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the real australian



John and Carol Jenner with Bishop Joseph and Margaret Abura from NWA's partnership Diocese, Karamoja in Uganda, visiting for NWA Centenary celebrations



NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA

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Cover: John and Carol Jenner with Bishop Joseph and Margaret Abura from NWA's partnership Diocese, Karamoja in Uganda, visiting for NWA Centenary celebrations
Photo courtesy of John Jenner

Welcome to this special edition of the *Real Australian*, celebrating the Centenary of the Diocese of North West Australia. We join together in congratulating the Diocese on this achievement.

In this edition I unpack how BCA first came to be in the Diocese. Also included are reflections from BCA Staff past and present about their time in NWA and a look at what BCA is doing in the Diocese now. Along with celebrating this milestone, we venture further and see what is happening in other parts of Australia.

I hope you enjoy this edition and thank you for your continued support of BCA.

Brian Roberts

National Director



Yalgoo saves the Day for all Aussie Anglicans

OR HOW BCA CAME TO BE IN NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA

The Revd Arthur Williams and his wife Pat, BCA missionaries in the Parish of Mt Magnet made their way into the Synod Hall in Geraldton in December 1961.

They knew it was to be a watershed meeting; of national significance; called especially to sign off the draft constitution for the formation of an Australian Anglican Church in its own right.

As Arthur went to take his seat, a challenge rang out from the then Rector of Geraldton. Arthur was stopped in his tracks.

It was rightfully claimed that Arthur as Rector of Mt Magnet was not a member of the Diocese and had no right to be at the North West Synod; something which Arthur had no idea about. The transfer of deeds for the Mt Magnet Parish from Perth and Kalgoorlie Dioceses had not been actioned decades before when the North West's boundaries were changed in an attempt

to make it more viable. Hence Arthur was technically a minister of the Diocese of Perth and so barred from making up the necessary numbers for the crucial North West Synod.

Deeply hurt Arthur and Pat turned for the door.

The Bishop, John Frewer, was not flummoxed and requested Arthur to tarry.

Taking a page of his writing paper, the Bishop wrote out a licence on the spot and appointed Arthur as the Priest in Charge of the Parish of Yalgoo, a small historic mining town in the Diocese. Arthur was the one and only person to ever hold such a position. The licence, a keepsake, treasured by Arthur and Pat is now safely housed in the BCA archives.

The drawing up of the Constitution for the Church of England in Australia had been

Continued over

How BCA came to be in North West Australia



The Society had at the time neither the necessary monies nor the manpower but the opportunity to open up a new gospel work galvanised the Organising Missioner Tom Jones to take on the challenge. An appeal for two men and £12,000 was made both locally and through BCA's sister agency, the Colonial and Continental Church Society in the UK.

In 1956 Jones announced this as a 'real

hotly debated in church circles ever since Federation and after years of haggling the big Dioceses had agreed on the detail. All was set for it to become the rule in January 1962 but all Dioceses in Australia needed to adopt the draft before this could happen.

The Diocese of North West Australia, although set in place in 1910, had never held a Synod because they lacked the requisite number of priests and hence, in the mind of some, was never properly constituted.

This fact was not unnoticed by the house of Bishops when they realised that all Dioceses needed to adopt the draft Constitution before presenting it to the various Governments for its passage into law.

As far back as 1955 discussions had taken place at the national Bishops' meetings on how to raise the number of priests in the North West Diocese so that it could call a Synod. Led by the Primate Howard Mowll, one not to miss a missional opportunity, the Bishops agreed that the mission agencies be approached to supply. Only BCA responded in the positive.



work'; something that the Society 'was lacking' at the time.

Don Douglass and Bill Rich put up their hands to go and the Col and Con contributed a significant sum.

Problems abounded, lack of infrastructure, houses, vehicles and meeting places meant the men left Sydney with the plan of establishing the work, without their families who were to follow many months later when all was in order.

These two pioneer families led the way, many others were to follow, and it appears that there were just enough priests in the Diocese at the time of the first Synod, crucial for passing the Constitution. The

North West at the time was experiencing an unprecedented mining boom so the Society sent more clergy and their families to meet the growing demand to reach out in Christ's name. It was clearly a pioneering ministry of which BCA was pleased to be a part of it. It reached a peak commitment, at one time, of 13 supported BCA workers, clergy, counsellors, administrator and youth worker.

Today the Diocese has been firmly established, and is now able to determine much for itself. There is now no sense of dependency as was sometimes the case in the pioneer phase. The Society has been pleased to support so many ministry initiatives over the past 6 decades in the North West - from the seeding of small gospel work in work camps, church planting in towns as they sprang out of the beautiful but remote landscape, the shaping of the Diocesan administration and infrastructure through to individual gospel and missional endeavours which have touched the lives of so many for Christ.

All who have gone out under the BCA banner to the North West have in their own way pushed forward to reach Australians for Christ.

Congratulations on reaching your 100th year North West Australia from the BCA Family.

Brian Roberts

National Director

Red Dust, Heat and Trusting God

Don and Margaret Douglass were the first of two couples to start BCA's service in the Diocese of North West Australia. Margaret reflects on their time there.

