

SUMMER 2011

the real australian



DUSTY  TS CLEAN UP!

AUSTRALIA FOR CHRIST



print. post. approved pp242296/00141

The *Real Australian* is a registered trademark of the Bush Church Aid Society.

First published 1920—Edition No. 354.

Circulation 32,000

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Cover: The Lakes Christian College students are hard at work on their Dusty Boots trip to Broken Hill.

Photo by Karen Elengikal of Godinspired PhotoArt



G'day Partner!

As I reflect on my new role with BCA, Paul's words in Philippians 1:4-5 come to mind – "I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

Partnership lies at the heart of the Society's vision – our common sharing in the mission of Christ which reaches across the barriers of background and distance. I look forward to meeting many of you and hearing how God has drawn you into this work.

One area in which God's people are called to model gospel partnership is ministry to and with young people. Our world loves to segment people according to age. But the Christian faith thrives as it is passed from one generation to another. As a teenager, one of my mentors was Alvin Webster, a retired baker in his 70's. A generation later, I'm still inspired by Alvin's commitment to prayer and mission.

In this edition you will find a number of stories highlighting BCA's role in supporting ministry with youth and young adults. There are particular challenges in reaching young people outside our capital cities. In many centres the majority of young people will move elsewhere for education and employment once they have finished school. Numbers may be small and financial resources may be scarce. But where there is a spirit of generosity and gospel-centred partnership, the seeds of new faith can grow in the most unexpected places. You can read about some of those places in the pages which follow.

BCA is a great team of workers, prayers, supporters and givers. Long may the partnership continue!

Mark Short

National Director

Serving with Dusty Boots

Giving up some of their highly-valued holidays to do some back-breaking hard work in a remote town many hundreds of kilometres away might not sound like the typical teenager's idea of a good time, but so far in the three years that the Dusty Boots Programme has run, 105 students over seven trips have done just that.

So far this year, three teams from NSW have given up some holiday time to serve and get their boots dusty...



The team from Shellharbour Anglican College with Rich and Julie Lanham

SHELLHARBOUR CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

APRIL 2011

On the first Saturday of the April school holidays, fifteen students, five teachers and the Head of College from Shellharbour Anglican College made a 550km journey to Gilgandra, home of the "coo-ee" and BCA Field Staff, the Lanhams. Head of Shellharbour Anglican College, Tony Cummings wrote of their experience:

'We descended on the Lanham home on Monday morning and by 10:00am everyone had a job to do: site clean up, sanding



Preparing to strike the ground

weatherboards, removing cobwebs. Reality TV home makeovers, with convenient ad breaks, do not give an accurate picture of the organised chaos taking place. By lunchtime the back of the clean up had been broken and some students were reassigned to other duties, with the favourite being smashing up concrete. This, along with the ancient water feature that had been strangled by lantana, became the focus of their energies for the remaining week and unearthed some landscaping talents along with the rusted pipes.

While these boys were human wrecking balls, another crew were assigned to the creation of a community garden. The fence outlined the space but inside the grass and weeds reigned supreme. By the end of the first day the house had been sanded, scrubbed, hosed down and gaps had been filled; the first signs of soil were appearing in the community garden and the boys had a growing pile of rubble to their credit and renewed respect for lantana.

We were able to spend some time on the last day doing some yard work for one of the Elders from the church we had attended on Sunday night and some other maintenance work at a local community youth centre.

We are indebted to Bush Church Aid's Dusty Boots Programme and, specifically, Rob and Jenny Stubbs. I know from conversations that much has been learned that will benefit our students and this community.'

Tony Cummings

Head of College, Shellharbour Anglican College.

While Mr Cummings has talked openly about this activity within the College community, the service learning programme is not used for advertising purposes. This is very much in keeping with the Christian ethos of the College.

THE LAKES CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

JULY 2011

'As an educator, it has always been my passion to support those less fortunate living in our own backyard. Amazingly, I was introduced to BCA, who in turn introduced me to the idea of following through with my dreams through the wonderful Dusty Boots programme.

As a small school, we spent 18 months prior to the trip, fundraising so that staff, students and parents could experience missionary work without the huge costs involved. Guess what? We did it! We raised enough funds to cover food, travel, and accommodation, sightseeing and equipment to help fulfil our role supporting BCA House in Broken Hill.

It was an amazing experience. Lifelong, meaningful friendships were built between students, staff and parents. We were able to share devotions within our little group

and do bible study with keen students and parents who were still searching to have a relationship with Jesus.

Some of the projects achieved by our small group were:

- Rebuild a community vegetable garden
- Install a water irrigation system
- Build a fire pit for the locals to enjoy a cookout together

Praise God! For the journey students, parents and staff from the Lakes Christian



The Dusty Boots team from The Lakes Christian College

Photos by Karen Elengikal of GodInspired PhotoArt



Attacking the weeds in the garden beds

College experienced during the July School holidays! We look forward to many more opportunities where we can support communities within our own backyard!

Donna Schatzman *Principal, The Lakes Christian College*

Continued over



The Menindee team in the agriculture plot with Dorothy Menzies



The maintenance team from Penrith Anglican College at BCA House

PENRITH ANGLICAN COLLEGE

JULY 2011

'Broken Hill is a long journey from the Sydney suburb of Penrith, and for 20 students and 4 staff members from Penrith Anglican College it was an adventure both of distance and experience.

This year we were excited to serve the indigenous community led by Revd Neville Naden in Broken Hill and to be able to contribute to the School in Menindee whilst living in Christian community at BCA House.

Most of the team worked at BCA House. They installed an irrigation system for the front yard, cleaned up around the driveway and backyard areas, cleared land, and then planted a veggie patch which is part of the community garden used by Neville in his community outreach. To quote a student "The three days of service that we did really opened up our eyes to how much we could

achieve as a group!".

Another team travelled a 220km round trip each day to Menindee to work at the local school as an outreach project. The Menindee team learned to garden, clear weeds and plant vegetables in the school's agriculture plot. They also spent time in the K - 2 classrooms, helping students and teachers before doing a bit of cleaning in the local Anglican Church. The isolation of Menindee was truly an eye opening experience as was the need to avoid emus and sheep on our daily journey.

