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07 FEB 1996

SOUTHERN CROSS newspaper

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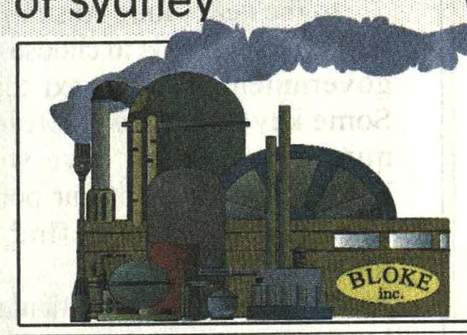
T-NET DRAWS IN DISCIPLES 4

GLADESVILLE'S MISSIONARY MINEFIELD 8



WHAT MAKES A MAN by DUDLEY FOORD 10

Aussie men top church's wanted list

There aren't enough Christian men in Australian churches. There aren't enough Christian women either, but men are noticed mostly by their absence. According to the National Church Life Survey only 39 percent of people in Sydney Anglican churches are male.

Going to church still finds it hard to compete with shooting, fishing or playing footy as one of the great Aussie male activities. It seems many Australian men would rather go to a Tupperware party than a Bible study.

However, Winning Men '96, to be launched on February 24 by Archbishop Harry Goodhew, promises to help fix this gender imbalance.

Winning Men started at St Mark's, Sadleir, with a few small meetings in 1994 and has grown to a series of teaching and evangelistic meetings around Sydney - six in 1995 and five planned for this year.

According to Geoff Taylor, assistant minister at St Mark's, Winning Men is based on the Word of God rather than on an individual's needs. Some of the best Bible preachers available have been booked in to give Christian men the chance to 'turbo-charge' their Christian lives, he says. The aim is to help men look after each other in their Christian lives and so help them explain the gospel to their friends and fellow workers.

That's just what happened to Larry Pearson of St Peter's, Richmond, at a Winning Men meeting last year. "It's not often you get together with heaps of guys, 90 percent of whom you've never met. It was a good time of fellowship. You really felt motivated to get out and do things."

Larry brought a non-Christian friend to hear John Chapman at a later evangelistic night. "He didn't make a commitment, but it made him think." Larry says the meeting's non-threatening atmosphere was a big plus as far as his friend was concerned. "Normally you can't get him inside a church, but he'll come to the meetings."

Winning Men '96 is specifically designed to compliment any parish's men's program, Geoff says. "We want to encourage men to take a more vital role in their church's life and to make them keen to reach their friends and family for Jesus."

"Whether a parish has no men's ministry or a large one, everyone can benefit from Winning Men '96," he said. "There's great joy in many men united around the Word, learning and praising Christ. It may well be the start for men's work you and your parish need."

Larry Pearson and Geoff Taylor: on the road to welcome Australia's most wanted.

The Winning Men '96 launch starts at 7.30 pm at the Francis Greenway Centre, Liverpool. Archbishop Goodhew will speak on 'The Priority of Men's Ministry', Liverpool's rector Jim Ramsay on 'The Priority of the Word' and Geoff Taylor on 'The Priority of Winning Men'. The other Winning Men '96 dates are March 16, June 15 and September 7. An outreach night is planned for September 27.

Call Geoff Taylor on (02) 607 0536 or (02) 607 5052 for more information.

... and Kyckstarting Sydney's youth

Katoomba Christian Convention's Kyckstart kicked the year off for many youth groups in Sydney and beyond by challenging them with the message of Philippians.

A crowd of around 1800 gathered at the Katoomba Convention site on January 20-21 to hear Philippians explained by Dave McDonald, AFES worker and pastor of Crossroads Community Church in Canberra , and Ray Galea, assistant minister at Rooty Hill.

Ray Galea said it was great to see so many people there wanting to hear God's message, talk about it and wrestle with the issues involved.

Ray spoke of "God's great bungy jump," from Philippians 2.

"Jesus jumped from heaven knowing that the rope would be too long and that he would fall onto the concrete for us."

He said it was arrogant for Christians not to share the good news, as "God was willing to die for us but we won't put ourselves out for our friends," he said. "We need to have Jesus' attitude."

"Kyckstart is important, because if this many kids change their attitude to be like Jesus, they will make a difference," Dave McDonald said.

Meanwhile, KCC is to expand its ministry to young people with the launch of the City Youth Convention (CYC), four smaller events to be held during 1996 at the State Sports Centre, Homebush.

The four conventions will be a series called Cutting to the Heart, dealing with career on Saturday, March 2, money on May 25, love, sex and marriage on July 27 and missions on October 19.

Speakers will be Michael Raiter, Ray Galea, Ian Powell and David Cook.

Call the KCC office on (02) 674 3972 for more information.

SOUTHERN CROSS
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EDITORIAL

Good government, here and there

The saying was wrong. We never, by God's grace, get the government we deserve. But oh, as some would say, how we tempt fate.

In the near future Australians will go to the polls to choose our government for the next term. Some key issues are involved, a number of which have worn holes in the soles of our public life and may soon find us limping.

Unemployment, particularly long-term unemployment and that affecting migrants, is crippling to many. In the economy, high levels of foreign debt and limited competitiveness and efficiency in trade, continue to hamper our longer-term growth. Access to health care, particularly for the elderly and the poor, ought to worry if not shame us. If crime itself is not increasing, then the anxiety which sensationalised reporting fosters does nothing for our quality of life. Stress burdens both our community and our personal relationships.

Peace, justice and good government are not to be pursued simply as if they were the passing fashions of the day. Things of value are attained in a manner more costly than that.

Good government is to be achieved not merely by the passing of wise legislation or in the smart one-liners for the TV cameras. It is found, rather, as a clerk takes time to help a welfare recipient whose English skills are not advanced; when a Treasury official, after spending hours balancing a departmental budget, stops to help a street kid, not just with spare change, but with an open heart.

Some big issues confront the Anglican Church in our Diocese this year too. These include the use of *A Prayer Book for Australia*, the lifting of the moratorium on discussing women's ordination as priests, Lay Administration of the Lord's Supper, and the early outworking of the process of regionalisation.

These are all big issues, and not to be dealt with lightly. But there is always a danger of becoming too inward-looking, a by-product of having the relative luxury of enough time to remove some of the small pieces of grit from our shoes that have been giving us the odd rub of discomfort, but which may not really affect our ability to complete the journey. Both wisdom and perspective are needed. As with good government, it is not just in the passing of legislation, important though that is, that we act as salt and light in the world. It is in our daily actions as we commit ourselves seriously to enrich forever other people's lives, take time to hear them, be at pains to touch them deeply and honestly, and make ourselves vulnerable in order to meet their needs.

A challenging year, a hard year, but by no means an empty one. May all our efforts be pleasing to our Lord and Saviour.

CROSS words

School fees

Phillip Heath, the Principal of St Andrew's Cathedral School, has missed the point about unavailability of Anglican schools to all Anglicans. His assumption that I would love to send my children to an Anglican school is totally wrong.

My children are receiving a quality education at the local state primary school. They receive very sound educational instruction from compassionate and dedicated teachers in all subjects, as well as a Christian scripture lesson once a week from caring members of the local Anglican Church.

Anglican schools are out of reach of many Anglican families. The Catholic Education system to its credit has organised itself so it can genuinely cater for all economic circumstances. Why did Anglican Education miss the boat? If an Anglican school was to be the most 'appropriate' placement for one of my children in the future I would like to be able to send them without the unreasonable fee structure making it an impossible obstacle.

All Anglican schools need to seriously look at somehow changing their fee structure so as to make themselves a viable option to all Anglicans.

John Cotterill
Kingsford

No Sabbath

I refer to correspondence in December *Southern Cross* concerning the Sabbath. Both correspondents seem to think the scriptures are unequivocal in commanding Sabbath observance of Christians, and that obviously on Sunday. If the scriptures were so patently obvious on this issue there would be no ground for debate.

Assuming that Sabbath observance is binding on Christians, what scriptural warrant is there for changing it from Saturday to Sunday? Even if the early Christians met together on Sunday, what evidence is there that they refrained from work? In a Jewish or Graeco-Roman society, would they have had such liberty?

But can we assume that the Sabbath is binding on Christians? What do we do with verses such as Colossians 2:16,17: "Do not let anyone judge you... with regard to... a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ." However one may wish to interpret these verses, the natural reading of them implies that the Sabbath day is not binding on Christians. This is in the context of Paul talking about the "written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross" (2:14). Doesn't the existence even of these verses indicate that the matter might not be quite as obvious as our correspondents imply? Could it be that the Sabbath (picturing rest with God) has now been replaced by faith in Jesus (real rest with God)? Is it even possible that observance of the Sabbath (the shadow) is now a denial of the reality (Christ)?

The issue of the applicability of the law of Moses is referred to by one correspondent. The existence of the above verses again makes the matter debatable. Even the word used by Jesus when he spoke of fulfilling the law is capable of the meaning 'finish' or 'bring to completion'.

The context of the current discussion is whether the church should permit its tenants to conduct business on Sunday. Even if Christians are bound by the Sabbath, is the world so bound? Should the church even have commercial tenants on any day of the week?

Perhaps the matter need not be debated. Perhaps it is one of those matters where equally zealous Bible-believing Christians will come to different conclusions, differences which in charity should be respected.

The Rev Warryn Stuckey
Ingleburn

A beef about pigs

I enjoyed Michelle Haines' sensitive critique of the film *Babe*. I was pleased that she also touched on the film's deeper themes concerning our ambiguous attitudes to farm animals which, in most cases, are destined for the table.

The reality is not Farmer Hoggett's idyllic farm. Over the past 20 or so years the methods of production have become increasingly intensive and cruel. Hens stand four or five together in wire cages, tier upon tier, for life. Sheep are sent alive in their hundreds of thousands on long sea journeys, which many do not survive, to a cruel death. Babe's mother, in a real piggery, would produce litter after litter of piglets, and to stop her accidentally lying on them, she would be tethered by the neck, unable to move or turn round.

Why is the Church silent on the subject of animal suffering? Justice and compassion are not just for people. They are God's laws which we must apply for all creation, and if we do not abide by them, in time we will destroy the earth.

I hope that Anglicans will find ways to open debate on the subject of animal suffering, and intensive farming would provide an excellent focus, so that eventually the strong voice of the church will be heard in defence of those who are, of all creation, perhaps the most defenceless.

Olga Parkes
New Lambton Heights

Self-righteous Sydney?

I have read with dismay in church magazines and the daily press about a plan by the parish of Gladesville to missionise the Central Coast. The same articles mentioned that the Archbishop of Sydney had been in consultation with the Bishop of Newcastle discussing how best Newcastle Diocese could 'accommodate' Anglicans from Sydney Diocese.

Again we see self-righteous, uncharitable and unChristian nonsense from so-called Sydney Anglicans. Having been an Anglican for most of my life in Sydney, I thought that this sort of attitude had disappeared, but events in recent years confirm that some in Sydney Diocese believe that it, and only it, has a monopoly on the truth of the gospel and every other part of the Anglican Communion is heretical.

Here are God's ministers setting themselves as judges on the clergy and people from another diocese. Like the way these so-called priests thumb their nose at the authority of their Archbishop and ignore their ordination vows, they are ignoring common courtesies by going behind doors to establish yet another church.

For many years, I worshipped in a Sydney evangelical parish where all shades of churchmanship were valued. One could feel the presence of God in that place. There was dignity and meaning in the worship.

In most Sydney parishes now, one could be at a rock concert or in a boxing stadium. Many of the clergy no longer believe the Prayer Book is relevant and believe their prayers and unsingable music are far superior to anything that has been written or composed with the sole purpose of glorifying God. If these ministers of the gospel don't want to be Anglicans why stay in the Anglican Church, why not go off and start their own American-style gospel chapels?

May Christian charity reign to glorify God in 1996.

Michael Allen
Cumnock

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Church wins heritage fight

BY MICHELLE HAINES

After more than two years of conflict, St Peter's, Cooks River, has won the right to build a new residence on their 1.5 hectare, heritage-listed church grounds.

The old church stands tall amid the mainly industrial St Peter's landscape, its neo-Gothic architecture a strong contrast to the grim surroundings. It is the oldest church south of Sydney's city centre, and its ministry has spawned every church in the area since 1838.

So it's no wonder the heritage buffs on Marrickville Council broke out in a cold sweat when they heard what the parish was planning. A 'project' home on the church grounds - over their dead bodies!

But it's to reach out to living bodies that the idea was first embraced, argues the Rev Tom Halls. He points out that the congregation lavishes enough attention on the church to satisfy any heritage enthusiast, but that the desperate needs of the community must come first. 'Living heritage' is his catch phrase.

"If we're not active on the site, then there's no one to look after it," said Mr Halls. It seems Marrickville Council and the NSW Heritage Council agreed, and permission has now been granted. Despite opposition publicity labelling the new house a 'project home' not in keeping with the rest of the site, the house will be an attractive brick building with a verandah. Mr Halls is especially pleased it now satisfies heritage and diocesan requirements, and has cost little.

Tom Halls at St Peter's: soon the land behind him will bear a new rectory.

The home will be used by Tom and Clare Halls, while the old, Federation-style rectory already on the church grounds will be given to the youth worker, Angelo Porcu.

"I want the youth worker on site - he's currently in a house way down in Tempe," explained Mr Halls. "Visitors always come to my door, but the kids need Angelo in a way they don't need me."

The St Peter's youth work was a significant bargaining chip in the council battle. Street gangs cause major strife in the area, but the St Peter's drop-in centre attracts 130 unchurched youth from 30 ethnic groups, encouraging them away from a lifestyle of drugs and despair by teaching the gospel.

Mr Halls believes that catering for these young people, as well as the rest of the very dynamic congregation, is of paramount importance.

"Heritage is very important to us, but maintaining old sites in opposition to serving people's needs must be wrong," he said.

New look Festival '96

A new Festival '96 will be run in March on a smaller scale following the withdrawal of its major drawcard, evangelist Billy Graham, who was forced to pull out because of ill health.

The Festival was cancelled last year, but some of the organisers decided that too much work had been done to stop the event completely.

Dr Graham's son, Franklin, has agreed to take his father's place at the new Parramatta Park venue on March 8, 9 and 10.

An evangelism training day will be held at Summer Hill on February 17.

The Rev Karl Faase, Baptist pastor of Gymea and chairman of the newly-convened Festival '96 Committee, said that the Festival will target youth, families and the ethnic community.

There will be a youth night on the Friday, a family day on Saturday with puppets and a sausage sizzle, and a multicultural lunch on Sunday, with a final evangelistic service in the afternoon. Organisers are expecting up to 20,000 people at each weekend event.

For more information contact Karl Faase on (02) 521 4611.

'Rev'ving up for ministry!

