

AUTUMN 2014

the real australian



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How do you choose to celebrate beginnings?

Together with Monica and our boys I welcomed 2014 worshipping on the Port Augusta waterfront. We were there with brothers and sisters who had gathered for the Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship convention under the leadership of AEF President and BCA Field Staffer Neville Naden. In the still-warm darkness we sang "this little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine" accompanied by guitar, harmonica and gumleaf. During the convention we came to understand something of the pain many of our brothers carried with them, but we were also blessed by their spirit of joy and celebration.

In this edition of *The Real Australian* we celebrate a number of significant beginnings - new appointments, new ministries and new opportunities. As on

the waterfront we do this in community. In the Christian life none of us are lone rangers. We journey together, supported by one another. We also celebrate with commitment. BCA Field Staff are commissioned to be light and salt across our land, proclaiming Christ and strengthening his people. Most importantly we celebrate every beginning with confidence - not in ourselves but in Jesus, who has promised to be with His people to the very end of the age.

Perhaps you are facing your own beginnings at this time. My prayer is that God will help you not merely to accept them but to celebrate them - in community, with commitment and with Christ-centred confidence.

Mark Short

National Director

Welcome Aboard

As we journey into another year, it is an appropriate time to both introduce and get to know some new BCA Field Staff that have recently come on board with us. It is an exciting time for both, as well as being one that is full of challenges, it also one of rewards and everything in between.

The first couple who have joined us have taken up the position in Exmouth in Western Australia and they are Frank and Joanne Nicol. As they have lived in the diocese of North West Australia for a number of years, they are well aware of the challenges that families face living in the Pilbara and Kimberley regions. They also have two children Lydia, who was born in 2011 and Eli born late last year 2013. Frank has taught in high schools in both

the Karratha and Kununurra regions and has worshipped in BCA supported churches and both have both taught Bible Study groups in those towns. Frank's training in environmental and marine science is a definite drawcard for tourists going to those places.

It was great to hear from the Nicols and how keen they are for the year ahead and even beyond. It's amazing to hear about how positive people can be when it comes to doing God's work. "Jo and I are excited to be partnering with BCA for the cause of the gospel in Exmouth. With BCA's support we look forward to working with the Christians of Exmouth to proclaim the gospel. Without BCA's help it would not be possible for us to move to Exmouth and share Jesus in that



Frank and Jo Nicol are the new BCA Field Staff for Exmouth




David and Priya Morgan are the new BCA Field Staff for Paraburdoo and Tom Price

place," Frank said.

The second couple that have joined BCA as new Field Staff and are taking up the position in Paraburdoo and Tom Price in Western Australia are David and Priya Morgan. Both have grown up in Christian families and have attended different theological colleges, David is now a presbyter and both are ordained and are ready for a new journey as they move to start a new life in Western Australia. David and Priya have been engaged in Christian ministry for many years. For the last seven years, David has been a youth worker in the Sydney suburb of Merrylands and Priya has worked part time with the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students at the University of Western Sydney and with a subcontinent ministry at St John's Cathedral Parramatta.

"It was really wonderful to be able to visit Paraburdoo and Tom Price towns in October. It was a blessing to meet the Bootsma's (locums) who showed us around, Rob our regional BCA officer, the people at church and some people from the community as well," David explained. "On the one hand there is a real sadness to be leaving our much loved family and friends in Sydney, although on the other hand there is great excitement about joining the congregation of Paraburdoo in their ministry and seeking to relaunch Anglican Church meetings in Tom Price for 2014. We are thankful to God for this opportunity and have already begun to love the people of these towns, may the example of Jesus in laying his life down for us, compel us to serve these people with our lives as well," said David.

Raising Tomorrow's Generation



Jen Schabel is continuing in her role as Catechist for BCA in 2014

a town in Australia. The Bible presents prayer as the most basic gospel-advancing activity. Praise God for the many youth who have responded and are praying for our country. Pray that God is at work in raising up new workers for His harvest field from the younger generations in our churches. There are exciting new initiatives on the horizon in 2014 to see BCA expand its reach to youth. The Bush Scripture Initiative with Genr8 Schools Ministries to support the employment of Bush Scripture Advisers over the next 5 years is one such initiative.

How to involve young Christians in God's mission to share Christ with Australia?

This question has been on my heart and mind over the last year in the role of BCA Youth Promotions Officer, and it is greatly encouraging to know and have witnessed that this is on the hearts and minds of many folk connected with Bush Church Aid also. Thank you for all the ways in which you are faithfully supporting youth ministry across Australia.

Twelve months on in this role, some of the most thrilling experiences in visiting youth groups, church services, school chapels and youth events last year have been seeing youth respond to God's Word in Matthew 9:35-38 by pledging to pray for

Another exciting announcement is that BCA is partnering with the Bible Society to assist students and teachers from rural NSW to access a Masterclass training event in Sydney in July.

Some of the challenges we face in connecting with younger generations around our vast country include distance and isolation. Another is the increasing disconnect between city kids and their country cousins. In view of these challenges, BCA is looking to coordinate a cross-country youth event on October 17th called "Connecting Australia for Christ". This will see youth groups across the country simultaneously learning about

2014 HAPPENINGS FOR YOUTH

CONNECTING AUSTRALIA FOR CHRIST – A CROSS-COUNTRY YOUTH EVENT

This year for the first time BCA will host an event that will unite youth groups across the country in encouraging each other and praying for the work of the Gospel in Australia. Keep an eye on our website for more information and to register: www.bushchurchaid.com.au

BCA YOUTH PROMOTIONS OFFICER AVAILABLE TO VISIT YOUTH GROUPS & SERVICES

Presentation formats are flexible but usually include updates and testimonies from field staff and locals, a Bible study or message with a mission focus, and a call to respond by becoming a regular prayer for a town in Australia (map and prayer cards included).

