

# Blackwood Church of Christ

## *The Weekly Messenger*

*22nd March 2009*

*Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with God*

### **Is it a Bird? Is it a Plane? No, it's ...wait for it**

Unbeatable New Zealand Travel by the Flight Centre. There will be a NZ travel info night here at the church on Wednesday 25th March at 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Refreshments provided. Please, don't come dressed as your favourite Lord of the Rings character unless you think it might enhance your evening. NZ is a wonderful place, you know you want to go.

### **Coming Soon to a Screen Near You**

Mark is almost ready to launch the Blackwood Church of Christ new website. A sneak peek says it is very good indeed and a wonderful place for our ministry to expand. A pack of chips and a coke for effort.

### **Need to Save a Life But Don't Know How?**

Expressions of interest are sought for a basic first aid course to be run in May. The plan is to run this course in the evenings to cater for those who work during the day. This four hour course will cover CPR for those doing their annual refresher for the senior certificate. Don't be caught out when someone collapses near you, this small course may one day help save someone's life. Please call the church with your expression of interest as soon as possible.

### **Secatures, Gloves and the World's Greatest Views**

This annual trip to the Flinders Ranges (Parachilna Gorge) is to undertake the systematic removal of Oleander bushes from our threatened native environment. There are two trips. Monday 27th April to Friday 8th of May and a second trip in September. Not only do some good in our world but enjoy the wonderful comraderie and good food, all in some of the most amazing surroundings on Earth. Contact Greg Ratchliff, Charlie Shears, Murray Marker or Trevor Brettig if you want a trip of a lifetime.

### **Kairos - A Short Course to a Long Life**

From the 20th to the 23rd of April Kairos short course #9 will take place. Graham Thomas and Don Hemer are our team so take the journey with these wonderful gentlemen. You can become involved with this course in many different ways, by showing support in prayer, writing letters, making biscuits or monetary donations (tax deductible). You can even just attend the closing ceremony on the 23rd. Please contact Graham or Don for all details, and whether you want to attend the course or just work in the support group.

### **A Ray of Light on the Hill**

Thankyou for continuing to support the Beacon project with food and items. We are bringing giving and helping to our own front door and now looking after those struggling in our neighbourhoods. Neighbour looking after neighbour, just how society was designed to work.

### **News From Edda**

Jack Edwards of Victoria has been collecting Office equipment, books and educational supplies since 1991 for under-resourced schools. He has also been collecting clothing and sending it to Vanuatu. The following institutions sell their donated good to assist in financing their ministries:

Op Shop, Santo - helps to run the Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu.

Ranwadi College, Pentecost - has maintained and improved its College chapel and is now building a residence for visitors.

Londua Technical College at Ambae, Gumbule High School at Maewo, and Isla Primary School at Tanna, all use the money to improve their schools.

Vanuatu pays freight costs for the goods.

Then once a year Jack sends at least a cubic metre of goods to PNG for the Gandup Bible College to aid in their building projects. He covers the cost of freight. Jack has been a GMP missionary, on the Board, and is an active 70+.

Today's Reading Brought to You By:

The letter 'e'  
and Ecc 3: 1-5 (re-run)

### **May Day, May Day**

Get to this event and enjoy the simple power of people. Convention 2009 will be held Monday 11th May to Saturday 16th May. Mark this year's convention in your diaries now. These get together are always informative, proactive, and dare I say it, fun.

### **Plants, Cakes and Sausages = ?**

On Saturday 4th of April at 8:30am come along to the church and partake in food and green thumb encouragement as the church raises much needed funds for this year's Fregon trip. So if you are wanting to donate the cakes or plants, call June Will on 8270 6072. Let us make this fundraiser as successful as the one we had when raising money for our new piano.

### **Don't Bin it, Sell it at our Giant Garage Sale.**

With the tentative date for early October in mind it is now time to squirrel away all those unwanted, but still good things, for the giant church garage sale.

Save up your stuff my dear people. A sale is coming so we want to make it a good one.

### **Vanuatu, Work, Mission and Abundant Joy.**

Frank Filmer at the age of 23 went to Vanuatu as a missionary in 1908, something those on Pentecost Island remember with fondness. Last year Frank's grandchildren visited Pentecost to celebrate the centenary of Frank's arrival. Bernard Hull, one of the visitors for this event commented, "We were very encouraged by the stories told about my grandfather and the early Christian missionaries." During the visit it was noted that the Ranmawat Health Centre, including the Frank Filmer labour ward, was in need of serious renovating. The work is so urgent that the Filmer family have set up a fund and raised the needed finances for the work. Now they are looking for a work team to undertake these renovations and update this essential facility. All interested people are urged to contact Global Mission Partners, or ask your church to contact them on your behalf.

### **From the Wise Old One**

These are actual typos from ecclesiastic notice sheets:

1. The Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign last Sunday. 'I upped my pledge - Up yours'.
2. Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm at the church. Please use large double doors at the side entrance.
3. Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married last Saturday in the church. So ends a friendship that began when they were children.

### **Blokes' Breakfast**

1st Saturday of the month at 7:30am

### **Sunday Roast**

1st Sunday of the month after the Church service

### **Coffee 'n' Chat**

1st Tuesday of the month from 10:30am at Cafe Primo

### **Women in Prayer**

1st Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm

### **Sewing Group**

3rd Tuesday of the month from 9am

### **Friendship Centre**

Every Wednesday during school term from 1pm

### **Bookworms**

Last Friday of the month from 1:30pm

### **Movie, Choc Tops and a Good Cause**

This wonderful film will be screened at Wallis Mitcham Cinema on the 25th of March at 7:00pm as a Vietnam Fundraiser. See a movie, have some fun with popcorn, fruchocs and choc tops while supporting a mighty good cause. Please get tickets from Judy or Graham Thomas. Get them quick as well so this can be a big boost to the work these wonderful people are helping to achieve in this country. Tickets are \$14

### **People News - Well, Here's Liz**

Lizz Victory turns 40. To celebrate this milestone, or is that millstone, she is throwing a Big Birthday Bash at Belair National Park on the Pines Area 2. So pen in Saturday 18th of April, 11am-4pm for a celebration and quite a lot of fun in the park. BYO food, blankets, chairs, a football and those cricket sets, this is not a boring sit about day. Cake and non alcoholic and alcoholic bubbly will be supplied. No presents please, simply pay the donation to the park gate and perhaps donate to the bushfire appeal. There wil also be a treasure hunt for the children. RSVP Wed 15th of April on 0431 881 094.

### **New Faces Bring a Smile. And a Cuppa of Course**

Welcome to visitors to the church, thank you for dropping in and sharing in the words of Jesus and the life of our church family. After the service please stay and have a chat with the people here, they are friendly, encouraging and very good listeners. Who knows, you just might make a new friend.

See a new face in the crowd? Why not buy them a cuppa and share a moment together?