Life in Hedland in 1957 would be considered nowadays as real pioneering – no air-conditioning or electricity; dependence on the Royal Flying Doctor Service; church services on our verandah when Don was away; women's meetings in the Wittenoom pub; making bricks from asbestos tailings in Wittenoom to build the first non-Roman Catholic Church. It was indeed an eye-opening experience for us.

It is exactly fifty years since my husband Don concluded his service as Rector of the parish of Port Hedland, Roebourne, Marble Bar, Wittenoom and the surrounding Pilbara area. He and the Revd Bill Rich were the first BCA Missioners in the Diocese.

The rectory was in Port Hedland which, before iron ore mining, had a population of only 1000–400 Europeans and 600 Aboriginal folk.

I was very lonely at first with two very young children and Don away at the other centres and visiting properties for eighteen days in a month. His quick trip home in between was to make sure the children and I were alright, fill my kerosene stove and fridge and give me his red dusty clothes to wash in our wood copper.

I met people by joining the CWA, tennis club, school and hospital auxiliaries. We

Continued over

Red Dust, Heat and Trusting God



Don and family travelling through the North West

started a Sunday School, a women's fellowship and Mother's Union. I wrote a monthly newsletter to station property wives and one for those praying at home. On his travels Bishop Frewer would pop in unexpectedly once or twice a year. In our years in the North West we learnt a great deal about trusting God to see us through difficult situations and give us wisdom to cope with people who had problems which were peculiar to that region. I thank God for His blessings and pray for the Diocese now.

Margaret Douglass

Revd Don and Margaret Douglass were BCA Missioners in the Pilbara for the period of 1957-1960.

First published in the North West Network, June 2010

40 Years on a Hot Even

Coming from Albury NSW, the North Western heat of summer seemed to Bill and Jocelyn Ross "like standing in front of a baker's oven". After responding to a challenge from friends who had established a church in Kununurra, life in NWA suited the Ross family and they ended up staying for 40 years.

When asked the joys and encouragements of his time in NWA, Bill chuckles "Where do we start and where do we end? How long have you got?"

Ministering in many different areas in the North West, including Kununurra, Dampier (then called the Parish of West Pilbara), Wickham and Port Hedland, 40 years saw many changes in the area for the Ross family. When they arrived there was little or no bitumen in the area. A house without air-conditioning also provided its share of challenges. The now air-conditioned and more accessible area has seen many changes to the church. Four bishops have come and gone and the church has shifted from high, inward focused churches to outreaching and evangelistic churches.

It has been an area that has provided both challenges and encouragements for them. Both Bill and Jocelyn stated that they found the friendships and the people met to be a blessing.

On the flip side of this blessing however, is the fact that people never stay long in these places. The North West of Australia has many towns based on industry and in particular mining. The Ross' felt the hardship of losing many a person having built a

r-Changing Mission Field

relationship with and ministered to them.

"We aim to be on about the spread of the gospel all the time, but we rarely see the result of it because nobody stays that long" Bill says.

But this hardship has come with a call to trust God. "We have certainly rejoiced as we farewelled people knowing that they are in a different place with God now than when they came in" Bill says. "It is a joy and a frustration as well because you know if they were staying they would become a force for God. You just have to trust they will become a force somewhere else."

Both Bill and Jocelyn have learnt a lot along the way. From coping with heat, to being a stronger follower of Christ and dependant on God, Bill says that most of all he has learnt what Philippians 4:13 tells him. "I marvel at what has been accomplished in my ministry over the 40 years, realising that of myself none of it was possible, so it was obviously by the hand of God!"

They wouldn't have changed their time in NWA for anything. In the first few years of their ministry in NWA, many offers were given to move back to city ministry. "Some [of the offers] were enticing," he confessed "but we never had the sense that it was God calling us. We came to a firm belief that God had called us to the North West to stay."

Jocelyn confirmed this saying "Even though we've been remote we've never missed out. We have been totally blessed in all this time."

One of the most exciting recent changes



Bill and Jocelyn Ross

for Jocelyn has been the addition of a full time Regional Officer for Western Australia. While there has always been support from the Eastern states, she sees this addition as a positive step in the right direction in recruiting from the West Coast.

Bill and Jocelyn finish with a call to not let the needs of the North West be forgotten. It remains a place very much in need of gospel influence. They say that the biggest need is for people who can come and be a Christian support in the community.

"NW Australia is a great place to be and a great place to live" Bill says. "Its exciting to be part of these places and seeing them grow. There is plenty of room for people, Christian families and people to come and make a good life and make a real contribution both in the church and the community"

*Source: Phone interview and report with
Revd Bill Ross*

The Diocese of North West Australia – A Centenary Celebration



NWA welcomed Ugandan Bishop Joseph Abura and his wife Margaret as part of the celebrations

Five years ago, as a family, we had the joy of travelling to Perth to celebrate the 100th birthday of Alison's grandfather. Just recently we had the opportunity to celebrate another 100 year milestone - the centenary of the Diocese of North West Australia.

On the 27th of June the Diocese celebrated the Centenary at Holy Cross Cathedral in Geraldton. Representatives came from across the province and guests also included past Bishops of the Diocese. Other significant guests included Bishop Joseph Abura, the Bishop of NWA's partnership Diocese Koromojo in Uganda and his wife Margaret.