February is an important month for four Sydney women who will be ordained as deacons on February 10. But for one of the women, Sarah Beggs, the month will hold even more significance. Seven days after her ordination she will be married to her fiance Craig Plummer.

"It's a month full of challenges and changes and I'm really excited about the two big commitments that I'm making," she said.

Sarah, who has worked at St Phillip's, Caringbah and at St Paul's, Castle Hill, will be appointed assistant minister at St James', Croydon.

"I strongly believe that God wants me be to be ordained so that I can be a support to women in the church and community. It is important for older women to instruct and teach younger women," she said.

Sue Emeleus, who will be ordained at the same service, agrees. "Women in the church should have a wider role," she said.

Mrs Emeleus is a full-time AHMS chaplain at Westmead Childrens' Hospital and she believes that being ordained will help her work at the hospital.

Sue Emeleus: Women in the church should have a wider role.
(photo Evan Coombs /AHMS)

"Because of my job it makes more sense to be officially part of the church. I often have to help with communion and baptisms which helps show people that the church really cares."

The other women to be ordained are former Department of Evangelism catechist Sue Willis, who will become assistant minister at All Saints', Nowra, and Deaconess Lay Kum Ho, who is currently a full-time chaplain at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

SYDNEY in brief

Corporate ministry

The Archbishop, Harry Goodhew, will be the main speaker at an evangelistic event in St Andrew's Cathedral aimed at city workers. The outreach will include a testimony from 2Day-FM's Glenn Daniel and music from Colin Buchanan and will be held on Tuesday, March 5, from 5.45pm to 7pm.

Contact Harry Dibley on (02) 634 1694, Vicki Napier on (02) 265 0694.

Moore workshop

A workshop day will be held by the Moore College External Studies Department on March 23. The day aims to boost the vision for lay training and theological education, and includes a lecture on Christian doctrine by Graeme Goldsworthy. Book before March 11 on (02) 519 2188. Cost is $15.

Synod set

The Archbishop has set the dates for the next two Sydney Synods. The 1996 Synod will be held on October 28, 29 and 30 and on November 14 and 15 at the Wesley Theatre, Pitt Street, Sydney. The 1997 Synod will be held at the same venue on October 13, 14, 15, 23 and 24.

New diocesan positions

Archdeacon Di Nicolios was elected to Standing Committee on its last meeting of the year, December 11. Other elections were the Rev Michael Maxwell to the Diocesan Liturgical Committee and Mrs Carol Holley to the Presentation Board.

The Archbishop announced the appointment of the Rev Bruce Ballantine-Jones and the Rev Terry Dein as the new clerical canons to St Andrew's Cathedral Chapter on December 7.

Sefton centenary

The centenary of the first church at Sefton will be celebrated throughout 1996 in the parish of Chester Hill with Sefton. A dinner on September 14 and church service on September 15 will be the highlights. For further details phone (02) 644 1181, (02) 644 4727 or (02) 644 5658.

Bartlett honoured

Canon Laurie Bartlett, rector of St Michael's, Vaucluse, will be made an honorary Doctor of Theology by the Australian College of Theology in recognition of his work on the Liturgical Commission.

Archbishop Keith Rayner will confer the degree at St Andrew's Cathedral in March.

Marriage Encounter

Marriage Encounter aims to equip couples with communication skills to encourage them to grow in their relationship. The next weekend will be held at Mulgoa from March 29-31. Phone (047) 54 1656.

New Bible college for west

Australia's newest Bible college will open on February 8, 1996. The Northwest College of Christian Ministry, which aims to provide practical training for lay leaders and clergy, is a joint venture between Quakers Hill Anglican Church and the Sydney Missionary and Bible College.

Courses will cover preaching, church planting, evangelism and youth ministry with each costing $45. Lecturers include Department of Evangelism director David Mansfield, Steven Abbott and Ken Moser.

For more information contact Quakers Hill on (02) 837 2277.

Cammeray finds missing generation

Young families who are the 'missing generation' in churches will be the target of a new evangelism strategy at All Saints, Cammeray in 1996. The strategy will involve a kid's club on Saturdays for junior primary aged children with an outreach service on Sunday that will target their parents.

"The idea of linking the children's mission to the family seeker service is to reach young families," said the program's visiting evangelist Kim Hawtrey. "They are the missing generation in our churches."

ORGANIST

The position of organist at All Saint's, Woollahra, will become vacant from the beginning of May 1996. This historic church with its fully restored 1882 organ by Forster and Andrews has a strong musical tradition.

Expressions of interest are invited from suitably qualified persons. Please contact the Rev Paul Weaver, 85 Ocean St Woollahra NSW 2025. Phone (02) 363 1504.

crusader youth centres

Is your church youth group planning a houseparty or camp?

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T-Net catches fishers of men

BY LINDSAY STODDART

A group of Melbourne and Sydney clergy committed to 'disciplemaking' have invited Bill Hull, the director of T-Net Ministries, USA, to Australia this month.

Two one-day conferences for ministers and key local church leaders will be held in Sydney on Tuesday, February 20 and Wednesday, February 21, 1996. There will be two full-day programs for local church teams and a larger gathering for other people who wish to disciple in the community.

T-net, the training and church consultancy program developed by Bill Hull's team, introduces a new disciplemaking plan that promises to radically transform local churches into effective disciplemaking congregations. The 'newness' is the training package. The substance is a recall to gospel fundamentals.

The rapidly changing '80s and '90s has impacted on evangelical church life. Clergy and lay ministers have had to try new approaches. Some have implemented church growth strategies. Many have worked hard at the disciplines of prayer, equipping laity, at helping their parish gain a vision, and have spent long hours encouraging people to evangelise.

But for many the experience has not been good. The results have not always matched the prayer and energy put into ministry.

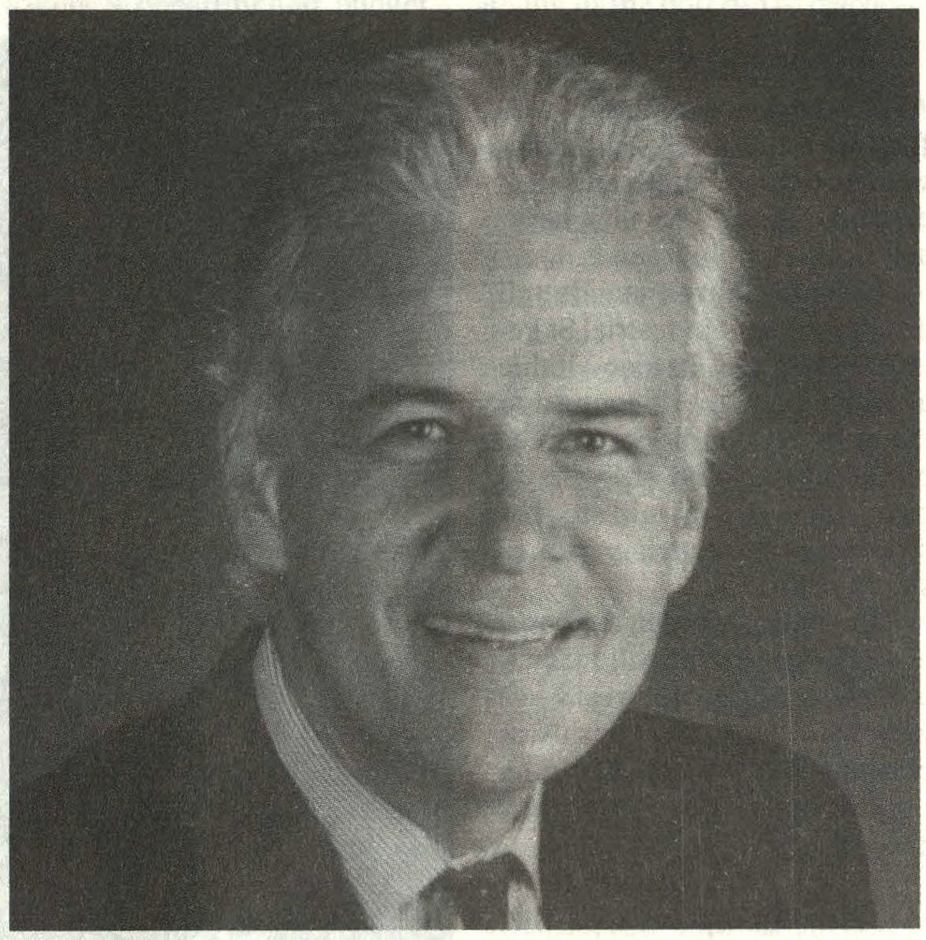
The impact of the gospel on the unchurched takes patience, energy, persistence and goodwill. Realistically this task is too big for any one person to bring about. It is a team effort.

David Mansfield, the Director of our Diocesan Department of Evangelism and I experienced T-Net first hand at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Rock Hill, Carolina last year. We both came away not only engaged by the biblical content of T-Net but convinced that T-Net is more than an exciting one-offer seminar. It offers the churches who commit themselves to the 2 to 3 year program an ongoing consultancy for effective change and the equipping of local leadership for effective ministry.

T-Net appears to be an ongoing program that envisions, equips and assists the pastor actually implement biblical change. It is a process rather than a one-off, quick fix.

Bill Hull's call to effective disciplemaking requires clergy and committed lay ministers to train together and implement strategic ministry. On the T-Net model, the minister and a team of committed key lay people - perhaps six in the average church - attend training conferences with the primary goal of developing a church of disciples and disciplers.

The T-Net process emphasises education, training, ongoing assessment and accountability, plus the means to modify the process to local circumstances. It provides back up for at least two years as church leaders implement changes. The strength is that the local minister is not forced to learn by experience alone, nor to sink or swim by himself.



Bill Hull: blueprint for better discipleship.

Our Diocese believes deeply that the gospel is the only means whereby people can know their plight and be restored to friendship with God the Father. But our Diocese also knows the need for change in those churches where all the energy goes into maintenance, leaving none for effective outreach.

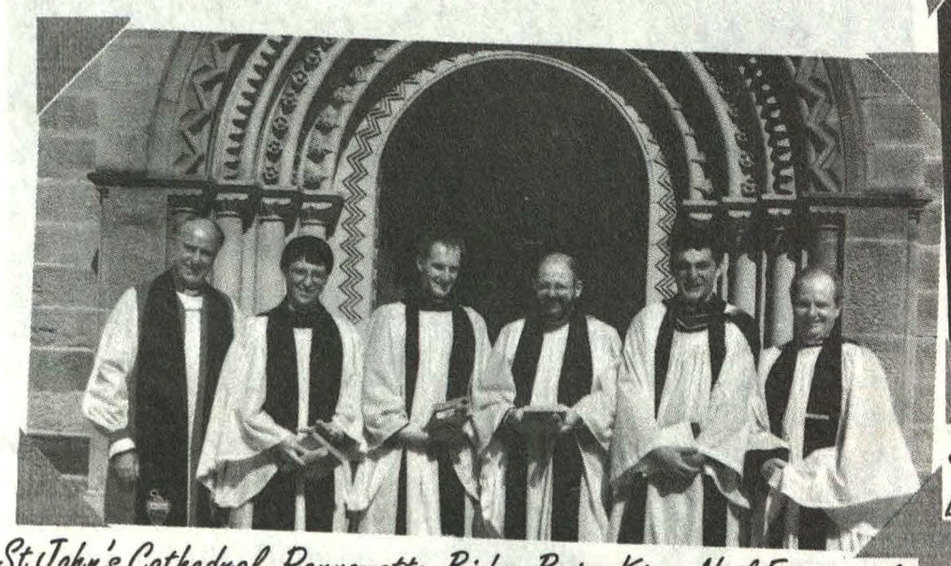
The T-Net model could be a very useful means of helping smaller churches gain a model appropriate to them, and based on biblical principles. The inherent strength of the T-Net model is that the minister doesn't have to work hard to convince his key leaders: they have already seen change and will be committed to the model.

The T-Net model is not being presented as a panacea for all churches' ills, nor should it be seen as a short-cut to growth or a way of making a difficult job easy. It requires genuine commitment and hard work, but it also offers a hope of greater effectiveness.

For more information contact Archdeacon Lindsay Stoddart on (042) 288 487.

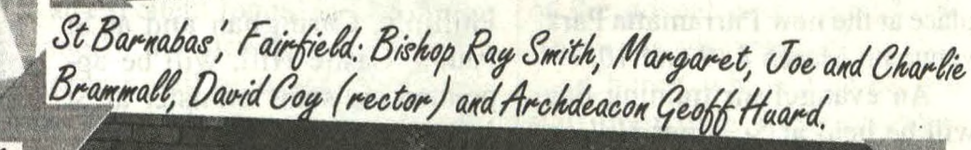
Ordination scrapbook

Ordinations took place around the Diocese on December 17, 1995...

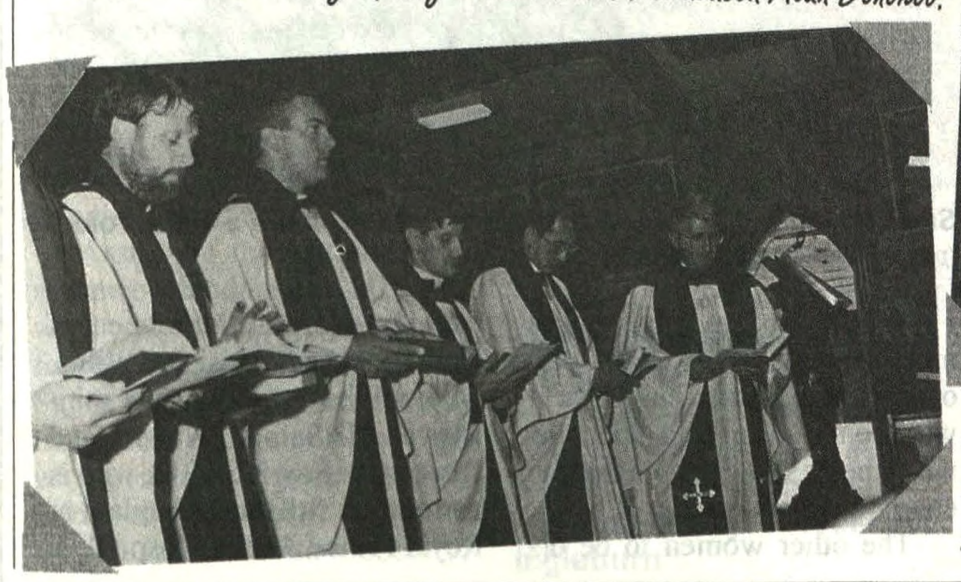


St John's Cathedral, Parramatta: Bishop Brian King, Neil Fitzpatrick, Andrew Burr, Ian Forsyth, Roy Davidson and Archdeacon Alan Donohoo.

St Clement's, Mosman: Fergus and Sarah Semler, Narelle and Ian Hadfield.



