



Sydney Crossroads at Fullerton Evangelical Free Church

Sydney Crossroads Disneyland Holiday

Fifty-three people flew out of Sydney on June 2nd for a whirlwind holiday to Disneyland, Anaheim as well as a visit to other attractions. Some of the highlights included going to Universal Studios, having dinner at the Pirates Cove, Buena Park, lunch with some Disneyland characters and a visit to the Fullerton Evangelical Free Church as recommended by the Joni Erickson organisation.

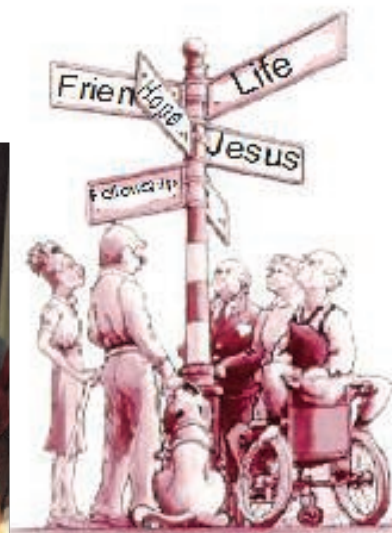
We stayed at the newly constructed SpringHill Suites by Marriott on West Ball Street, Anaheim which was close to the entrance of Disneyland and provided for us a great place to come home to each night. Everyone enjoyed the free breakfast provided and the leaders and others especially appreciated being able to keep in contact with family and friends via the free wifi.

Universal Studios in Hollywood provided a lot of new experiences with being the first visit. Lunch was had in the Hard Rock Café. The rides were an instant success with many of our passengers and lots of photos were taken with the characters associated with 20th Century.

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Subscriptions

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

Crossroads Christian Fellowship NSW Inc.

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

Items for Spring Newsletter to Editor by 6th September 2014

The Chairman's Chat

Where I live, it has been very colourful this autumn as the leaves in the trees around us have changed their colour from green into beautiful tones of yellow, brown and red before dropping to the ground. The days also have been growing colder and before you receive this copy of Crossroads News, winter will have set in! All of this has reminded me of a verse from Ecclesiastes 3:1 which says: ***There is a time for everything, and everything on earth has its special season.***

Some people would be much more comfortable if everything always stayed the same; yet it doesn't. Everything has its seasons. Whilst many people, like me, enjoy the changing of seasons in nature, some can be frightened with the changing of seasons in life. They grip so tightly to the present that it becomes traumatic when things change. Change can be difficult, **but not so difficult if we learn to go through these seasons with God.**

Ecclesiastes 3 goes on to say, ***'There is a time to be born and a time to die. There is a time to plant and a time to pull up plants. ³ There is a time to kill and a time to heal. There is a time to destroy and a time to build. ⁴ There is a time to cry and a time to laugh. There is a time to be sad and a time to dance. ⁵ There is a time to throw away stones and a time to gather them. There is a time to hug and a time not to hug. ⁶ There is a time to look for something and a time to stop looking for it. There is a time to keep things and a time to throw things away. ⁷ There is a time to tear apart and a time to sew together. There is a time to be silent and a time to speak. ⁸ There is a time to love and a time to hate. There is a time for war and a time for peace'***.

Yes, there is a time for everything! Life's seasons are characterised in many different ways, and throughout each season God has something to teach us. God is relentless in how He demonstrates His love for us, but if we are resistant to the idea of change, then we may be resisting Him too. God desires that we focus on Him. If we are forever looking behind us at a season that has passed, we may completely miss out on where God is taking us next!

Seasons and situations change, but God remains the same. Every good and perfect gift comes from Him (see James 1:17). **Let's welcome the changes He brings about in our lives and learn to appreciate the abundance of blessings He sends.**

News from Newcastle

Newcastle Crossroads has been running well this year with good attendances despite some occasional inclement weather. As mentioned before, our helper numbers have been down due to some very serious health problems, but we are managing to struggle on with some much needed help from above. Unfortunately, for the same reasons, we have not been able to arrange any weekend outings so far this year but we are hoping this will change.

Meanwhile our Thursday evening meetings have been very interesting with the various church groups. Cardiff Heights Baptist church ran an exciting program based on the Sochi Winter Olympics, which had our Crossroaders quite enthralled with the opening and closing ceremonies and other events. A discotheque run by

our local disco man, Chris Frazer, was also much enjoyed. Chris was unable to be with us last year due to an injured back so his presence was all the more appreciated.

Last Thursday we had lots of games, singing and dancing with the group from St. Lukes Uniting Church at Belmont.

