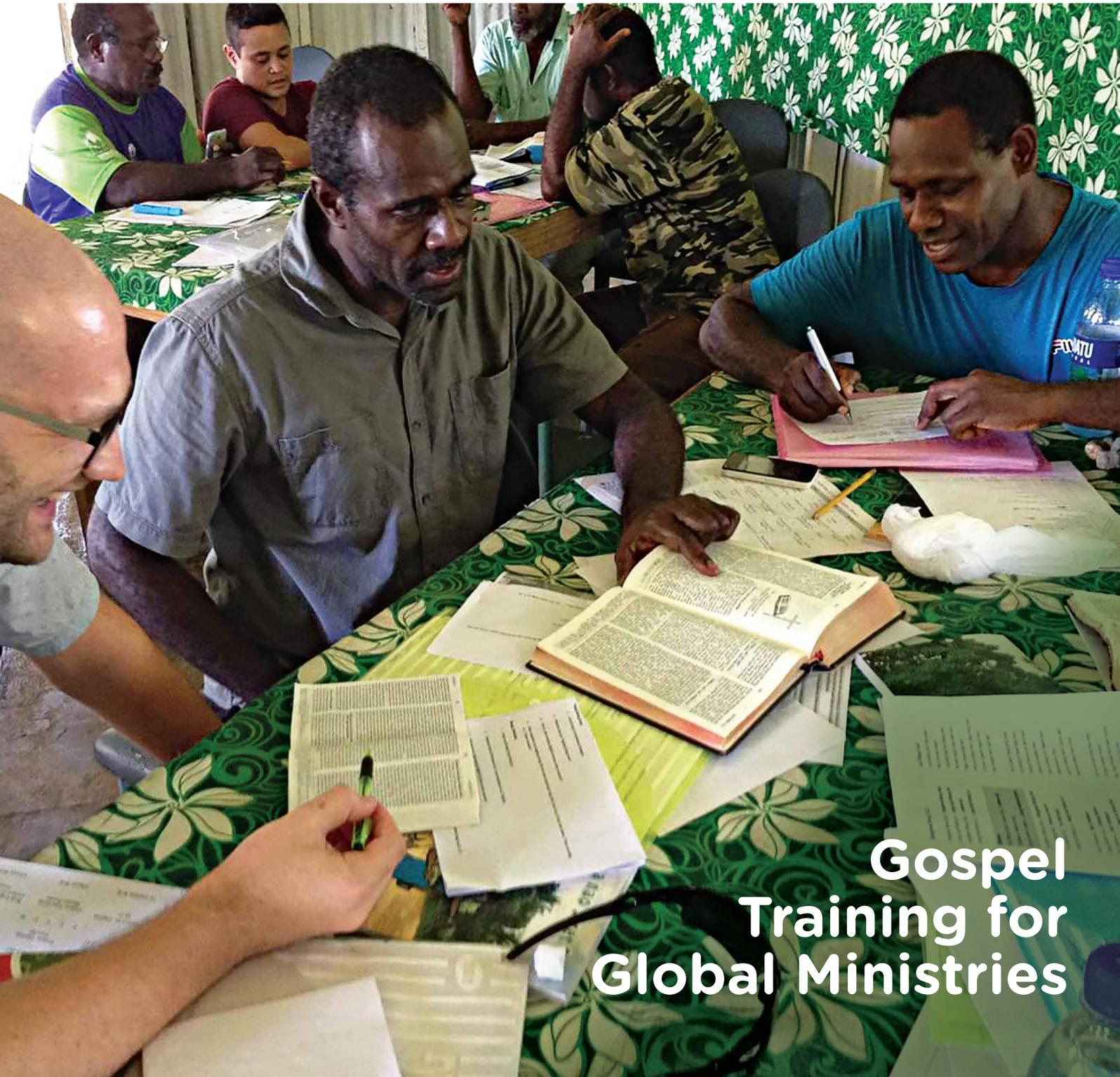


# moore matters

Autumn 2019 moore.edu.au



## Gospel Training for Global Ministries

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# Endings and Beginnings

**Colin Bale** / Acting Principal

**A**s we commence a new College year I have been thinking of beginnings and endings. Among many of the interesting things I do in my role, interviewing prospective students is a great joy. Whether they are intending to study for one year, three or four, these men and women are beginning something new. During the interview process I am able to talk with them about their faith in the Lord Jesus, about the people who have influenced them for Christ, about why they are coming to study, and much, much more. My personal interaction with each applicant is a great privilege because I get to hear how God has been working in their lives and why they are at this point of thinking of coming to College. Of course, this new beginning usually means an ending of something, pausing a career, leaving a church, moving from a suburb or town. What strikes me in the interviews is how willing applicants are to embrace such endings for the cause of Christ. The gospel focus of these men and women always encourages me because they are willing to bring something to an end to begin this new venture.

Each March we formally recognise an ending at graduation. Students who have been at College from one to four years, who have completed their studies, receive



testamurs to acknowledge that achievement. It is a time to celebrate finishing a diploma or degree. It is also an opportunity to acknowledge the beginning of a new phase of ministry for the graduands. I think graduation is one of the most exciting events in the College calendar. All of those present hear about where the students are now serving or preparing to serve. The scope and spread of those beginning new ministries is incredible. We hear of men and women taking up pastoral positions as parish assistants, children's workers, youth workers, evangelists and church planters. There are those who are going into school chaplaincy or university ministry. Others are headed for mission service either here in Australia or overseas. Some return to the workforce but with a greater desire to be gospel-focused in their place of employment. A number of the graduands are

challenged by the need for more teachers in Bible and theological colleges in Australia and elsewhere, and so they begin postgraduate studies to enable this ministry.

Ultimately, when I think of beginnings and endings, my mind turns to the words of the Lord Jesus: *I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End* (Rev 22:13). By these words 'the Beginning and the End', the Lord Jesus reminds us that he rules history, and that all time is in his hands. This great truth that the Lord Jesus has authority over everything is what is so life-changing for the men and women who are beginning or ending their time at Moore.

*Dr Colin Bale is the Acting Principal for first semester, 2019. The Principal, Dr Mark Thompson, is currently on study leave and will be resuming his position as Principal from second semester.*



# Supporting Gospel Workers in Pakistan

**Mark Thompson** / Principal

**I**n early December our Principal, Dr Mark Thompson, visited Lahore in Pakistan. He was a guest of Miracle School Ministries, a ministry associated with Anglican Aid which seeks, among other things, to rescue families who are enslaved in the brick pits of Pakistan. In sweltering heat, young children are forced to make 1,000 bricks a day and their families receive the equivalent of \$3 for the work. The conditions are appalling, the children are often victims of abuse, and families can see no way out of the cycle of poverty. It is well known that the mafia run the brick pits.