Contact Jen Schabel for more information: Mobile: 0411 204 586
Email: j.schabel@bushchurchaid.com.au

BCA has many other opportunities and activities to involve young Christians, for example the Dusty Boots Program. See our website for more details:
www.bushchurchaid.com.au



the spread of the Gospel in Australia and encouraging each other through prayer and via the internet! Please let the youth leaders in your church know about this event and to keep an eye on our website for more information. Churches will be able to register for it and receive bible study resources in coming months. We hope that this may become an annual event. Please pray with me that 2014 will see the beginnings of these new BCA youth

initiatives lead many youth to a better and more active understanding of God's mission to share Christ with Australia, for his glory. • *Jenny Schabel will continue working for BCA in 2014 on a one day per week basis, based in Goulburn, and will continue to be available for church and youth group visits in the Sydney and Canberra-Goulburn dioceses. Her email is:*
j.schabel@bushchurchaid.com.au

Jen Schabel

Why BCA is Committed to Disaster Response Projects ...

"1 But now, this is what the Lord says – he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

3 For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour".

(Isaiah 43:1-3)

God has always been interested in the plight of his people. His deepest concern

for his people is for their welfare and their wellbeing. When the waters rise up and the flames descend, God's promises that these experiences would not completely engulf his people or totally destroy them but rather that he will be personally with his people, to redeem them. God is able to achieve this promise because of his character, because of who he is, the "Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your saviour" (Isaiah 43:3).

Jesus is the ultimate expression of God being with us. Jesus is God come amongst us, not just to suffer alongside us, but

more significantly, to die for us so to bring us back into relationship with God. Today, in times of crisis, when the waters rise up and the flames threaten to destroy, Jesus is ever-present, with his body, the church, the instrument with which he acts to provide for the needs and redemption of his people.

BCA's disaster response projects are an expression of Jesus' presence with his people in times of suffering and hardship. These projects are to continue as a central

component of BCA's ongoing work through which Jesus will continue to be a presence in rural and regional Australia in times of hardship and disaster.

Financial support

for BCA's future disaster response work is possible through donations into the BCA Kirkby Trust, a tax deductible account. More information is available on BCA's website: www.bushchurchaid.com.au about how you can support these projects.

The following is an overview of some of BCA's previous disaster relief projects.

Kinglake VIC - Emergency Chaplain Programme

Following the devastating February 2009 Black Saturday Bushfires, BCA in partnership with the Melbourne Anglican Diocese supported the work of Ernest and



Tracey Wolsley



BCA drought aid 2002

Ida Horth as emergency chaplains in and around the township of Kinglake. Over a period of 2 years following the disaster, Ernest and Ida visited locals in the area, offering friendship, emotional support and spiritual counselling.

Bendigo VIC - Our Place Ministries, Community Outreach

Also following the February 2009 Black Saturday Bushfires, the Anglican Diocese of Bendigo in partnership with BCA and other non-government Christian based charities, established a disaster response programme known as Our Place Ministries. The programme involved initial disaster response activities such as counselling and chaplaincy services, material aid, and a programme of community activities such as play groups, and other support groups.

Western NSW - BCA Drought Aid Programme

The early 2000's were a period of dry conditions and limited rain over a large part

of Western NSW. In response to concerns regarding the plight of drought-affected communities, BCA introduced a programme known as 'Drought Aid'. The 'Drought Aid Programme' involved a number of elements including the weekly delivery of stock



fodder to 21 locations across western NSW over an 18-month period, informal community gatherings as part of the weekly fodder deliveries; and the introduction of a voucher programme redeemable in some local retail outlets in drought affected communities.

Rowena Miers, Disaster Relief Research

BCA Celebrates Christmas



A few of the leaders put on a skit for the children

There were a number of joyous gatherings as BCA celebrated Christmas at the end of 2013. All over the country there were a number of festivities, Christmas services and carols held in different locations by BCA Field Staff. Our first story is from Holbrook, NSW which took place on Christmas Eve...

As a way of celebrating Jesus' birth and connecting with families, a new family and children's carol service was held on Christmas Eve at Holbrook this year. We attempted the same thing in 2012, but a freak windstorm at 4pm brought down many trees in the area (including one which just missed the house), and led to a number of people staying away. Thankfully, this year, the weather was uneventful. The service, however, was lively! We were thrilled to have 38 adults and 24 children come along. We held it in the church hall which was decorated with a nativity scene and Christmas tree and lots of lights and

tinsel. Children dressed up and a few of them brought in gifts during We Three Kings. The service included a number of Bible readings, many carols, a puppet play, a short video and talk, prayers, and a retelling of the Christmas story using different types of chocolates. During parts of the service we shut the blinds and turned off the main lights to give it a dreamy atmosphere – very nice during Silent Night. Reports from both adults and children, including regular and non-regular church attenders, were very positive. We thank God that the service went so well, and pray that those who came would have left with a clear understanding of the priceless gift of Christ and how precious it is to know him.

James Coats

On the other side of the country in Newman, they were celebrating Christmas in another way and it was another total surprise for those who attended the event,



There was a fantastic turnout over this holiday period

especially our Field Staff there.

As many of you will be aware, we had been asking for prayer for five months, leading up to the Newman Community Carols night on the 1st Dec 2013. We wanted Jesus glorified. The only answer to this was prayer, diligence, and good organisation. We were determined to run a purely Christian event. We began organising in July and we prayed each week in church for the carols night which at times seemed so far away. As Christians, we saw this as a great opportunity to present the gospel in our community. The theme of the night was "Whose Birthday?" Can you imagine our joy when people just kept arriving? The night kicked off with Derek asking the 700 strong crowd, "Whose birthday are we celebrating?" To hear such a loud response of "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus," set the tone. The choir, the nativity play and the message, all glorified our wonderful Saviour. We were even asked for three encores. As our warden

Warren - who's been to every Carol's night for the past 15 years said at the end of the night - something like this is only possible through prayer.

