

# SOUTHERN CROSS

newspaper



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Southern Cross  
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AUGUST 1998

The newspaper of the Anglican Diocese of Sydney  
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## One Nation leader wins Christian vote



Bill Feldman, leader of the One Nation Party in Queensland and elder in the Church of Christ, says he is listening to God's will.

The Rev Alan Colyer, Moore College graduate and rector of Caboolture Anglican church, is one of many evangelicals who supported One Nation in the recent Queensland State Election. Belinda Pollard finds out why.

Church leaders around the country are struggling to come to terms with the biggest political event in Australia for decades: Pauline Hanson and her One Nation Party. The Queensland election was the first real test of

the new party, and Australia watched in stunned fascination as it gained 11 seats and 23 per cent of the vote. Christian responses to One Nation and its incendiary

**Continued on page 6**  
**Special comment page 9**

## New Indigenous pastor for west Sydney

Indigenous Australians in Sydney's west have their first Anglican pastor with the appointment of Neville Naden on July 16.

Archdeacon Alan Donohoo, convenor of the Sydney Anglican Indigenous Peoples' Ministry Committee, congratulated Mr Naden on becoming the Pastor to Western Sydney's Indigenous People.

"He was one of a number of very suitable and experienced Aboriginal pastors interviewed for the position," he said.

Archdeacon Donohoo antici-

pates that Mr Naden will commence outreach and pastoral work in the Mt Druitt-Tregear area during August.

The position has been made possible because of last year's Synod grant of \$1.2 million.

Mr Naden studied at Birribaden Bible College and has an Aboriginal Adult Education diploma from Sydney University.

For the past six years he has ministered at Umeewarra Mission, South Australia.

*Southern Cross plans to feature Mr Naden in a future edition.*

## Beazley rebukes nation's 'self-indulgence' on race

By SIMON MILLER

In an exclusive interview with *Southern Cross*, the Leader of the Opposition, Kim Beazley has spoken out against the 'great self-indulgence' which he claims has arisen over immigration and multiculturalism.

Mr Beazley said Australians have turned in on themselves by discussing whether or not we should be aggrieved at our multicultural society or Aboriginal land rights. He said "going through this internalised analysis is not doing the country any good at all".

Stating that multiculturalism was deeply embedded in Australian society, Mr Beazley said it is "not an industry, it is a fact. It is a fact we all live with cheerfully. To start being worried about it now is a pure act of self-indulgence".

Mr Beazley called on people who seek to exploit the deep insecurities of Australians over this, to start thinking about the future of the country.

In order to put the future in perspective, Mr Beazley, an An-

glican Christian, believes that the Church should continue to pray for Australia, in the words of the old prayer book, to be "Godly and quietly governed", and for

where we have to go from here," said Mr Beazley "we are going to need great reserves of unity and great reserves of cleverness in order to prosper".

Mr Beazley stated that in the immediate future this meant governments must tackle unemployment before importing more skilled labour. However, he claims that Australia has a major, need to offset an ageing society and that immigration is necessary to achieve this.

The only way to arrest national self-indulgence, Mr Beazley said is "to stand out against it, by the application of common sense and goodwill."



**Mr Beazley says multiculturalism is "not an industry, it is a fact. It is a fact we all live with cheerfully. To start being worried about it now is a pure act of self-indulgence".**

the whole nation to 'take stock' of where it is headed.

"We need to situate our nation historically, to comprehend

## Election Issues

The third in our series on election issues, includes an edited version of the interview with Mr Beazley

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## IN BRIEF

### Pleasure attack

'If it feels good...' Sydney's hedonistic culture will be under attack when the City Youth Convention addresses, 'The Pursuit of Pleasure', at the State Sport Centre, Homebush, on August 8 at 6.45pm. A full report will appear in the next issue of *Southern Cross*.

### Good News on air

The good news of Jesus can now be heard on Sydney radio 90.5 FM. Good News Alive, sponsored by Back to the Bible and Compassion Australia, features personal testimonies and people speaking openly about the Bible.

### Bridge jump

On August 29, about forty people will jump off the Harbour Bridge to support Crusader Union. Each participant will abseil from the southeast pylon of the bridge, a descent of just over 75m. Crusader Union encourages Christian work among school students.

### Explosion in Sydney

The international director of Evangelism Explosion (EE), Tom Stebbins, will be speaking at the EE conference at Bishopscourt, Darling Point, on August 15. In September, EE is holding a 'Refresher Clinic' at St Matthew's, Manly.

### KL endorsed

In June, the Standing Committee passed a motion by Phillip Gerber stating that it: a) considered that the *Kuala Lumpur Statement* on human sexuality 'clearly and accurately reflects a correct biblical understanding of the subject'; b) 'endorses the statement'; and c) encourages bishops from the Diocese of Sydney to promote the statement at the Lambeth Conference.

### Reachout Katoomba

The annual Reachout Convention will be held at the Katoomba Christian Convention site from August 21-23. Speakers are Michael Frost and David Cummings. More information call (02) 9484 3825.

### Advertising help

Hilton Hayes, the man behind the Christian advertising signs featured earlier this year in *Southern Cross*, is holding a seminar to show churches how to use low cost signs to promote the gospel. The seminar is at Kogarah Uniting Church on August 9 at 11.30am.

### Millenium prayer

Archbishop Goodhew is chairing a working group developing strategies for evangelism and prayer for the millenium. They are looking to integrate local evangelism with a media campaign, to proclaim the gospel to Sydneysiders. A weekly meeting will be held each Tuesday from September 8 at 1pm in the auditorium, St Andrew's House, to pray about this.

# Advertisers spread Christmas message

By JEREMY HALCROW

Anglican churches in St George and Sutherland regions have teamed up to run professionally-designed Christmas and Easter advertising in their local paper, *The St George and Sutherland Shire Leader*.

Now, they hope to offer their idea, as well as resources, to other parts of the Diocese in time for this Christmas.

The Rev Dane Courtney, rector of St Cuthbert's, South Carlton, suggests the ad designs he has organised for the *Leader* could be used by others.

"Putting our own parish ads in wasn't exactly cheap," he said. "So the idea came up to pool our resources to save costs. It is much more cost-effective for all the parishes to share in a full page ad."

By using the same design and replacing it with the relevant information, other area deaneries could also benefit, he explained.

"Not only is this an example of how parishes can work together, but how we can help each other across deaneries and indeed across regions."

Mr Courtney said the advertising is good community relations for the churches.

"While it may bring more people into church, we can't prove it does. Nonetheless, for a modest cost it raises the church's profile and says to people that the churches are working together and not in competition."

Keri Johnstone, groups fea-



The Rev Dane Courtney with Keri Johnstone from Fairfax.

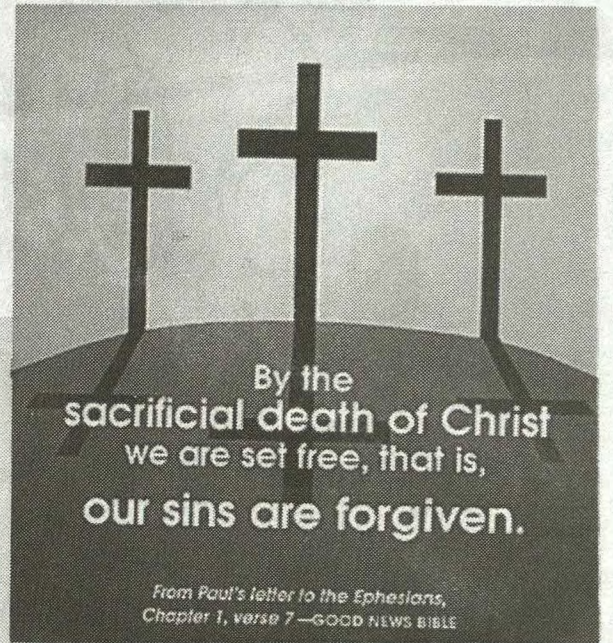
tures manager for Fairfax Community Newspapers, said the arrangement was good for the paper also.

"It's more efficient for us. We don't have to send letters to all the churches and spend time chasing up the ministers."

"Because we are a community newspaper it is important for us

to have reliable, community information. If we can't help the churches in any way we can, then it's a pretty sad day," she said.

"It's a better product at the end of the day. It is more user-friendly than looking through a page of ads. Finding your local Anglican ads is easier when the ads aren't mixed up with differ-



A leaflet designed by Bokaroo graphics for last Easter.

ent denominations."

Apart from the *Leader*, Keri Johnstone is also groups features manager of Fairfax papers in Liverpool, Fairfield, Blacktown, Parramatta, Penrith, the Hills and the Macarthur region.

The design concept was realised by a St Cuthbert's parishioner, Kate McCullough, who is also proprietor of Bokaroo Graphics. She offered her services to St Cuthbert's for free.

"It's part of my service to Christ," she explained.

Kate McCullough's generosity has helped the St George and Sutherland churches keep their advertising costs to a minimum. Mr Courtney said he hoped that other churches could benefit from the hard work Kate had already put in by using the same designs.

Apart from the newspaper ad, Ms McCullough also designs Christmas and Easter brochures for letter-box drops. They are tied into the same theme as the ads. While Ms McCullough is glad to do a whole range of work for other churches, overheads mean that some cost would be involved.

## Anglicare responds to aged care crisis

Sydney's frail-aged community is set to benefit from a \$5 million public appeal unveiled by Anglicare NSW. Officially launched by the Federal Minister for Family Services, The Hon Warwick Smith, on July 8 at Government House, the money will help Anglicare revamp its Chesalon aged care network.

But as the executive director of Anglicare NSW, the Rev Howard Dillon, pointed out, sometimes he feels like the wells of compassion stand empty.

"In order to pay for aged care on top of other activities, we are doing it tough," he said. "It's not the Federal Government's current policy to provide funds for capital developments. I hope the government reviews this policy in the lead up to the next election."

Anglicare needs \$5 million from the public as part of a \$20 million nursing home project, with Anglicare contributing the other \$15 million. The project includes the building of a brand new home in Sydney's west and the re-building of Chesalon Woonona and Beecroft. The foundations for the new Woonona and Beecroft homes were laid in June.

Mr Smith praised Anglicare for the quality of care it provides.

"If this level of care was provided by all aged care providers we'd be doing pretty well. But we're not doing well. The pres-



Mr Ruddock, Minister for Immigration, and Bishop Robinson at Chesalon Beecroft.

At 102 years old, Eric Steele, has seen a lot of the world. But he says he has never seen compassion like that shown to his wife at a Chesalon nursing home. Speaking at the launch of the Anglicare Chesalon Appeal, he spoke of the three years his late wife spent in the home.

"They showed love and compassion to all," he said. Like Mr Steele, Kurt Lance, has had his view of humanity altered through his contact with Anglicare aged care staff.

Mr Lance said he was devastated when he found out his wife, Sylvia, had Alzheimer's Disease. "She was the most independent-minded person you could imagine," he said.

Mr Lance said he had a negative impression of nursing homes until he was finally forced to take his wife to Chesalon, Parramatta, when she had become too ill to care for at home.

"What a wonderful bunch of people they are. This is the finest thing I've seen in humanity and I've been around a long time."

sures are enormous."

Mr Smith cited statistics that by 2047, more than five million people will be aged over 65.

"Last October this country got a wake up call," he said. "This situation must be addressed with some urgency."

Mr Kurt Lance

## Investment scam being pursued

*Southern Cross* warned readers in July, that people promoting fraudulent investment schemes were targeting church-goers in Sydney and elsewhere in Australia.

Since publication, the Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC), has commenced its first legal proceedings for what it alleges is one such fraudulent scheme.

The ASIC obtained interim orders in Brisbane against an Andrew John Smith who, it is alleged, approached members of the public and invited them to invest in the 'Bank Debenture Trading Program'.

An ASIC spokesman told *Southern Cross* that ASIC had received a number of calls in June and July from members of churches in relation to these fraudulent schemes. The schemes have various names, offer huge returns and stress the need for secrecy.

As a result of the schemes, at least \$10 million is said to have left the country. Individual investors have lost anything from \$6,000 to \$300,000.

Anyone with relevant information should phone ASIC on 1300 300 630.



## Chaplain may accompany Games Team

By STEPHEN LIGGINS

After a period of uncertainty, the way seems open for the Rev Russell Hinds to accompany the Australian team to Kuala Lumpur for the Commonwealth Games this month.

The Australian newspaper reported on June 20 that only Malaysian clergy would be authorised to act as chaplains at the Commonwealth Games. This was contrary to the usual arrangement whereby national teams nominate their own chaplain.

However, in a letter dated June 20 to Dr Mark Tronson, national director of SLM (which specialises in placing chaplains with professional sports bodies), the Rt Rev Lim Cheng Ean, Anglican Bishop of West Malaysia, tried to 'clarify the situation'.

Bishop Ean, who is co-ordinating the clergy working at the Counselling Centre at the Games, wrote: "We would certainly value the Rev Russell Hinds to work and share his experience with us."

"If he is affirmed by his national body and accompanies his team he is likely to stay in the International Games Village. As such he will have access to the Counselling Centre and can work with us."

This came as recent news to the Rev Hinds who must now decide whether he is available.

### Correction:

In the last issue of *Southern Cross Newspaper* we ran an article about Dr Choong Chee Pang. In this article we incorrectly reported that Sabah is in Indonesia. It is in fact in Malaysia.

# Cabramatta changed by Jesus



Reaching Cabramatta for Christ: (right to left): Pastor Ken Hawley, Pastor Carlos Encina, Pastor Daniel Win and volunteer Ron Coone.

By GAVIN TONG

God is having a dramatic impact on Cabramatta. When police recently raided the home of a drug-dealer, he was found watching the *Jesus* video.

A policeman told this story to Pastor Daniel Win. Mr Win is co-ordinating a project to radically change the suburb through the distribution of the *Jesus* video.

The project - called Cabramatta for Christ '98 - was launched on July 4. Over 100 volunteers from 13 churches in Cabramatta are involved. The volunteers are offering free copies of the *Jesus* video to every household in the area. More than 400 videos were distributed on the opening day alone.

The Project Committee hopes the video distribution will play a significant role in making Cabramatta a safer and greater place for the raising of children.

However Mr Win agreed that by targeting residents, they were not reaching the source of Cabramatta's social problems. He accepted that much of the trouble was brought by drug-addicts who live outside the area, in suburbs all over Sydney.

Mr Win said that the project hopes to reach outsiders in a number of innovative ways. Future plans involve public screenings of the video in Cabramatta's main shopping area, Freedom Plaza, with the hope that visitors to Cabramatta will be attracted. There are also plans to organise

a combined churches crusade and to reach disadvantaged children in the suburb.

"We need to do these things in God's timing. So we need patience to wait for the right time," he said.

Mr Win rejects the suggestion that by targeting Cabramatta alone, the project re-enforces a negative stereotype of the suburb. He believes the general public perceives that Cabramatta is the worst area for crime and drug-abuse in Sydney and that the project can use this biased perception for God's purposes.

"If God changes Cabramatta, the rest of the world will see the glory of God," he said.

While he agreed that people from all suburbs need to hear

about Christ, he said that Cabramatta was a particularly needy area.

"In Cabramatta a lot of people worship idols and don't know God."

Even on the first day of the project, Cabramatta saw positive change. One of the volunteers reported that while door-knocking he had come across a resident about to commit suicide. After spending time with him, the man is now benefiting from follow-up support.

Project Committee member, Pastor Ken Hawley, sums up the feelings of the team.

"We need prayer. This is just the start and the road is long."

Gavin Tong, a photographer, attends Cabramatta Anglican Church.

## Anglican broadcaster retires from ABC

Ronald Nichols, executive producer of Religion at ABC Radio, has retired after 32 years working for the ABC in religious broadcasting.

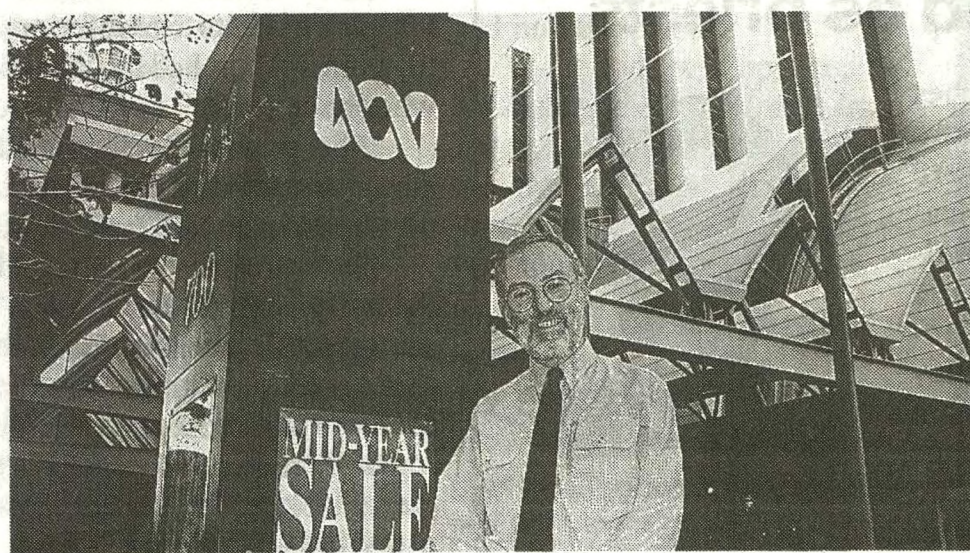
His distinguished career was marked by winning the United Nations Association Media Peace Prize for his coverage of the Lambeth Conference of Anglican Bishops in 1988.

Mr Nichols, a member of Christ Church St Laurence, said broadcasting had changed dramatically during his career.

"Programming has become more sophisticated. That's why we stopped broadcasting *Divine Worship* and *Community Hymn Singing*. The resources dried up in the churches and the quality we needed wasn't there. People just weren't interested in hymn singing anymore."

"That's also why we stopped simple, devotional programs," he said. "The expectations of an audience no longer encompasses listening to a monologue from a raised pulpit. Church leaders are seen alongside other points of authority in the community."

But Mr Nichols conceded



Mr Nichols retiring as executive producer of religion at ABC radio.

that the ABC's pluralistic view of religion also led public opinion.

"I believe that the ABC's religious broadcasting has, to a measure, determined the nature of ecumenism in Australia. People heard, on air, about belief systems other than their own."

Mr Nichols said the media often misunderstands the place of religion in Australian society.

"I don't think the media handles well the in-house talk of religion. It's jargon isn't easy to translate into everyday secular parlance."

However, Mr Nichols says the onus is not on the media but on

churches to present their message in a way that is accessible.

Most church groups have a poor understanding of what they can achieve through the media, he explained.

"A lot of media is ill-designed for evangelism. The media works best as a forum for discussion and analysis. No media is encyclopaedic. It titillates. It provides a point of interest for people to take up themselves."

Stephen Crittenden has replaced Mr Nichols. Mr Crittenden was presenter of ABC TV's *Express* and has no formal religious affiliation.