In that context Anglican Aid is at work funding a variety of activities through Miracle School Ministries. Fresh water tanks have been built, a school teaches children associated with one of the brick kilns and another operates in the city of Lahore itself, sewing classes are provided for mothers, food rations are given out at Christmas, and some families have been delivered from slavery. The context in which all of this is done is the love of Christ demonstrated in the gospel. Those who come into contact with this ministry are in no doubt that these acts of love are expressions of Christian faith. Those who reach out to them, do so because they want to share Jesus and his love with them.

In the midst of this desperate need there are Christian churches where there is a lack of good Bible



Centre Right and Centre Left: Principal Mark Thompson with his daughter Anna Thompson in Pakistan with Miracle Ministries team members

teaching. Many pastors receive little or no training. They work in the most trying conditions and they seek to point people to Jesus but they have few resources. They are vulnerable to some of the manipulative teachings that come from the West. Moore College's PTC course, now online and soon available through a mobile phone app, is precisely what these pastors need. The course has been translated into a number of languages and work is continuing on more. The hope is that this invaluable resource might be put into the hands of those who need it most.

Christian teaching and Christian compassion go hand in hand, and this is evident in Pakistan as in many other places in the world. We at Moore would like to expand our work in these needy areas. We would love to see pastors who know God's word well serving God's people well. Anglican Aid is working hard at providing various forms of assistance to ministries like that of Miracle School Ministries. Needy children and families are provided with fresh water, clothing, food and learning supplies. Mothers' Union recently helped supply sewing machines to women who have been taught how to sew, and no longer need to work in the brick pits in

order to provide for their families.

Will you pray for this work? Are you able to help? You might contact Simon Gillham at the Centre for Global Mission (CGM) at Moore College ([simon.gillham@moore.edu.au](mailto:simon.gillham@moore.edu.au)) about the PTC program, or Eddie Ozols at Anglican Aid ([Eddie.Ozols@anglicanaid.org.au](mailto:Eddie.Ozols@anglicanaid.org.au)) about the support given to the work of Miracle School Ministries.

For those who might be interested in learning more about our work in Pakistan, CGM and Anglican Aid will be hosting a joint dinner at 6:30pm on Wednesday April 3rd at Moore College. Simon Gillham will be speaking on how CGM is helping to train Pakistani Christians for leadership and Angela Michael, Anglican Aid's Global Ambassador, will talk about her work amongst brick kiln slaves in Northern Pakistan. We hope that you will consider supporting us in this vital ministry.

*For more information or to purchase tickets, go to: [trybooking.com/472077](http://trybooking.com/472077)*



Workers at a brick pit in Lahore, Pakistan.





# Moore College and Global Mission

*Trevor Cairney / Head of Foundation*

**W**hen people think of Moore College, they probably think first of the Bachelor of Divinity (BD) and Bachelor of Theology (BTh) degrees, the central awards of the College for many decades. These degrees are still a core priority of the College, having equipped over 5,000 men and women for gospel-focused ministries world-wide. The Bachelor degree awards have born much fruit, including quality ministry workers in a variety of denominations, universities, schools, mission organisations and in a plethora of other areas. In global mission alone, were you aware that over 60% of current CMS NSW/ACT missionaries and over 40% of all CMS missionaries were trained at Moore College? The global map on the next page shows where graduates of the college have and continue to serve as well as the various locations of our distance students.

However, over time God has also seen fit to bless the ministry of Moore College in ways that few would have envisioned. As I write this column, I know that there are many thousands of students from all walks of life, associated with all number of denominations, and from all corners of the globe who have undertaken part-time and distance study options, along with our suite of postgraduate courses: the Master of Theology (MTh), the Master of Arts (Theology) and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). And this far-reaching blessing that Moore College has been in theological education, is still the case today.

## Online study for Global Impact

The Preliminary Theological Certificate (PTC) course is a clear example of Moore's global impact for the Gospel. Closer to home, the PTC has been used by thousands of Australians, over many decades. For many, including our current Principal and myself, the PTC was the first serious study of God's Word, involving assessments and even optional exams. However, the reach of PTC extends far beyond Australia, having an impact in print and online forms. We estimate as many as 50,000 people have engaged in theological study through the PTC—increasing their competency in handling the Scriptures and being equipped to better serve their local churches. And this global impact is growing exponentially through the work of the Moore College Centre for Global Mission (CGM). The PTC has now been translated (in part or

full) into 18 different languages so it can be delivered in partnership with other mission-centred organisations around the globe. Our global work is being led by Simon Gillham, Director of the Centre for Global Mission at Moore College, in partnership with varied in-country mission organisations. The possible impact of the course if properly funded and supported, is enormous.

For example, many will know of the work of MOCLAM which is making accessible high-quality theological education available to Spanish speakers throughout Ibero-America. MOCLAM is based on the PTC course and is led by Moore College graduates. It now offers an undergraduate program that consists of 18 subjects in biblical studies. This work is spreading around the world in partnership with other mission organisations.

This isn't the only global work that Moore College is making available. The Diploma of Biblical Theology (DBT) and the Advanced Diploma of Bible, Mission & Ministry are also having a global impact in many nations around the world, these programs are the highest quality theological education available. Our programs are helping ministers and church leaders to study the Bible more deeply, and develop the tools that will allow for effective ministries, under God.

## Three ways to support global training

First, pray for the College as it seeks to support the need for global training in nations that lack the theological resources available to us in Australia.

Second, you might consider giving to a fund that we plan to set up, that will support the work of the Centre for Global Mission through global promotion, so that it can continue to develop new courses and programs. There is much to be done that cannot realistically be funded by the churches in nations that need well-trained Bible teachers and church leaders.