St Barnabas', Fairfield: Bishop Ray Smith, Margaret, Joe and Charlie Brammall, David Coy (rector) and Archdeacon Geoff Huard.



Left: St Michael's Cathedral, Wollongong: Ian Barnett (obscured), Mark Howard, Ian Lawton, Guy Matthews, Graham Stanton (assis. minister) and Archdeacon Lindsay Stoddart.

ARCHBISHOP writes

New year, new hope

New diaries and a fresh year; now there's a challenge.

A new year offers all sorts of prospects for individuals and churches. I hope that 1996 will be a good and fruitful year for you and your church.

In the last three years I have visited each deanery throughout the diocese to encourage clergy and lay leaders to have clear purposes and plans for the life of their church.

As a comprehensive way of expressing the purposes of each congregation I spoke of being "observably God's people, pastorally effective, evangelistically enterprising, genuinely caring and dynamically Anglican."

Clear focus in each of these dimensions of local church ministry is an important step towards effective ministry in 1996. The forthcoming Annual Vestry Meetings would be good occasions to share plans with members and gain response and commitment.

The diocese is as healthy and vigorous as the health and vitality of each individual congregation. Planning prayerfully and thoughtfully is an important ingredient of being fruitful for Christ. Carrying out the plans becomes an expression of conscientious discipleship. Our pattern of local parish churches places a centre of Christian life and witness in virtually every suburb of the diocese. Careful planning and focused action is as important in the harder areas as it is in places where responses appear to come more readily.

Important as planning and focus is, there is a further dimension that is even more important. Effective church life grows out of the quality of the relationship of that church with its risen Lord.

God loves us dearly. Christ came to liberate us from all that would disfigure and destroy us. He died and rose that we might be freed from sin. God's Spirit dwells in us and carries forward our re-formation in the image of the Lord Jesus. As John wrote:

Everyone who commits sin is a child of the devil; for the devil has been sinning from the beginning.

HARRY GOODHEW

The Son of God was revealed for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).

It is an important exercise for both individuals and congregations to take some time to reflect carefully on the quality of our faithfulness to God. Mark's Gospel opens with a call to repentance in the light of the approach of Christ and his kingdom. We have him with us. He has justified each believer by his grace. He wills our growth in God-pleasing living. He looks for our rejection of what displeases God. There can be no real fruitfulness or effective service where faithfulness is lacking. Repentance, on a continuing basis, must mark our lives. It is all too easy to assume that we are spiritually healthy when we are not. A diary with plans for the coming year was not in the Lord's mind when he said to churches of another time:

But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember then from what you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent (Revelation 2:4-5).

A fresh spirit of repentance and a resolve to be intentional in our Lord's service are two good things to bring to a new year of discipleship.

Regionalisation and care of the churches

This year will see further regionalisation as the new Regions Ordinances come into effect. One thing that I am most concerned to see maintained is a high level of commitment to the encouragement and support of the individual churches of the diocese. It is in and from these centres of Christian community that spiritual nurture and witness will occur.

Each region now has a bishop and archdeacon charged with the responsibility of offering personal pastoral support to parish leaders both lay and clerical. The demands of modern ministry are many and varied. Clergy may well seek support and counsel from a range of sources. However my intention is that no Incumbent in the diocese should be in a position where someone directly representing the Archbishop has not enquired about his life and ministry, and prayed and talked with him on those issues.

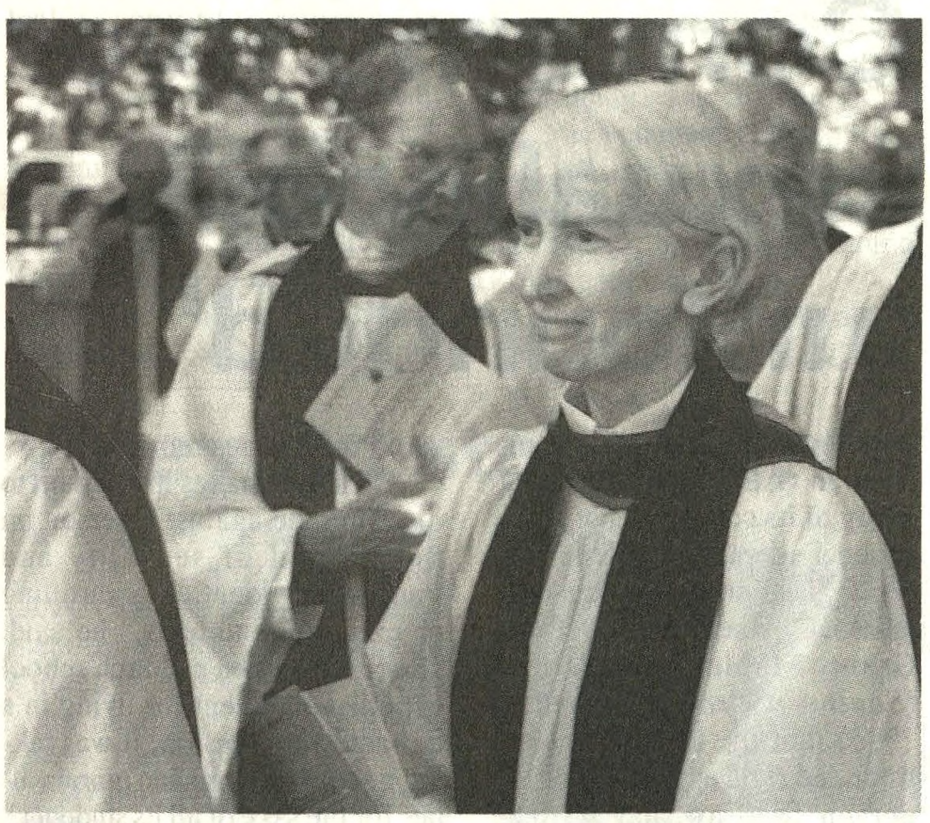
Festival '96

Festival '96 will go forward in Parramatta Park on March 8-10. A new series of events has been scheduled. Franklin Graham will come to preach at these meetings.

Please pray for this evangelistic outreach - and for Billy and Ruth Graham - and plan to attend with friends.

SYDNEY news

Women carry on the witness



Narelle Jarrett: ten years service to Deaconess House.

Anniversaries mark out 1996 as a significant year for women, according to Archdeacon Dianne Nicolios and to recognise that, a service to affirm women in ministry will be held on Saturday February 24.

"Two significant events in 1995 gave the impetus to hold such a service," said Archdeacon Nicolios. "The first was the publication of the biography of Mary Andrews, who served as a missionary in China and went on to serve 23 years as Principal of Deaconess House. The other was completion of 10 years' service as principal by the Rev Narelle Jarrett."

"Many hundreds of women have lived and studied at Deaconess House, and graduated to take up opportunities for Christian service both in this Diocese and overseas. It is fitting to mark the achievements and the loyal witness to Christ which all these women have given," she said.

Among them will be Jane Tooher and Carol Watts who will be commissioned for parish ministry by Archbishop Harry Goodhew during the service.

This service will also provide an opportunity to affirm the gospel ministry of the army of volunteers who contribute through the work of Mothers Union, GFS, AHMS and other agencies.

"It is an opportunity to support women in times when there is some controversy about the type of ministry they should exercise - controversy which can cause distress," Archdeacon Nicolios said.

"It is also an opportunity to pray for God's continued blessing on the ministry of faithful women who are committed to serving Jesus: that many will come to faith in Christ or have their faith deepened as a result of their ministry."

Auburn's Chinese future

BY JEREMY HALCROW

Auburn's churches are dying, according to the area's new AHMS-sponsored Chinese worker, David Zhang. "St Thomas', Auburn, has funerals every week but there hasn't been a wedding here for years," he said. The Presbyterian congregation became so small it was forced out of their disintegrating church building. "Everywhere the churches are shrinking. The Uniting Church only meets once a month and the Salvos' profile is very low."

The last five years has seen an influx of Muslims and Buddhists to the area. "The multiculturalism of Auburn came to me as quite a shock," said David. "In the public schools over 60% are from Turkish and Lebanese backgrounds, another 30% are from China and Vietnam."

The dramatic change has encouraged St Thomas' to go ahead with a Chinese ministry in Mandarin. "These people are very different from Hong Kong and Taiwan Chinese," David said. "Their social and economic background is different because they are often poor migrants working in factories. It's very hard to make contact with them because they work so hard, often six days a week."

One of the unique characteristics of these families is that laws in China stopped them from having more than one child. "This means that children are often left at home by themselves because their parents are working and they have no brothers or sisters," he said. David hopes to provide these children with a place to socialise and do their homework under supervision. This would give him the chance to present the gospel to them and make contact with the parents.

David Zhang: looking to meet the needs of Chinese in Auburn.

Getting to know the parents will be the key to David's ministry and he plans to set up English language classes for them. "Once you've got the parents the children will come automatically," he said. "If the parents know me they will feel comfortable to let their children come to my house."

"Having opportunities to present Christianity in a simple form is very important," he said. "Mainland Chinese have had little contact with any religion and are often confused by the range of choices available in Australia." Of particular concern to David are the Mormons who are very active around Auburn. "Every Mormon missionary, even those born in Australia, is fluent in Chinese," he said.

Previously, David has worked in inter-denominational ministry but has adapted quickly to the Anglican Church. "For conservative people like Chinese, Anglican services are more suitable. Chinese are more reserved," he said. "They feel more comfortable in a situation where one person has the authority."

David believes that integrating his ministry into the existing church services will ensure the congregation stays a community. "If we all make the effort to compromise and fit in we will be a lively and loving family," he said.

AUSTRALIA in brief

New national church survey

The second National Church Life Survey, a comprehensive survey of 80,000 Australian Christians from 20 denominations, is to take place in August, to run parallel to the next Australian Census.

The NCLS is a joint venture between the Sydney Anglican Diocese's Home Mission Society and the Uniting Church Board of Mission (NSW), but this time the Catholic Church will also be included in the survey.

Hale resigns

The Rev Stephen Hale, director of Melbourne Diocese's Anglican Youth Ministries (AYM), has resigned to take up a position as vicar of St John's, Diamond Creek.

Stephen trained at Moore College and was curate at St Paul's, Castle Hill between 1985 and 1988 before taking up the position in Melbourne.

Bishop on the move

The Bishop of Rockhampton, George Hearn, is to take up a parish position as vicar of St Paul's, Canterbury, in Melbourne, following his resignation from the diocese.

Bishop Hearn said he was looking forward to finishing his career back "at the coalface" in parish ministry and closer to family. After travelling 50,000 km a year over a diocese 2.5 times the size of the United Kingdom, Bishop Hearn said he was looking forward to being home every night and preaching regularly at the same church.

Archdeacon Rob Philp will act as administrator of the diocese prior to the election of a new bishop.

Queensland dioceses to merge?

The dioceses of Carpenteria and North Queensland are to negotiate merging to form one of the biggest in the world following the retirement of their two Bishops this year. Bishop John Lewis retired as Bishop of North Queensland on January 2 and Bishop Tony Hall-Matthews retired as Bishop of Carpentaria on February 2.

The bishop-administrators of each diocese are to discuss the merger before the April 19 meeting of the General Synod Standing Committee which is to decide the matter.

Holy Land tour

The Rev Samuel Marsden, rector of Kelso, near Bathurst, will be leading a pilgrimage tour through Egypt and the Middle East in October. Designed for those seeking a personal experience of places associated with the Bible, it is open to all ages.

Contact Samuel Marsden on (063) 32 4606.

Preacher takes the prize

When artist George Gittoes was in Rwanda he saw a preacher preparing his people for the bloodbath. He didn't wind up the crowd with shouts of rage and revenge. Instead, his face full of pain, he comforted his people with words of hope.

The gentle, courageous man became the subject of 'The Preacher - Kibeho Massacre Series, Rwanda', the painting which won the prestigious Blake Prize for religious art in December.

Of his winning entry George Gittoes said: "I will never forget the image of the preacher in Kibeho Camp giving courage and hope to those about to be killed. This is a picture I had to paint, but feared I could never express the depth of my feeling for this man as he faced death with the dignity of one who shares his faith."

Mr Gittoes travelled to Rwanda with the Australian Defence Force as the official artist, and 'The Preacher' was the first painting he attempted upon his return.

"When I returned home I was carrying this terrible imagery in my head," he said. "I have a wife and two children. I didn't want to go straight into the studio and start painting dead children. And the one powerful positive image I had was the preacher. I could see him in his yellow coat and I could feel his courage.

"He represented what I think religion should do: raise people up, make people feel human and spiritually alive and give them courage and faith."

'The Preacher' by George Gittoes, winner of the Blake Prize for religious art.

Campaign to block NSW euthanasia legislation heats up

BY KATHY STONE

A series of state-wide meetings this month is the latest salvo in the battle against impending euthanasia legislation in NSW.

Despite the shock resignation of State Parliamentarian Mr Paul O'Grady - a central figure in the euthanasia push - legislation is expected to be introduced within the next few months. Political strategists are predicting a post-federal-election date, possibly April.

In the meantime, 'Euthanasia No', a coalition of religious, political and community groups has organised an information blitz in NSW State seats, which will include 26 meetings in just over three weeks.

Mr Tony Burke, of Euthanasia No, said opponents of the legislation have committed themselves to a hectic state-wide campaign.

"Politicians must become aware of the strength and commitment of community opposition. The best way to achieve this is by establishing a grass roots campaign of community organisations and volunteers across NSW, " Mr Burke said.

"Grass roots commitment is our strength. We cannot rely on the same favours from the media or draw on the same level of financial resources as the supporters of euthanasia can."

Euthanasia legislation has already been rejected in South Australia, the ACT, and New Zealand. And, in a recent announcement, The Disability Council of NSW, opposed any legislation that included 'disability' as a criteria. A spokesperson for the Council said members 'were concerned' that the disabled may become part of the pro-euthanasia strategy.

The recent setbacks mean even more pressure on euthanasia supporters to achieve victory in NSW. Considerable momentum has been lost since mid-last year when the Northern Territory became the first parliament in the world to legalise euthanasia. But even that has proved unworkable. In the coming weeks the Territory Parliament will vote on amendments to the legislation, passage of which is almost assured following Chief Minister Shane Stone's decision to deny parliamentarians a conscience vote.

Such is not the case in NSW, where each State representative will be required to make up his or her own mind on the legalisation of euthanasia. The Dean of Sydney, Boak Jobbins, urged Anglicans in the diocese to use the opportunity to contact their State Member.

"Personally, I cannot conceive that any one group in the community should be given the right under any circumstances to administer a lethal injection to anyone else," Dean Jobbins said.

For more information on meetings in your electorate ring (02) 261 8460.