### EFAC

The Evangelical Fellowship of The Anglican Communion (Sydney Branch)

invites you to attend the Annual Meeting to hear

Archbishop Harry Goodhew

speak on the topic

'Reflections on Lambeth 1998'

on Tuesday, 15 September 1998

at 7.30pm

Contact Archdeacon Edwards 9265-1524

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# Restored organ points way to Cathedral's ministry re-development

photo by Christopher Shain



Canadian organ expert, Fernand Letourneau, inspects St Andrew's Cathedral's restored organ.

The newest splash of colour in St Andrew's Cathedral comes from one of its oldest fittings, the William Hill & Son organ, built in 1866, and recently restored by Fernand Letourneau in Canada.

Eighteen months ago the historic Hill organ, badly in need of repair, was dismantled and shipped to St Hyacinthe in Canada for major restoration.

"It's been a wonderful and exciting project for us," said Fernand Letourneau before he and his team returned to Canada. Though they had to make some new pipes, they used more than 70 per cent of the original pipework.

Dean Boak Jobbins is enthusiastic about the organ's part in the restoration of St Andrew's. "The restoration of the Cathedral

is as much about the renewal of ministry as about the preservation of a building."

His vision is for a church where new, different and present congregations all feel at home.

"Rebuilding the Hill organ to support congregational singing is stage one; stage two involves restoring and reordering the rest of the building."

## Seminar for reconciliation

St Mark's, Pennant Hills, is holding a seminar for local Christians to gain a better understanding of reconciliation, native title, the 'stolen generation' and the lives of indigenous Australians. The event is sponsored by Tear Australia. Phone (02) 9987 4547 for details.

## Shine pianist at Prom Praise launch for hymn competition

Brilliant young pianist, Simon Tedeschi, who played concert piano for the award-winning film *Shine*, will perform at Sydney's musical extravaganza 'Prom Praise 98' at the Sydney Entertainment Centre on August 8.

Anglicare, who is organising the Prom Praise, will use the

event to launch a national competition to find Australia's most promising young composer of a contemporary hymn/song, with a main prize of \$5,000.

Prom Praise will also feature a concert orchestra, a massed choir of over 350, and leading soloists.

Tickets on sale at Ticketek (02) 9266 4800.

## BISHOP writes



PAUL BARNETT

## Ordination of women: maintaining our unity in Christ

It seems that in most generations there are issues which divide the church and set Christians against one another. The ordination of women as priests has polarised people across the denominations for a quarter of a century. By now we have two entrenched groups, who dig themselves further into their defensive positions as time goes by.

Another source of division has been in the area of 'spirituality'. Many have spoken of a 'second' experience within their Christian life which has had a more powerful impact on them than the first, that is, at their conversion.

This 'second' experience people point to is the 'baptism in the Spirit', spoken of in the New Testament. Others deny this interpretation. Thus the people of God in the churches are either those who 'have' or those who 'have not' had this experience. Those who 'have' pray for those who 'have not'. This second experience has been for them a new power, and they encourage the 'have nots' to enter into it. But this, too, is divisive. Those who 'have not' are made to feel inferior to, even unchurched by, those who 'have'.

Other possibilities for division come to mind, for example Creationism.

There are those who take the early chapters of Genesis as a scientific account of a six-day creation. Others would prefer to take those texts *theologically* rather than *scientifically*, looking for answers to questions of 'why?' and 'who?' rather than 'when?' and 'how?'. This difference of opinion has not proved to be notably divisive among Sydney Anglicans, although the potential for division is there.

The examples given above lie within the realm of theological and experiential interpretation. Each has a moral dimension, but it is rather indirect. Where something is more explicitly moral our attitude should be rather more straightforward. We cannot help being divided from one another where, for example, there is stealing or lying.

Unrepented of and unresolved moral breaches push people apart. Indeed the writers of the New Testament call upon the immoral to repent and if they don't then the endorsement of church fellowship is to be withdrawn.

When Paul wrote to his churches with their often wayward members, he wrote to them as if they were the church of God, but he called on the disobedient among them to pull their lives back in line and, where that didn't happen, for fellowship to be withdrawn (1 Cor 5). Indeed, there is every indication that he himself would have withdrawn his apostleship from the Corinthian church if they hadn't heeded his strong warning (2 Cor 2:1-5).

But views on women's ordination, 'baptism of the Spirit' or 'Creationism' are just that: various views, and often expressed where the Bible doesn't have a great deal to say or what is said is rather difficult to understand.

Sometimes separate denominations have arisen over related matters like infant baptism, or the leadership role of bishops. While the formation of denominations for these reasons is undesirable it is preferable to unresolved acrimony or conflict where the issue is seen as involving the conscience.

It is to be profoundly hoped that we do not again witness the formation of new denominations over such issues. The question of the Ordination of Women is very serious at this time and feelings run high.

As one who, like most others, has a 'worked-out' view it is very important for me, and also for all of us, to understand that our unity and fellowship is in Christ, crucified and risen.

Even if one side 'wins' in synod, or the current 'losers' reverse that situation, we need to walk together in love and care for one another. In such times we need to work harder in understanding where our fellowship is found and to love one another.

Archbishop Goodhew is overseas in the US and UK.

## CHILD ABUSE IS THE UNSPEAKABLE



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## Chinese evangelists ordained as priests

The parish churches of Thornleigh and Cabramatta were crowded to near capacity for two simultaneous and historic ordinations on Sunday, June 21. The day marked the ordination to the priesthood of two ministers who have been pastoring Chinese congregations, the Rev Peter M Y Chung and the Rev Min Yaw Law.

Rector of Thornleigh parish, The Rev Neil Flower, said the ordination of Mr Chung was significant because he was involved in 'front line' evangelism.

"There have been a number of people brought to know Christ so far. It has been a great encouragement to the whole church to see these people seeking adult baptism and having the Bishop come out to welcome them into full membership of the Anglican church," he said.

Mr Chung has been working in the Thornleigh parish for the past two and half years, steadily building up a new congregation of people from Hong Kong, Taiwan and China. Before coming to Australia, he worked as a minister in Hong Kong. He took up a position as Stipendiary Lay Worker at Thornleigh in January 1996.



Rev Peter Chung



## IN BRIEF

**Ark battle comes to rest**

The court battle, touted in the secular press as exposing the 'truth about Noah's Ark', has ended without fanfare in the High Court of Australia. The High Court refused Melbourne scientist, Ian Plimer, special leave to appeal against an earlier Federal Court decision. The Federal Court had found that Allen Roberts, an advocate of creation science, was not acting commercially when he had made certain claims about the site where he believes the ark can be found.

**Brisbane allows outdoor weddings**

Anglican clergy in Brisbane can now conduct weddings outside church buildings. The Archbishop of Brisbane, Peter Hollingsworth, told his Diocesan Synod that clergy could apply to him for permission to conduct such services but would need to make a strong case to receive it. Archbishop Hollingsworth said he already grants permission for weddings on isolated home-steads if the service is to be carried out in a reverent and dignified way.

**Shooting galleries attacked**

The President of the NSW Council of Churches, the Rev John Edmondstone, has slammed proposals by the the South Sydney Council to ignore the NSW government and set up their own heroin shooting galleries.

**New Church Scene**

Talks are under way to produce a new national Anglican newspaper, following the closure of *Church Scene* last December. According to Radio National, a concept proposal for a fortnightly eight-page newspaper was presented and approved at the annual bishops' conference in April.

**Christian-Jewish understanding**

The former Archbishop of Sydney, Donald Robinson, will be part of a panel at a public seminar at the UNSW to promote understanding between Christians and Jews. Called 'Understanding the Other', the main speakers will be historian Dr Judith Lieu and columnist Philip Adams. Phone (02) 9351 4162 for details.

**Christian bird watchers**

Interested in looking at birds? A group of evangelical Christians, with an interest in ornithology, have formed the Christian Bird Observers Society (CBOS). Secretary, the Rev Chris Coleborn, said a major aim of the society was to encourage the study of birdlife so that people may enjoy the wonder of creation. For details write to CBOS, RSD 348, Cohuna, Vic 3568.

**Moves begin for women bishops**

General Synod's working group on women bishops held its first meeting in Sydney recently. The group is charged with drawing up draft legislation and a discussion paper for circulation around all the dioceses by the end of next year. A focus of the discussion material will be the implications of introducing women bishops in the Australian church, and practical ways of dealing with them.

The chair of the working group, Dr Muriel Porter, said that the group was anxious for its processes to be as open and accessible as possible. "We do not want to postpone discussion around the church until the draft legislation hits the dioceses formally," Dr Porter said. "We will soon be writing to all interested parties seeking information and submissions. Once we have some draft proposals, we hope to put them into circulation for immediate response."

The working group includes three people from Sydney Diocese: Dr Ann Young (deputy chair), Mr Justice Peter Young and the Rev Dr Robert Doyle. Other members are Dr Muriel Porter (Melbourne - chair); Archbishop Peter Carnley (Perth); Archdeacon John Davis (Wangaratta); Bishop Roger Herft (Newcastle).



Members of the Working Party on Women Bishops in Sydney.

**Lay presidency, women bishops may cause schism**

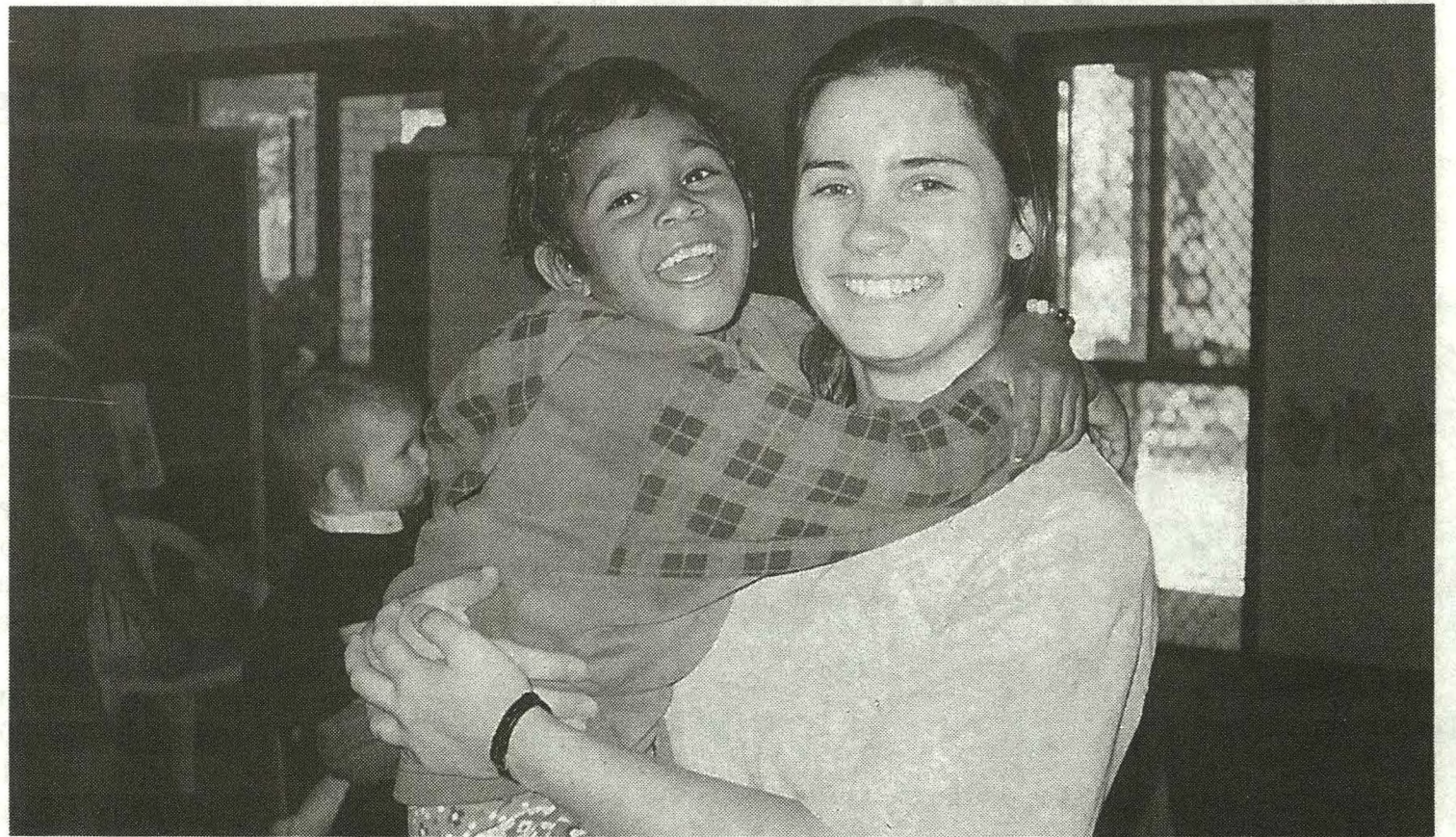
In his presidential address to the Brisbane Synod, held June 19 - 22, Archbishop Peter Hollingsworth said that the issues of lay presidency and women bishops would test the Church's ability to hold together as a national body.

"It was clear from the forceful contributions of some speakers from dioceses to the south of us (at General Synod) that they have a very different view of Anglican ecclesiology and ministry to the one we have all inherited," he said. "This has led them to adopt a view in favour of lay presidency which I find hard to comprehend."

**Unreserved but not unanimous apology to 'stolen generation'**

Brisbane synod issued an apology to Aboriginal people "for the suffering and pain as a result of the 'stolen generation'".

The Rev Alex Gater, leader of the Murri Anglican Fellowship, moved the resolution. She said that members of her family were among the 'stolen generation'. She said that injustices against Aboriginal people were not only an issue of the past but contin-

**Sydney Christians' eyes opened in WA**

Virginia Lovell, from Christ Church, St Ives, with an enthusiastic member of Kids Club.

Last month two groups from Sydney travelled to the far corners of Western Australia to hold short-term missions in co-operation with BCA missionaries and clergy.

The two groups, one led by the Department of Evangelism and the other by Christ Church, St Ives, were involved in outreach programs in these remote areas.

Eleven evangelists from Sydney and Brisbane, led by David Mansfield, head of the Department of Evangelism, participated in 10 days of mission in the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

The group went at the invitation of Wickham BCA missionaries, Bill and Jocelyn Ross.

The tiny mining townships of Karratha, Dampier and Wickham form an isolated group on the north-west coast of WA - about as far as you can get from Sydney without leaving the country. It is barren country, both physi-

cally and spiritually. "People are hardened to the gospel," said Mr Mansfield, "but we saw God at work in challenging people and changing people's lives."

The team assisted local Christians from several denominations in a constant stream of outreach events, including dinners and rallies, school Scripture, and small meetings in people's homes.

Meanwhile, 16 members of Christ Church, St Ives, also found themselves a long way from suburban Sydney.

At the invitation of the Revs Malcolm Reid and Ian Forsythe, from St Peter's, Port Hedland and its sister church, St Matthew's, South Hedland, the team visited the town from July 4-13.

A dusty coastal town, famous for its migrant detention centre and blazing summer temperatures, Port Hedland has a population of about 16,000, many at-

tached to mining giant BHP. Most employees spend two to three years in town before moving on, after the heat and distance have taken their toll.

"It's a hot, flat, dusty place which revolves around the iron ore industry," said Graham Thomas, a member of the Christ Church team. "The transient nature of the population means people don't stay for long. The people we met were really friendly, and I think the church was encouraged by our visit, as were we."

The team ran a 'Kids Club' each morning, which saw 130 children enthusiastically join in. They also took part in door-knocking and street evangelism in the shopping centre. The group's leader, the Rev Rob Smith, ran two evening seminars for adults.

It proved an eye-opening experience for Sydney-siders and Hedlanders alike.

**Sydney Anglican Deposit Plan: a competitive income producing investment**

The Sydney Anglican Deposit Plan (SADP) has operated for more than a decade with deposits from churches and other Anglican organisations. It is managed by the Glebe Administration Board.

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2 Years	5.70%	5.45%
3 Years	6.10%	5.85%



# One Nation leader wins Christian vote



Rev Alan Colyer: voted for Bill Feldman despite his own concerns about One Nation policies.

Continued from page 1.

policies vary from support to veiled criticism to outright attack.

In the Queensland town of Caboolture, the issue is very close to home. The new local member, Bill Feldman, is a respected Christian elder. He is also the leader of One Nation in the Queensland Parliament. Christians are trying to work out why he has chosen to stand for a party reputed to be, among other things, racist and pro-abortion.

Mr Feldman is firmly convinced that Pauline Hanson has been misrepresented by the media. "I, too, thought, 'There must be something wrong with this lady.' But the more they seemed to attack her and the more she seemed to take that central stance, it created a real interest in me." He obtained a copy of her maiden speech, and read there the type of things that he had

been thinking. "There should be accountability in government, and especially the Aboriginal departments. As a policeman, I was seeing waste as well."

An hour north of Brisbane, Caboolture is semi-rural in character, yet firmly anchored to the city by the commuter rail line. It is also one of a group of evangelical parishes in the Brisbane Anglican diocese. Caboolture rector Alan Colyer is a Moore College graduate. He has no doubts about Bill Feldman as a person. "Bill is a converted Christian," he said. "He's an elder with the Church of Christ. I've known him for seven years through the police chaplaincy. He's a highly moral man."

Mr Colyer was not so confident about One Nation. "To say that I am concerned about their policies is probably an understatement. I don't think they're clear; I don't think they're thought out; I

don't think they're wise."

Despite his own misgivings about One Nation, Mr Colyer voted for Bill Feldman. "None of the other people who stood up had any Christian conscience or morality about them," he said. So

**"Mr Colyer... regarded Pauline Hanson as Bill Feldman's biggest challenge. 'Some of the things she says are quite crazy.'"**

I voted for somebody who I knew was prayerful, biblical and who would translate that into his portfolio as an MP. I've said publicly for many years that we need Christians in Parliament. I had to be true to my statement." However, he said some Asian mem-

bers of his congregation 'wanted to vote for Bill as a Christian, but couldn't believe the policy.'

Mr Feldman was convinced the racism allegations were 'a Labor party strategy to bring us down'. He maintained that the immigration policy was about economics not race.

Mr Feldman said Ms Hanson was misquoted on abortion, and in any case his own stance was clear. "I think abortion is not only against the law of Queensland, but against God's law." He did not expect to have to vote against his conscience on the floor of Parliament. "That's the beauty of One Nation," he said. "We do, on core policies, like to vote as a block, but each member has a right to vote how he sees fit, not only for his own conscience but for the people of his electorate."

Mr Colyer was sceptical about how well such a procedure would work in practice, and he regarded Pauline Hanson as Bill Feldman's biggest challenge. "Bill sees her to be a very caring, proper, moral person. I think some of the things she says are quite crazy."

Nevertheless, Mr Feldman was not likely to give up on One Nation - he converted from a lifelong devotion to the Labor party to join the new movement. "I hope to give, what I still perceive to be, the majority of Queenslanders a voice in Parliament," he said. And he was determined to keep his relationship with God central in his life. "No matter what I do or what I consider to do, I always place it before the Lord in prayer. I would certainly not like to do something that wasn't his direction and his will."

Belinda Pollard is a Brisbane-based freelance journalist. She formerly worked for Anglican Youth and Education.

## Ministers need inspiration, says survey

A survey of Uniting Church clergy in Victoria has found that more than a quarter were not 'inspirational communicators'.

Ministers may be asked to enrol in refresher courses as a result of the findings.

