

# the advocate



**"The Zone is our jewel in the crown ... "** CRAIG SAID.

**In conversation** 2013 marks the 25th anniversary of Steve Grace releasing his album *Children of the Western World*. [PAGE 12 >>](#)



Photo: Leavers Green Team

Members of the 2012 Leavers Green Team in Dunsborough for the annual 'leavers' celebrations which was affected by storms and high winds.

## Storm closes The Zone

Over 7,500 Year 12 school leavers flocked to Dunsborough for the annual 'leavers' celebrations from 25 to 30 November. The 2012 Leavers Green Team had the added challenge of the weather this year with storms and high winds battering the South West.

The Zone, which is designed to accommodate up to 9,000 leavers, consists of live bands, DJ areas and a big rides area, pamper tent and Play Station tent. A first aid team is also on hand to assist leavers that need help.

Each year the Leavers Green Team are responsible for the construction and management of The Zone.

"Watching it rise up from the paddock is the first sign that leavers is about to start. The Leavers Green Team gives the place some soul and each night over 6,500 leavers celebrate in a safer environment," said Craig

Anderson, Officer in Charge, Dunsborough Police Station.

"The Zone is our jewel in the crown, it's what the leavers come for," Craig said.

Due to the storm warnings The Zone needed to be packed down for two nights, which was done by the Leavers Green Team.

Chad Kingston, The Zone Manager, elaborated on the logistics of packing down the huge venue. "It took a week to construct The Zone which includes, 16 Marquees, 32 lighting towers, 5 generators, 66 toilets, 310 chairs, 40 trestle tables, 30 beanbags, 44 Sulo rubbish bins, carpets, weed matting and the

rest! When the storm warnings came we had to pack it all down. It took the team a week to construct it, for the Leavers Green Team to come in and pack it down twice in a couple of hours was testament to the willingness of these people to serve."

This year the Leavers Green Team consisted of 176 volunteers.

"It is our role to make sure The Zone runs safely," said Michelle Smoker, Leavers Green Team Coordinator from Baptist Churches Western Australia. "We walk around The Zone and mingle and chat with the leavers. If there are any issues we have security and Police that help out."

A first time Leavers Green Team volunteer reflected on their experience. "I was based in the games tent. People had plenty of relationship issues; they weren't feeling the best or had done things they weren't overly happy about. My buddy and I had plenty of motivational chats with guys and girls about alcohol and its effects."

"There were many stories of lost friends, lost phones, relationship issues etcetera. We really provided the leavers someone to talk to/advice for the future. There were also many instances of over intoxicated leavers who needed water, someone to tell them to take a seat or just someone to talk to after all their friends had ditched them."

Scott Bermingham, Leavers WA Project Manager, said the partnership between the Youth Policing Division and the Leavers Green Team is a very strong one. "The Leavers Green Team provide a significant visual presence from the moment leavers get off the bus, through their time at The Zone, until they get back on the bus. Through friendliness and concern for the wellbeing of leavers, the Leavers Green Team provide a bridge between public officers and young people, breaking down barriers and encouraging interaction and enjoyment of the leaver's experience."



**6 Heart of Baptistcare**  
Baptistcare celebrated 40 years of service in 2012 >>



**10 Christmas show**  
Cam's Christmas Cracker will air on Christmas day >>



**16 Ready to camp**  
Serpentine Camping Centre is preparing for their popular Baptist camps >>

“ Generous hearts committed to building the kingdom of God. ”

BAPTIST CHURCHES  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA







### Graham Mabury

Graham Mabury is a broadcaster and Pastor at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. You can hear Graham on Radio 6PR (882AM) every weeknight from 8pm to midnight.

## On a new year

The good news, the heart of the gospel, is the revolutionary reality of being made new. There is life, and hope, and wholeness for the broken and the lost, not an offer of bandaids to paper over the cracks of a broken heart, but the gift of a new beginning. As Jesus put it, 'Whoever believes in me ... rivers of living water will flow from within them' [John 7: 38]. Of this, we His followers, both beneficiaries and messengers.

New Years, with its celebration of new possibilities resonates with us. We enjoy relationship with the One whose love is new every morning. For me, the opportunity to draw a line, to start over, takes me back to the games we played as kids, and

the chance to call out 'barleys' to freeze the action, expunge the past, and start again. (I still don't know why we used that word where I grew up!)

At the end of last year I wrote about the most recent census placing our family of churches

in that group whose continuing growth has gone on long enough to represent 'a longer term trend'. With that in mind, and based on conversations I hear on the Nightline program, I view the forthcoming year with great anticipation — it's an opportune time for us.

Many aspects of our understanding of scripture, and much of our DNA, resonates strongly with the key issues and expressed needs that come down the line to me night after night. I look forward to explaining more of this next time, but as we enter 2013 may we do so trusting that wisdom that our Lord promised us all

[James 1: 5]. In the best and brightest way may our 'light shine before others, that they may see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven' [Matthew 5: 16].



### Dr Brian Harris

Dr Brian Harris is the Principal of Vose Seminary and Senior Pastor of Carey Community Baptist Church.

## Leading with integrity

Many leaders are motivated solely by profit. No one denies the need and right of businesses to turn a profit. But, is there more to leadership than financial gain?

Four years ago I attended a live in leadership seminar with Henry Cloud and John Townsend, authors of the Boundaries series of books. One of my big 'takeaways' from this seminar could be summed up in the word 'integrity'. It is not that I had never thought of this as an essential part of leadership before, but I was encouraged to see how wide ranging integrity is.

Integrity is defined by Henry Cloud as 'character integration'. And character is described by

him as the 'the ability to meet the demands of reality'.

Leadership integrity starts with establishing trust. In order for trust to occur our leadership compass must always be orientated towards the north of truth. This means always telling the truth; not half truths or evasive truth, but the whole truth. In the long term, the consequences of deceit are greater than those of telling the truth. To tell the truth, leaders must be in touch with the reality of the

situation — face the facts squarely. It means being aware of our own blind spots, and not fearing being wrong or believing that we are gifted in an area when we are not. As leaders we need to get and accept honest, constructive feedback from others.

Establishing trust means being able to communicate with the person in a way that values them. The person needs to be convinced that they are understood. This builds trust and loyalty. Being understood involves the leader expressing empathy — being able to enter the other person's world and experience to some degree. But the leader needs to have good boundaries and realise that the

other person's experience is just that — their experience, not the leader's. In seeking to understand, leaders need to demonstrate grace, so that people understand that you are for them, not neutral or against them.

A leader of integrity will have the difficult conversation with someone who is not meeting expectations. They will tell the truth in a supportive atmosphere and work with them, to enable them to change to become all that they can be. Sometimes it means that the person is released to pursue a different direction within the organisation or elsewhere. That is leading with integrity in action.

## letters to the editor

# I only have religious stamps this Christmas!



In 2012, there were five Christmas stamps, only two of which have a spiritual significance — one local stamp and one overseas.

I went to the post office to buy some stamps to send Christmas cards enclosing a letter to family and friends in the UK.

I was astounded when the lady behind the counter became very apologetic. She said, "I'm really sorry to have to tell you this but we only have religious stamps and many people are refusing these — are you willing to accept religious stamps?"

When I looked at the beautiful stamp with the picture of the nativity I nearly burst into tears. As I type this I feel emotional. A humble stamp with the simple message of what

Christmas means to us has become the target of derision.

I made myself very clear to the lady behind the counter that I was delighted to buy the religious stamps because it's what my faith is based on. It's the reason for the season. She looked shocked.

I came out thinking what can I do — nothing I thought. Then I thought to myself I will write to those people with addresses in my email box and let them know that if they have letters/cards to send abroad why not request the religious stamps.