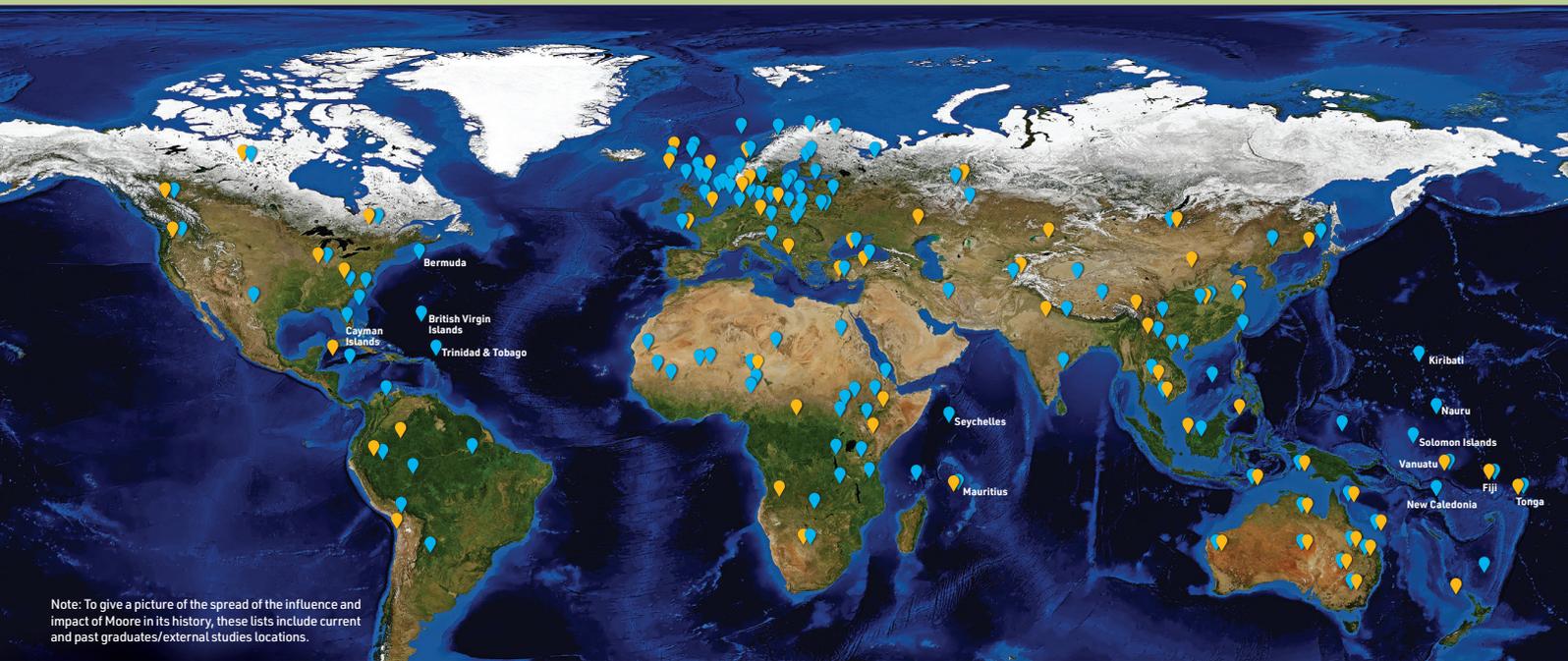
Third, you could support a scholarship fund for people in target countries where exciting work is occurring. Many are lay people who are being trained for gospel focused mission, but some are in church leadership roles with minimal theological education. This support, will help untrained or partially trained Christians to pay the minimum fees needed to complete the accredited programs. Here is part of a recent email I was sent by a pastor working in an Asian city:

*"I am currently serving in Pastoral Ministry. Recently, I came across your D.B.T (Diploma of Biblical Theology) online program on your website ... I feel it will be a good step of learning the Word in greater detail and will be helpful in my current ministry which involves expository biblical preaching on a weekly basis to about 150 congregants as well as training and equipping youth and young adults through systematic bible studies and in topics relevant to them in their own world... The fact that it is fully online is even better because that will enable me to continue in my ministry here whilst equipping myself through a formal course of study. However, I am not in a position to fund myself for tuition fees since ministry earnings in my country are meagre and... the tuition fees in Australia become unaffordable. I wanted to find out whether Moore offers any tuition scholarships ... I see the DBT*

*as a tool by which I can be instrumental in furthering God's ministry in my Gospel-starved nation."*

I was humbled by this email (which I have modified slightly to conceal the location). Someone is boldly preaching the Word of God and building a church, and wants help to be equipped more fully for the challenges he faces. How can we support this work? You and I can give to the Moore College Endowed Scholarship Fund which, with your help, will continue to grow. These funds will only be used to support students who want to study at Moore, or in the case of our brother from an Asian nation, people in ministry who seek to study our distance programs to equip themselves more fully for the desperate need to take to gospel to a world that is perishing. Would you consider helping in one of more of the above ways?

## Moore: Impacting the world for Christ since 1856



Note: To give a picture of the spread of the influence and impact of Moore in its history, these lists include current and past graduates/external studies locations.

### Moore College graduates' locations

1. Azerbaijan
2. Belgium
3. Bolivia
4. Canada
5. Chile
6. DR Congo
7. Cyprus
8. Denmark
9. Egypt
10. England
11. Fiji
11. France
12. Germany
13. Hong Kong (SAR of China)
14. India
15. Indonesia
16. Ireland
17. Italy
18. Japan
19. Jordan
20. Kenya
21. Kyrgyzstan
22. Malaysia
23. Mauritius
24. Mongolia
25. Myanmar
26. Namibia
27. New Zealand
28. Nigeria
29. Northern Ireland
30. Pakistan
31. Peru
32. South Africa
33. Singapore
34. Slovenia
35. Spain
36. Taiwan
37. Tanzania
38. Thailand
39. Tonga
40. Uganda
41. United States of America
42. Vanuatu
43. Other parts of Asia, Africa, Europe, the Pacific region and South America
44. Throughout Australia

### Moore College Distance Education locations

1. Albania
2. Argentina
3. Australia
4. Austria
5. Bangladesh
6. Belgium
7. Bermuda
8. Bolivia
9. Botswana
10. Brazil
11. British Virgin Islands
12. Brunei
13. Bulgaria
14. Burundi
15. Cambodia
16. Cameroon
17. Canada
18. Cayman Islands
19. Channel Islands
20. Chile
21. China
22. Colombia
23. Cote D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
24. Cyprus
25. Cuba
26. Czech Republic
27. Denmark
28. Egypt
29. England
30. Equatorial Guinea
31. Ethiopia
32. Fiji
33. Finland
34. France
35. Gambia
36. Germany
37. Ghana
38. Hong Kong
39. Hungary
40. India
41. Indonesia
42. Ireland
43. Isle of Man
44. Italy
45. Japan
46. Jordan
47. Kazakhstan
48. Kenya
49. Kiribati
50. Kyrgyzstan
51. Lao, People's Democratic Republic
52. Latvia
53. Liberia
54. Lithuania
55. Luxembourg
56. Madagascar
57. Macau
58. Malawi
59. Malaysia
60. Malta
61. Mauritius
62. Mexico
63. Moldova
64. Mongolia
65. Mozambique
66. Nauru
67. New Caledonia
68. Niger
69. New Zealand
70. Nigeria
71. Northern Ireland
72. Netherlands
73. Norway
74. Pakistan
75. Panama
76. Papua New Guinea
77. Peru
78. Philippines
79. Poland
80. Romania
81. Russia
82. Rwanda
83. Scotland
84. Serbia and Montenegro
85. Seychelles
86. Sierra Leone
87. Singapore
88. Slovakia
89. Slovenia
90. Solomon Islands
91. South Africa
92. South Korea
93. Spain
94. Sri Lanka
95. Sudan
96. Sweden
97. Switzerland
98. Taiwan
99. Tanzania
100. Thailand
101. Tonga
102. Trinidad and Tobago
103. Uganda
104. United Arab Emirates
105. United States of America
106. Vanuatu
107. Vietnam
108. Wales
109. West Indies
110. Zambia
111. Zimbabwe