Amanda McArtney

In Lightning Ridge... Our carols event this year was a great night and a great encouragement. The last few years I've been 'lazy', holding carols at the church. Putting in effort to involve people in the community paid off and we probably tripled the number of people coming. Rotary provided snacks, the central school provided a great venue and a kids choir, the newspaper actively advertised the event, the gymnastics club sold glow sticks. The church provided the music, decorations, and a Christ-centred short talk. And local kids acted out the nativity story to everyone's delight! Praise God!

David Piper

The Lukes' Under Construction



Barry and Avril Luke have felt the immediate support from their Bush Church Aid family. The Luke's have been in Roxby Downs for twenty three years, are firmly planted in the community and now having joined BCA last year, are ready for new challenges and even greater rewards this year.

They have felt the immediate support knowing that one day each month there will many people praying for them. Barry explained that, "It changes your heart and means we are not in this alone and we have this immediate family and prayer support and encouragement." Job security is a big issue in these communities and Barry, who is a Chaplain at the Olympic Dam mining

site, knows that these times of uncertainty are challenging for the mining industry. "They need something that is stable and God is stable, they need stability." The isolation in Roxby Downs is also a challenge not only for workers on the mining sites; it's just as much a challenge for their families at home. "People just need to hear good news stories. There is always a God ordained time to share his love. Any time is a good time," Barry says. He desires to make every meeting he has, God glorified.

Avril works as the Parish Administrator at the Roxby Downs Community Church,

coordinating the Know Your Bible Study each week as well as being part of the Pastoral Care Ministry and gets to talk to a lot of women in the area too. "Having been there for so many years, joining with BCA is another part of the progression within our community and when people heard Barry was becoming chaplain they said, about time too," Avril said. Upon taking on the role with BCA, Avril told me that, "It was amazing to receive emails from two people we didn't even know and haven't met to encourage us."

Just before the end of last year, Barry was ordained and commissioned with his wife to start their journey as BCA Field Staff. Barry recounts his journey of before

and after the event and what it means for them. As he and the two other Ordinands started the retreat on Tuesday night, four days before they were to be Ordained, he was told it was going to be a silent retreat and thought, "here we go, this is not going to work for me, I am a person who enjoys interacting with people, you know, listening and TALKING! Me silent, you must be joking!" Though as the retreat went on, he was quite surprised that it was actually a joy to be silent and take in the great teaching from Bishop John Stead, to explore God and His word. Bishop John and Jan made them feel very welcome and Barry was blessed by their company and hospitality. When the big day arrived, he remembered very little of the rehearsal,

except instead of butterflies in the stomach, it was like Gazelles on steroids. "During the service it hit me that I was being ordained as a Deacon, into God's service and I became quite overwhelmed and quite humbled as the emotions started welling up inside me, I was starting to get tears forming as I was facing the congregation. I needed to stop and focus on what was actually happening, as I was certainly going to miss a cue from the Bishop if I wasn't careful," Barry said.

The whole experience has left me with much to ponder. A silent retreat can be quite beneficial; it is really important that we take time out to be with God, to rest and restore, and it is an honour to serve a mighty God whom I worship and love. •

SUPPORT BCA IN YOUR WILL

MAKE YOUR MONEY WORK FOR THE GOSPEL WHEN YOU HAVE ENTERED THE KINGDOM.

MANY LIVES CONTINUE TO GROW TOWARDS JESUS THROUGH THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED FRIENDS OF BCA

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MAKING A BCA BEQUEST CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL OFFICE OR COMPLETE THE FORM INSIDE THE BACK COVER



Which Bank? Food Bank!



Clare and Ruth packing food for the APOSS food bank

What better way to love as a church, than to be able to give away to those who are in need. That is exactly what APOSS (or the Anglican Parish Of Sunraysia South) has begun to do through a new and exciting programme which directly works to serve the local community.

The new initiative at Sunraysia South in 2013 was the establishment of a food bank outlet. The church had been receiving requests for practical help from time to time. We were trying to service this through a voucher system, but it was becoming financially unviable. We met with a representative from Foodbank Victoria and found out how we could be involved as a food bank outlet. We first needed a place to store the food. Thanks to the generosity of a congregation member, we were able to purchase a second hand compactus unit which was ideal. The church orders food as required and it is delivered to the church. The food is either free or at a greatly reduced rate and delivery is also included. At the moment we just have non-perishable goods as we do not yet have the facilities to

store refrigerated or frozen food. The food is put in family size boxes to hand out to people.

Our goal is not to become a major agency of food relief. However, we do want to care for our community members in practical ways as well as spiritual ways. We want to proclaim and live the gospel. It is great that as a church we are able to serve our community in this way. It is envisioned that most of the people we help out will be through personal relationships. People helped so far have included fruit pickers from the Pacific islands, a grieving family from the local primary school, and some locals who are struggling. This is a team ministry and it is served well by Fay, Mark, Ruth, and Clare who all play an important role. We thank God that he has enabled this ministry to begin. In God's grace it may play its part in our overall ministry of proclaiming Christ and living as followers of Jesus. Thanks to BCA supporters for your continued support and prayers that have been vital in our ministry.

Dale Barclay, Sunraysia South

Open Children's Garden



Some little ones enjoying the Open Children's Garden

Each year the church runs an Open Gardens day in the Holbrook community. Four families from the community offer to open their beautiful gardens for the public to enjoy.

One of the gardens hosts a lunch which is run by a local charity or community group as a fund-raiser for themselves. The Church also raises money from this event by charging a \$5 entry fee to each

garden. It was a wonderful community day as people got out together to enjoy the amazing creativity of the gardeners and of course our designer God!

