

A Pilgrim's Progress – One Person's Journey Graham McLennan 16.7.1945 -

*But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. **For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.***
[Ephesians 2:6/10](#)



Picture taken December 1973 before travelling with Tess and Christine to the USA, Switzerland, UK and back home via a stopover with friends in Hong Kong.

And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done.

[Rev 20:12,13](#)

CONTENTS

Chapter 1. My Childhood - Eumungerie Days	3
Chapter 2. Teenage Years	12
Chapter 3. University, becoming a Christian, Marriage and Graduation	14
Chapter 4. National Service, Twins and Death of First Born	19
Chapter 5. Orange Becomes Home	25
Chapter 6. Michael's Family and Vanuatu	43
Chapter 7. Political Involvement Begins	50
Chapter 8. We begin the Orange Christian School in 1981	57
Chapter 9. Christian Radio In Orange	64
➤ Radio Rhema in Orange	64
➤ Laef FM commences in Port Vila 2003	65
➤ Message of Hope Radio Nepal commences 2006.	67
➤ Rejoining Vision Christian Media (UCB Australia)	69
Chapter 10. We Begin NAACL 1986.	72
Chapter 11. National Gathering 1988	75
Chapter 12. Commence Christian History Institute, Publish Southland of the Holy Spirit for the Bicenentary of Christian Schooling in 1993	85
Chapter 13. The Canberra Declaration	89
Chapter 15. Dental Practice	94
➤ Dentistry Orange Practice	94
➤ Vanuatu Dental Outreaches	95
➤ Healthcare Christian Fellowship Medical Camps in Vanuatu	102
Chapter 15. CSU Dental School and Cambodian Outreaches	109
Chapter 16. Further Journeys	117
Chapter 17. National Day of Prayer and Fasting	133
Chapter 18. Billy Graham Outreach in Central West May 2012	136
Chapter 19. Bligh Point Bruny Island Tasmania	139
Chapter 20. Begin National Christian Heritage Sunday	142
Chapter 21. Atomic Biology Institute ABI	144
Chapter 22. Retirement at 72 after 48 years as a Registered Dentist	148
Chapter 23. Reflections Over Seven Decades of Change	151
Chapter 24. Addendums:	152
➤ Proverbs' Seven Pillars of Wisdom.	152
➤ Why Nations Fall — and What We Can Do to Save Ours	158
➤ Reflections on the National Solemn Assembly held by Zoom due to the Covid Pandemic	168
➤ Dentistry in Orange over Forty Six Years	172
➤ Conclusion	175

Chapter 1. My Childhood - Eumungerie Days

I was born on the 16th of July 1945 in Dubbo at a private hospital, now a car park, just as the Second World War was ending. In fact my birthday was the day of the “Big Bang”, the world’s first atomic bomb exploded in a New Mexico desert in the USA, This date is usually considered to be the beginning of the [Atomic Age](#). The [Trinity explosion](#), 0.016 seconds after detonation. Two weeks later the US dropped two in Japan causing the Japanese to surrender. Debate over the use of atomic bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima continue. All I know is, it saved huge numbers of allied deaths, before Japan would have surrendered. My mother’s cousin Jack Thompson from Geelong and his brother-in-law James Boyle both were imprisoned in Changi Prison after the fall of Singapore, the latter wrote a book "Railroad To Burma" from his diaries which he had buried in Changi surviving the building of the notorious Burma Railroad. The “Japs” as they were known weren’t at all kind or honourable to say the least and stories about the “White Coolies” captured Australian nurses or the Sandakan Death March (the beginning which we visited in 2001 in East Malaysia the memorial left in an appalling condition. On our return to Australia we notified the Dept. Veteran Affairs) didn’t encourage us to believe, they were not barbarians. Needless to say within a generation most of this had been forgotten, my brother David marrying Keiko a Japanese.

My dad, Neil Stewart McLennan grew up on a 3000 acre property “Maiala”, the headwaters of the Marthaguy with a large Lagoon called [Old Harbour](#) also called the ‘Cowell’ east of Balladoran between Dubbo and Gilgandra in Central West of New South Wales. The family always said Grace at meals, an influence of his mother and the nearby Aboriginal Mission greatly influenced by Aboriginal pastor Bill Naden.

Later on as a teenager I worked with Bill’s son, Ralph in the Maiala shearing shed.

Below: Mother’s home in Victoria. Her family moved to Mogrigny/Eumungerie when three years of age. We have a document recording the road trip written by her father George dated 17 December 1916. Much of the road was in flood and boggy. Alan, Rita’s older brother came with George while Rita’s mother Tot and sister Jean (later Godwin) arrived in Dubbo by train.

Her family the Thompsons along with relatives Armstrong’s and Johnston’s come from County Fermanagh in Ireland.

Below right: Mother and Father at *Maiala* Eumungerie during the war years.



Below: Childhood pics. Top left Dad, Ian & Barbara. Three metres from where I’m standing Ian was seriously injured fracturing his skull on the concrete falling from a verandah rafter.





Above: Mums parents Tot & George Thompson C1950s. Above right: Ian (4) Graham (2) Barbara (6) about 1947 in Dubbo



Above: Neil Innes McLennan and family. Goschen, Victoria near Swann Hill 1905. C1910. Dad's parents with older brothers & sisters. Angus, Louis, Jean & Flora. (Dad & Douglas not born). Above Right. Mother with brother Alan, sister Jean and parents Tot and George celebrating their wedding anniversary.

Neil Innes McLennan and family. Goschen1905



From left: Mary Ross McLennan Flora is standing, Liliias McLennan (Wilson) Jane Bath standing child at front in rocker is Angus. Mrs Bath sitting. Neil Innes with Jean on knee and William Bath.

After Neil and Mary were married, they lived at Goschen near Swan Hill for 12 years, where Neil had bought a farm in 1891. Neil was Shire President of Swan Hill Shire for two one year terms 1899/1900 and 1909/1910.

Neil McLennan, whilst he was the President of his Riding and later Mayor of Swan Hill Shire between 1893 and 1910. Please see the Swan Hill Shire Presentation below. In 1902 he introduced a scheme where the Murray River was used to irrigate 2,000 acres, the first major irrigation in Australia. His son Louis, an uncle did the initial feasibility study for the Ord River Scheme that helped open up North Western Australia for irrigation.

I have often thought Neil decided to move to the Eumungerie/Balladoran district because of the 300 acre "lake" the Cowel which he thought may have given him some water security.

Flora, Angus, Jean and Louis were born at Goschen. They moved to Gilgandra in 1910 and lived in the town near the flour mill for a time before moving to "Caringa" a farm near Gilgandra.

In 1912 they bought "Maiala" at Eumungerie. Jean and Jack both died in November 1912 from gastro-enteritis



Flora Jeanette born 13/10/1899 Died 13/8/1949 married Ernest Francis Voss 4/4/30. Angus Fraser was born 6/5/1901 married at 55 Mary Eva Cheney 21/7/56 with no children. Uncle Angus died 5/11/76.

Grandfather who died before I was born welcomed the famous Coo-ee Marches both at Balladoran and [Eumungerie](#). He stood unsuccessfully for Federal Parliament in 1919. See Party flyer below:

PROGRESSIVE PARTY. WAMMERAWA ELECTORATE



THE PROGRESSIVE THREE.

STANDING FOR

1. The principle of Responsible Government - disposition of all matters on the floor of the House, and Elected Ministers.
2. An effective system of DECENTRALISATION and conservation of Country Interests.
3. Economy in the administration of the State's Finances.
4. Maintenance of the LIVING WAGE.
5. Reform of the Legislative Council.
6. INCREASED PRODUCTION.

CAPTAIN W. D. HARRIS, M.C. **MR. N. C. McLENNAN** **MR. H. V. THORBY**

VOTE FOR THE PROGRESSIVE THREE—
Harris, McLennan, Thorby.



Maiala 1914. Flora on Sox, Louis on Dolly, Mary Ross (Grandma) on Spider Angus on Bluey





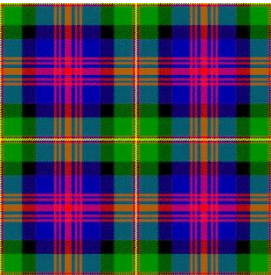
Dad & Uncle Angus with Tony an employee on left carting hay at Maiala. Google Maps [here](#)

During the 1960s I spent a lot of time on "Maiala" mentioned later. Angus (NX 73084) changed his date of birth to 6.5.1905 and enlisted in the 8th Training Bn on 29/4/41

He embarked for the Middle East on 1/9/41 and disembarked on 25.9.41 He joined the 2/33 Battalion (25th Brigade) on 10 11 41. The 2/33rd Bn AIF fought the Italians and the Germans in North Africa, and the French in Syria and then the Japanese. They "Fought All the Kings Enemies". A very proud boast.

He left the Middle East on 9/2/42 arriving in Brisbane on 10/3/42 and then left for New Guinea on 9/9/42 where he joined the 25th Brigade Carrier Group on 15/10/42 as a driver mechanic. He arrived in Cairns on the 10/3/43 and then was discharged on 27/11/43. Jean Elizabeth born 4/7/1904 Died 16/11/1912

We have stacks of material on our ancestry mainly in books on the McLennan clan (tartan below) now found on the web especially at <https://www.clanmaclennan-worldwide.com/history/>

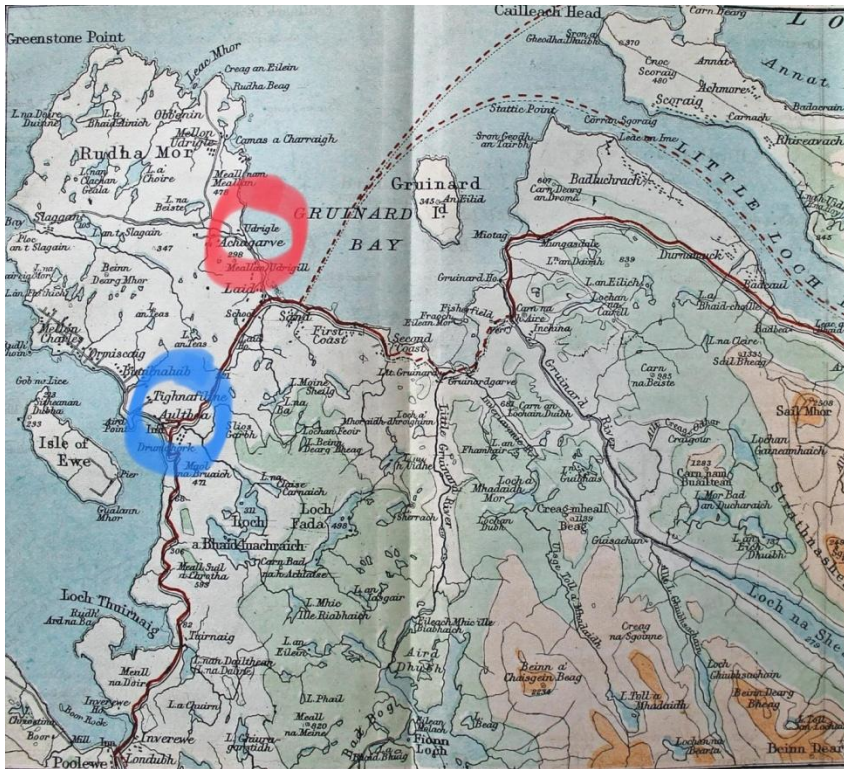


Our McLennan Clan Tartan.

Mother as a young women about 23years of age

The Scottish heritage of the McLennan, McCrae, McDonald and McKenzie clans known as Kintailmen, settling in Australia has been interesting. Lady Elizabeth McKenzie daughter of the Second Earl of Seaforth – The Last Heir of Kintail a poem written of her by Sir Walter Scott was the wife of my great grandfather, came to Australia in the 1860's with her four sons whose descendants have managed to spread themselves all over Australia and beyond including our own son who now lives in Vanuatu with his Ni-Van wife Rita, and their three children. We have been told the reason why many of us have been born has been due to one solitary fact; the McLennan's turned up late to the famous battle of Culloden on the 16th of April 1746 and survived along with Bonnie Prince Charlie. To this day I can't understand their tardiness, unless they got wind of their imminent defeat, as the men were keen to fight, involved in nearly thirty battles between the 14th and 17th Centuries, about one every seventeen years, just about at a male's highest testosterone level! Some of us like my wife who know the McLennan Celtic temperament think nothing much has changed! My Dad always thought the definition for temperamental was "half temper, half mental". ([Look up the Battle of Park c1488](#)). Basically the McDonalds were offended after trying to make peace and

attending a Christmas Party put on by the McKenzies. On their late arrival the accommodation had been taken already, so they had to sleep in a brick kiln. Totally offended they promised to retaliate. However the McKenzies got wind of it and prepared by leaving behind the older women, sheltering the women and children in the village Church and the men assembled behind an area of peat moss bog to await the arrival of the three times superior force of the McDonalds. On arrival the incensed McDonalds burnt the Church to the ground (as of course you do) incinerating all the women and children. They then pursued the McKenzie men but got stuck in the bog, many being decapitated some escaping back to the river where the elderly women told them the shallowest crossing but indeed was the fastest flowing where upon the women slashed the reeds and branches they were clinging to, many drowning.



Above: McLennan area in Blue, McKenzies in Red- thanks to Marcus McLennan.

A book *“Ridge of Tears”* has documented these clan battles and a book on the history of our special clan even tells us of our ancestry going back to Adam and Eve! We are descendants of Japheth, one of Noah’s sons.

Dad was locally known as the “Mayor”. Our phone number wasn’t hard to forget- Eumungerie one! Dad made it to the front page “Granny Column” of the Sydney Morning Herald in the mid 1950’s, for killing 28 snakes around our house in a day. During the hottest times, we use to walk to school barefoot with condies crystals just in case we were bitten. Don’t ask me what we would have done for a tourniquet and it would have it would take some time to get medical attention. Since a brown snake’s venom is the second most potent in the world and at that time there was no anti-venom we were always very cautious where we walked or rode. I remember my pony not wanting to go any further one day as the shadows upset her, or was it because of a snake slithering across the dirt road?