# How Do I Answer That as a Christian?

Karen Beilharz / Centre for Christian Living

30-YEAR-OLD PROFESSIONAL CHRISTINE IS BURNT OUT AND IN NEED OF A HOLIDAY. SHE'S ALWAYS WANTED TO GO ON A CRUISE BUT IS ALSO KEENLY AWARE THAT HER CHURCH IS CURRENTLY BEHIND BUDGET AND STRUGGLING TO PAY STAFF.

**18**-year-old Jin feels called to the mission field. He is interested in studying music at university, but his parents want him to pursue medicine, and he wonders if becoming a doctor would be more helpful for mission work.

60-year-old Lindsay is concerned about his best mate, Nikolaj: Nikolaj seems to be going through a rough patch, what with the sudden death of his wife, getting retrenched and developing arthritis in his hips. Lately he's been asking Lindsay big questions about pain, suffering and why a good God would allow such things to exist. Lindsay isn't quite sure how to respond: he's keen to point his friend to Jesus, but struggles to find helpful things to say.

Have you ever found yourself in situations like this? Have you ever struggled to know what to do or say? Deep down, you feel like you *should* know, because you were created by God for the good works he has prepared for you. But the way forward is not always clear.

This is where it's useful to think about ethics. I know what you're thinking: "Ethics? How is that useful? Isn't that another one of those nebulous concepts armchair philosophers like to throw around?" But the core of the idea is that it's a moral framework that helps us



figure out how to live.

As Christians, our knowledge of God's plans and purposes as revealed in his word means we already have a moral framework to draw from. For us, right and wrong is determined by God's will: we know lying is wrong because he said, "You shall not bear false witness" (Exod 20:16); we know that loving others is good because he said, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Lev 19:18).

But Christianity is not a set of rules—as if what to do or how to think is going to be exactly the same for every situation. Christianity is about relationship—relationship with our creator and King. As CCL Director Tony Payne writes:

*[The Bible's] moral demand on us is, in one sense, simple and universal: love God and love your neighbour. No-one is exempt from this, and no-one has a higher obligation than anyone else. It's a truth that addresses every one of us identically. And yet the landscape in which we live out this singular command is complex and varied, and as individuals we are complex and varied. (The Briefing #343, April 2007)*

The purpose of the Centre of Christian Living is to help you figure out how to live out that command—how to bring biblical ethics to everyday issues—how to live as a Christian in the world. All our events, podcast episodes and web content is geared towards this.

However, our 25 May event is slightly different: whereas in the past, our speakers have addressed specific everyday issues, this special half-day course aims to help you think biblically about *any* issue, whatever it might be. Tony Payne and Chase Kuhn will outline a simple framework for bringing the Bible's view of reality to how we should live in the day to day. In other words, it's a course on how to do Christian ethics.

We hope you will join us. Find out more at [ccl.moore.edu.au](http://ccl.moore.edu.au).





# The PTC Connecting People to God's Plan

Anna Scott / PTC Student

I'm a new worker, commuting to the city for work for the first time. As I explore the city, learning about all the great options for lunch, I've realised I know less about the city than I first thought. I know Town Hall, I know Martin Place, I know Central and Wynyard... but I'm still learning how each of these places relate to one another, how they collectively come together on a map to make up the Sydney CBD.

For much of my life I've read and understood the Bible in the same way. I knew many of the stories of the Old and New Testament, could tell you about Joseph and David, Esther and Peter, but I couldn't always see their trajectory or understand fully how they connected to each other.

I decided to study 'Intro to the Bible', a PTC course, with a small group of people from St Philip's Eastwood Anglican in late 2018. We already had some knowledge in Biblical theology, and we were all involved in some form of teaching ministry. We knew that the Bible showed us God's big plans for the world and his people, and we had seen how much of it pointed to Jesus. And so we were excited about the chance to study the Bible together, but were a little unsure of what else we were going to learn.

Over ten weeks the five of us met up. Slowly, we made our way through a timeline of the Bible, seeing God's big picture in His word for us to read. Some of the passages we worked through together were familiar to us all, but it was wonderful to have these stories placed in the context of the storyline of the Bible.

It was a great space to ask questions and work through them

together. One week, early on in the course, we went over a structure for interpreting the Bible provided by PTC. This helped us to understand the literary, historical and biblical context before applying it to ourselves. We chose some passages to work through and exegete with this structure in mind. A notable passage for us was Ezekiel 37, where Ezekiel was asked by God to prophecy to dry bones... and they came to life. It was great to go over a passage that initially seemed strange to us (and still sort of does) and see God's unfolding plan of restoration for his people.

Throughout the course we learnt about God's laws for his people, first given to the Israelites after their rescue from oppression in Egypt. We realised that God's grace doesn't, and never has, relied on our perfect obedience. Rather, our obedience should come out of a response to grace. And as we turned to study the gospels, we were reminded of God's wonderful grace,



most powerfully shown through Jesus' death on the cross.

Those ten weeks were a great time spent together studying God's word. We learned that when it comes to the Bible there is always more to learn. And just as I am slowly learning that Town Hall is closer to Martin Place than I first thought, I've been seeing more of how the stories and songs and letters and laws in the Bible show me who God is and how he loves his people.

*For more information about our PTC course and to try a sample lecture, go to: [moore.edu.au/distance](http://moore.edu.au/distance).*

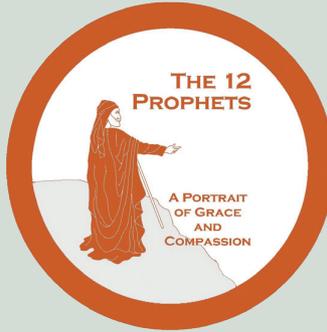


Anna Scott with her PTC group at St Philip's Anglican Church, Eastwood.