While a little over 50 per cent of those surveyed believed that their minister had a 'love of people', the remaining interviewed were unsure.

A quarter of those surveyed thought their clergy were inefficient and poorly organised. But nearly two thirds of respondents believed their minister had a strong faith.

The research was undertaken by retired minister, John Bodycomb. According to the survey, the most important attributes of a minister were a strong faith and a genuine love of people.

### Preaching - Sydney Anglicans

The National Church Life Survey 1996 of Sydney Anglicans asked a question similar to that in the Victorian survey.

In response to the question - Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? 'The preaching I hear in this congregation is very helpful to me in everyday life':

- ★ The vast majority (88 per cent) said the preaching they hear is helpful to everyday life.
- ★ However only 39 per cent gave it the highest affirmation.
- ★ Around 12 per cent were neutral or disagreed.

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### September - another change coming up

We currently have over twenty candidates in training from all around the country. If you would like to find out about our September selection conference please call our National Office.



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Church Army in Australia  
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Ph (02) 9635 6246  
Fax (02) 9635 6213  
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### Moore Theological College School of Theology

Wednesday, 16th September, 1998



*A sure  
and certain  
hope at  
the edge  
of time*

For information and a registration form contact  
Moore College External Studies Department  
Phone (02) 9577 9911 Fax (02) 9577 9922

### Anglican Renewal Ministries of Australia - Sydney

Anglican Bishop Hector Zavala from Chile is visiting Sydney and will be speaking at St Anne's, 44 Church St, Ryde at 8.00pm 21/8/98. Bishop Zavala is the first Chilean Bishop of the Chilean Diocese.

Contact Tanya Wyatt  
9361-2566 (w)  
9874-1259 (h)  
Supper provided

### All Souls Leichhardt

invites all its  
former members  
to the 10am  
communion service  
on August 23

preacher  
Archdeacon Alan Donohoo  
(Rector 1969-80)

guest organist  
David Parsons

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## IN BRIEF

**Missions merge**

Two evangelical missions, the African Evangelical Fellowship (AEF) and SIM, have agreed to merge. AEF International Director, the Rev Timothy Kopp, said the aims of the two organisations are virtually identical, so there are exciting possibilities for synergy as they work to fulfill Christ's commission together. The new mission will keep the SIM name.

**Internet evangelism**

The world's first guide to evangelism on the Internet has been released. The 'Online Web Evangelism Guide' was produced by Soon Gospel Literature, a member of the UK Evangelical Alliance. Tony Whittaker, one of the creators of the guide, said they were not looking to promote their organisation but to keep Christians from having to 'reinvent the wheel.'

"If only we had had the guide available to us when we started Internet evangelism a couple of years ago, it would have been of the greatest help."

The guide covers such issues as how Web evangelism differs from the printed page, how to use Internet search engines and witnessing in 'newsgroups'. The address of the site is <http://www.brigada.org/today/articles/web-evangelism.html>

**First Christian hospital in China**

The first Christian hospital, since the Communist takeover in 1949, has been opened in China.

The Rev George Chen, who spent 18 years in prison for his faith, opened the Pu Ai Hospital last month in Daye City, Hubei Province. Mr Chen explained that the hospital project was initiated when the minister of the Daye Christian Church, who was originally a doctor, decided to continue practicing medicine as a way of leading more people to Christ. Mr Chen said the church had two ordained pastors and eight full-time believers ministering to over 30,000 believers in the city.

**Evangelical churches join**

A full communion between The Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America was approved by both churches in June. The announcement means that affiliated congregations - as well as the United Church of Christ and the Reformed Church in America, already in communion with the Presbyterians - will be able to run joint parishes and share clergy especially where congregations are struggling to hire pastors.

**Christians released in Saudi Arabia**

At least five of the 11 expatriate Christians arrested in Saudi Arabia in June, were released from custody at the end of last month. The others are expected to be deported within the next few weeks.

The 11 Christians include ten Filipinos and one Dutch citizen. They were arrested for allegedly distributing Christian materials.

The whereabouts of some Christians detained for questioning following the original arrests is currently unknown.

*Baptist Press USA*, reports that the arrests began after 500 packets of Christian materials, printed in Arabic, were distributed to homes in the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

Saudi Arabia is a Muslim country, and under its Islamic law, missionary activity and evangelism are prohibited.

A spokesperson for the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Washington DC, said that it was not illegal to be a Christian in Saudi Arabia. It is forbidden for Saudi citizens to convert to Christianity. Muslims who convert face the death penalty.

There are severe penalties for proselytizing (trying to convert people) in Saudi Arabia. In May 1997, two Christians were beheaded for involvement in Bible studies and prayer meetings while in prison.

Christians in Saudi Arabia have called on believers worldwide to join them for prayer and fasting on August 6-7.

**Church leaders killed in Sudan**

Photo courtesy AAP

**Sudanese People's Liberation Army soldiers: Over 1 million people have died since the war began.**

The armed forces of Sudan's National Islamic Front (NIF) regime repeatedly attacked the predominantly Christian population of Twic County in famine-stricken northern Bahr El Ghazal in June, according to the Voice of the Martyrs (VOM).

The troops shot and killed Christian leader, Abraham Yac Deng, and enslaved two Christian women. Two children were among 25 members of the community who were enslaved.

The raiders damaged a church and burned 600 Bibles that had been delivered in May by VOM. Christian Solidarity International, a human rights group,

reported that NIF troops attacked the village of Turalei on June 6, destroying its supply of medicine.

Troops attacked the village of Maper, where 30,000 Sudanese had gathered for a World Food Program distribution of grain. Raiders burned the supplies during the attack; the number of deaths and abductions is not known.

Santino Bol Akok, the resident Anglican clergyman in Manyiel parish, said 15 of the 38 churches in Aweil West County were burned by NIF troops during the May offensive. Over forty church members were enslaved and 48 were killed, including five

lay evangelists, he said.

Approximately 1.5 million people have been killed and about five million people have been displaced since civil war began in 1983.

Many Sudanese have fled the persecution, some coming to Australia. An estimated 200 refugees will be accepted into Australia each year for the next few years (see page 1 June *Southern Cross Newspaper*).

The 15 year civil war in Sudan has caused widespread famine. Community Aid Abroad and Oxfam estimate that in Southern Sudan about 1.2 million people are threatened with starvation.

**Pakistan: can a suicide bring good?**

*\* This has been written by an Australian Christian who wishes to remain anonymous in order to protect friends.*

The word 'suicide' brings visions of wasted life, the epitome of personal failure.

However, we marvel at war-time stories, such as the soldier who throws himself onto a grenade to save the lives of his platoon.

*The greatest love a person can have for his friends is to give his life for them:* words Jesus spoke, which describes such heroes.

The recent death of Catholic Bishop, John Joseph, in Pakistan was like that. In recent years, the persecution of Christians and other minority groups has increased. But the world knows little of the real truth.

Australians usually hear of one case each year. *The Sunday Age* (May 10 1998) reported that 'more than 200 Christians ... have been sentenced to death for blasphemy'. This is probably the first time any such figure has reached the Australian press.

Pakistan has a parliament and judiciary similar to Australia, but there is an effective populist movement led by militant extremists. This has infiltrated widely.

Censorship is rife - recently I received an e-mail from which all references to the human rights abuses had been cut.

It was against this background that, when the death sentence was passed on Ayub

***"We should not call it suicide. He (Bishop Joseph) sacrificed his life fighting against injustice."***

Masih, Bishop Joseph took his own life in front of the court-house. His suicide was designed to save the lives of innocent people by drawing world attention to the fate of minority groups in Pakistan, especially the two per cent who are Christian. At the funeral it was said: "We should not call it suicide. He (Bishop Joseph) sacrificed his life fighting against injustice."

It is clear the blasphemy law will be repealed, only if international pressure - especially linked to the economy - is brought to bear on the Pakistani government.

**What is the blasphemy law?**

One might expect that such a law would be linked to major attacks on Allah, or Prophets such as

Mohammed. That is not the case. The law is constantly misused in situations where some other issue is at stake, usually property.

Ayub Masih came from a village where there were fifteen Christian families. Masih's uncle obtained official permission to buy some land upon which to build a house. This infuriated at least one land-lord, resulting in attacks, so that the families were forced to flee. Masih, his brother, mother and sister, were all beaten physically. The two young men were arrested. One brother was released; Masih was charged.

We are told that 'the mob' threatened the police and demanded Masih be charged with blasphemy. He was shot by an accuser during one of his court appearances. Eighteen months later his trial took place in a gaol and he was given the mandatory death sentence on April 27.

This pattern is widespread: there is usually no religious basis for the charge. Illiterate boys have been charged with writing messages on mosque walls.

Australians are accustomed to walking freely away from a court if found 'not guilty'. In Pakistan the mob is likely to pursue a person charged with blasphemy, even to death. Thus, to be charged with blasphemy is likely to result in death, whether

the court determines 'guilty' or 'not guilty'.

There is widespread opposition to this situation. Human rights organisations have protested, yet nothing has changed. Muslim clergy in Australia have condemned the persecution of Christians in Pakistan, and there are many Muslims in Pakistan who seek commitment to the justice of their constitution.

Australians distressed at this situation should call on our PM to protest to the Pakistani Government, requesting the repeal of the blasphemy law, to commute the death penalty on Masih, to order a re-trial which is fair and public and guarantee his safety.

**Persecution in Pakistan**

☛ More than 200 Christians have been sentenced to death for blasphemy.

☛ Under the blasphemy law a person is convicted on the same day they are accused and is allowed no defenders.

☛ Many blasphemy charges have no religious basis but result from property disputes targeted at Christians.

☛ Those found 'not guilty' are often killed, nonetheless, by Islamic militant mobs.



## Saddened

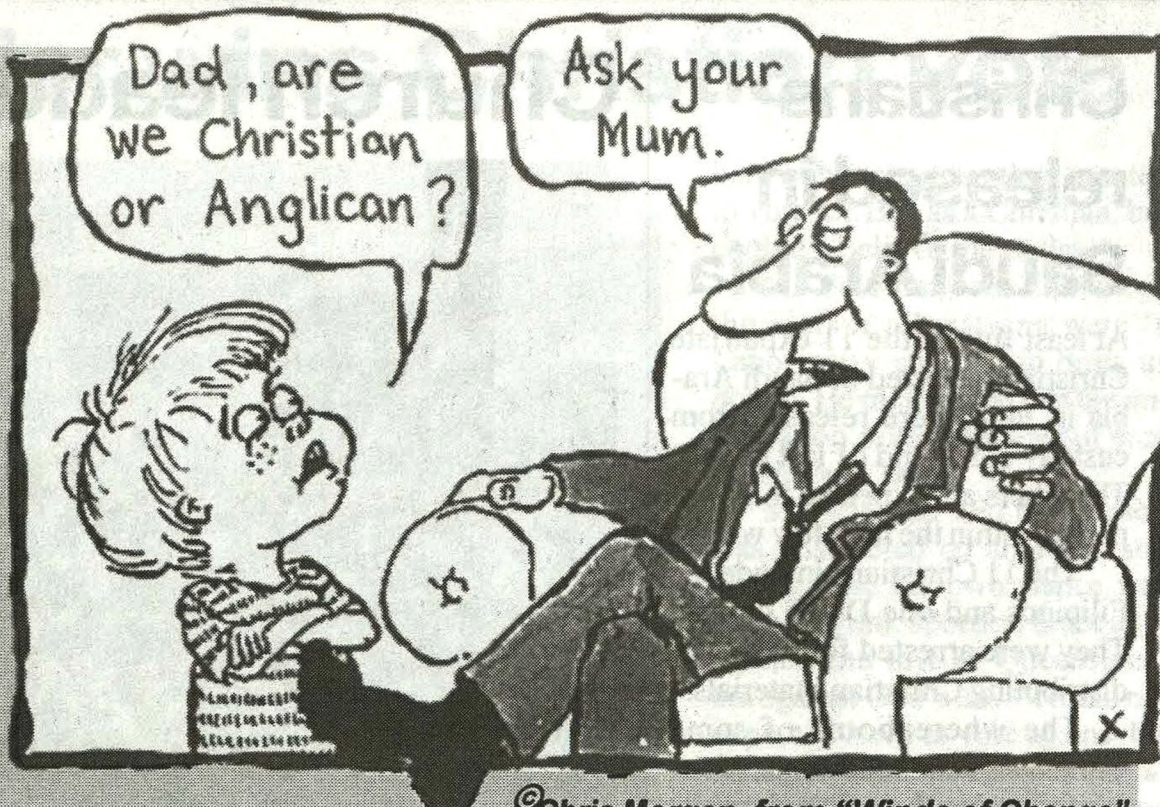
Bill Winthrop's letter (SCN, 1998) filled me with much sadness.

As a practicing Anglican who also regularly takes a wheelchair-bound Catholic friend to Mass, I have got to know the Catholic church well. I assure you, Mr Winthrop, there are just as many Christians in that Church as in ours - decent people striving to do their bit for Christ and their fellow-man and live a Christ-like life as He would want.

I will not go into the technicalities of theological differences but Catholics do not venerate Mary as "co-Redeemer". I will leave, however, any doctrinal arguments to the more learned.

Christianity is a religion of love - love for God, love for others. Why complicate what is that simple? Let's not split hairs over any differences, but love one another as God has called us to do.

Adrienne Girdlestone  
Bexley



©Chris Morgan, from "Winds of Change"

Did you ever raise a public voice concerning prostitution in Sydney before you were told about your new neighbours? And if you get rid of them will you continue the fight? Let me suggest some ways around 'not in my backyard' approaches to prostitution. All churches and individuals that are concerned about the practice should support Christian ministries to this industry with money and prayer. If your church is about to become neighbours to a brothel, get in touch with churches that have been in this situation for many years. Find out what ways they are serving these people. And why not, if you get around to it, find out what Jesus did about the prostitutes He was living next door to!

Ian Randall  
Blaxland

## Irish troubles

Professor Chris Bellenger's article (SCN, July 1998) seemed to be a fair and accurate assessment of the present state of affairs in Northern Ireland.

However, he makes one point which needs amplification. In his sub-article, 'What was the vote about?', he mentions that about 90 per cent of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (police) are Protestants in a province which is at least 40 per cent Roman Catholic.

This may well be true but I think it needs to be stressed that from the time of the inauguration of the province of Northern Ireland in 1921, it was planned by its fledgling government that a minimum of 40 per cent of the membership of the RUC should be Roman Catholic.

Sadly, this principled aspiration was never completely fulfilled mainly due to intimidation by the IRA. But all the same, at times over the past 75 years the Roman Catholic element in the force has greatly exceeded the present 10 per cent.

Rev Canon Denis Wann  
Coniston NSW

## Hymn books for India

My wife and I have recently returned from a holiday in Northern India. During that time, we visited St Mary's Anglican Church, Palbuchla, Ajmer, to find records of the grave of my father, who died in Ajmer in 1936.

We received considerable assistance from the Chaplain, the Rev Michael Vattathil. Grateful, we asked if there was anything that might be of help to the battling parish. Mr Vattathil asked if we could assist in obtaining some copies of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, to replace the few battered hymn books at the Church.

If readers can help or have copies of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (any edition would be acceptable) to send to Ajmer, phone me on (02) 9416-3851.

Ian Claridge  
Roseville

## Backyard brothels? Bah Humbug!

In response to the *Sydney Morning Herald* article (June 27), which interviewed Robert Forsyth about plans to open a brothel across the road from his church, it's all too easy to develop a deep social conscience when it's your 'backyard' at stake. Tell me St Barnabas, Broadway, is this a righteousness of convenience?

Patricia Judge  
Linley Point

right to be involved, but more importantly, a responsibility.

The recent euthanasia debate drew a united voice from most Christian churches, who together with medical, legal, and disability groups, expressed strong opposition to the Northern Territory Legislation. These efforts resulted in the the Territory legislation being declared unconstitutional.

During the debate, I was greatly moved by the many Senators who prefaced their speeches by 'I am a Christian', followed by clear arguments against the Territory legislation.

We have some inspiring examples from the past of Godly parliamentarians who overturned practices contrary to God's purpose. Wilberforce is an obvious example.

Conversely, there were many Christians in pre-war Germany, who by their silence, contributed to the terrible tragedies of that time.

We should at least have a keen interest in legislation and an informed and principled vote at the ballot box. If we don't make our voices heard, we should not be surprised at the passing of laws which contravene biblical teaching.

## Lights, camera, action

Having seen Gary Oldman's film 'Nil by Mouth', I read with interest Sarah Barnett's review of the same film (SCN, June 1998), in which she poses the question about the place for such films.

Although shaken by this film, its power for me lies in the veracity of the story and the attention to detail. As much as anything else, this film serves as an injunction to think critically about the context in which we live, and to seek to make an impact on it in the way that Jesus would have done.

Jane West  
Haberfield

## Youth neglected

It was good to read that Bruce Dingwall (SCN, July) gave credit to the 'faithful band of Christians' from St Mark's, Sadleir, whose vision and prayers were behind the new Hoxton Park church. Having spent eight years with them, I too, attest to their faithfulness to God.

But some of the very children of those, who have so faithfully cared about others, are no longer part of the Anglican communion. They go to a Christian Life Centre. While I rejoice that they are still involved in a Christian organisation, I grieve that our vision has not stretched to the point of seeing a viable and lively youth ministry established in the area. This is in no way to detract from the great work that is going on in youth ministry by faithful people, but it's a fact of life that youth thrive in strong, large and musically-oriented groups. Even the nearest large centre, St Luke's, Liverpool, has recently lost their full time youth worker because of lack of funds.

Is there another church who would join those who are already supporting Hoxton Park, and who would see funding a youth ministry as their project?

Our youth are our future. While we are not into number crunching, it is surely shortsighted to rear them and watch them walk away. I believe that the Anglican Church is one of the best places to bring young people to maturity in Christ - if we hold on to them long enough!!

Anne Milton  
Merrylands

## Godly government

Andrew Cameron (SCN June 1998) says that since we live in a democracy, God wants us to argue our view as legislation is being passed.

If we take seriously Paul's words that 'there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God', then we not only have a

## CLERGY moves



**The Rev Trevor Ackman** from Assistant Minister, Peakhurst/Mortdale parish, C-I-C, Oakhurst 11.10.98.

**The Rev Scott Blackwell** from assistant minister, Bulli parish, to rector, Keiraville parish 15.8.98.

**The Rev Dane Courtney** from rector, St Cuthbert's South Carlton, to C-I-C Quakers Hill 1.10.98.

**The Rev Stephen Gooch** from assistant minister, Kingswood, to curate in charge, Kingswood.

**The Rev Paul Gurrier-Jones** retiring from C-I-C, Culburra Beach 17.9.98.

**The Rev Michael Hamaty** from National Secretary SAMS, to curate in charge provisional parish of South Creek 16.8.98.

## SYDNEY diary



**Tues 4 & Thur 6 Aug, 8.00pm:** Annual Moore College Lectures. Dr Barry Webb on 'Five Festal Gospels: Christian Reflections on Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther'. Also Fri 7, Mon 10 & Wed 12 Aug at 11.15am.

**Fri, 21 Aug, 7.30pm:** CMS NSW Annual Meeting in the Chapter House, St Andrew's Cathedral. Also Sat 29 Aug, 6.30pm: Western Sydney Family Night, Blacktown Anglican, Richmond Rd.