We were very thankful for the ability to stay at BCA House. Daily devotions led by staff members and by our accompanying BCA Nomads, Dorothy and Ivan Menzies, were a blessing and were encouraging to all concerned. The final night saw Neville set up a huge bonfire and lead a community singing time with the local youth group. We were treated to BBQ kangaroo tail as a special experience, especially treasured by our Brazilian exchange student, Icaro.

We thank God for safety in travelling, for the blessing of getting to know Neville Naden and for the opportunity to serve God in our amazing country! •

Beth Hazell

NSW Co-ordinator for Dusty Boots Programme

The Dusty Boots Programme will see Broughton Anglican College travel to Lockhart this month. Planning is underway for trips next year to Gilgandra, Wickham and Mingenew.

Renewal Sunday seeks new life in Holbrook



Morning tea after the service

On September 11th the congregation of St Paul's Holbrook invited the town to church for Renewal Sunday.

Run as a localised version of Back To Church Sunday, we invited people to 'check out church' and find out about the new life that Jesus offers.

The uptake by the congregation was fantastic. Nearly every parishioner was active in inviting friends and neighbours, and many were also keen to be involved in preparing for the service or taking part in it. In preparation we made up a list of people from around town to invite and then asked parishioners to choose who they would speak to. Invitations were extended widely and we had to get extras made up.

The service itself was a reasonably typical non-communion service, although we did include a special musical item from our singing group as well as having a parishioner share his testimony. We had a very entertaining kids' spot before the children went out to their Sunday School programme.

And how did it all go? Everyone was very positive about the day itself, although there was some disappointment since a number of people had indicated they would come but never turned up. Nevertheless, approximately 15 guests did come, and by all accounts they found it a positive experience.

Please join us in thanking God for those who came and for the enthusiastic uptake by the parish. Please pray that the gospel seeds sown might bear fruit and that we might indeed see spiritual new life and renewal as a result.

James Coats
Holbrook, NSW



The Coats family



The Kids Spot during the service

Andy Goodacre on the Latest from Launceston

We moved to Launceston in April 2010, just two years after arriving in Australia and following nine years church planting and student ministry in the UK and Germany.

Our growing family (Liz was six months pregnant when we moved!) was made to feel very welcome by the small congregation at St Barnabas' Anglican Church, Newnham and by Bishop John, Bishop Ross and other members of the Tasmanian Diocesan team.

While we were hugely excited about this opportunity to serve God in pioneering ministry with students and young adults as well as within the Anglican church – each of these elements being things I feel specifically called to – we also realised the amount of work, time and energy which would be needed to even begin to see this ministry develop.

Our ministry in Launceston is a long-term ministry with small beginnings. I have come to see that we have twin priorities here: (1) the creation of a culture of discipleship and mission among students at the university; and (2) the replanting of St Barnabas' Anglican Church (Barney's as we now call it!) to be a healthy, missional community of disciples.

Last February, we began gathering university students together once a

fortnight on Thursday evenings – for worship, teaching, prayer and sharing what Jesus is doing in our lives. We started casting visions for a network of small groups across the campus: sharing life, reading the Bible as a group, growing together as disciples, praying and ministering with one another and witnessing to friends together. In the last few months we have seen four groups emerge, who are beginning this journey of discipleship and mission together.

I have been able to gather sixteen student leaders, with a proven desire to

grow as disciples, into three leadership huddles meeting fortnightly – where we explore together some of the key principles of discipleship that Jesus taught and hold each other accountable to applying these principles in our own lives.

Despite the hope that the refurbished building at Barney's would be completed around the time of our arrival, we were finally able to move in during May 2011! Yet even in the midst of this very challenging situation, we saw God's faithfulness: providing people with the gifts needed to complete the project at a time when we could see no way forward.

Even after the building opened, we were challenged with some key members



of the already small congregation falling ill and being unable to contribute all they had previously been able to. And yet here again, we see God lifting us and calling us to greater faith in Him. We have had some really encouraging gatherings at Barney's in the last three months or so: with some teenagers becoming Christians; a couple of young families joining the church who have been away from church for some time; and still others feeling called to join us in replanting the church.

The biggest lesson we have been learning over the last few months is the real wisdom of trusting everything to God, and

learning to abide in Him and follow Him like the Israelites followed the pillars of cloud and fire. I am learning to lay down my 'good ideas' and really discern what God is doing and trust Him. Zechariah challenges the remnant of the people of Israel not to despise the day of small things. I no longer do: I'm excited to see God's work beginning and growing, even though there is a long way to go.

Andy Goodacre

Barney's Anglican Church / UTAS
Launceston.

www.tasbarneys.org

www.imagenetwork.org.au

The Bush Church Aid Society of Australia invites mission-minded applicants for the position of Regional Officer in the State of Victoria

Preferred commencement date — May 2012

BCA is an evangelical mission agency, ministering within the Anglican Church throughout Australia, and is seeking a person who has a passion for mission plus proven gifts in strategic thinking, communication and public relations. Self-management and administrative abilities are essential. The nature of the task requires the person to have plenty of energy and a high level of self-motivation. Previous connections with BCA would be an advantage but not essential.

The successful applicant would need to live in Melbourne, be authorised by the Archbishop of Melbourne and be subject to the Diocesan Professional Standards protocols.

For a Position Description, further information, or to make Application with CV, contact the Victorian Regional Committee Chairman, The Reverend Ernest E Horth on Ernest.Horth@bushchurchaid.com.au, or write to him at PO Box 281, Heidelberg VIC 3084. Applications close on Friday 3rd February 2012.



RIPE for the Harvest



Praising God through song after the sunrise baptism

In October 2010, RIPE youth ministry in Batemans Bay was just forming with a small but excited group of regulars. A year down the track, God has grown their ministry and they have even hosted a youth event for 50 people.

The weekend-long event, Harvest 11, aimed to empower young Christians and share the love of Jesus with 'not yet' Christians while having lots of fun. There was an activity for everyone to enjoy: laser tag, surfing lessons (at 7am for the keen), jazz music to relax to and lots of time to learn about and praise God.

While some were running around the grounds at 1am playing laser tag, others preferred to stay in the Prayer House: a room available at any time for youth to spend time with God through prayer, song or drawing. Shaina Toohey, a local 14-year-old, says the Prayer House was one of her favourite activities and she loved having that time to pray for people: "God has definitely spoken to me this weekend and shown me to tell people of the plans He has for them."