# Online discipleship Crossing Geographical Boundaries

David Höhne / Academic Dean



**Since February 2017, Moore College has been offering its first accredited online award, the Diploma of Biblical Theology.**

**T**he DBT is designed to provide introductory, tertiary-level study for laypeople seeking to grow in their knowledge and love of God and to serve him in their church, home or paid work environment. It is ideal for Christians who have some kind of leadership responsibility in their local church and/or need a deeper understanding of the Christian faith in order to be a 'missionary' in their workplace. The DBT also has immense potential for professional development in situations where laypeople serve in a Christian organisation like schools or as health-care providers. As an accredited award, students who enrol in the DBT are entitled to Fee Help government assistance and on completion of the full 8 units may apply for entry into the Advanced Diploma with recognition of their core unit study.

Since study for the DBT is fully online, we have adopted the latest in digital learning technology

including cross platform delivery (Windows & Mac) for multiple device access (Desktop, laptop, tablets or phones). In addition to the high quality audio/visual material, students enrolled in the various units are disciplined by our dedicated tutorial team. Each unit group has a Moore graduate who encourages the students through online material and guides them through the various assessment tasks. Furthermore, since learning in community is a core value of ministry formation at Moore College, the majority of the assessment tasks provide opportunities for the students to interact with, and learn from, each other as they study together. In this way, students learn the invaluable ministry skills of giving and receiving feedback while growing and sharing together.

The DBT has been developing gradually since 2017. We began with the three core units of the award: *Biblical Theology*, *Church History* and *Reading Mark's Gospel*. Since then we have added two new units to the suite each year. So, in 2018, we added our first two elective units: *The Written Word of God* and *the Twelve Prophets*. This year we shall

add a further two elective units in each Semester. We begin Semester 1 by adding *The Cross of Christ* and *the Letters of Paul*. In Semester 2 we will launch our *Engaging Islam* unit along with another ministry specific unit entitled, *Components of Discipleship*. These last two units will ensure that students already enrolled will be able to complete 8 units and receive the Diploma. However, to increase the amount of flexibility in the award we also plan to produce a further two electives, *The Pentateuch* and *Christian Apologetics* in February 2020.

With more units in the pipeline and a growing number of national and international students, the Diploma of Biblical Theology is a timely addition to the Moore College suite of awards. Please join us in praying for the part that the DBT will play in preparing 'workers for the harvest.' While you are reflecting, why not consider whether you too could be strengthened in your ministry to God's people through enrolling in the Diploma of Biblical Theology.

*For more information about the DBT and to try a sample lecture, go to: [moore.edu.au/distance](http://moore.edu.au/distance)*



# Preaching the Gospel in Western Sydney

Laurence Pap / Advanced Diploma Graduate

**T**he Advanced Diploma of Bible, Mission and Ministry has been immensely helpful in growing my relationship with God and trusting that Jesus is Lord over my life. This is particularly the case in understanding where I and my family fit into God's mission in the world. Through the encouragement and challenges of studying God's word, God has reignited a joy and zeal in us to see the lost come to know Christ, particularly as we serve at Jordan Springs Anglican.

Just over three years ago, the faithful teaching of God's plans and purposes in our world by the faculty and Christians around me, challenged us to step out in faith to a new opportunity that God was providing. Although we had good comfortable relationships with our existing church, we were being spurred on to go out, and be a part of a new church plant. A big factor in that decision was the foundational truths of the Gospel that were taught to me throughout my early years of part time study. These being, what is God like? What has he done through Jesus? What is he doing in our world? And what our place is in his world, to go out and make disciples.

As I reflect on what has been helpful to my ministries at Jordan Springs, there are two areas that I would like to share with you. First, studying missiology through the course has challenged me to work hard at understanding the culture of the people who live in my area. This is a relatively new ethnically diverse estate in the western suburbs of Sydney. I've found the mission electives valuable in helping me to effectively contextualise the message of the Gospel to my



The congregation at Jordan Springs Anglican

neighbours without compromising the integrity of the message. I have also surprisingly found that studying Buddhism and Islam has been a great asset in helping me to understand different world-views which are particularly relevant to where I live.

Second, studying ministry, and in particular, what good leaders in effective ministries look like, has been super important to church planting at Jordan Springs. College has taught me that it is critical to regularly evaluate the ministries that I am involved in to ensure that the ministry is meeting its aim, to grow Disciples of Christ. Having this in mind, has helped me personally to be aware of our purpose in ministry and has challenged me to continue engaging with the community to

grow God's kingdom.

At Jordan Springs, I am involved in regularly leading bible study, leading church, occasionally preaching and attending parish council. Last year I organised an astronomy outreach event which was helpful in connecting with some new people. Studying the diploma has helped me in lay ministry to have a confidence in the word of God and its power to bring people from death to life. Please pray for Jordan Springs Anglican Church, that we may continue to make personal connections with our community and share the good news of Jesus.

*For more information about the Advanced Diploma, go to: [moore.edu.au/advanced](http://moore.edu.au/advanced)*



# The <sup>not so</sup> Secret Life of a Moore College Student

Grace Huang / Bachelor of Theology student



Grace with her Moore Mission team last year

**YOU MAY HAVE HEARD MOORE COLLEGE STUDENTS GUSH EXCITEDLY ABOUT THE AMAZING THINGS THEY'RE LEARNING, OR MOAN PITIFULLY ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT THEIR COURSES ARE. BUT YOU'RE LEFT WONDERING: WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS IN THE OBSCURE WORLD OF A MOORE COLLEGE STUDENT?**

I began the Bachelor of Theology by studying first year part-time whilst working with City Bible Forum. I then moved into second year full-time and onto college accommodation. It's great having the time and focus to think hard about God's word and discuss ideas with fellow students. I've also been able to explore various mission opportunities, e.g. visiting French-speaking hospital patients from New Caledonia and ministering to overseas Chinese. Community takes on a whole new level as we rejoice and struggle together instead of just being friendly

but distant classmates.

On Monday morning, class begins at 10:20am. We're thankful for a late start as many have a hectic Sunday serving as student ministers at church. In Philosophy we examine how we know things, and consider how humility, empathy and logic work together to persuade people. In Church History, we appreciate how early Christians developed their understanding of God and his word, the theological battles they fought and the legacy passed down to us.

Lunchtime comes around. We get to eat together and rest our brains—or be nerdy and keep chatting about the mind-boggling things we just learnt. There's time before the next class, so students sneak in some table tennis or ultra-competitive handball. Cricket on the green is also a favourite—whether you're actually playing or just dodging the ball while enjoying the sun.

