

## WELCOME

Welcome to our weekly Church Newsletter. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. I am standing in for our resident Reporter/Editor Alvin whilst he is away.

## THIS SABBATH @EPPING

The speaker this week is David Price who has a very interesting sermon in store for us. The music will be provided by the Epping Band. The Elder in-charge is Eva Ing and the offering is for ADRA Appeal Expenses.

## LAST SABBATH @EPPING

Maree Worker took the sermon entitled "Got Faith?". It was about the story of David and Goliath and David's unwavering faith in God despite the size disadvantage to Goliath. She gave us some helpful pointers in developing our faith

## AMAZING RACE COMES TO EPPING!



THE AMAZING RACE IS COMING TO EPPING!!

WHEN: 18th of October 2008; racing from 6pm - 7:30pm, with meal afterwards.

WHERE: Epping SDA Church

### WHAT TO BRING:

Plate of food to share, Friends, Family and heaps of energy!! Also torches, street directory and a good sense of direction and good humour.

Come one; Come all to the race of your lives!!

### Information About The Race

You will form teams consisting of a driver and up to 4 passengers. You will be given instructions on the night to your first checkpoint, you will then need to navigate to the checkpoint using the shortest route. When you get there, you will have to locate a clue

Once you have provided the correct answer, you will receive your instructions to the next checkpoint via SMS.

You may encounter a roadblock which one of your team members will have to complete before you can proceed to the checkpoint or receive your clue.

Points will be allocated for correct answers and shortest distances travelled. Odometer readings of each vehicle will be taken at the start and end of the race. Time is not important so there is no need to speed.

### RSVP

Please RSVP [Arthur@aandz.com.au](mailto:Arthur@aandz.com.au) if you are able to make it and also whether you plan to drive on the night and how many spare seats you have. We need lots of drivers so that the kids won't miss out on this event!

The race begins at 6pm sharp so you need to arrive early.

## UPDATE ON ADRA APPEAL RESULT

Epping Church has raised \$1142.05 so far. If you would like to make a 100% tax deductible donation towards this important humanitarian mission of the church please see Sharon Gardner.

## SYDNEY TO THE GONG BIKE RIDE

Epping Church has a team doing the MS Sydney to the Gong bike ride. It's called Epping Xpress. If you are interested in the ride please contact Victor Ing via email: [vicing@ozemail.com.au](mailto:vicing@ozemail.com.au)

# PATHFINDER EXPEDITION 2008

REPORTED BY HENRY

Hello all

Expedition is over and what a host of memories to take with us! Wasn't that just a very interesting place to be!

Thank you everyone for all the effort and cooperation and fun we had. I really am grateful for Michael, Belinda, Meagan and Jon for their leadership in this club, they did such a good job helping all the Pathfinders with their logbooks and just being there to encourage you all to achieve.

And I'm so glad for the drivers, parents and supporters who just gave so generously of their time and talents to help in everything. Special thanks to Aunty Julie and Uncle Richard for the very welcome refreshments at the end of the day. And our very faithful drivers/parents to help us have a safe journey.

Finally to the Pathfinders, without whom we would have no expedition, your willingness and helpfulness made the whole atmosphere really enjoyable. You all gave your best and made the experience something great to be remembered.

I was very proud of our Epping club. Where ever we went, we always left the place clean. The only thing you could tell was where we walked and slept. Many other leaders mentioned how well behaved Epping was and how enjoyable it was to have worked with you. And I believe that it is because every one of you put all your energy into doing the activity and being really good friends to each other. You all are the envy of many other leaders.

God bless everyone of you, and have a really good holiday.

The next Pathfinder meeting will be after the holidays in October when we will have some more activities planned and other walks to enjoy.

best regards

Henry Tung

**Photos of the expedition are available here:**

<http://pfl.hmtung.com/Exped08/>

<http://pbase.com/ozarthurwong/pfexpedition2008>



## UPDATE FROM FRANCES IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, USA.

Hi Everyone,

Thought I would attach a few photos of the damage in the block around our places. There was a fair bit, this gives you an idea of what the winds were like. The big tree with Ethan in front is in the next photo with the tree blocking out 2 lanes of a 3 lane road. If the tree had fallen the other way it would have taken out a block of units.

The fallen traffic lights were like that for 2 weeks before they got fixed and as they hung down into a lane it also took out the use of a lane. By the time it came to be fixed they were really damaged as it looked like some people were not even trying to drive around them.