Perhaps now is the time to make a stand. Those that don't

believe in Christmas are quick to make their views known.

Happy Christmas  
Jacqui (A Salvo in Perth)

## send us your letters

The Advocate welcomes your letters to the editor on topics of concern to you and the community. Send your letters of no more than 100 words to editor@theadvocate.tv by the 10th of each month.



# Christmas fair attracts 4,000



Photo: Maida Vale Baptist Church

Adults and children enjoyed a large variety of entertainment at this year's Christmas at the Fair on 2 December.



Photo: Maida Vale Baptist Church

Chloe Robinson enjoys the animal petting farm at the Fair.

This year's Christmas at the Fair, organised by Maida Vale Baptist Church (MVBC), attracted approximately 4,000 people to Range View Park on the first Sunday in December. The Fair is a major event for the High Wycombe community and is regarded by Maida Vale Baptist Church as its gift to the community.

A committee from the Church work throughout the year planning the event, which includes displays by local schools and not-for-profit community groups, activities for families, show bags, food stalls and entertainment.

Some of this year's new attractions included a bucking-bull ride, African drummers, Earth Angels recycled crafts, The Art Things painting activity, Spanish doughnuts (churros) and Pete's Broome Noodles.

"We have intentionally excluded commercial market stalls (except for a few food vendors) to promote community groups," Karen Smith, Christmas at the Fair Coordinator, said. "Activities are free and the rides that are ticketed (camels and bucking-bull) are heavily subsidised to keep costs down and encourage people to support the stalls."

Approximately 70 volunteers from the Church were involved in the set up and pack up of marquees and other equipment on the day as well as looking after some of the activities provided during the event.

“Christmas at the Fair has become a significant date ...”

"We have been encouraged by the support that we have received from the local community. We receive positive comments about the friendly atmosphere and range of activities available," Karen said.

MVBC church volunteers were the actors for the nativity scene and SoulJoy acapella singers sang Christmas carols.

A tug of war has developed as a finale for the event with the local scout group challenging the SES and volunteer fire brigade. This year local Member of Parliament Andrew Waddell joined in the fun.

"Christmas at the Fair has become a significant date on the High Wycombe calendar," Andrew said. "It is the only place where every aspect of our local community comes together. It is family friendly and a lot of fun. I am glad to be a part of the Christmas at the Fair and would not miss it."

Christmas at the Fair aims to give an experience of the Kingdom of

God by establishing and building relationships within the local community. "We see this as going two ways – it is hoped the public will experience God's Kingdom through the Church providing the Fair and also the Church will experience God's Kingdom through finding and joining God where He is already at work in our local community," Karen said.

**2013**  
26th & 27th  
October

For more information  
please contact:  
Garry Beeck 9827 1432  
(garrybeeck@westnet.com.au)  
or Shirley Beeck 9827 1040  
(bnsbeeck@bigpond.com)

**GNOWANGERUP  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Members of the present Church would like to compile a booklet comprising of memories and anecdotes from previous years. If you would like to contribute please email or phone Garry. This book will be available after the weekend of the celebration and will also include photos of the weekend.



**CENTENARY CELEBRATION**

*Please join us for this special time of celebration— mark it in your diary!*



# Beauty for ashes



Photo: Margaret River Baptist Church

Margaret River Baptist Church's Silver Linings program, which began after the bush fires of 2011, encourages children to understand and express their feelings after a crisis.

An anniversary service was held at the Margaret River Baptist Church a year on from the bush fires that devastated the Margaret River region. During the service, church member Dorothy Nicholls, Manager and part owner of the Isaacs Ridge Cottages, shared what it felt like when she knew her workplace had been lost and her own home was under severe threat.

The ten luxury Isaacs Ridge Cottages were burned to the ground. Dorothy reflected on the millions of refugees around the world who need to flee their homes with no support from friends or the government that she has experienced. She spoke of the pain and frustration many people who lost their homes are still feeling. Dorothy told the congregation of the slow renewal of the dunes surrounding her home, shoots of green emerging from the charred earth, but that the business was lost forever, 11 years of hard work literally up in smoke.

Margaret River Baptist Church Pastor, Michael Lochore spoke on Isaiah 40: 'Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Isaiah promises that God is coming in power, and that he will tenderly care for his people who are weak, he will cradle in his arms his people who are so small.'

"When we are desperate for help, we want to know that the one offering comfort is actually able to deliver," Michael said. "This really came home to me last November during the fires. I spent quite a bit of time at the evacuation centre. I remember being there on the first

night, as people were finding out that their homes were gone. I felt so helpless, I wanted to offer comfort. But there was so little I could do. I could be there for people, but I could not stop the fire."

"We continue to pray that more people will turn to God who brings real and lasting comfort."

Margaret River Baptist Church provided a unique program for local children who had been traumatised by the fires, including several who had lost their homes.

The Silver Linings program used a facilitated group activity process that encourages children to understand and express their feelings after a crisis event.

In the first week of the program the children drew pictures of their favourite things which the Baptist Craft Group used as inspiration for cushions which were presented to the children on completion of the program. The program ran for six weeks with facilitators and parents noticing positive behavioural changes, especially with separation anxiety, in their children.

Michael tells of the other opportunities of help and comfort the local church was able to offer in the wake of the fires. "People from the family of Baptist churches across the state donated money to the Baptist Relief Fund. This money provided assistance to people whose jobs had disappeared when their workplaces were destroyed. No other assistance or programs were reaching these people."

"We were able to offer our church facilities for a number of events including an exhibition of photos from the fires."

"While one year on may seem like a long time, many people who lost homes have barely started rebuilding their houses. There have been so many practical considerations to work through that some people have not had a chance to process how they are doing emotionally," Michael said.

## Former judge heads council

Archbishop Denis Hart, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) announced on 12 December that the Honourable Barry O'Keefe AM QC and Francis Sullivan will be Chair and CEO respectively of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council. The Council will oversee the Catholic Church's engagement with the Royal Commission as well as the pastoral and other ramifications that have arisen from the sexual abuse scandal.

The Church's leaders have recognised the Royal Commission will demand a sophisticated and coordinated response across the country.

"I am confident the Royal Commission will enable an examination of the issues associated with child abuse nationally and the identification of measures for better preventing and responding to child abuse in all institutions that work with children," said Archbishop Hart.

The Truth, Justice and Healing Council will include representatives from the community to provide expertise, wisdom and guidance over the course of the Royal Commission.

The Council will comprise men and women with professional and other expertise and importantly will seek to have an effective ongoing relationship with people who have been damaged by the sexual abuse scandal.

Mr O'Keefe is a former Commissioner of New South Wales' Independent Commission Against Corruption, a former Chief Judge of the Supreme Court of NSW, Chairman of

Interpol's International Group of Experts on Corruption, Chairman of the International Anticorruption Conference and was Mayor of Mosman. He is a consultant to law firm Clayton Utz and was appointed as an Adjunct Professor at Notre Dame University in 2005.

Mr Sullivan has worked in government and private practice, and has held positions as Secretary-General of the Australian Medical Association, Chief Executive of Catholic Health Australia and consultant to the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Health Care workers at the Vatican. He is an Adjunct Professor at Australian Catholic University and was the Chairman of the University's Canberra Campus Review panel.

In November, the ACBC and Catholic Religious Australia announced they would establish a ten member council of lay people and clergy members.

## digital church

01/12/12

### Andrew Hamilton

[www.backyardmissionary.com](http://www.backyardmissionary.com)

"It was another day to give thanks for the community we are part of and to observe again that if we pay attention to Jesus and listen for His voice, then He can do a pretty good job of leading His church."