The Cathedral was full as people travelled from all around to join in the celebrations that continued with a lunch at which town dignitaries congratulated the Diocese and welcomed Bishop Joseph and Mama Margaret.

A week later the celebration continued a little further north in Carnarvon. July 3rd saw a dinner at which Archbishop Roger

Herft of Perth spoke powerfully about the changes we've seen over the last hundred years.

The celebrations continued at St Georges on the following day. St Georges was the site that Bishop Gerald Trower was installed as the initial Bishop of North West Australia. The celebrations were held 100 years to the day of this appointment. Again visitors from across the province came in support and to wish the Diocese well.

At both services Bishop Joseph preached and reminded us powerfully of the challenges the church faces in Africa and of both the wonder of the gospel and the challenge of how we faithfully live it wherever we live.

Money raised from both weekends will go to Koromojo, BCA and Indigenous ministry in the Kimberley. It was a joy to celebrate the centenary of which BCA has been a partner in mission for 53 years.

Revd Michael Stuart
WA Regional Officer

From the Archives

Can you imagine an Anglican Diocese larger than half the area of Western Australia or even the whole of the United Kingdom, having only one clergyman, the Bishop? Let the *Real Australian* of September 1957 tell the story.

"In 1956 for the first time in the history of the Society the bishops as a whole called upon the Society to undertake the responsibility for the future development of the Church in the vast area of the Diocese of the North-west, to endeavour to awaken the whole Church in Australia to its responsibilities to the outback areas as a missionary enterprise.

The bishops also pledged that BCA should have a free entry into their dioceses for the purpose of seeking men and finance for this new project.

This is a great step forward both in the concept of the problem of outback dioceses and in the work and function of the Bush Church Aid Society and promises a greater measure of success for the solution of this difficult problem than has been possible hitherto.

During the year the Organising Missioner, at the request of the Bishops' Special Committee for the Work in the Interior, toured the Diocese of the North West from Geraldton to Wyndham in order to

investigate and report on the conditions of church life and its problems in this area.

As a result of these enquiries the Organising Missioner presented a plan for the formation of a single Missionary Diocese to be the responsibility of the whole Church in Australia.

The result has been that, while agreeing in principle with the concept of a single Missionary Diocese, the bishops deferred implementing it until a later date and as an interim measure have asked the Bush Church Aid Society to be responsible for most of the Diocese of the North-west.

By the end of the year under review we had received and accepted offers of service from the Revs. CW Rich and

DM Douglass and had agreed to assume responsibility for the sum of £12,000 for the purchase of vehicles and homes for these men and their wives. Mr Douglass has accepted appointment to Port Hedland and Mr Rich to Mount Magnet"

The Diocese of North West Australia is one of vast distances and today BCA supports eight ministries in the Diocese. We give thanks to God for what has been done and to those BCA Field Staff who have ministered there over the last 53 years and continues to minister there. •

Clem Kirkby
Hon. Archivist



Pilbara Country NWA

Diverse Ministry in NWA: The Partnership Cont

Australia is a place of diverse ministry. The Diocese of North West Australia (NWA) showcases this diversity.

BCA currently supports six ministry centres and one seasonal ministry, and all ministries are unique .

Bishop David Mulready, current bishop of NWA, reflects fondly on BCA's time there stating that there has been a "long and healthy partnership between BCA and our Diocese".

He furthers this by praising the BCA ministers located in the Diocese. "They are sacrificial and bible based, Jesus centred people" he says. "They work hard and take initiative; they cope with the difficulties and struggles really well."

Field Staff around the Diocese face many varied challenges and opportunities for ministry. All of the Field Staff, when asked to describe the town where they are located speak of the mining that occurs in the resource rich Diocese and the resulting social dynamic.

Les and Jenny Gaulton are two such Field Staff. Located in Karratha, Les and Jenny work with people in a town where

abundant natural resources push house prices sky high and a culture of materialism is prevalent. According to Les, personal evangelism is the best way to grow the church there. Some of the ministry activities which the couple undertake include bible studies, theological studies and events such as men's breakfasts, Introducing God courses and women's dessert nights.

The second strand of ministry being completed around Australia and featuring four in NWA are BCA Co-Workers. Co-Workers are situated in areas of need as 'tent-makers', people making their own way whilst seeking to help BCA ministry. Jim and Natalie Watson along with Glendon and Catherine McKay seek to play supportive roles in the

parish of Kununurra.

Bishop David Mulready sees great value in Co-Workers as a supportive ministry. "This concept of people coming and supporting themselves, but being approved and prayed for by BCA is terrific" he says. "I see them both supporting the ministers and their wives and having a ministry



Jim and Natalie Watson and family, Co-Workers in Kununurra



Michael and Joan Maude, NWA Seasonal Ministry Support



Les and Jenny Gaulton, BCA Field Staff in Karratha

themselves within the parish."

Jim and Natalie Watson, have been Co-Workers in Kununurra since 2004. Jim works two days at the local school among at-risk students and three days at a local TAFE. He has used these positions, along with his involvement with the church, to develop a pastoral role in the lives of many young adults in Kununurra.

The third ministry aspect BCA currently supports in NWA is seasonal ministry to caravan parks. This ministry plays out through the seasonal support of Christ for Campers, a caravan park ministry seeking to minister to holiday makers and 'Grey Nomads'.