After 2 weeks of no power the school finally opened on Monday. Yeah...both kids keen to go back. Luckily no damage to the actual building. They are kindly going to give us a week refund for the 2 weeks off so that is nice.

Many Houstonians shocked by the carnage of the storm. I must admit that I am surprised at their surprise. 6 months of the year is noted to be hurricane season (yes that is 50% of their lives is spent in anticipation of a hurricane) and in the time that I have been here we have had 2 tropical storms hit and 2 serious hurricane warnings, one of which turned out to be an actual hit. Given that this happens every year I want to tell people "but you have this every year"...I bite my tongue. They tell me that the last hurricane to do this much damage was 25 years ago but it seems to me that they forget about the ones that don't do all that much damage. I'm fascinated by the lack of infrastructure to deal with this problem. I guess the reality is that like all politicians they do what they need to stay in without a lot of planning ahead.

Have been learning some American...no such things as fortnight, waylaid or whilst....no second 'e' in judgement either. However there is a fundraising group who are advertising a 5K run. I laughed as I wondered if anyone knows how far that really is??? The guy who was handing them out had not noticed the name of the run and frowned that there was no explanation of the distance on the advertisement....Guess how they pronounce buoy?? booe...had me stumped for about 5 minutes. It was not until they were going on about the booees in different places measuring different water swell that I worked out what they were. Trunk, fawcett and trash are easy!

Exciting news with Rachel's engagement party. Take some photos and send them to me! Love, Frances.



## UPDATE FROM BELLE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

This is our first chance to check email. We are at an internet cafe. The weather here has been predictable....rain, thunderstorm, rain, thunderstorm, more rain. But today it is actually sunny, hopefully for a little while. Our first discovery is that October may not be the right timing. The locals suggested January, which may suit more people actually. We'll discuss later.

We visited the orphanage yesterday with Ron and Aileen. We had a great time. They were expecting us and lunch was prepared when we got there. The kids had prepared a special song for us in their classroom, "Welcome to the Family" rendition. Then they begged for a story and I told them a story in Tagalog. I was amazed at the kids. They were very receptive and perceptive beyond my expectations and participated intelligently in our little discussion. I felt so touched. We will show you photos and video when we get back.

The Manahans also located the pastor who baptized them and He was very surprised and delighted. He toured us in Subic Bay which is where the Americans used to have a Naval base. We had a very productive trip and we discussed lots of interesting ideas about how we will work out our trip with our group.

We also met with the ICC Board members. We sort of invited ourselves into their meeting the afternoon we arrived...good timing. They are sending greetings and appreciation for everyone's generosity.

I better send this.

Love,  
Henry and Belle



## UPDATE FROM GLORIA IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

Hi. First off let us say that we are safe and surviving. The mission has finally taken appropriate action regarding the threat to us and the man has been dismissed and has left the compound. So for the moment we are safe, or as safe as being in a 3rd world country usually is, and we seem to be well, just tired.

We left last Sunday and flew out to one of our vocational high schools, Batuna, to do computer training and to fix any computers that were broken. We flew into Gatokai and then had an hour boat ride from the airport out to the island that Batuna is on. I got nicely sunburned. On the way we saw dolphins feeding. We stayed in one of the original houses - a massive house that is in need of repair - situated on the top of a 20 metre tall hill; good exercise. The classrooms were down the hill and across a narrow section of the peninsula and then up another hill - more exercise.

We got settled in and had a good evening rest. Classes started the next day and we had classes from Monday to Thursday night. We took the boat on Friday morning to Gatokai and there discovered that we were supposed to have flown out on THURSDAY! Both Dale and I had gotten confused. So we spent the next 5 hours sitting in the landing strip shack while the agent tried to contact operations. He did so and we booked to take a round about route home since there were no seats on the Friday flight to Honiara. Alas, the plans of mice and men, it poured with rain just when the plane was due so it never landed and all 6 of us were now stranded. We spent several hours while the agent tried to get a flight diverted and confirm us all on another flight but to no avail. So our only option was to return to Batuna and hope the express boat came in on Sunday. The other 3 European passengers went their different ways and we went back.