01/12/12

### Mark Lafler

[www.bibledeude.net](http://www.bibledeude.net)

"Music is a very substantial and important element of worship. But worship does not equal music and (unfortunately) it is usually expressed as so. I

wonder how many Christian people would explain what worship is without using music."

03/12/12

### Sheldon Clowdus

[www.deadpastorssociety.wordpress.com](http://www.deadpastorssociety.wordpress.com)

"Put down the latest church growth book. Cancel your trip to that church growth conference. Stop trying to emulate the 'megachurch' down the road or across the state. Open your Bible and acquaint yourself with the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ. Know it inside and out.

Preach it boldly and plainly. It worked for Paul."

03/12/12

### Ron Edmondson

[www.ronedmondson.com](http://www.ronedmondson.com)

"Always be attentive to the still small voice and give God room to interrupt your plans. Always. Don't be afraid of the fine print of the Christian life. Some of God's best is found there."

## briefs

### Pastoral changes

In February, Mark Parsons is commencing as Pastor at Beaumaris Baptist Church, Richard Foster at Australind Baptist Church and Jono Wesley is commencing as the new Senior Pastor at Mount Barker Baptist Church.

### Mission exposure trip

Among the Urban Community (AMUC) is a mission exposure trip for adults in Perth from 28 January to 1 February. It aims to challenge your faith, lifestyle, priorities and understanding of the gospel. The AMUC experience invites followers to a deeper faith where there are no easy

answers. It hopes to broaden the experience of Christians while allowing space to reflect on the message of Christ. Registrations close 11 January. For more information visit [www.suwa.org.au/AMUC](http://www.suwa.org.au/AMUC).



# Hollywood star CRE teacher

There are many things Stephanie Boutilier, member of the Claremont Baptist Church, enjoys about Perth – the amazing weather, the lifestyle and the fact Christian Religious Education (CRE) is available in public primary schools.

"In Oregon where we come from, the teaching of CRE, just as mentioning God or Jesus, are complete taboo. What a wonderful discovery to hear that public schools in Australia can teach CRE," Stephanie said.

In 2009 her family felt it was their call to leave the United States. "My husband Jordan applied for scholarships to pursue his PhD abroad. Overall, the PhD was part of a much larger vision for our family. We wanted to give our daughters Emery (then five) and Ariana (then three) the opportunity to live and experience the world abroad at a young age. It was our vision that our family would take a leap of faith that would challenge all sensibility and reality and ultimately grow us in our faith and put us in a better position to use our skills and passion to serve God."



Photo: YouthCARE

Stephanie Boutilier (pictured here with her son) is an accredited Christian Religious Education teacher who volunteers her time to teach in WA public schools.

Jordan was offered an Endeavour Award scholarship to do his PhD at the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research (WAIMR). His research entails developing treatments for neuromuscular diseases and disorders.

Catherine Plowman, CRE Convenor at the Shenton YouthCARE Council, introduced Stephanie to CRE.

"A year ago I attended

a presentation on CRE at Hollywood Primary School where parents were given information on YouthCARE's CRE program. I was very impressed with the curriculum and how accredited volunteer CRE teachers deliver a broad based Christian values curriculum that is educationally sound. It was very clear that the teachers treated their position as guests in schools with respect and that YouthCARE's

CRE syllabus was in harmony with the values embedded in the Curriculum Framework for schools in WA. It's really cool," Stephanie said.

Stephanie joined the CRE team and enrolled for accredited CRE training at YouthCARE. She has since been teaching CRE at Hollywood Primary School for a half an hour a week.

The addition of six month old Elijah to the Boutilier

family hasn't caused any CRE teaching hitches for Stephanie. Jordan leaves Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital and looks after Elijah while she teaches the group of 30 Year 1 students. "I just love teaching the kids," Stephanie said.

Stephanie is one of 340 accredited CRE teachers who volunteer their time to teach CRE on behalf of YouthCARE in WA public schools.

## Wedding on a pearling lugger



Photo: Leon Mead Photography

Broome Baptist Church Pastor Darrell McKerlie performed a wedding service on a pearling lugger for Caroline Diss and Australian Army Cadets Captain John Dayman.

Life and ministry in Broome has taught Darrell and his wife Pam McKerlie to always expect the unexpected. Where else would you get to conduct a wedding on a pearling lugger?

Pastor Darrell McKerlie from Broome Baptist Church performed the nuptials for

Caroline Diss and Australian Army Cadets Captain John Dayman.

The bride and groom, members of the Broome Sailing Club, decided there was no better place to have their wedding than upon the beautifully restored pearling lugger Intombi while sailing along the magnificent shores of Cable Beach.

It was Monday afternoon in August when guests arrived at Gantheaume Point, the

assembly point for transfer to the pearling lugger.

"It was a delightful day and the seas were very calm," said Darrell.

Darrell and Pam moved to Broome in 2012. After 18 years in their last church, Mooroolbark Baptist Church in Melbourne, they received a clear call from God to join his people in Broome.

## Bible teaching

The eighth annual Perth Children's Ministry Convention is taking place on Saturday 16 March at North Beach Baptist Church. The topic will be Teaching the Old Testament to Children.

The convention aims to answer the following questions: Should we teach everything in the Old Testament to children of all ages? How can we ensure that we are teaching what God wants us to? How should we teach from the different types of writing in the Old Testament?

This year's convention speaker will be Kit Barker, Old Testament lecturer at Sydney Missionary and Bible College. Kit enjoys helping students be shaped by God's word.

The convention will consist of three talks by Kit, the first being followed by a demonstration of how to plan a lesson in principles that have been presented. The second and third talks will be followed by an opportunity for participants to plan presentations which would take into account other principles presented.

For more information visit [www.cowa.org](http://www.cowa.org).



# People at the heart of care



Photo: Baptistcare

Ruth Hayter celebrated her 100th birthday with family, local councillors and staff of Baptistcare's David Buttfield Centre in Gwelup in November.



**Baptistcare recently appointed Cynthia Clive as their new Consumer Advocacy Consultant.**

## Western Australian community service organisation Baptistcare celebrated 40 years of service last year. Their person-centred approach continues to grow with the appointment of a new Consumer Advocacy Consultant, Cynthia Clive.

Cynthia served as Baptistcare's Chairperson for five years until 2011 and is highly regarded by her peers for her integrity, vision and understanding of the needs of residents and their families.

Guided by their Christian mission, Baptistcare has worked to help thousands of Western Australians achieve spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing through provision of its aged care, disability and mental health services since 1972.

"The people who were in the Baptist Church 40 years ago displayed great wisdom and foresight as they planned and created an organisation that was designed initially to provide residential aged care for the people of WA," Baptistcare CEO Dr Lucy Morris said. "We have also seen

the growth of services for elderly Australians in the community and more recently, Baptistcare has been providing services for people struggling with mental health illnesses and people living with disabilities and their families."

While people's journeys to joining Baptistcare are varied, every resident shares the need for a supportive and caring environment where they are respected and can live with dignity. Baptistcare is focused on providing this environment for its residents through its person-centred approach.

Cynthia will provide advocacy support for aged care residents and their families in this new part-time role designed to ensure residents are receiving excellent quality care and

genuine life choices. Residents like Ruth and Paddy who recently celebrated their 100th and 105th birthdays respectively.

### Century celebrations

It was with a pink tiara and sporting a letter from the Queen, that Ruth Hayter celebrated her 100th birthday with family, local councillors and staff of Baptistcare's David Buttfield Centre in Gwelup at an afternoon tea in November. Ruth's niece Kay Newton gave a moving speech about her life of travel and tireless work for charity Ngala. Ruth was presented with a plaque from Mayor David Boothman along with a certificate, cards and flowers from Baptistcare.