My mother Rita Thompson moved up as a child with her parents from Victoria and was like Dad raised on a farm, living 20 kms away, “Caledonia” at Mogriguy. My middle name Clarke was named after her mother’s maiden name, a well known Melbourne family that produced one of Australia’s foremost preachers, a Presbyterian, Gordon Powell. Both mum and dad were profoundly

influenced, especially in decision making by the great depression and WW11. They would never waste anything becoming hoarders, typical I think of their generation though they certainly made up for it in the late 1950s and beyond, partying a great deal, especially at the Dubbo Golf Club where occasionally they came out with a lemon squash and to check up on us sitting in the car for hours on end. Mum even up to 96 would insist on sharing her food whether half or not eaten!

One of the most exciting times in the fifties were the major floods that occurred especially the Castlereagh River in Gilgandra where streets were turned into huge holes that could take a vehicle and the Macquarie River in Dubbo that flooded the entire CBD. I remember travelling to Trangie from Narromine with Dad in an amphibious 'Army Duck' through floodwaters that stretched for miles. Now the Burrendong Dam built in 1965 and filled to capacity by 1969 fixed that, though in 2020 it was less than 2% the lowest it has ever been. Talking about water I loved water which nearly cost me my life when five years old nearly drowning at Dee Why Beach.

Dad share farmed, as Maiala couldn't provide an income with his four brothers, Angus, Lewis, Malcolm and Douglas who returned from the War and we moved into Eumungerie ("Yum") where Dad also ran a garage (burnt down in 1990's), mainly carting fuel to farmers and also carting wheat, all in bags before bulk handling was introduced in the 1960's. These bags he individually loaded and unloaded from his truck for the local Eumungerie Silo all in the heat of summer. The local headmaster offered to help one day, he was exhausted after the first wheat bag! They were heavy and Dad was of a big build.

Thankfully I began carting wheat at the age of seventeen just as bulk handling was introduced

For a couple of years people from Gilgandra in early 1950s commenced a Sunday school operated in the CWA hall in Eumungerie and I attended this a few times. Then I decided not to go. It closed shortly afterwards

I attended the local school until 5th class annually topping the class of five or six students, and then shifted into Dubbo where mum looked after her elderly parents and I attended South Dubbo Primary School. There I came nearly last in the class of about 45 students in the half yearly exam, having not been taught anything much at 'Yum' though I do remember giving a class below me an exam one day! So when I came nearly top in the yearly exam the class teacher was astonished. When we settled in Orange I was to treat the teacher, Vic Quinton and his wife Beth for many years.

Picture below: Teacher Vic Quinton with South Dubbo Primary School 5A. I'm in the middle of the second row.



Three books I loved as a child were *"The Flying Postman"* who delivered strawberry ice creams in a gyro copter, *"Black Beauty"*, *"Swiss Family Robinson"* and of course *"Treasure Island"* along with the *"Boys Own Annual"*. I can't remember mum or dad ever reading to me, though on one occasion grandma "Thom" did. Whilst out at "Maiala" reading the WW11 book *"Khaki & Green"* it struck me these servicemen like Dad's four brothers served for up to five years with some of their mates not returning home. I thought then that there must be a higher purpose to life.

After finishing primary school I received a scholarship to Hurlstone Agricultural High School a boarding school at Glenfield South West of Sydney.



Dad above and with Margie and "Susie".

Chapter 2. Teenage Years

I gained a scholarship to Hurlstone Agricultural High School South West of Sydney as a boarder which was rather traumatic in my first year away from home. Perhaps the further we travelled from home the more homesick we became. Bullying from second year students didn't help. Then I did the same things myself in second year, the worst - making a poor first year swim in the pig slops.

I slept out on the dorm verandah for my first two years. My coughing upsetting the sleep of the headmaster Clarrie James. I developed bronchitis for years afterwards. Clarrie came to me in my final year asking what I was doing after I left school. This question was to be a significant event in my life. I told him I was under an obligation to go back onto the family property and that my parents couldn't afford university fees or accommodation. Clarrie came back within thirty minutes saying he had arranged accommodation at "Hurlstone House" in Newtown next to Sydney University for \$10 a week! This and later, a Commonwealth Scholarship made all the difference. Grandmother, Uncle Angus and playing the share market, particularly my parents contributed, when they could see a prospective professional in the family, all helping so that by my fourth year in dentistry I moved into St Andrew's College a residential college at Sydney University.

My parents didn't visit during the five years at boarding school and I didn't see much of my family during the holidays though I did go to the Forster weekender several times. I spent a lot of my school holidays on "Maiala" owned by my grandmother who between her and an unmarried son Angus, decided I was to be the next generation heir apparent.

Most of the time was spent ploughing thousands of acres in a Lanz Bulldog one cylinder tractor (pictured) preparing for sowing the annual wheat crop, mustering and drenching sheep, being board boy for three shearers, fencing and carting wheat which by this time thankfully had progressed to bulk handling. In those days we were just given a truck license if we had our car license. Even learnt to ride a horse bareback though I disliked horses having had as a child a Shetland pony that tossed me a few times as well as seeing a rider killed at the Gilgandra Show.



I was warned by an uncle, Louis the principal research officer for the then Bureau of Agricultural Economics, who did the initial feasibility study for the Ord River Scheme in the 1950s, that becoming a farmer would be a disastrous decision. So that's when I decided to find a professional career. My sister Barbara before going to a preschool teachers college had become a dental assistant with a Dubbo dentist who owned a farm as well, so I figured I could do the same. Besides Angus had now married and the new wife was very threatened by my presence and it became a very unhappy time of my life with no social interaction on a remote farm.



Front row 2nd from left. I can remember these photographs were taken in the middle of winter! Phil Crocker 2nd from left back row also became a dentist.

During my final year at Hurlstone I was the Captain of our first grade water polo team. During practice I got hit in the ear and broke my eardrum which meant I was out of the water and devoted more time to studying. In the Leaving Certificate I gained three "B"s and three "A"s one with honours in agriculture which wasn't that uncommon for us at Hurlstone. My handwriting was dreadful and I did better in the Leaving Certificate in biology and science than in the humanities,

though the best place I obtained in the year of about 120 students, was modern history, coming second. I think I liked the teacher and wanted to impress him.

One of the highlights at Hurlstone was being taken by one of the physical education teachers to North Sydney swimming pool for the Combined High schools championships. His name was Brian Booth who has been the only Australian to captain two different Australian representative sports, hockey and cricket. He was admired by all the boys and he led the Christian school fellowship, something I wasn't particularly interested in.

Three classmates stories: One dago (nickname for a day student) called Franks was shot and killed during third year in a break-in at Casula, one failed two of his six subjects in the Leaving Certificate, got B's in three others and in the remaining subject, agriculture got first class honours, topping the state! Another classmate became a world pioneer in IVF . By 2010 IVF has produced four million children though controversy still remains about remaining fertilized frozen ova.

Two of the boarders in my year gave me some grief. One who came from Orange where interestingly I was to live after my army days. Another I had a fight with, later his son was to become NACL's (National Alliance of Christian Leaders – I've been Chairman of it since 1986) webmaster and director! However there were several boarders in our "Dorm" who I respected, one was Owen Shelley who prayed by his bedside after "lights out". Among his ancestors were some of the earliest Australian missionary pioneers. I often wonder if the enemy new something about my future!

Hurlstone spared me from such menaces as drugs, alcohol, smoking or pornography. Occasionally there was a rare sighting of aliens. It was reported they belonged to the opposite sex! I was to discover some of these at university!

Pic below left: Hurlstone dorm where I use to sleep outside on verandah, below nearest window and the following year further around where I use to get soaked, next to tree in pool picture.



My dorm final year 1962.



On right. Alan Trounson pioneer in World IVF. Beside him is Ron Kite who became a pharmacist in Mittagong who I shared lodgings with at Hurlstone House 8 Fitzroy St Newton in early years at Sydney University. On far left is Cameron Humphries became my best school friend, who died from a heart attack in his forties.

Chapter 3. University, becoming a Christian, Marriage and Graduation

At the ripe old age of seventeen I began University life. It was such fun that they called the three semesters, too early, too cold and too late, and about half of us failed first year dentistry. Failing most of my exams in the first term the following year, I finally realized I could fail altogether so put my head down, just getting through the year. Finding out I needed glasses also helped. It then dawned on me why I was relying on other people's notes rather than the blackboard which I couldn't see properly! A doctor staying at Hurlstone House figured this out. He later became a pioneer in Nuclear medicine in Australia, a professor at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. I'm seeing the same thing myself tutoring dental students in the simulation clinic here at CSU campus Orange. Their work improves dramatically after purchasing magnification loops.

Second year we commenced dental subjects and we felt launched. During this time I was called up for the Vietnam War and granted deferment until I finished my course. So I decided to find out what army life was all about, along with a couple of mates, joined the Sydney University Regiment becoming an infantry corporal.

Third Year Dentistry 1966

Life was becoming very hollow, I was seeking answers to life's questions and finding that the pursuit of pleasure wasn't all that it was made out to be.

Ten student balls with ten different girls became rather boring. Or was it the other way around with little interest in them continuing a friendship with an inept country kid lacking social "city slicker" skills? Of the over sixty students only two females graduated in our year and our attention to nonacademic matters seemed to get less as studies consumed us, apart from the many 21st birthday parties, including my own. So decided to give that area a miss as something extraordinary was to take place.

A student ahead of me, Ewen Brown had failed and had to repeat third year, the easiest of the five year course, giving me books such as "By Searching" by Isabel Kuhn. After reading it I said a prayer by my bedside and committed my life to Christ. Ewen gave me a second book, the life of C.T. Studd which was a book challenging Christians to a life of total commitment and discipleship to Christ. Ewen attended a missionary group, Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade (WEC) and I accompanied him to meetings in Woodside Avenue Strathfield. There I made a public commitment of my life to Christ. Ewen also introduced me to a lovely young Christian women Pam who was to later to become my wife!

I read the Bible so much I neglected a subject, medical pathology and got a post. I would have been on one of my Sydney University Regiment (SUR) army camps but had to redo the exam.

At the firing range with WW11 Australian designed Owen machine guns. Bloke on right - Peter Collins became prominent in NSW politics. Would you believe we used 303 rifles. C1966





Top left. Corporal McLennan between Bruce Hale and Ian Glendinning on the left as he is also in the top right photo along with John Eryes, Peter Kearney and Wayne Fitzherbert.

Two of my 3rd year dental mates Bruce and Ian in the SUR with me, went home on weekend leave. I normally would have accompanied them in their lift back to Sydney. However they were involved in a head on car crash on Heathcote Road near Holsworthy. One parent was killed who had picked them up though Ian and Bruce survived because of their physical fitness. Ian took some time to recover and was really traumatized by it.

So this was the second in a line of incidents during my life where my life was spared. The first one was our first holiday to the beach at Dee Why when I five years old, didn't know what the flags were for, went swimming without adult supervision, got into serious trouble in a rip and had to be rescued. My parents returned from unpacking to see a surf rescue taking place - of their son. A friend not much older had been left to look after me but loving water, I escaped her oversight. Later Wendy and her family became millionaires through Amway after trying unsuccessfully to get our family to do the same in the early 1960's. I also remember having a strong feeling to slow down when driving with the family towards the Blue Mountains. Just as well I did as a car coming around a corner too fast came over to our side narrowly missing us.

My relationship with the Lord developed as it also did with Pam. We went door knocking Newtown for the St Stephen's Anglican Church and as we walked over the main street instinctively held out my hand to her which she held. Well we went to a café had a coffee and did some serious talking. We were in love. Shortly after we decided we would marry after we finished our exams. Pam and I also door knocked in Auburn with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) their first Australian outreach in August 1966.

St Andrew's College was an interesting time in my fourth and fifth year. Hebrew's 13:12/13 spoke to me to go outside the camp: And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore.

I had thought about attending as a student, Moore College the Sydney Anglican theological seminary thought it's head Broughton Knox at an interview thought St Andrew's was more suitable for me. Both a lecturer, Graeme Goldsworthy and a student at Moore College had a profound influence on my faith.

The student was Ian Thomson an architect later to co-found Thomson Adsett, now a leading international architectural firm based in Brisbane that now has offices worldwide. Ian and his wife Joan encouraged me in the faith as they lived just up the road in Carillion Avenue in their Moore College terrace house. Pam and I were invited to their prayer meeting at 6:00 AM of a week morning and we became good friends. Ian told us about Michael Harper an Anglican minister from Britain.

He spoke of a renewal movement of the Holy Spirit now called the Charismatic movement, very controversial at the time. Anglicans and others were opposed to it and after both Pam and I were caught up in it we sought shelter from the storm at St Andrew's Cathedral Healing Service on a Wednesday evening with Cannon Jim Glennon. We were also invited to Stafford and Danny Young's home in their spacious lounge room at Clifton Gardens for meetings with people such as Derek Prince and Michael Harper. Stafford had been a missionary in Burma (Myanmar) and related to a great missionary to the "black birded" Melanesians, Florence Young. Danny's maiden name was a Dubbo Mumford who I was distantly related to. It was there that Michael Harper prayed for us. The following morning during my prayer time at St Andrew's College I began speaking in a prayer language for the first time.

The culture at St Andrew's at times was just plenty of booze and sex, and I was a renegade against this godless culture though the few committed Christians organised hymn singing around the chapel organ with the "dyke" girls from the WC (Women's College).

Unfortunately there was nothing I could say that is really complimentary about the place other than its close proximity to the University. Values of purity and sobriety were virtually nonexistent. The sexual revolution was just beginning in the mid 1960's. I had alcohol forced down my throat, the person responsible just a year later contracting an incurable disease, and Pam was one of his nurses at RPAH!