Concerns over sexuality bill 'unfounded'

The Anglican Education Commission (AEC) is satisfied that many of its concerns about proposed Federal anti-discrimination legislation were unfounded.

AEC Executive Officer Grant Maple had warned (*Southern Cross*, November 1995) that the legislation - introduced by Democrat Spokesperson for Law and Justice, Senator Sid Spindler - threatened to remove exemptions for Christian schools.

Senator Spindler responded, saying that the Bill "does exactly the opposite".

"It contains full and explicit exemptions for churches and religious teaching institutions including schools 'to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of that religion or creed'," said Senator Spindler.

"I was brought up in a Christian family and was taught that Jesus Christ preached tolerance, sought justice and championed the cause of the disadvantaged. It is something all of us could usefully remember as we strive to make our community more just."

Mr Maple welcomed the news, praising the fact that Senator Spindler "has taken account of the concerns of Christian people."

However, Mr Maple said some difficulties remained.

"The bill makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the ground of sexuality and transgender identity in enrolling or expelling students," he said. "Recently, when a church school expelled a student for living in a de facto relationship, it was taking a stand on Christian moral values for the sake of all its students."

But Senator Spindler maintained that the Bill won't prevent schools from expelling students in de facto, or even homosexual, relationships on moral grounds.

"But if it is a case of just different sexuality - rather than sexual activity - that should not be a reason for a person not to be educated at the school of their choice," said Senator Spindler.

Mr Maple pointed out that the definition of 'transgender identity' also posed problems for churches conducting single-sex boarding schools, if they were to be prohibited from discriminating against someone who was biologically of the opposite sex to the rest of the students.

But Senator Spindler said that the unlikelihood of transgender situations at school age made the objection almost academic. He added that if such a situation did arise, an exemption could certainly be made through the Human Rights Commission.

Missionary makes medical breakthrough

BY KATHRYN WELLING

Australian immunologist Paul Roche left for Nepal in January to continue the battle against leprosy and is quietly confident he may even help eradicate it.

After five years of research in a Kathmandu hospital, plus a further three years doing a post-doctorate fellowship at Sydney University, Dr Roche believes he is able to detect leprosy infection much earlier than ever before. He has also been exploring using the bacteria for a vaccine or diagnostic test so the disease can be treated before the telltale signs of numbness and disfigurement. This is an important find in the fight against leprosy and its associated disease tuberculosis at a time when both are re-emerging because of HIV/AIDS.

"HIV is just beginning to appear. I have heard reports of 250 cases in Nepal but that figure is increasing rapidly," Paul said.

Paul, a member of St Barnabas', Broadway, is excited about his work in leprosy and is looking forward to returning to Nepal as Christianity blossoms.

"The Nepali church is vibrant and authentically Nepali - very similar to what I imagine the early church was like," he said.

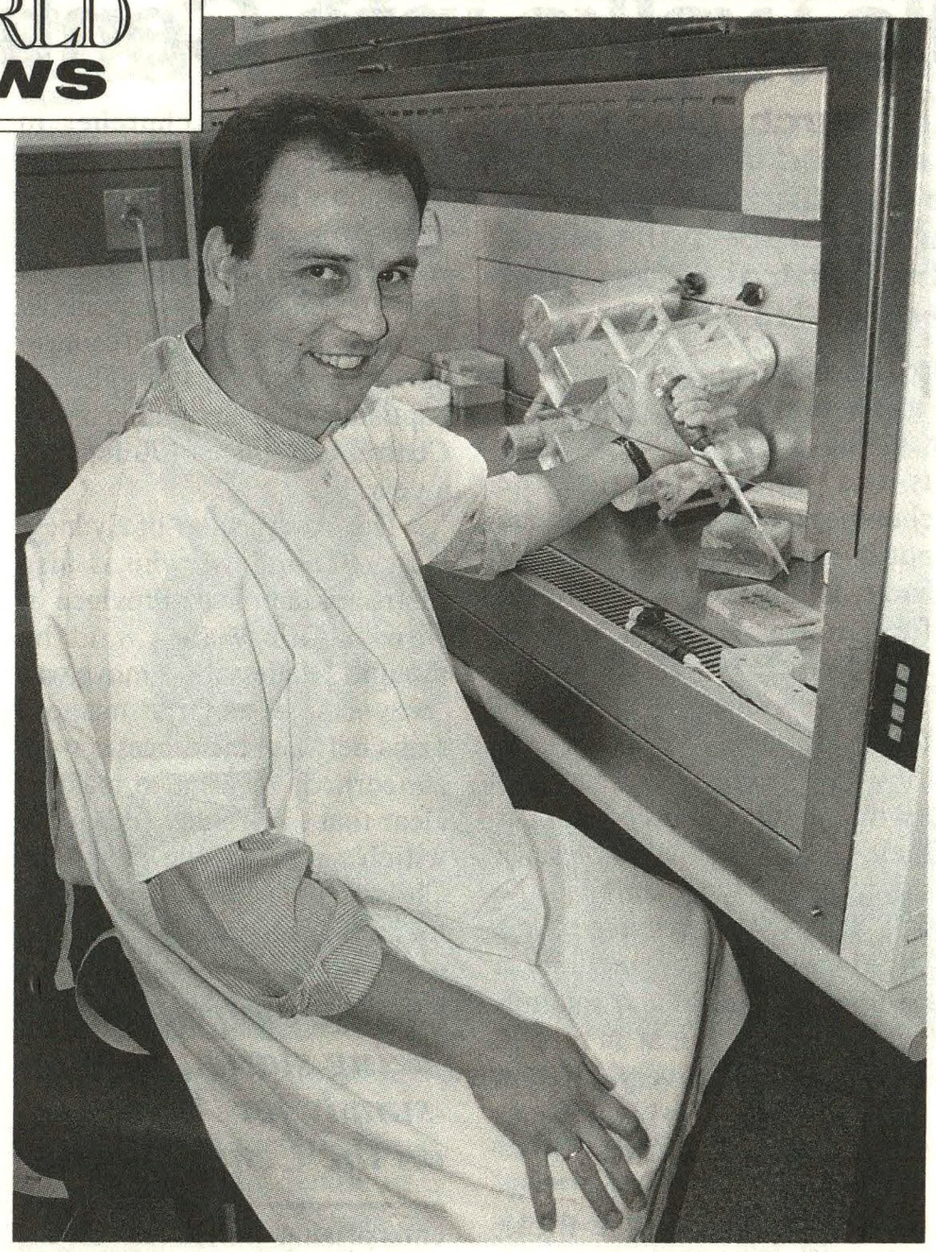
He and his family flew to Kathmandu on January 10. Paul will conduct his research at a 120-bed Leprosy Mission hospital 40 minutes' drive outside the city.

"Leprosy is still a disease of great shame. We still see people ostracised and discriminated against because of their leprosy. Fortunately this is less common as people realise leprosy is curable," he said.

Paul will be carrying out new skin and blood tests to find out the incidence of leprosy and tuberculosis. Firm evidence of fewer infections by means of these tests could accelerate the eradication of the disease. Part of the problem is that no-one knows for certain how leprosy is spread. It is thought poor hygiene, sanitation and nutrition contribute. Nepal is one of the ten poorest countries in the world. Out of its population of 21 million, between 30,000-50,000 people have leprosy with at least twice that number suffering from tuberculosis. It is hoped that Paul's new tests will determine whether AIDS patients are also infected with TB.

Paul has a real soft spot for Nepal - he met his wife Marleen there in 1981 and spent five years doing research in the country. Marleen plans to teach English and work in adult literacy while their children Saskia, 11, and Simon, 8, will both attend Kathmandu schools.

They are looking forward to being involved with the Christian community at a time when it is experiencing dramatic growth. There are now an estimated 150,000-200,000 Christians in Nepal which 40 years ago had no known believers.



Paul Roche: bringing physical and spiritual health to Nepal.

The family will be supported by friends through Interserve. They attend St Barnabas', Broadway, but are associated with a number of Sydney parishes. "We feel a sense of obligation and enthusiasm that the next three to five years could see us involved in valuable work," Paul said.

"We now need an eager team of supporters to stand behind us."

To support the Roches contact Interserve, PO Box 500, St Leonards 2065, telephone (02) 9906-2857.

Also going to Nepal in 1996 are David and Sabina Hamaty, son and daughter-in-law of the rector of Springwood, the Rev Michael Hamaty.

Supported by CMS, they will be working as maths and science teachers at a school in the Pokhara Valley.

For more information on the Hamatys, contact CMS on (02) 267 3711.

Vineyard stops Toronto laughing

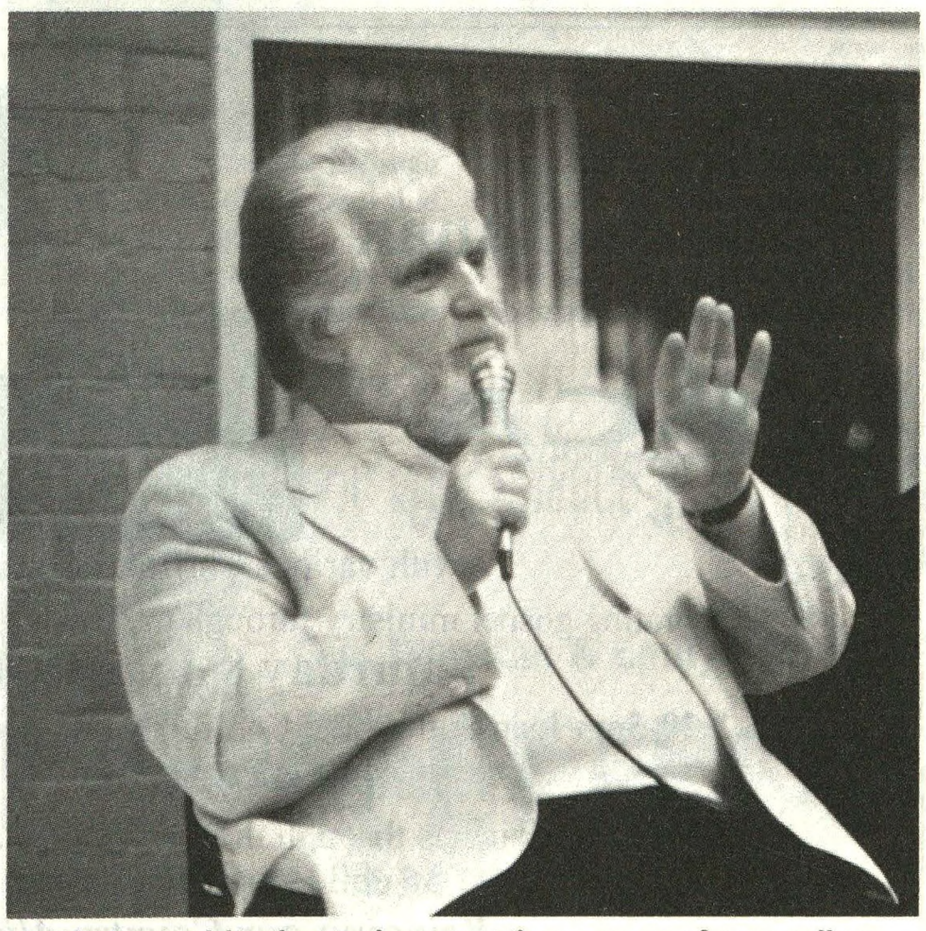
On December 13, the Association of Vineyard Churches (AVC) withdrew their endorsement from the Airport Vineyard Church in Toronto, the worldwide headquarters of the so-called 'Toronto Blessing'?

Mr John Wimber, director of AVC, said, "AVC was born in renewal, has always been evangelical in theology."

"We have and will continue to invite the Holy Spirit to come and give place to those things which are clearly taught in Scripture: [primarily the] proclamation of the gospel so that the lost may be saved," he continued.

Despite repeated warnings, Mr Wimber said that the Airport Vineyard refused to comply with the AVC doctrines.

"We cannot at any time endorse, encourage, offer theological justification or biblical prooftexting for any exotic practices that are extra-biblical, whether in Toronto or elsewhere," read the letter. "Though we understand that when the kingdom is manifest among us there may be phenomena that we do not understand, it is our conviction that these manifestations should not be promoted, placed on stage, nor used as the basis for theologising that leads to new teaching."



Mr Wimber: spiritual experiences at the expense of evangelism.

The Toronto Blessings claim that the Spirit is displayed in the form of laughter, loss of consciousness and physical control.

In a later statement, the AVC said that a key area of dispute had been the Toronto church's continual encouragement of and prayer for exotic, non-biblical manifestations. There was also reluctance to pastor, in direct contrast to AVC policy, for fear of quenching the Spirit.

AVC asserted that the Airport Vineyard made the unusual spiritual experiences central to their ministry, at the expense of building up the congregation. They also criticised the church's tendency to "hype up" crowds and manipulate responses.

Reform rejects Vasey's views

British scholar, the Rev Michael Vasey, has outraged evangelicals by urging them to rethink their views on homosexuality.

Mr Vasey argues that there is nothing incompatible in being a practising homosexual and a Christian - a view which has rarely been put forward by a respected evangelical academic.

In his new book, *Strangers and Friends*, he asserts that the gay movement has a greater understanding of Jesus than straight society. He believes homosexual people have suffered 'a cruel betrayal' by the Church, which is hostile to those who come seeking the friendship of Jesus.

Mr Vasey is a tutor in Liturgy at St John's with Cranmer Hall in Durham, an Anglican theological college. The Principal of the college, David Day, said that the comments of one individual did not represent the official view of the institution and called for "a sense of proportion."

But calls for Mr Vasey's resignation have already begun, with evangelical campaign group Reform encouraging a boycott of the college. Evangelical Alliance leader Clive Calver agreed, calling the book 'speculative and flawed.'

WORLD in brief

Room in Bethlehem for Christians

Christmas was made safe for thousands of Christians in Bethlehem thanks to a guarantee given by the Palestinian National Authority, most of whose leaders are Muslims.

But Ibrahim Kandalaft, officer for Christian Affairs in the Palestinian provisional government, said President Yassir Arafat was confident that Palestinian police would be ready to help the approaching crowds.

Mr Kandalaft also said that the Palestinian authority would maintain the 'status quo' legislation dating back to the 19th century. The legislation gives Christians access to holy sites in Bethlehem, Jerusalem and on the Mount of Olives.

Tutu replacement to be elected

The approaching retirement of Desmond Tutu as Archbishop of Cape Town has prompted the Diocese to announce that they will elect a new leader in June 1996.

Mission aid in your cupboard

Church hospitals in Tanzania are in need of bandages, and they're in your linen cupboard. According to the Mission Aid Group (MAG), the hospitals need clean 10 cm (four inch) squares of cotton or poly-cotton for use as swabs as well as strips torn from old sheets for use as bandages. The squares need to be cut with scissors so the edges don't fray and the bandages should be rolled up and fastened with a safety pin.