That evening we got told that the express was NOT coming on Sunday to Batuna and the only other boat out was on Monday, leaving too late for Dale to get his Tuesday flight to Australia for an eye appointment! During the night we talked about what to do and we decided to get the school to take us 2 hours up the coast to another landing strip at Ramata, where the planes can land in all types of weather. So at 5:30am Dale sought out the principal and started to get that process in motion. We had an early breakfast and then by 7:30am we finally left. We had hoped to catch the morning flight to Honiara (if there were seats) but because we'd left so late, we figured we'd missed it and would have to take the afternoon one instead (if there were seats). It was a lovely boat ride and we went outside of Morovo lagoon into the open sea. It was calm and very very pleasant. When we got to Ramata we found that the morning flight had not even left Honiara yet! No pilot! So, one of the European passengers who had gone to Ramata the night before, was still waiting for that flight. The agent got on the radio and organized for us to get seats on the "morning" plane (which we'd been told was fully booked). It didn't arrive till after noon but at least we got on and were brought home! Hurray for home! Hot showers, clean clothes, food other than tuna and noodles, a house with fly screens and a breeze.

When we got home, I was going to go in and get some money to pay the taxi driver but when I went around the back of the house, I found that thieves had visited and our house downstairs was broken into. After assessing the damages and what was taken, we find that they have only taken a metal cut-off saw that we had borrowed from ADRA, 4 ceiling fans and a bag of new power points and light switches for the house we are remodelling. If they had gotten into the tool room the loss would have been greater. It is interesting the timing of this theft. All the men of the campus are gone on regional visits leaving only women home. This break-in was done the day after the main group of men left. We will ask security to stay around here tonight until we can replace the security mesh and repair the damage. There is a funny part to it all. We have our packing boxes in another room downstairs and some of them say "Dell Computer". The thieves broke into that room as well and probably hoped to get the computers in the boxes. Alas there were none since they were just packing boxes. He he heheheh.

We will have to look into our insurance policy and see what the excess is then see if they will honour a claim. We doubt it, but will see. So we are home and well and surviving and safe. We thank you all for your prayers and support as we have faced this difficult time and we pray that it is over for sure!

Have a happy Sabbath and a pleasant time together with Dale as he visits you in Sydney.



## PRAYER LIST

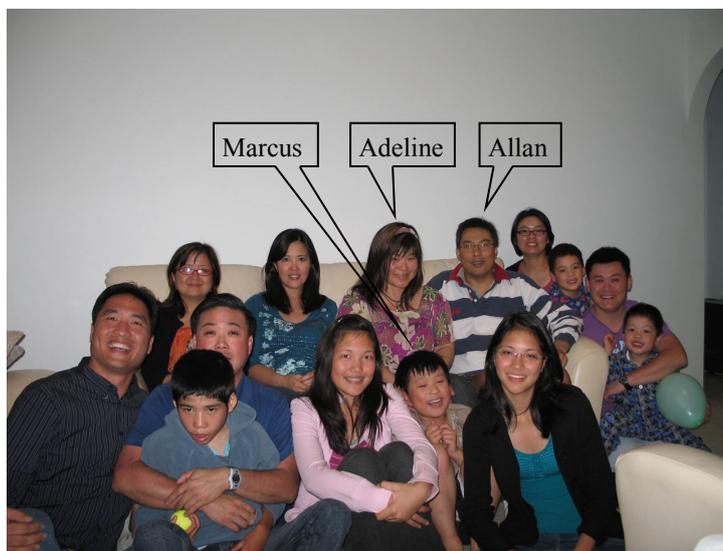
Sue Wood	Please remember Sue, Ken and the family in your prayers as she continues her recovery.
Allan Ing	Please remember Allan and Adeline and the family in your prayers as he continues his recovery.
Ivan Baxter	Please continue to pray for Ivan as he has ongoing therapy
Bob McIntyre	Please continue to pray for Bob's health.
Members travelling	Safety during their travels



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Monday 13 October</b> <b>Sew &amp; Tell</b>	Because of the school holidays, our October meeting will be on Monday 13 October at 7.30 pm at Carlene's home, 40 McIntyre Street, Gordon. All ladies are welcome to join us for a short worship and prayer season, and craft and fellowship. A light supper will be served. Further details from Carlene (9498 8207) .
<b>Saturday 18 October</b>	The Amazing Race! See the front page for details.
<b>Saturday 22 November</b>	Communion
<b>End of Year Church Camp</b>	Please suggest a suitable date.

## THANKS FOR YOUR PRAYERS EPPING CHURCH!



Some Epping members visited Allan and Adeline in Canberra over the long weekend and shared a meal with the family on Saturday night.

Allan has made remarkable progress and attributes it to God's healing hand. Allan and Adeline wish to pass on their heartfelt thanks to the Epping Church family who have supported them with prayer through this challenging period of their lives. Please pray for Allan and his family as he continues his rehabilitation.