Michael and Joan Maude started this ministry when they noticed many of the campers in local caravan parks became bored. "You can't do tours, you can't play golf, you can't swim, and you can't drink beer every day," says Michael. "So they sit around the campsites with absolutely nothing to do." In 2003, the Maudes started up the Christ for Campers ministry. With the help of BCA Nomads, the Maudes seek to minister to campers through a series of cooked breakfasts and gospel presentations.

As with the rest of Australia, there is plenty of need for the gospel to be taught throughout the Diocese of North West Australia. Plenty of lost souls and plenty of listening ears. BCA, in conjunction with the Diocese and with the Lord's blessing, will aim to continue to minister to these needs. •

Source: Interview with Bishop David Mulready

Join us for a day of fun and fellowship with the inaugural Day in the Park with BCA for Kids

Come along to hear a reading of 'Francy the Fearful Firefly' by author Jen Anderson. Meet BCA staff and have lots of fun with games and music.

Singing, games, gift bags! Bring a picnic lunch and join in the excitement!

Learn more about the endangered Australian animal and BCA for Kid's mascot the bilby.

SIGN UP NOW!

Register at www.bushchurchaid.com.au by September 30th or email info@bushchurchaid.com.au to receive a registration form. Upon registration, an event information pack will be sent to the address provided.

When: 9th October 2010

Where: Parramatta Park, Sydney, NSW (map sent with registration)

Time: 11am - 2pm

Don't miss out!

A least one parent or guardian must attend the event with every child and/or group of up to five children.

Coffee and tea provided for adults



A Weekend of Youth Empowerment



Mt Druitt Bundaroods exhibit their War Cry

What do war cries, kangaroo tail stew and bible teaching have in common? They all featured at this years East Coast Christian Indigenous Youth Network camp.

A weekend in July saw over 100 youth descend on Penrose Park Trust in Broken Hill for a weekend of teaching, confidence building and fun. Youth groups from up and down the East Coast participated in the annual event.

The Far West Indigenous Church, which BCA's Neville Naden heads up, was the host for this year's event. It was not only a weekend for fun, but also a weekend for growth and encouragement.

"The whole purpose of the camp is to encourage young leadership, to proclaim the gospel and to empower our young people to share their faith" Neville says.

Youth were encouraged throughout the weekend to participate in bible study groups, performances, leading services and organising a group 'war cry'. Neville states that the most encouraging thing that came out of the weekend was seeing how confidence and participation of the young people has grown over the years.

"Six years ago when we started it people were ashamed, they wouldn't get involved,

they were very withdrawn and wouldn't participate. Six years on you don't have to ask them twice to do things. They have been empowered to do it."

The evening programmes provided another aspect to the weekend. A campfire sing-along, concert and video night were all included. A bush tucker evening saw indigenous locals cook traditional fare for the campers. Emus were roasted on spits and kangaroos were cooked in various ways, including kangaroo tail stew.

Neville explains that one of the outcomes of the camp is the involvement of the youth in their home churches and youth groups. "They get involved at different levels. Some might go back and run services, others might lead a bible study group, others might be involved in telling a children's story, and others still might be involved in music ministry in the church."

Each youth group that attended was required to create a banner and a war cry



for their group. All groups had weeks of practice and planning prior to the event with some even bringing in the outside assistance of a choreographer. One group based their performance on the 2003 romantic comedy *Fighting Temptation*.

Neville's group, the Scorpions, reproduced Michael Jackson's *Thriller* as their war cry.

The weekend was a wonderful example of the work God is doing through these young people. Neville is excited to see the future growth of the youth involved. "It's exciting to see the potential that the young people have. It is a real work of God."

• Source: Interview with Revd Neville Naden



Above: Campers enjoyed a great weekend of fun and learning

Below left: Singing played a big part in the weekend

Below right: The Broken Hill Scorpions perform 'Thriller' as their War Cry



Over 100 youth were able to attend the camp

Discipleship and Mission in the Territory

Not long ago I was told indirectly that I couldn't do youth ministry because my undies didn't show out the top of my pants. It is a long held myth that only young people can minister to youth.

However, now almost 42 and with almost 25 years experience in ministry to teenagers I believe my ministry is much more effective in seeing young people build long lasting, effective lives and ministry for Christ.

In my opinion the reason most people think young people are the only ones who can reach youth is because we work with an applied attractional model in our heads. What I mean is this. We think that to minister to youth we have to first attract them before hopefully teaching them about Jesus. But consider Jesus' ministry. Was His strategy to go out and preach to large crowds? No quite the opposite Jesus gathered a small crowd of 12 around Himself and often deliberately avoided large groups. Jesus' strategy was to build and train disciples that He might then send out into the world to replicate His teaching ministry about the kingdom of God. My strategy for youth ministry is simple. I want to build relationships with youth and introduce them to a relationship with Jesus



Marlene and Mandy, two up-coming young indigenous leaders



Jo-Jo

DISCIPLESHIP. As part of this relationship I want to impress on young people the urgent need for them to introduce their friends to Jesus – **MISSION.** This is Jesus' great commission to go and make disciples.