MAG has a list of items needed in Tanzania. For more information write to the Mission Aid Group, c/- St Thomas' Church, 4 Morgan Street, Kingsgrove, NSW 2208, or contact MAG Chairman Margaret Hall on (02) 416 7751.

Indian ministry needs help

The Welfare Organisation for the Deaf in Tamil Nadu, India, is looking for help to establish a Christian ministry to deaf people. The organisation's director, A Panneer Selvan, says the organisation is looking for money or materials to help build a church for deaf people and provide preaching training.

Write to the Welfare Organisation for the Deaf, 177 Henry Street, Nagercoil 629 001, Tamil Nadu, India for more information.

New CCA head

Dr Feliciano Carino, from the Philippines, was elected as General Secretary of the Christian Conference of Asia on December 11, 1995 in Hong Kong. Dr Carino is presently the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines.

Gladesville walks into Central Coast minefield

Recent moves by Christ Church, Gladesville to plant a new church caused a stir not so much because they were planting a church but *where* they wanted to plant it. Gladesville plans to plant the church on the Central Coast, that is, in the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle.

BY DAVID MCKINNON

Gladesville's plans for a Central Coast church-planting venture were formally announced to its congregation in an information sheet distributed in November last year. The sheet told the congregation that, depending on support, an assistant minister at Gladesville, Andrew Heard and his wife Cathie intended to plant a church near Gosford.

The controversy started when a copy of the news sheet was passed to the Newcastle diocesan newspaper *Anglican Encounter* and a story headed "'Bible-based Christ-centred Churches' to appear soon on the Central Coast?" published. According to *Anglican Encounter,* Gladesville's "secret missionary enterprise" had "all the marks of a covert operation." Newcastle's Bishop Roger Herft told the *Sydney Morning Herald* the move was "sinister."

Gladesville rector, the Rev Brian Telfer, and Mr Heard, deny there was any secrecy involved. "It was never intended to be secret," Mr Heard said. "You can't tell a congregation of 400 something and say 'keep it a secret'."

They admit the information sheet was intended to be distributed only within the congregation, but deny any 'sinister' motives. "We didn't expect the letter to go further than the congregation," Mr Heard said. "We planned to fly the kite with the congregation and, with their approval, approach the authorities."

According to Mr Heard, support within the parish has been "overwhelmingly positive."

Newcastle's major problem with the church planting exercise is the implication that the churches on the Central Coast are not doing their job of preaching and teaching the gospel. The information sheet says there are very few "Bible based, Christ-centred churches" on the Central Coast, although Mr Telfer said they have been very encouraged by the number of such churches they've become aware of since the controversy began.

"The Anglican churches," the sheet says, "have in them a number of faithful and committed Christians. But at an official level they have a very different understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ."

It goes on to say that Newcastle's attitude to the Bible, evangelism and their understanding of church leads to "a very inward looking church life" which is "not concerned with converting others to Christ from the false idols they serve."

Those are fighting words according to the Diocese of Newcastle. Bishop Roger Herft told *Anglican Encounter* "...to suggest that only three Churches are involved in true mission is a real insult."

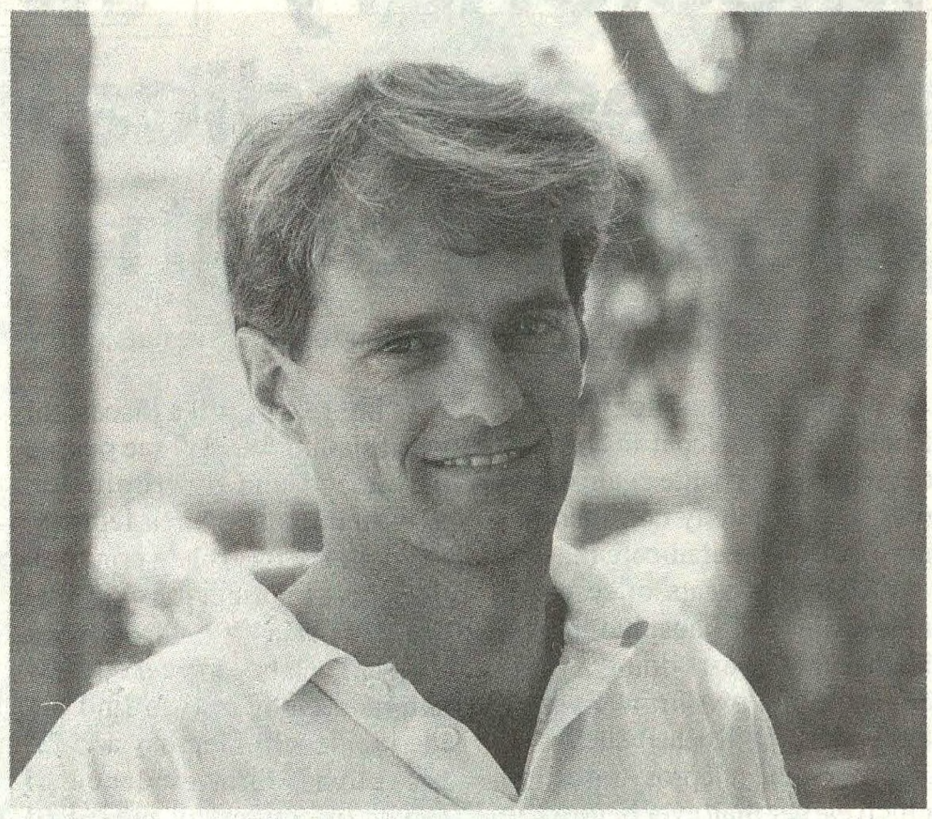
"It's an accusation we're not Christian, that you don't really consider us Christian," he told *Southern Cross.* "No church does the job of preaching the gospel perfectly. The implication is that Gladesville think they do it with some degree of perfection."

Bishop Herft agreed that Gladesville and churches in Newcastle had different ideas about how to evangelise. "Let's begin to respond to the people who come to us," Bishop Herft said. "We have our work cut out handling the people who come to us for weddings, funerals and baptisms - one clergyman on the Central Coast does 170 funerals a year."

The Archbishop of Sydney, Harry Goodhew, who is also Metropolitan of the Province of New South Wales, said he thought Gladesville's move was 'provocative' as far as relationships between the dioceses were concerned. "I want to make it clear that I prize any endeavour which seeks to win people to Christ. I have always been keen to encourage evangelistically enterprising initiatives. On the other hand, as Metropolitan I have a responsibility to maintain the structures of the Anglican Church."

"The church is not being started to cater simply for Anglicans on the Central Coast"

The move has not helped relationships between dioceses in NSW, Archbishop Goodhew said, which were better than they had been for a long time. The Gladesville move was 'unfortunate,' he said, because it came at a time when the two dioceses were involved in negotiations to establish evangelical congregations on the Central Coast. The congregations would cater for the large numbers of Sydney Anglicans who have moved to the area. "As I understand it evangelicals on the Central Coast have been disappointed by [the move]," Archbishop Goodhew said.



Andrew Heard: "We want to reach the whole community with the gospel."

Archbishop Goodhew said he had advised Bishop Herft that it would be good for Newcastle diocese to have 'one or two' clearly identifiable evangelical Anglican churches on the Central Coast. The Rev Arthur Copeman, a Moore College graduate, has been appointed by Bishop Herft as associate minister at Kincumber. Mr Copeman is starting an evangelical evening service at Green Point with people from Kincumber parish.

However, according to Brian Telfer, questions of Anglican order don't apply to the Central Coast venture. "The church is not being started to cater simply for Anglicans on the Central Coast, but to reach the whole community with the gospel. It will be Anglican because it will be run according to the standards set out in the 39 Articles and the *Book of Common Prayer*, but it won't belong to the Sydney or Newcastle diocese," he said.

The controversy has done nothing to halt Gladesville's plans. "The encouragement we've received from inside and outside Sydney Diocese has only served to convince us of the need for good churches on the Central Coast," Mr Telfer said.

"We hope this will be the first of many ventures," he said. "People in Newcastle have called to ask us to do something similar there."

A recent consultation of the General Synod Evangelism Task Group, a group of 15 lay and ordained Anglicans, urged a change in attitude by the Anglican Church towards evangelism. A group spokesperson said, "This change must not be merely incremental, but fundamental; and faithfulness to Christ means no change is too costly.

"Our younger people were saying they will continue with their Christian discipleship with or without the Anglican Church - it is dispensable unless there is radical and deep transformation."

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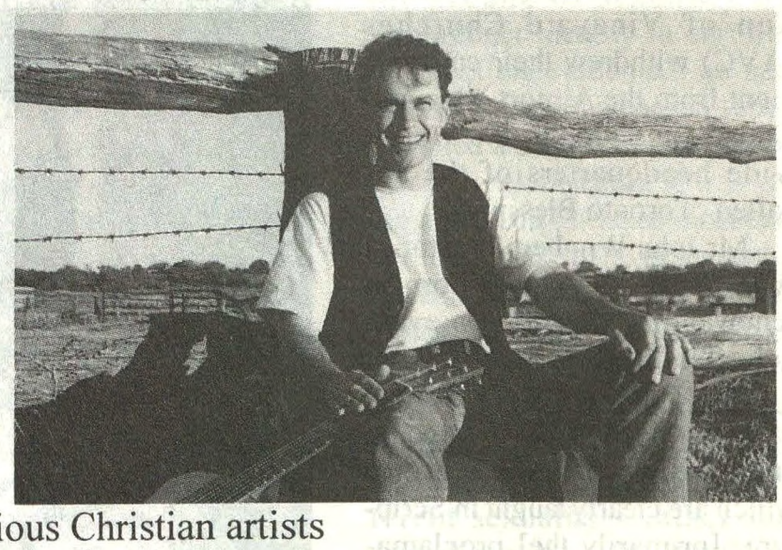

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Anglican youth gain from going global

BY MICHELLE HAINES

The Anglican Youth Department has gone global, and so far the import and export of ideas has been a huge success.

Three interns - Anthony McCormick (New Zealand), Melissa Bigham (Canada) and Matthew Mills (US) - started in September of last year and say they are "learning heaps". The feeling is mutual, explains the co-ordinator of the inaugural internship program, David Hoffman.

"Part of the plan was for the AYD to benefit from fresh faces and new ideas," he said. "They are contributing their own skills to us, and it's working so far!"

The internship program began after David himself experienced a similar program in the US. On his return he established an Australian version, eager to share AYD's expertise on Christian camping and keen to learn from the visitors.

It is that balance - learning from another culture while sharing your own - which is proving a challenge to the interns.

"The differences are good," said Melissa Bigham, a high school graduate from Canada who wanted to do "something different" before university. "I try to appreciate the differences rather than compare. I'm enjoying learning things over here, but sometimes I see a chance to contribute something I know, and that's good too."

The difference which impresses Melissa and Matthew is that Christian camps in Australia are allowed to preach the gospel to the school groups who use the site. Anthony agrees, saying that there is more Christian input in Australian school camps than in New Zealand.

All of the interns bring considerable Christian camping experience from their own countries. Melissa has been involved in Christian camping for as long as she can remember, first as a camper then as a room group leader and instructor. Anthony has put his army-acquired camping skills to good use on Christian camps in New Zealand, and Matthew has spent the last year living full time on a campsite run by Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. As a PE teaching graduate, he is amply qualified to tackle the outdoor education aspect of the camps.

From left: David Hoffman (co-ordinator), Melissa Bigham, Anthony McCormick and Matthew Mills.

Whether they are among the pots and pans of a camp kitchen, or nutting out the details of a leadership training program, the three interns agree that what they are doing is of great value.

"One way we're growing is in how we relate to people," said Anthony, referring especially to a two week hike through the Blue Mountains. "When you're working so closely you can't just walk off and say 'Blow you'. It's a maturing process."

Melissa points out that seeing behind the scenes has given her a much greater appreciation for the hard work which goes into camping. Matthew agrees.

"I've learnt that God really values Christian camping all over the world," he said with enthusiasm. "He sets aside cool places and committed people, and I'm really excited to see that."

St Swithun's looks forward

The people of St Swithun's, Pymble, are excited about the future.

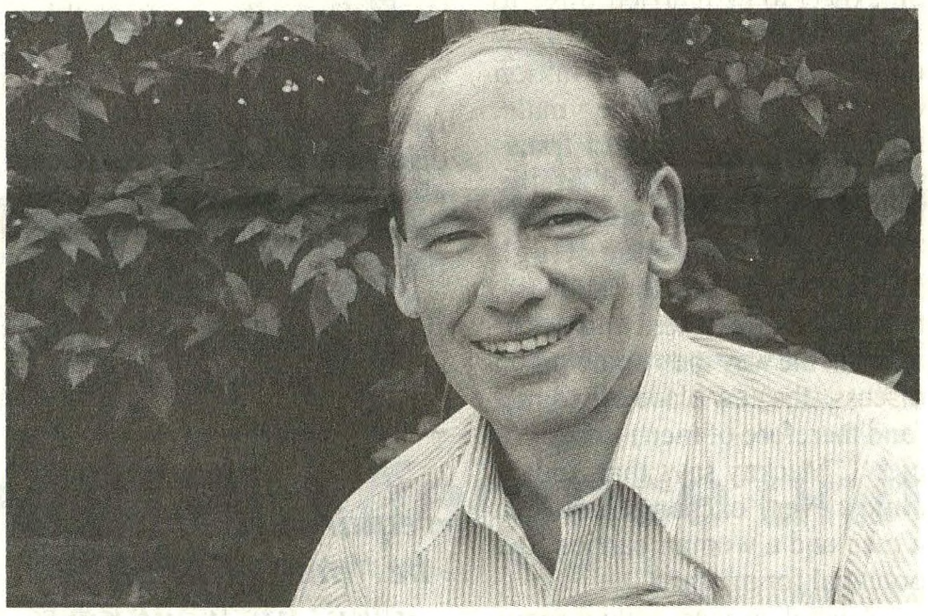
The Rev Roger Chilton, formerly rector of Walcha, in the Armidale Diocese, was installed on January 12 at St Swithun's. Forty friends from Walcha were in the large crowd at the service.

Roger and Sue Chilton, with children Christopher, Hugh, Rachel and Nicholas moved into the rectory five days before.

"I'm very happy about being here," said Mr Chilton, "I've come in with an open mind, and can see great potential."

The previous rector, the Rev David Gilmour, was removed from the cure of the parish under the Inefficiency and Incapacity Ordinance.

Mr Chilton said he is confident that the St Swithun's congregation are working through the difficulties of the past and have a positive outlook.



The Rev Roger Chilton

He said that he aims to emphasise the family nature of the church, to develop strengths in youth work, and to think creatively about evangelism.

"It's time to go outwards," he concluded enthusiastically.

