

Epping SDA Church Newsletter

No:57 –24th August 2007

Welcome to our weekly Church Newsletter. It's another big news week with lots of reports and photos, so I hope you stay well informed.

If you have any articles and news for this newsletter, please email them to:

<mailto:ajing@eppingsda.org.au>

This newsletter can also be downloaded on our website:

<http://www.eppingsda.org.au>

This Sabbath @Epping

This week's service is a **Communion Service**, and will be taken by **Pastor Bruce Grosse**. **Henry** is the elder in charge and the offering is for **Education**.

A message from Pastor Bruce:

"Once again we will remember in thanks the wonderful love of God through Jesus giving His life for us. Because of those who enjoyed foot washing as couples, we will have once again three areas for this opportunity to serve each other – thank you deacons for keeping this in mind in your planning"

Last week @ Epping: Family Seminar –Pastor Alex Currie

Dr Alex Currie's family seminars last week were certainly informative, educational

and extremely helpful, from my personal viewpoint. The seminars highlighted exactly what is needed to build strong Christian families, and how to nurture these relationships.

Dr. Currie only had time to touch one a few topics, and we must invite him back for further seminars in the future.

From Pastor Bruce:

"I would like to say a big thank you to those who supported the Family Seminar. We all appreciated Dr Currie's presentations and he enjoyed his time with us and is happy to attend another Friday evening later this year when it can be arranged. Thanks to the ladies for bringing such a variety of soup and buns – they were delicious. Thanks for the involvement of those who helped with co-ordinating and setting up for the Movies for the children and teens"





wear your blue Pathfinder field uniform. We need all the help we can get to reach our goal for the church.

We will be spending about 1.5 hours until about 3pm. Bring a pen please.

ADRA Appeal – Continues this week, with the Pathfinders going out into our community.

A message from Andrew Lim:

The ADRA Appeal campaign for 2007 continues this week.

The Greater Sydney Conference is introducing the 'igeneration' involving as many 15-30 year olds as possible in collecting for ADRA. Young people who raise \$50 or more for ADRA appeal by Sept 1st will on presentation of their Church Treasurer receipt receive a great looking 'igeneration T-shirt' along with an entry ticket to a Concert to be held on Saturday night on Sept 1st at SAC Auditorium. For those who would prefer to give a tax-deductible donation, please see Sharon.



Pathfinder and Adventurer News

Pathfinders this Sabbath

From Henry:

For all the Pathfinder and others who are able to make it to help with the ADRA appeal this Sabbath, please





HEY YOU? RAISE \$50 FOR ADRA BY 1 SEPTEMBER 2007

**AND YOU WILL: FEED SOMEBODY, CLOTHE SOMEBODY,
HOUSE SOMEBODY, HELP SOMEBODY, CHANGE SOMEBODY!**

**ALL YOU NEED IS TO: ACQUIRE, INHERIT, SALVAGE,
COLLECT (ADRA APPEAL), DONATE, EARN, FIND, FUNDRAISE \$50 EACH FOR ADRA.**

**AND YOU CAN WIN: MYSTERY FLIGHT FOR TWO,
AS WELL AS MP3 PLAYERS, DVD PLAYERS, CAR STEREO
AND OTHER PRIZES.**

**EVERYONE WHO RAISES \$50 OR MORE: WILL RECEIVE A FREE IGENERATION T SHIRT,
DESIGNED BY THE SAME PEOPLE WHO DESIGN BILLABONG,
AS WELL AS FREE ENTRY TO THE IGENERATION ICONCERT***
*On presentation of official iGeneration receipt, otherwise entry is \$25. T shirts will also be available for purchase at \$25 each.