The weekend after my final exams in 1968 we were engaged. Before going into the Army I felt I should go on the first [YWAM Australian](#) overseas outreach which was over the December/January break to Fiji. Uncle Angus had sent me some money to get established as a dentist. However I was going into the Army late January for two years so wrote asking for the money to cover my airfares and outreach expenses, which he agreed to.

So off I went to Fiji, based in the Indian region near Ba, evangelizing Indians whose stable diet was red hot chilli and spicy food. Took me years to get over it. In the Church we were working with, there was a wedding of a young American couple. He was working in Fiji, she had flown over to marry him. It was rather romantic I thought so I said to Pam why don't you come over and marry me here. The missionary organization we were interested in required a couple to be married for two years before leaving Australia. Since her mother couldn't arrange wedding dates or venues during my army service with various unknown postings, she thought that was a great idea. So the RPAH Matron allowed Pam to marry - would you believe in those days one had to have the Matrons consent in order to continue nursing - Pam's mum paid for the airfare and we were married exactly to the day a year after she felt God spoke to her on the top floor of the nurses home at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, noting it in her diary that she would be married within a year! In order for her to be married in Fiji Pam had to be 21, she just had her 21st birthday three days before and we both became Fijian citizens for a year. So we were pronounced man and wife by the Fijian Solicitor-General, had a church wedding that evening in Tavua with no one from YWAM the only white person the minister, Pastor David Sugar who gave the bride away, took the wedding photo with Pam in a borrowed wedding dress sent out from England that had been the wrong size for its intended recipient, having never been worn!



Left. In Reid House St Andrew's College 1967



Marriage Tavua Fiji 20 Jan 1969



Graduation in Dentistry, Sydney University January 1969 a few days after our marriage in Fiji and a few days before going into recruit training for two years National Service during the Vietnam War, fighting the battle mainly against tooth decay!

Chapter 4. National Service, Twins and Death of First Born

Well we had a honeymoon of a couple of days in Fiji, returned to Australia where we met Pam's family at Mascot airport, offered another wedding for the third time which we had to decline at St Andrew Cathedral to be performed by Cannon Jim Glennon so Pam and my parents and friends could attend as guests. In the same week graduated in dentistry and then a couple of days later went into the Army Barracks, caught a bus loaded with very insecure recruits (there was a war on) to Puckapunyal Recruit Training Centre near Seymour in Victoria. So I had my honeymoon with four hundred recruits, and I saw Pam once in three months.

I really didn't worry about being called up by the "birthday lottery" for the Vietnam War as the scriptures in several places such as Proverbs 16:33, Jonah 1:7 and Acts 1:26 refer to casting lots to make a decision. In one sense all twenty year olds were called up with several exceptions such as marriage, poor health and conscientious objection.

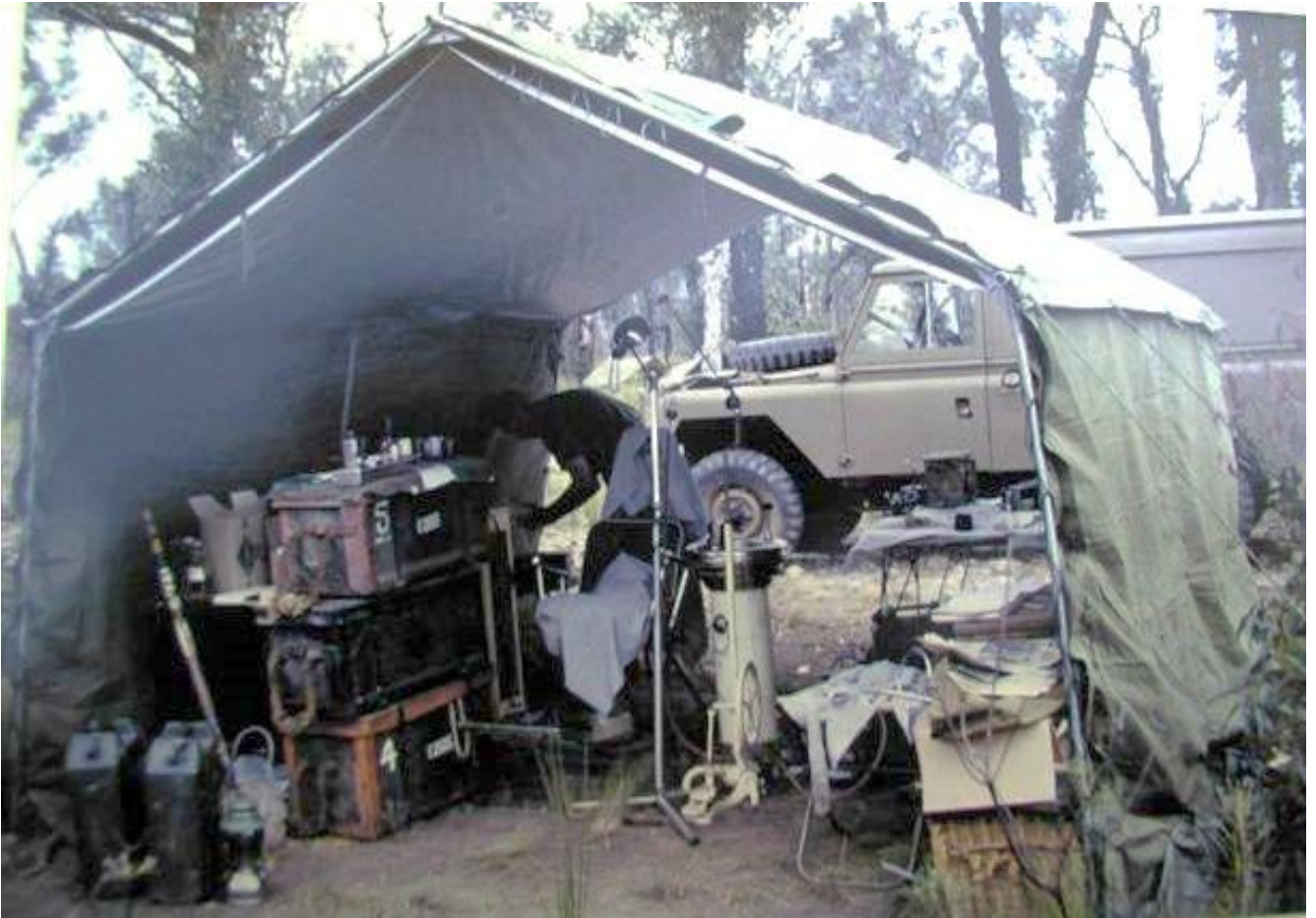
Also Deuteronomy 24:5 came to my mind:

"If a man has recently married, he must not be sent to war or have any other duty laid on him. For one year he is to be free to stay at home and bring happiness to the wife he has married."

Besides they needed dentists to have the troops dentally fit (DP1) before embarking.

After a couple of days all the new recruits were put on parade. Most of the Tasmanians were very home sick, many for the first time had moved away from their area let alone their State. The freshly crew cut recruits were asked: "Step forward all those who haven't completed their Intermediate Certificate "(third year high school). Again the Tasmanians were a large proportion of them. Then the people who had, high school Leaving Certificates, tertiary education and then those who had medical and dental degrees were singled out. There were about a dozen of us. The Army then decided who should do the officer training course. However the medical and dental graduates within a few days were sent off to Healesville outside of Melbourne to RAAMC (Royal Australian Army Medical Corp) Centre for officer training by a SAS Major, which was quite rigorous and intense. One of the officers had been a medico in WW11, Korea and Vietnam. He had seen many soldiers die. He inferred that not even the Germans at Normandy died atheists. Most cried out to God in there last moments.

After two months doing such things as medical chopper evacuations, having dummy hand grenades thrown at us in trenches, forced route marches, we became Second Lieutenants, transferred to various postings such as Singleton for a couple more months and made temporary Captains, upsetting Duntroon graduates no end as this usually took them at least six years.



Treating 7RAR on exercises before embarkation to Vietnam 1969. Notice the hygienic dirt floor. The other DA (Dental Assistant) was off firing a few live rounds of an Armalite and GPMG machine gun.





The soldier on the right was in the concrete industry so recruitment felt he would make a great DA mixing dental cement!

I was given the posting to Kapooka near Wagga but a dentist whose fiancée lived in Wagga asked me to do a swap. His posting was to 35 Dental Unit Holsworthy, would you believe the closest posting to where Pam lived in Sydney, finishing her training at RPAH. So we lived together really for the first time since marrying. One of my memories at Holsworthy was in the Officers Mess Eight Medium Artillery Regiment where I was attached having lectures on WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) and seeing the live [landing on the moon](#) by Neil Armstrong- an incredible achievement all transmitted by TV in July 1969. Not to mention the regal type officer's dinners. Unfortunately during this two year period the Labor Party stirred up resentment towards the troops in Vietnam, the dockside workers in Brisbane refusing to load supplies to the troops. It was the height of the anti-Vietnam protests. Earlier when I had marched with the Sydney University Regiment we were heckled and spat on by student protesters. Fortunately our discipline prevailed as we felt like using our fixed bayonets!



Pam's nursing graduation at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital with her Mum, Dad and sister Lyn in her first year.

During this time Pam commenced midwifery at King George V, next to RPAH and became pregnant with identical twins, a "double blessing" in the natural, (Isaiah 61:7, 2Kings 2:9) born in September 1970. The first born Catherine within a week following their dedication, died from, cot death, now known as Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. At that time mothers had been imprisoned in the USA,

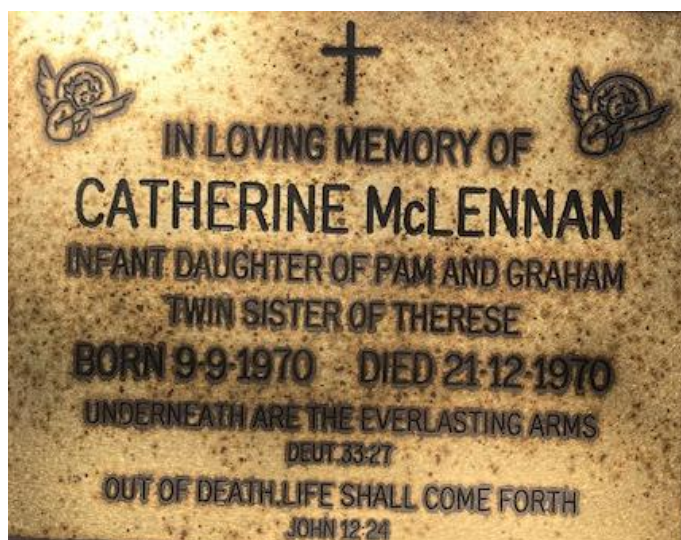
that's how much community awareness there was about AIDS . So we struggled with this shock for some time wondering where a benevolent God was to console our grief. Pam read the book of Job for months afterwards. After the officer training crash course in both submission and assertiveness, this loss gave me some understanding and compassion. Two army chaplains both had their firstborn die in infancy and were very comforting. They needed to be, they were the ones required to knock on the doors of Sydney next of kin when servicemen were killed in Vietnam.

A scripture struck me in Isaiah 54:7 where it says "for a brief moment I abandoned you but with deep compassion I will bring you back..." Also in Romans 5:3,4 "... our sufferings produce perseverance; perseverance, character; character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love towards us..."

Many years later, Bill Gothard's teaching on [forty nine character qualities](#) was a great help to me and now has been introduced in Vanuatu to help their youth, through the Vanuatu Ministry of Health.

Discharge from Army

The police were very kind arranging the Coroner's Inquest two days before Catherine was buried on Christmas Eve 1970, the funeral conducted by Pastor Don Baker from Calvary Chapel Greenacre. A couple of years earlier, Ian Thompson at Moore College had a vision of us going through a dark tunnel finally emerging to see the brightness of the light of day. We had just entered the tunnel! Grief lingered for many years. So much so that we didn't go back to her grave for over thirty years discovering it was now unmarked, the simple cross that had been placed had disappeared. Several years later we placed a headstone on Catherine's grave after Pam's dad's funeral. A state ward who had lived with us for a couple of years, later married and his wife and son came along and helped us place the headstone. It was rather a sombre day with Pam's dad's funeral service and then doing this.



I had been given a year's corporal's wages under the army reestablishment programme for National Servicemen to go to Adelaide Bible College of South Australia located at Victor Harbour. However, decided it was just all too much abandoning the idea, instead doing locums in Strathfield, Wollongong then Dubbo. During this time we had a 7 metre (22 foot) caravan which Pam, Tess and I called home.

Pic below: In Dubbo with Mum just after Cathy's death. Pillarless Chevy Impala towing the caravan



Graduation as Officer Royal Australian Army Corp Healesville Victoria May 1969

I'm in the second row in the middle and about the shortest! Sitting in the front is the SAS medical Major who trained us plus the Warrant Officer who had been through WW11's Dunkirk, South Korea, Malaysia and Vietnam. As a member of the Medical Corp he had seen many die and remarked that he had not seen one atheist die yet!



Above: Captain RAADC 280818 Vietnam War National Service 1969/1970 and with Identical twins
Beginning of ANZAC March Sydney 25 April 2015 with Dental Corp personnel, second from right.



Anzac Day was commenced through the returning Chaplains from Gallipoli not by the RSL. You can read and listen to the story here at the [CHR website](#) Listen as Neil Johnson interviews author John Moses, courtesy of Vision Christian Radio. A discussion of the Christian foundations of ANZAC Day in two parts. Also a book is available Anzac Day Origins. Canon DJ Garland and Trans-Tasman Commemoration authored by John A Moses, George F Davis

Chapter 5. Orange Becomes Home

I was asked to do a locum in Orange in August 1971, arriving in our "hot" Chevy pillar less Impala and caravan with less than \$5.00. Earlier that year we felt we should give everything we possessed away, even our wedding presents, when reading about Jesus challenging the rich young ruler about his possessions.