CONTINUING THE WITNESS

A service in recognition and honour of women in ministry

Saturday 24th February 1996 at 10.30am

at

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with

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MU's evangelistic celebration

Bev Derrett: Planning to make evangelism an integral part of Mothers' Union.

The Mothers' Union is celebrating its centenary in 1996, and as part of that they are running a 'Christianity Explained' leaders' training course.

As the name suggests Christianity Explained (CE) is a course designed to explain the basics of Christianity to Christians or non-Christians.

The Mothers' Union aims to make CE an integral part of its outreach to the community, to give Christians a way of explaining the gospel to their non-Christian friends and to give non-Christians an easy way to understand the gospel.

The course will be run on three consecutive Mondays from February 26 to March 11. According to course convenor Bev Derrett, a similar course run three years ago trained some 50 women and men in running CE courses.

"It has been thrilling to hear of women consolidated in, encouraged in and converted to faith in Jesus Christ as a result," Bev said.

The course, which costs $25, will be held at Bible Society House, 95 Bathurst Street, Sydney, starting at 10 am and finishing at 12.30 pm. Scripture Union's David Layson will present the sessions.

Registration forms are available from the Mothers' Union office, phone (02) 267 8372 or Bev Derrett, (02) 525 9283.

Katoomba Christian Convention

Katoomba Christian Convention has been challenging people for over 90 years to hear the challenge of God and to live a godly life. We invite you to join us this year at the Easter Convention and to our new City Youth Convention.

2nd March 1996 CYC

City Youth Convention

State Sports Centre Homebush Speaker: Michael Raiter

5 - 8 April 1996 Katoomba Easter Convention

"The Struggle"

Speakers: Frank Retief, Peter Jensen, David Price

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The Priority of the Word - The Rev Jim Ramsay
The Priority of "Winning Men" - The Rev Geoff Taylor

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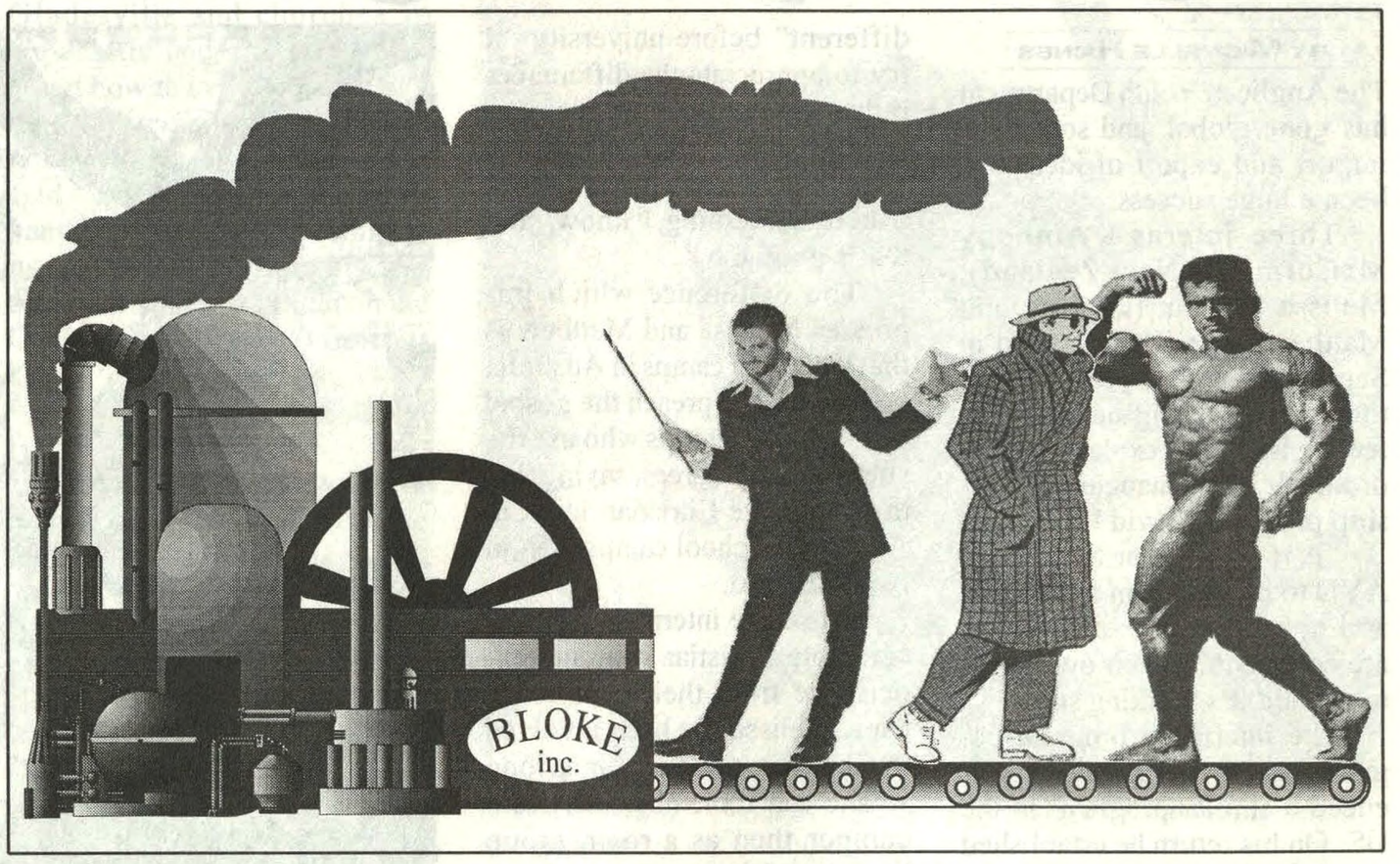
"BE THERE!"

What makes a man?



BY DUDLEY FOORD

The debate over what makes men and women has had an enormous impact on the Australian way of life. Men are slowly coming to the realisation that things are different between them and women. Some men are learning the new rules, others angrily resist, many are confused.

There are many facets to the redefinition of gender. What do we say to four yuppie married males when they comment "we all expect to be married three to four times in our lifetime?" How do we respond to the redefinition of sexes from two to five - male, female, gay, lesbian and transsexual as was pushed at the Beijing Women's Conference?

Social researcher Hugh Mackay writes of "the sadness, tension, bewilderment and pessimism in the way men and women discuss...the new place of women (and therefore of men) in our society." Mackay says that, today, almost every exchange between a man and a woman carries 'the potential for mistrust.'

Australian men have a reputation for being fairly hard cases; obsessed with mateship and being a man's man. But 'downsized' in the job and marriage markets, Australian men are having to reinvent their roles. "Whatever happened to Australian masculinity in the nervous 90s?" *Time* magazine's front cover (July 12, 1993) asks.

So what is authentic manhood? What is God's plan and purpose for each man's life? Even Christian men feel left in the no-man's land of confusion about how to express genuine maleness.

☑ Firstly, God's design for a man is to grow in godliness and become more Christ-like. "He predestined us to be conformed to the likeness of His Son." (Rom 8:29) This will not take place automatically but will require discipline and obedience to God's Word as he reads, meditates on God's Word and prays. Paul writing to Timothy urged him: "train yourself to be godly." (1 Tim 4:7) This should be a top priority - our energies need to be directed to that end. Paul provides a further picture - "everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training... therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave." (1 Cor 9:25-27)

Work and discipline are needed if a Christian man is to be godly. In other words, as a cornerstone for life, develop and maintain a vital relationship with the living God. Don't apologise for it or view it as a sign of weakness. True, some men will scorn you as wimpish, but stand firm, knowing it is God's will for you.

☑ Secondly, do everything in love. Read and reflect on 1 Corinthians 13. Meditate on the Bible's many exhortations to demonstrate Christ-like love in all relationships, eg "and over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." (Colossians 3:14) Don't try to be macho. In all relationships demonstrate the marvellous blend of strength with sensitivity, toughness with tenderness, leadership with servanthood and gentleness. Enter into a relationship with Christ and allow him to lead you into authentic manhood by establishing loving, Christ-like relationships.

Real masculinity requires each man to be "man enough" to admit his weakness and his need for a relationship with God

I've seen many men with a macho, self-sufficient image and an "I don't need anybody" attitude change to be Christ-like and establish loving relationships. Discovering that God loves, accepts and forgives them causes them to begin to drop their tough-guy defences. Spending time studying God's Word with other godly men and looking to Jesus Christ as their model of manliness and source of strength brings about a transformation of character and attitude.

Genuine masculinity requires that each man be 'man enough' to admit his weakness and the need for a relationship with God. A man who places Jesus Christ in the centre of his life is humbled, but also becomes courageous to live life contrary to the ethos of our culture.

☑ Thirdly, be God's man in your marriage and family. God's design for men is to free them to show decisiveness when a situation requires it, but he also wants men to be free to display gentleness and humility.

Every married woman desires a loving relationship with this God-honouring masculine man - a man who is tough yet tender.

All the statistics show that a father's influence on his children's lives is enormous. A child's experience of family and home life should be a storehouse of wonderful memories, where their needs - physical, material, emotional and spiritual - are provided for, with the father establishing warm, affectionate and humble relationships with each child. Each child watches the father carefully - and needs to see a genuine, uncompromising love for God. Dads who are in tune with God and who love their wives dearly. A child's perception of this godly father will establish the pattern for them in their own marriages and families. A mighty heritage.

☑ Fourthly, be a godly man in your church and community. There is a huge dearth of leadership across all walks of life. The godly man will provide leadership in these two spheres marked by integrity, commitment and action. Clear-thinking Christian people are distressed at the 40 percent rate of marriage breakdown in Australia and the increasing proportion of dysfunctional families. It is critical, therefore, that in Australia priority be given to establishing a dynamic ministry amongst men in each parish church.

The Katoomba Christian Convention has started planning a Men's Convention to be held on February 21-22, 1997, when it is expected over 2000 Christian men will attend. All Christian men should plan to be there.

The 90s are a time of drifting philosophies and moral chaos. Australia needs Christian men strong in character and love to help bring hope, stability and dignity to marriage, family, church and community. Men gripped by Christ's gospel could become that unique, dynamic change factor in Australia today. ✪

Hope in God

CMS Summer School

Meet the missionaries

Michelle and Dick Ferguson

Dick and Michelle have spent the last three years working with the Boran people of Kenya, and plan to spend the rest of their lives there. They live in a small village, often in 40 degree heat, and without great reserves of food or water, but they call life "a fantastic adventure".

"When there is nothing else to depend on, you can really see God at work - and amazing things happen," they said.

Both were converted as adults, and came from the Newcastle Diocese. Dick said that their desire to spread the gospel came from the incredible freedom from guilt they experienced at their conversion. ✪

Karen Darda

Karen is involved with student work in Nagoya, Japan and has contact with 30 universities through KGK, a Christian student association.

Karen went to Japan to teach English, but was struck by the Japanese satisfaction with alternatives to God. She was also moved by her growing understanding of "God's great plan for the world, which was better than my little plan".

She has been there for almost four years and finds the 'group mentality' of Japanese students a challenge, but will stick it out for the long haul.

"It is a privilege to see the gospel change lives," she said. ✪

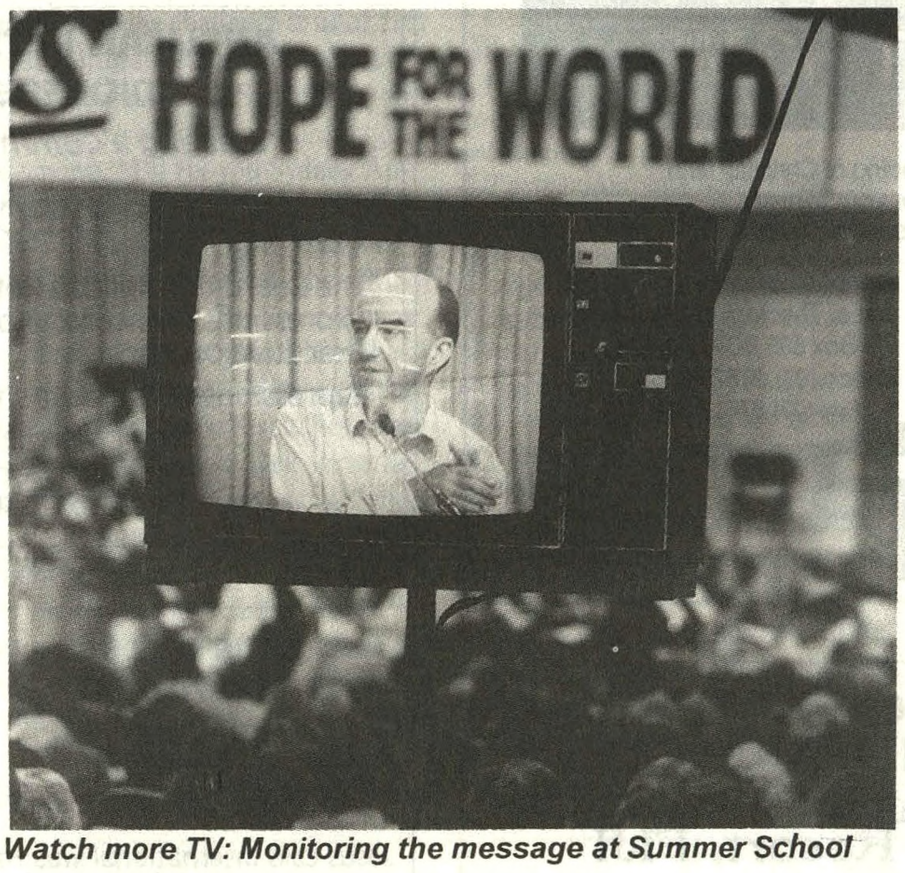
Paul King

Paul and Sandra King have been working with students in Paris for the past three years, which, Paul says, is hard work.

"France is about a generation more secular than here. People are sceptical."

However, discussion and argument is a big part of student life and here the gospel works.

"The truth of Jesus can break through," Paul said. ✪



Watch more TV: Monitoring the message at Summer School

CMS Summer School has escaped both fire and flood this year, allowing about 1500 people to make it through the Katoomba mists to hear messages of hope.

'Restoring Hope - the message of Zechariah' was the theme taken up by the Rev Peter Adam, from St Jude's, Carlton (in Melbourne), and the Rev Simon Manchester, from St Thomas', North Sydney. Mr Adam, who spoke specifically from Zechariah, said that Christian hope is grounded in trust in God.

"We have hope because we know what God's plan is for the world, and because God has provided the resources to achieve it," he said. He warned us not to "judge things by human power, but trust in God's Spirit."

Mr Manchester attempted to draw all the threads of hope in the New Testament together. He concluded that "New Testament hope is grounded in the past (the promises and proofs of God), fuels us in the present, and looks ahead to the coming of glory."