I love how the courses are in sync with each other. Studying Deuteronomy in Old Testament concurrently with 1 Corinthians in

New Testament helps me see the mind-blowing links between them. And we can more thoughtfully consider how to deal with sin pastorally in Ministry & Mission when we've examined the theology of sin in Doctrine earlier in the week.

I marvel at the brilliance of our lecturers, and even more at their humility and pastoral hearts. They welcome our questions, pray for us and genuinely care about our godliness and wellbeing. They work hard to help us see the relevance and significance of what we're learning—especially our language teachers, at times we can feel lost in the exercise of memorizing Greek words and paradigms when we'd probably rather jump straight to meaty Bible passages.

As I like clear answers, it can be frustrating but fantastic when we *don't* get nicely packaged answers. We discover different perspectives and complexities, showing us what we hadn't considered, and we're given tools to further investigate and think hard for ourselves. Sometimes I can get sidetracked and overwhelmed by the academic rigour. But I'm always reminded as we worship God together in chapel why we study, as his word transform our hearts. Praying with others regularly also helps me to reset.

College missions, student hangouts, and the best library in town, college life is a pretty special time. Why not ask another student about their experience—or even better, come check it out yourself?

*For more information about our undergraduate courses, go to [moore.edu.au/study](http://moore.edu.au/study).*



# Global Partners in Theological Education

George Athas / Director of Research



Current Principal of GWC,  
Rev. Dr Mark Dickson



Students sitting a Hebrew class test during the 2019 Summer School at GWC, at which I had the privilege of teaching.



George and Mensah Ameyaw from Ghana, currently in his third year of the BTh.

It was a run-of-the-mill Old Testament department meeting in late 2008. In addition to the usual faculty members, we had a visitor in our midst: “Doc” David Seccombe, principal of George Whitefield College (GWC) in Cape Town, South Africa. “Doc” came to our meeting with a plea: would any of us consider visiting GWC to help teach some of the Old Testament subjects? They were short of staff and could really do with a helping hand. I had study leave planned for the following year, so after chatting with “Doc,” we arranged for me to visit in August 2009 and teach an Old Testament module.

What I discovered on my arrival at GWC was a small, bustling college of students from all over the African continent and beyond. In chatting with them over many subsequent visits, I came to understand some of the enormous challenges facing Christians in Africa. These include lack of funding, little to no infrastructure. Some were faced with the bankrupt apathy of the wealthy. A few were in fear of their lives at the ominous edge of Islamic extremism. Others struggled with opposition from fellow Christians, or the baseless claims of self-proclaimed prophets. All of them talked about growing churches in desperate need of sound and solid teaching that

would steady and mature them.

Just ten years later, a well developed teaching partnership is in place. This partnership between Moore and GWC is seen by both parties as very valuable. As Principal Rev Dr Mark Dickson has suggested “Moore College Sydney and George Whitefield College Cape Town enjoy close ties which stretch back 30 years to our founding principal David Broughton Knox, who had been principal of Moore many years prior to that”. He suggests that “Moore College taught us the importance of Biblical Theology and that the preached sermon (or public Bible teaching) is central to the *raison d’être* of the kind of training undertaken by GWC.”

The training at George Whitfield includes raising up ministers for the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa (REACH-SA). To achieve this, GWC works with REACH-SA churches in Cape Town, and the bishops of the denomination throughout South Africa. Yet, GWC’s students come from all over the continent, many of whom are away from immediate family for up to three years while they gain their Bachelor of Theology. The sacrifice these students and their loved ones make is so they can return as effective under-shepherds of the flock of the Lord Jesus Christ in

their native countries. GWC aims to “shape minds, nurture hearts, and train voices” of Africa’s Christian leaders. In so doing, they are not just expanding churches, but maturing them. The college also now has a thriving fledgling postgraduate program—another vital arm of its work, equipping tomorrow’s theological educators throughout Africa.

Among the faculty of GWC today are two graduates of Moore College: Nathan Lovell (Head of Biblical Studies and Postgraduate Studies) and Stephen Rockwell (Head of Practical Ministry). The teaching and pastoring demands on them and the rest of the faculty are pressing, particularly as the student body grows. This year has seen a bumper crop of new enrolments, which pushed student numbers to 127. The college relies on several local part-time lecturers, as well as regular visits from Moore College faculty. Over the years, Barry Webb, Robert Doyle, Peter Bolt, Andrew Shead, David Hohne, Peter Jensen, and myself have all had the privilege of teaching at GWC, and being part of its strategic ministry. We have each been blessed by the experience and warm fellowship we have enjoyed. Would you join me in praying for Moore College as it supports the vital work of GWC in Africa?

# The Walking Resource 'Library'

Joel Atwood / Postgraduate Student



Joel Atwood working with some of his students.



Moore College Mission 2017 - Vanuatu Team visiting the Atwood family.

**Y**ou might ask, why I enrolled in the M.Th? I'll level with you—there was no grand plan behind taking up the MTh. Both were, really, quite pragmatic decisions. Our primary work in Vanuatu is with university students, but because this is such a tiny slice of the population, I also teach at a few theological colleges around the islands to help train the people who minister to the vast bulk of the population in villages. Unique amongst these is Talua, a theological college of the Presbyterian church that has the only Bachelor level programme for ministry in the country. While we pray for a new generation of Ni-Vanuatu bible scholars and theologians to slowly emerge, a good deal of the courses for the BMin need to be taught by visiting lecturers like me. Thus, having an MTh is necessary.

Adding the responsibility of having postgraduate training onto leading a growing student movement, caring for a family in

another context, and the other 'random acts of teaching' I get involved in, has not always felt like the wisest move. But there are a few things I've noticed particularly over the last few years that have kept me slowly plodding along.

Research has kept me reading—and reading 'thick'. On top of the normal commentaries, pastoral, leadership, and missiology books most active ministry workers chew on, I've been pushed to dive into a very large pile of very diverse books. Some of these aren't the most natural for immediate application to everyday life and ministry (*Radical Frame Semantics and Biblical Hebrew* anyone?). But I've found strange ways that lots of them *do* work their way into our thinking, teaching, and caring for our students. Given our context, I've even had to become a bit of a walking resource library able to share the written riches of the wider church with those who neither have access to the literacy, nor libraries for me to simply refer

them to good books to read.