One of the leaders, 18-year-old Jimmy

The evening worship session



Roe, spoke of how amazing he found the event. "It's all been fantastic: the venue, the

speakers, the atmosphere and just being in the presence of God. God has been in everything, from the smiling faces of the kids to all the activities."

Throughout the weekend, the youth were encouraged to make God their first priority, seeking to serve and please Him. On the Saturday morning, 15 youth gave their lives to Jesus in what Jimmy describes as a "powerful and encouraging" moment.

The commitments continued as one of the young adults made a public declaration of her faith in Him at a sunrise baptism on the Sunday. Everyone gathered at Broulee Beach at 6:30am to see her baptised and then praised God through song. Despite their lack of sleep, many of the youth agreed it was worth the early wake-up. To wrap up the morning and the camp, Glenn Seddon encouraged the youth to be Christ to those around them and asked if they would be interested in a Harvest 12. The answer...a resounding "YES"!

Source: Interview with Shaina Toohey and Jimmy Roe

Billy's Picnic

Where would you get the chance to eat lots of lollies and try on orange overalls and a miner's helmet? At a picnic with BCA for Kids!

The second annual 'Day in the Park with BCA for Kids' was held on Saturday 8th October at the Cumberland State Forest in Sydney. The day was full of lollies, fun, games and good teaching with our special guests Rich and Julie Lanham from Gilgandra.

After we donned our new light blue BCA for Kids shirts, we got ready to have some fun! Some of the games we played had us 'sacking' our new National Director, defeating Rich with our ninja-like reflexes and collecting lots of chocolates and lollies.

Rich encouraged us to be big in faith and that physical size doesn't matter; whether you are a small person or six foot four and built like a tank like Rich (at which point everyone laughed), what matters is your



Having fun at the BCA Kids Picnic



Mark Short joins the sack race



Ninja destruction!



Rich giving a talk



Having fun in orange overalls

faith in Jesus. He reminded us that we have the armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-20) and we can use the shield of faith to protect ourselves from things that might try to take us away from God.

After hearing from Rich, we enjoyed singing some Colin Buchanan songs with great actions and made ourselves a confetti-covered shield as a reminder of what we had learned. Then it was back to the sack races and games!

Thank you to everyone who came along to our 'Day in the Park with BCA for Kids' in 2011. We had so much fun and hope you did too!

Don't forget to enter our BCA for Kids Christmas competition for your chance to win a copy of Colin Buchanan's 'King of Christmas' CD or DVD!

Details are in the kids' pull-out section.

An 'Exo-llent' week

After the substantial interest it generated last year, Rich Lanham and his awesome support team again took a big group from Gilgandra to Parramatta Park for Exo Day.

This youth festival run by Youth Alive is part of their mission "to reach the youth generation with the message of Jesus Christ." From Rich's report, it sounds like the youth of Gilgandra had a fantastic third time at Exo Day...

'Exo day for Gilgandra began a week prior to travelling to Sydney with Reggie Dabbs' visit to Gilgandra High School on Monday 12th September. It was amazing to have the top motivational speaker at American high schools here in outback NSW. Nearly all staff and students from our local high school were in attendance along with some Year 6 students from nearby primary schools. Reggie's main message that "you can't change your past but you can change your future" was found to be beneficial for staff and students alike. Some staff even continued to play his videos in class. It was amazing.

The fun didn't stop there. On the Saturday, everyone woke bright and early to be at the post office by 5:45am. We ended up with about 75 sleepy but excited people in our group and needed two buses to take us to Sydney. After arriving at about 1:15pm, we broke up into teams, organised meeting times and then let the youth loose. It was a great day. The music was loud and there was something for everyone. The food was excellent, the activities were fun and overall the vibe was happy, friendly and upbeat.

Over half of our young people were not regular churchgoers or had little exposure to Christian activities. Two of them lost their wallets and on recovering them later,



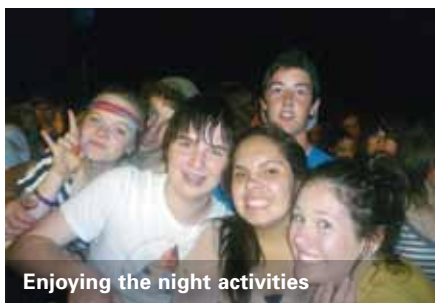
The youth were excited about Exo Day



The whole group after a great time at Exo Day



Rich may have thought the music was loud, but the youth loved it



Enjoying the night activities

found that their money was still there – a testament to the culture of the event and a great witness to all our non Christian kids. Exo Day was just a wonderful opportunity for our young people to see that enjoying life and being a Christian are not mutually exclusive. On top of this, they were able



to see that drugs and alcohol are not necessary ingredients for having a good time.

After the day programme finished, we gathered at the main stage to listen to the band, "The Almost" and hear a few messages. One of the speakers was Australian Idol winner, Stan Walker. Stan was well known to our young people and his heartfelt testimony and gospel message really connected with our group. This was followed by Reggie Dabbs, who used comedy and seriousness to convey that God loves all of us, no matter where we've come from and that the Lord sees great value in us and has a plan for our lives. He proclaimed the need for us to turn back to God and commit our lives to Him and be saved by Jesus' sacrifice. When he led us in prayer, almost our entire group repeated it with him and about 25 of our young people even went over to receive further prayer and a 'new Christian' pack from the Exo team.

As we made our way back to the buses, there were continuous comments of: "That was awesome", "Amazing!", "Madness!" and "Can I come next year?" Since Exo Day, I have been catching up with the young people who were touched by the Lord and they continue to say how great the day was. Please pray for those who made a commitment that evening: that they would grow strong in the Lord. Praise God! •

Rich Lanham

Gilgandra, NSW

Many hands make light work



Workers with the house owner after the second Working Bee

Thomas Edison once said that, "Opportunity is missed by most because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work", but Rich Goscombe certainly hasn't missed one in Wickham.

Keen for a challenge, Rich decided that for their first Working Bee, they would tackle a house deemed by the police and the Department of Housing (Homeswest) as being in the worst condition in town. The two boys who own the house are both battling mental illness and have struggled to maintain the place since their mother went into full-time care for dialysis. Rich says "the fact it was in such a bad condition made it all the more amazing and encouraging to see the number of people who were willing to come and get in and truly get their hands dirty". They ended up



Undertaking work at the second Working Bee

He has taken up an overall-covered, work-filled opportunity to show God's love and grace to the community around him.

