

Epping SDA Church Newsletter

No:84 – 27th June 2008

Welcome to our weekly Church Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. This will be the last newsletter for a month as the editor will be on leave during July. To everyone who is travelling during the upcoming school holidays, I wish you safe travels and God's blessings.

This newsletter can also be downloaded on our website: <http://www.eppingsda.org.au>

This Sabbath @ Epping – Adventurer Investiture

*This week's service is Epping's Adventurer Investiture with Sharon Gardner, Cherie and Jim Kross leading out. Congratulations to all our Adventurers on their achievements! **Norman Tew** will be leading out in the service, while **Arthur** is the elder in Charge. The offering is for our **Local Budget**.*

Last Week @ Epping

Pastor Michael Dabson took our service last week and focused on "Big Picture Christianity" If you would like to listen to the sermon again or missed out the first time, you can download the MP3 on the link below. From Arthur:

"These sermons revolve around the questions that our young people often have about Christianity. These are the same questions that Pr Dabson asked when he was a young man and he now shares some of the answers that he has found in his Christian journey.

This first sermon asks the question 'Where is God during natural disasters like the Burma Cyclone and the China Earthquake and also during the evil madness of Hitler's Auschwitz.

There sermons are in MP3 audio format and can be downloaded here:"

http://www.aandz.com.au/epping/pr_dabsan_1.mp3

Agape Feast

What a wonderful and uplifting evening this was. A tremendous thank you to Michael and Maree Worker for their energy and enthusiasm in sharing this unique experience with Epping. Here are some comments from the evening:

Pastor Michael Dabson:

“Thank you Maree and Michael, and all those who contributed so much to the beauty and richness of the Agape feast.

Epping Church is richly blessed with such Christ-centred worship events and spiritual sharing and fellowship. I count myself blessed to come and minister among you and receive blessings from all of you.”

Arthur:

“I am sure those of you who were present at the Friday night Agape feast will join me in wholeheartedly thanking Maree and Michael for introducing the event to Epping Church and also for the countless hours they put into the planning and preparation. It was an inspiring and uplifting event and everyone was blessed by attending. A few of the younger members want it to happen every week!

Thanks also to all the people involved in the music, drama, band, food preparation, hall preparation and cleaning up afterwards. It was truly a group effort.

Biggest thanks to God for giving us such a great church family who so willingly share they ideas, talents and hard work to glorify His name”

Sue:

“Will you please pass on our thanks to Marie and Michael and all who made the Agape Feast so meaningful We felt truly were Blessed to be part of it and felt the outpouring of The Holy Spirit. A very special thanks to all who have prayed and continue to pray for Ken and me and all our family ,your prayers mean so much...The Lord is good. Love Sue”

Henry:

“I was especially blessed during the prayer session when we could pray for our church family members who were there for assurance, thanks or encouragement. It was a defining moment for me. May we have more prayer sessions to strengthen our faith and courage. The stories read were very real and put my mind in those situations. Thank you all for making the evening so memorable”







Pathfinder and Adventurer News

Youth Outdoor Activity

This is an opportunity you will not want to miss. It may not happen again soon and you are invited to participate. Roddy Wong has organized this very special challenge and we want you to be there. It will be a really fun and inspiring.

This activity is mainly for the older teens. We would like to limit this to those who are part of our club or youth groups and join with some of the youth from Chinese church. First come first served.

We will be meeting at Chinese Church in Strathfield to catch the bus at 8 am sharp. You will need to bring lunch, water, camera, etc. and it will be a day to remember. Cost is \$25 for the day, includes transport and gear. Please let Henry know if you are interested.