He added, "In Australia, which is a very optimistic place, we must challenge people as to the *reason* for their hope."

Summer School provided an opportunity to make friends with missionaries from all over the world. Eleven countries were represented, and special guest was Bishop Mano RumalShah, of Peshawar in Pakistan.

Summer with a difference unites Inverell

BY BERNARD GABBOTT

Each year for the two weeks following Christmas, hundreds of mostly young Christians leave their homes to take part in beach missions up and down the coast. For some mission teams, however, the nearest beach is a long way away.

Inverell for instance, about 650 kilometres north of Sydney, and a fair distance from the nearest beach, is not a place which springs to mind as a mission destination. But this year the town got its first taste of mission.

Emerging from Gunnedah Summer Mission at the start of 1995, the Inverell mission was not like the average 'beach mission' experience. Working in a town of 10,000, the mission team co-operated closely with the local Anglican and Presbyterian congregations. The mission focussed on sharing the gospel with families in the town, working in partnership with local evangelicals.

Led by Chris and Beth Braga and Svetlana Onis, the 40 Christians from Sydney who made the trip to Inverell were divided into four sections: Rugrats (kindergarten to year 3), Club 47 (year 4 to year 7), IDK (year 8 to year 12), and the Adults section. The team provided a daily program for the town, and over two weeks made contact with 100 children.

The program began with a drama aimed at introducing children to Jesus. Then the various age groups played games and worked through a Bible study. The daytime program helped build strong contacts with local Christians and townspeople while nights where used to reach teenagers and families.

The goal of Inverell Summer Mission is a long-term one. This year the team worked at establishing relationships through which they hope to share the gospel next year.

say it CLEAR

DAVID MANSFIELD

Most literature on evangelism emphasises the 'friendship factor'. But many of us sadly admit to having very few non-Christians friends.

The further we get down the Christian track and entrenched in 'Christian culture' the more we feel and look like vegetarians at a butchers' picnic in non-Christian company.

Mind you, I've rarely met a Christian who doesn't long for people to come to Christ. It might be buried under a pile of self-doubt or self-excusing silence, but with a bit of gentle work those longings can be teased out.

So where can we start? With what you have. A heart for the gospel and for people. A mouth, a stove, a table and a home that says "welcome". A year stretching out before you which has already begun to steal away.

- Set aside some nights in your diary to entertain. Perhaps a Saturday night a month or a Friday night each quarter. Look up the list of the non-Christian friends you're praying for (or start one). Work out: who you'll invite first, who you'll put with whom, dinner for six, eight, or just a couple, some single friends, maybe a BBQ. The key is *plan now*.
- Lock in these plans. Make these dates a priority because nothing is more important than building these friendships. Now expect to run into all sorts of obstacles. Busyness, tiredness, inadequacy, church meetings, a major blue with your spouse, a minor war with your kids. It's life for all of us. Steel yourself and press ahead.
- Next... enjoy yourself! Sadly we've been conditioned to feel awkward in non-Christian company, getting the 'in the world, but not of it' idea wrong. If we start clock watching past 10.00pm or are always talking about ourselves, and aren't interested in their world, we're dead in the water.

We need to learn to love the experience. Enjoy getting to know another person, entering into their joy and pain. The refreshing experience of moving past the plastic to a closeness we all hunger for but rarely taste. Close the friendship gap.

It's not evangelism yet. But you're packing your bags and may soon be on your way.

The Rev David Mansfield is the director of the Department of Evangelism.

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Selection Criteria:

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Conditions: In accordance with the Hospital Employees (State) Award. Remuneration will be subject to agreement with the NSW Department of Health.

Enquiries: Rev Brian Stewart (068) 84 2320.

Closing date: Close of business, Friday 1 March, 1996.

Written applications addressing the above selection criteria, together with references and the names and telephone numbers of three (3) recent referees (one of whom must be a current minister or priest), copy of Birth Certificate and all relevant details, should be lodged with Mr Peter Cluff, Personnel Officer, Dubbo Base Hospital, PO Box 739, DUBBO NSW 2830.

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St Stephens Anglican Church Normanhurst

RECTOR

The parish nominators invite expressions of interest, from suitably qualified clergy, for this position which will become vacant with the appointment of the Rev David Tyndall as Director of the Archbishop's Olympic Games Taskforce. A parish information sheet is available on request.

Please write or phone: Normanhurst Parish Nominators, c/- Colin Anderson, 6 Banksia St, Normanhurst NSW 2076. Phone (02) 484-5234 (evenings).

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The Parish of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Manila, Philippines, is seeking a Rector for an initial term of two years, renewable.

The Rector will minister to two congregations, which meet at 7.30am and 9.30am, respectively. Makeup of the Parish is approximately 60% expatriate North American, European and British Commonwealth, 30% English speaking ethnic Chinese, and 10% Filipino. Services are in English.

For more information write to the address below.

Candidate is expected to assume his post on or about April 15, although flexibility can be provided. Interviews either at present location or in the Philippines may be arranged at the discretion of the Search Committee.

Candidates are invited to submit a resume detailing qualifications, experience and references, to:

The Pastoral Search Committee
Vestry of the Parish of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity
PO Box 1245
1252 Makati, MM, The Philippines.

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Opportunity knocks

BY RAY SMITH

As I read Revelation 3:8, "See I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut," I thought of three events over the past year. All three related to the open door of opportunity that God has opened to Australian Christians.

The first was the proposed visit of Mike Hill, Archdeacon of Berkshire. Archdeacon Hill was to lead an evangelism conference for the Georges River Region. He argues in his book, *Reaching the Unchurched,* that Christians must work at reaching the 80 plus percent of the population who know very little about Christianity and are unlikely to come to church. He claims that most of our current evangelistic approaches are more suited to nominal church attenders and those on the fringe of church life. Mike Hill was unable to come because of illness, but we still held our conference with the help of local speakers, who were superb.

The second event was the HMS Thanksgiving Festival. The guest speaker was Canon Alan Cole, preacher, teacher, theological educator, world missionary leader. Dr Cole based his address on the mission of the early church as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. One of his themes was the challenge to us of diverse cultural groups from all over the world who live in Sydney. Canon Cole suggested that the Lord might be saying, "I'll fix you Sydney Anglicans. If you won't go into all the world, I'll bring all the world to you."

The third event was the CMS Summer School. Dr Peter Adam stressed the eternal plan of God has always been focused on bringing the gospel to all nations. His studies were based on Zechariah. One verse he emphasized was "Many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the Lord" (Zech 9:22).

As I thought about Christ's words in Revelation 3:8 it was as if the Lord was challenging us here in Sydney.

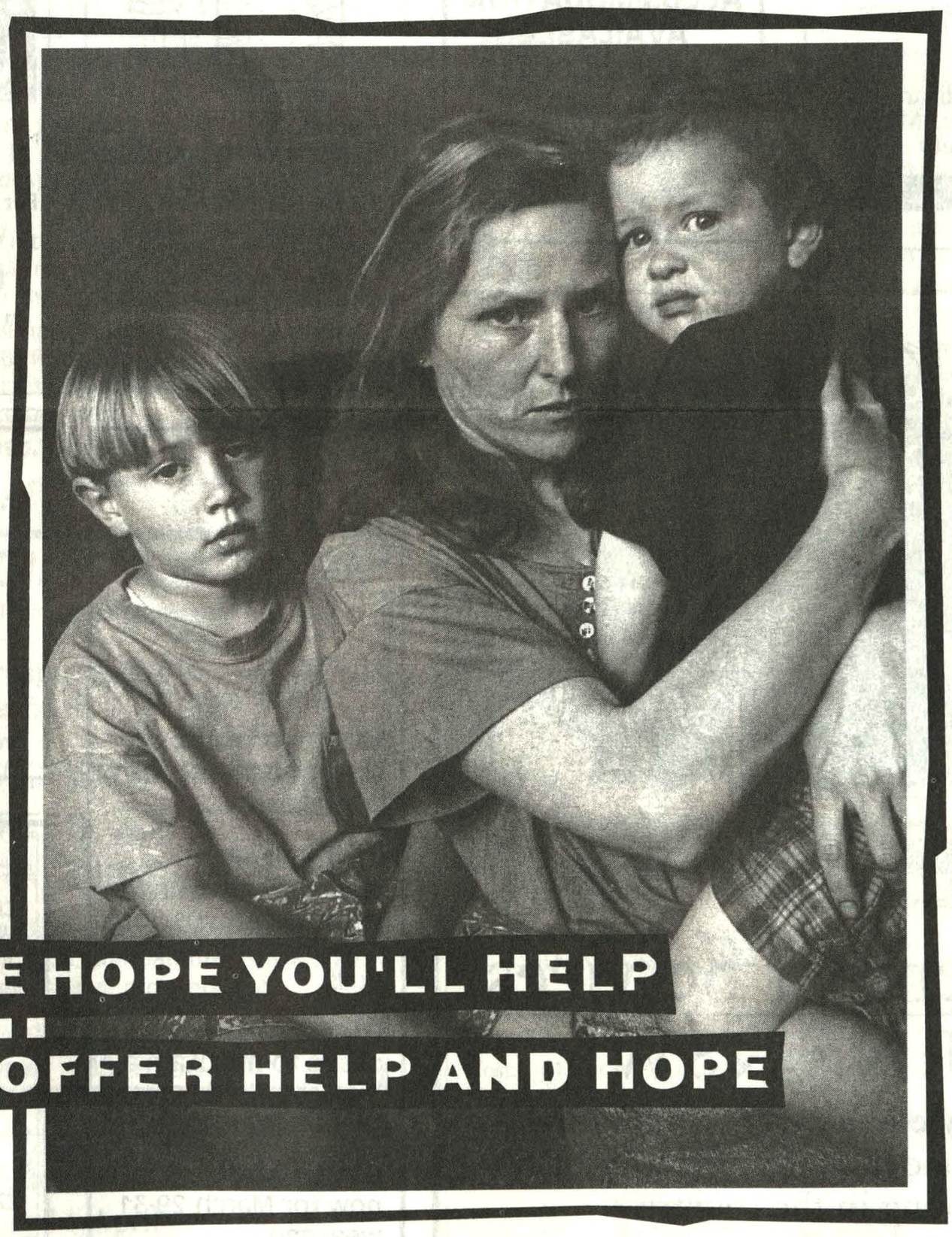
We need to work hard and creatively in developing ways to share the gospel with the 80 plus percent of unchurched Australians beyond the fringe of our churches.

We need to work at being world-wide mission-minded Christians and congregations. Being mission-minded will involve:

1. Prayer for spiritual awakening in Australia and world evangelism.
2. Concern for and identification with neighbours and everyday contacts.
3. Proactive sharing of the gospel with nominal Christians and the unchurched.
4. Partnership with other Christians in formal and informal evangelistic ventures.
5. A willingness to give sacrificially and generously to evangelistic endeavours and missionary work.
6. Encouragement of our best ministers and leaders to consider missionary service overseas and in difficult parts of Australia.

The Lord Jesus Christ has placed 'an open door' before us. God graciously invites us to work in partnership with him. Let us hold fast to the gospel we have been given and seize the opportunities "so that no one will take away our crown" (Rev 3:8).

Ray Smith is the Bishop of Georges River



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Anglican Home Mission Society

1856-1996: 140 years of care

St. Andrew's House, Sydney Square, 2000

BAH! humbug!

ROB FORSYTH

This has never been the sort of column that would let either humility or fallibility stand in the way of an opportunity to pontificate. And as this is only the first *Bah! Humbug!* for the year, even though 1996 is nearly two months gone, why not lay out a few of my prognostications on the years past and present.

1. The latest fads seem now to be fading. I mean of course Seeker Services and the Toronto Blessing. (Which reminds me of a joke: "Heard of the Sydney Blessing? - You stand bolt upright and feel nothing.") Not that each doesn't have its continued adherents, or even continued value. But they were not the answer. The Toronto Blessing never had a chance really. And as for Seeker Services, did I hear that a significant member of The Younger Clergy actually said that there may be a niche market for liturgical worship? (Be still my beating heart!)

2. But what is next? Oh that I knew! (Then I could run the seminars instead of having to go to them.) However, I do think that something called "The Alpha Course" will make an evangelistic splash in 1997. You heard it here first.

3. 1995 was the "Year of Slight Hysteria about the New Prayer Book". Possibly 1996 will be too, though I hope not. I would rather a time of mature and thoughtful engagement with *A Prayer Book for Australia* and a wise decision about its use.

4. 1996 will certainly be the "Year of Starting to Try to Put Regionalism into Practice." In some areas of the diocese, like South Sydney where I come from, the move to regional anything is going to be quite a task. If it works it will be great. If it doesn't it will grate dreadfully.

5. This year is also the "Year of Synod Change" (a new one is elected every three years). I wonder what this one will be like and whether it will continue last year's trend. Am I the only one who felt a sea change towards the end of the life of the last Synod? Was not the Synod becoming more unpredictable, less liable to follow the tried and true voices of yesterday? Something is happening. Regionalisation will make it happen even more. Interesting times.

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St Andrew's Cathedral

Election of Canons

Nominations are called for an election to fill **two** vacancies on the Cathedral Chapter. The vacancies shall be filled in the manner prescribed in Clauses 10ciii and 20b of the Cathedral Ordinance 1969.

Nominations open on Thursday 8 February 1996 and close at 4.00pm on Thursday 7 March 1996.

Those eligible to be nominated are "licensed clergymen of the Diocese in the Holy Order of Priesthood and resident in the diocese".

Nominations shall declare the address and designation of the person nominated and shall be signed by six persons qualified to vote at this election of whom one shall certify that the person nominated has consented to nomination as a Canon. Those qualified to vote at this election are "the clergy and lay representatives summoned to the Synod".

Nominations are to be sent to

The Chapter Secretary
St Andrew's Cathedral
Box Q190, Queen Victoria Building PO
SYDNEY NSW 2000

to arrive by **4.00pm on Thursday 7 March 1996**.

J A Kells
Chapter Secretary

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The Anglican Home Mission Society, St. Andrew's House, Sydney Square, Tel 261-9500.