We stayed in the dentists home while he did post graduate studies, afterwards being invited to remain in the practice. However it was a partnership with various disputes so decided I wouldn't join them until it became an associateship where we just shared common overheads with independent incomes. The scripture in 2 Corinthians 6:14 says *"Do not go into partnership with unbelievers..."*

We felt strongly we should purchase a large house, so Pam went looking, discovering a place with nine bedrooms and three bathrooms, the home we now have lived in for fifty years. So December 1971 we moved in with no hot water or heating other than the five wood heated fire places. It had very high ceilings with cedar though out including the old painted staircase which later Pam and I restored along with other rooms in the house. We had plenty of time to spare as we were new to town with few friends, other than those who paid us a visit from Sydney.

We opened the house up for an evangelistic team to stay with us along with their caravans out the back as we had also purchased the two back blocks, along with the house for \$17,000. We thought we would have sufficient money for the 10% deposit but spent it on hot water and other necessities for our guests who were having tent meetings on a vacant block where now stands the Orange City Council. My parents guaranteed the bank loan which went through the exact hour (John 4:53!) a year after Catherine's funeral. We felt it was a confirmation that God was still in control of our destiny.

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. John 12:24 which is on Cathy's gravestone plaque

The owners then wanted further payments and the day before the payment was due and we were all going to be evicted. An Orange high school student enquired about how we were going and I remarked, "If we don't find the extra money by tomorrow the owners want us out!" Jim came back the next day with the money! He had just turned eighteen and had received his parent's inheritance. Jim then stayed with us for over a year free of charge completing his schooling.

During the next few years we had meetings in our home having to knock out the wall between the dining and lounge rooms to fit in everyone to here speakers such as Doug Peters the Anglican priest from Forbes.

The Mosterts a Dutch couple from Dubbo involved in Children's Evangelism Fellowship used our house for children's camps (picture below). Before settling in Orange they had looked at our home in Orange wondering if they should purchase it but now used it anyway! We purchased about eight double decker beds to fit them in.



Right: Mal, a state ward with a horrific, traumatic background stayed with us over the years though we lost track of him at one stage. When he married, Mal and his wife Sylvia stayed with us a few times and they still keep in touch.

"Tiny" Dewberry a former shearer from Gilgandra also shared and wanted us to establish Teen Challenge in the Central West as we become involved with drug users.



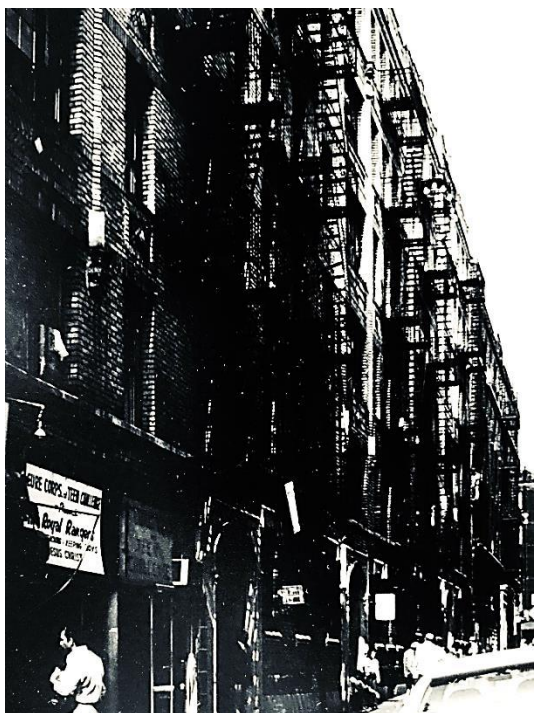
Elephants opposite home C1972. Circus was 200 metres north, now called Elephant Park.

Overseas trip to USA Europe and England.



Pam sitting next to Niagara Falls (Canadian side) with Tess and Christine.

We had worked in Kings Cross with people such as Sally and Gareth Grant and many of the drug takers we shared with and prayed for, died of overdoses. In 1974 we went overseas as Harold "Tiny" Dewberry suggested training at Teen Challenge in Orange County, California and Brooklyn, New York. We escaped death twice once in Brooklyn after arriving in the subway with our family of Tess and infant child Christine. As we were travelling from Niagara Falls the Lord spoke to me about protecting our lives. So I thought we must be going to do some mighty exploits like smuggling Bibles into Russia! Little did we know it was about to happen as a taxi offered us a lift as well as a train passenger offering to get us a lift as well. Two police patrol cars arrived politely telling us that had we accepted either offer we would probably not have been seen again! They were concerned that if we had been picked up by strangers our lives would have been in danger so one of the patrol cars proceeded to drive us to the Teen Challenge Centre, Tess propped in the front seat between two burly cops with her legs wrapped around a shotgun! The other time was in the Bronx when a gang "rumble" broke out in a welfare tenement block of mainly Puerto Ricans, kids as young as ten with firearms. The previous summer over twenty had been killed in "rumbles". Life was so meaningless to them.



The Bronx 1974 where gangs with weapons as young as ten ruled. Cars were being shifted away as another “rumble” was expected! Twenty were killed in this block alone the previous Summer. The Teen Challenge Centre can be seen on the left.

A bestselling book *"The Cross and the Switchblade"* by David Wilkerson and movie starring Pat Boone, told of the many young people delivered from these gangs. When I practised out at Blayney for a short time 1972/73 we distributed 2,000 copies throughout the district including to all the Blayney high school students, some classes using it for English literature.

Whilst in the California we attended Bill Gothard's Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts in the Cow Palace, San Francisco with about twenty thousand people. We stayed with a couple in Haight Ashbury where all the homes were rebuilt after being wiped out by gas fires from a massive earthquake about 1908.

Several million people have attended this seminar and many years later Bill asked me to lead his work in Australia having organised the Seminar in Parramatta, Sydney.

I turned the offer down as his ministry was very controlling.

Bill worked among Chicago gangs discovering there were six main areas of conflict:

1. Salvation Assurance
2. Self-Image
3. Purpose in Life
4. Harmony at Home
5. Moral Purity
6. Genuine Friendships

This helped me a lot to understand how to trace surface problems to root causes and the steps to rectify them, how to understand how rebellion occurs and develop Principles for Life. Teen Challenge and other groups such as YWAM have used his teaching.

We also stayed for three weeks with Chuck Smith's Calvary Chapel Church attended by many converts of the 1960's Jesus Awakening. Many had been addicts of some sort and were delivered in miraculous ways. Chuck grounded them in becoming disciples of Christ, teaching biblical truths.

We also visited several Christian communities staying about a fortnight at each. A Baptist community in Chula Vista, San Diego. Then a long trip in a Greyhound bus to an Episcopalian

Church of the Redeemer Community in Houston Texas. Then flew to Ann Arbor Michigan near Michigan University to visit a Charismatic Interdenominational Community. The Word of God Community had a real presence of the Holy Spirit, the worship was awesome perhaps because they were living examples of John 17 and Psalm 133 the consequences of living together in love and unity.

Later when we returned to Australia we met with the Orange Ministers Association who were not at all interested in us having such a Centre as Teen Challenge as there "wasn't a drug problem", subsequently "Tiny" Dewberry told us to forget about it.

So God had other plans for us as we had also studied under Francis Schaeffer (pictured) at "L'Abri" in Switzerland coming to understand the necessity for both individuals and society to progress with a biblical worldview without a secular/sacred dichotomy. That is living in two worlds. One on Sunday the other six just pursuing activities unrelated to God. So we began to think about what Abraham Kuyper's life achieved, establishing a university, newspaper, political party...



In order to stay at L'Abri I had to read all of Schaeffer's books which in 1974 mainly the trilogy, The God Who is There, He is there and He is Not Silent and Escape from Reason. The latter impressed me the most as it explained clearly how man's thinking has changed. Francis Schaeffer was to later write more than twenty further books. It was good that I stayed there in early 1974!

This is not the place to get into heavy philosophical discussions such as how much knowledge do we share with unbelievers (eg [Cornelius Van Til](#)) as I intended to initially write this as a record for my grandchildren but it seemed to have now grown beyond that, in part due to imposed isolation during the Covos-19 Pandemic! It is good to write one's journey as an expression of our own uniqueness. I really appreciated the record some of our forefathers who wrote about coming to Australia in the 1860's, as well more recent books written by a WW11 Burma Railway survivor and a minister named Gordon Powell who was well known throughout Australia in the 1950 and 60s having radio broadcasts throughout Australia of his St Stephen's Church Service in Macquarie Street Sydney.

I shared a study desk with an American guy called Michael. One night I had a clear dream about him as he asked me to accompany him to a Swiss clock shop to purchase a Cuckoo clock for his fiancée, similar to the one we had bought. In the dream I felt I should tell him to get it himself. Anyway I did just that the following day drawing a map with directions. I also made a few wisecracks while we were gardening to Michael about President Nixon who was about to be impeached. The day he left I was told his surname was Ford. His dad was the Vice President about to become President of the US! I later heard he was treated no different to the others staying at L'Abri.

Six years later in 1980 when we studied in Solvang California with a YWAM Renewal Team we read his great book How Shall We then Live? The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture which along with the video series has impacted many, including such people as Chuck Colson (who wrote a book with a similar title), Ravi Zacharias and Vishal Mangalwadi who wrote The Book That Changed Your World – How The Bible Created The Soul Of Western Civilization.

We have on our NACL website an excellent article written by Francis Schaeffer, The Price We Pay for Negligence "If the majority of Christians persist in their complacency, we will increasingly lose our freedoms" which can be read [here](#)

Pam particularly loved reading Edith Schaeffer's book L'Abri.



Top: After L'Abri Sunday Service with Francis Schaeffer, Pam & the two girls

Above: our Chalet during snow, Playing with Tess & Christine, L'Abri Fellowship after the Service and at French L'Abri.

When we arrived at the chalet we looked out the window of our bedroom. It was the same view as a picture in our bedroom at home of the Dents du Midi mountains!

An opening occurred for us to visit a dentist in Dorset England to investigate work. However dentists were on very low wages under National Health Scheme in dentistry and we decided not to take the offer up, though it was good visiting the English countryside and visiting Buckingham Palace, Cathedrals such as Westminster and St Pauls and the Tower of London. The Irish republicans tried to blow up the Tower a week after our visit there!

We continued restoring our house, both Tess and Christine with some health issues. Tess had eyesight problems, discovering this when we took them to an Ice Follies show at the Hordern Pavilion in Sydney, where we discovered Tess was looking the wrong way!



Enjoying Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!

All the children had asthma problems with Christine developing a serious blood disorder called Henoch-Schonlein Purpura.



Pam loved reading to the children.



The family at Ophir near Orange where Australia's first payable gold was discovered by a Pastor!

During this time we had fun on Long Point 1600 acres with 6kms of river frontage on the Macquarie River for several years, then White Rock Road where we transferred our merino sheep (Haddon Rig, Collinsville bloodlines that had been culled on the Maiala property for decades and were monsters to the shearers! Finally we were going to build on Kintail, 115 acres on the Icely road overlooking Orange though sold it to pay for the 1984 Senate Campaign.



Previous picture: Pam was pregnant at this time. She lost three babies in utero, pregnant for nearly eighteen months in three years, 1981, '82 and '83 Our Australian Christian History ministry began during this time when Pam read Manning Clark's *A History of Australia: Out of death, life shall spring forth* - John 12:24 *"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains alone. But if it dies it produces much fruit."*



Open House as an OCS fundraiser 1981

We decided to purchase a 1,600 acre property with over six kms of frontage to the Macquarie River at Long Point, north of Mullion Creek towards Mudgee.

We had tremendous times with the three children now that Michael had been born, particularly swimming in the river with its sandy beach (see pictures). The property was cheap at only \$30,000. Later we were to learn why. It had a noxious weed notice on it and had to eradicate Bathurst Burr, St John's Wort (now harvested for medicinal use for depression), Blackberries, Tiger Pear and Serrated Tussock that used to come down the river every time it flooded! So we stalled on its purchase using it for several years in the mid 1970's until the sale fell through with a weed eradicator taking it off our hands, purchasing it, and leasing us a block on the Ophir Road allowing us to keep our Bundemar/Haddon Rig/Collinsville merinos that we had from "Maiala".

We felt led to look around for suitable premises to commence a Christian bookshop. The Baptists got wind of it and commenced one they could control. Initially that was the case though it soon expanded becoming a great bookshop serving the district and beyond especially with a young lawyer and friend managing it, Karl Grice. Finally after 46 years it closed Christmas 2019. I can still clearly remember the public meeting in the Arts Centre where the Presbyterian minister stormed out. The Baptist leader who spoke later joined the homosexual movement. We also put up for several months a youth pastor who we introduced to his future wife. They subsequently had children, he deserted them for the homosexual movement leading the "Christian" contingent in the decadent Mardi Gras in Sydney.