Research has also kept my native pragmatism at bay. Ministry fills all available time, and as my wife, Tiffany, and I are the sole staffworkers of a new tertiary movement, the temptation to cut corners on preparing passages and lectures for teaching is strong. Having to regularly (however briefly) flex my original languages and wrestle with passages in a sometimes ridiculous level of depth, pushes back on the desire to quickly find a preachable point in a passage and run with it. I'm driven to ask again and again, 'what is this passage saying, *really*?' and in a cross-cultural context where your unexamined influences are more obvious, 'why do I *really* think it's saying that?'

The constant feeding in and wrestling with passages, books, and articles has also helped me make connections I wouldn't have otherwise made. Given the gospel paucity of our context, our early



## What Makes the Pastor 'Tick'?

**Archie Poulos** / Head of the Department of Ministry

work focussed strongly on Paul's letters and the Gospels until I had to pull a talk together on very short notice. Pragmatically, I was able to spin something out of one of the passages I'd been slogging through for my research, a good chunk of which is in the classic 'Wisdom' texts of the Old Testament (Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes). By God's grace, it turns out OT wisdom is where an awful lot of our students were itching! These books wrestle with the question of suffering in a place where people don't expect to be healthy or rich or live very long lives. In the process, they show how a life in tune with God is a good life, compared to a life following sin. This of course undermines the insidious preaching that equates obedience with guaranteed earthly blessing and refusing to boil life events down to purely naturalistic causes. They give practical guidance on speech, sex, alcohol—even study—while showing how these good things can't bear the weight of ultimate worth in a broken world. In short, I'm now getting a lot of leverage out of my deep dives into the OT wisdom books to lead people to Jesus through the big questions they want answers to. All in all, doing research degrees has been highly relevant to my ministry contexts, and has also stretched me in many ways.

*For more information about the Master of Theology, go to: [moore.edu.au/mth](http://moore.edu.au/mth)*



One of the great joys of ministry is working with people. This means that pastors must keep developing in their personal skills. This includes the reflection skills of understanding yourself. What makes the pastor 'tick' and why they respond as they do? How well do we understand and relate to others; and why do we respond as we do? Or, how are we at understanding a situation and exploring ways to function better when the situation occurs again?

Up until 2018 most of these skills were developed through the student ministry placements that all students are involved in, but in 2018 the College commenced a course called *Intentional Ministry Reflection (IMR)* as part of the 2nd and 3rd year program. In IMR students are placed in groups of 5 with two capable and experienced facilitators. Each student reflects on two different experiences in ministry through a written reflection, with a small group, and again after the group time. These series of reflections have been developed to give tools and opportunities for students to develop in their reflection ability.

Even in these early days, the responses from students have been very positive. A number have said that it is so unusual and difficult to slow down and reflect. Having to do this and seeing the benefit of it has been of great help to them. Other comments have included 'I am familiar with self-reflection, but IMR put it in a helpful framework'. Others have seen wider relevance. 'I'm now applying this in other settings: I am noticing my feelings and psychological reactions more often'. Or, 'my group has both built community and allowed me to be vulnerable and so grow in humility', and 'this course brings together the theory of God's revelation with the practice of serving others'.

The College hopes that this course will help to prepare graduates in new ways. Hopefully, over time our churches will see a growing expertise from students and graduates, as these reflective skills help them to be even better equipped to wisely and thoughtfully serve in the complex world of ministry. Please pray along with the College, that IMR will be used by God to enable even more capable ministers of the gospel.

# From Atheist to Evangelist

John Hudson / PhD student



## Tell us a little about yourself

My name's John and I'm married to Rebekah and we have four children: Hannah (9), David (7), Abigail (5) and Esther (4). I was raised as an atheist, and it was only when I got to university that I met some Christians who challenged my worldview. By the age of 19, I had figured out that people tend to do things when there's something in it for them. But the Christians that I met at university seemed to love others when there wasn't anything in it for them. So I kept going to their gatherings to try and figure out why. I attended their mid-year conference and I was converted by sermons on Leviticus, which demonstrated that I had to come to God on his terms rather than my own. I realised that all of the arguments that I had against God were really arguments against a god of my own imagination. I picked up a Bible and started reading, I got involved with my university ministry, where I met my (now) wife, and after reflecting on the gospel, we realised that we could spend our lives working for things that will eventually pass away, or invest our lives in God's kingdom which lasts for all eternity. Thus began our journey into Christian ministry with study at Moore for a Bachelor of Divinity along the way. Now I'm in the PhD program.

## What is your PhD about?

I'm trying to explain the compatibility between God's sovereignty and human freedom/responsibility.

My research has...helped me to 'unlock' and better understand Augustine's view of free-will and Calvin's view of God's providence. Debates around both have often been polarised, but my hope is to advance the

conversation by understanding the thought of these profound theologians.

## Why did you choose Moore College to do your PhD?

My PhD is quite philosophical, and so the opportunity to do it under the supervision of the head of Philosophy at Moore College was very attractive. Moreover, the Moore College library is one of, if not the most, well resourced library in the southern hemisphere! For a PhD student, having a good supervisor and access to a good library makes all the difference in the world. As well, Moore is known for its academic rigour and its commitment to evangelical scholarship; both are attractive in and of themselves.

## What do you hope to achieve from your researching?

Part of the reason for doing this PhD was to road test my thesis, see if it stands up to scrutiny, and then advance the conversation on God's sovereignty and human responsibility. This is important because it has so many implications for ministry and the Christian life. Another reason for doing the PhD was to take the next step in being better equipped for a lifetime of teaching and training people. In doing evangelism in the CBD of Melbourne, I came across a lot of people who simply assumed that atheism has reason and logic on its side. I became convinced of the need for more apologists and better apologetics. Peter O'Brien at a Moore College retreat also persuaded me of the need for theologian evangelists, in the church today. We have theologians and evangelists today, but where are the theologian evangelists?

## How has your research informed or influenced your faith in Christ?

Doing a PhD on God's sovereignty has forced me to trust God's in a more concrete way. In our culture, time, and day-to-day life, there's a temptation to see our faith in Christ as somewhat theoretical or irrelevant. But for the prophets and apostles, faith in Christ as Lord and saviour is the polar opposite of theoretical and irrelevant, it impacts us at the deepest level and influences all of our thoughts, words and deeds.

For more information about the Doctor of Philosophy, go to: [moore.edu.au/phd](http://moore.edu.au/phd)

# Supporting Global Mission

**T**hank you to everyone who responded to our end of year Summer Appeal in December and to all who gave generously across the year. I'm delighted to say that the number of people who gave to the work of the College rose in 2018, and that the gifts amounted collectively to almost one million dollars. These donations were in three main areas: Building Development, Student Scholarships, and General Purpose support. I was pleased to see how many people responded to the need to build an endowed scholarship fund to support students looking to study at Moore. As the fund grows, we will be able to support many more students who would find it difficult to enrol in full-time programs at Moore College without some financial support.