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1856-1996: 140 years of care

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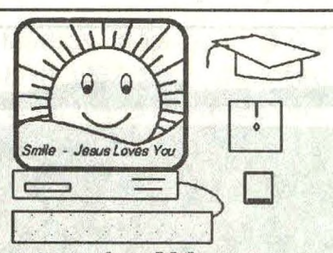

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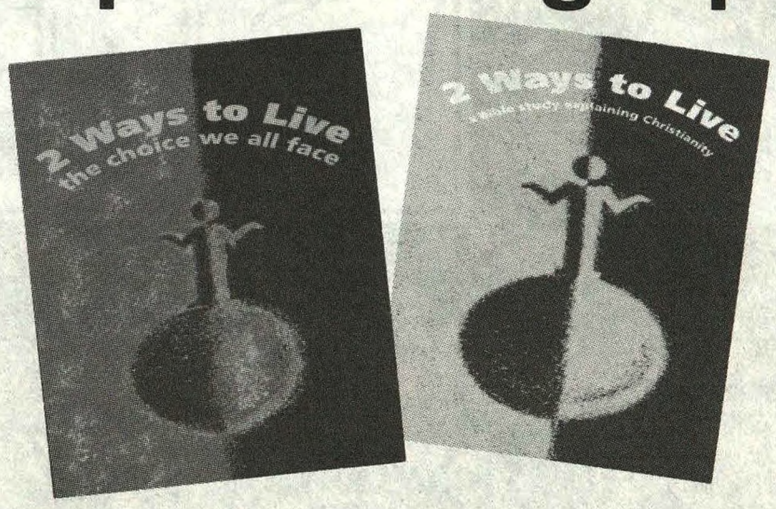
Two ways to spread the gospel

Two new versions of the popular *Two Ways to Live* gospel outline - a Bible study and a tract - have been produced to make it more accessible to non-Christians.

Two Ways to Live has become one of the most enduring ways of learning and telling a simple outline of the gospel and it has been used as a tool to help many people become Christians.

However, the previous version was really designed to help Christians remember the basics of the gospel, rather than explain the gospel to non-Christians. The new tract version is designed to be able to stand alone so it can



be given to someone to read alone, or used in a letter box drop.

The Bible study version was developed by Phil Campbell, a Presbyterian minister at McLean on the far North Coast. Is designed so that Christians can take their non-Christian friends through it step by step, or so that Christians and non-Christians can work through it on their own, looking at what the Bible says.

SYDNEY diary

Mon Feb 5, 1pm: Clergy Golf at Pennant Hills Golf Club. Ph: (02) 673-4665.
Sun Feb 11, 6pm: St Paul's Burwood. Sung Evensong, Brabyn Singers, Ireland.
Sun Feb 11, 10.30am: Trinity Garrison, The Rocks - Womens Royal Aust Army Corps. Enquiries: Tel/Fax 247-2664.
Sun Feb 18, 10.30am: Trinity Garrison, The Rocks - Bombing of Darwin, Battle of Australia.
Sat Feb 24, 10.30am: St Andrew's Cathedral. Continuing the Witness - a service in recognition and honour of women in ministry.
Sun Feb 25, 10.30am: Trinity Garrison, The Rocks - Fortress Companys & Water Transport.
Sat March 2: St John's Gordon. Annual Festival of the Prayer Book Society. 11am Matins, 12 Holy Communion - Preacher: Bishop Donald Robinson, Basket Lunch and Annual Meeting.
Mon March 4, 10am: Clergy Golf at Bankstown Golf Club. Ph: (02) 673-4665.
Sat March 9, 2pm: St Andrew's Cathedral. C of E Historical Society. 2pm Holy Communion. Then Annual Meeting and talk by Rev John Bunyan in Lower Chapter House.
March 29-31: Anglican Marriage Encounter Weekend, Mulgoa. Ph: (047) 541656.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR EVENT INCLUDED IN SYDNEY DIARY CALL WENDY BRAMMALL ON (02) 265 1505 OR WRITE TO SYDNEY DIARY, *SOUTHERN CROSS NEWSPAPER*, PO BOX Q 190, QUEEN VICTORIA BUILDING, SYDNEY, NSW 2000.

CLERGY moves

Canon Austin Day, rector, Christ Church St Laurence retiring to general licence 1.5.96.
The Ven Howard Dillon, Diocese of Melbourne to become General Secretary, Anglican Home Mission Society 19.2.96.
The Rev Trevor Filewood from assis. minister, St Peter's Watson's Bay to curate in charge, St Martin's Georges Hall.
The Rev John Mason from rector, St Peter's Mortdale to assis. minister, parish of Peakhurst/ Mortdale 1.1.96.
The Rev Keith Morley from assis. minister, Brighton/ Rockdale to Dio. of Bathurst 11.2.96.
The Rev David Tyndall from rector, St Stephen's Normanhurst to Director, Archbishop's Olympic Games Task Force 15.6.96.
The Rev David Wallace from rector, Holy Trinity, Peakhurst to rector, parish of Peakhurst/ Mortdale1.1.96.

Church Care Worker
Burwood Church of Christ is looking for a part-time Community Worker. The position involves overseeing the various projects associated with the Church's Compassion Ministries. These include two supported accommodation services, crisis services and pastoral support. The position is for two days a week and is paid in accordance with Award rates.

Essential: A mature Christian with experience and/or qualifications in welfare/social work.
For further information contact Gillian Onslow on (02) 744 0064.

Applications close February 20, 1996.

PASTOR
The Wollongong Congregational Church is seeking a mature and qualified person as pastor. For information, please contact Derek Thompson, PO Box 205, Wollongong East 2520 (042) 261750

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Contact Rev J Woo 718-2879
or Rev C Clerke 558-0315

CHAPLAIN

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This is a new position in a previously untouched and difficult mission field. The successful applicant will therefore be a mature Christian maintaining a close walk with our Lord Jesus Christ.

The successful applicant will also have a fervent desire to see people saved in Jesus Christ and will have a capacity to share the gospel with people from all walks of life.

Desirable: Appropriate theological training. An understanding of the racing industry and terminologies. Capacity to work early and varied hours.

Enquiries: Wayne Olling, Anglican Racing Industry Ministry Committee, 265 Prospect Hwy, Seven Hills 2147. Tel (02) 621-2105. Duty statement available. Date of commencement yet to be fixed.

Apply by 12 April 1996.

LECTURER

Applications are invited for the position of lecturer in Biblical Studies but with academic interests in at least one other discipline (eg. Theology or Ethics or Church history). Duties include lecturing to undergraduates, the supervision of post graduate research, sharing in College administration and pastoral work with students.

Applications should have both a commitment to and experience in Christian ministry, and should have demonstrated research ability. Post graduate qualifications are essential (preferably at doctoral level). Further details are available on request.

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BCA Sunday Afternoon in the City

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4.15pm Devonshire Tea **5pm** Evening Prayer

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Moore Theological College

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Saturday, 23 March, 1996

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Venue: Broughton Knox Teaching Centre
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Time: 9.30am to 5pm

Cost: $15.00 BYO Lunch

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- Equipping God's People Theologically
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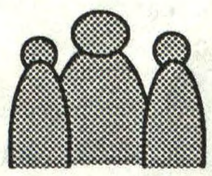
- Small Group Leadership
- Resources for Students and Group Leaders

For more information and a registration form please contact the External Studies Department on (02) 519.2188.



SEE hear

Jane Eyre with Edward Rochester: selling short a great book.

SCREEN

JANE EYRE

Village, Rated PG
(released April)

In 1847 Charlotte Bronte published *Jane Eyre,* giving to the public one of the best loved heroines in English literature.

Jane starts life as a penniless orphan, cast aside by her aunt to a nun-like existence in a harsh institution for girls. She becomes a governess, and falls in love with her employer, Edward Rochester, a man twice her age with a questionable past, who also happens to have a violently insane wife locked in the attic. Add to this the question of bigamy and pyromania and you have the ingredients for a pretty racy read.

But what makes *Jane Eyre* one of the most enduring classics is Bronte's ability to create characters of great substance. With exceptional emotional and narrative power she portrays Jane as a small, plain girl who possesses singular courage and intelligence. In the book we follow her development from an angry and hurt child to a woman who comes to know the value of forgiveness, and who clings to God when all else fails her.

Then there is Rochester. When *Jane Eyre* was first published, Bronte's friend Ellen wrote to say that "half the girls in England" were in love with him. The love story that ensues is an unconventional one, where Rochester's tormented conscience is touched by Jane's honesty and purity. He is regenerated and led back to God through friendship with her.

This film version is directed by Franco Zeffirelli (*Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Romeo and Juliet*). It is visually rich and beautiful yet, although more or less faithful to the text, is disappointing. The casting is of uneven quality. Rochester is played very convincingly by William Hurt, who brings out well Rochester's dryness and world weariness. But Charlotte Gainsbourg plays Jane in a rather distant fashion, lacking vitality and depth. The two don't seem to spark. There is a peculiar appearance of Elle MacPherson as Blanch Ingram, complete with dubbed voice. The young Jane is played well by Anna Paquin (*The Piano*).

The film moves over the events in Jane's life without adequate appreciation of the development of her moral character. The wit, intelligence and substance is lost, and we are left with a simplistic gothic melodrama. Zeffirelli has created a Jane Eyre of the 1990s, singling out her independence of mind, defiance in the face of oppression and self-sufficiency. Bronte's Jane Eyre was all this, but also knew and valued her dependence on God, and was able to face suffering and allow herself to be changed by it. Despite her love of society she was willing to be ostracised by it in order to keep her conscience pure.

The end result is a film which not only sells short a great book but fails to engage the viewer.

Julie Young

POWDER

Village, Rated M

From the moment we first meet Powder (Sean Patrick Flannery) we're aware that he's an extraordinary person. His abnormally pale skin makes him seem fragile and vulnerable, and he possesses exceptional emotional sensitivity. His character is full of Christ-like imagery, and he has a great capacity for empathy with the suffering of others, even if that's crudely expressed in the film as knowing what others are thinking and feeling.

Powder's striking physical appearance and mysterious supernatural abilities create fear and hostility in most who encounter him. The threat of physical violence is always present. But Powder's social worker and science teacher see in him qualities that others don't.

Director Victor Salva attempts to tell a story of the personal change which can happen when we're able to see past our fear of difference. However, his simplistic and almost rationalist world view is naive and overstated, making the film an ultimately unsatisfying experience.

Powder suggests that a boy whose life is spent in relative isolation can possess exceptional insight into other people, and can have a fine appreciation of deep spiritual questions. In other films about adolescents who have spent their childhoods isolated from the world (*Bad Boy Bubby*, and *The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser*) social skills are painfully absent: but Powder has acquired special skills from being isolated.

As the film progresses the context for this becomes clear. Powder's mind is more highly evolved than ours; he has an IQ which is "off the scale". To his teachers, Powder is an example of evolutionary potential. But the insistence that insight and intelligence (in its narrowest and most limiting form) must go together is irritating.

The idea that human redemption becomes possible as our minds become more highly evolved (and with it our "supernatural" abilities become better developed) was unsettling and not at all the message of hope promised by the publicity blurbs.

Flannery plays Powder with a cold intensity. He is easily hurt, and his pain always seems about to be unleashed in destructive anger. He can't confront the pain of his father's rejection at his birth and of a life without touch. These themes may have given rise to some emotional commitment to Powder's plight, but are left undeveloped.

Despite an overly melodramatic score by Jerry Goldsmith, *Powder* is a well-produced film and a briskly told story which is never dull. It may be worth a look if only to make you think.

Stuart Veitch

AUDIO

NOW UNTO HIM

ZIMRATH
LP Recordings
(songbook and cassette)

SING A NEW SONG: WORSHIP SONGS FOR AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES

The Bible Society

Finding good quality material for congregations to sing can be difficult. Most writers know how to turn biblical concepts into reasonable lyrics, but finding somebody who can link them to an interesting score that your ordinary church-goer can actually sing is very rare.

So *Now Unto Him,* by Sydney-based group Zimrath, comes as a pleasant surprise.

The recording, available only as a cassette, is a good first effort with mostly interesting songs using solid biblically-based lyrics. There is a satisfying variety of music and the mood of each score corresponds to the message being expressed.

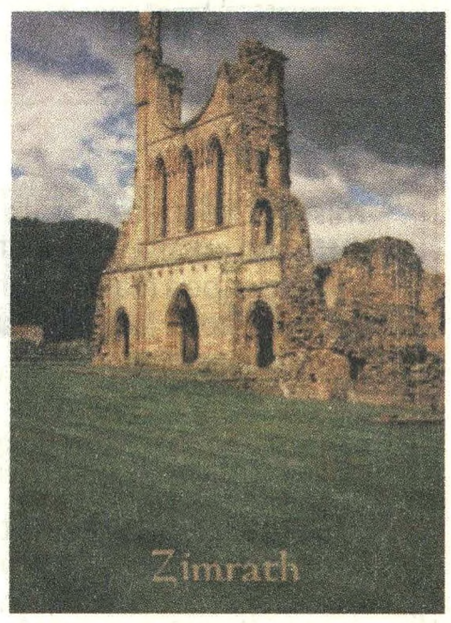
The writers have considered the vocal abilities of the average congregation and most of the compositions are readily singable. Some of the more imaginative songs will be challenging to learn but the various levels of difficulty is a plus. Circumstances vary and different congregations will have different needs and expectations, so having a range of songs to choose from is helpful.

Now Unto Him is not without its weaknesses - the production quality, for instance. But it has been thoughtfully put together with church music directors in mind. The songbook comes with the masters for overhead sheets (always handy) and the tape includes the tracks without the vocal recordings which will be useful for gatherings that don't have musical accompaniment.

This thoughtful, well-written compilation is highly recommended.

On the other hand, *Sing a New Song* from the Bible Society is a disappointment. Like Zimrath's album this collection of worship songs will provide useful material for musicians performing within a church service. Being based on the common lectionary calendar (the program of Bible readings found in the prayer book), it is thoughtfully organised and its strictly biblical lyrics by Melbourne songwriter Peter Mangold will strengthen the message of the service.

Yet many of the songs will be difficult for congregations to sing. Most of the scores tend to the upper level of vocal difficulty and seem to have been written for a solo performance rather than unrehearsed group singing. It is



difficult to imagine a congregation remaining focused on the lyrics while anticipating the next round of vocal acrobatics. Songs for congregational use must work when a hundred or more amateurs are singing, and for this kind of purpose *Sing a New Song* will fail.

The music itself breaks no new ground. In terms of using harmony, rhythm and mood creatively, it remains firmly on the conservative end of the scale. Many of the tracks are monotonous and boring. Although some attempt has been made (and appreciated) at variation between tracks, this production would have benefitted from more imagination.

Tina van der Graaf

SERPENTS & doves

Just to show that it pays to mow the lawn, the groundsman at Exeter Cathedral, England, Mr D Radford was made an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) for his work. According to the *Church of England Newspaper*, the award, announced in the Queen's New Year's Honours List was "for services to tourism". Another OBE was given to the creator of Thomas the Tank Engine, the Rev W Awdry, "for services to children".

☺

We're sure it means nothing...

One of our columnists sent their material by e-mail in a number of different computer versions, only some of which could be read by our system. The first line of one of the unreadable versions reads: "begin 666 Peace 1".

☺

The English *Church Times* newspaper's front page headline reads "Carey sermon speaks of royal pain," next to a picture of the Queen and other members of the royal family. Whoever can the Archbishop mean?

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