Our backyard garden 2008

Christmas Lights 2018



Swimming at Long Point on the Macquarie River. At Currumbin and Christine and Tess on flute with Michael playing the violin



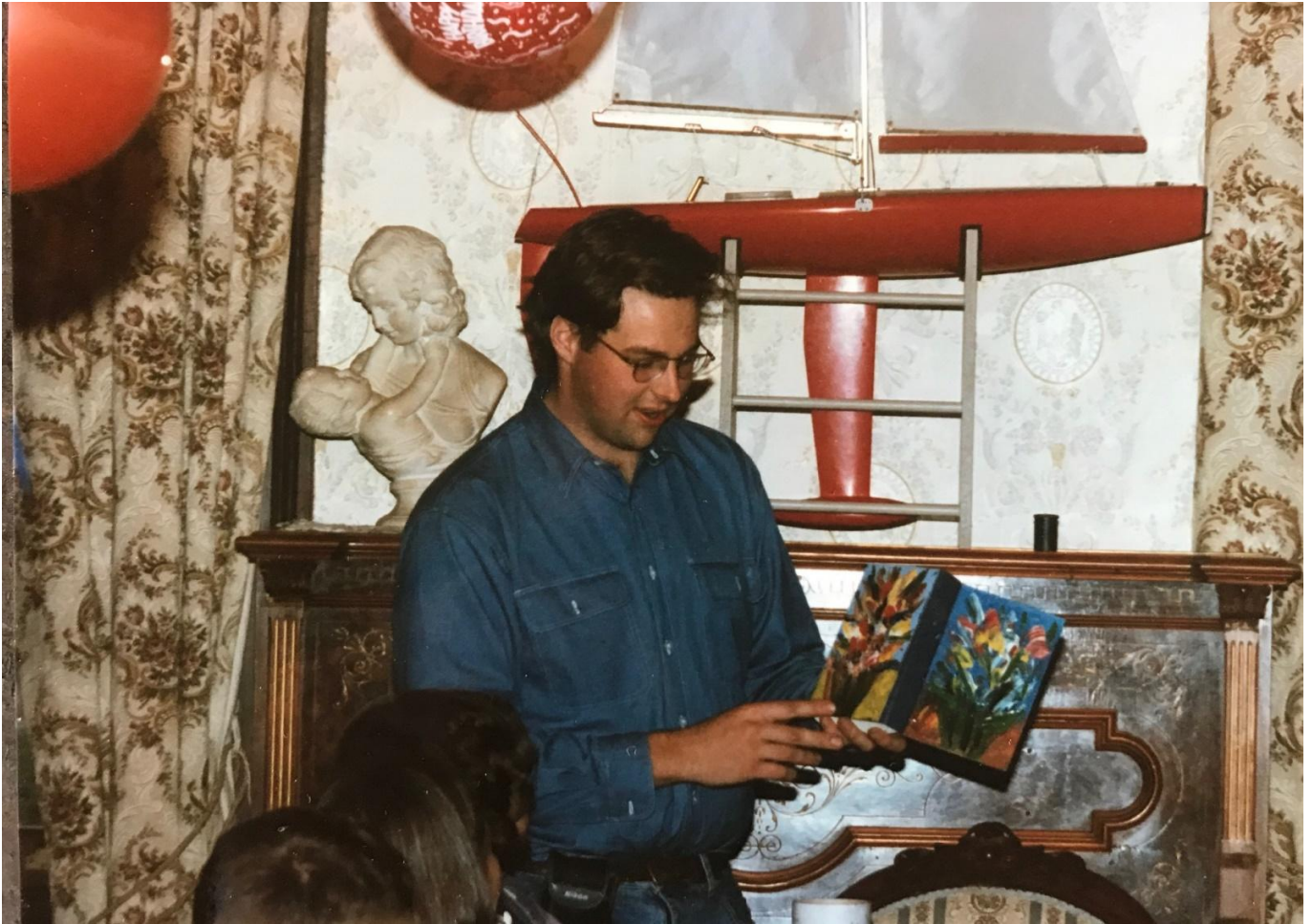


On one of our Hawkebury River Launch holidays.

Our Christian School had a mid term winter break which gave us some special rates, even going making skiing trips affordable.



Landing on Franz Josef Glacier Mt Cook South Island NZ about 1978. We were the first to land after snow storms and had difficulty landing. Scary! Visiting Disneyland 1980. Being welcomed by the band.



Michael's 18th Birthday. He was given a Bible with the covers painted by Pro Hart.

Whilst in Washington DC for the Presidential Prayer Breakfast I arranged for it to be given to the President by a Christian Aid. it was returned to me after arriving home, as each gift has to be personally paid for by the President! A similar painted Bible remains in Washington DC where Michael stayed with a group ministering to overseas leaders.



Christine, Mother and Tess



Christine with Trixie and some kittens and with a partially built doll house which has since nearly caused some car crashes as it is placed at our top front window.

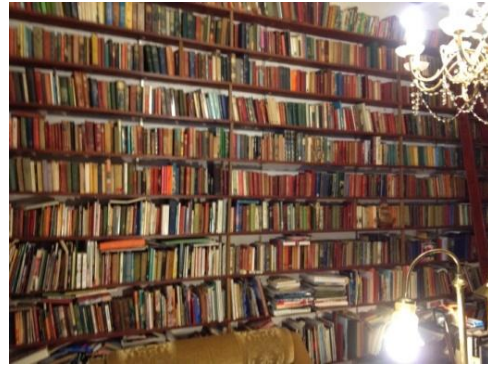


Tess: Dubbo High School Y12 and CSU with Batchelors degree in Communications-Journalism graduation





Autumn in Orange and our front hall with Australian cedar staircase which Pam & I laboriously restored.



Pictures of our library.

Michael's James Sheahan High School graduation and Christine's KWS graduation





Tess after we came out of the Sliding Track on the East Coast of Bruny Island in winter after “sliding” for an hour in the dark, as it was a rain forest with a heavy canopy and her flashlight battery finally ran down. She was covered in leeches, hence the blood. Christine had earlier been on the track with a few snakes keeping her company. Tess and I had set out far too late!

Below: Christine in her yacht, Broken Bay



Chapter 6. Michael's Family and Vanuatu

Amongst the many things that occupied our lives included the Long Point, "Kintail" Icely Road farms, Bruny Island, holidays, overseas trips to USA, Europe, NZ, Singapore. Finding the house well, garden, aviary, the Dubbo show family reunions.,...

Dad died in 1987. Mother's death Oct 2011 aged 97 years. [Mother on U Tube here.](#)

And of course Michael and Rita's marriage in Vanuatu with children Joshua, James & Grace



Four generations



Family pic: Josh in the crowd and with James at Zig Zag Railway 2010 with Thomas the Tank Engine. And a baby sister!



James on his bike in Port Vila and with Josh staying with us for a fortnight about to leave for home 2009.



Above: July 2013 in Vanuatu



Snow time in Orange July 2015

Skiing at Mt Selwyn



Havannah Harbour, Efate Jan 2010



The day before Tropical Cyclone Pamela hit Port Vila 2016



Michael's home at Malapoa in Port Vila 2005. Yacht in front of their home after Cyclone Pamela March 2016



Survived Pamela Cyclone Pamela March 2016



Turning 71, 16th July 2016 with James, Josh and Pam



Grace and James horse riding Port Vila. Beach outside Michael's home overlooking Port Vila.



James and Grace Jan 2020



James playing International Football Port Vila 2018 with face behind football.



Michael & family leaving Port Vila Christmas 2017 for Australia and 2016



Grace on her first motorbike Christmas 2015. Grace's eight birthday 2018 and Jan 2010 with James.



Welcome to the 21st Century Communicational relationships!



Michael Celebrating Vanuatu Independence Day 2021 with James and Josh holding Grace

Chapter 7. Political Involvement Begins

Psalm 73:27-28

*Those who are far from you will perish;
you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.
But as for me, it is good to be near God.
I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge;
I will tell of all your deeds.*

Returning from Europe in 1974 after studying under Dr Francis Schaeffer a friend and I were talking about joining a political party and we decided to attend a Young Liberals meeting. There were about eight of us present and was asked to attend the Liberal Party meeting joining up shortly afterwards. Apathy ruled supremely and I ended up the Branch president, then stood for preselection against the Mayor. I lost as everybody predicted and he went on and did a dreadful job getting trounced! On the strength of it I became President of the Orange State Electoral Council and then elected to the NSW State Executive, all within two years sitting with people such as Senator John Carrick and John Howard and then on the State Executive policy committee. It was interesting making suggestions on this committee then hearing the state party leader who was present on the executive, speaking publicly those same thoughts! I tried to be unaligned between the "wets" and "drys" a description of welfare and free enterprise factions within the Liberal Party and didn't last long as a fence sitter.

I felt I should stand as a candidate for the Orange City Council as an Independent.

So did another women, Nancy Weathersten in our church. A ticket always increased one's vote, so we decided to stand together as there were many candidates. We couldn't decide who should be number one on the ticket. I suggested we toss a coin. Nancy won and got elected (see picture) and she was very helpful with Council negotiations in commencing the Orange Christian School in 1981 and we proclaimed Orange as a prolife city in 1986 with Nancy's help. It is an interesting story as we didn't have the numbers until the vote was commenced and an obviously pregnant women entered the Council chambers just at the right time and they voted for it. God's sovereignty! Many local people had signed a petition and prayed. Nancy also organised the largest outdoor meeting for many years with Kamahl for the annual Christmas Carols in which I also participated.

VOTE FOR A PROGRESSIVE, INDEPENDENT PAIR

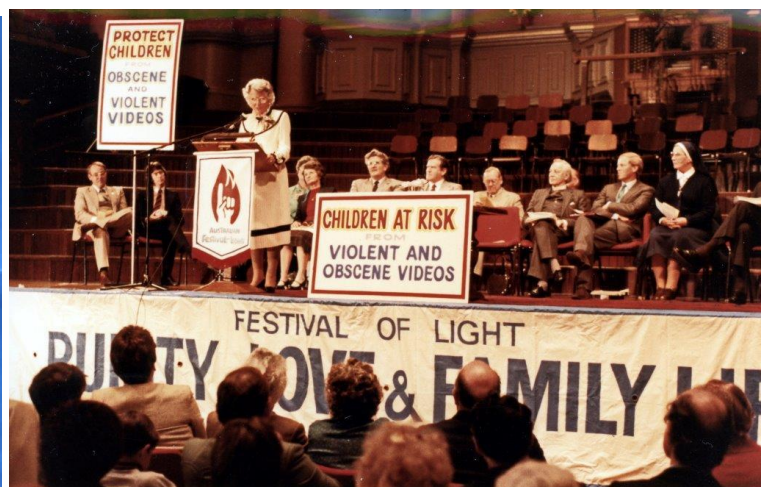
Nancy Weathersten **2 Graham McLennan**

GROUP (F)
ON YOUR BALLOT PAPER

CONSCIENCE NOT CAUCUS FOR COUNCIL

Be sure to vote for 18 candidates — otherwise your vote will be lost!

- 1. Born, married in Orange
- 2. Widow
- 3. Active for many years in church, music, social work, benevolent societies, Orangeville Hospital, dramatic societies, standards, youth work, seniors, well-organised and methodical clubs.
- 4. Parents well-known for interest in Orange, father a former Orange M.P.
- 5. Son Paul, in Brisbane, reads and prays in Bible circles.
- 6. Late husband John, well-known in the Business Community
- 7. Particular interest in advancement of Orange as a progressive City.
- 8. In capable of thinking for himself
- 9. Self employed
- 10. Professional degree, social science units
- 11. Married with three children.
- 12. Orange City ratepayer for nine years.
- 13. State and overseas political experience.
- 14. Convicted offender should not be controlled by State governments. Councils should be more self-governing.
- 15. Committed traditional church and family values are best for a stable community.
- 16. Rural background.
- 17. Former commissioned army officer.



Seated at left Sydney Town Hall meeting with Mary Whitehouse

An Auntie, Joan McLennan had been working both in the offices of the State Liberal party leader as well as the Festival of Light. I had just returned from another six month overseas trip in the USA in

1980 and Fred Nile was interested in what I had learnt and invited me to campaign with him for a seat in the NSW Upper House. The Liberal Party offered me a seat in the Upper House to try and stop me help organise Fred's campaign. He won a seat and I was the last to be excluded in the count which lasted over a month. We had campaigned throughout the state visiting most country towns, even as far as Cobar, Wilcannia, Bourke and Broken Hill by plane, as well as in the metropolitan area. My income that year was very low being away from the practice for about three months. We outpolled the National Party getting 9.6% of the state vote. Later I was to lead the Senate team in 1984 and 1998 primarily to keep us before the public in the state elections, though we did think there was going to be a double dissolution in the 1984 elections which offered us some degree of hope. In the 1984 Senate elections I came 9th.

Had there been a double dissolution, which we were hoping for, I would have got elected though it may have been for one term only. Though we had less than the amount needed for funding of 4%. It was the highest vote for the Senate we ever had, exceeding the time when Fred stood many years later.



Senate campaign 1984 and family picture.



Another meeting for everybody! L to R: Leonie Healy, Jim Cameron who we were later to do CPR on when he collapsed during the campaign with a heart attack at a Cronulla Restaurant. Elaine & Fred Nile on left. Tom Toogood on right with Patricia Judge.

VOTE 1 CALL TO AUSTRALIA (FRED NILE) GROUP "For God and the Family"




Dr. Graham McLennan (Dental Surgeon), Rev. Fred Nile, M.L.C.

"NOT JUST A POLITICAL TEAM BUT A WAY OF LIFE!"

For The Senate:

VOTE 1 (Dr) Graham McLennan (Dental Surgeon of Orange)

2 (Mr) Tom Toogood, C.A.E. (Lecturer of Wagga)

3 (Mrs) Patricia Judge, B.A. (Teacher of Strathfield)

4 (Dr) Kevin Hume (General Practitioner of Randwick)


5 (Mr) John Everingham (Farmer of Kyogle)

6 (Dr) Clair Isbister, C.B.E. (Paediatrician of Katoomba)

7 (Mrs) Elaine Nila

MAKE SURE I urge you to FOR JUST

Pornography a real threat in videos



It is time for the average Australian to speak out against the spread of pornography in this country today, according to Dr. Graham McLennan.

Dr. McLennan, a dental surgeon of Orange, NSW, is also a Call to Australia candidate for the Senate.

"Some of them think we are media and reviewers. It is not until they read the censorship notices that they realise what is at stake."

Parents should feel confident that all children may view material in this classification without supervision, knowing that no distress or harm is likely to be caused.

Language: Some infrequent coarse language (the offensive to print) may be found, if non-assaultive.

Sex: Very discreet sexual references or implications only.

Violence: Minimal and incidental depictions of violent activity only.

X-RATED VIDEOS ARE THEY A FAIR GO FOR AUSTRALIAN KIDS?

So what's all the fuss about the Federal Attorney-General's video classifications?

Printed below are extracts from the censorship classifications agreed to by the States and Federal Attorneys General on April 6, 1984

PLEASE NOTE: Offensive language has been deleted from this advertisement to comply with printing regulations.