Award winning Charleston dancer Paddy Clayster celebrated her 105th birthday wearing a pink 'party girl' sash at Baptistcare's Gracehaven residential aged care facility in Rockingham with family and friends on 29 November. Well-travelled Paddy shares Ruth's love of travelling and

enjoyed knitting baby clothes for King Edward and Princess Margaret Hospital.

Baptistcare celebrated their 40th anniversary with the commissioning of their leadership team and board at Riverton Baptist Church, Shelley on Thursday 1 November.

"The last 40 years are a reflection of the warm relationship that we hold with the Baptist Churches of WA which gave birth to this organisation, and a reflection of the commitment that we have to the partnership that is held with honour by Baptistcare. We wanted to give thanks for that relationship," Dr Morris said.

"We look forward to working with the Baptist Churches Western Australia into the future as we fulfill our mission. In fulfilling our mission we are person-centred and embrace dignity and compassion in our relationships; integrity and respect in personal and organisational behaviour; courage and justice in our actions; stewardship of the responsibilities in our care; and accountability for our performance."



# One year on after opening



Photo: Mount Barker Community Resource Centre

The Mount Barker community make use of the facilities of the Community Resource Centre which opened in November 2011.

The one year anniversary of the opening of the Mount Barker Community Resource Centre on 18 November 2011 was celebrated recently. The Centre was developed through a partnership between organisations such as Shire of Plantagenet, Baptist Churches Western Australia, Mount Barker Baptist Church and community resource network.

Mount Barker Baptist Church meets every Sunday at the centre and also has a church office located in one of the offices.

Interim Pastor Michael Louwen spoke about the community programs ran at the facility. "A new initiative is Breakout – a youth group where

kids meet on Friday afternoons. The Amity Health Homework Program benefits families who are new to Australia and for whom English is a second

language. After school kids receive a snack, tutoring, access to computers and supervision."

Other organisations also use the Centre to provide services to the community.

Anglicare, the Southern Aboriginal Corporation, and PVS Workfind book permanent office space as do several other agencies who come in at times to provide essential services.

"The Centre is a place where the hungry are fed; they receive

assistance in finding a job and financial counselling," Pastor Louwen said.

A Foodbank agency was officially opened at the Centre early 2012. The Town Library and Toy Library are also hosted on site.

"The challenge in 2013 is developing programs that continue to meet peoples' needs and express our faith in Jesus in a tangible way," Michael said.

## Big Bible Award

Scripture Union's Bible reading program for kids *Big Bible Challenge* was recently declared Children's Book of the Year at Christian Resources Together 2012.

The Big Bible Challenge was launched in Australia in 2011.

"We have used this resource with our pre-teens on Sunday morning," said Robyn Douglas, Children and Families Worker from Maida Vale Baptist Church. "It gives an overview of the Bible in simple English. It creates discussion and is easy to follow. It is an excellent resource."

The *Big Bible Challenge* book is colourful and interactive with 20 fold-out pages of stunning illustrations which helps children explore and discover 100 Bible stories.

For kids who love their technology, throughout the book you will find further resources

available online to extend their exploration of the story. They will find full sized templates for craft activities, a map or maybe an interview plus other bonus material.

For parents, carers or teachers, the online content will give you extra confidence and assurance. It will help you engage in conversations with your kids, promote reflection and share discoveries from the readings in each challenge.

For more information visit [www.scriptureunion.org.au](http://www.scriptureunion.org.au).

## Call for Government action

Rhys Vallance, the Western Australian Director of the Australian Christian Lobby (ACL) and Daniel Earl, from Perth Christian Life Centre in Canning Vale, are urging the people of WA to write letters to their local and state members of parliament regarding the issues of prostitution and human trafficking in WA. The letters will be used to assist ACL in their lobbying efforts in time for the State election in March.

"Our objective is to get a pre-election commitment from both major parties to a full parliamentary enquiry into the Nordic model," Rhys said. "The Nordic model prohibits the purchase of prostitution services while simultaneously providing counselling and exit strategies for women trapped in the industry."

"There has been no meaningful prostitution reform since the Prostitution Control Act in 2000 and as such, brothels currently exist in a legal grey area.

Colin Barnett and Christian Porter promised the ACL an investigation into the Nordic model, however, since their election in 2008, this has not eventuated. Instead in 2011 the Liberal-National Government attempted to legalise prostitution with considerable regulation," Rhys said.

The Kvinnofrid Law was introduced in Sweden in 1999. According to the Swedish National Criminal Investigation Department, by 2004 the Kvinnofrid law resulted in an 80

percent reduction of street-based prostitution with only 400 women trafficked into Sweden compared with 10,000 to 15,000 trafficked into neighbouring Finland over the same period.

"One of the many reasons for the exponential expansion of prostitution demand across WA may be the economic growth in WA as a result of the mining boom," Daniel said. "As shown by the Swedish and Finnish examples, demand for prostitution also results in a heavy increase in the number of women trafficked into the country to work as prostitutes."

A Church-based screening of *Nefarious: Merchant of Souls*, a documentary on the global sex trade, is scheduled for 20 January at Woodvale Baptist Church. Other screenings are tentatively scheduled for 18 January, 1 February and 3 February.

For more information contact Daniel on 0402 363 630.



# Turning the other cheek amid the political gender wars

Photo: AAP Image/Lukas Coch

Turning the other cheek may be too idealistic for the grubby game of politics. But what else could even begin to arrest the outrage that currently powers the political machine?

By Justine Toh

"Gone is the turned cheek" wrote Anne Summers regarding Prime Minister Julia Gillard's electrifying smackdown of Opposition Leader Tony Abbott for his sexism and misogyny. In doing so, Summers drew upon a phrase garnered from Christianity.

She applauded Gillard's refusal to "resist an evil person" by turning "the other cheek also" if they have already slapped you once. That is what Jesus advised during the Sermon on the Mount as recorded in the

Matthew's gospel. Gillard chose not to, and women everywhere punched the air in delight. After years of sexist sledges and appalling personal attacks that have assailed Gillard throughout her time in office she probably

felt that enough was bloody enough.

“  
Everyone  
is guilty as  
charged.”

But the idea of turning the other cheek remains a compelling idea. Especially in light of much commentary that accused Gillard of hypocritically overlooking House Speaker Peter Slipper's own sexist transgressions in order to target Abbott. To put it plainly,

Jesus counsels us to turn the other cheek because anyone's claim of the moral high ground is tenuous at best. Furthermore, this posture of non-retaliation can very often be the only means to break the cycle of enmity between warring parties.

Jesus' advice seems particularly apt when you consider the way that Herald columnist Paul Sheehan gallantly rode to Abbott's defence by publishing a catalogue of insults the Government has this year hurled at Abbott: a dog, a douchebag, a Neanderthal, Gina Rinehart's butler and "like Jack the Ripper". The Government, Sheehan

argued, couldn't exactly cry foul when it had waged its own campaign against Abbott. The taunts in question reveal persistent attacks on Abbott's character that betray the Gillard Government's own stake in the politics of the personal.

However, in an earlier article, Sheehan also seemed to confirm the sexism rampant in the male-dominated establishment. Abbott cannot be a misogynist, Sheehan claimed, since "unlike the Prime Minister, [he] has raised three daughters". It is not surprising that inflammatory reference was removed after the initial column was published. They uncomfortably recall





Bill Heffernan's infamous gibe in 2007 that Julia Gillard was ill qualified to become Prime Minister since she was "deliberately barren".

Interestingly, as with Summers' piece, the headline of Sheehan's latest column tallying up the insults aimed at Abbott by the Government conjures up biblical references. Entitled "Abbott suffering a Labor Party stoning," the story recalls the incident recorded in John's gospel of the woman caught in adultery who is dragged before Jesus. In fact, that story seems to have direct purchase on the battle of the sexes currently being fought in

Australian politics. It features a guilty party, a crowd baying for blood, a sense of self-righteous indignation over the crime in question.