CONCERT INFORMATION

**ICONCERT 7:00 – 9:00 PM; 1 SEPTEMBER 2007
SYDNEY ADVENTIST COLLEGE
159 ALBERT RD, STRATHFIELD**

**FEATURING SKYLLA (AUSTRALIAN IDOL CONTESTANT)
JASON CARRASCO, CAMPBELL TOWN YOUTH CHOR,
GABRIELA RIVERA, JEROME SHEDDEN, ELLA LATU AND MUCH MORE.**

For more information contact your school chaplain, or local church minister and youth leader.
Alternatively you can contact Greater Sydney Conference on (02) 9868 6522 or visit www.myspace.com/igenerationadra

!POWEROF50 !SING !BANDS !DRAMA !MYSTERIES !DVD !PRAY !EAT !SERVE !GAMESHOW

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Local Church News

1. Regional Meeting Sep 22- CHURCH CLOSED

The church will be closed on September 22 as we are invited to fellowship together at the Northern Regional which will be spread over the Wahroonga and Fox Valley churches. There will be an overseas guest speaker.

2. Wollondilly Camp – Take 2 19th – 21st October

From Arthur:

Hi Everyone! I suspect that enough time has passed for the memories of camping in the wind and rain to have faded so...the Wollondilly Camp is back on the calendar! It is now scheduled for Fri Oct 19 to Sunday Oct 21. Time to start looking for all that camping gear that you packed away!

This camp will be free for those who paid for the last (wet) camping attempt. If you wish to bring friends then you must please contact me first as we have limited space.

3. Fathers Day Service – September 1

Remember to put this date in your diary as the Sabbath Service will focus on our Fathers. Plan to invite your friends and family to this special Sabbath Service.

4. Board Meeting- September 15

Our next board meeting will be held after lunch on September 15

5. Health Assessment Postponed

The scheduled Health Assessment for September has been postponed to October due to the non availability of some health professionals. More details to follow.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kathy Tung and Fabian Foo on their wedding last week. Here are some happy snaps:





Postcard from the Solomon Islands

I was delighted to have received this email from Dale and Gloria (via Arthur) and thought it would be wonderful to share with Epping Church:

Greetings and salutations everyone.

It has been a busy few weeks for us. We spent our second week here going from the flat (apartment) to the house painting, organizing furniture and junk. In the end we moved into the house even though it wasn't ready. We got tired of the walk back and forth in the middle of the night and early in the mornings! It is a long walk, about 250 mtrs!

Anyways, only the three bedrooms were painted and cleaned when we moved in. We have spent the last two weeks finishing off cleaning and painting the bedrooms, kitchen, dining room and lounge. As each room got more completed, we'd move the furniture into it so the pile of junk in the lounge got smaller and smaller and more manageable.

A couple of things have slowed us down a bit. One the roof leaked over the front door and in the office. It took about a week for the materials to arrive and the maintenance men to replace the roof and ridge cap in the affected areas. Another down side to the roof was the discovery that only one of the solar panels worked for our hot water and so that too had to be replaced which we just did yesterday. Two days of cold showers was enough for me. Yes we live in the tropics, but it has rained most days all week and we're COLD! It got down to 23 deg C and we were looking for warmer clothes to wear so cold showers was not a pleasant thought! Our second discovery was the termite nest in the wall between the kitchen and dining room. We had been told the nest was dead but when we opened the wall to replace the wallboard, we discovered a healthy and live nest. Needless to say they didn't survive but that meant we had to replace one whole wall in the kitchen and the one backing onto it in the lounge. Replacing it isn't what takes so long, it is the process of getting materials to do the job with that takes a while. So those items eventually got done.

Anyways, by Friday week, we had the lounge room done enough to put out the furniture and the house finally began to feel like a home. It was nice to relax on the lounge suite rather than having to sit on the bed or chairs and it was WONDERFUL to

eat a meal at a table rather than standing in the kitchen. Ahhh such luxury.