One piece of not so good news has been that Newcastle Community Transport, who have part subsidised our Thursday night bus transport,

have doubled their fees from \$50.00 per night to \$100.00 per night. This has been forced upon them due to monies being removed from them in order to support the N.D.I.S.. Unfortunately this means we will have to increase our weekly attendance fee. Despite our difficulties everyone always has great fun as you can see in the photos.

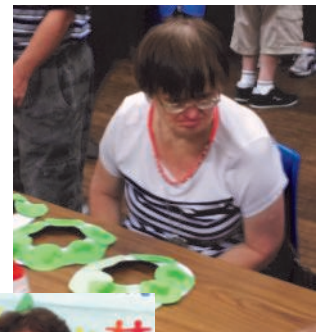
John Mathieson - President



Games with St Lukes Belmont



Jodie and Pamela



Above:
Olympic
craft with
Cardiff
Heights
Baptist

A Bright Idea from Shellharbour

We just wanted to share our Mad Hatters Tea Party from last year as it went off wonderfully. We thought that by sharing it, it may inspire others to give it a bash...

It was such a successful night we are holding another in September this year...

Regards
Lynda Dean



Right: Sian

Below:
Tiffany and
Lynda

Above and
Left: A
great party



A Quick Update from Annangrove/Kenthurst

At Easter we told the story of the great sacrifice Jesus made for us all. The Crossroaders listened and took part in this discussion. Then right at the end of the meeting we had a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny with eggs for all.

Regards
from all at
Annangrove
Kenthurst
Crossroads



From The Editor

What a joy it is to finalise our third colour edition of Crossroads News. This is thanks to another kind donation for which I am sure we are all very grateful. A big thank you to all of the branches for sending in their articles and photos. There would not be a News without you.

Sit back and enjoy reading about all of the wonderful things that the Crossroaders have been doing across NSW and also in Tasmania.

When you reach the back page take careful note of the middle section which gives advance notice of the Crossroads NSW AGM and Weekend Conference that is happening in August—we'd love to see you there. You should also have found a registration form for the Conference enclosed with your News if you would like to register. If you require any further information, feel free to contact Crossroads NSW Head Office—details on the back page of the News.



Until next time
Lesley Gilbert

To The Editor

Dear friends,
Thank you for continuing to send me Crossroads News - I always look forward to it. I think the colour photos are great and know the Crossroaders would love them.
With all good wishes always - and many fond memories.

Sunny Stuart

Sydney Crossroads Disneyland Holiday

Continued from page 1

Thanks to the wonderful care provided by the leaders from various Crossroads Branches and elsewhere, the holiday was a huge success with many voting to return again sometime in the future.

As there were some who were unable to go to America for various reasons, another Disneyland holiday to Hong Kong has been planned for October this year and anyone interested should contact Len Kingston ASAP as there are only two places left.



Happy travellers at the airport returning home



Carol with a chipmunk



Geoff and Will on the Disneyland train



Kaye having a wonderful time



Above and Below:
Proudly wearing our yellow hats



A hug from Mickey



Elaine with Minnie Mouse



Jamie, Deanne, Andrew and Christine all enjoying their wonderful holiday



Disneyland Through the Eyes of A Carer

What an amazing time of fellowship was had for those that came along.

We started our trip at the Mercure International Hotel with dinner and a great night's sleep.

The adventurous journey began the following day with a buffet breakfast at the Hotel and then we were off on a short trip to the airport to prepare for the long flight ahead. As we ventured through the airport the Crossroaders were a sea of yellow in their bright hats and were certainly not to be missed or lost. Those amazing hats brought about the opportunity to witness to those that stopped to ask who we were and what we did and where we were going.

Personally I was truly blessed as we journeyed to America, as I know many of the members



and carers were.

Disneyland provided the opportunity for inclusion to the members and their choices for rides were not impeded due to the fast tracking of rides. The group also enjoyed dinner outings at Fire and Ice and the Pirates Dinner Adventure theatre restaurant, and a day of bargain shopping at the Factory outlets.

On the Sunday we were off to Fullerton Free Church and were greeted with open arms. We were met and had the morning explained to us as to what was to happen. We were also asked many questions like 'where we worked?', and we were also asked about the difference in words that we have in our countries. For example, in Australia we have jumpers and in America they have sweaters.

We attended the Church service, which was the third for that morning, and which I believe has the capacity to seat 3,000 people. After this service we were ushered into another room and we had the opportunity to meet the special needs group from that church which delivered their special program with a modern twist on the Good Samaritan.

