



Crossroads News



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NSW Inc.

A Ministry advocating for and
involving people with Disabilities

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Chairman's Chat

- Andrew Blamey

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Subscriptions

Please check the top right hand corner of the label on the envelope to see when you are paid till. Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year and are due April.

Next Edition

All types of items are encouraged. Please send all items for the next edition by the September 10th 2004 (emails preferred).



"Daaaad..... I want to make something!" Just the words a father wants to hear first thing on a Saturday morning, especially when he already has a long list of things planned to be done.

"What do you want to make" says dad sheepishly.

"Ummmm..... I want to make a fighter plane" says young son.

Well plans change, wood is found, sketches are made and a plane is built and painted. The son gets to learn all sorts of new skills and abilities and Dad even enjoys the time as well!

"Dad this is a great plane we have built,

thankyou for helping me" says son. Just the words to complete the day for Dad as he thinks about the time gifted to his son. We all have a father who has given so much more for each of us. God not only created this world for us but was willing to give His son Jesus to allow us to come back into friendship with Him.

After such a small offering of time to a son to make a plane, the thankyou of the son is so appreciated and relished. How much more so does God deserve all our thankyous, love and appreciation for what He has done for everyone of us. Thank God now with a loving prayer.

PS Do you enjoy reading Crossroads News? If you do then please show your copy to someone else and suggest they also subscribe.

From The Editor



I recently visited a friend and to my great surprise and delight saw a copy of the Crossroads magazine, which someone had given them to read, sitting on their kitchen table. Apparently, another friend who is on the mailing list passes the magazine on when they finish reading it. What a great practice! Why not get into the habit of passing your copy on also? Who knows, it might result in more people subscribing.

Having now been associated with Hal Drayton's Christmas tours for some years I wondered what the response might be if a New Zealand Christmas/New Year 2005 trip was organised. Are you interested? What I envisage is a group of 30 or so people along with the necessary helpers. We would be based in Auckland where each day we would head out to a tourist destination of our choosing. The cost would be approximately \$1,600 and would include most meals, accommodation and all ground travel in New Zealand. You would require a Passport and possibly travel insurance. If this sounds a good idea please let me know if you are interested either as an individual or as a Crossroads Branch. Where 10 or more people travel from a branch at least 1 helper from the branch would be required and that person would travel free.

Have a great winter!

Lots of News From Macarthur Branch

A good time was had by all who attended the Crossroads hall night on April 24th. Our guests were David Lamb and friends.

We enjoyed the great songs they sang and their great sense of humour was just what was needed for a great night all round.

The devotions were given by Brian Willott and was about '*Peace amidst the Storm*', which we could all relate to.

Supper was superb as always and Sandra makes sure it all goes according to plan with the help of our local Girl Guides. The girls attend our evenings regularly and are always a great help.

We had an excellent attendance and all were sent home well fed and happy, guests and carers alike.

From Mary

At April Hall Night we were pleased to announce that our Music Director became an Australian Citizen the previous Monday evening. And there were cries of Ausie, Ausie, Ausie, Oi, Oi, Oi.

We also commemorated ANZAC Day with the ODE and National Anthem.

From Anne

Macarthur Crossroads
Madhatters' Night –
Saturday
27th March
2004 –
organised
by Elaine &
Anne. The
venue St
James Anglican
Church Hall, Minto, NSW.
Time 7.30pm to 9.30pm
every fourth Saturday of
each month.



It was a beautiful autumn night and it was well attended by friends, carers and family members. Everybody was wearing a hat. We had fun, fellowship and food galore and talent showcase and ideas for displaying hats.

Prizes were awarded to the most colourful hat, the biggest hat, the smallest hat, the funniest hat.

The judge had a hard decision to make to choose the winners.

The guest speaker was Sister Diadema and Sister Rubina from Caanan, Evangelical Sister hood of Mary from Theresa Park near Camden.

There were also a group of Korean and Singaporean students

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who are volunteer helpers for the sisters. They sung in English as well as Korean language. They were very good singers and entertain us all well with their fine voices, songs with actions as well.

We had a good fellowship and supper was prepared by Sandra.

We praise God for all His provision and protection and all went well as planned.

Violet Griffiths

Visit to Vicki at Bundanoon.

I write to thank you for organising the Salvation Army Bus to take us up to Bundanoon to visit Vicki Everingham who now live in Rosnel Hostel. It was a beautiful day and Vicki was so pleased to see us all. She was happy and well and was dressed in a nice floral frock and her hair was set nicely. Vicki was glowing and so excited to see us and we all got a big hug.

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Our driver took us to a beautiful National Park with lots of trees and

birds where we had our lunch. We shared with



Scenes from Bundanoon

Vicki and afterwards the driver took us for a "Cooks Tour" and to the old Bundanoon Town and shops where everyone bought lots of souvenirs.

I forgot to mention that it was Wednesday 24th March we made the trip to Bundanoon and Vicki said she would like us to visit again and we promised we would.