Rich has been seeking to challenge community attitudes and see people rediscover a willingness to genuinely care for and serve those around them. He started by working with local businesses to distribute furniture and household items to those in need. He then extended this by creating the Working Bees: day-long events where people from the community are invited to come together to serve a local household by doing whatever work is needed.

with about 25 people helping out: some from the community, some from Wickham Community Church and even some workers sent by local companies. It was a complete success and in Rich's words, "We were able to clean it from top to bottom, inside and out, front to back, and that was fantastic." Since then, the boys have been able to get some much-needed maintenance done on the place, including new doors, a new hot water system and a working stove. Rich is now hoping to get them a washing machine and replace their kitchen.

The team needed a few months to recover and have now recently completed

their second Working Bee. Not wanting to be outdone by his first effort, Rich decided to take on a whole street. Most of their work was focussed on the house of a man recently confined to a wheelchair. The state of his front and back yards meant he was in danger of tipping over anytime he went outside. The team managed to clear the yards, create some concrete paths for his wheelchair and put up some shade cloths for the main house. During the day, they also did work on a few other houses as well as undertaking general maintenance up and down the street.

This Working Bee was also successful and Rich describes how the community is really starting to get behind them and some tradespeople have even started donating their time privately to help out. "It's been really amazing to see the response from a lot of people in the community, certainly Homeswest are very keen to work with us, but also the business community and their tradespeople. It really shows, not just generosity from private individuals, but from companies that form such a significant part of the local community. I suppose it just shows the witness that is taking place across all levels of the community."

Rich is determined to continue with his Working Bees but is very conscious of not wanting to burn out the helpers and companies assisting. They hope to hold another one in a few months time. •

Phone interview with Rich Goscombe

BCA TOURS – A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE

If you are planning an Australian holiday, a great option could be one of the very unique Australian tours that are arranged for supporters. On the journey there are opportunities for sight seeing, visiting Field Staff, as well as enjoying fellowship with likeminded people.

TASMANIA TOUR including Flinders & King Islands **January 2012**
22 days with shorter options available

Launceston – Flinders Island – Tamar Valley – Cradle Mountain – Strahan – Franklin River Cruise – Hobart – Port Arthur – Bicheno – King Island – Melbourne, and return to Sydney by coach if you choose.

RIVERLANDS TOUR **July 2012**
8 days

Sydney – Wagga Wagga – Hillston – Griffith – Bendigo – Ouyen – Swan Hill – Mildura – Adelaide.

NORTH WEST AUSTRALIA TOUR
12, 15 or 25 days **August 2012**

Darwin – Newman – Tom Price – Broome – Fitzroy Crossing – Monkey Mia

For more information contact your Regional Office or email:

BCATours@bushchurchaid.com.au
Tours operated by Christian Fellowship Tours

Parting Reflections

The last few years of our working life were exciting. Our careers had taken us from Adelaide to Kangaroo Island, New Guinea, New Zealand and Sydney. We had contributed in many ways over the years and were now ready to move on.

We wanted to travel widely within Australia, and to build on our life at the church of St Alban's, Epping NSW.

We talked a lot about our future while we made financial plans, attended retirement seminars and planned our big trip. We knew that our future was as

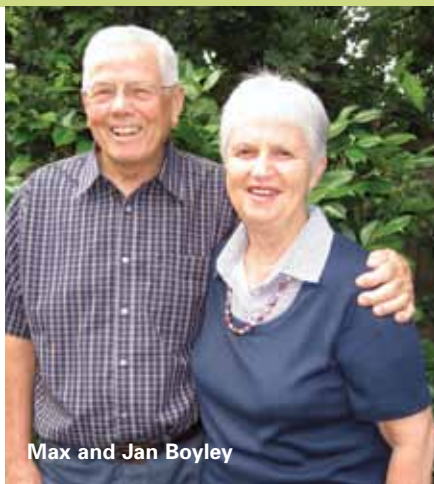
volunteers and God would show the way.

Our trip of 56,000km in 14 months proved that true.

Introduced to BCA Field Staff all over the country, we were able to serve them—painting, scrubbing, repairing, gardening and sharing. We really felt that there was a job to be done. Others may want to do the same.

On our return, we contacted BCA offering to co-ordinate a group to allow Christian people to do just that. Very quickly, we were part of a steering committee. It decided on the name "The BCA Nomads", consulted with Field Staff and Regional Officers, set some rules and wrote a brochure and application form.

BCA Nomads No 1, Ray and Elizabeth Hoyle were farewelled by their church in



Max and Jan Boyley



Circa 2002

Elizabeth SA in August 2000, and like us, were made welcome around Australia.

Every year since, dozens of visits by faithful

BCA Nomads support and encourage Field Staff, enrich their own journeys and support the work of the gospel. We enjoy working with folk as they plan their journeys and with BCA staff to keep the scheme running smoothly. God has truly provided a worthwhile role for our retirement years.

We know from our working life though, that there is also great satisfaction in handing over a task to the next incumbent. We ask for your prayers for Doug and Frances Orr as they find new ways to support BCA in its vital task of winning Australia for Christ.

Max and Jan Boyley

BCA Nomads Co-ordinators

The April Bottom Scholarship Winner

April Bottom, a committed Christian, experienced first-hand the difficulties of educating her children while running a station and living in remote NSW.

Before her death from cancer in 2003, she organised for a fund to be set up to assist families from the West Darling Parish region with students wishing to undertake secondary or tertiary education outside the parish. Her desire was to assist those who had the potential to achieve, but not necessarily the opportunity.

April Bottom's daughter, Anna Kroehn, said the family was overwhelmed by the calibre of students who submitted applications this year; "We'd like to gratefully thank all of the applicants for their applications, and we would encourage the unsuccessful applicants to re-apply for 2013." However, there can only be one winner and the 2012 April Bottom Scholarship for \$8500 has been awarded to Hayley Lawrence.