“ Jesus' response to the mob's desire to stone the woman in question feels apt in relation to the situation today. ”

As for who is who when it comes to the fractious sex relations now playing out in parliament, take your pick. The guilty party can either be Gillard – for her hypocrisy and political opportunism – or Abbott – for his male chauvinism or, in a larger sense, the institutionalised sexism he has come to represent. The bloodthirsty crowd is made up of politicians, media commentators, the twitterati who applaud or denounce either Abbott or Gillard or both for, well, being politicians. And the sense of self-righteous indignation? Everyone is guilty as charged.

Jesus' response to the mob's desire to stone the woman in

question feels apt in relation to the situation today. In the biblical story, Jesus bends down and draws in the dust at his feet before offering a reply that interrupts everyone's rush to judgment: "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her" (John 8:7). Predictably enough, the crowd dwindles once everyone is given the chance to examine themselves.

This week seems mercifully free of last week's turbulence. Maybe people heeded Finance Minister Penny Wong's call at the weekend for an end of this "gender war." But it is doubtful that such a stalemate can last.

In such a fraught context, turning the other cheek may be too idealistic for the grubby game of politics. But what else could even begin to arrest the politics of outrage that currently powers the political machine?

**Dr Justine Toh is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity and an Honorary Associate of the Department of Media, Music and Cultural Studies at Macquarie University. This article was originally published by ABC Religion and Ethics. For more content on Christianity as it relates to contemporary life visit [www.publicchristianity.org](http://www.publicchristianity.org).**



# Cam's Christmas Cracker



Photo: Christian Television Australia

Cam's Christmas Cracker, hosted by Christian performer and poet, Cameron Semmens, will screen on the Seven Network on 25 December.

Christian Television Australia's Christmas day special, *Cam's Christmas Cracker* will screen on the Seven Network on 25 December. Produced by Melbourne based production company Australian Christian Multimedia, *Cam's Christmas Cracker* is hosted by Melbourne based Christian performer and poet, Cameron Semmens.

"Just like an actual Christmas cracker, this show is an explosion of delights," Cameron said. "It is a mix of entertainment, investigation and thoughtful reflection. It looks at the wrappings and

trappings of Christmas, as well as exploring the deeper, meaningful gift inside."

*Cam's Christmas Cracker* features an exclusive interview with Santa Claus; a crazy kitchen caper (a recipe for

Christmas disaster); lively Vox Pops (voice of the people); and a 'Corniest Christmas Card Competition', running live online on Christmas Day. All this is skilfully weaved together by the host's poetic insights, and punctuated by a delicious dusting of Christmas themed factoids.

"*Cam's Christmas Cracker* invites viewers to think outside the giftwrapped box that is December the 25th," Cameron said.

Cameron has published many books and CDs, including *Love Is The New Black*, *Give a Man a Fish*, and the award-

winning *The ZOO In YOU*. He has also appeared on TV as a regular contributor on *The Men's Series* with Karl Faase.

“Just like an actual Christmas cracker, this show is an explosion of delights.”

Cam brings his unique brand of entertainment and insight to people around

Australia, running workshops for all ages and performing live. He lives in Melbourne with his wife Sonya, who is also a writer, and his two young children.

For more information visit [www.christiantelevision.org.au](http://www.christiantelevision.org.au).

## Hundreds protest for Egypt in Sydney

Freedom, justice and democracy – these are the themes that brought approximately 500 people outside the Egyptian consulate in Sydney on 8 December in solidarity with Egyptians in Tahrir and around the world.

'Down Down Morsi' and 'Human Rights in Egypt' were some of the multitude of chants and opinions which met consular officials demonstrating that while Egyptians may have left Egypt, they will still always be watching. Recent decrees by Egyptian President Mohammad Morsi and the rising violent crimes by the Muslim Brotherhood have

seen a new kind of enemy post Mubarak.

Organised by Sam Mansour of El Doustoor Party and supported by the Australian Coptic Movement (ACM) and other associations, the rally saw Egyptians and non-Egyptians alike from all walks of life determined to make their voices heard that the regression and desperation brought about by the actions of the Egyptian

Government will not be tolerated.

The ACM's endorsement of the rally is in line with its vision for Egypt to be a modern, civil and democratic society which will not be hijacked by religious fundamentalism. ACM's spokesperson Peter Tadros addressed the crowd, describing the mob like behaviour of the President's militia on the streets of Egypt attacking

peaceful protestors.

Also present in the crowd were several other Egyptian-Australian based organisations, as well as the multitude of youth whom have recently arrived in Australia and were passionate about calls for the President's immediate resignation and the implementation of freedom and democracy.

Recent events were sparked by President Morsi's implementation of sweeping constitutional powers and constitution, which have been described as a 'disaster'. The constitution does not represent the cultural, religious, ethnic and political

diversity of Egyptian society. Furthermore, the draft constitution failed to uphold the objectives of the 25 January 2011 revolution and undermines the values of citizenship, equality, freedom and human rights.

The constitution that has been drafted leaves the door wide open to the creation of a religious state, which poses severe challenges to rights and freedoms and this contradicts the initial objective of the Egyptian Revolution of 25 January 2011 which called for freedom and social justice for all.



# A baby haven in South Africa

Kylie Jordan from North Beach Baptist Church has recently returned from a six month mission stay in an orphanage in South Africa.

Based in Johannesburg, 'Baby Haven' is a small, pre-adoptive home providing care for a maximum of six babies at a time ranging in age from newborn to two years old.

Baby Haven is run by a local church, with many of the 'forever families' being Christian.

"My purpose there was to provide love and care for the babies while they waited for their 'forever family'," Kylie said.

Kylie had a desire building inside that just kept growing, especially hearing of other people's mission trips. "Two comments pushed me over the edge, one was 'What are you passionate about?' and the other was 'You just have to go!' I had been making excuses and this was very helpful. I wasn't sure about what area I was passionate about until I got home and opened an email, with pictures of an abandoned baby, then I just knew this is where God was leading me," Kylie said.

After six months of applications and planning Kylie arrived at Baby Haven in May 2012.

"The home was very first world; the babies were well provided for. On a typical day I would be up at 6am, then the routines of nappy changing, bottle feeding, play, cuddles and naps. Along with the routine was all the washing, doing dishes, cooking and sterilising bottles. I also had to take them to clinics for vaccinations and medical checks, we went to church and on outings," Kylie said.

During Kylie's stay, three new babies arrived at Baby

Haven. "It was amazing. Two babies were signed over to us by young mums, the other one was just left in a field. I saw the babies reaching new milestones, growing into chubby, happy babies. I met three of their 'forever families', one going to her new family a week before I left."

“My purpose there was to provide love and care for the babies while they waited for their 'forever family'.”

"The hardest part was when three month old baby Holly died from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), especially when I had pretty much been mum to her in her short life. I learned through this to trust God, and the importance of prayer. I truly felt upheld in this time after Holly's death."

"It was incredibly hard leaving the babies I grew to love so much behind, but it is another step in trusting God with each of their little lives."



Kylie Jordan has recently returned from a six month mission stay at 'Baby Haven', an orphanage in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Photo: Baby Haven

## Become a Qualified Counsellor

Personal growth

Help others



**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF FAMILY COUNSELLING**

*Excellence in Christian Counselling Training*

Three Year Vocational Graduate Certificate  
in Counselling & Family Therapy, incorporating Certificate IV,  
Diploma, Advanced Diploma & Vocational Graduate Certificate.