**Mon, 24 Aug, 9.00am:** Clergy Golf at New Brighton. Phone: 9673-4665.

**Sun, 30 Aug, 2.00pm:** Quakers Hill Anglican Church, Cnr Morrell Cr & Samuel Place, Quakers Hill. **Thousand Tongues Sing-a-long.** Sing the great hymns of faith: Sankey, Wesley, Dudley-Smith etc. Just for the praise of it!. Enquiries (02) 9221 8940 (bus hrs). **Sat, 5 Sept, 2.00pm:** C of E Historical Society. Chapter House. Rev Barry Marsh on Norfolk Island.

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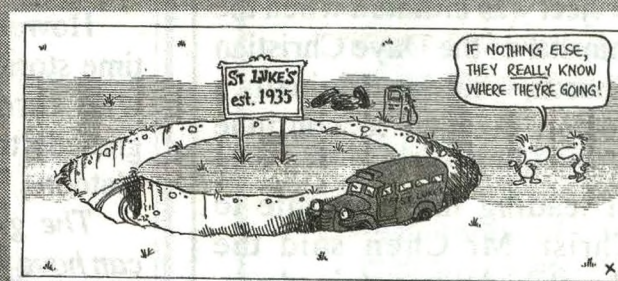
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## Lost Direction?

Due to the unprecedented response to the letters from Mr Girdlestone (June) and Mr Nicholson (July) on whether the church has lost its direction *Southern Cross* has provided readers with a special letters feature in this issue.

The special letters feature can be found on page 10.



Letters should be less than 200 words. Text will be edited due to space limitations. Address all letters to Cross Words, Southern Cross Newspaper, PO Box Q190, QVB Post Office, Sydney NSW 1230 or E-mail: newspaper@anglicanmediasydney.asn.au

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# Christians must stand-up for refugees

## THE HAMMOND REPORT



WITH  
STEPHEN JUDD

## God, Power and Us

We Christians are pretty good at criticising each other. Often it is done out of conviction, but I suspect that at other times the motivation is baser.

What has interested me over many years is the will to power that is evident in both congregational and denominational life. Oh, of course, it is never so obvious as that. More often than not it is put in purer terms: perhaps it is said that one group has theological differences with another. But in truth it is often really about power, about control. One group just wants to win over another.

At one level this is simply politics. I understand politics. However, we must not be silent when it goes beyond that and becomes an actual attempt to denigrate or to frustrate and to pull down what is quite obviously good Christian work and witness. We must be quick to speak out whenever good work proclaiming the Gospel or showing God's love to His Creation is opposed by other Christians purely because it is not *their* work.

Some people in this world might say that the ends justify the means. As Christians we must daily affirm in our conduct that, for us, the means are the ends. And if we are in conflict with other Christians, we should be wary lest we speak against the Spirit and His manifest signs: "anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven." MATT 12:32

Pretty heavy stuff. Words of Jesus which we should remember.

*Stephen Judd*

Dr Stephen Judd, Chief Executive  
of The Hammond Care Group

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## CROSS current



MARGARET  
RODGERS

Every Australian, apart from our indigenous brothers and sisters, had their original cultural roots somewhere else. Since the Second World War, Australia has experienced waves of migration. This was a reality for us from the beginning of white settlement here, but it was accentuated after WWII and Caldwell's White Paper on Immigration. We all come from those who left land and culture behind and travelled here to create a new life. Our nation has been built upon a great movement of peoples.

It hasn't always been easy as settlers have come and attempted to accommodate themselves, and their lifestyle, to those here before them. Remember the great mass of 'Pommies' who came after the War, and the 'Reffos', the 'Dagos', the 'Wogs' and the 'Eyties'? They all experienced rejection and abuse in their time, yet each wave of people has contributed significantly to the rich cultural complexity, and to the economic well-being and productivity of present-day Australia. Yet as each group settled, voices called for a pause in the immigration policies of the day.

We cannot turn back to Australia as it used to be, nor should we want to. Bob Menzies' and Ben Chifley's days are gone and



will not come again, however much nostalgia for them infuses our illusions. If we travelled back to them, we would be as much strangers to their day as they would be to ours.

What we need to do, like all the decades of Aussies before us, is to adjust ourselves to today's realities, and to prize who we are now as Australians.

In the last twenty years, many Asian people have come. They are enriching our lives and nation as much as any earlier group of migrants.

In the Church, we are strengthened, encouraged and edified by the Christian witness, ministry and fellowship of our Asian brothers and sisters. Their commitment to outreach and mission among their Asian peers provides an example that puts many other Christians, who are inactive witnesses, to shame.

Let's make it clear we welcome them! If they are experiencing

negativity in relationship, abuse, or slights from any persons in this community, let them be assured that we of this Diocese stand with them, as sister and brother Christians, who won't tolerate their ill treatment or rejection by others.

The One Nation Party's immigration policy is ill-judged, xenophobic and runs counter to Christian teaching. Their claim is that

**"The One Nation Party's immigration policy is ill-judged, xenophobic and runs counter to Christian teaching."**

we are being 'Asianised'. They want 'zero-net migration', and they want refugees to be sent home after five years.

The anxiety about Australia being Asianised appears to show no understanding of the reality

that all humans are made in the image of God, and that we all have equal standing before him - as sinners in need of forgiveness.

Their call for the return of refugees is uncaring and misguided. What would we be sending them home to? More war, persecution and oppression? More poverty, starvation and slow death?

We Christians are obliged by the Word of God to extend care and refuge to those who need it. It's vital that we, as Christian citizens and voters, stand against divisive demagogues who attempt to lead us astray with beguiling phrases of little accuracy or substance.

The nation, Israel, was exhorted by its Lord, "You shall not oppress a stranger; you know the heart of a stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Significant words for Australia today, almost wholly comprised as we are of strangers who came, in their time, to this land.

## Church should ignore advice on how to survive

What would you think if I, a Christian, took it upon myself to tell atheists how to make atheism more attractive? Or what if I suggested that certain agnostics should be marginalised if agnosticism is to survive?

Weird? Possibly. Patronising? Certainly. Yet that is exactly what Christians are subjected to.

Every so often you will come across unbelievers in the media telling believers how to be better Christians, or what to do if the Christian religion is to survive. And the advice is almost always the same - "fit in better with the non-Christian society".

Jim McClelland's column in the *Sydney Morning Herald* some time ago provided a good example. McClelland, on his own admission, has no religious beliefs. Fair enough. But that didn't stop him from laying into (Roman) Catholic Archbishop Pell of Melbourne for his "dogged defence of the 'eternal verities' so wildly at variance with a constantly changing world," and for his

**BAH!  
humbug!**



ROB  
FORSYTH

'homophobia' which is so 'out of step with modern realities'. He ended with a dire warning, "The future of the Catholic church is in doubt unless Pell and his ilk are marginalised."

Maybe, but I very much doubt it. However, one thing's for sure; no Christian leader should pay any attention to the McClellands

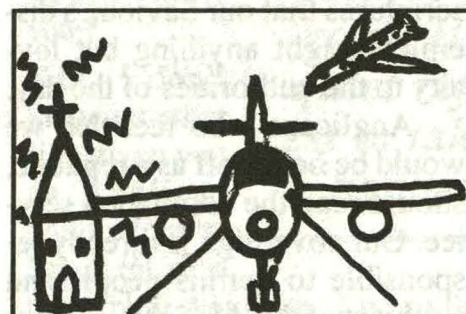
and their ilk, no matter how well meaning they might be. The reason is obvious. Advice which ignores the most crucial reality of all for the church must be very bad advice.

The church does not exist to survive or to attract more members. It exists to testify to and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. The ultimate test of any Christian community will of course not be, "Did you keep in step with modern realities?" but, "Have you

**"In fact, the one thing the church must not do is to be 'in step'."**

been faithful to your Lord?"

In fact, the one thing the church must not do is to be 'in step'. It must rather be against the 'modern realities' for the sake of the world itself. Otherwise the church is useless. (There is one other danger - to be in step only with yesterday's realities and



Rev Smith told his flock to ignore the noise. "Our ministry must keep up with the times," he said.

think that this is faithfulness to Christ.)

Yet, it is kind of nice that Jim McClelland, and others like him, care that the Christian church (sort of) survives. They're like those who want to keep a church building in their town although they never attend it. It shows that the Christian faith is, in some strange way, 'owned' even by atheists in Australia. I mean, could you ever imagine McClelland *et al* writing to tell the Muslims, or Sikhs, or Buddhists what to do to survive? But 'good old Christianity', yes, why not?

It is just that we must never do what they suggest.



# Has the church lost direction?

## Do older Christians feel let down by the church?

By JOHN BELLAMY  
NCLS RESEARCHER

For most of the issues raised in the NCLS research, the differences between older attenders and the Sydney Diocese average is slight.

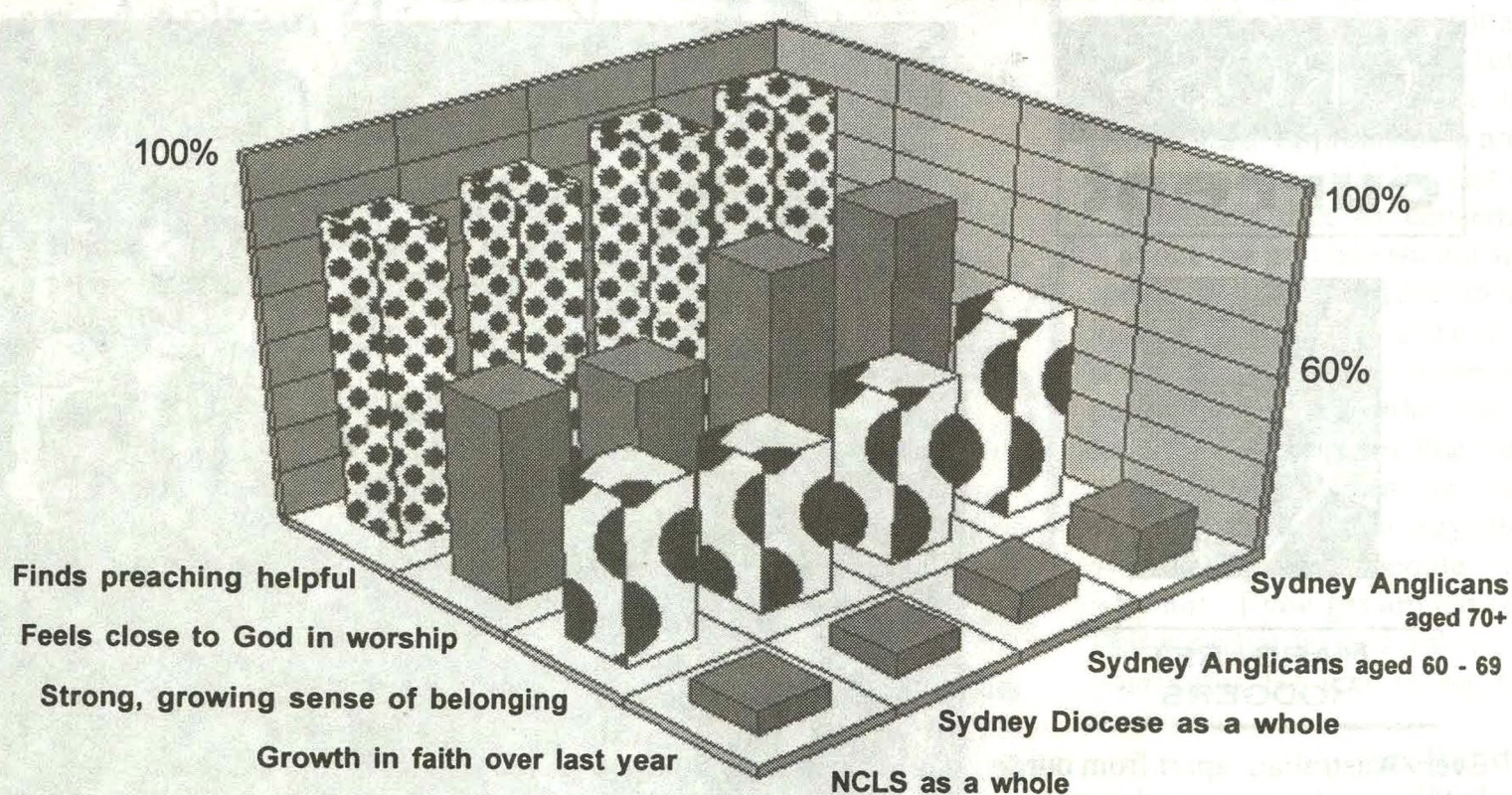
In relation to worship and spiritual growth (see graph), older attenders in the Diocese are a little more likely to feel a sense of belonging to their congregation, to find the preaching helpful and to feel they are growing in their faith through their church involvement. There is no evidence here to support the idea that there are higher levels of dissatisfaction among older attenders in relation to worship.

In fact, older attenders are a lot more likely to say they feel

close to God in worship.

However, a significant minority of those over 70 feel no sense of commitment to the ministry goals of their congregation and/or believe their congregation needs to rethink its directions. This may be because of genuine dissatisfaction, but it could also reflect their own stage of life.

It could also reflect the fortunes of their congregation relative to other congregations. It should be noted that 26 per cent of 60-69 year olds and 36 per cent of over 70 year olds want their congregation to get larger in order to survive. (This compares to a Sydney Diocese average of just 16 per cent). There is an awareness among attenders at many smaller congregations that



changes will need to be made if their congregations are to remain viable into the future.

There is a sense that younger attenders are needed to take the place of older attenders as their

ranks diminish. But where this is not happening, is the diminishing size of some congregations contributing to a sense of fear, of dissatisfaction or even of neglect?

It's possible that if the whole database was to be examined, there would be other aspects of church life where higher proportions of older attenders are less affirming than younger attenders.

## Republic v Monarchy

I read with interest the comments by Mrs Barbara Oehm (SCN, June).

Firstly, the paper I delivered at the School of Christian Studies Conference, entitled 'God and the Republic', examined the role of Christians at the Constitutional Convention and looked at how their faith influenced the debate. My own point of view was presented in the context of outlining all the opinions expressed at the Convention, by both monarchist and republican Christians.

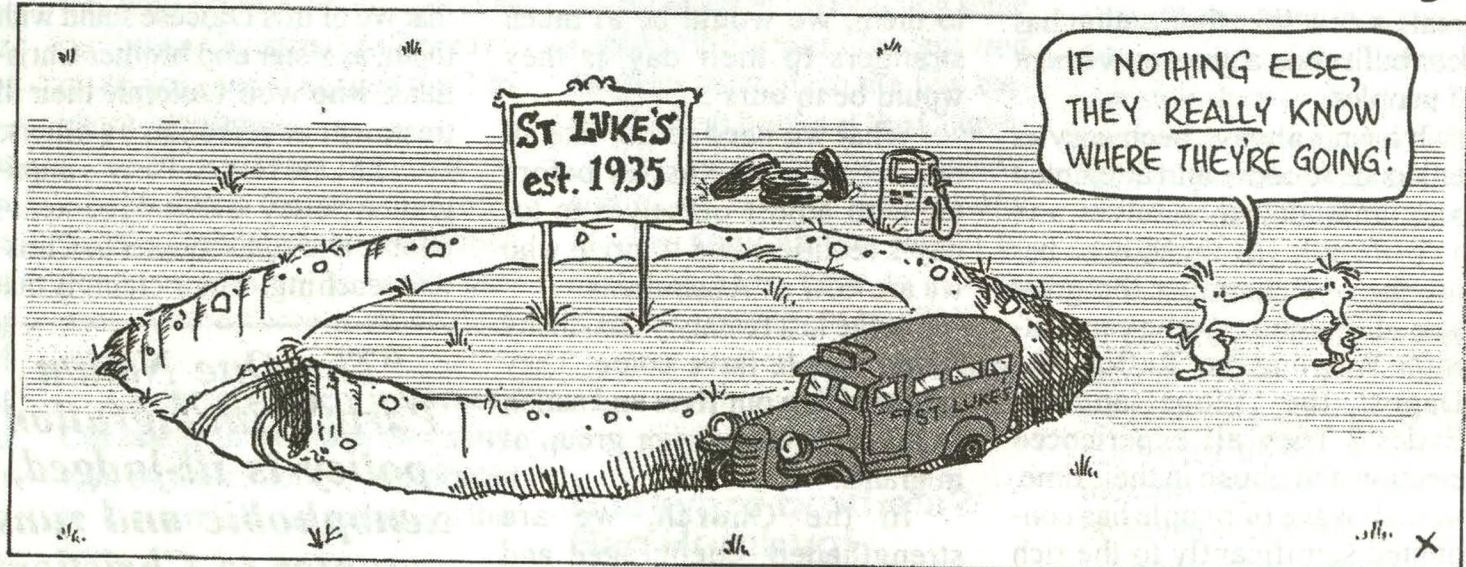
One of my conclusions was that there is no particular biblical justification for any system of government. However, there is a strong biblical basis for the nature of government, that is, how governments should behave and rule. Hence, the question of whether we become a republic or stay with the status quo is, for Christians, a matter of personal judgement.

Secondly, attention is drawn to my platform statement. While it is true that Australia is an independent nation, the fact remains that our Head of State is not one of us. The debate here is about symbolism, but again this is a matter for personal judgement.

As to whether republican rectors are expressing their views, I can only say that if this is being done from the pulpit, congregations must test it against Scripture. Within the Anglican Church there are diverse opinions and this needs to be treated with sensitivity. However, robust discussion is healthy and I look forward to debating monarchists during the referendum campaign.

Karin Sowada  
Bondi Beach

## Southern Cross readers have their say



©Chris Morgan, from an upcoming NCLS book.

Well put, Peter Girdlestone ('Lost Direction' SCN, June 1998).

Unfortunately, this Diocese is giving a convincing impression that it has lost its direction in a number of areas, not least, is the treatment of those who have carried the can in the past in matters of finance, time and energy in the parishes.

It is distressing to come upon the hurt being generated by the uncaring, who feel they have a God-given right to trample over the wishes and feelings of previous generations, while favouring the passing fads of the next.

One could accept the change and destruction if numbers were increasing, or more were reading the Bible, or any other yardstick indicated the effectiveness of the current shenanigans.

N Lenton  
North Rocks

Ross Nicholson (SCN, July 1998) does not address the issues raised by Peter Girdlestone, but instead paints Mr Girdlestone as a stick-in-the-mud Luddite.

I agree with Mr Girdlestone wholeheartedly, and to disprove Mr Nicholson's theory that only the older generation rail against the use of 'jazzed-up songs'. I am in my early thirties and use e-mail. Yet I would rather attend a service that exercises my mind and not one which titillates my senses, which seems to be the primary focus of modern services.

It seems Mr Nicholson can-

not comprehend the implication of informal services. He admits his congregations don't stand for the gospel. Why not? Don't they feel themselves awed by the overwhelming majesty of God?

We stand for the gospel to acknowledge God's presence and power. If we don't preserve some form of formality, we cannot truly call ourselves Christian. God is not our creation, to be confined to our parameters. We are His creation, and we must pay Him due respect. Far too often, modern services lose sight of this fact. We must show our respect even in the little things like standing for the gospel.