An 18 year old from Kara Station in north western NSW (via Broken Hill), Hayley has dreamed of being a nurse her whole life. With a family tradition of nursing and influences from the Royal Flying Doctor Service, she has been determined to reach her goal and has even attended a nursing academy through Broken Hill Hospital and The University of Sydney since Year 7. Hayley hopes that once she becomes a nurse, she

can give back to the community in a similar way: "Growing up in a rural area, I believe that it is one of the most important jobs as nurses are in such demand...I want to become a nurse to hopefully one day give back what they have given so many people."



Hayley Lawrence, awarded the 2012 April Bottom Scholarship

Described as courteous, determined and a hard worker by her teachers and Deputy Principal, Hayley has just finished her HSC in English, General Mathematics, Biology, Modern History and Industrial Technology Timber Products (for which she ranked top of her class). She has applied to do a Bachelor of Nursing at universities in New South Wales, South Australia and

Victoria and is eagerly awaiting an offer. After her degree, she would like to complete a post graduate course in Midwifery, which will give her the extra qualifications needed to find work in a rural area.

Hayley is very grateful for receiving the April Bottom Scholarship. The drought left her family struggling – financially and emotionally – and forced her mother to find extra work elsewhere, away from the family, to make ends meet. Receiving this scholarship will ease the financial burden of university costs and allow Hayley to focus on her studies.

We wish Hayley the best of luck with her future studies and thank all the applicants for their participation. •

The Winds of Change on King Island

There are many new things happening on King Island. We are excited by the opening of the Scheelite mine along with a new sand mining project and an International class, five-star golf resort that is being marked out. Employment prospects are better than ever.

The new things don't stop there, change is also happening at All Saints Currie. In February this year, "an awesome" (to quote 3-year-old Sarah) evening service began. We start by sharing a meal and then we pray, discuss the evening's Bible reading, sing and encourage each other to put into practice what we have been learning together. Everyone in this small group

gets an opportunity to lead or have input into some section of the night's worship and our young people are not exempt. We can see how they are growing as they realise that people don't need to be old or special to lead up the front or to serve God

and others.

The children begin our worship by leading the prayer time with an adult rostered on with them to share the load.

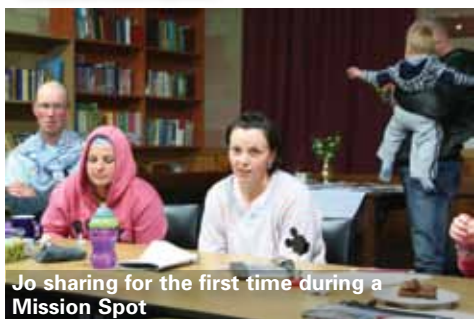
It was very encouraging at our last ecumenical service to have three of our young people willing to lead the joint service in prayer.

Some comments about the new evening service were Graycee Hill (9) "I like that the kids get to have a turn at saying prayers" and Sammy Hill (12) "I like sharing a meal together".

Although King Island is a small, isolated island in the middle of the Bass Strait, life can still be as busy as it is in any big city. Graycee sums

up one reason she likes the new service when she says, "Its good because it is at night time, it lets us enjoy the day with our family, then finishing the day with Church".

Most of the people at the evening service have not been up-the-front people



but they are willing to have a go and to stretch themselves. Kymm a young single parent says, "It's a chance to gather together and share what God is doing in us all, children included. And in a safe environment we are being encouraged to grow and to step out of our comfort zones for God..... I also believe it is good for the children to see the adults learning alongside them".

One thing that is different about living on King Island is choice. There isn't a lot of choice about where you shop or where you worship God. King Island, like many places



Graycee Hill praying for those in need

supported by BCA, is not able to offer many choices when it comes to going to church, nor many trained ministers to lead them. That is why BCA

is so well thought of in small communities because without them, there may not be any church!

Graycee expressed it well when she said, "Well without BCA we might not have Rod and Christene, and without Rod and Christene we wouldn't have someone teaching us the word of God."

Rod and Christene Oldfield

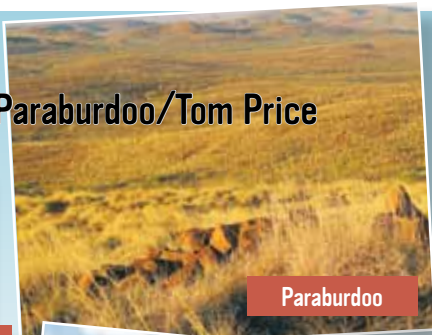
King Island, TAS

Vacancies

Coober Pedy, Kangaroo Island, Paraburdoo/Tom Price



Coober Pedy



Paraburdoo

BCA, in partnership with the respective Dioceses, is seeking gospel focussed ministry candidates for each of these vacant parishes. With a minimum commitment of two years, the right candidates will have the opportunity to build on well-established ministry. A full stipend will be received, along with access to other ministry benefits offered by the Society. **Contact: Mark Short, The**

National Director Phone: 02 9262 5017 or email: Mark.Short@bushchurchaid.com.au



St Albans Kangaroo Island

Nomads: Life on the road

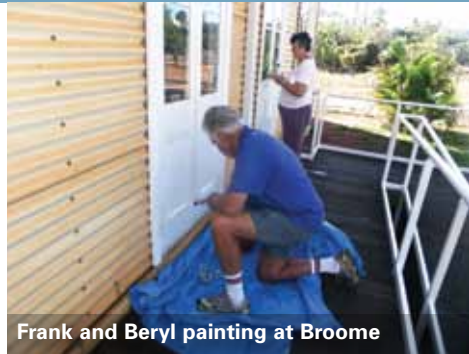
Frank and Pauline Norton have been BCA Nomads for seven years and decided this year to join forces with their friends and new Nomads, Tom and Beryl Davis. The foursome from St. Peters, South Tamworth, set off at the end of April for six months of life on the road...

'Our journey began at the Boggabri Campfire weekend, an event which attracts approximately 270 caravans. A combined church service was held in the old pavilion with around 80 people in attendance. Frank and Pauline promoted the work of BCA with many people taking copies of the Prayer Notes and the Real Australian. There seemed to be a real interest in the work done by BCA.

We travelled to Winton in Queensland, and stopped for a week to do some general maintenance on the church and old rectory. It was great to meet up with the new minister, Anne, and her husband, Noel.

Our next stop was Katherine in the Northern Territory. With the help of another couple from our Diocese, Ron and Narelle Leven, we painted the heritage church at St Paul's inside and out. The old church is used for various activities by the community as well as the congregation. It was 'all hands on deck' and took us a full week.