After visiting the gardens our children Eleanor and Miriam wanted to host their own Open Garden! We aren't very good gardeners but thanks to lots of self-sufficient bulbs and the recent hard work of a friend from church our garden was looking lovely. So the girls got to work scrubbing everything in sight outside and then tidying the



toys inside! I phoned a few of their little friends and following kids church the next day we had an Open Children's Garden. We had bubbles, the trampoline, face painting pens, sausages in bread, a cake from the freezer, and a garden treasure hunt to finish. Both the adults and the kids had a lot

of fun and it was very little effort on my part. We all agreed that sometimes the kids are the best social organisers. Well done kids!

James Coats, Holbrook

Notice of the Annual General Meeting



The Bush Church Aid Society of Australia

for the purpose of adopting the audited accounts of the Society for the financial year ended 31st December, 2013 and to elect Councillors

Wednesday 14th May at 9:30am Anderledy Lodge, 80 William St, North Sydney

Queensland and Northern NSW

Saturday 15th March 2014, 9:30am

St John's Church, 10 Greenwood Street,
Wishart QLD 4122

**Followed by the Bush and Bible Day at
10:30am**

Speakers will be Rt Revd Rick Lewers, Bishop of Armidale and Revd Geoff Chambers of Tamworth.

\$15 includes morning tea and lunch

RSVP by 6th March 2014 07 3349 9081 or
marj@bushchurchaid.com.au

South Australia and Northern Territory

Saturday 5th April 2014, 12 noon

Christ Church, Jeffcott St, North Adelaide
Featuring The Life and Times of Field Staff
– then and now.

\$15 to cover the cost of the provided lunch

RSVP by 31st March 2014 to SA/NT Ministry
Centre 1300 733 706

Victoria and Tasmania

Friday 2nd May 2014, 6:15pm for a

6:45pm start

St Paul's Anglican Church, Cnr Dorset and
William Roads, Boronia

Guest Speaker: The Hon John Anderson,
former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia

\$30.00 per head to cover a Prime Stud

Gourmet Spit Roast dinner, desserts, pre-dinner drinks and nibbles

RSVP by Friday 25th April victoria@
bushchurchaid.com.au or 03 9457 7556

New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory

Thursday 10th April 2014, 12pm

BCA Boardroom, Level 7, 37 York St Sydney

Guest Speaker: Revd Andy Goodacre –
Imagine Project – Launceston University

Light lunch provided, a small donation to cover
lunch costs would be appreciated

RSVP by 4th April, 2014 by phone 02 9262
5017 or email vika@bushchurchaid.com.au

Western Australia

The BCA Luncheon and AGM

Saturday 5th April 2014

St Peter's Anglican Church,
7 Crisafulli Ave, Wanneroo

Speakers: Frank and Jo Nicol from Exmouth
11:30am for 12 noon start

Cost: \$20 per head (\$15 concession)

RSVP to 1300 554 025 or email or
wa@bushchurchaid.com.au

The Treasures of the Bible conference will be happening at Mooroopna Anglican Church, in Victoria, between the 21st and 23rd of March 2014

Headlining the conference will be speaker and Biblical Counsellor Andrew Olsen with a number of discussion sessions and talks. Andrew is going to guide the weekend through some of the 'Treasures of the Bible' and 'Jewels of the Faith'. He has spoken at a number of Bible colleges around the country and this weekend will be a great chance to see and hear him speak.

The theme this year will be 'Jewels of the Faith' and there will be a number of workshops and seminars, including topics on how to share your faith, practising community, what others believe and working with the spirit. These will be led by Bernie Power, Katrina Robinson and Andrew Plant. There will also be a number of activities happening over the weekend including Laser Tag on the Saturday night for some of the younger audience if they would like to get involved in that activity.

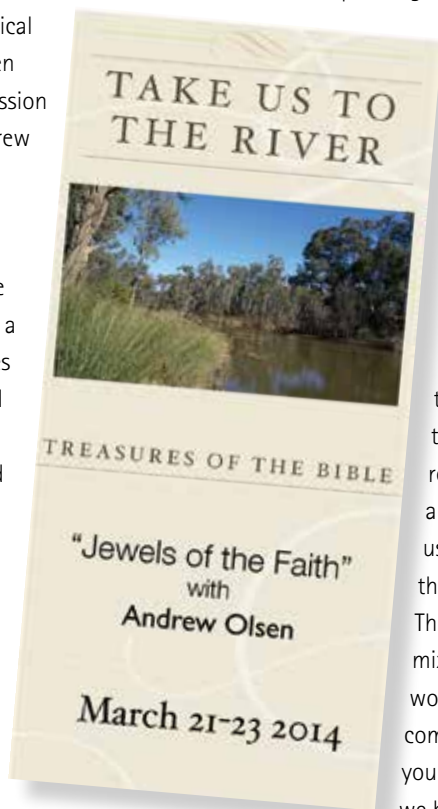
Mooroopna is located in central Victoria, across the river from Shepparton, approximately 2 hours north of Melbourne.

The Mooroopna Anglican Church is found in the old SPC-Ardmona Canteen. We are running a conference with assistance from Bush Church Aid and the Leon and Mildred Morris Foundation. Our aim is to run a conference that inspires people to God's story as revealed in the Bible and encourage each of us to share our trust in that story with others. This is done through a mix of teaching, singing, workshops and Christian companionship. We hope you will pray for us as we begin planning this endeavour, you may

also consider whether you might come along. More information can be found at Mooroopna Anglican Church website. There is a full programme and more information on the talks and speakers:

<http://www.mooroopnaanglican.com/new/treasures.html>

From the Church



A Different Nomadic Experience

2014 promises to be a year building on the blessings of 2013. It presents so many opportunities to make a difference and encourage.