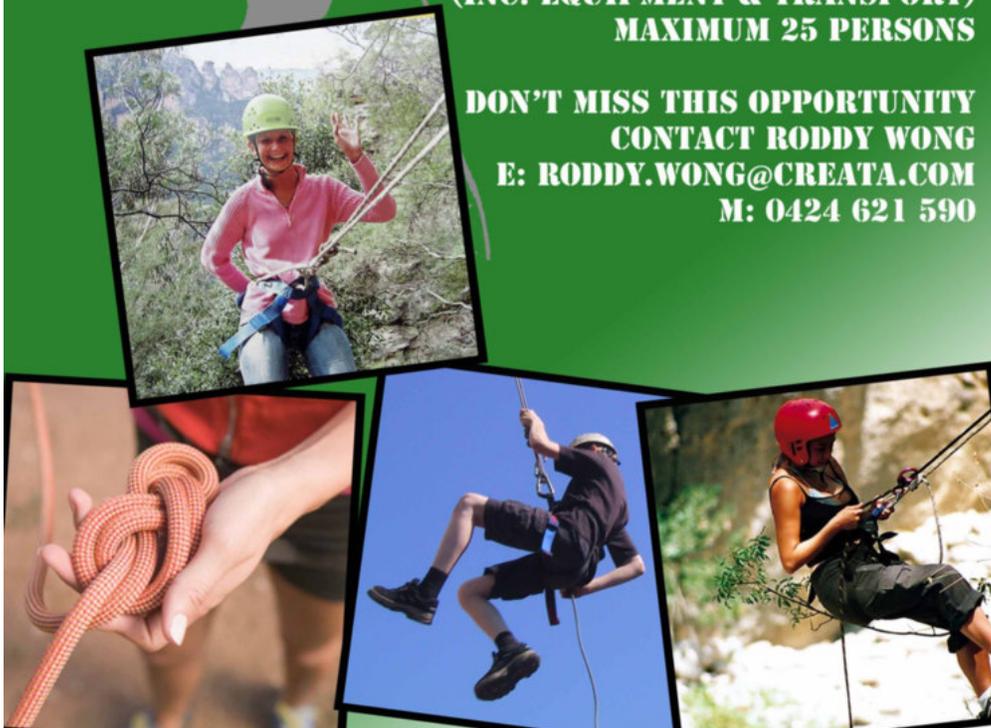
DARE YOU NOT? A CALL TO ALL YOUTH...

**JOIN US FOR A DAY OF EXCITEMENT
OF ABSEILING & ROPE SKILL**

**SUNDAY, 27 JULY 2008
8:00 AM - 18:00 PM
BLUE MOUNTAINS
MEET AT STRATHFIELD CHURCH**

**PRICE
\$25 PER PERSON
(INC. EQUIPMENT & TRANSPORT)
MAXIMUM 25 PERSONS**

**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY
CONTACT RODDY WONG
E: RODDY.WONG@CREATA.COM
M: 0424 621 590**



Epping Project – Philippines Orphanage

Following a meeting of interested persons 2 weeks ago, Epping Church has decided to proceed with the following project to support an Orphanage in the Philippines. Thanks to the efforts of all those involved in getting this off the ground, but especially to Margaret and Belle.

From Belle:

“The project involves fund raising largely from tax deductible donations to support the Orphanage in the Philippines. Our aim is twofold: 1) help the Orphanage 2) provide an avenue for our young people to build team spirit and experience a meaningful way in supporting a good cause.

For the more adventurous, we are also forming a plan to travel to the Philippines to visit the Orphanage in October 2009 including an Adventure Tour - details of airfare and tour cost will come later.

Some have asked why ICC and not ADRA? We continue to support ADRA. However, for a specific project like this one, ADRA is no longer able to accommodate tax deduction. International Children's Care (ICC) was founded and operated by Adventists and is recognised internationally. ICC-Australia is a registered Australian Charity - Reg No A0034270A.

I invite you to check out their website for additional information:

<http://www.iccaustralia.org.au/index.htm>

I have outlined the project in brief and if anyone is interested to make a tax deductible donation towards this project, I have enclosed the Credit Card Donation Form which you can fax to International Children's Care - Australia. The funds will be held in a special account specific to the Epping Project.

Thank you.”

