



Crossroads News

The Official Journal of Crossroads Christian Fellowship NSW Inc.

Autumn 2017
Volume 56, Issue 1

Bankstown is Busy!

Our Hall Nights:

Our February Hall Night was run for us by our Musical Director, Val, who led us in a series of games and activities.

One activity which always creates plenty of laughter is a competition to see who could turn one of their group into an Egyptian Mummy using rolls of toilet paper.

A quieter but more intense activity was to split into teams, give your team a name relating to the universe and then design a poster to advertise your team.

Amongst the names were Awesome Aliens, Mighty Meteors, Rockin' Rockets and Angels from Venus. Martin finished the night off with devotions about us all being equally important to the Lord.

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Left: Rose as a Mummy!

Above: Sue's Angels from Venus poster.

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Crossroads Christian
Fellowship NSW Inc.

A Ministry advocating for and
involving people with Disabilities
Established 1961
ABN 90 070 601 357

The Chairman's Chat

Dear friends, change is sometimes challenging and now, more so than ever as our beloved Crossroads Christian Fellowship faces the challenge of change. In brief, we have reached the point where unless people are forthcoming to fill positions that will become vacant at the next Annual Meeting it may mean the closure of this ministry.



Crossroads first came into existence over fifty years ago when there was a gaping hole in the church of the day ministering to the needs of those with a disability. It was founded in Newcastle in 1961 by two men raised up of God to commence the ministry. Rev. Chegidden of Newcastle Methodist Mission and a Baptist layman, Hilton Hayes, caught the vision for a movement which has now lasted over fifty years – but whether we continue to grow or cease to exist will depend largely if God has people to take over the executive roles about to become vacant at our next Annual Meeting.

Various positions will become vacant and certainly that of Chairman and Public Officer – the positions currently held by myself, both needing to be filled if we are to continue as an organisation. **We need to understand that the outcome of the Annual Meeting will affect the ongoing viability of every Branch in NSW!** I call upon you to make this a matter of prayer as you ask the Lord to show us His will for the future.

(Rev) Leonard C. Kingston
Chairman/Public Officer

Tassie Talk

Greetings from Tassie to NSW Crossroaders.

Our State Council meeting was held last Saturday. We have three per year, and have representatives from various areas.

We have a Holiday Weekend coming up soon. Bruce Schramm, my husband, will lead the Sunday Worship Service at the Holiday Weekend. He is not part of the State Council, but together we have been involved in the Burnie Branch of Crossroads during its lifetime. This branch has closed due to lack of anyone (apart from us) available to help make it run, and we are both on the verge of 80!

Please send our greetings to Lesley, she sounds like a very hard worker to me, and I've no doubt there will be a lot of threads to pick up. Sometimes, time is needed for healing, and not everything is 'immediate'. Thank you for sending us your State Crossroads News. Much appreciated!

In Christ, Patsie Schramm

Bankstown is Busy!

Continued from page 1.

In March the Hall Night was run by Felicity Chamberlain, a long standing member of Bankstown Crossroads. This was another exciting night with a lot of games such as Tunnel Ball and Over & Unders.

This was followed by a challenging activity of trying to cut up and eat a block of chocolate - many tried but not too much chocolate was eaten! Felicity's son, Caleb, played the saxophone for us and a lady from Felicity's church played the flute. Felicity led us in the devotions.

At the end of each Hall Night of course, we have a sumptuous supper and it is encouraging to note that Chris Newton and Scott McConnelly help with the cleaning up afterwards. Many thanks



Xavier gets some help in trying to have a Cadbury meal



Felicity directs the teams in one of the games.

Michael Smith is the photographer for Bankstown News. Thanks for your great photos Michael!

Our Outings:

We've had one outing so far this year because we have reduced the number of outings to give our ageing leadership a break - hopefully some younger leaders will come on the scene for the future.

In February, 24 of our members went for a swim at Homebush Olympic Pool and a great day was had by all.

Our next outing is for a Sausage Sizzle at Mount St Joseph Milperra Girls School on the 20th May.

Bankstown Crossroads send their greetings, and will be praying for Lesley Gilbert.

Until next time,
Bill Edwards

Parramatta Makes Adjustments

Parramatta Crossroads has had a bumpy start to 2017. This is mostly due to the fact that Lesley Gilbert, the coordinator of Parramatta branch, has been unwell since Christmas and has been advised by her doctor to resign from all of her duties at church and to rest for at least 3 months. This has impacted the leadership team at Parramatta Crossroads quite significantly and has meant that February and April events were cancelled to allow the team time to make adjustments so that the group can continue. We have a very supportive minister at St Clements Church at Lalor Park where Parramatta branch meets. He is assisting us in this transition so that the group can continue. We will keep you up to date as changes happen and would value your prayers.

Thankfully we were able to meet together in both January and March.

In January we had our annual low key outing for morning tea and a tour of Elizabeth Farm at Harris Park. This is a lovely place to visit as all the furniture is replicas, which means that we could sit in the chairs, lie on the beds and play the piano. It was great fun to visit this place.