We then moved to Kununurra in Western Australia to help out at St. James Anglican Church. This job involved painting the whole of the inside of the church, kitchen and toilets. We also cleaned the fans, washed the windows and curtains, shampooed the carpets, stripped and polished the vinyl



Frank and Beryl painting at Broome

floor, washed the chairs in the chapel... the list goes on. We stayed at Kununurra for one month and just when we thought we could put down the paint brushes for this trip, the folk at Broome heard of our painting expertise and indicated they wouldn't mind us doing some for them. So off we went to Broome for ten days. While in Broome, we painted their outside



Morning tea at Katherine

woodwork to protect it from the wet season, which took us three days. Then we managed to do some touristy things for the rest of the time.

You might say we have done a lot of hard work and we have; but we have also had a lot of fun and good fellowship as we've shared with other brothers and sisters in Christ. We give thanks to our great God



Frank vacuuming at Kununurra

Wonderful Christians that we have met
in isolated places doing God's work

Seeing the beauty and the wonder of
God's creation during our travel

Time spent at Cape Leveque with
Aboriginal guides learning more about their
lives and culture

Opportunities to speak to other travellers
and show them the love of our Lord Jesus! •

Pauline Norton

Nomad

and Father for the health and strength and
enabling to do the things we have done
and especially for safety in travel. Where
we were able, we called into other Anglican
Churches and Seafarer Centres to share and
encourage them. We had a lovely three days
with Graham and Robyn Fairbairn at the
Shark Bay church.

A few highlights of our trip were:



Beryl at Broome

BCA Nomads And You...

If you are planning a trip around
Australia, you might want to
consider spending part of your trip
helping out at some of our BCA
Centres along the way. Our Field
Staff always welcome a helping
hand, fresh insight, encouragement,
prayer – or whatever else you may
have to offer – there is no shortage
of jobs that need doing.

If you are interested in being part of
this special ministry please contact
your Regional office or email
nomads@bushchurchaid.com.au



A time of change in the North West



Bishop David and Maureen with the families at the NW Diocesan Clergy Family Conference

The Right Revd David Mulready ended his ministry as Bishop of North West Australia in October. In a pastoral letter to his Diocese earlier this year he said "Maureen and I...have thoroughly enjoyed over seven years in the North West but believe that it is time to leave. We have a great team of leaders and others are soon to come."

Prior to his time in North West Australia, Bishop David served as the NSW State Secretary with BCA from 1989-1993. It was during this time that Bob Rothwell first met him while applying for a Field Staff position. However it wasn't until Bob and his wife, Denise, returned as Locums that they really got to know him. Bob recalls being very impressed at a Synod led by Bishop David: "Synods are often very 'dry-boned'...but he brought it alive, with good humour." Personally, Bob has found Bishop David to be a great encourager. "I've never worked under a Bishop who seemed to be as personally concerned about how I was

going, both spiritually and in the ministry, as David. Nor a Bishop who responded so quickly anytime I sent him a query. He is an encourager...he just helps you to focus on the positives."

Les Gaulton, BCA Field Staff in Karratha/Dampier, put together a surprise farewell book for Bishop David and his wife, Maureen, with heartfelt comments from parishes in the North West Diocese. With resounding clarity, each congregation spoke of what a godly example David and Maureen are: demonstrating humility, a willingness to serve and an unswerving trust in God's word. It was apparent just how deeply the couple cared for each of their ministers and parishes, always calling for birthday wishes and travelling long distances each year to visit and attend various church events where possible. As Rich and Tracy Goscombe so aptly said in the book that was presented at the end of the Diocesan Clergy Family Conference: "No one is irreplaceable, but the Lord is going to

have His work cut out finding someone else so well suited to the needs of the ministry and the Diocese in North West Australia. I'm sure He can do it, but I bet they won't play Scrabble like you guys."

Bishop David and Maureen have moved

to a sea-side cottage in Gerringong, two hours south of Sydney. The Diocese of North West Australian remains vacant with Jeremy Rice as the Administrator until an Election Synod takes place next year. Please pray for the election process. •

Letter from a Central Highlands Flood Affected Family

The floods that devastated Queensland in late December 2010 and early January 2011 left three quarters of the state in a declared disaster zone with numerous families and individuals struggling to rebuild and restore.

Many BCA supporters gave generously to our Kirkby Trust for Flood Relief, for which we are so thankful. In partnership

with the Dioceses and their Bishops, your donations were distributed amongst parishes and parishioners who were in most need.

The letter below was submitted to the Anglican Gazette, a publication of the Diocese of Rockhampton, and is an encouraging example of how flood relief donations were used:

'My family missed the criteria for any government assistance, which left us feeling even more isolated and abandoned than did the water in December and January.

When I received a cheque from the Bishop, I felt overwhelmed. At first I felt sorrow for needing to accept a charity, but then I felt the warm glow of relief and the start of restoration. You have restored my hope in such a real way.

We are hopeful to start work again soon and feel we are doing so with your compassion at our shoulders. We wish we had something we could give back to you. Perhaps for now our heartfelt "thanks" can be enough.'

Letter published in *The Anglican Gazette* – September 2011

Post & Rails

WELCOME

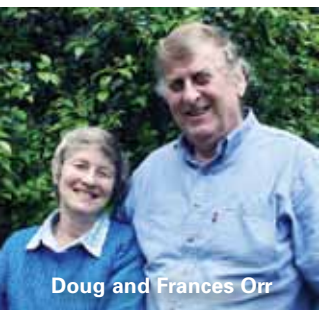
Alison Pearce

has joined the team on Level 7 as Media and Communications Officer, following Mark Henderson's resignation to take up a short radio stint and a trip to the UK.

Alison, who graduated from the University of NSW with a Bachelor of Science (Communication) joined us in August and has quickly caught the vision of BCA. You may in fact notice some subtle changes to our website, Facebook and Twitter. She



Alison Pearce



Doug and Frances Orr

is married to John and they worship at Balgowlah Anglican.

We thank

Doug and

Frances

Orr for

their willingness to serve as BCA Nomad Co-ordinators. Doug and Frances undertook the "big trip" across Australia in 2009, serving with the Christ for Campers team for 6 weeks, from Kununurra to 80 Mile Beach. We look forward to sharing their ideas and enthusiasm to mobilise BCA Nomads to assist our Field Staff in various ways.