So what does this strategy look like in practice for the Northern Territory Diocesan Youth Officer. We have Anglican churches in 5 different languages spread across the NT. At present there is only one church with a regular youth ministry. I can't be everywhere building relationships with youth. Instead I encourage, train and seek out others who are willing to take an interest in teenagers and tell them the good news about Jesus.

Meet Marlene, Darren, Jo-Jo and Mandy. They are young indigenous leaders who have taken up the challenge. In May at Katherine Christian Convention each of them accepted the invitation to speak from 1 Peter. They followed this



Darren spoke in Kriol on 1 Peter at the indigenous youth camp

up by leading and speaking at a Kriol language indigenous youth camp in July. In between these events Mandy Manggurra from the remote community of Numbulwar on the Gulf of Carpentaria has been trying to run a weekly Bible study for youth. Mandy has been looking for ways to build relationships with teenagers. She has tried going round the streets of Numbulwar gathering young people, going down to the local waterhole where youth hang out and teaches action songs at night fellowship. Mandy is keen to learn new things. After the youth camp in July Mandy said, "Thank you Bruce. When I go home I am going to try some of the things you told me and what I learnt from this camp."

My challenge is to keep encouraging and training more people who are willing to disciple youth to mission their friends. What about you? No matter how old you are you can build up the next generation. Learn the names of the youth in your church and say hello. Have a conversation with some teenagers and ask them about their faith. Most of all pray that the next generation will be fired up to see Australia for Christ. •

Bruce Chapman

BCA's Northern Territory Diocesan Youth Officer

April Bottom Scholarship



EXTENDED TO STUDENTS WHO ARE RESIDENTS OF BROKEN HILL.

Since the announcement of the 2011 Scholarship in the last edition of the *Real Australian*, the geographical boundaries of those eligible to apply has been extended to include Broken Hill. Previously it was open only to students resident in the Anglican Parish of the West Darling.

The Scholarship will mean \$8000 will be available for one student to undertake secondary or tertiary education outside the region. The money can be applied to tuition fees, text books, boarding fees or associated expenses.

The closing date has been extended to 23rd September, 2010

For more information please contact Robyn Williams on 02 9262 5017 or email robyn@bushchurchaid.com.au.

Application forms can be downloaded from our website:

www.bushchurchaid.com.au under "About".

'The best equipment for Gospel growth'

Within the Diocese of Tasmania there was a growing need for training to enable lay ministers to grow in faith and knowledge. BCA's David Rogers-Smith explains how this need has been met through his work in a Certificate in Theology and Ministry.

Here in the Anglican Missionary Diocese of Tasmania we have a growing number of mainly rural parishes that are Enabler Supported Ministry parishes. This means that the leadership is shared by voluntary ministry support teams that include one or two locally ordained team members. These

teams have an Enabler who functions as a coach and pastor/teacher to them. It is vital that these team members, along with preachers and others involved in church based ministries have access

to robust Certificate level theological and ministry training given while they get on with their ministry. In August 2008 our Diocese launched a Certificate in Theology and Ministry to meet this growing need.

I presently have two roles in this Diocese: Enabler for Riverlinks Anglican Church and Ministry Development Officer (MDO) – Christian Formation in which I coordinate the Certificate in Theology and Ministry. It has been great to see God's wisdom in giving me these two roles at this time.

I met recently with the Revd Kaye Gregory an ordained member of the Riverlinks Ministry Support Team to ask

her a few questions. Kaye has successfully completed the first six of the eight units of the Certificate, qualifying her for both the Moore College Preliminary Theological Certificate and the Diocese's Certificate.

David

Kaye, firstly, what are the sorts of things you do personally in your role on the Riverlinks Team?

Kaye

I am a locally ordained team member of the Riverlinks Anglican Church – that is I am able to perform priestly duties



David Rogers-Smith

within our parish and in particular the centres of Trevallyn and Riverside. It is such a privilege to take communion and baptisms and to do my share of leading, preaching and supporting Kids' Church

and young families, as well as monthly services at three nursing homes. Weddings and funerals are in the mix as well.

David

Can you tell us why you enrolled in the Certificate?

Kaye

I knew God wanted me to be better equipped to fit this role and it was also required of me to study. In the past this had happened more informally as part of Bible study and home groups over quite a few decades!

David

What have been the challenges?

Kaye

Being retired from teaching (Art) I expected

to have more time for painting and other creative activities, so adjusting to the challenge of ministry, completing studies and exams, being available pastorally and a senior citizen all makes life pretty busy and never dull.

David

How have your studies helped you as a disciple of Jesus?

Kaye

God's word is so very vital. Studying it more deeply has opened it up – Jesus, His life and example, His teaching, has excited and refreshed me so much more than I imagined.

David

How have your studies helped you in your ministry?

Kaye

They have given me so much more confidence, especially in sharing and preaching, and urgency to reach out in our community and to the unchurched. It is the best equipment, for Gospel growth, along with deepening faith.

David

What advice would you have for someone who is considering study like this?

Kaye

I'd really encourage them to enroll in some study, there is so much to gain, and you can

spread it out to make it more manageable.

David

Finally, what would you say to church leaders who have gifted, active people in their churches who haven't had any formal theological and ministry formation?