Being a BCA Nomad presents a wonderful way to combine travel and service, utilising our life skills, gifts, crafts and professional training, be it near to home, across the continent or on one of the islands of our Southern shores, for a week or as long as we are called.

How often when talking about BCA Nomads do we hear the expression 'grey' in the description, and while it is true that predominantly the ministry is made up of retired couples able to spend time travelling, it should not be perceived as limited to these people. A percentage of the ministry of assisting 'Bush Churches' follows a pattern of advanced planning, often with months of notice of tasks required. Nungalinga College in Darwin was just such an example in 2013 (and will be in 2014) whereby Property Manager, Neil Black and BCA were able to plan well in advance the considerable amount of assistance our Nomads would be able to contribute to the college. That it was beneficial to the college is best expressed by Dr Jude Long – Principal – "we couldn't have done it without you."

Nungalinga and locations in the far

North and West may not be feasible destinations for Nomads to assist where, allowing for travel, practically one needs a minimum of 4 weeks. Closer to those of us living in the East however does present opportunities for shorter term nomading, and the flexibility to respond to requests for assistance from the 'Field Staff'. Early in the

year the Nomads were able to respond on several such situations. Adelong/Tarcutta was in need of urgent maintenance on their church property, a request met on short notice by several teams

of Nomads from Sydney. They made such a difference that it featured in the 'Tumut/Adelong Times'. Walgett / Collarenebri also benefitted greatly from the availability of BCA Nomads to respond on minimum notice. Tory and Jo Cayzer, recently moved from Tamworth into Walgett where much needed to be done on all the church properties both there and Collarenebri. This situation was met by a strong team from St James Turrumurra. Apart from the belief that nomading is for 'oldies' and a long term commitment, another misconception of being a BCA Nomad is that of believing that it's all about 'church property maintenance' that one needs both the skills and physical abilities to undertake such labours. Not so, the following is a small



Nomads at work

representation of ministry opportunities expressed by the Field Staff.

We're always looking for speakers for our men's and women's breakfasts, OH&S and Risk Management Assessment Training, Church canteen duties at community functions. A development business plan for a Coffee Shop and Women's Craft Nights, as well as curtain making for BCA House, developing promotional material, DVD's, Power Points etc. There is a need for cooking Ministry for freezing, craft workshops, teaching computer skills and communication technology.

As so aptly expressed by Sir Wilfred Grenfell: "When you set out to commend

your Gospel to men who do not particularly want it, there is only one way to go about it – to do something for them that they will be sure to understand."

We should not lose sight of the rich rewards that fellowship, support and sharing brings both to ourselves, and significantly to those in the field in near and isolated locations. You can learn more on BCA Nomads at bushchurchaid.com.au

BCA Office 02 92625017 or 02 9634 4138, 0427 818 476 , 0490 055 397
nomads@bushchurchaid.com.au

Doug & Frances Orr
BCA Nomad Coordinators

Drought

The grass dry and brown

The waters going down

The lack of food

Puts animals in a not so happy mood

The mighty rivers flow no more

For in the drought the feed is poor

After many months of dry

And a harsh unforgiving sky

Our many wishes blessed

The storm clouds make a big dark nest

Very slowly water falls from the skies far above

The rain falling downwards I really do love

A land I share with others

A place I'll never leave

My home forever onwards

My family and me

Maddy Kirshner (aged 12)



Maddy Kirshner is the daughter of Nick Kirshner and Desleigh McMahon who own and operate a 680 acre sheep and cattle farm in Numbla Vale via Dalgety as well as operating their real estate stock and station agency business.

Maddy has just started year 7 at The Snowy Mountains Christian School at Cooma and during her spare time, enjoys doing stock work

on her horse named Samson with her parents as well as skiing in winter.

For the King's Glory



Stuart Haynes being prayed for at his Ordination Service

There are many circumstances in life that bring new experiences and change, although that does not always require moving in a geographical sense.

It can in fact happen in many other ways. Something new can always take place for individuals and families and that was definitely the case for BCA Field Staff Stuart Haynes and his family towards the end of 2013.

Stuart and Katherine and their daughter Christina have been living in the central Queensland mining town since the beginning of 2013. They have been serving at the local Anglican Church and Katherine also works as a chaplain at the local high school.

Recently Stuart was called to embark on a new part of his journey and another aspect of his ministry in Moranbah that required a big step of faith. Stuart was ready and willing to take that step and was ordained as a deacon by Bishop Godfrey Fryar at St Paul's Cathedral, Rockhampton

on 1st November 2013. It was the start of something new for Stuart and it was important that he was able to have the support that is so crucially important when embarking on a new journey. Reflecting on the ordination Stuart recalls that, "in some respects it was like the beginning. It was wonderful having family come along to support me, including my wife Katherine, my daughter Christina, my parents Frank and Helen, our Aunty Jan from the Gold Coast, cousin Debbie from Hervey Bay and friends from all around the Diocese. Ian McGrath (BCA's Queensland/North NSW Regional Officer) came up from Brisbane with his wife, wonderful support all round."

It was clear that this decision was not one that Stuart took lightly and he shared about the journey so far and how this turning point was one of great significance when he said that, "A beautiful symbol I was given whilst on retreat before the Ordination that represented my heart and ministry. It was a bowl and towel. Just as

Jesus served, this is my desire, to serve both God and others. The Ordination in this respect is the beginning of this lifelong service and calling and discovering the true value of people from God's perspective." This not only represents Stuart's heart, it represents how he realises the call of God on his life and that he wants to put people on the forefront of his mind and heart. That was an important step for Stuart to recognise and the reason he will be able to have those interactions with people in a meaningful way.