GENERAL (Suitable for all ages)
Parents should feel confident that all children may view material in this classification without supervision, knowing that no distress or harm is likely to be caused.
Language: Some infrequent coarse language (the offensive to print) may be found, if non-assaultive.
Sex: Very discreet sexual references or implications only.
Violence: Minimal and incidental depictions of violent activity only.

PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE (Suitable for persons 12 years and over)
Material will be found in this classification which would be considered to be too strong for unsupervised viewing by children.
While adult themes may be dealt with they should be handled in a way that would not cause distress or harm to children in a family viewing situation.
Language: Some infrequent crude language including some four letter words (which would offend) and mild sex-oriented dialogue and jokes.
Sex: Discreet verbal and/or visual suggestions of, an references to, intercourse and discussions about, for example, menstruation, masturbation, labour and childbirth, videos of occasional full frontal nudity, and head-and-shoulders shots of implied intercourse. (No implications of, for example, oral genital sex or homosexual sex activity).
Violence: Discreet and sporadic depictions, but if continuous (e.g. kung-fu films) should be explicit and/or stylized.
Other: Mild supernatural and/or "horror" themes. Informational drug references.

M MATURE (Suitable for persons 15 years and over)
Material which is considered likely to disturb, harm or offend those under the age of 15 years. While most adult themes may be dealt with, the degree of explicitness and explicitness of treatment will determine whether they can be accommodated in this classification.

US Government Report 1982 - The Department of Health and Human Services conducted by the National Institute of Medical Health - "There is now overwhelming evidence that excessive violence on television causes aggressive behaviour in children. This confirms the 1972 Surgeon-General's report linking aggressive behaviour in teenage children with violence on television."

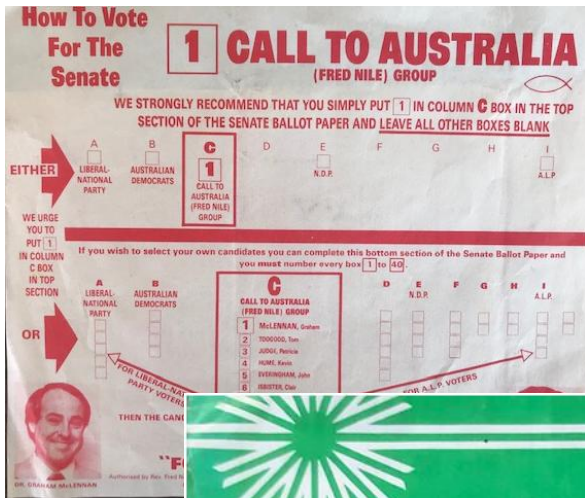
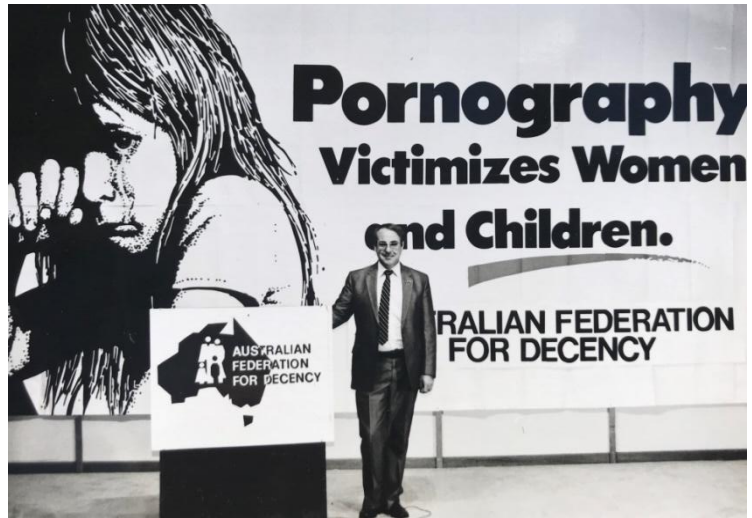
AUSSIES: IS THIS THE STANDARD FOR YOUR FAMILY - SURELY THERE MUST BE AN ALTERNATIVE TO MORAL

RESTRICTED (18 years and over)
Adult material likely to be harmful to those under 18 years and possibly offensive to some sections of the adult community.
Language: Sexually explicit and/or assaultive dialogue.
Sex: Implied sexual activity, but no "full length" depictions of intercourse. Implications of sodomy, coitus interruptus, etc., may be depicted, if visually discreet.
Violence: May be strong, realistic and sometimes bloody, but not explicit, repeated, very cruel or very explicit, e.g. dismemberment or beheadings limited to flashes only; sexual violence, e.g. rape, only if very discreet.
Other: Drug abuse depictions, if not advocacy.

EXTRA POINT-OF-SALE CONTROLS (18 years and over)
All overt and explicit material, except such as described under "Restricted Classification".
Language: No prescriptions.
Sex: All depictions of sexual acts involving adults (except those of a considerable sexually violent or cruel nature) including explicit penetration, masturbation, ejaculation, fellatio, coitus interruptus, insertion of objects in urethra, orophallia, cunnilingus, sadomasochism, fetishism.
"If somebody had said a generation ago that a school to teach the art and uses of violence would be established, no one would have believed him. He would have been said that these whose mandate is the mental welfare of children, the parents and the professionals, would prevent it."
"And yet this education for violence is precisely what has happened and is still happening; we teach violence to young people to an extent that has never been known before in history."
Quote: Dr. Fred Werthan.
SURVEY: 60% of Sydney children over 10 years of age admit to watching R and X-rated movies.
40% of Sydney children are latch-key children and are unsupervised after school hours.
- Director Australian Children's Television School.

Top and bottom left: We succeeded in stopping X rated videos in NSW when the Premier Neville Wran was going to legalise them. Tragically his own daughter was later to fulfil the logical conclusion of his own presuppositions getting into drugs and an accessory to murder.

Right: In the 1980's we assisted Jack and Margaret Sonneman's ministry in helping stop the floodgates of pornography.



LIGHT

ISSN 0817-6655 Registered by Australia Post — publication No. SBP1474 MAY — JULY 1987

Pro-life city miracle

Little Kate, saved from abortion by a Christian doctor, stands with Dr Graham McLennan and Alderman Nancy Weathersten outside the Council Chambers of Orange, Australia's first pro-life city — story page 3

Kate: a pro-life city miracle

A mother from Orange, the city in the central highlands of NSW which has formally voted "pro-life", tells this story of how her baby Kate was saved by a pro-life doctor:

We were living in a very old delapidated house in an isolated area. My husband had begun his own business, dragging us further into debt.

Living conditions were pretty primitive. The only tank wouldn't hold water, so I had to fetch water from a nearby river. I bought an old urn to boil water for baths, washing up and laundering nappies.

I had two babies in nappies so I had to wash daily — a chore I did kneeling on the wooden verandah bent over an old tin tub which was also our bath. I scrubbed the stained nappies with an old nailbrush, wrung them out by hand and hung them on string lines I suspended between the verandah posts. Once a week I travelled 70 km to do the shopping and take the sheets and towels to the laundromat.

One of my little boys was two and a half; the other was ten months. The older one would not speak or communicate — he was going through a difficult time where he would try to destroy things to get attention. The younger child was diagnosed as hyperactive and seldom slept. He seemed to be constantly crying or fretful for the first few years of life. Neither child had been planned: both had been "surprises", shocks even.

My husband was an alcoholic. He drank every night. He was uncommunicative and hostile much of the time and his only conversation seemed to be derogatory remarks about my person. I had no friends or family for support and felt trapped and miserable.

When I began having violent symptoms indicating another pregnancy I was horrified. I had insisted on contraception (two methods simultaneously) on the rare occasions when we had relations, so pregnancy should not have occurred.

My husband and I discussed my "illness" briefly. We both decided that if I were pregnant then "it" must be got rid of. I drove in to town to see Dr Sork our family doctor who had attended me during my two pregnancies. He examined me and confirmed that I was indeed pregnant again.

Deeply shocked, I told him I had to have "it" terminated. I blurted out all the good and valid reasons why I could not cope with another child.

A further burden on my heart at the time was the knowledge that my marriage was a farce. It was dead and waiting to be buried. My husband had already declared that he would pack up and leave if I had any more babies.



Kate (centre) with pro-life city supporters Nancy Weathersten and Graham McLennan

Dr Sork comforted me, but remained firm. He said, very kindly, "You have no real grounds to destroy the new little life which is developing inside your body even at this moment."

I remember he briefly told me some of the developments that would have occurred in the baby even at that early stage. He assured me that I would cope, and also asked me to send my husband to him although that never eventuated.

During our talk the reality of the new life was somehow kindled within me. Although I sobbed all the way home I knew I would not now knowingly do anything to destroy my child.

It was only later that I found out Dr Sork is a Christian. I know now that this was the influence which changed my mind and my heart. Through the break up of my marriage, I too became born again. I can honestly say that the Lord has supplied all our needs and many of our desires as we have yielded our lives to His lordship.

I thank God that my doctor was not one of the new breed "humanists". If that had been the case I would have missed out on the greatest source of blessing and joy in my life. I had been so caught up in me and my troubles that I had given no thought to the child.

People who write those empty lying words about a foetus not being alive should come and see and talk to my daughter — a miracle who was nearly scraped and torn from me and tossed out as garbage. I honestly shudder and weep when I realise how close I came through ignorance and selfishness to murdering my own dear daughter.

I know now beyond any doubt that Kate's life was God's idea. He has a wonderful plan for her as He has for each one of us. Everything God has planned has been there from the obscure moment when conception occurred — it only needs time. I am watching the wonderful unfolding of a beautiful young girl's life because of the grace of God in sending me to a Christian doctor.

Orange Council votes pro-life

The NSW city of Orange has become Australia's first pro-life city. The Orange City Council voted on 5 March this year to endorse the petition of 490 people to support the Bignold motion in the NSW Legislative Council. The petition also encouraged Premier Unsworth to enforce the existing NSW laws against abortion.

Alderman Nancy Weathersten moved the motion. She stood for the Orange

City Council as an Independent and a Christian six years ago, and believes this motion is the most important act in her period of office.

In her speech to the Council Alderman Weathersten said that one in three babies in Australia is aborted and one unborn child dies every seven minutes. Two in every five deaths in Australia are by abortion, and 96% of all abortions are carried out for convenience and sham psychiatric reasons. Only 0.07% of all abortions are as the result of rape and only 0.01% to prevent grave permanent injury to the mother's health.

Alderman Weathersten quoted the 1948 Declaration of Geneva which states: "I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception; even though under threat, I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity."

The pro-life victory has received much publicity in the regional media and Orange dentist Dr Graham McLennan, who initiated the concept of a pro-life city, gave several interviews.

Dr McLennan said, "I saw all sorts of places becoming 'nuclear-free cities'. I thought, *Why not a pro-life city?* Perhaps now some other councils will take heart to follow our city's example. Perhaps other Christians will catch the vision of the potential of public office for witness and service to God."



Residents want Orange to be Pro-Life city

THE CITY Council has received a petition of more than 400 signatures from residents who want Orange to be made Australia's first Pro-Life city.

In a letter accompanying the petition, Graham and Pam McLennan, of Woodward St, said they wrote after reading of the council's symbolic decision to make Orange a nuclear free city.

They asked the council to make Orange the first Pro-Life city in Australia by writing to Premier Mr Unsworth in support of the enforcement of existing anti-abortion laws to stop the slaughter of unborn babies in our city.

The laws were contained in sections 82-85 of the 1900 Crimes Act, they said in their letter.

They said a number of people would be willing to speak at a meeting sponsored by Orange City Council.

The council decided at its meeting last week to defer the matter until it could establish exactly what was before State Parliament.

CENTRAL WESTERN

DAILY

3 FEB., '87.

Council backs anti-abortion group stand

THE CITY Council will write to the Premier, Mr Unsworth, supporting his pro-life stance on State abortion laws.

Before a gallery packed with pro-life supporters the council decided at its meeting on Thursday night to support Mr Unsworth's stand on abortion legislation before State Parliament.

The council will write in support of 'legislation for the enforcement of existing laws in sections 82-85 of the 1900 Crimes Act to eliminate the practice of abortion on demand in this State.'

At its meeting on January 29 aldermen considered a letter from Graham and Pam McLennan asking for Orange to be made Australia's first Pro-Life City.

Mr and Mrs McLennan asked the council to write to Mr Unsworth and included a petition containing 490

signatures.

At Thursday night's meeting Ald Nancy Weatherston moved that the council write the letter of support to Mr Unsworth.

However, Ald Borry Gartrell, said the matter should only be noted by council.

Ald Gartrell said the issue of abortion was a matter for the consciences of individual aldermen.

It was of such personal concern that it should not be a matter for council debate.

But Ald Weatherston said the council would not be doing any harm to support the Premier.

"He should see that a portion of the State is in favor of seeing existing laws carried out," she said.

More than 30 people in the gallery applauded the council decision.

CENTRAL WESTERN

DAILY

7 MARCH '87



1987 Father & son team. Senate elections 1998

FEDERAL CDP SENATE TEAM ANNOUNCED

FATHER AND SON TEAM TO STAND

BY DR GRAHAM MCLENNAN OF ORANGE.

The NSW CDP Senate Team for the forthcoming Federal election will consist of Graham McLennan, who is heading the ticket, as well as his son Michael who will be 23 in September. Others on the team are Janne Peterson, a graphic designer from Strathfield; Owen Davies, a pastor with Christian City Church Lane Cove; and Tom Allanson from Goulburn who is married with 4 children and supports Goulburn's attempt to secure a major airport. Kim Beaufman will also be supporting us on the team.

BUDGET

Because of financial constraints and a policy that CDP will not spend money it hasn't got, for this Federal Election a much lower campaign budget has been decided upon - \$35,000. This will mean that there will be very little media advertising and far less literature distribution throughout the electorates. It will also mean that for Graham to be elected, a greater response from the Christian community will have to take place. Are there twenty Christians in NSW willing to give \$1,500 to the Senate Campaign? Donations of up to \$1,500 are now tax deductible.