Kaye

Please encourage and promote those folk in your churches to study, to 'grow'

them so ministry can be shared – every member ministry. It will reinvigorate your churches and be so supportive of leadership.

David

Many thanks, Kaye, for taking the time to speak with the readers about this important subject and your experience.

The Diocese and I are very grateful to BCA for their support of my MDO

role that has enabled me to establish and coordinate the Certificate. My wife, Julie, and I very much appreciate all those BCA supporters who not only give to BCA for our support, but who also pray for us. We believe it is a strategic work and a long term investment in the Diocese and the Kingdom. Helping provide a sound Biblical foundation that underpins and sustains their lives and leadership is vital.

David Rogers-Smith Launceston



Interested in seeing what the Certificate in Theology & Ministry looks like? Just go to the Riverlinks website and click on the link to the Certificate: www.riverlinks.net.au

Open Doors on Kangaroo Island

Kangaroo Island is a natural paradise for tourists and locals alike, but filling the parish vacancy has presented a significant challenge to the Bush Church Aid Society and the Diocese of Adelaide. However hopes are high that an appointment may be just around the corner.

The Parish of Kangaroo Island, or KI as it is referred to by locals, has been vacant since BCA Field Staff Mark and Sandy Evans retired in April 2009.

Throughout the time it has been vacant, KI has been supported by several locums. Canon John Butler, BCA Vice President and Councillor, completed one of these locums and he is passionate about seeing the position taken and ministry continued on KI.

"The church needs a pastor" he states. "Short term ministry can only achieve so much."

The third biggest island in Australia,

Kangaroo Island boasts rich natural attractions and a substantial range of wildlife. With a population of only 4,400 spread across the 150 kilometre length of the island, people are quite sparse. As a result, the church pews tend to be quite bare.

However, retired minister Canon Butler sees many opportunities on the island for expansion, innovation and development of ministries. "While the man who goes has a big task ahead of him, the people are waiting with open hearts for someone to come" he says. "They are anxious to support [the new appointment] and there is very valid ministry that can happen in that community."

Canon Butler cites opportunities within the community such as the fire service and national parks groups. The person that fills the position will also have room to grow





Former King Island Field Staff, Mark and Sandy Evans

children's and family ministry.

The Anglican Church is not the only church on KI. There is much interdenominational support on the island as they collaborate with things such as schools chaplaincies and bible study groups.

As with many people in rural parishes, there is a challenge to remain enthusiastic and encouraged. The people of KI are faithful and keen to grow in the faith. They want to see the church grow and many more islanders come to faith. They are praying and waiting patiently for a new person to help them in this mission.

BCA is working with the Diocese of Adelaide to procure someone to fill this position. Through a series of discussions between both parties and a general vacancy ad campaign run by BCA, it is hoped that this position may soon be filled. The people of Kangaroo Island will not be forgotten. •

Source: *Interview Interview with Canon John Butler*

Other Locum's have been Clem and Val Watts (Ex BCA South Hedland 1980-1983), and Michael and Wendy Hill (Kincumber Parish)

GOD'S MISSION ON HOME SOIL

Short term mission with BCA Minister to fellow Aussies

There is much work to be done spreading the gospel here in our own backyard.

Experience the ministry opportunities Australia has to offer in places such as Kununurra, Roxby Downs, Lightning Ridge, and many more.

In a programme tailored to your ministry gifts and interests, learn what ministry in Australia is about.

For more information and an application form, please contact Chris Baxter on (02)9262 5017 or chris@bushchurchaid.com.au

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Winton Mission Reaches Out to Young and Old



Staff, patients and people from 60's and better attended a Big Morning Tea held at the hospital.



Children eagerly waiting for breakfast while Frank Barr (left) and Tony Roper cook



Sharing a meal with locals at a pot luck dinner

For a week in May, the Winton rectory was a hive of activity. Planned after an earlier trip to Winton, Peter Caspersonn and his wife Leigh led a team of four workers to help with maintenance along with outreach projects in the town.

While the main focus of the trip was evangelism, the work project carried out on the side was to 'restump' the rectory. The original team of nine was cut back to four after health problems, but the remaining four completed a solid labour effort.

The team, consisting of Peter and Leigh Caspersonn, Rick Lewers, Tony Roper and Frank Barr, managed to restump eight of approximately 50 supporting stumps of the house.

With a number of events occurring over the week Peter dubbed the Saturday night dinner the most exciting event. "We had over 30 people at a pot luck dinner" says Peter. "At the dinner the Mayor came and presented us with a book about Winton, thanking us on behalf of the people of Winton."

A number of people from the Saturday night attended the Sunday morning church service, with the service swelling to three times the average amount.

The mission was promoted through the local press prior to the team arriving. Peter was encouraged by the response to these stories. "They created quite a bit of talk in the town, we got recognised" he said. "There are now at least a couple of people who were not involved in the church but who are willing to help."



Mayor of Winton, Ed Warren presenting Rick Lewers with a book covering the history of Winton as thanks for the work done.



Tony Roper getting stuck into de-stumping

The team was challenged by the issues that are faced by ministers to remote areas. One of the team said it encouraged him to see dedicated Christian people working out in remote areas and made him realise the commitment that it sometimes is.

While there were no firm commitments through the week, there were four opportunities for the team to share evangelistic talks.