In March we enjoyed watching a movie, in-house. We saw the movie Soul Surfer which was sad in places but many of our members could relate to the struggles that physical disability and illness brings and how important it is to trust in God at these times. We had choc tops for supper and great fellowship.

Until next time
Lesley and all at Parramatta Branch



John relaxes on a daybed.

Christine tries
an Early
Australian
bonnet.



Natalie
outside at
Elizabeth
Farm.



News from Newcastle

Newcastle Crossroads got off to a good start in February with about forty Crossroaders in attendance. It was great to see everyone meeting up again after the Christmas break. We were hosted by Carol and Alan Bisset and their group from the West Wallsend combined churches who provided the evening's entertainment. A good time was had by all.

Since then we have been entertained each week by our regular church groups with good attendances by our Crossroaders.

We are planning some outings a little later in the year with plans already underway to attend *Les Miserables* at the Civic Theatre, presented by the Newcastle Metropolitan Players, and due to be performed in the latter part of 2017. Meanwhile our Thursday evening programs are continuing as normal.



An evening with the Newcastle Rock and Roll club.

Unfortunately we have had two breakdowns of our bus this year which has proved very expensive and has caused considerable inconvenience to our drivers. Praise the Lord that we have been able to handle this situation. The Lord provides!!

We trust that the other branches are all doing well, despite the wet weather which most of us have had to endure this month. May the coming year be most successful for all.

Kind regards to all, John Mathieson - President.

The Christmas Story



Bundanoon was Fun!

Crossroads Shoalhaven started off the year with the usual Summer Celebration. We enjoyed a sausage sizzle and outdoor games. Seeing our friends after the Christmas break was a big celebration. This reminded us that in heaven one day there will be a big celebration too, when all the followers of Jesus finally get together.

The weekend camp at Bundanoon has been enjoyed by Crossroaders for many years. This year was the last weekend, as the youth hostel that hosts us had been sold.

Crossroads Shoalhaven have lots of happy memories from all the years of camping at Bundanoon.

The camp was well attended this year. There was lots to do - bushwalking, a trip into town, swimming and games, and helping with food preparation. Everyone had a great time, and the planning and preparation of the organisers is always very much appreciated!



The Happy Campers at Bundanoon.

In March the Christian Motorcycle Association brought their mighty and noisy machines to Crossroads. We admired these beasts, but kept our distance when the revving got too loud. Afterwards we heard about the protective equipment motorcyclists use, like helmets and jackets. This made us think of the protection the Bible advises in Ephesians 6: 13 - 17.

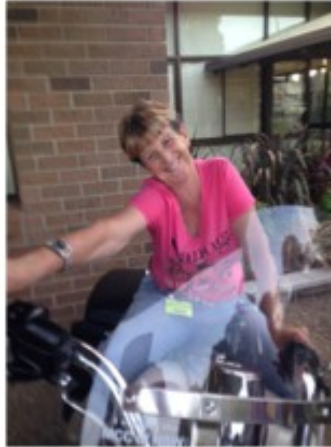
We imagined motorbike equipment in those verses, to help us understand how we are protected by God.

We thought of a kidneybelt as the belt of truth, a leather jacket as right living, boots as the good news of peace, a windshield as the shield of faith and a helmet as accepting God's salvation.

Shoalhaven Crossroads Motorbike Night.

Right: Philip enjoys a mighty machine.

Below: Leanne imagines cruising on a motorbike.



Trent's Trivia

Trent attends Shoalhaven Crossroads. He is interested in music and movies. Every meeting he comes up with some very challenging questions!

See how you go with these:

1. How many James Bond movies are there?
2. How many Michael Jackson albums have been released?
3. How long has the N.C.I.S show been running?
4. What year did David Bowie die?

Answers on page 8.

A note from the Editor

Dear Crossroaders, and Friends of Crossroads,

You will have seen in the Parramatta news that Lesley Gilbert has had to take a break from editing this newsletter. We are sad to lose her expert skills and dedication. Thank you Lesley for all your hard work. We trust that our Father God has you safely held in His hands as you take time to rest and recover.

I will be having a go at editing the news for the next little while, so any errors in this edition will be mine! Please let me know about things that need to be fixed :)

I really appreciate the prompt supply of news items from the branches. I encourage you to start thinking now about the next newsletter – it is lovely to get your news and pictures so we can all share in the joy of Crossroads.

Shona

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Trent's Trivia - answers.

1. There have been 24 James Bond movies.
2. There are 15 Michael Jackson albums.
3. N.C.I.S. has been going for 13 years.
4. David Bowie died in 2016.

DON'T FORGET - CROSSROADS NSW AGM

Date: Saturday 29 July 2017

**Place: Panania Uniting Church
(Grace Christian Church)
206 Marco Ave, Panania 2213**

**Time: BYO lunch from 12.00pm
to 1.30pm**

AGM from 1.30pm

Finish at about 3.00pm

**Bring your branch reports, ideas
for the future and encouraging
news!**

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