Goal	\$50,000
Project	Orphanage in the Philippines – Mobile Clinic, Vocational Training Centre, Goat Bank
Target Group	Pathfinders, Youth, Parents
Date	October 2009
Who are involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People making tax deductible donations • People finding others willing to donate • Group joining the Adventure Tour to visit the Orphanage in the Philippines <i>(Details of cost, itinerary, dates, etc later)</i>
How do you make a donation?	Credit card Phone (03) 5152-5774 Fax: (03) 8660-2967 By Fax: Use the attached Credit Card Form.
	Cheque International Children's Care Shop 7 Riviera Plaza BAIRNSDALE VIC 3875
	Direct deposit Commonwealth Bank BSB 063 532 AC 1033 5881 International Children's Care
How much should I give? Donate before June 30 and enjoy the blessing of a tax deduction!	How big is your heart? Donation over \$2 is tax deductible. \$\$\$ Bigger the Better \$\$\$
ICC Website	http://www.iccaustralia.org.au/
ICC Australia Coordinator – Dean Beveridge	dbeveridge@iccaustralia.org.au
For more details contact	belletung@gmail.com Mobile: 0413 453055 Home: (02) 9671-2755
YOU are needed !!!	Get involved and be rewarded !!!
What is the reward?	A warm and fuzzy feeling that YOU made a difference !!!

EPPING PROJECT DONATION FORM

Send donation to	International Children's Care Shop 7 Riviera Plaza BAIRNSDALE VIC 3875
By Phone	(03) 5152-5774 <i>If sending donation by phone, please mention the Epping Project.</i>

By Fax	(03) 8660-2967 <i>Please fill out your details below.</i>
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Credit Card Payment			
Card type	<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Bankcard		
Name on Card			
Amount to be debited			
Card Number		Card Expiry Date:	
Signature		Date:	
Address you would like the receipt sent	Street:		
	Suburb:		
	State:	Post Code:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
Please direct donation to	Epping Project – Orphanage, Philippines		

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT !!!

Local Church News and Events

1. Emerging Band Practice – This Sabbath

We will learning “My Redeemer Lives”

2. Sports Night – Saturday evening 19th July

This is also a night to note in your diaries. If you can move, you need to come. Activities range from Tennis, Basketball, Squash, Indoor Cricket and Table Tennis. See Matthew for more details closer to the event.

3. Board Meeting – July 19

The next Board Meeting will be held after Lunch on July 19.

4. Friday Night Prayer Meeting 25th July

Epping Church is planning to have regular Friday Night Prayer Meetings and the next one will be held on the 25th July. These meetings are focused on bringing the church family together and to provide pray and other support for anyone in need. Please see one of the elders for help with any aspects of these meetings.

5. Working Bee – Sunday July 20.

Our next Working Bee will be held on Sunday 20th July. Please let Jim know of any maintenance issues that we need to address.

6. Communion Service

*Our next Communion Service will be held on **August 9th**.*

7. Church Roster

The roster for the Third Quarter is now up on our website. Please email Alvin with anything you would like to add or change.

8. Social Committee Meeting – this Sabbath after Lunch.

Sew and Tell – Monday July 7 - 7:00 pm

The next Sew and Tell meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Monday, July 7.

*We will meet at 7 pm on Monday July 7 at **La Botte Italian Restaurant, Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford**, to celebrate **Luna's 70th birthday**. There is plenty of parking at the rear of the restaurant. Further information from Carlene (9498 8207) or Coralea (9871 1337).*

Postcard from Woongarah – from the Calculli's

Greetings to everyone at Epping. We have just moved to the Central Coast, a move we have been putting off now for over 2 years. We are renting out our Carlingford home and have rented a house in the suburb of Woongarah near Warnervale.

We would like to let Epping Church know that we have enjoyed receiving the regular e-news and keeping up with all the goss.

We continue to pray and thank God for the great work Epping is doing in the community and making us part of the Epping SDA family. If anyone just happens to be in the Woongarah area anytime, please come on over for a herbal tea.