The nature of life in Moranbah means that people are constantly moving in and out of town and that can mean it is often hard to get to know people. However that will be no barrier for the work that God has led Stuart and the Haynes family to in that place and that will not interrupt what God is trying to achieve through them. What Stuart and his family have recognised is that what they are doing there is important for the work of the gospel and for Christ to reach the people of that town. It is something that they want to continually strive for and BCA will continue to pray that people come to know Christ in that place and are partnering with them in that mission. It is great to hear how passionate people are, even when they have been in ministry for a number of years. This ministry is certainly one that God will continue to bless in the years to come and it will be exciting to hear exactly how God does that.

In the words of Stuart himself it is, "For the King of kings".



10 Day Holiday

Departs Tuesday September 30, 2014

TOUR FEATURES

- Return air travel to Adelaide and return with Qantas
- Air conditioned comfortable touring coach
- Accommodation all with private facilities
- Fully cooked breakfast
- Usually picnic lunches
- 2 course or 3 course dinner
- Meet with the BCA Field Staff and the local Christian people in various centres
- Devotions each day led by your Christian tour leader
- Worship in the Underground Catacomb Church in Coober Pedy
- A wonderful "Outback" experience

Download brochure from our website or email BCATours@bushchurchaid.com.au

Tracks of Grace

"I had a dream" – so the song goes and I had a dream once when I was about 17. My dream was to be a nurse with BCA in the bush hospital at Ceduna, so I set out to do nurse training finally graduating four years later when I was 21.

Then I needed to know about midwifery and another 12 months went by and the dream faded as overseas travel, marriage and family became my priority.

Now, well into my 60's and a Deacon, I came across an advertisement for relief ministry opportunities with BCA. In a moment of rare courage and daring I sent off an application to serve wherever God needed me to be. "Would you like to go to Red Cliffs?" I did say I'd go anywhere, but where was Red Cliffs? Answer...roughly 1,000kms due west from where I live in the Snowy Mountains. It was a beautiful drive through undulating fields of rich green lucerne, healthy paddocks of wheat and golden canola, the glory of God's creation in full display. I was quite apprehensive and nervous about the forthcoming weeks being all alone in a strange house and not knowing a soul, but God is awesome and he had everything under control.

The blessings continued as I came to know my Christian brothers and sisters in this western corner of the state. I'm sure they ministered to me more than the reverse, as I was able to listen to their concerns, pray with folk and to get involved in their community. I enjoyed the opportunity to preach and be involved in services at church and at the aged care

hostel. I hope they too are now more aware of the Deacons' ministry.

Here on Monaro I can liken my ministry to sheep and shepherds. Out at Red Cliffs it was all about the fruit of the vine, productive branches and new wine skins. I could see vineyard parables everywhere I looked! I was saddened to see firsthand the plight of our citrus growers, the declining numbers of vineyards and ongoing water distribution problems. But like farmers everywhere, the folk are hardworking, forever optimistic and can still smile and reach out to help others when needed.

So what came out of this adventure? Firstly, the ministry family were able to have a holiday knowing the parish was being cared for. I really enjoyed looking after their chickens and taking their two dogs for walks through the vineyards. Secondly, the congregation had opportunity to pull together, to keep the wheels turning and to put on some great meals for this visiting Deacon. Lastly, my faith and trust in God's provision and leading is now absolutely without doubt.

I now know the meaning of not being anxious and experiencing that peace of God which really does pass all understanding. I thank BCA for trusting me with the opportunity to minister in the beautiful Anglican Parish of Sunraysia South - known as APOSS!

Edith Mayhew



COUNCILLORS COLUMN

**Life is full of new beginnings, isn't it?
Here are just a few that we experience:**

BIRTH

FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL

FIRST DAY IN A NEW JOB

WEDDING DAY

THE ARRIVAL OF CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN



John Nicholls

I'm sure you can think of many more. We experience these things only once and then they are over. However, the greatest and most profound new beginning is the one offered by God through His Son Jesus Christ. This new beginning lasts forever. I get the feeling Paul could hardly contain himself when he described it: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (1 Corinthians 5:17 ESV)

The new beginning found in Jesus Christ is also the most precious. As we surrender our lives to Jesus we are completely forgiven. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. A new life, a fresh start, a new birth. No matter what we have done, said, thought or failed to do is washed away and we start a new life with Jesus as our King. We are also given the gift of eternal life so that we can be with God now and forever. I still clearly remember the overwhelming sense of gratitude I felt as

God forgave me forty years ago. I continue to be overwhelmed with gratitude as I experience His love and forgiveness every day.

As I write this I am reminded of another verse from Paul: Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15 NIV). We are all sinners (rebels against God) and we all need the Saviour, Jesus Christ. It doesn't matter how young or old we are. Have you put your trust in Jesus?

I love being part of BCA! It exists to win Australia for Christ by sending faithful Christians into regional, rural and remote parts of Australia to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ so that people may have the opportunity to respond to His love and forgiveness and have a new beginning.

•
**John Nicholls,
Councillor**

Post and Rails



David & Priya Morgan

WELCOME

David & Priya Morgan were commissioned on 14th January as BCA Field Staff and appointed to Paraburdoo/Tom Price in North West Australia. David was also ordained Presbyter by Bishop Gary Nelson. Their recent ministry has been with Merrylands Anglican Church and Priya worked part time as a cross cultural worker for Western Sydney. They will move to Paraburdoo in March this year.



The Nicols

Frank and Jo Nicol have been commissioned as BCA Field Staff for ministry in Exmouth. NWA, Frank has been the assistant minister at Port Hedland for some years and previously lived and worked as a school teacher in Karratha

and Kununurra, before he and Jo attended Trinity Theological College in Perth. They have two children – Lydia (2½ years) and Eli just 4 months old.