VET Fee Help available

Career opportunities

Adelaide • Brisbane • Canberra • Melbourne • Perth • Sydney • Sydney Korean • Distance Education (English & Korean)



Ph: 1300 721 397 [www.aifc.com.au](http://www.aifc.com.au) [aifc.info@aifc.com.au](mailto:aifc.info@aifc.com.au)





# Steve Grace: 25 years on



Photo: Woodlands Media

2013 marks the 25th anniversary of Steve Grace releasing his milestone, gold selling album *Children of the Western World*. The album was the first Australian Christian project released on CD in this country. It spawned several classic hits including *Big Dreams* which has generated airplay on Christian radio in Australia, New Zealand and America for 25 years. Last year, Steve re-recorded the song and several other signature tunes for his *Everytown* project. Wes Jay from Woodlands Media recently spoke to Steve about the album and his journey over the past 25 years.

It's been an amazing faith-filled adventure doing music full-time in Australia. Many times, I've been tempted to jump on a plane, move across to America, and get involved in the Christian music scene there because it's a far more comfortable and financially lucrative lifestyle. But every time I've contemplated it, I've felt that God has called me to my country Australia, and the hundreds and hundreds of great country towns and great churches in the suburbs and cities. The past 25 years has just been an incredible journey serving the local church in its task of evangelism, and reaching Australians with a relevant gospel message.

**A key way you've done that has been through music, and songs like *Big Dreams*, *Long Road to Glory*, and *As Far As it Goes* have become signature tunes for you and this country. Why have you re-recorded some of your biggest songs?**

*Everytown* is not necessarily a greatest hits album but it's a collection of songs that mean a lot to me, and to the journey my

wife Kerry and our three boys, Cheyne, Ryan and Jordan, have been on over the years. These are songs that in many ways reflect the heart and soul of what this ministry has been all about. They are songs that I just love to sing to people and I've seen the effects they have them. Also some of the great old songs that were originally recorded on low budget albums and live albums. This time, I picked a bunch of songs that deserved to be recorded again and recorded at the best possible standard. And ironically for me that meant jumping on a plane and heading across to Nashville and working with some of the finest musicians I've ever met. Twenty-five years ago I dreamed of recording songs in Nashville. It took a long time but I thank God in His faithfulness that He allowed me the opportunity to do this project over there.

**How do you keep the songs fresh after so many years of performing them?**

I've been singing some of these songs for 25 years, some of them longer. But I've got to

the point in my life where I feel like I'm almost unemployable for anything else. It's like what would I do? I could go back truck driving, I could go back spray painting. That's my old trade. Every opportunity God gives me to stand in front of a microphone and not only sing these songs, but share from His Word as the years go by, I get more and more excited about that privilege, knowing that it's not my words, it's not my opinion, it's not even my stories, it's the truth of God's Word that cuts through the hardness of people's hearts. It's through God's Word, through the work of the Holy Spirit, that people's lives are changed and transformed. If my music and my songs can be a small part of that, seeing people's lives changed, why would I ever get bored or discouraged doing that? I love it.

**But surely there are challenges?**

People sometimes think that because you're a recording artist it all just sort of falls together, and you've got record companies and publishing companies behind you, and unlimited budgets. That's not true. Let me tell you it's a pretty lonely road most of the time. And when I spoke out in faith that I desired to do an album in Nashville, I was amazed at how God got me there. The budgets were all met. Ten days before stepping into the recording studio we still didn't have any money to do this project. All the musicians, the studio and the producer were booked and I'd booked the airline ticket. My youngest son Jordan and his mate Trent were in the US touring with their band The Skypilot.

They made a commitment to meet me there. They just wanted to be a part of the project and that was a real privilege, and a real blessing to me. But so many things needed to fall in place. The last few days before the studio recording, miraculously all the finances turned up. Somebody even offered to fly my wife Kerry over so that she could be a part of the project. So when I look back on *Everytown* it is a beautiful blur of God's faithfulness, just knowing that He is so true to His Word. As Psalm 37 says, 'trust in the Lord, do good and dwell in the land, cultivate faithfulness. Commit your ways to the Lord. Delight yourself in Him and He will give you the desires of your heart.' For me, recording *Everytown* was a very simple desire of my heart and yet I look back and just see how God said, 'I'm going to let you make a memory with your family'. I'm very grateful to the people that financially supported us and for the people who prayed for this project to take place.

**Why did you call the new album *Everytown*?**

First January 1990 was the beginning of a brand new decade. I was in Perth asking God what He wanted me to do with the next ten years of my life. I got this melody, a simple chorus and it was the chorus of the song *Everytown*. But it took me ten years to write the three verses of that song. It wasn't until 2000 that I completed the song, and in 2002 I was able to record it with Andy Sorenson, and more recently for the *Everytown* album. The song came out so well we made it the title track. In some ways it's

simply the Great Commission that Jesus has called us to – to go into all the world to preach the good news to all people.

**After 25 years and more on the road, do you ever think about your legacy or what you'll be remembered for?**

Well, probably not so much about the music, but more about the stuff that goes on behind the scenes – the work I'm doing helping orphans in Papua New Guinea, the work I'm doing helping young people in Aboriginal communities. It's some of the quieter, behind the scenes stuff that I've been able to do over the years that I have been able to find great fulfilment with. In some ways I feel that it's been the missional side of my music that has kept me going in the music. If it's just all about the record sales and trying to get on the radio, trying to get big hits on YouTube, I'm not cut out for that – it's not really what God called me to in the first place. I love doing music and concerts. I've met some incredible people as I've travelled over the years. It's such a joy to be able to do it. But it's more about the real stuff that goes on behind the music.



# Dreaming in the daily grind



the daily grind, then your hope of accomplishing your dreams will eventually erode. However, if you look for possibilities to grow in every situation, then you gradually will gain the experiences needed to achieve your dream.

## Separate the firefighters and firelighters

Criticism can be crushing, yet honest feedback refines our vision. The key is to avoid firefighters who will douse your dreams with negativity and to surround yourself with firelighters who will fan the flames of your passion with their consistent support. After people lose hold of their own dreams, they tend to hold down everyone around them who dares to dream. Other people's success makes them feel insecure. For this reason, be wary of people without well-defined passions of their own — they're almost certain to be firefighters.

The daily grind tends to sidetrack us from accomplishing our dream, forcing us to take unwanted detours. In these moments, we need people who will encourage us to persevere and who will believe in our dream, even when our faith in it wavers. In addition, we need people who will gently, but firmly, help us confront our shortcomings. Without their feedback, we will not be able to make the personal and professional adjustments required to reach our dreams. Firelighters, then, can be identified by their sincere encouragement and their willingness to say what we need to hear instead of what we want to hear.

**Used with permission from The John Maxwell Company, [www.johnmaxwell.com](http://www.johnmaxwell.com).**

By John Maxwell

We use the expression 'the daily grind' to describe the mundane unpleasantness of our work routine. Interestingly, the word 'grind' has multiple meanings:

1. To wear down, reduce, or crush into powder by pounding or abrading.
2. To smooth, sharpen, or polish by friction or abrasion.

Though we cannot escape the daily grind, we can determine whether it crushes our dreams or polishes them. How? I'd suggest the following three behaviours.

## Realize the dream is costly

The dream is free, but the journey to its completion isn't. Failure is the price of success. If you naively believe the dream will happen easily, then the setbacks of the daily grind will shatter your dreams. However, if you understand the dream is costly, then you can take failures in stride as necessary steps on the road to success. From this view, mistakes do not prove our inadequacy; they sharpen our abilities and prepare us for success in the future.