God bless. Michael Calculli

Prayer Ministry

From Henry:

Aileen Manahan is doing well after surgery. Ron and Aileen would like to convey their thanks for the prayers and support

Greetings from the Solomons

Greetings and salutations from sunny Honiara! Another week has (finally) drawn to a close and we are so glad for a Sabbath rest. Only yesterday it was Sunday! – this week has gone by so fast. I have noticed that as I get older time passes more and more rapidly...perhaps it has to do with trying to accomplish too much! Life here is never dull nor slow.

Sunday saw us up early. I had a computer class to teach from 7am to 8am so breakfast was early. After the class we had two guys working with us for the day. We spent the morning digging up a stump in front of the shed that we've been building. This shed will house the "grounds" department and all the various and sundry vehicles that the mission owns (trucks, tractors, lawn mowers, boats, trailers, etc). Then we put some flashing up on the roof and built a wall in the afternoon. Other works are of greater importance so the shed is being finished as we have time. After 4:30 when the others had left, we carried on, Dale welding the gates for the shed and I did some other jobs around the house and sorted out paperwork.

Monday started one of my maintenance boys on a crash typing course. He has two weeks holiday from school and will benefit from this if I can get the basics across to him before he has to return to high school. He is 20 or 21 and is working on year 11 in high school. He has a 45 minute period of learning before we start the day's work. It was a busy day running around town buying materials to keep the 6 maintenance men working. They are fixing up a house that has been badly damaged by termites and years of neglect/lack of maintenance. This involves numerous trips to the various hardware stores in town trying to obtain supplies. No one store carries everything – we have no Lowes or Bunnings - so it takes hours of searching to find everything needed. I'm getting quite adept at finding little "hole in the wall" shops who may have just the part I need. I also had to visit the water company to report a fault and ask that they send someone out to fix the problem.

Tuesday morning I had asked Dale to take two men and get a load of gravel from the river so the men can pour a concrete slab. I refuse to drive the truck now since it has no brakes. We continue to use it regardless and use only one driver other than Dale. It is our only means of hauling supplies, people, etc. Tuesdays are also Prison days and the class members are eager to learn. So after my early morning lesson with Tony and then getting the maintenance guys started I headed there. The first group are now learning how to use Microsoft Word and the other two groups are still learning to type. The men are coming along well and are up to about 25 to 30 words per minute. Not bad for guys who had never touched a computer or typewriter until 5 months ago! They really are awesome fellows. The afternoon was again spent in chasing up materials and the evening spent welding gates.

Wednesday after Tony's lesson I again spent the day getting materials. We have had no real rain for the last three weeks so people are running out of water. We have town water sometimes but it only comes on at 11pm or so and quits again at 5 or 6am. So we rely on rain water and tanks to supply the need. Our tanks are not big enough for such a long period of

no rain so some houses have run out. It was a challenge to organize to have a tanker bring water to all the houses needing water – there is only one water tanker for the whole city. Then too, some of our septic tanks needed pumping so that had to be organized, checked on and followed up.

Thursday after the lesson it was prison day again with 3 different class groups of men learning typing. We had a new man join us. He has painted some murals on the prison common room walls and they are very good. If I can I'll try and get some photos of the paintings. The afternoon I spent ensuring that one of the maintenance men was on the campus dealing with several small jobs including leaking water mains at the office, leaking water in two houses and some carpentry work at a flat. Then I was asked to organize a new water tank for one place on another island so that involves getting a blank cheque, getting it signed (finding two signatories can be challenging!) then to my surprise having to find out where the company has moved to! I went to where they had been and the shop was closed and empty with no indication of where they had moved to! Fortunately I had noticed their water tanks in another part of town, so it took a trip there to find try and find them. Then I had to pack up some gutter and all the associated bits for shipment with the tank out to the island. That took several hours.