It may disappoint Ross Nicholson, but modern forms of worship seldom, if ever, deliver.

Gregory Oehm  
Figtree

Peter Girdlestone (SCN June) is one of many concerned about the church's world-like preoccupation with youth and disregard for the aged. Rev Maurice Roberts (Banner of Truth, January 1994) also made some pertinent points:

"...most mature Christians in church are being made to feel isolated by their fellows because they cannot praise the cheery sing-along which others seem to crave in the name of 'worship'..."

"Noise replaces reverence and shallowness supplants spiritual maturity...the service of worship is often a test of patience rather than a time of devotion (for older people)."

But who would have regard for Mr Robert's views? He is only an old man with dusty books!

Rob Lobb (now 60+)  
Stanwell Park

### Right on track

As one who has been around most of this century and was brought up on the Book of Common Prayer and Hymns Ancient and Modern, I understand Peter Girdlestone's feelings and respect his comments (SCN June). Once I would have endorsed them. But not now.

The church I attend also substitutes 'bits of paper' for prayer and hymn book. Proceedings are informal but overall they retain a warm reverence. God is worshipped in spirit and truth, and our Lord is honoured from the heart rather than by outward show. Teaching is biblical, thoughtful and listenable. The gospel has priority. People are won for Christ. Our faith is built up and encouraged.

The church's commission is surely not to keep us oldies comfortable with everything, done the way we are used to. Our Lord Jesus Christ made this clear when he told his disciples to go and take the gospel to all nations. While the church makes that an unalterable priority, it will never lose its direction.

Ronald R Winton  
North Parramatta

### Offensive remarks

Taking up Barbara Oehm's letter on 'Republic by Stealth' (SCN June 1998), I must endorse the validity of her statement "...degradatory remarks about the Queen which were found offensive by many".

The offence is in the implied lack of prayer support for her as Head of State. (Sadly witnessed in our churches in the Sydney Diocese.)

Does your congregation pray for our Head of State and her elected government?

Does the prayer for the church and the people mean anything to you?

How else may we live in safety, except if we ask for His protection, especially for those who serve us?

Ron England  
St Marys

### God's sovereign

I refer to the letter from Mrs Oehm (SCN, July 1998) on republicanism in the Anglican Church.

Shouldn't the fifth commandment, 'honour thy father and thy mother', also infer due respect and deference to one's betters?

George Halley  
Berry



## election issues

In April the Standing Committee asked Anglican Media to consider publishing articles on issues that Australians need to ponder before the next federal election. The request was to run articles which might bring to bear Christian biblical perspectives on some of the more exacting and complex concerns we face as a community.

The Social Issues Committee researcher is involved and we are pleased that the Rev Michael Hill from Moore College has agreed to act as our theological/ethical consultant for the series. We trust this material will continue to help and stimulate readers.

Margaret Rodgers,  
publisher *Southern Cross Newspaper*

## Why Christians should vote thoughtfully

By Boak Jobbins

In the next year, the people of NSW will be called to vote in two general elections. Why should we bother?

I vote because it is part of my duty to the nation and therefore to God. Voting is also about serving the welfare of the city.

The city is where I live and her welfare is mine. While ever this part of Babylon exists, I care about her humanness and want to minimise her godlessness. Casting my vote is a small part.

Voting intelligently means being informed, not just being aware of what affects my self-interest. Doubtless sin plays a part in our political thinking. To do no more than support those who promise me more, is pure selfishness.

The last 30 years have seen a profound change in Australian politics. Once, government was for the good of all; now, the good of all is advanced by appealing

to and satisfying interest groups.

One explanation of the sudden popularity of One Nation is that 25 per cent of Australians have realised the rules have changed, that they, too, are an interest group. Having long been neglected, they believe, now is the time to make a noise. A prophet of gloom might think that the day is coming when our society will be no less tooth and claw than the jungle, because we have splintered into interest groups.

This particular clock cannot be turned back. But I can ask what will further the wellbeing of the Australian community? What will serve, not this or that group, but our nation and her people? The answer might cost me personally; it might also force me to vote differently from last time. But the willingness to 'swing' is an implication of intelligent voting.

*The Very Rev Boak Jobbins is Dean of Sydney and Chairman of the Social Issues Committee.*

## Seeking a country 'godly and quietly governed'

### Globalisation

**Simon Miller (SM):** What do you see as the issues of need from the perspective of 'ordinary Australians', and why they are upset with their leaders?

**Kim Beazley (KB):** I detect in this a great insecurity in the Australian people, and what the Labor Party has to do is put itself back in touch with those security concerns.

Now there are many factors, such as the impact of globalisation. I think for too long politicians have lectured the public on the fact that we have to fit into a global economy if we are to prosper. That happens to be true.

But what the politicians ought to have been saying is 'look, there is only so much we can do to ameliorate the consequences of globalisation, but what we can do we will, and we will regard it as a first order priority: when you need re-skilling or need a safety net, because you've lost work; when you need a sense of security because some of your own support mechanisms have collapsed, we'll give you childcare; These are the things that we should be saying in politics now, and actually doing.

**SM:** What would be a Beazley Government's action plan for healing this social malaise?

**KB:** Well by trying to shift the public debate from where the Government wants it, on Wik, Telstra and Tax, to where the peo-

ple want it - on security, job security, public goods in the form of education and health. That is what we will be doing, indeed what we are doing. So for example, we will reverse what the Government has done in relation to nursing homes and industrial relations.

Then we will address the individual insecurities of workers who confront redundancy and unemployment. Some of the things that have denied them unemployment benefits, such as deeming their superannuation, even though they are not accessing it, we will end.

On tax policy, we say that putting in place a \$30 billion shift to the indirect tax system is not the way to go. But we say there is a very big tax problem. That problem is the intersection of the tax system and the social security system, which discriminates heavily against a desire to earn by middle income families. We say that this has got to be the focal point of tax reform.

We will also give ourselves for the next election, a jobs target for the next three years.

### Taxation

**SM:** Many people have said that the current system is unworkable. How exactly are you going to counter the Government's proposals. What is the Labor policy going to mean in real terms to the battler on the street?

**KB:** The current system is not

unworkable. People talk about the wholesale sales tax as being unworkable, of course it's not!

The evidence from Europe is that the cost of compliance with a GST expressed as a percentage of turnover is 30 times as great for small and medium businesses as it is for larger business. If you think wholesale sales tax is a problem, cop that one.

Secondly, there are features of injustice in the tax system more than unworkability. Where is the injustice? It is in the capacity to avoid tax.

Now we have these days a more and more innovative use of family trusts. So what does the Howard Government say, 'well let's forget about them, let's deal with the revenue base by sticking a GST in place. One that you can ramp up in the future, even if you don't do it immediately, to fill the holes that occur when people avoid paying tax'. So the first thing you have to do is deal with the injustice of the tax system.

The second thing you do is to start to take the burden off the back of families in particular. Who are the people most ill served by the current functioning of the tax system? No question they are middle income families, with incomes between about \$30,000 and \$45,000 a year. They are the people with the greatest disincentive to work. They must be the focus of a big shift in taxation. The monkey has to come off their back. That will be our focus.

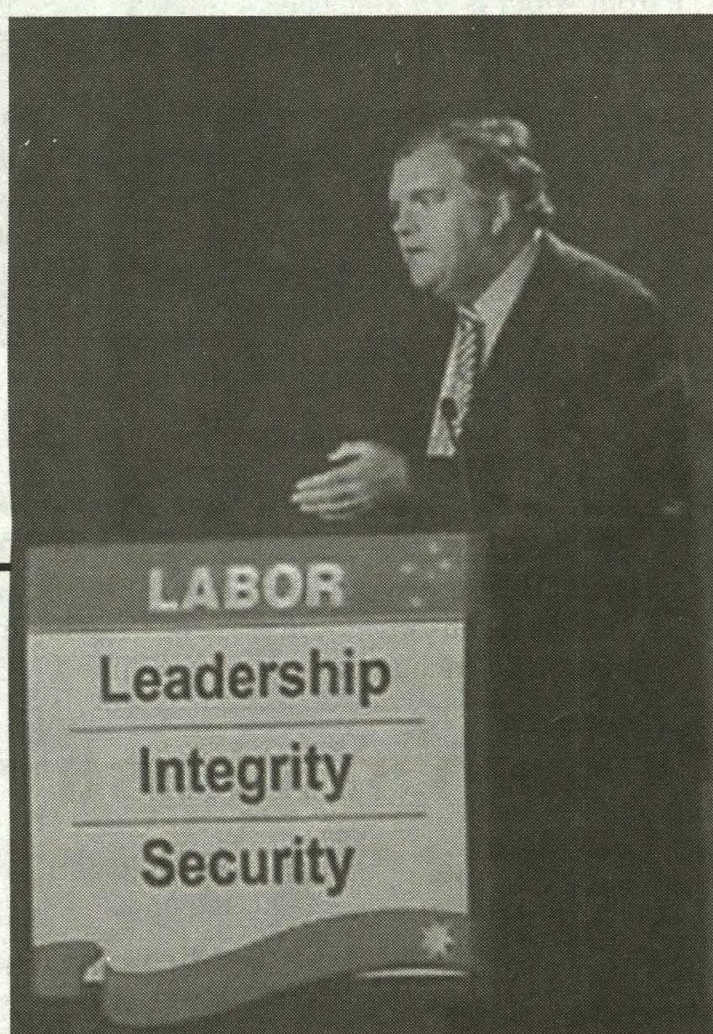
### Godly government

**SM:** From the perspective of an Anglican Christian, what issues do you think Anglicans in Sydney should be weighing up in thinking about their vote?

**KB:** I don't know whether I've given you an Anglican point of view. I'm a bit of a retrograde Anglican. I go to the 8am service at St. George's Cathedral in Perth, and they use the old prayer book. There is a line from the old Prayer Book which I think is an inspiration to politicians - which is not there in the new - and that is that they seek the possibility of a country being 'Godly and Quietly Governed'.

Firstly, what does my faith mean to me. I may have inadequate features of my faith, but I treat it as a refuge. I have a political commitment that comes from the Labor Party, and I don't necessarily feel that my religious commitments have to intersect with it. So I may not be the best person to talk to about this.

But one thing about a Christian commitment is the sense that



*"I think our polity is fraying at the edges. At least some of us in politics have become self-righteous. It is in the institutions of quiet reflection where it is easiest to take stock, and the Church happens to be one of these."*

everybody is a stakeholder.

When everybody is a stakeholder - all your concerns about race, about whether or not somebody is getting a leg up that you're not getting and you feel it is undeserved - it can all just drop away, and you can actually focus on the health of your community. This is what we need to do now.

I think our polity is fraying at the edges. At least some of us in politics have become self-righteous. It is in the institutions of quiet reflection where it is easiest to take stock, and the Church happens to be one of these.

*Southern Cross also gave the Prime Minister the opportunity to be interviewed. At the time of going to print, Mr Howard had not responded to our invitation. We hope to interview him for our next edition.*

# Industrial Relations



Next month the *Southern Cross* election issues series features Industrial Relations. Former Democrat Senator, **Karin Sowada** looks at the biblical principles of industrial relations:

✓ How we should behave as employees.

✓ How those in authority should fulfil their responsibilities to their workers.

✓ Whether or not there is a biblical bias towards collective or individual bargaining in the workplace.



## Live-in ministry flourishes at Arundel house

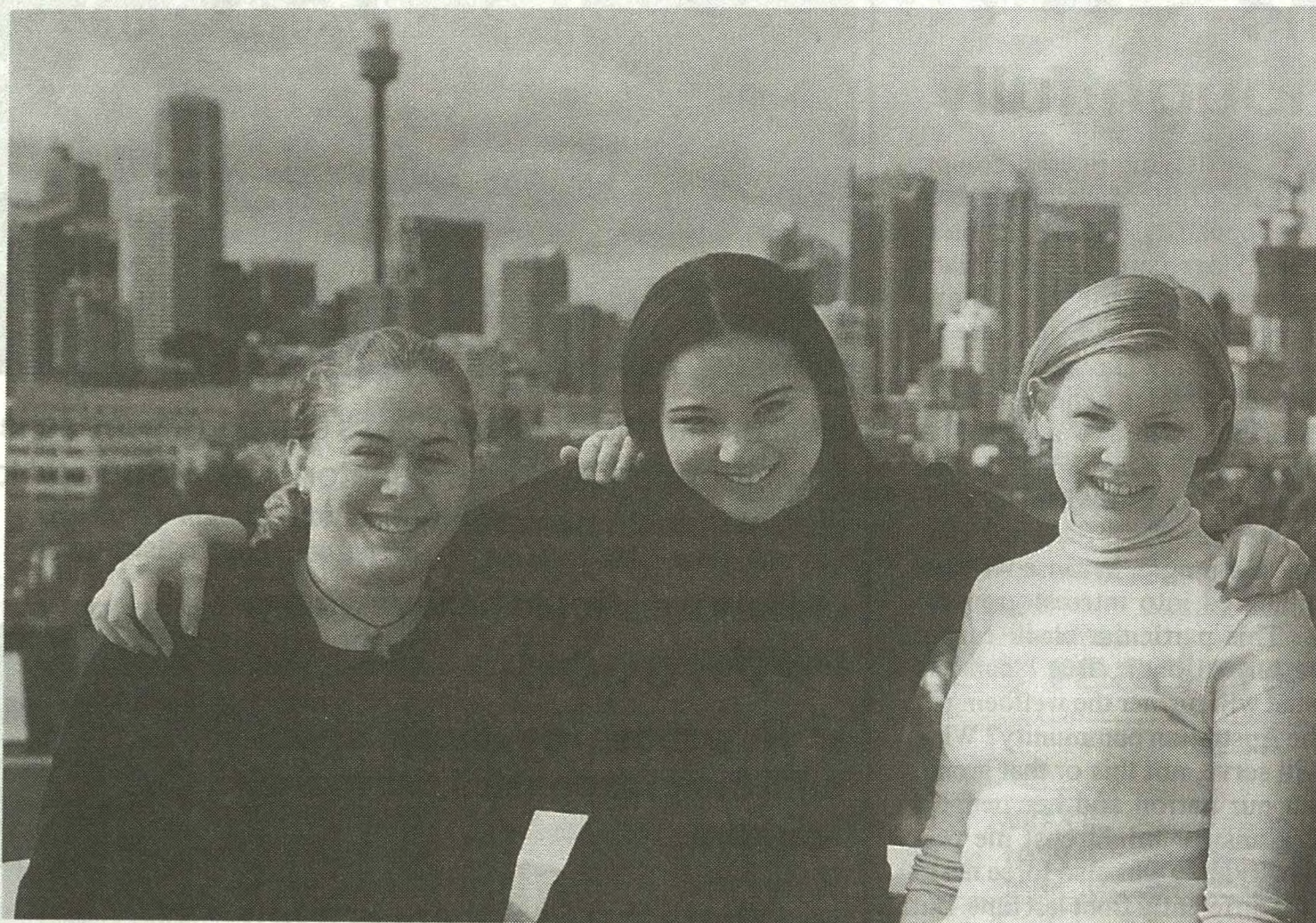
By Andrew Guile

One of the lesser known ministry activities in the South Sydney Region is Arundel House. Opposite Sydney Uni and on the edge of Glebe, Arundel House was once known as the GFS Hostel and then CENEV University Hall. Some people picture university accommodation as a continuous social event disturbed only by short bursts of study. But the residents reveal that there is real value in the ministry of Arundel House.

Lyndel and Catherine both come from Albury-Wodonga although they didn't meet until they got to Arundel House.

"There are always people to hang out with or have coffee with. You can build strong relationships in a place like Arundel House," Lyndel said. "I didn't know many people when I first came to Sydney. There is a girl from Darwin and another from Ballina and we are all in a similar situation. We have developed friendships where we rely on each other - in a good sense."

"Arundel House provides a caring and safe environment where girls can be encouraged to



Arundel House residents: (L to R): Jessie (Wardell), Peta (Adamstown Heights) and Felicity (Canberra).

think through spiritual things," said Ruth Lukabyo, director of Arundel House. "There are many examples of effective ministry here. One of our residents, Uka, came from Japan with a Buddhist background. She was open to

talking about God to friends she made at the House, went to Bible study and started going to church. Uka was convinced that the gospel is true. Now back in Japan, Uka is setting up a Bible study in her local church."

Arundel House is a good place for people to hear about the gospel. Because the residents are living with Christians, it is more natural to ask about spiritual things. "People tend to be very open with each other here," Ruth

said. "Not only is it a wonderful place to live while they study, it is a great place to become adults in their thinking."

Arundel House holds regular Bible studies and discussion nights covering relevant issues. The residents are encouraged to ask questions about Christianity.

"Not all overseas students are interested in Christianity," said senior resident Han Nee. "Some are quite reluctant because they are very strong about their own religion."

Han Nee, from Malaysia, has a special interest in the 10 overseas students at Arundel House. "It is an enriching experience getting to know, not only local students, but students from other countries, as you find out about their culture and what they think about issues."

"Being a Christian leader in a community of over forty other 18 to 20 year olds is challenging. You cannot just tell people about how to be a Christian. We must live as Christians. Even though we make mistakes as senior residents, we have to trust in Jesus and persevere."

For more information call Ruth Lukabyo on (02) 9660 4881.

## Women in ministry in South Sydney

Compiled by  
John Cashman and  
John McIntyre

### The Rev Jacinth Myles

Jacinth Myles had been in parish ministry for 17 years when she began to lose confidence in using the gifts God had given her. She felt she could never be involved in parish ministry again.

But when St Andrew's, Abbotsford, was about to close there was an opportunity for Jacinth to live there and pastor the 15-25 people in the congregation as they settled into new churches. However before she moved in, the parishioners voted against closure and Jacinth was invited to take services there on the following Sunday. That was the beginning.

The small group quickly grew. She encouraged the long-term members, as well as newcomers, to do the *Christianity Explained* course with her. In the first two years, 17 people became Christians and two others recommitted their lives to the Lord. Since then, about 65 people have completed the course and many of them have become Christians.

There are now around 100 members of all ages, and about

50 adults and 20 children, attending on an average Sunday.

### Alicia Watson

Alicia Watson is a member of St Mark's, Darling Point. Converted in 1965, she was the first 18 year old on Parish Council.

Alicia has been a member of the Anglicare Council since 1990 and a member of Synod, representing Darling Point since 1984.

### Lis Boyce

Lis Boyce attends St James's, Croydon. She is an active member of the church, involved with children's ministry, music, a member of Parish Council and a home group leader.

She is a partner at law firm, Barker Gosling, where she practices commercial law and is a member of South Sydney Regional Council (SSRC).

### Lyn Kay

Lyn is an occupational therapist. She is involved in her local church, St Michael's, Surry Hills. Her major ministry responsibility is the Women's Fellowship program which provides support for women as they grapple with the changing roles and expectations of

women in the late 1990s.

As a member of the SSRC, she is involved in the Growth Area Task Force which is investigating ways of facilitating ministry in the area of Pyrmont/Ultimo.

### Jeanette Glass

Jeanette's ministries at Malabar parish include working as SRE co-ordinator and being part of the children's ministry team.

She works part time as parish administrator in the neighbouring Eastgardens parish.