"You never know how God might work" Peter says. "While we didn't see any commitments or evidence, God was still working."

Source: Interview with Peter Caspersonn

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The Blessing of BCA Nomads



Photo courtesy of Celeste Lustosa

Since starting ministry in Roxby Downs at the beginning of the year, we have had BCA Nomads with us for nearly two months. What a blessing they are to us!

John Hender (our maintenance chief) and I drew up long lists of "jobs to be done" – fencing, guttering, tank installation, trenches, pipes, ripping up flooring, weeding, pruning, filling in wash-aways, fitting cupboards, insulation, skylights and more.

They arrived with caravans and 4WDs, annexes, hoses, extension leads, a dog cage and vast boxes of tools and equipment to camp next to the church. They worked like navies, red faced and sweat dripping, in hats and boots, with hammers and spades, sawing and digging, fitting and climbing. They introduced us to Christianity Explored, hand signing the hymns and readings, surprising paper crafts and "moodle" dogs (a Maltese cross Toy Poodle). BCA Nomads are amazing, wonderful, dedicated and very skilful! We were very sad to say good bye.

But the jobs on our list were not the only thing completed. Computing,

pamphlets, babysitting, cooking, washing up, preparing the PowerPoints, working the projector, listening, encouraging, supporting, teaching, praying, laughing, sharing and entertaining have all been extra blessings of the time with Nomads. We could not have imagined the plans God had in store for us.

God has given us special gifts with each Nomad couple; they have each been here at the right time to minister to us and with us in ways we couldn't and didn't put into a list. We are blessed with better buildings and facilities because of their visits.

We remember them with thanks to our loving gracious God for their love and care and support of us as they worshipped with us and served us generously and unexpectedly.

Has a BCA Nomad visited you? Pray that you may be blessed as we have been. We thank God for our BCA Nomads.

With special thanks to Richard and Julie Oakden, Rob and Michelle de Rooy, Frank and Jane Harris (and Molly).

Mary Lewis Roxby Downs

Sanding, Pews and Encouragement



Our week at Blackwater as BCA Nomads was very worthwhile. When we arrived Katherine and Stuart Haynes had enough work for a month! We were flat out but the work was most rewarding and I know they appreciated the effort and our encouragement in their ministry in Blackwater.

The Haynes have a big work ethic and a very healthy ministry. Prior to their arrival in Blackwater, the service that was held by the Bishop of Rockhampton consisted of only two people. At the outdoor service we participated in, there were upwards of 60 people and two adult baptisms.

There is a big move away from community effort in the mining towns because of the introduction of 12 hour shifts. The Haynes have combated this by having lots of activities such as sports and Soul Ministries.

They have a lot of outdoor ministry at the church. This is where we came in. They had no outdoor furniture to seat the people at these activities. They had acquired about 10 old church pews

which had some repair efforts in the past. Unfortunately they had succumbed to misuse and the harsh weather. Several were in pieces and the timbers were warped.

Ivan and I did the best we could with one clamp, a few tools, over 150 screws and a lot of glue. The hardest part was the sanding. We had several orbital sanders going flat out. After a week of hard work we put on the final coat of estapol the day before we left.

The Church now has eight refurbished pews which will greatly assist the outdoor ministry at Blackwater. Joan and Muriel also assisted in many of the regular ministries such as craft and creche. We really experience a great Christian buzz when we do this work as we can see how much encouragement it gives to the ministers, seeing that people care for their ministry.

Joan and Des Annabel with Muriel and Ivan Halford, BCA Nomads

Source: Report

Varied Days for the Palmers

There is never a dull day in the life of BCA Field Staff in Coober Pedy. A very busy man, Peter is constantly attending to both ministry in Coober Pedy and the nearby Oz Minerals Copper Mine 150km away.

Ministry at the mine is diverse and often involves marriage counselling, work place advocacy and lots of other things, including just being a friend and building relationships with people.

Peter often has the opportunity to minister to dump truck drivers as they go about their work.

Holding 220-250 tonne loads and using around 3000 litres of fuel every 12 hours, these massive trucks provide the perfect chance to talk at 15 kilometres per hour.

What started out as an overnight job has now become a three day trip each fortnight. Peter also often receives further phone calls and even visits from miners on their days off.

When he is not visiting the Oz Minerals mine, work in Coober Pedy continues. A lot of this time is dedicated to preparing sermons and other things for Sunday services and Bible studies.

Visiting and relating with the people of Coober Pedy is also a high priority for the Palmers. A recent request for an emergency visit to one of the station families resulted in a trip three hours out of town. After a 6.30am start, Peter spent a couple of hours with the family, then drove back for another

three hours, visiting two extra people on the way home, arriving home at about 8pm. A big day, resulting in an exhausted Peter the following day!

Peter also has many interesting ministry opportunities through his position as manager of the Mine Rescue/SES unit. Heavy rain last month left 47 people stranded on the William Creek Road. In coordination with police, a rescue effort was completed.

A RFDS (Royal Flying Doctor Service)



plane required a landing in Coober Pedy during a power blackout. This is newsworthy since, as the mayor pointed out, it is the first time in over 22 years that there was a need for emergency lighting. Peter and the team were called to light the airstrip so the plane could take off during the power failure. Thankfully the Mine Rescue maintains battery operated lights for use in such situations.