VALE

Jeanne Stockdale

Victorian Chairperson, Revd Ernest Horth, his wife Ida and committee members Kelvin and Annette Hill (ex BCA Hostel, Forbes) attended the Memorial Service for Jeanne Stockdale at St. Peter's Box Hill, Victoria on 18th September. It was a very positive witness to the Grace of God



Jeanne Stockdale

working through her life. In the Eulogy considerable time was given to the eight years spent serving as BCA Field Staff at Wilcannia (1953 – 1961) and the impact made through the witness of John and Jeanne who earned the nickname as his 'gatekeeper'. Also mentioned was the time in Melbourne as Victorian Secretary (1961 – 68; and locum 1991 – 92) and involvement with organisations and ministries including CWA; MU; GFS. Jeanne headed up the Central BCA Auxiliary in Melbourne during the late 1970's. She did so with great commitment and energy, plus a very attractive personality and warmth of relationship, yet she was a very private person.

Sylvia Haviland (1910 – 2011)

Sylvia, the second wife of Neville Haviland, passed away at age 102 on 17th September last. Neville was BCA's missionary to Ceduna from 1921 – 1926 and a BCA Van Missioner in 1928. From 1928 to 1929 he was a deputationist for the Colonial & Continental Church Society in London. Neville's health had deteriorated after he left Ceduna and when Sylvia married him in 1940 she knew he did not have long to live. In an audio tape loaned to our Archivist, Clem Kirkby, in 1996, Sylvia commented that she wanted to marry him anyway and had been fortunate enough to have 12 years of a very good marriage together.

THANK YOU

Thanks to the Revd. Canon **John Butler** for his service as Interim National Director, following Brian Robert's departure and Mark Short



John Butler

joining us on 26th September. John is Vice

President of the Society and has been a BCA Councillor since 1978. He served as locum for BCA on Kangaroo Island during the first half of 2010. His four months in the National Office has been a blessing to those on Level 7 and Field Staff alike – thank you John.

FAREWELL

For 11 years **Max and Jan Boyley** have been the eyes, ears and the heartbeat of the BCA Nomads. They have faithfully served as they co-ordinated the needs of our Field Staff with the travel plans and skills of our Nomads. We are thankful to God for their friendship and ministry. See page 16 for their parting reflections.

VACANCIES

In Partnership with the respective Dioceses, the Society is seeking gospel-focussed ministry candidates for Paraburdoo/Tom Price, Coober Pedy and Kangaroo Island. These places have been served by locums during the past year. We give thanks to God for the ministry of all the BCA locums during this period. Continue to pray for the Dioceses and BCA as they seek God's guidance for an appointment in these locations.



CHRISTMAS BREAK The National and Regional Offices will be closed for the Christmas and New Year's break over the following days:

National, Tasmania, Queensland

December 23 (from noon) – January 2, 2012,

Victoria, Western Australia December 24 – January 8, 2012

South Australia December 22 – January 3, 2012

COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

When I was 15 years old, the God who had been part of my life pretty much from birth, became a reality. It was then that I realised just how much I needed new life in Christ, and He became my Saviour and Lord.

It was around that same year that I attended a BCA Rally in the Chapter House of St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne, and listened to Matron Flo Dowling speak of the work at Ceduna Hospital, SA. God called me to the work of BCA then, quite clearly, and I set about gaining the nursing qualifications to obey that call. The Revd Bill Rich was the CEO at that time and I served at Wudinna, Ceduna and Coober Pedy. I left almost 43 years ago, but God's call to work with BCA didn't end there. After my return, I became 'Box Secretary' at my local parish, and was invited to speak at various churches about my experience with BCA. It wasn't long before I was invited onto the Victorian Committee, and I have remained a member since that time. It was when the Revd John Stockdale retired from Federal Council, that I was nominated to take his place, and that began my journeys to Sydney each year – it is well over thirty years ago now! I must admit it took me a while to grasp all the details of the



Lilian Morgan



Lilian Morgan (on left) doing the hand washing in Wudinna

work around Australia, the way in which it is administered, and also to respect the way in which each member contributes to this unique organisation whose aim is 'Australia for Christ'.

When I first became a member of Council, I was the only female on the board – I am thankful to say there are now more, and I am thankful for each of the CEOs who have been part of this journey, as well as the many men and women who have contributed to the office work, supported each member of the staff as opportunity arose, and for those who are 'at the coal face', often in isolated areas.

The wheel has turned full circle this year, and I find myself doing a 'locum' job at Coober Pedy. I gave up nursing some years back and was ordained in the Melbourne Diocese, where I served for 10 years, before retiring early this year. There is no 'retirement' in God's service, only wonderful opportunities to share faith and the good news of the Gospel. What a privilege it has been to partake of this great journey through the work of BCA. I am sure God has so much more in store for this work and for those being called to serve here. The verse that sustained me over my years in nursing and to this day is from 1 Corinthians 12:9 - 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'

Lilian J. Morgan BCA Council Member

From the Archives



Children at the Wilcannia Hostel

Bush Church Aid has provided a ministry to children and youth right from the time of its first Missioner at Wilcannia.

Realising the advantage of children living in towns and attending schools rather than lessons at home, Revd Fred Harvey and his wife cared for 4 or 5 children in their Rectory at Wilcannia until a suitable Hostel building and Staff were procured, enabling more children to live in town and attend school. The Real Australian of April 1921 tells the story, "By the grace of our God and the generosity of his people have wondrous things come to pass. The Society is now the owner of one of the best houses in the township as well as the contents, which latter, by the way, include a piano. The Hostel is thus a permanent establishment in full working order, and with complete equipment. We believe that a new page in the Church history of the Far West has commenced. We pray that it will prove to be one marked with a record of blessing. The Hostel consists of some six or seven large rooms, sleeping out verandahs, etc., built of wood and set in grounds covering about one acre. The whole is securely

fenced; the portion in front of the Hostel being of ornamental iron work. Each room is adequately furnished; the whole being in thorough repair. A pleasant little lawn and garden give a homely touch as well provide a place of recreation and rest to the children.