After the program we had the opportunity to fellowship with the group and we were served a scrumptious lunch before bidding them farewell. We also had a group photo taken with our special friends and parents. (See the front page for the photo.)

All in all it was an awesome holiday and I am sure that those that are headed off to Hong Kong in October will also be as blessed as we were.

Lynda Dean

What's Been Happening in Parramatta

Parramatta Crossroaders have been very busy over the last few months. We enjoyed a beautiful day on the water in April travelling up the Parramatta River and then across the Harbour to Manly where we all enjoyed a delicious lunch. We had time for a brief walk before relaxing on our return ferry rides. It was a very enjoyable day.

In May we were very busy cooking savoury muffins and then waiting patiently for supper as the most amazing aromas wafted over us. To focus our attention, while we waited, we learnt about how Jesus is our Good Shepherd who is always watching over those who trust in Him. We have been learning that we can talk with God and tell Him how we are

feeling, whether sad or afraid, or as we learnt in May, when we feel safe and secure.

In June we made 'Happy Birthday' and 'Thinking of You' cards to give to our friends and families. Everyone made creative and beautiful cards. We also continued to think about prayer and we prayed for those among us with particular concerns. As always, we had a great evening of fellowship.

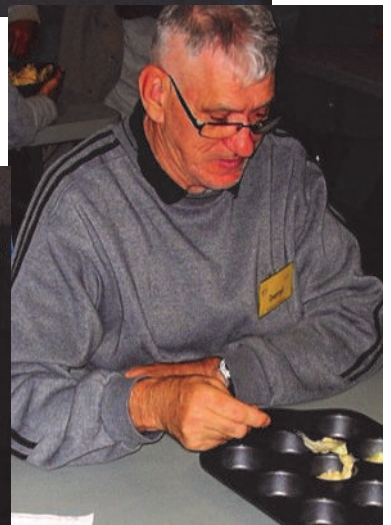
Until next time
Lesley and all
at Parramatta



Mark
enjoying
the ferry
ride



Phillip as the 'Good Shepherd'



Darryl cooking muffins

Bankstown Bulletin

Since last sharing with Crossroads News, we had a trip by train to Bowral in March. We had lunch there and, by all reports, the scenery looked fresh and green and the horses and cows relaxed!

In April we had a Hall Night that was run for us by the Emanuel Baptist Church. This consisted of games which involved a lot of movement, such as 'Pass the Balloon' and 'Collect a friend' in which you were eliminated if you were caught on your feet when

collecting your friend! Then a series of twenty questions were asked to find the animal that the leader, Phil, was thinking of. In the devotion segment Ian had a small red balloon which he tried to get the Crossroaders to make disappear (without success of course). Then he pointed out that God, through Jesus, could make our sins disappear.

In May the girls from MSJ Milperra School led our group in making Mother's Day cards

and our outing was to the Darling Harbour Wildlife Zoo. The Zoo staff fed some of the animals whilst we were there and we had a most enjoyable day.

Finally, the Panania Salvation Army ran our June Hall Night which was a craft night making heads stuffed with soil and grass seed so that, if watered regularly, the grass would grow through like hair. The message was that God knew everything about us, even to the number of hairs on our head.

Cyril McColough



Teacher Kath and students from MSJ Milperra School helping with the craft



Above: Carl proudly showing his craftwork
Right: Choruses with all the actions



Update From the Southern Highlands

Greetings to all our Crossroads friends. We have been having a lot of fun here on the Southern Highlands since the last Crossroads News.

Last month we got together for a games day. We played Bingo and some other card games. Those who finished first got to choose a prize out of the 'goodie' box - it was a really good time. We made some great bread cups full of ham cheese and egg and baked them in the oven for lunch.

This month we had our friend Jo come and make some really cute biscuits. Everyone had fun icing them. We then made a pasta bake for lunch which warmed us all up on a cool



Bowral day.

Our good friend and helper Berlio hasn't been able to come for a while and now she is a Grandmother for the first time with a beautiful little girl called Georgia. We are hoping she will be able to come next month and see everyone.

Well that's all for now. Sending our kind regards to all our Branches

God Bless
Sandra and Jim x

Left: Jodie, Marie and Miriam decorating biscuits
Below: The finished product



Shoalhaven Learn about other Countries and Cultures

At Shoalhaven Crossroads in May we had an African night and in June our theme was India.

Many dressed up and really looked the part. Baby dolls were tied onto backs and we tried to balance a bucket on our heads like many in Africa do. We learnt a new song called "We are walking in the light of God" which is sung by many African children.