You never know what is going to happen next in this outback ministry and you never know what opportunities God will provide you with. •

Source: email update from the Palmers

I have been involved with BCA for nearly 20 years; but it wasn't until the early 2000's, when a BCA bus trip took me to many of the inland ministry centres, that I experienced the remoteness and isolation of some of the missionaries. It struck me the long distances they have to travel between towns to take services and to minister to the people.

It amazes me that BCA's first organising missionary Revd SJ Kirkby, kept going on, against all the odds in the remote areas of our land. He battled little or no roads and primitive transport (no four wheel drives then) with the desire to present the Gospel of Christ to all Australians.

In my association with BCA I have been privileged to work with Rick Maude (then serving missionary at Lightning Ridge till 2008), and Robyn Williams, with the BCA Drought Aid programme of 2002/2003.

Working to provide for farmers in their time of need, we sent hay out each week, to around 50 farmers in the area. For most of them it was their first contact with the church. My job now (alongside Mike Keith), is building on those relationships formed during the drought. My husband Eric and I visit some of these farmers two to three

times a year and follow them up with phone calls to keep in touch.

Recently, when I asked the farmers if they had prayed during the separate crises they were going through it became clear they did not know how. One farmer said



Tricia and Hugo

to me "How do you pray?" and "What do you say to Him?" Another said "I don't remember the prayers that were taught to me as a child!" Yet another farmer remembers fondly staying in a BCA Hostel as a child, and being taught to pray.

For me it is a privilege to serve Christ, especially to people in the outback. •

Trisha Greenham OAM

BCA Council Member

Trisha and her husband Eric, live on the south side of Brisbane, with 9 horses, lots of chooks, wallabies and birds, has two children and four grandchildren.

Post & Rails



WELCOME

Vivien Bleby joins us in September as Regional Officer SA/NT. Former BCA Field Staff from Coober Pedy, Vivien knows well the challenges that come with ministry in the bush.

Married to Martin and with 4 children, Vivien has had a varied work life. Starting out in a nursing career, Vivien undertook many roles including a nurse educator. Since then, Vivien has been employed by the Diocese of Adelaide in various capacities, mainly in ministry development and education.

Vivien has also completed a number of training courses and biblical studies making her a highly qualified person for the position of Regional Officer.

Revd Captain Derek and Mrs Amanda McArtney have been appointed to Newman

starting in 2011. Derek has previously worked in a fly-in fly-out



situation in the oil and gas industry, firstly between Perth and the Timor Sea and then between Adelaide and Moomba. Amanda has driven buses in mine shut downs at Karratha. Together, they are familiar with the type of strains that life in a North West mining town can place on relationships.

Caitlin Eve was born on 17th July to **Andy & Liz Goodacre**



(Imagine Project, University of Launceston) – after only 1hour 15 minutes in the hospital! Caitlin weighed 3.9kg. Andy reported they are all healthy, happy and tired! Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

ON THE MOVE

Arthur & Jane Tanner will finish up in Leigh Creek towards the end of the year and move to Flinders Island – quite a contrast in landscape. Arthur is expected



to take up residence on the Island in December. In the meantime the parish of Leigh Creek will remain vacant.

FAREWELL

David and Coralie Amery have completed their 3 year term in Freds Pass and are now on leave. David is quick to point out that "I'm not retiring as many seem to think! I'm moving to Port Pirie in the Diocese of Willochra to take up the position of Dean in the Cathedral." David was also part of the Batchelor Area School community and part of the Oenpelli worshipping community



in the "dry". He has been encouraged to see people grow in their faith and display that faith in action & has enjoyed the opportunity to meet up with BCA Nomads and tour groups.

Chris and Wendy Thiele move from Beaconsfield and the Tamar Valley to Devonport, LaTrobe. BCA provided support for Chris as he ministered to the local community following the mine disaster in April 2006. BCA are pleased to have had the capacity to respond to the families in Beaconsfield at the time as a result of our having a small reserve in the Kirkby

Trust for benevolent work. There has been growth in the church community and BCA



financially assisted with the refurbishment of the church in order to accommodate increased numbers.

Bob and Sue Witten will retire from full time parish ministry at the end of October. This will complete a 2½ year term in Winton and a 24 year association with BCA

both on and off the Field. Bob and Sue together with their 3 children, Daniel, Timothy and Emily came to BCA in 1987



when they took up appointment at Quilpie. Bob had grown up on the "land" and as a qualified nurse, Sue engaged in this specialised area of ministry. Wherever Bob has ministered he has also left his practical skill and stamp, especially with concrete slabs and sheds, plus other maintenance work. He will continue his involvement with BCA undertaking deputations.

APPOINTMENTS

Bob McKay (Intentional Interim Ministry, Legana) has been collated an Archdeacon and was made a Mission Support Officer for the Diocese of Tasmania on 7th August last.

Peter Linn, previous SA/NT Regional Officer, will be inducted into the parish of Port Lincoln in Willochra Diocese on September 14th. BCA will be represented at the event and formally release Peter and Rose from their duties



in the Region. We wish them God's blessing for their future ministry.

Gift Catalogue



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BCA 116	Faith & New Frontiers	Brian Underwood	\$22.00
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