E-mail: sue.bennett@moore.edu.au**