GRAHAM MCLENNAN REPORTS:

It is my desire to lead the Senate team again after 14 years, when we received nearly 4% of the vote in 1984. For me to be elected we will need to treble that vote. This will need a miracle to change the hearts of many Christians throughout this State. Galatians 3:3 says human effort won't be sufficient, although we are exhorted "not to grow weary while doing good, for in God's proper time we will reap if we do not give up". Gal 6:9

"Now is the time to us: to wake up from our slumber" Romans 13:11 Apostle Paul

BIBLICAL CALL

Some of the Scriptures which come to mind are:

1 Tim 3:1. "To aspire to leadership is an honourable ambition". Romans 12:8 and 13:2 "If it is leadership, let him govern diligently" and "God's servants, who give their full time to governing".

Isaiah 9:6 "of the increase of his government there will be no end".

In the Lord's prayer it says "that your Kingdom will come and that Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven".

Psalms 22:27,28 "All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

John Calvin said "Civil authority is a calling not only lawful before God, but also the most sacred and by far the most honourable of all callings in the whole life of mortal man".

Martin Luther stated that "every institution in which men are not increasingly occupied with the Word of God must become corrupt".

Billy Graham has said "Christians should get involved in good government, not to conform but to transform".

So as Christians we should be involved regardless of whether we are going to be captured by the next Election!

God's 10 Point Plan for Australia

So often we have seen politicians in political parties guilty of what I call the three C's. 1. Compromise. 2. Cowardice. 3. Coercion.

John Howard had promised the closing down of the x-rated pornography industry in Canberra prior to the last election. He was lobbied by the sex industry and whited. The Prime Minister had his "Ten Point Plan", but I believe there is a far greater one, based on the ageless truths of the Ten Commandments.

In brief the cost to the nation in economic terms for violating some of God's laws is as follows:

2nd Commandment Materialism as idolatry (Ephesians 5:5)

Debt of over 200 billion dollars	
Annual Interest	\$11 billion
The Labor Government in its last 5 years overspent	\$79 billion
Net Cost of alcohol abuse	7 billion
7th Commandment	
Divorce	\$6 billion
AIDS/HIV	\$44 billion 92/93
8th and 9th Commandment	
Stealing and Lying, Insurance and Welfare Fraud	\$20 billion
This does not include other criminal behaviour which would be a huge figure	7 billion
10th Commandment Gambling as covering	73 billion
Australian adults per capita in 1995-1996 spent \$5,376. This consisted of gaming machines \$3,333 per adult, Casinos \$890 and TAB \$645.	
TOTAL	117 billion +

JESUS' "ONE POINT PLAN"

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Mrs Hamon's One Nation Party leaves out God, believes in the promotion of brother boutiques in Queensland and abortion on demand. Trayer said "No civilisation can rise above its concept of God". Eleven million Aztecs and Incas, who sacrificed thousands of their own on their altars, were conquered by 700 men with 16 horses under Cortez and Pizarro. In the Old Testament God destroyed some grossly immoral cultures that were abhorrent to him, that is why I believe, some cultures are better than others and in the final analysis that a Christian culture is the best culture. In Matthew 22: 37-40 Jesus says "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself". This is the heart of the gospel for our Nation. Certainly a Nation that wants to protect its children from the influence of Christianity, as stated by Gareth Evans now Deputy Leader of the Labor Party (P 11, 7th May 1976 SHD), will suffer certain consequences as both Arnold Toynbee and Edward Gibbon point out in their analysis of history.

I believe that as the final analysis no nation can be stronger than its families, which is why CDP's Family Impact Statement and Contract With the Australian Family is so important.

In conclusion, my prayer is "that he will be able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine.....throughout all generations" Ephesians 3:20.

By 1998 I had lost the "fire in the belly" after being on most of CTA and CDP state tickets since 1981. Fred has become a superb parliamentarian, though I think his choices of candidates has in several cases caused him and the CDP a lot of heartache and grief - then I wasn't a great inspirational speaker either!

Chapter 8. We begin the Orange Christian School in 1981

*We will not hide them from their descendants;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,
his power, and the wonders he has done.
He decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach their children,
so the next generation would know them,
even the children yet to be born,
and they in turn would tell their children.
Then they would put their trust in God
and would not forget his deeds
but would keep his commands.
They would not be like their ancestors
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
whose hearts were not loyal to God,
whose spirits were not faithful to him.*

Psalm 78:4-8

<https://www.ocs.nsw.edu.au/>

In 1974 Pam and I arrived back from overseas having studied under Dr Francis Schaeffer in Switzerland where we learnt of the secular/sacred mindset of Christians and we were trying to understand how our children should be educated in a post Christian, secular humanist world.

In 1980 in the USA we studied the various Christian school movements and learnt of the rapid inroad the secular humanist "religion"* had made.

Arriving back in Australia we were told by the district school inspector that Christian values would not be upheld in the public school system. So we invited three speakers to share at meetings with Christian parents. From the Parent Controlled Schools, Noel Weeks a history lecturer from Sydney University and Robert Johnson the Principal of John Wycliffe Christian School Warrimoo, as well as David Magill from Christian Community Schools. A group of us visited an Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) school but dismissed this as an option.

Amongst the clergy who supported us were Michael Bain from the Molong Anglican Church and Richard Lee from the Presbyterian Church where we had some of our initial meetings, as well as Graeme Sonsie from the Church of Christ who offered us their premises to begin the school commencing first term 1981, with seventeen bewildered students, just the day after all the government stores arrived!

The importance of OCS in our community can't be overestimated. As one person has said "those who control education control the destiny of a nation. Ideas do have consequences! In this case after thirty years the acorn seed is now well established. Not only here in Orange but other towns in the region.

"The battle for mankind's future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers who correctly perceive their roles as the proselytizers of a new faith... these teachers must embody the same selfless dedication as the most rabid fundamentalist preachers, for they will be ministers of another sort, utilising the classroom instead of the pulpit to convey humanist values in whatever subject they teach, regardless of educational level - pre - school, day care or large state university. The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new - the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjacent evils and misery, and the new faith of humanism."
The Humanist Jan-Feb 1983.

We also republished a booklet on Secular Humanism and its consequences called Weep For Your Children by Dr Murray Norris, an explanation of the anti-God religion in our schools and what we can do about it. In it was the Humanist Manifesto as well as this quote:

O'HAIR'S SON SORRY FOR ROLE IN ATHEISM 'EMPIRE'

AUSTIN TEXAS - The son of outspoken atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair publicly apologised to Americans and God for his part in building "the personal empire of his mother."

"Looking back on the 33 years of life I wasted without faith and without God I pray that I may be able to correct just some of the wrong I have created", said William J Murray of Houston in a letter to the editor of the Austin American – Statesman.

Murray who has apparently converted to Christianity since his split with his mother several years ago, was the plaintiff in a suit filed in Massachusetts that resulted in compulsory prayers being banned from public schools.

"I would like to apologise to the people of Austin for the part I played in the building of the personal empire of Madalyn O'Hair. My efforts to that end were an affront to the people of Austin, the people of the nation and to God", Murray's letter said.

"My crime was two-fold in that I was aware of the wrong of my actions at the time and continued them for the purpose of financial profit. I was continuing to practice the hateful and anti-moral way of life I had learned from birth in an atheist home".

"I loathe the idea that I lowered myself to editing her anti-God magazine", he said.

"Looking back on the 33 years of life I wasted without faith and without God I pray that I may be able to correct just some of the wrong I have created. The part I played as a teenager in removing prayer from public schools was criminal. I removed from our future generations that short time each day which should rightly be reserved for God. In as much as the suit to destroy the tradition of prayer in school was brought in my name, I feel gravely responsible for the resulting destruction of the moral fibre of our youth that it has caused."

From Dallas Times Herald, May 10, 1980

A full page news article with pictures was printed in the Western Magazine in 1981 as an insert into many local Western NSW newspapers. When Mrs Daisy Turnbull read the article she contacted us and as a result of this the Wellington Christian School began the following year in 1982 with Graham Gilbert as Principal. The next year the Dubbo Christian School commenced in 1983 with Rob Shearman as Principal. WCS is now under the leadership of the Dubbo Christian School. Later a school existed for some years in Bathurst, begun at the Lutheran Church. From 2001 to 2011 the Bathurst school was administered by OCS, with many of their students commuting daily to OCS. Mr Alan Brown the principal of OCS transferred to become Wagga's first Christian School principal.

A LOCAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



National Library of Australia
ISBN No. 85897 058 9

THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION
OF
Festival of LIGHT
COMMUNITY STANDARDS ORGANISATIONS

267 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, 2000
P.O. Box A87, Sydney South, 2000
Telephone: 267 2244 (3 lines)

FOL booklet on commencing a Christian School with a picture of OCS first parents and friends meeting shortly after the school began. Anne Padget is the teacher on left.

Also the FOL in 1981 published a booklet which I wrote on commencing a Christian school which we distributed when campaigning for the 1984 Federal Elections. We were told later that this influenced many towns to begin their own local Christian School.



OCS was founded out of a passionate commitment to the belief that parent partnership in education, is an essential ingredient in excellent Christian education. In December 1980, a group of parents felt so compelled by this notion, that they sought the assistance of Christian Education National (then known as Christian Parent Controlled Schools), to establish such a school, where an academically rigorous curriculum could be taught by Christian staff and critiqued through a Christian worldview.

After firstly establishing the OCS Association and following government approval, classes commenced in January 1981 with 17 students. Miss Anne Padgett (See picture) was the first teacher and classes were held in the premises of the Church of Christ in March Road (now Burrendong Way) Orange.

Enrolments, staff numbers and facilities gradually increased and, through faith, and God's goodness the current site was purchased in 1988. Classes began at the Cecil Road site with 123 students in September 1989. In 2006, OCS purchased an additional property at 542 Cecil Rd, which is currently being repurposed for the 2019 introduction of Primary Industries, as well as for future development projects.

In 2011 the school also purchased the adjacent block of land to allow for further site development over the full 11 hectares. This has allowed for significant development of sports fields and facilities, as well as the building of a commercial kitchen and café, fully equipped construction workshop and the multipurpose hall, scheduled for building during 2019/2020.

From one teacher in 1980, we now have a staff of over 70 teachers and support staff. From 17 students, we now have around 370 students from Prep to Year 12. We give thanks to our faithful God, for the growth in both size and substance, of our school, recognising that it is through prayer and dedicated service that such development has occurred. It is with hearts full of gratitude that we thank the pioneering parents for their vision and steadfast commitment. It is with equal gratitude that we thank our current community – families, staff and students – for their continued dedication and commitment to seeing the OCS vision in action...

'To raise effective leaders of godly character, who will blend academics with biblical truth, to influence society for the glory of God.'





Notice the “McLennan” Tartan. In late 1980 mothers met at our home with material samples. There had already been some differences in fashion tastes so I said if they couldn’t make their minds up by the end of the evening I would pick it myself Well the mum’s couldn’t, so I made an “Executive” decision and chose the closest to the McLennan tartan which I had intended to do if they couldn’t agree!



New OCS Hall completed 2021

[Video prepared for OCS Fortieth Anniversary 2021 \(Nine minutes\)](#)



Orange Christian School

Congratulations!

to our

2021 HSC High Achievers



Harrison Grant
Top ATAR in the
region (99.55)



Phoebe Ngai
Band 6 - 1 subject



Elliot Bangert
Top-five ranking in the
state for Primary
Industries



Sophie Coleman
Band 6 - 6 subjects

Plus...

- 22% of English Advanced students on Band 6 + 56% on Band 5
- 11% Band 6 in ALL subjects



Harrison Grant gains the honour of the top ATAR in the region with 99.55 in the 2021 HSC Exams.

Chapter 9. Christian Radio In Orange

Radio Rhema in Orange

We began Rhema in Orange 1994 on a temporary license then finally gained a permanent licence in 1994 after a lot of lobbying and three sites for our studios. We began the first broadcast in the Anson Street Wesley Church Centre, then the back “change rooms” of the Baptist Church Hall in Sale St, finally moving to the Christian Ministry Centre in Cecil Road. <https://www.1035fm.com.au/>



Now branded as 103.5 FM



Pam behind the microphone.



Glenn Cairns a quadruple running a men's hour



Interviewing former Prime Minister of Solomon Islands Sir Peter Kenilorea KBE and a family affair with Michael, Cousin Ross's wife Coralie, Pam and I.



Rhema Dinner retirement presentation and 65th Birthday July 2010 after sixteen years as Chairman and about half that time as manager.

Christian Media Association Report

RHEMA 103.5 FM Orange recently farewelled Chairman Graham McLennan, who has stepped down after 16 years in the role and as a board member. For a third of that time, Graham was also the station's Manager. Graham has a long history with Christian radio having served as Rhema Orange's Steering Committee chairman in 1993, in the lead up to the station gaining its permanent license in 1998, and on the board of UCB Australia when Vision FM commenced. He remains involved in radio as a board member of LAEF FM in Vanuatu and helps with Message of Hope on Nepal National radio. The recent farewell dinner was also an occasion to celebrate Graham's 65th birthday.

Foundation Director UCB Vision FM which begins 1998

<https://www.vision.org.au/> and

<https://www.vision.org.au/corporate-static/a-brief-history-of-vision-radio-network>

Laef FM commences in Port Vila 2003



Cutting the anniversary cake 2006. Laef FM Port Vila





Left: Jimmy and Jenny Molli James who founded Laef 90 FM Port Vila

Right: Trish Orton (NAACL Secretary for many years) in the studio that Michael installed.

Laying Foundation stone for new Christian radio station at Lenakel on Tanna Island, 2006.



Jimmy Molli James on my left. (Finally installed 2017!)





Michael addressing the congregation.

We also visited Mt Yasur - the active volcano. We dropped off a pastor and his wife who had walked nearly 8 hours to the ceremony and they still had three hours to walk in the dark!

HCJB commence broadcasting into Pakistan Urdu Pakistani Bible Correspondence Institute
Samson Javaid at Pakistani Bible Correspondence Institute manages enquiries.