Three *You Tube* lessons on the big screen helped us learn some Bollywood dance moves and Nicky and Glenda were dressed in Saris while Tammy, Chris and Stephen ate rice off a banana leaf using their right hand and sitting cross legged.

In our Thinking about God time we learnt about William Carey the great missionary to India and the father of Modern Mission. We were challenged

by this quote of Carey's "Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God"

In both months we had a quiz with questions on Africa and India. Do you know the difference between an African and an Indian elephant? We also learnt to say 'hello' and 'thankyou' in African and Indian languages.



Stephen eats rice off a banana leaf

It is very interesting to learn about other countries and how other people live. We know that we are blessed to live in Australia.

Beth



Sue and Lee help dress Glenda in a sari

Greetings From Tasmania

Hello friends in NSW, and greetings from Tasmania. Our big News this time is our Annual Holiday Weekend. Held at the beginning of May, Crossroaders from five branches gathered together at Bicheno on Tasmania's East Coast.

Saturday was wet, but did that matter? No! The motel dining room had a fire blazing, and a fortifying meal ready for us.

What do you do when it is raining, and you want to look around the local Wildlife Park? No Problem. The people running the park had a 2-carriage "train" pulled by a tractor, which took us around the Park, allowing us to feed the Forester Kangaroo, Bennett's Wallabies and pademelons (which are like small wallabies, and not found

on mainland Australia). Plenty of birds also found they liked the kangaroo food! We also saw Tasmanian Devils, a white deer, peacocks, and some had the opportunity to pat a wombat. How exciting!

The wet weather kept us inside in the afternoon, so we played Carpet Bowls with our own rules; Blacks v. Browns. The motel conference room served us well as a games room, and also for our Sunday Worship service, led by one of the carers from Burnie Branch.



Our wet weather train

We took a long detour on our way home, to visit a Bark Museum where we learned that the tannin from the bark of the local Black Wattles had been used in olden days, for tanning the hides of animals, making leather for use on local farms. The day was fine, the sky blue, and Autumn colours glorious as we made our long journeys home, having had a wonderful weekend, giving thanks to God for friends, for beauty, for companionship and love.



Feeding the kangaroos

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Central Sydney
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02 6884 1380

Kindilan -Trips
02 9654 3070

Lismore
02 6628 2372

Mudgee
02 6372 7609

Newcastle
02 4951 8106

Parramatta
02 9624 3130

Shareability - Canberra
02 6242 9549

ShellHarbour
02 4262 0981

Shoalhaven
02 4423 2525

Southern Highlands—Bowral
02 4421 5129

Tamworth
02 6764 4243

Wesley Crossroads
Fellowship - Sydney
02 9267 5555

Wollongong
02 4225 3436

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03 6431 2289

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08 9380 9427

\$1,585



**Come to Melbourne this
December (2014) with
Crossroads Sydney**

Leaving Sydney Saturday 27th December 2014 we will be travelling 1st class on the XPT from Central, Campbelltown or Yass Junction to arrive in Melbourne and then be transported by luxury coach to our accommodation in the CBD staying at the newly refurbished CYC property 354 Collins Street.

This holiday INCLUDES ALL meals & Entry costs.

Over the week you will be able to explore the city - and ladies, you will have opportunity to pick up a bargain at the New Year sales in Melbourne!

* We shall be visiting the famous Sovereign Hill for a day of sightseeing and fun with stops along the way for Morning & Afternoon Tea

* Taking a ferry trip from Sorrento to Queenscliff

* Going to Healesville and then on to the 'Puffing Billy' for a great days outing!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL REV. LEN KINGSTON: 0408241020

**LUKE 14
MINISTRIES
Guest Speaker
Rob Nicholls**

August 29-31st 2014

Crossroads NSW Conference & AGM

**Blue Gum Lodge, Fells Ave, Springwood,
IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS**

**An Invitation to all Leaders/Carers at
Crossroads Branches**

*We need you! ... to contribute to a weekend of good
decision making; great fellowship; and times of
discovering how we can improve what we do at our
branches.*

*Representatives from Luke 14 Ministries will be our guest
speakers*

*Jeanette Kingston will be conducting an ART CLASS for
participants not involved in the AGM!
PLAN TO COME!*

cost: \$140

INCLUDES:

Friday night: Supper

**Saturday: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner,
Morning & Afternoon Tea**

Sunday: Breakfast, Morning Tea & Lunch

Crossroads News is a publication of Crossroads Christian Fellowship NSW INC. It serves to be a voice for Crossroads Christian Fellowship as well as being a forum for ideas to help stimulate thought and action.

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