VALE

Ron Beard

Hilltop, NSW 24.5.1934 – 3.12.2013

The chapel of St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Mittagong was full for the Memorial Service of Ron Beard who served with BCA in Exmouth from 1970 to 1973, and then as NSW State Secretary until 1974. The Revd

Canon John Livingstone read a simple service of committal. He spoke of a man who honoured God and served him faithfully.

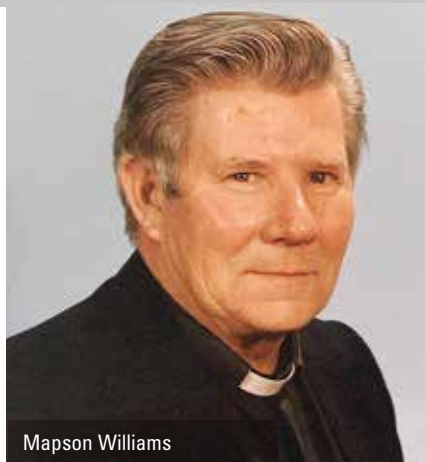


Ron Beard

A number of clergy attended including past President of the Society, Archbishop Harry Goodhew and his wife Pam, who had also served with BCA in Ceduna. The Archbishop commented that "I will always remember Ron along with Bishop Howell Witt (NWA). They worked together: two small men with great hearts for God and great compassion for people."

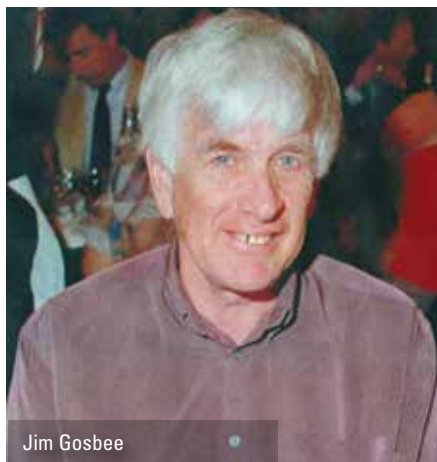
Mapson Williams 31.7.1918 – 8.12.2013

Mapson and his wife, Ruth served with BCA in Wilcannia from 1983 – 1986. His Thanksgiving service was held at St. Augustine's, Bulli by the



Mapson Williams

Bishop Reg Piper, who commented that Mapson was an interesting person, and one who certainly spent his time in the hard places. Indicative of this was Mapson's and Ruth's commitment to minister in Wilcannia when he was in his mid 60's. Mapson is survived by his wife, Ruth.



Jim Gosbee

Jim Gosbee, 6.5.1936 – 11.12.2013. BCA National Accountant and Office Manager from September 1986 to May 1999. Jim died following a long battle with leukemia.



Sister Vaisey Cochrane

To all those who knew him, he was a humble, loving and caring man. He loved his Lord Jesus and he loved to sing. The Ku-ring-gai Male Choir, of which Jim was a member sang at the Thanksgiving Service. Jim is survived by his wife of 50 years and 7 months, Helen, and his children Jane and Stephen and their families. The Revd Roger Green who conducted the Thanksgiving Service said of Jim's working life, that "BCA was where Jim was meant to be".

Sr. Vaisey Cochrane who was Sister-in-Charge at Tarcoola Hospital and then at Coober Pedy died last Christmas Eve aged 90. Her funeral was held at Williamstown, where Sr. Cochrane had done her General Nursing training at the District Hospital from 1943-1946 and returned to following 5½ years with BCA. She served at Ceduna/ Penong from 1960-61, Tarcoola and Cook Hospitals from 1961-65 and finally at Coober Pedy from 1965-66.

From the Archives

Everyone thought Nickel was the future... And so did BCA.

This year marks the centenary of the Diocese of Kalgoorlie, which lasted for only fifty eight years before being re-absorbed into the Diocese of Perth. The following story of BCA's involvement in that Diocese is a timely reminder that while a lot in our world is temporary, the fruit of God's work will last forever.

Kambalda and Norseman were not pop-up mining towns in WA. Being near Kalgoorlie they were the result of gold discoveries in the late 1890's. So in the 1960's when the discovery of the Nickel deposits under Kambalda happened, it caused huge excitement from the local shop keeper through to the stock markets of the world. The free nickel price skyrocketed from £1500 per ounce to £7000 in just 10 months during 1969. Mining and prospecting companies were everywhere and that meant people uprooted from elsewhere and moved in; causing fractured families and lives scattered, with the church struggling to do more than an occasional Eucharist a few times a year. Poseidon's shares may have risen from under \$1 to

\$270 in just three months, but the local church could not afford to pay a minister even if it could find someone to go.

While iron ore set the new outback ministry of the 50's going in NWA's Pilbara region for BCA, it was only a decade later that the nickel boom of the late 60's sent



Revd Ron and Colleen Ross

calls for help from the Bishop of Kalgoorlie to 135 Bathurst Street.

Through Bill Rich, the Organising Missioner at the time, John Wyndham was placed as locum. As arrangements firmed, Blair Grace took the task on from Norseman, coupling the mining ministry produced by the

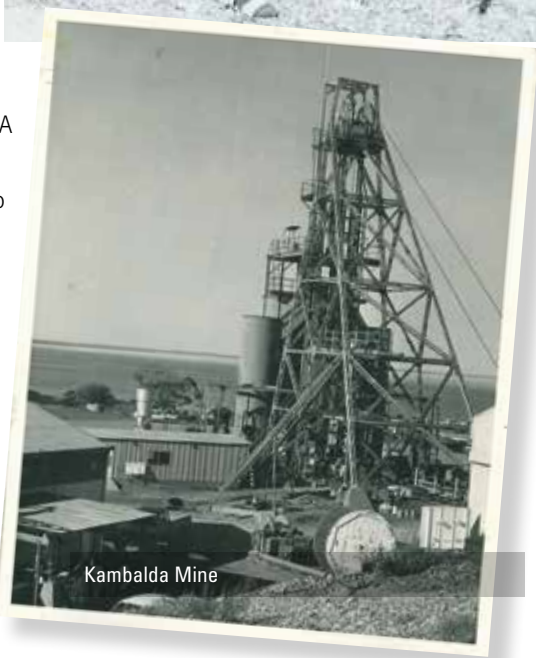
boom, with the isolated contacts along the Eyre Hwy. Meanwhile in Kambalda, Ray Neve, fresh from BCA Wilcannia and Menindee saw full-on ministry generated by the Nickel boom, for a term before moving to fill the spot vacated by Blair at Norseman, while Charlie White carried on the work pioneered at Kambalda.