Jeanette enjoys being a member of the SSRC as it gives her an opportunity to serve the wider Christian community.

### Julia Baird

Julia, a member of St John's Darlinghurst, is best known in Synod for her promotion of the ordination of women as priests. She has been a leader in the Movement for the Ordination of Women for the last four years.

She is a religious commentator for Triple J and does features for the ABC's Radio National. She is about to begin work with the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

She is completing her PhD thesis "Housewives, Superstars: Female Politicians and the Australian Media, c1970-1995."

## AEF reaches out to Indian workers in Singapore

By Tom Halls

In May this year during a visit to Singapore I drove through 'Little India' with the Rev Malcom Tan, Singaporean director of Asia Evangelistic Fellowship (AEF).

'Little India' is the area of Singapore city where Indian workers congregate at the end of each week. These workers earn, on average, \$S20 each day. Most of that wage goes to pay the agents who procure two years of employment for them.

Because of their low wages most of the labourers live in shacks and containers on the building sites where they work six days each week.

Driving through this area and seeing these poorly paid workers, I wanted to share my faith with them. But where do you start witnessing effectively to 30,000 young men removed from home and exploited by their own countrymen?

My frustration at not being able to reach out to these men eased as I learned of the work AEF is doing among them.

AEF outreach to these workers began in 1993. At that time it was estimated that two to three per cent of the workers were Christian. In five years many have

come to Christ. Through the work of AEF in Singapore, several Tamil-speaking congregations have been planted in India.

The AEF have established a clinic, licensed by the Ministry for Health, that serves these workers.

Tamil workers are able to gain inexpensive medical treatment from the clinic, something rarely available to them even in their homeland. Each patient is prayed for and offered Christian tracts.

Regular 'bridge-building' exercises are undertaken at building sites across Singapore each week to minister to these men. Twelve months before my visit, more than 600 Indian workers joined a 'Gospel Tour' which provided an opportunity to explain the gospel and answer questions about Christianity. More than eighty men became Christians during the tour.

On August 15 last year, India's national day, 10,000 copies of a specially prepared tract, 'True Freedom', were distributed among the Indian labourers.

Tom Halls is the rector of St Peter's, Cooks River and a member of the Australian Council of Asia Evangelistic Fellowship (AEF).

## Community-based congregation moves into historic church building

By Jeremy Halcrow

You often hear of churches looking to dump their historic buildings and move into something modern. So the decision by Lilyfield Community Church to do the reverse has certainly turned heads.

Originally founded at Orange Grove Primary School, the two congregations at Lilyfield, have decided to move into their sister church, the 150 year old St Thomas', Rozelle. Designed by Edmund Blackett, it is the archetypal, traditional church building.

"We've only had a positive response from the community," said assistant minister, the Rev Jill Williams. "I guess in this area old buildings are seen as better."

Ms Williams said they've even had people walking off the street congratulating the church on its renovation of the building.

"We would never have had that sort of community contact if we'd stayed at Orange Grove," she said.

The church building has been extensively refurbished with most of the pews and dark, wood paneling removed, and carpets have been laid. Unlike before, none of the furniture is nailed to the floor so it can be easily moved around.

Lilyfield made the move primarily because it had run out of room at Orange Grove. The Sunday School, for example, was being run in the corridors.

"We weren't able to use classroom space at the school so we didn't have user-friendly space for children. For the morning congregation this made the move self-evident."

Ms Williams said the success of the move has been mainly due to the sense of ownership the parishioners had over the project. This

sense was reinforced by allowing each congregation to make their own decision on whether to make the move.

"We had very little professional help in the refurbishment. Our people just came and helped. It is a real testimony to our sense of community and it gave them enormous ownership of the project."

Even the 15 or so members of the traditional church service who have always met at St Thomas' backed the move.

"The older congregation has found it difficult because their building was being changed but in the end they were positive because they just want their building filled with people," Ms Williams said.

The older service even sent a card welcoming the other two services and thanking them for all their effort in refurbishing the building.

"It was very moving," Ms Williams said.

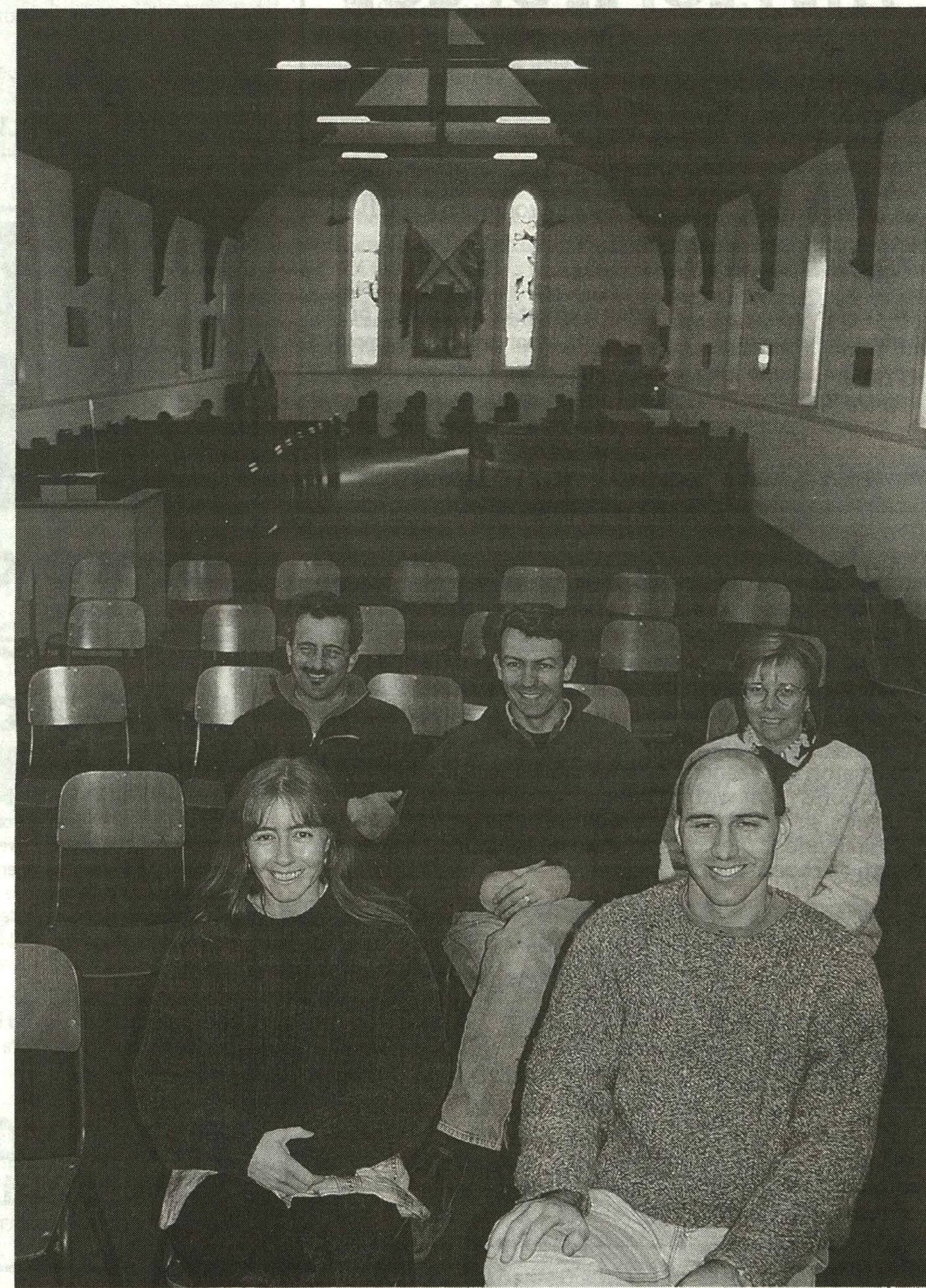
Many parishioners at Lilyfield have never been part of a congregation in a traditional church building before. One of them, Jan Fitzgerald, said she was initially concerned that by moving into a church building their congregation might lose its community focus.

"I was a bit wary of the move at first," she said. "I was sad to leave Orange Grove because it is where I became a Christian. I guess it has a special place in my heart."

But Jan was surprised how much the renovation has changed the atmosphere of the church building.

"Originally it was very dark, with dark wood everywhere. Now it's light and bright and has a warm feeling."

"Anyway, my husband and I are still meeting with the same people and that is the important thing."



Assistant Minister, Jill Williams (back right) and parishioners from Lilyfield Community church.

## Christian unity: revealing Christ in word and action

By Trevor Edwards



Someone said 'division in the church breeds atheism in the world'. When Christians fight among themselves the only winner is the Devil. There is a key text on unity that we need always to keep in our minds. This is Jesus' prayer in John 17:23.

### The prayer of Jesus

Jesus prayed for our unity before his death. He indicated

that two things were necessary for the world to hear, believe in, and know him. The gospel must be preached, and there must be a public demonstration of loving unity in the believing community. Both are essential. Truth without love can be a mere assertion of arid propositions, and love without truth can merely be good works. We must reveal Jesus in word and action.

Jesus prayed that we may all be one (v21), and that our unity may grow to perfection (v23). Our unity is similar to that between the Father and the Son (vv11b, 22b). Without pressing this too far, in John's Gospel the Father and the Son enjoy a perfect union of love, purpose, holi-

ness and truth. This is what Jesus prayed for us - that we will be one in our love for one another; one in our purpose to take Jesus to the world; one in our passion to obey God's commands; and one in our submission together to God's revelation given us by Jesus.

This unity must be outwardly observable. It is not merely spiritual, it must be displayed here and now. Also while we are one in Him, our unity is still to be completed. Our present unity is real but not perfect, and Jesus prayed that it might grow and mature. This must be our constant goal.

### Putting aside barriers to Unity

Since Jesus was so con-

cerned to pray this for us, we must seek his help to put aside whatever would destroy our unity or impede our progress to this goal. We must cherish more the significant things which bind us together and repent of whatever pulls us apart.

The things that destroy our unity of love are as selfishness, resentment, an unforgiving spirit, party spirit, an untamed tongue that labels others 'liberal' or 'traditionalist' (or whatever!) and the plain old fashioned judging of others. One-upmanship, an uncooperative spirit, doing one's own thing, and personal or corporate empire-building destroy our unity of purpose. Sin in all its variegated forms destroys our

unity of holiness.

And what threatens our unity in the truth, is truth obscured by lies (especially misrepresentations of another's position), dogmatic half-truths, unwillingness to admit error, unwillingness to learn from others, a refusal to adjust our theological grid in the face of new evidence, and a propensity to make theological mountains out of biblical molehills.

We need to reflect on this as we consider Jesus' prayer: 'May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.'

Trevor Edwards is the archdeacon of the South Sydney region.



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# Australia remembers WWII hero



Adihil Ambilid and Jim Doust in Sabah, Malaysia: Mr Ambilid's actions, rescuing Australian soldiers from a Japanese Death March during WWII, testified to his Christian convictions.

## An excerpt from Canon Jim Doust's eulogy for Encik Ambilid

"Because the POWs who escaped were witnesses of the acts of brutality committed by the Japanese, the POW Camp Commandant, Captain Takakuwa, spared no effort to find them. He knew their evidence would condemn him and many other Japanese at the post war crimes trials. The surrounding district was searched. Rewards were offered for information leading to their recapture. Threats of death by torture were made to the local population to try to prevent them by any means assisting the escaped POWs. At the risk of his own life and that of his family members and others of his community, Encik Ambilid hid the last two of the Australians to escape the death camp.

With the overwhelming evidence which was mounted against him, including first hand testimony by Warrant Officer Stipcewich, Captain Takakuwa was convicted and executed after being found guilty of his war crimes. Adihil Ambilid's compassionate deeds were recognised with the award of a Kings Medal by King George VIth and by the visits made to him over the past 52 years by grateful Australians who rightly recognised him as a hero."

A significant era of Australian military history passed with the death last year in Sabah, Malaysia, of a remarkable 104 year old Christian man. He was Encik Adihil Ambilid, whose name is held in high regard by the Australian military. Until his death, he was believed to have been the last person alive who sheltered a survivor of the notorious Sandakan-Ranau Death March of Australian prisoners of war, during World War Two.

In 1945, more than 1,000 Australian and British Prisoners of war, about half of those held captive in prison camps in Sandakan, on the east coast of Sabah, were force-marched along the mountainous jungle tracks to Ranau, near Mount Kinabalu.

The march became known as the Sandakan Death March.

Of the 1,100 POWs who took the 265 km journey, only 500 made it to Ranau. Within a few months, there were only 100 men in the Ranau camp. By August, they were all dead. Of these POWs, only six escaped and only one lived long enough to testify at the war crimes hearing.

That escapee was Warrant Officer Bill Stipcewich. Along with a fellow Australian soldier, he escaped the camp at Ranau.

They were sheltered by local resident, Encik (Mr) Adihil Ambilid, a Sabahan Christian man. While the other soldier died from injuries sustained in captivity, Mr Stipcewich survived and was rescued by Australian commandos.

More than 50 years after the war, former Australian military

chaplain and pastor of the Anglican Cathedral at Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Canon Jim Doust, went in search of survivors who had sheltered Australian POWs during the war.

He met Adihil Ambilid, aged 104, who had sheltered the two Australians half his lifetime ago. "His kind and gentle nature was evident," said Canon Doust. "He was prepared to stand tall for the values he believed in."

Adihil Ambilid risked his life to assist the two soldiers, conscious of the danger.

"The bravery Encik Ambilid exercised in sheltering, for almost two weeks, the two escapees he cared for, is ample testimony of his Christian convictions, his compassionate nature and his resourcefulness," said Jim Doust.

When Adihil Ambilid died, Canon Doust contacted the Chief of the Australian Defence Forces. General John Baker became the highest ranking military figure to ever visit Ranau, when he attended a memorial service for Encik Ambilid.



General John Baker (far left) and Canon Jim Doust (right) at the memorial service in Sabah.

## Rainbow church looks to youth

By JEREMY HALCROW

If South Africa is the 'rainbow nation', then one parish in Sydney's west should be dubbed the 'rainbow church'. St Barnabas's, Westmead, has one of the most ethnically diverse memberships in Sydney: a fact reinforced by the recent appointment of new curate-in-charge, the Rev George Kazogolo.

"As you can tell from the minister, our congregation is very multicultural!" said Mr Kazogolo, who was born in Tanzania.

"We have people of Sri Lankan, Indian, African and Polynesian background as well as (white) Australians."

Mr Kazogolo said this was simply a reflection of the parish's local area.

"Holroyd City Council statistics show a dramatic growth in Buddhism, Islam and Hinduism in the area. They are talking about building a Buddhist temple nearby at Harris Park," he said.

Mr Kazogolo said Christians in places like Westmead have to be creative in the way that they present Christ to people. Simply inviting people from other religious backgrounds to a church service probably won't work.

"We've got to ask ourselves,

'how do we reach these people with the gospel?' How many Christians would be comfortable to go to a mosque if an event was on?" he said.

Despite the parish's success in reaching out across cultures, the church has had difficulty growing its younger membership. Only five per cent of the church congregation - which numbers about 80 - are aged between four and 39. Yet just across the road, 500 students attend the local primary school.

"The challenge for this parish is how to meet the needs of its young people," Mr Kazogolo said.

"Our long term aim is to have a proper ministry to our young people. We have commenced a youth fellowship, and from among this group we are committed to raising up leaders."

Mr Kazogolo said he was committed to lay leadership because of the way he has seen it succeed in his homeland.

"Church-planting and evangelism is the backbone of the Anglican Church in Tanzania. The parishes are very large and run by lay evangelists. In Tanzania they have stacks of young people in the churches."



### Love Story

George Kazogolo (right), was surprised one morning to see his picture on the front page of the Illawarra Mercury (above).

"I just couldn't believe it," Mr Kazogolo said.

The paper had stumbled on what, to them, was an amazing scoop - a love story about an African pastor who had moved with his Australian wife to be in Wollongong.

Mr Kazogolo says he has fond memories of Wollongong. Chief among these, is the tremendous support he received from the people of Wollongong, especially those in the Anglican Church.

"The way they accepted me was amazing. I was completely unknown to them but I didn't receive one knock-back."





**The Archbishop's Protocol for Dealing with Sexual Misconduct by Church Workers**

is now in operation.

The purpose of the Protocol is to provide a formal procedure by which any person aggrieved by the sexual misconduct of a church worker in the Diocese may report that misconduct.

Copies of the Protocol can be obtained by telephoning the Registrar on 9265-1522.

The names and phone numbers of Contact Persons can be obtained by telephoning 9264-7106.

**Details of Contact Persons Appointed by the Archbishop under the Protocol for dealing with Sexual Misconduct by Church Workers**

The Archbishop has appointed 5 Contact Persons under the Protocol for Dealing with Sexual Misconduct by Church Workers in the Diocese of Sydney.

Persons aggrieved by the sexual misconduct of a church worker are encouraged to phone one of the following contact persons. When phoning please ask to speak to the contact person by name.

**Sue** (Phone 02 9874 9043)

Sue is a psychologist who lives in Eastwood. Sue is a mother, works part time, and is actively involved in her local church. Sue has worked with abused adolescents and with adults with physical and emotional injuries.

**Richard** (Phone 02 4751 6457)

Richard is married, with 4 children, and lives in the Blue Mountains. He has been practising as a social worker, therapist and trainer since 1980. Richard has extensive experience in working with victims of sexual abuse and violence, children, adolescents and couples.

**Margaret** (Phone 02 4228 1007)

Margaret is married with adult children and is a social worker who lives and works in Wollongong. Margaret's field of expertise is in relationship counselling and her practice includes work with adult survivors of childhood abuse and victims of abuse in professional relationships.

**Nicola** (Phone 02 9970 8392)

Nicola is a mother of 3, aged in her forties and lives on the northern beaches. Nicola is a counsellor in a church-based counselling centre and has been a telephone counsellor for 10 years with a national organisation dealing with a variety of difficult situations.

**Jenni** (Phone 02 9326 3172)

Jenni holds a Bachelor of Social Work and has worked in a variety of fields including counselling, education in drug and alcohol work, youth refuge work, education in forms of abuse, and housing co-ops. Jenni is married with 2 children and lives and worships in the eastern suburbs.

If you wish to write to a contact person please do so by sending a letter addressed to Sue, Richard, Margaret, Nicola or Jenni, care of the Registrar, PO Box Q412, QVB Post Office NSW 1230. Please mark the envelope "confidential" to ensure that it will be opened only by the contact person you choose.