Vicki's birthday was early in February and Les Gray took Doris South, Joyce Baker and myself up to Bundanoon to share with Vicki on the first Saturday. She was so happy to see us and share the day with us. Les took us on a tour and we visited an old Anglican brick church built about 1870. As the church was open we were able to go inside for a look. It was a beautiful, well-loved and preserved building. It was extended in the early 1900's.

It is a great Blessing that Vicki now lives at Rosnel

Hostel, it is a beautiful rambling old place set in a few acres of land and Vicki loves the place and is very happy and contented there. It is easy to get the impression that there are Christian people at the Helm. All Vicki has to do if she wants to go out for a trip is to just ask and she is able to go. There doesn't appear to be any



restrictions as long as they know where she is and who is taking her.

Vicki tells us that they often arrange for outings and shopping trips for the residents and they all appear to be one big happy family.

I forgot to mention that those who visited Vicki in March were from the ladies group at the Salvation Army and Macarthur Crossroads. Anne I can't thank you enough and the Crossroads Team for all the hard work you do to keep Crossroads running and for all the Christian Love and Fellowship we are all able to share.

Colin Campbell, J.P.

News from Mudgee Crossroads.

Andrea Sauerbier
Chairperson.

On a nice warm Saturday in May, Mudgee Crossroaders and their friends filled a 49 seater bus and headed for the Big M at Dubbo which is just over an hour's trip away from Mudgee. Our destination was not the well known Golden Arches of Mc Donalds, but an enormous Military Museum which also offered a Dinosaur Maze, a Science Expo and Putt Putt Golf, as well as plenty of area for running around and picnicing.

The amount of old Military vehicles was awe inspiring. You couldn't climb on them but in the picnic area there were plenty to keep the climbers happy! There was even a real underground bunker with long passages and an outlook section where the gunners used to

be stationed.

The Science Expo had lots of fun things to do, like playing the "Thongaphone"



Barb on Thongaphone

and watching a ball suspended in an air current, trying to untie yourself and a partner from two entwined ropes, and balancing on a disc which rotated when you spun a spindle in your hands.

The Jurassic Maze had quite a few models of dinosaurs, dinosaur eggs, strange prehistoric creatures up the trees and a set of instructions on what to try and find.

Putt Putt Golf was most popular and people had to be almost dragged away to get on the bus when it was time to go. It was a great day out, and we are looking forward to

next month's activity which will be a progressive dinner. I Am sure we will not be lacking any starters for this one! We praise God for the lovely rain we had in Mudgee after two months of dry, we got over 2 inches which was a real blessing. The dams are still almost empty in some central west towns, so please keep praying for more good follow-up winter rain. We send our love and best wishes to you all.



Anthony & Craig



Craig inside a real military bunker, and the writing on the wall shows the troops that occupied it. This was at the Big M Museum at Dubbo.



CASTLE HILL CAPERS *Nancy and Lorraine*

Our Easter service was held at the March meeting in the Church where we viewed an excellent half-hour video on the life and death of Jesus. The



production of this video was most outstanding, and we were all very moved by it. We had Bible readings from St Matthew's gospel and sang our Easter hymns. Supper, of course, was Easter buns, Easter eggs and birthday cake.

Our April meeting was also very special, as we celebrated Anzac Day. The hall was decorated with flags and pictures.

Elaine and Jack (with his accordion) led us in community singing World Wars I

and II songs - which were sung with much gusto. ("It's a Long way to Tipperary" and "Kiss me



Goodnight Sergeant Major" were just some.)

Our special guest for the night was from the RSL and he talked about Anzac Day and its meaning Gallipoli and Simpson and his donkey. This was followed by his slides of the

Vietnam War where he served. Keith led our devotions by telling us that just as the soldiers gave their lives for their country, so did Jesus give His life for everyone. Val read a poem which she had written, and the evening concluded

with supper of Anzac biscuits, sandwiches and cake. It was an evening when everyone was impressed by, and understood the true meaning of A.N.Z.A.C.

The account of our May



Castle Hill Members



meeting is very short. Thanks to a Rock 'n Roll group called 'The ADD' from our local church, everyone danced the night away. The interesting innovative steps would have fitted into "Strictly Dancing"



There was a tradesman, a painter called Jack, who was very interested in making a penny where he could, so he often would thin down paint to make it go a wee bit further. As it happened, he got away with this for some



time, but eventually the Baptist Church decided to do a big restoration job on the

painting of one of their biggest buildings. Jack put in a bid, and because his price was so low, he got the job. And so he set to erecting the trestles and setting up the planks, and buying the paint and, yes, I am sorry to say, thinning it down with turpentine. Well, Jack was up on the scaffolding, painting away, the job nearly completed when suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder, and the Sky opened, the rain poured down, washing the thinned paint from all over the church and knocking Jack clear off the scaffold to land on the lawn among the gravestones, surrounded by telltale puddles of the thinned and useless paint.

Jack was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he got on his knees and cried: "Oh, God! Forgive me! What should I do?"