We believe that the purchase of the property will make a great difference in the attitude of the people in the Far West. Our action will be indication to them that we have come to stay. Thus will they be more willing to confide their children to our care. The Rev. and Mrs Harvey are in charge of the Hostel, and Miss Purcell, whom the Society sent up for special service, is rendering invaluable assistance."

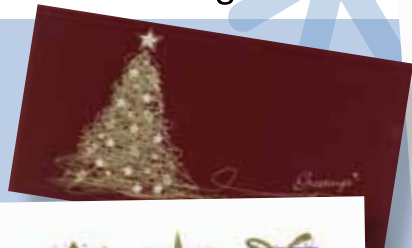
Over the years BCA provided a number of Children's Hostels in various parts of Australia, even facilities for a Radio School. These days, the ministry takes the form of Youth Workers and supporting Religious Education teachers in rural areas.

May the Lord continue to bless this part of BCA's ministry. •

Clem Kirkby

Hon. Archivist

Gift Catalogue



CHRISTMAS CARDS

BCA 016 Pack 10 assorted Christmas cards
Pack 10 cards of your choice (while stocks last)

\$7.50 or \$7.00 for 3 or more packs
\$8.00 or \$7.50 for 3 or more packs

CARDS

BCA 009	Real Australia Greeting Cards	Pack 6	\$7.70
BCA 011	Bygone Days Greeting Cards	Pack 6	\$7.70

MUSIC

BCA 229	Bring on the Day	Garage Hymnal	\$24.95
BCA 233	Super Saviour - Double CD	Colin Buchanan	\$24.95
BCA 223	A Very Very Very Big God	Emu	\$16.95
BCA 219	Meet the King	Emu	\$16.95
BCA 205	Outrageous Praise	2 CD set	\$33.00
BCA 206	Outrageous Praise	Songbook	\$16.50
BCA 210	10,9,8 God is Great	Buchanan	\$24.95
BCA 221	Jesus Rocks the World	Buchanan	\$24.95
BCA 226	Moving Devotions with Buspa	Dreamswork	\$25.00
BCA 227	Colin's Favourites DVD Plus Live in Sydney 2000	Buchanan	\$19.95
BCA 231	J is for Jesus	Karen Pang	\$19.95
BCA 232	Living On The Inside	Greg Jones	\$30.00
BCA 234	Take My Life	Garage Hymnal	\$19.95

BOOKS

BCA 108	Bush Preacher Bites the Dust	Kerry Medway	\$8.00
BCA 117	Desperate	Kerry Medway	\$8.00
BCA 101	The Meaning of Life	Jeanette Fogarty	\$12.00
BCA 111	Fox Tales from Far Flung Places	Barbara Fox	\$16.50
BCA 107	After the Desert	Audrey Aspelng	\$15.00
BCA 112	The Last Lessons	Audrey Aspelng	\$15.00

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

ORDER BY DECEMBER 12 TO ENSURE CHRISTMAS DELIVERY !

COLIN BUCHANAN KING OF CHRISTMAS

BCA 228

King of Christmas DVD \$19.95

BCA 225

King of Christmas CD \$19.95



CAKES & PUDDINGS

BCA 312	500gm Traditional pudding in calico cloth	\$28.00
BCA 313	1kg Traditional pudding in calico cloth	\$43.00
BCA 314	Gluten Free, no added sugar & no dairy 500gm Pudding log	\$31.00
BCA 315	700gm Christmas Cake gift boxed	\$37.00



BOOKS

BCA 137	Hip Hip Hooray – Cookbook	Julie Lanham	\$24.95
BCA 127	Teenage Bushranger	Kerry Medway	\$19.95
BCA 128	Amazing Grace	Peter Rahme	\$7.95
BCA 129	Dying To Be Heard	David Hart	\$44.95
BCA 131	Party Cakes – Cookbook	Julie Lanham	\$24.95
BCA 132	Free Too	Chris Thiele	\$28.50
BCA 135	Losing my Religion	Tom Frame	\$34.95

CHILDRENS BOOKS

BCA 130	Francy The Fearful Firefly	Jen Anderson	\$14.95
BCA 134	Lenny the Lying Lemur	Jen Anderson	\$14.95
	Set of hardcovers		\$27.95

SELF HELP AND EDUCATIONAL

BCA 125	Tibby Briar–Her Story	Phyllis Collie	\$4.00
BCA 123	Good Grief–Bad Time	Terrence C.T. Tung-Yep	\$18.00
BCA 116	Faith & New Frontiers	Brian Underwood	\$22.00
BCA 122	Aboriginal Stereotypes	Alan Rogers	\$8.00
BCA 121	White Fella Culture	A must for Nomads	\$8.00

GIFT IDEAS

BCA 010	BCA Tie	\$25.00
BCA 013	BCA Teatowel (limited stock available)	\$8.00
BCA 014	BCA Goldtone Pen (refillable)	\$7.50
BCA 018	Billy the Bilby – BCA for Kids Mascot	\$15.00
BCA 318	2 Gift-boxed Old Fashioned glasses	\$15.00
BCA 319	2 Gift-boxed High Ball glasses	\$15.00



Response Form

Personal details

Revd/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (*initials*) _____ surname _____
address _____
_____ postcode _____
email _____ telephone _____
Supporter number (*if available*) _____

I would like to receive:

- The Real Australian** magazine & **Prayer Notes** Information about how I can **support BCA through my Will**
- The Real Australian** magazine Information on how I can **donate shares to BCA**
- A money box** for my donations

I would like to support ministry in one of the following three ways:

1. My donation of \$ to BCA's ministry—General Funds

- Please tick here if you need your donation to be placed in a DGR fund
(*Tax deductible—Kirkby Trust; Medical; Outback Education; where most needed*)
- My merchandise Order Form is attached

I would like to pay by:

- Cheque/Money Order Credit card—please complete details below
- Mastercard Visacard American Express

Name on credit card

Credit card number

Expires on _____ Signature _____

2. I wish to make a regular donation

- Monthly Quarterly 6 Monthly Annually
- By direct debit from my account From my credit card

An authorisation form will be sent to you for completion



Billor Code: 88203

3. Donations can be made directly to our bank account. PLEASE use your Supporter number as a reference (or for anonymous donations—the reference ANON followed by the first letter of your State). Our Bank details are: Westpac BSB 032 008 Account 000706

The Bush Church Aid Society Level 7, 37 York Street, SYDNEY, NSW 2000

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