I will also be sharing news later in the year about the next stage of building development at Moore. Our new building with its incredible library, new teaching spaces and offices has been in use for two years now and has made a huge difference to the delivery of our programs. However, the next phase of development will be to replace our aging student accommodation. We continue to seek additional properties close to Newtown for staff and married student accommodation, and we are investigating how land and properties at Parramatta and Croydon Park might be used more effectively. We have projects in the planning stage, for which I will share more information later in the year. Please pray for wisdom for the Moore College Governing Board and key staff as we approach this next phase of development, and of course, the funding of these projects.

I have been delighted by your varied forms of support to the College across 2018. Many are praying for the work and also giving sacrificially. I have been encouraged by your many varied forms of financial support, but three stand out:

First, the extent of your generosity and the way many supporters carefully put aside money for the work of the college.

Second, that so many of you give so regularly from the first fruits of whatever God has entrusted to you.

Third, the sense I gain as I observe giving patterns is that many of you have been giving sacrificially for decades.

These observations make me even more aware of the responsibility we have to use every dollar you give to us very wisely. Please consider prayerfully what you are able to give to the college. If you'd like to discuss areas of key need, please contact me by phone (0419 696 722) or by email at [trevor.cairney@moore.edu.au](mailto:trevor.cairney@moore.edu.au). At the moment we have the following quite specific needs for additional funding:

1. **Support of PTC programs in prison ministries** by paying for the basic costs of delivering the program to inmates who are interested in knowing more about Christianity.
2. **Learning support for students** in the B.Div and B.Th.
3. **Support for majority world Christians** to complete online programs to further their teaching ministries.
4. **Support for the global programs of the CGM** (discussed earlier).

As well as the above specific needs, you will see on the flap attached to this back page, that there are three main categories to which you can direct your gifts. Gifts to 'General Purposes' are allocated to areas of greatest (and sometimes strategic) needs. Gifts to the 'Building Fund' go towards ongoing building renovations and improvements and the exploration of new developments in the planning stages. Finally, the new 'Endowed Scholarship Fund' is used entirely to support students who have financial needs.

Once again, thank you for your partnership in the ministry of Moore College. Please join with me as we pray faithfully for the college and as we seek God's enabling. Might our God continue to bless the college as we continue to teach, equip, disciple and send men and women to undertake gospel-focused work around the world.



Trevor Cairney  
Head of Foundation



# My Moore gift

Please actively support Moore to ensure that together we can continue this vital gospel work under God, for His eternal glory.

Your gift will be a personal investment in future generations of gospel workers.

*N.B. All donations to Moore College are fully tax deductible.*

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## It's easy to donate

**1** Return this form to Moore College by **mail**  
(1 King Street, Newtown NSW 2042)

**2** Visit our website **[www.moore.edu.au/donate](http://www.moore.edu.au/donate)**

**3** **Direct Deposit** (Please include your name in the description box)

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BSB	032 016
Account	293828

**4** Call Leanne Veitch on **02 9577 9865**

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**Moore Matters**

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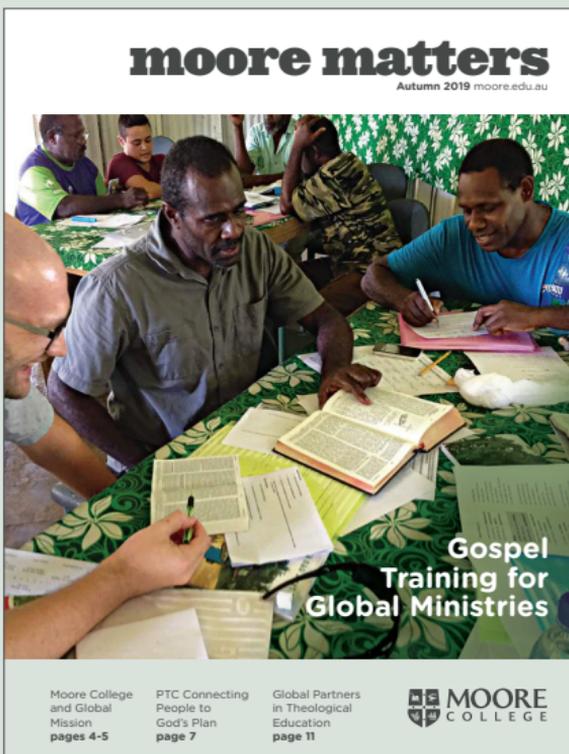
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**About Moore College**

Moore College prepares men and women for a lifetime of ministry and mission through in-depth theological training. Today over 1,300 students are enrolled in Moore College courses. The College has trained thousands of men and women for a great variety of Christian ministries locally, nationally and around the globe. Moore is world renowned for its faithfulness to the word of God, the excellence of the education it provides and the effectiveness of its graduates.

Cover:

Joel Atwood



# JOIN US AT THESE EVENTS AT MOORE COLLEGE IN **MAY**

## MAY



**Thursday 2**

### **Priscilla & Aquila Evening Seminar: Do Widows Matter Today?**

*Time: 6:30 – 9pm*

*Details: Phillip Jensen will be talking about the role of widows in the church and how we can support them in fellowship.*



**Saturday 11**

### **Men Praying for Moore**

*Time: 8:30 – 10am (Breakfast provided)*

*Details: Join us for a morning of prayer for the faculty, staff, students and work of the College.*



**Monday 13**

### **Moore College Open Night**

*Time: 6pm-9pm*

*Details: Share a free meal, check out the college, get an insight into our in-depth theological training and have all your questions answered by faculty and students.*

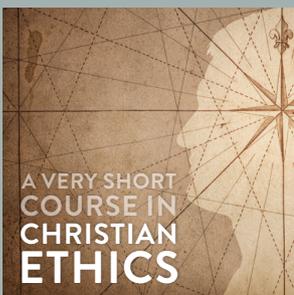


**Monday 13  
Friday -17**

### **Moore College Open Week**

*Time: 9am – 2pm*

*Details: Come and visit our Newtown campus, experience a lecture and meet faculty and students.*



**Saturday 25**

### **Centre For Christian Living Event: A Very Short Course in Christian Ethics**

*Time: 9:30am – 1pm*

*Details: Join Dr Chase Kuhn and Tony Payne for this one day workshop on how to engage ethically with anything.*

For more information or to book now, go to [moore.edu.au/events](https://moore.edu.au/events).