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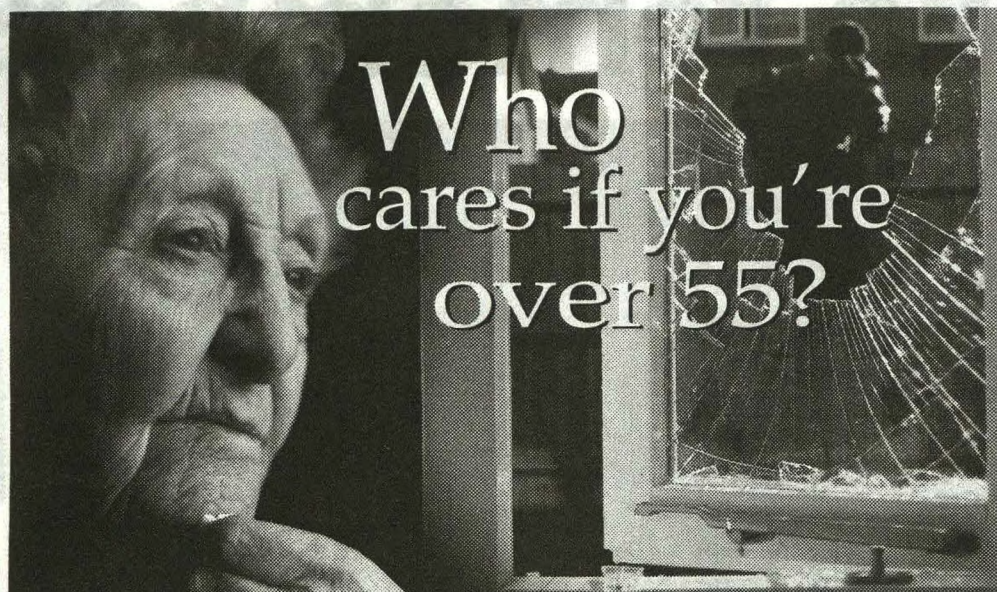
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# Running the right race:

With the Commonwealth Games approaching, **Stephen Liggins** explains how we can use sport and the Olympics for outreach, and why we should act now.

## Opportunities gained and lost

It was the day of the cycling road race at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. Every 10 minutes for half a day, cyclists sped past the Second Ponce De Leon Baptist Church.

With some assistance, the good people of the church put up a tent where they gave away free water, fruit and soft drink. There was a supervised playground and jumping castle for the kids. Terraced seating had been put up on the road side. Literature was given out - a race information sheet (with a map of the course and a list of riders and numbers), tracts and New Testaments. About 400 church people wandered around among the crowd chatting with onlookers.

Elsewhere, many churches in 'strategic locations' were closed. Their gates were barred, their buildings locked, their grounds empty. They were, according to the Rev Rod Harding of St John's, Sutherland, who relates this story, 'testimonies to nothingness'.

## Ministry at the Olympics

A lot of hype surrounds the Sydney Olympics. This is hardly surprising given the magnitude of the event. The Sydney Games may

not be the greatest thing ever to happen to Christianity in Australia, however, they do provide a unique opportunity for significant Christian ministry and training. The potential is immense.

In one sense, it will be like a huge beach mission with thousands of opportunities for outreach to Sydneysiders, visitors, athletes and athletes' families. But the Games are also being used to add impetus to sports ministry (especially sports clinics), as well as the provision of training in evangelism. Whatever one's view of the Olympics, they will undoubtedly provide many opportunities for ministry.

The task of organising outreach at the Games is being undertaken by denominational task forces, working both independently and under the banner of 'Quest Australia More Than Gold'. The Archbishop's Olympic Games Task Force (AOGTF), led by the Rev David Tyndall, is one such task force.

Quest Australia is endeavouring to co-ordinate these efforts, as well as organise further outreach. There are many Anglicans heading up Quest Teams - eg. Bishop Brian King, David Tyndall, David Mansfield, Tom Treseder, Bronwyn Hughes and Stephen Liggins.

## What YOU can do

### 1. Become an Anglican Quest Church Representative

The AOGTF and Quest (working together) are seeking representatives in as many churches as possible over the next 18 months. The representatives will be the contact point between the AOGTF, Quest and the individual churches. They will keep their church informed of the ministry possibilities and opportunities, as and when they arise. Phone the AOGTF or Quest for details.

### 2. Hold a 'More Than Gold' Service on Sept 13

September 13 is 'More Than Gold' Sunday. The AOGTF and Quest are asking churches to give their services a sporting theme or include a sporting component on that Sunday. The purpose is to encourage Christians to see the Olympics and sport as an opportunity for outreach. The AOGTF and Quest can provide a video, literature and possibly even speakers for that Sunday.

### 3. Plan what your church can do in 2000

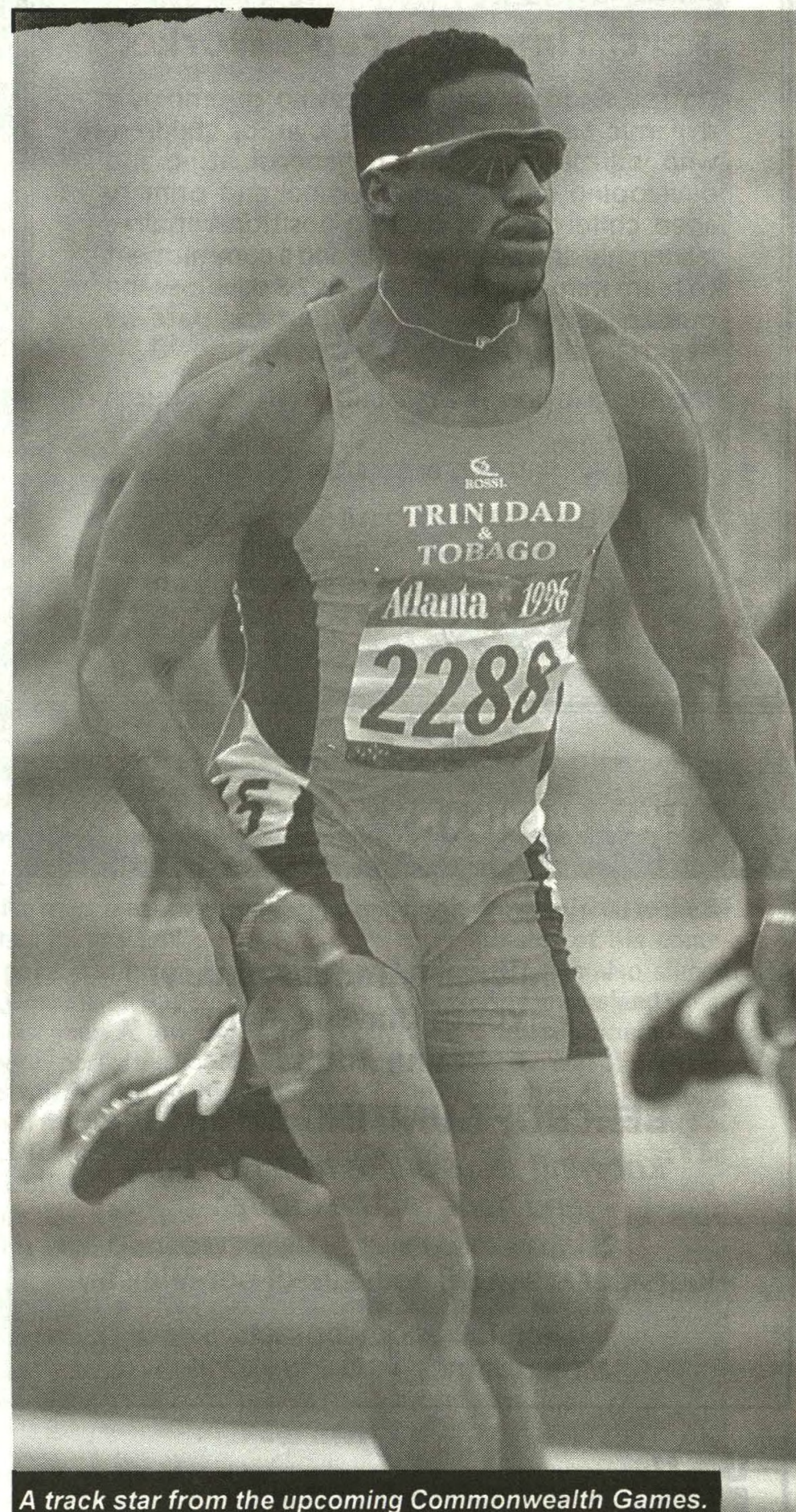
Churches did a variety of things at Atlanta to reach out to their community. Some, for example, set up large viewing screens, others organised sports clinics, set up nationality-based coffee shops and/or provided entertainment next to where events took place. Activities such as these can create opportunities for sharing the gospel. Plan now for what you might be able to do in 2000.

### 4. Hold a sports clinic

No need to wait until September 2000 for this one. Sports clinics can be held at any time. Such clinics were probably the most effective form of outreach at Atlanta. Over forty were held, with 2,500 youth participating and over 1,000 recommitting or committing their lives to Christ for the first time. Clinics require a location, a sport, a coach, and someone with a Christian message. Contact David Tyndall (who heads up the AOGTF, as well as the Quest Sports Ministry Team) for ideas, contacts and resources.

### 5. Host the family of an Olympic athlete

2,200 family members of Olympic athletes were hosted in Christian homes in Atlanta. Hosting will also take place in Sydney. Host families offer free board and breakfast for some or all of the period during which the Games are on. This is a great opportunity to open your hearts and homes to others.



A track star from the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

Photo: Tony Feder/Sporting Pix

### 6. Become a volunteer

SOCOG will need 50,000 volunteers to stage the Olympics and Paralympics. Volunteers may do anything from handing out water to pushing wheel chaired athletes. Once again, this gives Christians the opportunity to rub shoulders with others. SOCOG opens its application process in October this year. If you are interested, contact Quest or the AOGTF for your application form. They will ensure you obtain special consideration in the application process.

### 7. Pray

Pray for outreach at the Olympics and through sports ministry. A prayer meeting is also held each month in the VIP Room of the Betty Cuthbert Grandstand at the Aquatic Centre, Homebush.

### 8. Go in a golf marathon

How about getting sponsored to play 100 holes of golf in one day! Golf marathons are one of the ways being used to raise funds for the AOGTF and Quest. The next marathons are being held on August 11 and November 11. Why not participate? Contact Quest or the AOGTF for details.

### 9. Attend the Archbishop's Olympic Dinner

As part of the Archbishop's Ol-

ympic Games Task Force's program, a dinner is being held on September 2 in the Function Room at the Golf Driving Range at Homebush. Tickets are \$65 and Bruce Baird will be the principle speaker. Contact David Tyndall by phone (9899-5749) or fax (9894-8041) to make a booking.

### 10. Take advantage of future opportunities

Many other opportunities will come up as the Olympics approach.

In 2000, for example, David Mansfield of the Department of Evangelism, will head up a team seeking to train Christians in sharing their faith. And when the Olympics finally arrive, there will be plenty of Christian sporting and cultural events to which you can invite your friends.

**Rev. David Tyndall**  
Archbishop's Olympic Games Task Force  
7 Wintergreen Place  
West Pennant Hills, NSW, 2125  
(tel) 02-9899-5749  
(fax) 02-9894-8041  
(e-mail) tyndall@enternet.com.au

**David Willson**  
Quest Australia More Than Gold  
P.O. Box 674  
Sydney Markets, NSW, 2129  
(tel) 02-9763-2800  
(fax) 02-9763-2811  
(e-mail) questdav@ozemail.com.au

## Atlanta Olympics

- \* 2,500 people accepted Christ as their Saviour
- \* 2,200 family members of athletes hosted in Christian homes
- \* 1 million pieces of Christian literature distributed
- \* 5,000 Christians served as official volunteers
- \* 2,500 youth participated in more than 40 sports clinics
- \* 25,000 visitors attended about 500 cultural events in churches

## Sydney Olympics

- ❖ 15 September - 1 October, 2000
- ❖ 1 million fans will visit Sydney during the Olympics/Paralympics
- ❖ 10,200 athletes from 200 countries
- ❖ 5,000 officials & 15,000 journalists
- ❖ Olympic Stadium will have 110,000 seats
- ❖ 5.5 (est.) million tickets will be available for the Games
- ❖ 40,000 people will be needed to form a voluntary workforce

## Sydney Paralympics

- ◆ 18 - 29 October, 2000
- ◆ 5,000 athletes
- ◆ 10,000 people will be needed to form a voluntary workforce

## resources

**Towards The Goal: a New Testament** (Contemporary English Version) which includes the testimonies and photographs of 12 Australian athletes.  
(\$5.95, The Bible Society)

**Towards The Goal - Gospel of Mark: CEV** with photographs and testimonies from 4 athletes  
(under \$1, The Bible Society)

There are over 20 Olympic resources currently being planned. Highlights include a devotional book from Scripture Union containing testimonies from more than 20 athletes, their favourite scripture passages and appropriate devotional comment.





## Figtree Anglican Church

*an evangelical, growth orientated church  
located in Wollongong.*

### Part Time Children's Worker

Figtree Anglican Church is seeking to employ a dynamic person with a great love for children, who will be responsible for coordinating and developing ministry to preschool and primary aged children. This exciting position requires leadership and planning skills, and a commitment to team ministry. The position is 2-3 days p/w and due to commence January 1999 (or date by negotiation).

Job description is available from the Church Office:

(02) 4272-1322 or fax (02) 4271-2848

*Written application with resume or  
expressions of interest to the  
Church Administrator, Mrs Karen Dixon,  
or The Rector, Rev Rod Irvine  
PO Box 7, Figtree NSW 2525.*

## LAY MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

up to 3 positions covering:

- **Children (Infants/Primary)**
- **Youth (Jnr/Snr High)**
- **Young Adults**

### BEECROFT UNITING CHURCH

*"Knowing Jesus brings help for today  
and hope for the future"*

Hours per week: 20 hours (neg) per Ministry

For Job Pack, contact:  
Mr Ian James (02) 9484-2211



## ANGLICAN YOUTH & EDUCATION SRE ADVISER: Western Region

### The Job

To offer permanent, professionally delivered support to parishes in the fulfilment of their Special Religious Education responsibilities. This will involve work at diocesan, regional and parish level as part of a team of specialists. The position will be full-time.

### The Requirements

Experience, specialist aptitude or skills in one or more of: planning, voluntary worker recruitment, development and support; communication, negotiation and conflict resolution; RE curriculum design, teaching and learning; the development of alternative teaching and learning strategies for RE; infants, primary and secondary expertise.

Competent application of the Bible and evangelical doctrine to children's and youth teaching and learning in the context of public schooling.

Strong relational and communication skills to establish and maintain a professional network involving voluntary teachers, coordinators, parish clergy, regional and diocesan leadership.

Willingness to reside in and travel throughout the Western Region of the Diocese which extends from Lidcombe to Lithgow.

### Qualifications

**Essential:** the successful applicant will have:

- a teaching credential; teaching experience; sound understanding of human development, current teaching and learning strategies and practice in school education at both primary and secondary level; availability from February 1, 1999.

**Desirable:** Formal training in theology.

A driver's licence is essential.

Application, with a CV and three referees, to:

The CEO, Anglican Youth & Education  
P O Box A287  
Sydney South NSW 1235

**Closing date: September 18, 1998**

For initial enquiries and position description, please contact  
Debbie Gilhooly, Phone: (02) 9283 2633; Fax: (02) 9283 2110

## position vacant

### RECEPTION/MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATION CMS NSW BRANCH

#### THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB IN CMS!

CMS is looking for a special person to join the Branch team in October 1998. The challenge is to do a job that everyone relies upon, both within CMS, as well as members and link churches.

#### THE JOB includes:

- ◆ Managing the CMS Database, including processing donations, generating mailing lists, and producing reports.
- ◆ Being the first point of contact for CMS at the reception desk
- ◆ Administering a number of the central office functions.

#### THE PERSON should be:

- ◆ Experienced in database management, preferably Microsoft Access, and have strong computer skills in general.
- ◆ Experienced in a busy office, with formal qualifications in Office Administration.
- ◆ Customer service oriented, with a desire to help people.
- ◆ Well organised, self-motivated and able to get the job done without much supervision.

#### THE TEAM:

Is an energetic group, who work hard, can have fun, but most importantly, are committed to the Gospel of the Lord Jesus, world mission, and to the Vision of CMS.

This job would suit a younger person who is a member of an Anglican church. And who wants an important job in a vital team.

Applications should be in writing, include a reference from your minister and be marked 'Confidential' to: **The General Secretary**



### CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY NEW SOUTH WALES

93 Bathurst Street Sydney 2000  
Ph (02) 9267 3711 Fax (02) 9267 3703  
E-mail: nsw@cms.org.au Web site: www.cms.org.au

### A position for an ordained minister looking to work in a team

The Parish of Denistone East/Marsfield is looking for an ordained person who is wanting to commit themselves to a long term team ministry commencing in 1999. This is an opportunity to be involved in a full range of exciting parish ministry as leader, encourager and initiator within a team context.

**Details available on request.**

Geoff Collison - Minister 9878-3188

### A challenging opportunity to work with youth

The Parish of Denistone East/Marsfield has an established youth ministry and is looking for a person to take overall responsibility for co-ordinating, encouraging and advancing ministry to youth and children in the parish commencing in 1999.

**Details available on request**

Geoff Collison  
Minister 9878-3188

### ORGANIST

St Michael's Vaucluse is looking for an organist as from 16 August to take the position of our present organist who is leaving for further study overseas.

**Phone: 9371-4338**

### Nurses/Carers Needed

Nurses/Carers required for elderly Parkinsons patient in his own home, for 48-hour shifts (preferably).  
Light household duties.  
Lots of family support.  
References please.  
All enquiries welcome.  
Ring Joy (02) 9747-3229 or Susan (02) 9540-5813

### Legal Secretary

For Christian Solicitor (Principal) of small northside Sydney practice (est. 20 years). Interesting clients and work, must be capable secretary, with good people, legal, phone and computer skills.

Salary negotiable \$20-\$45 according to ability. Phone Philip Coster (02) 9960-3888.



## Associate Minister

**St Matthew's Anglican Church,  
West Pennant Hills with  
Cherrybrook**

We are looking for an Associate Minister with energy and creativity to share in the leadership of this church. St Matthew's is a large and growing church which is taking initiatives in pastoral care and evangelism. The ordained person appointed will be part of a supportive ministry team, will have a major role in planning and policy decisions, and will have responsibility for a number of areas of ministry.

To start in January 1999.

For a full job description please ring  
Peter Taylor (Senior Minister)  
or the church office on 9484-2937

**Applications will close on 31 August 1998.**

### St Matthew's West Pymble YOUTH MINISTER 1999

We are looking to employ a qualified youth minister to have oversight of our children's and youth ministries. The position will involve oversight of youth groups, leadership training and discipling, and involvement in our schools and camping ministry.

For more information contact  
the minister, Gary O'Brien  
2 Eppleston Place  
West Pymble 2073  
(02) 9498-8739



# Faith on the footie field

**Stephen Liggins** goes shark fishing and catches **Geoff Bell**

"It's the only club in the world I know of that when someone comes off the field you've got a strapper praying for that guy ... and the guy thinks its normal," says Geoff Bell of the Cronulla Sharks Rugby League team.

Geoff plays in the centres and on the wing for the Cronulla first grade side. He is one of three Christians currently at the club who play or have played at first grade level. The other two are brothers Jason and Paul Stevens.

The three of them regularly get together with the club chaplain and a Christian from the lower grades. They pray for each other, for opportunities to share their faith, and for the needs of other members of the club.

"Cronulla is a very open club from the president right down to the strappers," Geoff says. "God is just doing a unique and amazing work there."