Then on Sunday we began to clear the jungle that is our back "yard". Most wouldn't consider it a yard since the flat section only goes out about 4 mtrs from the house and then drops at a 60 degree angle down to the security fence which is about 40 mtrs down the hill. Our house, and most of them on campus, is built on the ridge of a rise. Just past one end of the security fence is a cliff and this drops off into the river. One quaint custom here is that if you want to throw something out, just throw it over the side of the hill, into the river or so on. So I spent most of the day picking up garbage and rubbish that had been tossed "over the edge". I also spent time mowing the front yard and ridge. It isn't quite as steep so can be handled with a lawnmower.

This past week we have continued the repairs with replacement of skirting boards, removal of some shelving that was in the lounge and repairing that wall, painting and scrubbing (seems to be a constant task) and pulling the kitchen bench out. We had a Formica "splash back" behind the taps at the sink area and it was bubbled and warped, indicating that there was a considerable amount of water damage...AND we had to replace the back of that cupboard since we knew the termites had eaten it away, leaving only the paint! It is very interesting to see a wall or board and it looks good on the outside but when you touch it, your fingers go straight through because the termites have eaten all the backing and wall and left only the paint! It is the ultimate in thin walls! Anyway, so we decided to remove the cupboard and put a whole new back on. This meant that we had to pull off the

splash back and behind it we found a live termite nest.....so everything came out and was dutifully sprayed and cleaned and repaired and after 3 days we have a lovely new wall, splash back and a new look kitchen.

Now this may sound like a lot of excitement and it has been, but the best was yet to come...on Thursday night we had our first earthquake here. It was 6.7 on the Richter scale. Scared the out of me! Dale has been through a few in PNG so he knew what it was, I didn't. I was downstairs in the laundry when the whole place began to move...so we both rushed out to the "safe" front yard and watched as people poured out of their houses all around us. It lasted for less than a minute but we've had aftershocks and tremors all day yesterday and today. Needless to say, the people here were all thinking one thing, Tsunami (tidal wave). There was one here on another island at the beginning of the year so everyone is well aware of the possibilities. Being on a ridge, that thought didn't concern me too much. I was too busy being scared and thinking an earthquake wasn't part of the agreement! Unrest and civil uprisings I am prepared for, even possible physical harm and theft, but there's not a thing you can do about an earthquake! It is completely unexpected and un-manageable!

So life is, as always, interesting and unexpected. As far as I know, everyone is safe and we are settling into a rhythm of work and little sleep.

Thank you for your emails and notes. They do a lot to cheer our days and keep us in touch.

God Bless and may your Sabbath be an enjoyable one.

Gloria & Dale (who is still asleep)

Sydney to the Gong Bike Ride

A number of Epping Church members participated in this fund raising event last year, and in the process raised over \$8000 for Multiple Sclerosis research. This year we are forming an Epping Church team to ride "to the Gong" which takes place on Sunday November 4.

More about the event here:

<http://www.gongride.org.au/>

Fear not if you have never done this before. It's relatively easy and you ride at your own pace. Epping even has its own riding and training guru to help you get into shape (Sensei Ben), and we will be doing plenty of training rides before the event. If you are interested, please see Arthur or Alvin.

Here's a pic of our team last year:



Prayer Requests:

Please remember the following members, friends and programs in your prayers

<i>John Bagnall</i>	<i>As he continues to recover from his back operation ..</i>
<i>Dale and Gloria</i>	<i>As they work in the Solomon Islands</i>
<i>ADRA Appeal</i>	<i>As the Pathfinders undertake the appeal this week.</i>
<i>Abby</i>	<i>As the birth of her baby is imminent</i>

Dates to put down in your diary

<i>August 25</i>	<i>Communion Service</i>
<i>September 1</i>	<i>Fathers Day Service</i>
<i>September 1</i>	<i>Week of Prayer – “Words of Hope”</i>
<i>September 15</i>	<i>Board Meeting</i>
<i>September 22</i>	<i>Regional Meeting. Church Closed.</i>
<i>October 19-21</i>	<i>Wollondilly Camp Church Closed</i>
<i>December 8</i>	<i>Baptism</i>
<i>December 15</i>	<i>Christmas Service</i>

Thought for the Week

Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7