## Engage in possibility thinking

When you have big dreams, the drudgery of the daily grind can be disheartening. It's maddening to feel as if your dream is on hold while you spend each day on seemingly unimportant work. Yet as Jesus of Nazareth said, 'Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much'. In other words, the skills you develop in unglamorous jobs train or qualify you for greater responsibility in the future. If you disdain the small tasks of

## Welcome to leadership

By Monica O'Neil

Perhaps you left a vital meeting a few minutes too early and ended up with a job ... or perhaps you took on leadership responsibility because you saw something worth doing, and worth doing well. Something caused you to step out of your comfort zone and give it your best. Welcome to leadership.

However it happened, you have been planted into leadership, and that means you are going to need to 'bounce back' in all sorts of leadership climates. You will enjoy

rewards and celebrate fruit. You will plod steadily through many an ordinary day and you will need to recover quickly from intense heat and wild storms. This is called

resilience and you can develop it.

Whichever way you ended up a leader, you are quite likely to encounter sunny days where your fruit is growing and your flowers are blooming. Times when you feel connection, satisfaction and the wonder of leading people somewhere worthy. It is okay to enjoy those times with a hearty sense of gratitude for the privilege of your role and for those who have undoubtedly been amazing contributors to the season. Rewards are precious. Pleasant times are precious. It's okay to simply enjoy them.

Some days in leadership are just 'ploddy'. They are routine,

pleasant and rhythmic. The air around us is neither hot nor cold, the wind is mild and even though we feel the chill of something going awry, tiredness from hard work or a note of disapproval from somewhere, it's easy, to bounce back with a good night of food and water. Sleep, exercise and time in spiritual quiet and engagement with our creator as well as our community rejuvenate us quickly and well.

The happy days and the 'ploddy' days are the days to deepen our roots — to grow resilience. As a discipline we train our thinking, reflecting intentionally on our actions

and things occurring around us. We create around us a microclimate where the presence of others provides a buffer of love, acceptance and perspective. We look after our health. These three are the builders of resilience.

Now is a great time of year to decide how you will foster habits to grow your connection with God and your community, foster your health and reflective practices so you bounce back quickly when the heat is on.

What needs attention this year and when will you start?

**Monica O'Neil is Director of Vose Leadership.**



## events calendar

### January

- 1 January New Year's Day
- 2-6 January Inters Summer Baptist Camp, Serpentine Camping Centre, 6313 6300
- 8-12 January Juniors Summer Baptist Camp, Serpentine Camping Centre, 6313 6300
- 26 January Australia Day

### February

- 10 February National Day of Prayer and Fasting, [www.nationaldayofprayer.com.au](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.com.au)
- 22 Feb-1 April 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting, [www.40daysofprayer.com.au](http://www.40daysofprayer.com.au)

### March

- 11 March – Vose Commencement and Conferral Service, Vose Seminary, 6313 6200
- 28 Mar-1 April Easter Camp
- 29 March Good Friday
- 31 March Easter

### April

- 1 April Easter Monday
- 25 April ANZAC Day
- 29 April-1 May All Together Pastoral Retreat, Mandurah

To find your local Baptist church visit [www.baptistwa.asn.au](http://www.baptistwa.asn.au)



## contribute news

Do you have news that you would like to share with the rest of the West Australian church family?

Email your name, phone number and brief description to

[editor@theadvocate.tv](mailto:editor@theadvocate.tv) by the 5th of each month.

We would like to know about:

- Baptisms
- Birth
- Deaths

- Events
- Marriages
- News about your church
- Pastoral changes
- Your views (letters to the editor)

Be love.  
End poverty.

SPONSOR A CHILD.

[baptistworldaid.org.au](http://baptistworldaid.org.au)

Phone 1300 789 991



**BAPTIST WORLD AID AUSTRALIA**  
Be love. End poverty.



Are you buying or selling a property?

Then contact Margaret for an obligation free discussion regarding your Settlement needs.

Tel: 9418 2424  
Mob: 0434 547 471  
Fax: 9418 1560  
Email: [mmenzies@iinet.net.au](mailto:mmenzies@iinet.net.au)

# the advocate

**Editor:** Terry Hicks  
**Managing Editor:** Brad Entwistle  
**Sub Editor:** Andrew Sculthorpe  
**Writer:** Alison Amos  
**Production:** Nicole Grego  
**Graphic Design:** Catherine Bartlett, Hayley Emmet  
**Advertising:** Bek D'Sylva  
**Distribution:** Bek D'Sylva  
**Editorial deadline:** 5th of each month

**EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISING:**  
**Email:** [editor@theadvocate.tv](mailto:editor@theadvocate.tv)  
[advertising@theadvocate.tv](mailto:advertising@theadvocate.tv)  
**Mail:** Baptist Churches Western Australia  
 PO Box 57, Burswood WA 6100  
**Tel:** (08) 6313 6300  
**Fax:** (08) 9470 1713

The Advocate is published on behalf of Baptist Churches Western Australia by imageseven.

**Tel:** (08) 9221 9777

**Email:** [info@imageseven.com.au](mailto:info@imageseven.com.au)

imageseven.



Baptist Churches  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### Publishers General Disclaimer

All the articles, comments, advice and other material contained in this publication are by way of general comment or advice only and are not intended, nor do they purport to be the correct advice on any particular matter of subject referred to. No reader or any other person who obtains this publication should act on the basis of any matter, comment or advice contained in this publication without first considering and if necessary taking appropriate professional advice upon the applicability of any matter, advice or comment herein to their own particular circumstances. Accordingly, no responsibility is accepted or taken by the authors, editors or publishers of this publication for any loss or damage suffered by any party acting in reliance on any matter, comment or advice contained herein.



browse



Hardcore Christian Gamer

www.christian-gaming.com

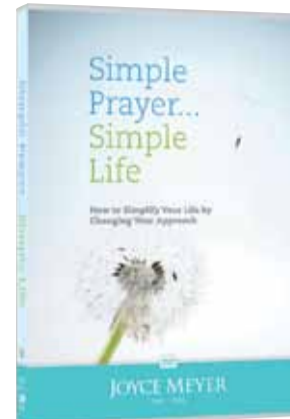
Christian-gaming.com is the home of the Hardcore Christian Gaming Association. They are gamers and they are Christians who have intertwined their passion for gaming with their passion for Jesus. They exist to provide everyone in the gaming community with the ability and accountability to fellowship together in the gaming world without losing their witness. On the site you will find an active forum, podcasts, plenty of news and updates, as well as links to gaming events around the world. Christian-gaming.com covers all the major platforms including X-Box, Playstation, Wii and PC as well as iOS games. The site also features a store which sells the famous Hardcore Christian Gamer t-shirts. Gamers will find christian-gaming.com an active and supportive community.

watch



Journey to Jamaa

*Journey to Jamaa* is an award winning film that chronicles the incredible journey of two orphaned children. Director Michael Landon Junior delivers a poignant and inspiring true story in which a mother's dying wish sets her two children on the seemingly impossible journey to find a relative they don't even know. With only their mother's last wish to guide them, the children push a large box through the dangerous streets and highways of Uganda, in a journey that ultimately leads to the discovery of hope, family ... and the very heart of God.



Simple Prayer Simple Life

If you're frustrated, aggravated and overwhelmed with everything that's 'on your plate', then it's time to make some changes. Through this teaching you'll learn five specific ways to simplify your life, how getting closer to God produces peace and reduces stress, and how to avoid being overcommitted. Discover a new way of living by trusting God more and leaning less on your own ability and understanding.