And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke...

"Repaint! Repaint! and thin no more!"

Actions Speak Louder than Words!

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection.

The tailgating woman hit the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection with him.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a cell.

After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping the guy off in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. "I noticed the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Follow Me to Sunday School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."

An IDEA for a CROSSROADS MEETING

- 1) Advertise your meeting – 'A NIGHT AT THE OSCARS' Suggest that everyone dress up. Ladies in a long dress or skirt, men in a suit or at least wear a tie.... After all, you are going to the Oscars!
- 2) Decorate the church/ hall with posters of the movies, (ask around – some one is sure to have a good supply) a few balloons always add some colour too.
- 3) Set up the church/ hall with card tables (with table cloths and centre decorations) surrounded by chairs. Leave an area clear for dance.

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A Story From Petersham Special

Friends -

By Phillip Ross

CREATION OF A GIRL

Many years ago lived three wise men. A time has come to have a princess to rule our land but, where will we find such a girl. A sad look came over their face, yes, yes I have an idea we will make a princess, Yes I like the idea where we will find such men. I will go to the tavern and make a royal speech. I will come with you and we will get the men to think a way to go. The men stood up and clapped their hands so now the whole of the Kings land could hear.

The workshop; we will start now; good I will start with the body. What a noise they made. It must be carved with caring hands. Later they finished and they all stood back smiles shaking hands. Then complete silence and not even the mouse were stirring. What shall we call her! The silence was broken the king will ask his people and we will be able to rest.

The townspeople scratched their heads and all of a sudden the silence was broken once again and the wise men spoke. Lets take a vote, what bout calling her, Eternity. No that's not the one. The Church bell rang the people stood still. I would like to call her Christie. That's the one. The Church bell rang then all of a sudden CLANG! Went the bell for the second time. Our new Queen will be called Christie. The new princess came alive and went over to the King with tears running down her face. The King gave the royal salute. I will make today a holiday the party went on all night and into the next day. The town cryer said, one hundred gold coins will be given to the three wise men, and for all his subjects no taxes for one hundred days.

All was quiet and they went straight to sleep; life was nice to all; all was well. The End.

An Idea for a Crossroads Meeting: continued from page 6

- 4) Everyone is given approx 5 paddle pop sticks as they arrive. (These are used for voting)
- 5) Decide on the categories: Best male actor, Best female actor, Best childrens film, Best film, Best comedy etc. Call for nominations – approx 4-5. Write the nominations on a white board. Everyone has one vote in each category –vote by putting your paddle pop stick in the container. (The people who nominate can take the containers around OR helpers can do this) Count the votes – announce the winners to loud cheers.
- 6) Intersperse the nominating and voting with quizzes on movies or music from movies. OR use the movie posters as a basis of a quiz or finding clues about movies.
- 7) Interview someone who has been to Hollywood, or someone who has met a famous actor or been to a set when a movie was being filmed.
- 8) During the evening have a couple of dance segments using music from movies.
- 9) Devotion time – talk about a movie star – what makes them famous? In Gods eyes we are all stars. God loves us and has made each one of us special – so special that he sent His son to die for us. Verse Matthew 5:14,16 Song – ‘This little light of mine
- 10) Have supper at the close OR take food around to the tables during the evening.

The May meeting at Shoalhaven Crossroads was “A Night at the Oscars” and some people looked like a million dollars. We nominated, voted and cheered for our favourite films and actors. A great night.

God Said, No

I asked God to take away my pain. God said, No. It is not for me to take away but for you to reconcile it.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, No. Her spirit is whole, her body is only temporary.

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No. I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. Patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No. I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you faithful.

I asked God to help me love others as much as He loves me. God said.....Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

-Anon.

All Welcome

Crossroads NSW AGM

This year our AGM is to be hosted by
Shell Harbour Branch

DATE: SATURDAY 31ST JULY

TIME: 12:00noon FOR LUNCH
(Bring something to share)

LOCATION: SALVATION ARMY CITADEL
cnr Ulster Ave & Leawarra Ave, Warilla
(south of wollongong)

Crossroads Branches

COUNTRY

The Entrance/ Long Jetty	4332 3699
Canberra	6255 2060
Sharability Canberra	6254 4528
Dubbo	6884 2320
Lismore	6621 2725
Mudgee	6372 7609
Newcastle	4951 8106
Port Stephens	4981 5876
Shell Harbour	4297 6425
Shoalhaven	4421 8137
Tamworth	6764 4274
Wollongong	4272 5697

SYDNEY AREA

Annongrove	
Kenthurst	4587 8841
Campsie	9789 6369
Bankstown City	9773 4754
Castle Hill	9894 8999
Central Sydney	9817 2289
Kindilan -Trips	9809 4235
Kingsway (Caringbah)	9527 2410
Macarthur District	4628 9676
Wesley Video	
Fellowship Sydney	9267 5555
Parramatta	9624 3130
Special Friends	
Petersham	9519 9207

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