Friday – a half day of work! Everyone quits at 12:30pm on Fridays. After the lesson the day raced off leaving me trying to catch up! We had one grounds man go and cut down some limbs off a tree that was overhanging the house that we are working on. I made sure materials had arrived and the men were busy laying blocks and putting up ceilings. Then I took Dale to see if he could fix a hole in a water tank but it was beyond repair. While there we met the water company people who were digging up the damaged main pipe. They said they would fix the pipe that day so I was glad. We went back and I worked with our man fixing the water leak problem in front of the office. Then a call came for some help with a computer program issue so I would have to stop and help the pastor with that problem. In the meantime I was trying to get another cheque for another water tank to replace the one we'd looked at in the morning.

On the way out to see the pastor and buy the tank I met the water company people who said their boss said the main was our problem to fix! After helping the pastor we went and bought the tank and then I set a man to work on the tank stand so that the tank could be installed that afternoon. I came back and bought the materials to fix the water main. Then I went and finished digging up the main line so it would be ready for replacement on Sunday if Dale has time. When I finally got home at 4:30 I was too tired to try to mow the lawns so I just cleaned the floors and fixed lunch for Sabbath. At last it was sunset and we could relax and rest for 24 hours!

So where was Dale all week? He was struggling with his own issues in the IT department. There has been an evangelistic campaign and all the pastors in the area have been helping out and taking training. The pastors bring their computers with them for Dale to check out, so he had computers with virus' to fix up, new computers to set up and issue, phone and internet issues to sort out, various and sundry jobs to do for me, meetings to go to and so

much more. Then after 5pm most nights he has worked at welding up the gates for the shed. In the wee hours of each morning he has been studying for two exams for his uni course. The exams were on Thursday and Friday afternoon and he was worried about passing. Time for study for both of us is extremely limited! It will be a miracle if either of us pass our courses and get our degrees!

There has been an evangelistic campaign going over the last 3 weeks and one of the inmates asked near the beginning of it if I could get the program on video so they could watch. I've tried but met with a blank. Well Tuesday one inmate told me that the speaker was a very dynamic man and the series was very good! I asked how he knew and he said they'd watched one of the programs! Somehow they had gotten a copy of one of the meetings! When the whole series is done, I'll try and get the set of DVDs for the prison library. It is amazing what the guys know. Anyway, the result of the campaign is that there are 380+ people being baptised Sabbath afternoon. The baptism took place in the river just down the hill from our house. Hundreds of people were there and it was a joyous occasion. We were on the opposite bank watching the proceedings. Attached are a couple of photos of the event.

Now it is Sunday morning again and time to get back to work. We hope that your week has been good and a whole lot slower than ours has been! God bless and have a good coming week.

Love Gloria & Dale



Prayer Requests:

Please remember the following members, and friends in your prayers

<i>Sue Wood</i>	<i>It's great to hear that Sue is improving and I ask that you remember Sue, Ken and their family in your prayers.</i>
<i>Carlene Bagnall</i>	<i>Carlene is recovering from recent surgery and we prayer for her during her rehabilitation.</i>
<i>Fleur Duke</i>	<i>Fleur has successfully undergone surgery and we pray for her ongoing recovery.</i>
<i>Aileen Manahan</i>	<i>Please remember Aileen in your prayers as she recovers from surgery.</i>
<i>Ivan Baxter</i>	<i>Please continue to pray for Ivan as he has ongoing therapy</i>
<i>Victims and families of Cyclone Nargis in Burma</i>	
<i>Families affected by the Earthquake in South Western China</i>	
<i>Safe Travels to all families and members travelling over the holiday period</i>	

Dates to put down in your diary

<i>June 28</i>	<i>Adventurer Investiture</i>
<i>June 28</i>	<i>Emerging Band Workshop</i>
<i>July 7</i>	<i>Sew and Tell – Luna’s Birthday</i>
<i>July 19</i>	<i>Board meeting</i>
<i>July 19 – Saturday evening</i>	<i>Sports Night</i>
<i>July 20</i>	<i>Working Bee</i>
<i>July 25 – Friday evening</i>	<i>Prayer Meeting – Epping Church</i>
<i>August 9</i>	<i>Communion Service</i>

Thought for the Week:

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

1 Timothy 6:17