Healed by Grace

When a horrible accident shatters her dreams of being a world class dancer, Riley clings to her faith, determined to recover in time for the national competition. To regain mobility, she turns to equine therapy, where she develops a special bond with a beautiful horse named Grace. From the excitement of elite dance competition to the heartwarming horse ranch, *Healed by Grace* is a charming, romantic and heart wrenching reminder that God's grace can appear in the most unexpected place.

win

Look Unto Me

By Jim Reimann

In *Look Unto Me* Charles Spurgeon's great classic devotions are updated and expanded by Jim Reimann, editor of the bestselling updated editions of *Streams in the Desert* and *My Utmost for His Highest*. Based on the classic *Morning by Morning*, the new devotional now includes comments, applications and prayers developed for today's reader. Charles' work has encouraged generations to discover a deeper commitment to Christ. *Look Unto Me* offers timeless wisdom and daily encouragement in this journey of faith. What a great way to begin 2013.



The Advocate in conjunction with Word Bookstore is giving you an opportunity to win *Look Unto Me*. To be in the draw, simply answer the following question:

Question:

Name the author of *Look Unto Me*.

Entries close 18 January and all winners will be announced in the February edition of *The Advocate*.

Winners from *Montana Marriage Trilogy*:  
R Eastman, N Giraldo, K Howson

competition

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

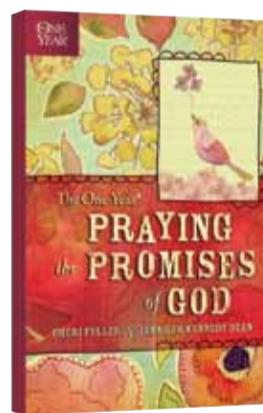
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form with your details and post it to:

Look Unto Me Competition  
11 East Parade East Perth WA 6004

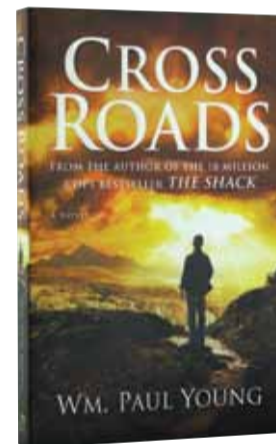
read



The One Year Praying the Promises of God Devotional

By Cheri Fuller and Jennifer Kennedy Dean

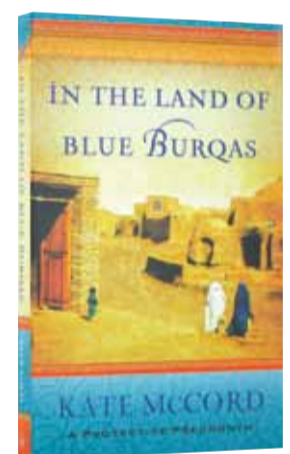
In this devotional, Cheri Fuller and Jennifer Kennedy Dean invite readers to explore God's promises each and every day and encourages them to reflect on how God's hand is evident if only we look for it. Each reading includes a Bible verse from that day's reading in *The One Year Bible*, devotional, prayer and quotation that relates to the promise of the day. Each day is an invitation to pursue a closer relationship with God and a reminder that God always keeps His promises.



Cross Roads

By William Paul Young

Tony is proud of being a self-made business success and enjoyed being at the peak of his game – even though the cost of winning was painfully high. After suffering a cerebral hemorrhage, Tony is left completely comatose in an intensive care unit at hospital. He wakes up to find himself in a surreal world, a landscape that mirrors dimensions of his earthly life, from the beautiful to the corrupt. This is where he has interactions with others (which he presumes are projections of his own subconscious) leading him along a path to redemption.



In The Land Of Blue Burqas

By Kate McCord

This is a collection of vignettes based on the real dangers and firsthand accounts from the author's experiences living in Afghanistan. The reader will see just how revolutionary Christ's message is today, and how radical it was during Christ's lifetime. All of the locations and names, including the author's name, have been changed to protect the participants. *In the Land of Blue Burqas* depicts sharing the love and truth of Christ with women living in Afghanistan, which has been called 'the world's most dangerous country in which to be born a woman'.

Reviews and competition kindly supplied by Word Bookstore.

Website: www.word.com.au

Locations: Morley - 4 Wellington Road, phone 08 9375 3722  
Victoria Park - 359 Albany Highway, phone 08 9361 7899





# Adventure and mystery camps



Photo: Serpentine Camping Centre

Baptist Summer Camps at Serpentine Camping Centre are popular for children and teenagers from all over WA.

In January children and young people from all over WA converge upon the popular Baptist Summer Camps at Serpentine Camping Centre run by Baptist Churches Western Australia (BCWA).

The camps have been running at Serpentine for nearly 60 years.

"2012 will see between 70 and 100 kids attend each of the camps," BCWA Director of Camp Ministries Ross Daniels said. "One for Juniors Years 4 to 7 and one for Inters Years 8 to 10."

"The theme for the Juniors camp is 'Adventures on promise island' and is about discovering

some of God's promises with our special guest, the gifted and very entertaining Australian musician, Sean W Smith.

The theme for Inters camp is 'Sherlock: the search for truth', with mysteries to solve, hidden secrets and challenges."

Other highlights for campers includes a dress up night, pool games, slippery slide, basketball

in the gym, camp songs, glow stick games at night and leader hunts.

"The leaders love seeing the kids have a great time, connecting with the kids in small group discussions learning about Jesus and being role models. Most of the volunteer staff are recruited by word of mouth, Facebook and combined youth events."

"It is always a challenge to find the right people with the heart to serve in this ministry. Training is required as we need all our staff to have completed the Safe Church training and have a Working with Children Check card. Ongoing training continues

at the planning meetings prior to a camp," Ross said.

One happy camper, 13 year old Sophie from Wembley reflects on last year's camps, "I thought the camp was awesome, all the leaders were really nice and friendly. I made some new friends. The night time activities were lots of fun and so was the lolly shop!"

Campers come from a variety of backgrounds both church and unchurched families. With this in mind the input through worship and our guest speaker is aimed at both. Baptist camps have always been an opportunity to encourage kids in their spiritual journey

and understanding.

Campers are grouped into eight bed cabins with two leaders. The cabin groups do everything together, creating a sense of security and allowing the opportunity for bonding and friendships to grow.

There is also a 'camp mum' who is there to chat with and hug those who might be missing home.

Baptist Summer Camps are a great opportunity for the next generation to hear the Word of God, all while having a fun experience with friends in a positive, uplifting environment.

For more information visit [www.baptistwa.asn.au](http://www.baptistwa.asn.au).

AGE 14  
I HAVE A STRONG DESIRE TO INVESTIGATE THE CLAIMS OF JESUS

AGE 16  
I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS.

AGE 18  
I'M AT UNIVERSITY READING PHILOSOPHY AND ANTHROPOLOGY. IT'S NEAR MY SWEET SPOT.

AGE 22  
THERE'S MORE TO KNOW, THERE'S DEEP TRUTHS I WANT TO EXPLORE. I WANT TO DIG DEEP AND KEEP DIGGING. I WANT TO EXPLORE THE UNFATHOMABLE.

AGE 23  
I LOVE THEOLOGY. THERE, I SAID IT!

AGE 24  
I ENROL AT VOSE SEMINARY AND BEGIN A NEW JOURNEY OF LEARNING, GROWTH, EQUIPPING AND DISCOVERING JESUS IN COMMUNITY. PRETTY EXCITED...

AGE 34  
THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...WHAT'S NEXT, LORD?

At Vose Seminary, no two stories are the same.

Vose Seminary offers certificates, diplomas, degrees, masters and doctoral studies.

[www.vose.edu.au](http://www.vose.edu.au)



come, grow



BAPTIST WORLD AID AUSTRALIA  
Be love. End poverty.

A will to end poverty

You can do more than you ever thought possible by leaving a bequest in your will. Call Jules Parker on 1300 789 991 or visit [baptistworldaid.org.au/](http://baptistworldaid.org.au/) bequests for more information.