Alas! The Boom had passed and the church now started making arrangements for amalgamations. First Kambalda and Norseman joined, then the Anglican

and Uniting and finally and significantly the Diocese of Kalgoorlie was absorbed back into the Diocese of Perth. This gave the Bishop of Perth an instant load of struggling areas to cover. It was significant because BCA had a working charter at the time that would focus its resources in rural and country dioceses and not Metropolitan ones.

The task now was to work out a solution which honoured the work laid down by the BCA clergy and local people over the previous fifteen years and yet ask the Perth diocese to take the running for finding the clergy and finance for their own 'bush' areas. Not wanting to cause distress but move towards honouring the BCA charter, the Society supported ministry for the next ten years to allow for an orderly transition. Periods of a grant-in-aid and then the placement of a local diocesan man Ron Ross in 1988. At the end of Ron's term in late 1992 the Society's task was complete. Many Australians had been reached with the gospel and ministered to in the name of Christ.

• **Brian Roberts Hon Archivist**



Kambalda Mine

Catalogue



REDUCED PRICE BOOKS

With school back and children's parties starting, these cakes will add a sparkle to any celebration!
Full colour photos and step by step instructions

BCA 131 Party Cakes – Julie Lanham
BCA 137 Hip Hp Hooray – Julie Lanham
\$20.00 each (usually \$24.95) or \$35.00 for the set of 2

CARDS

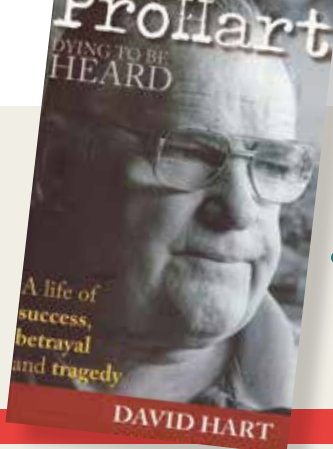
| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| BCA 009 | Real Australia Greeting Cards | Pack 6 | \$7.70 |
| BCA 011 | Bygone Days Greeting Cards | Pack 6 | \$7.70 |

MUSIC

| | | | |
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| 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 | Colin Buchanan | \$19.95 |
| BCA 228 | King of Christmas DVD | Colin Buchanan | \$19.95 |
| BCA 225 | King of Christmas CD | Colin Buchanan | \$24.95 |
| 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 |
| BCA 235 | Seventy Times Seven by Steve Morrison | Steve Morrison | \$24.95 |

BOOKS

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| 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 |



REDUCED PRICE BOOKS

BCA 132 Free Too – Chris Teale
Past BCA Field Staff, Chris combines careful research of historical records with his ability to tell stories to bring to life the events of Hobart Town and the new colony's desperate struggle for survival. Now \$20.00

BCA 129 Pro Hart Dying To Be Heard – David Hart
The Ned Kelly of the art world, Pro Hart stood on high ground against popular thinking. His is an inspirational story of success, betrayal and tragedy. Half Price! \$22.95

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|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| BCA 107 | After the Desert | Audrey Aspling | \$15.00 |
| BCA 112 | The Last Lessons | Audrey Aspling | \$15.00 |
| BCA 127 | Teenage Bushranger | Kerry Medway | \$19.95 |
| BCA 128 | Amazing Grace | Peter Rahme | \$7.95 |
| BCA 129 | Dying To Be Heard | David Hart | ON SPECIAL \$22.95 |
| BCA 131 | Party Cakes – Cookbook | Julie Lanham | ON SPECIAL \$20.00 |
| BCA 137 | Hip Hip Hooray – Cookbook | Julie Lanham | ON SPECIAL \$20.00 |
| BCA 132 | Free Too | Chris Thiele | ON SPECIAL \$20.00 |
| BCA 135 | Losing my Religion | Tom Frame | \$34.95 |

CHILDRENS BOOKS

| | | | |
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| BCA 133 | Francy The Fearful Firefly | Jen Anderson | \$14.95 |
| BCA 134 | Lenny the Lying Lemur | Jen Anderson | \$14.95 |
| | Set of hardcovers | | ON SPECIAL \$25.00 |
| BCA 236 | Quiz Worx pack (CD and Comic) | | \$19.95 |

SELF HELP AND EDUCATIONAL

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| BCA 125 | Tibby Briar–Her Story | Phyllis Collie | \$4.00 |
| BCA 123 | Good Grief–Bad Time | Terrence C.T. Tung-Yep | \$18.00 |
| BCA 122 | Aboriginal Stereotypes | Alan Rogers | \$8.00 |
| BCA 121 | White Fella Culture | A must for Nomads | \$12.00 |

GIFT IDEAS

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|----------------|--|--|---------|
| BCA 010 | BCA Tie | | \$25.00 |
| BCA 013 | BCA Teatowel | | \$8.00 |
| BCA 014 | BCA Goldtone Pen (refillable) | | \$7.50 |
| BCA 018 | The BCA Bilby – BCA For Kids Mascot | | \$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 Viscard 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