In terms of football, Geoff has

been very successful since his arrival in Sydney from Brisbane five years ago. In his first year at Cronulla, he was voted club Rookie of the Year. He has since gone on to play for Queensland in the Super League State of Origin Series, and last year played for Cronulla in the Super League Grand Final, which Brisbane won.

Raised in the Queensland country, Geoff completed a Bachelor of Teaching before moving to Sydney to pursue football. "You always dream about playing footie for a Sydney team and you come in through the gates (at Cronulla) and there's Andrew Ettingshausen, Danny Stains and Les Davidson - all these players that you'd dreamt of or you'd watched on TV." It was fairly intimidating, he admits, "but the boys were great. They're really down to earth and level-headed."

Geoff grew up in a family that often attended church. "I knew

God was out there but I didn't know him personally," he says. "I was always embarrassed to talk about God." At university he recalls "a few deep conversations about God over a slab of XXXX or something - you know, at two o'clock in the morning."

The turning point came when he wandered into Cronulla Uniting soon after his arrival in Sydney. "There were a lot of young people. They enjoyed doing things that I liked doing like going to the movies and just hanging out and going to coffee and having a good time and that appealed to me."

Before long Geoff started going to a few Bible studies and looking into God more seriously. He met up with a guy who started to pray with him.

One night, they prayed together. "I must have prayed for about half an hour or something and I said, 'Man, where have I been? What have I been doing for the last 21 years of my life?' I knew God was real. He'd touched me in such a special way."

From then on, Geoff's life changed. He describes having a feeling of wholeness, of joy, and of being loved and accepted. His friends also noticed the change. "I went from being a guy who was pretty quiet to suddenly sticking Jesus stickers on my car."

Initially, his mates at Cronulla were a bit shocked. However, they concluded that he was still the same bloke, someone who could laugh and 'muck around'. Geoff soon worked out how to combine enthusiasm with sensitivity. "I didn't try and Bible bash, (but) if I had an opportunity I'd talk

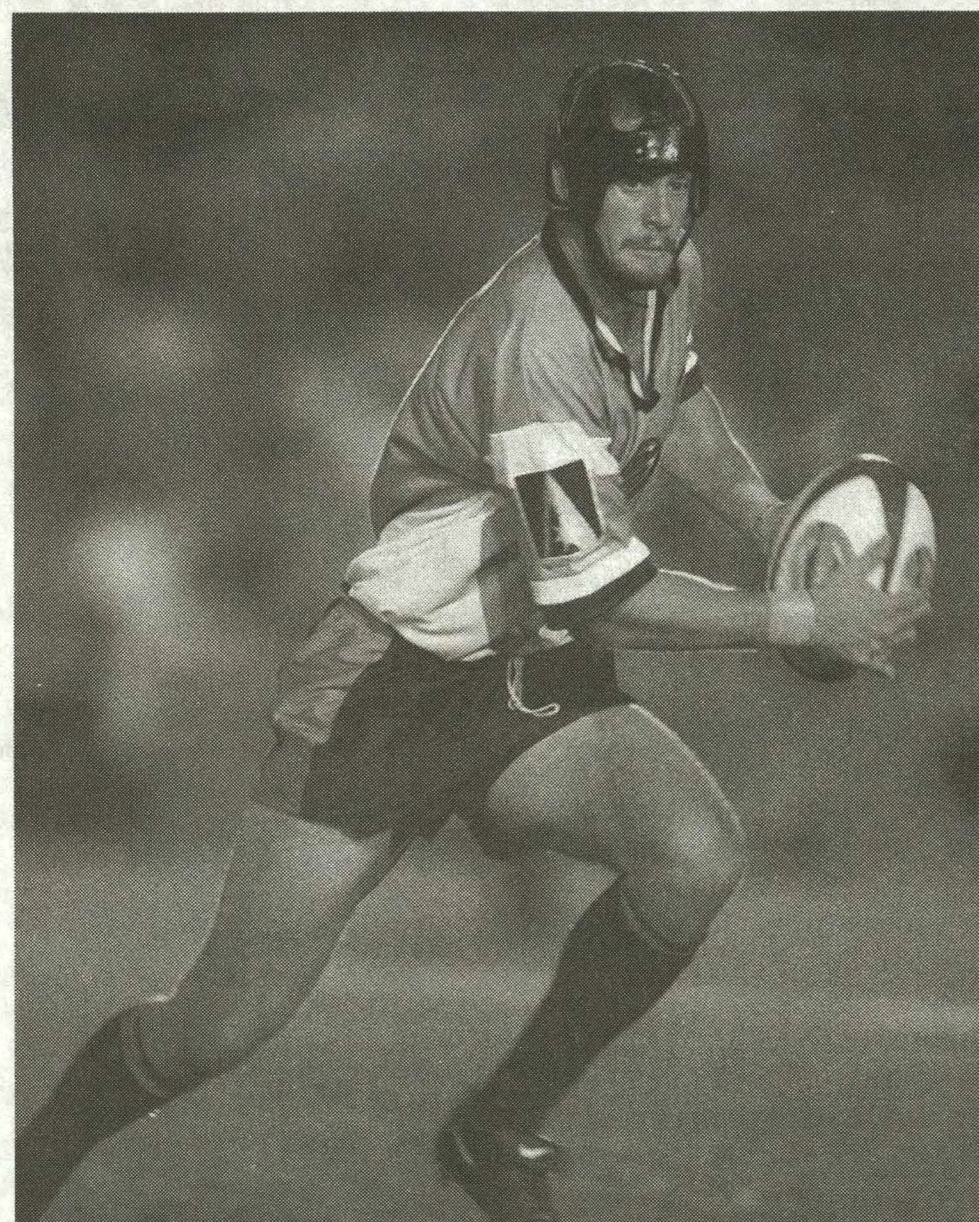


Photo courtesy Action Graphics

**Geoff Bell says his life was changed one night after he prayed. "I knew that God was real. He'd touched me in a very special way."**

about Jesus for sure."

Like most areas of life, football has its ups and downs. A high point was being picked in the Queensland Super League team last year. A low point was his poor performance in that game which lead to his being dropped from the team. And failures in football are very public. But Geoff says, "I give glory to God for whatever happens."

This year, Geoff has missed

eight weeks with a shoulder injury, which he re-injured in the final three minutes of his comeback game. He has also signed with the North Queensland Cowboys, which will see him move to Townsville at the end of the year.

But before then, he is getting married to a girl he first met at Cronulla Uniting. "I couldn't be happier," he says.

"She's beautiful," he adds. "She's just a godly lady."

## Christian footballers at the Sharks

**Geoff Bell  
Matthew Ross  
Jason Stevens  
Paul Stevens**

The Spring 1998 edition of the *Southern Cross Quarterly* will feature an in-depth interview with these players and the Chaplain at the Cronulla Sharks Rugby League Club. For a subscription phone (02) 9265-1505.

## position vacant

**MANAGER  
CMS CONFERENCE CENTRE, KATOOMBA**

CMS is inviting expressions of interest in the above position, which will become vacant in January 1999. The present Manager, James Barnes, has overseen the development of a busy and vibrant conference centre, and has established a high standard of excellence in service and ministry.

CMS wishes to continue the successful management of the Conference Centre, and develop its facilities and services even further.

It is envisaged that the successful applicant will have qualifications and experience in the catering industry, although more general Hospitality experience may be considered. What is essential is that the applicant be committed to the Christian ministry of the Conference Centre and the aims of the Church Missionary Society.

The position will require someone who is prepared to adopt a hands-on approach to all aspects of a Christian conference centre, including bookings, catering, housekeeping maintenance, and staff management.

A salary package will be negotiated, including on-site accommodation.

Please send curriculum vitae to General Secretary, marked confidential. Any further inquiries should be made in writing to:

**The General Secretary**



**CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

93 Bathurst Street Sydney 2000  
Ph (02) 9267 3711 Fax (02) 9267 3703  
E-mail: nsw@cms.org.au Web site: www.cms.org.au

## obituary

**PETER NICHOLSON  
1926-1998**

Peter Theodore Nicholson, business and community leader and dedicated servant of Christ in the Diocese of Sydney, died on June 10, 1998.

Born on February 10, 1926, he grew up in Ryde and attended Malvern Grammar at Hunters Hill and The King's School. He went to Sydney University and graduated in Electrical Engineering with first class honours in 1947. A Fulbright Scholarship took him to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1954.

Peter brought great intellectual strength to every aspect of his work. He held appointments as managing director or chief executive officer in a succession of companies. He was also a member of the World Energy Conference held at Detroit in 1974, a

member of the NSW Energy Authority, and councillor of the NSW Metal Trades Industry Association. He was appointed a trustee of the Bicentennial Park, Homebush Bay, in 1988.

He retained a great love for his old University and sought to strengthen its links with industry. He was an Honorary Director of the Warren Centre, founded to facilitate visits by distinguished academics. He was the inaugural President of the Electrical Engineering Foundation.

Peter's exceptional contribution to industry and community affairs was recognised with some prestigious honours. He became a fellow of the Institute of Engineers in Australia, a fellow of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufacture and Commerce and a fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. Then in 1993 he received from Sydney University the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering, a rare honour which he greatly appreciated.

Peter was, from boyhood, a decided Christian with an informed and intelligent faith. As a student he was secretary, and then president, of the Evangelical Union. For 40 years, he was an active member of St John's Beecroft, serving as a Sunday

school teacher, Churchwarden and Lay Reader. He was actively involved in the work of Scripture Union and the Crusader Union.

In the Diocese, he was a member of Synod and Standing Committee, the Glebe Board, the Diocesan Secretariat, the Cathedral Chapter and a Lay Canon. He was a member of the Moore College Committee for 30 years at a time of great expansion. He became a governor of The King's School in 1969, honorary secretary in 1977, and chairman 1981-1996.

Peter was devoted to his family. As Archbishop Loane put it, "nothing could have been finer than his tenderness and affection for his daughter, Anne. It led him to take a very active part in providing education for handicapped children. He was intimately connected with the establishment of Karonga House, then of Kingsdene, and finally Jennings Lodge."

In every sense, Peter was a true Christian gentleman. He was a wise man of high principle and integrity. He was modest, unassuming, seldom ruffled, with great natural dignity.

Peter's health had been in decline for two years. Peter is survived by his wife, Patricia, two sons and three daughters.

**The Rev Allan Blanch**

## CHILDCARE

Full-time position at an extended hours pre-school, sponsored by a Northern Beaches Church.

Associate diploma, CCC or experience preferred.

Apply in writing with references to:

The Rector, St Faith's Church  
8 Mactier St, Narrabeen 2101

## St Andrew's Roseville...

...is looking to appoint either a fulltime children/families worker or fulltime youth/evening service worker for 1999-2000.

Call Mark Calder for an initial chat on 9412-2553



# Fox's *Anastasia* stops Disney's reign

## SCREEN

The world of animation features a world where women's waists are no bigger than their necks, characters break into song at the first opportunity and history takes a back seat to magic. But ever since I saw *The Jungle Book* (still the best animation, although *Aladdin* came close) nearly 20 years ago, I've been hooked.

In terms of visuals, these movies are high quality. The animation is excellent and the stories are engaging. But like everything else, children's entertainment is dollar-driven and there's no escape from the ubiquitous merchandising!

Up until now, Disney has dominated the industry. But with the release of *Anastasia*, Twentieth Century Fox have entered the market.

*Anastasia* tells the story of the youngest child of Tsar Nicholas II. The mystery surrounding her disappearance has fascinated people for years.

With *Pocahontas*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Anastasia* and *Mulan* (coming soon) animations have begun to feature female heroes. *Anastasia* is a feisty and likeable young woman. She's pretty hip and her 'attitude' is aided by the voice of actor Meg Ryan.

At the age of 18, *Anastasia* leaves the orphanage which has been her home and sets out to find her family. There's one problem; she has amnesia. With the exception of a few sketchy details, she can't remember the first eight years of her life.

But she is determined to get to Paris where the answer to her past must surely lie.

*Anastasia* tells an interesting



**History is rewritten and the definition of who is 'good' is rather arbitrary in *Anastasia* as the unbridled wealth of the Tsar's family in the face of widespread starvation in Russia is swept under the carpet.**

story and, from an adult perspective, it is reasonably engrossing. But it's very American and, while it doesn't dwell on what happened to *Anastasia*'s family, there is plenty here to scare the kids.

Two problems with this film (apart from historical inaccuracy) are that it lacks the catchy tunes and the humour that have made Disney movies so successful.

By contrast, *The Little Mermaid* will have you chuckling away and humming along to its songs long after you've left the cinema.

*The Little Mermaid*, based on a story by Hans Christian Anderson, is about a mermaid,

Ariel, who wants to be human.

After rescuing Prince Eric, she makes a bargain with the sea-witch, Ursula, to try and win her man's heart. The catch is that she's only got three days to do it or else she's fish food.

If this sounds familiar, it's because it is. *The Little Mermaid* was made nine years ago, but since then it has been remastered and thus re-released in cinemas.

There's not really much Christian content in either of these films. But, like every other animation, there are strong moral values present: deceit is bad, honesty is good. If you're going to run off with someone, you have

to get married. There are always good and evil characters and you can be sure that good will triumph over evil.

In *Anastasia*, the evil character is a demonic Rasputin, who has sold his soul to the devil in exchange for the power to destroy the family of the Tsar. But it's not a God-given power that overcomes him in the end. It's humanist determination and human love that conquers all.

As Christians, we know that God alone enables us to stand against the powers of Satan. It is to him and not to ourselves that we should look for strength.

Sarah Barnett

## AUDIO

### ADORE SMASHING PUMPKINS

Virgin Records  
7243 8 45879 2 5

The Smashing Pumpkins certainly tap into something in Western culture, enough even to 'appear' on *The Simpsons*. Their last album *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness*, one of the defining albums of '96, expressed angst in grunge coating.

Musically, *Adore*, is a lot mellow in comparison to the abrasive rock of *Mellon Collie*. However, despite the tonal shift, the lyrics of songwriter, Billy Corgan, remain remorselessly dark. Hope is lacking, relationships are problematic. Whether Corgan genuinely wears his heart on his sleeve, or whether he taps into his depressive side for commercial purposes, is hard to know.

Some will enjoy the new musical direction found on *Adore*, others not. The lyrics remain evocative, educational, and undoubtedly sad. Whether this amounts to a recommendation is up to you.

Stephen Liggins



## Round-up of family friendly viewing

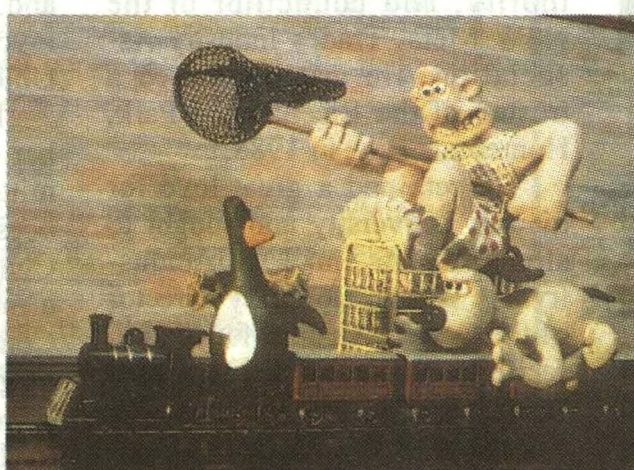
Putting it conservatively, *The Princess Bride* (1987) is probably the most magnificent form of cultural expression in any medium ever in the history of the human race, all countries combined.

Something of a revisionist fairytale, children will enjoy the action, adventure and romance (boys be assured - this is not just a 'kissing' story). Adults will enjoy exactly the same things, plus the tongue-in-cheek humour. Set in a mythical medieval setting, the hero (Westley), fuelled by the fires of 'true love', pursues the beautiful Princess Buttercup. Full of potential youth group talk illustrations, this movie boasts the greatest sword fight scene ever captured on film.

Stephen Liggins

I have only 50 words at my disposal to review *Anne of Green Gables*, an excellent, timeless mini-series... so here goes.

It is beautiful, funny, heartwarming and faithful to the novel. It has luscious



### Christian movie guide

A Christian alternative to Hollywood's 'Oscars' are presented each year in March. Run by Movieguide - a family film review publication associated with the Christian Film and Television Commission in the US - and sponsored by the Templeton Foundation - the awards look to reward writers, directors and producers who make films containing 'good moral values'. This year the top award, called the Epiphany Prize, went to *Amistad*. Movieguide reviews, which include a rating of 'moral acceptability' from 'moral' to 'evil', can be found on the Internet at [www.movieguide.org](http://www.movieguide.org). Current films recommended by Movieguide include *The Truman Show*, *The Horse Whisperer* and *The Apostle*.

Canadian scenery, outstanding actors playing Anne, Marilla, Matthew and a very cute boy playing Gilbert.

It is suitable for everyone in the house, from Grandma to the littlest. Watch it, laugh, cry - you'll love it.

Robyn Powell

Nick Park is a genius. The Wallace and Gromit films (*A Grand Day Out*, Oscar winner, *The Wrong Trousers* and *A Close Shave*) are three of the cleverest and funniest movies I've seen.

Packed with action, allusion and lots of cheese these films explore the adventures of inventor Wallace and his dog, Gromit.

The films have broad family appeal, my three year-old nephew and his 33 year-old father are equally entertained by the Wallaby Street duo.

Humour is an essential ingredient in making films that are successful with a family audience, and these three have loads of it.

Sarah Barnett

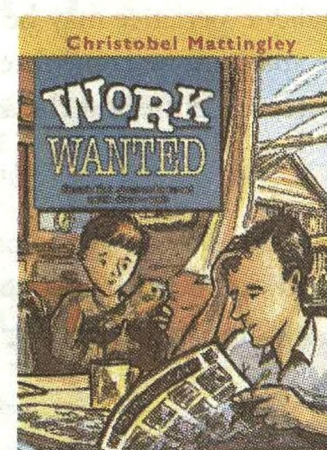
## Work Wanted a winner for kids

Christobel Mattingly is one of Australia's most celebrated children's writers and was recently nominated for the Christian Children's Book of the Year Award.

*Work Wanted* is a novel for older children (10 years and up) and is a sequel to *The Sack*. It is the story of Shane Clark, who now faces the changes of a new baby brother in the family, and the hardships of having a dad out of work.

Like all good children's writers, Mattingly tells her story through the eyes of her young characters. As was sensitively done in *The Race*, which won an Honours Prize in 1995, she opens up to us their special experiences of the world. In *Work Wanted*, Shane's world is lively and happy. But the unfair aspects of life begin to threaten.

Popular children books often feature an adventure where a group of children must solve some mystery or catch notorious robbers. For Shane and his



friends, Pham, Anh, Elena and Spyro, the challenges are real life issues, such as unemployment and racial and social prejudices. Amidst these daunting challenges, Shane is intrigued by the little church down the road. At first it is a

special place with pretty stained glass windows where he can find a quiet moment. As the story moves on, the church and the faith he discovers there become more significant, especially as he deals with his biggest challenge yet - a death in the family. The book's approach to the subject of God rests on biblical truths, which Shane holds onto as a way through his problems.

Shane clings to the image of the eagle, taken from Isaiah, 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles... They will walk and not be faint...'

It is a message that adults seek to grasp. And Mattingly successfully makes it one that children can comprehend as well.

Kate Blaskow