Vision Christian Media (VCM)/United Christian Broadcasters (UCB)

Message of Hope Radio Nepal commences 2006.



Ian Worby (Left) [Vision Christian Media Outreach Director](#) with Dr Graham McLennan Board member [Vision Christian Media](#) with Simon Pandey and daughter Shanti with her husband Anu in the new Message of Hope studios in Nepal.

MOH also commenced the first Christian radio station in Nepal. Grace 107.6 FM is located at the intersection of the roads leading to China and Eastern Nepal. Please listen [here](#)

A visit to the Leprosy Mission Hospital a world recognised facility. Thankfully leprosy is decreasing due to their research.



Left: The woman in the red was ostracised from her village in Tibet and left without food and water. She managed to walk to the Leprosy hospital via the Himalayas.

In the foreground are Ian Worby and Grant Kennedy from Vision Christian Media who through its generous listeners last year raised support for many cataract operations with the [Christian Blind Mission](#) at Anandaban [Leprosy Mission Hospital](#).

Below: Dr Graham McLennan and Simon Pandey being honoured at Tenth Anniversary Celebrations with plaques.





Below are several interviews recorded for Vision Christian Media.

Each about twenty minutes.

[The Story with Jimmy Colefax - Graham McLennan - Part 1 - 15 March 2021](#)

[The Story with Jimmy Colefax - Dr Graham McLennan - Part 2 - 16 March 2021](#)

[The Story with Jimmy Colefax - Michael McLennan - 17 March 2021](#)

[Real Faith -TABITHA & BIJAY PANDEY - 29-30 MAY 2021](#)

[The Story with Jimmy Colefax - Andrew 'Robbo' Robinson In Nepal - 19 March 2021](#)

Rejoining Vision Christian Media (UCB Australia)

Rejoined UCB as Director again in 2014 after about 9 years absence. Ian Worby stands down as CEO with Phil Edwards as replacement.

Phil changes name to Vision Christian Media from United Christian Broadcasters Australia and Ian commences United Christian Broadcasters Asia/Pacific with Phil as Chairman and me as vice chairman. Ian becomes Chairman in 2019 of UCB International.



Simon & BJ Pandey in Nov 2006 planning to begin Christian radio in Nepal for the first time in history as it was the only official Hindu state in the world and imprisoned Christians such as Simon. Message of Hope was to commence soon on Radio Nepal and later two separate stations. One in Kathmandu the other in Butwal an interesting journey to the west along steep ravines.



Top L to R: VCM Board 2020: Peter Irvine, Russel Huskinson, Neville Cox, Paul Campey, Cameron Young. Bottom L to R: Dr Graham McLennan, Wendy Francis, CEO Phil Edwards.

Both Nepal & Vanuatu join as partners to UCB Asia/Pacific along with PNG, Solomon Islands, Somoa, Cook Islands, Timor Leste, Fiji, Indonesia Thailand...



With Ian Worby, Shanti, Simon and Anu in the Message of Hope studio Kathmandu Nepal.

Below: With Dr Simon Pandey Foundation Chairman MOH at ten year Anniversary May 2017



Preaching with Dr Simon Pandey interpreting in his Church 2019. Visiting the famous Leprosy Hospital outside Katmandu. The woman in red was ostracized from her village in Tibet and walked over the Himalayas to gain treatment.

Chapter 10. We Begin NACL 1986.



The National Alliance of Christian Leaders, NACL, was formed in Goulburn New South Wales, Australia, in March 1985. Christian organisational leaders from around Australia came together at the Youth With A Mission base to formulate a new body, or national alliance, that would provide Christians with leadership training and skills, and encourage Christians to use these leadership skills to serve the Christian Community and the nation, at every level. This new national body was initially known as the National Alliance For Christian Leadership. Appropriately called NaCl. For like salt, NACL was to act as a preservative for Christian values and ideals in national life and culture.

Australia needed not just a body for developing Christian leaders, but also a national structure to facilitate the coming together of Christian organisational leaders, to work together towards shared objectives. The National Alliance For Christian Leadership became the National Alliance of Christian Leaders, sponsor of the annual National Assembly of Christian Leaders. This assembly has been a decisive factor in bringing organisational leaders together around the nation, around the region, and around the world.

As a consequence, key national events were jointly planned and facilitated. This included the National Gathering, which brought over 40,000 Christian from across Australia to celebrate the opening of the new Federal Parliament House, more than attended the official opening by the Queen.

NACL is committed to the preservation and protection of religious liberty, and was instrumental in the founding of the Religious Freedom Institute Incorporated, comprising lawyers and human rights advocates committed to defending Christian liberties; To protect the rights of individual Christians, Churches, Church schools, home schools and other Christian bodies, to operate without undue and discriminatory state intrusion; To preserve free speech and the right of public expression of our religious belief in the public domain.

Entering the internet age we began sending out NACL emails, many forwarded on, especially by Ramon Williams News Service who distributed them further to media though out Australia and overseas. Now that Ramon has retired we still see them forwarded, usually triple the number subscribed. Over the years the number would be reaching four figures. Still spend hours each week compiling them as a complimentary news service and informing ministries about decisive issues facing us.



NACL God and Government Seminar 1986. Jack Sonneman, Pam & I with Tom Toogood. John Heininger in background.

We had a successful God and Government Seminar in 1986, then yearly an Assembly over two days cutting back as people time became more of a consideration to a Dinner on the Saturday evening, before the Australian National Prayer Breakfast on the Monday morning in the Commonwealth Parliament Great Hall.

In 2019 we conducted our last dinner after 33 years. By then the internet was replacing the need for physical meetings, not to mention Clovid-19!

Pictured below: Bill Muehlenberg and I at our last NACL Dinner 2019 at Canberra House of Prayer.



Over those years we had many leaders address us, to name them all would fill several pages! There have been many relationships formed as a result of the networking which occurred over the years which continues today.



Jenny Stokes from Salt Shakers, Robert Evans author of Early Evangelical Revivals in Australia and Babette Francis addressing NACL in the House of Representatives Chambers, Old Parliament House in 2004

Below: NACL Dinner 2005 in old Parliament House Members Dining Room.





One of the speakers (pictured above) Barnaby Joyce was the leader of the National party and spoke about his desire to end the abortion industry in Australia!

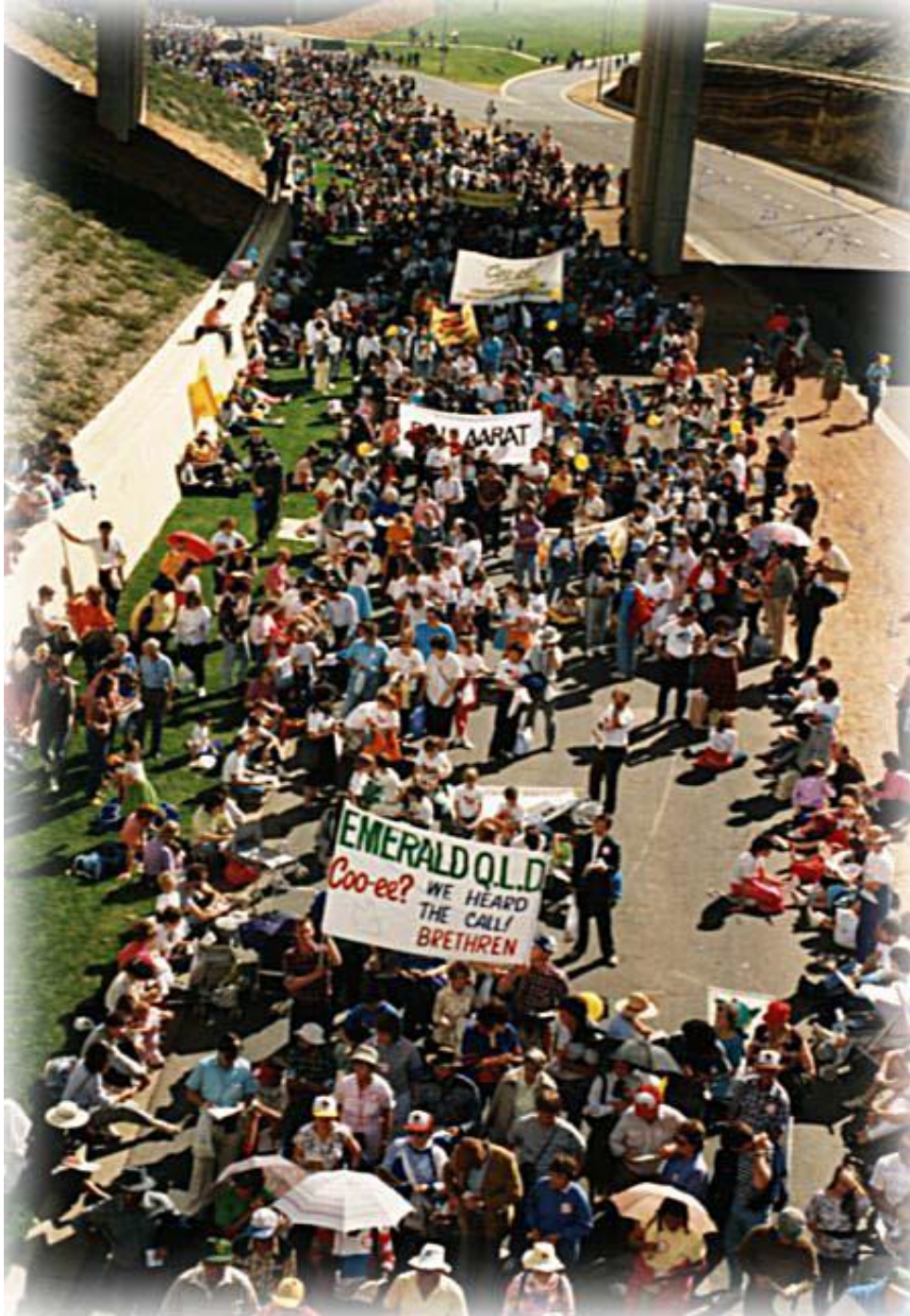


Of the many issues that has concerned NACL has been the genocide of the West Papuans where the Indonesian military has killed over 300,000 indigenous Melanesians.(picture above). Some of the more recent NACL submissions include: Freedom of Religion and Belief in the 21st Century Human Rights Commission 2009, Proposed Bill of Rights Human Rights Commission 2009, Review of the Australian Curriculum 2014, Senate Enquiry: Harm Porn does to Children 2016 Commonwealth Government's exposure draft of the Marriage Amendment (Same-Sex Marriage) Bill.

Chapter 11. National Gathering 1988

Australia's Jubilee and Days of Prayer

My Report as a National Gathering Executive Member & Treasurer.



Christians surround New Parliament House with Prayer on the 7th May 1988. State Circle, ten abreast, for 3.5 kms! This photograph enlarged and framed was presented to Federal Members and Senators during the First National Prayer Breakfast in the Great Hall, October 1988, by Dr Graham McLennan on behalf of the Executive of the National Gathering with the reminder that God will "Bless this House" which became the theme of the Prayer Breakfast.

See link [National Gathering 1988 in Canberra](#) 35,000 + people turn up! See video of the event [here](#)



One of the three staging areas before marching to State Circle.



Australia's Jubilee and Days of Prayer

On the 11th June 1738, John Wesley blew the first trumpet call of the great evangelical revival which was to have a deep and lasting effect on Britain and on those in succeeding generations.

Fifty years later a Christian minister gave the first service on Australian soil. The Rev. Richard Johnson was recommended as Chaplain to the first fleet, because of his religious fervour, by men such as William Wilberforce and John Newton. At this service Johnson spoke from Psalm 116, Verse 12 "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits towards me".

Almost 200 years earlier Pedro Fernandez de Quiros had named the region of Vanuatu, and lands

south to the Pole which would have included Australia "Australia del Espirito Santo" - the Great South Land of the Holy Spirit and earned the Holy Jubilee which the Pope had conceded to the expedition.

Fifty years after the arrival of the first fleet, the Governor of N.S.W., George Gipps, a Christian, proclaimed Sunday, November 2, 1838 a national day of fasting and humiliation because of the severe drought. Within two days heavy rains began to fall causing many to come down with the flu! (At one stage N.S.W. governed most of Australia and many of the South Pacific islands including New Zealand.)

Also view the above video on the story of Byng near Orange NSW where rain fell on the very day the community came together to pray in 1838. It was after this Governor Gipps made his proclamation.

In the intervening years on Saturday 13th February 1869 a Day of Humiliation for the drought was appointed by the Government as a day of general humiliation and prayer to the Almighty, on account of the fearful drought that has afflicted for so long a very large portion of the colony(<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/page/5694916>)

In the Cassilis Public School Inspector's report of 1877 it tells of the school closing for a day in November 1877 to allow the children to attend a special church service for "Day of Humiliation and Prayer for Rain" and in February 1878, the children were given a holiday on a day of "Thanksgiving for the breaking of the drought".

Fifty-seven years later on the 11th September, 1895 a day of prayer was again called in similar circumstances. Three weeks later a day of thanksgiving was proclaimed to thank God for the breaking of the drought.

This was short lived as the years leading up to Federation (January 1901) saw intermittent dry spells over most of the country particularly in 1897 and 1899; in most of Queensland, dry conditions were virtually unbroken from 1897. Most other parts of the country had reasonable rain in 1900 and early 1901, however with the coming of spring 1901 very dry weather set in across eastern Australia. By February 1902 concerns were expressed about Sydney's water supply, and the New South Wales Government declared 26 February a day of 'humiliation and prayer' for rain in that State.

Similar declarations were made in Queensland in April and Victoria in September, as the drought worsened. The nation not only prayed for drought-breaking rain but were led by the leaders of the Federal and State Governments as can be seen from this short Daily Telegraph report in 1902.

The Council of Churches of Victoria a few days ago asked the Government to proclaim next Sunday a day for humiliation and prayer, and to give thanks for the recent rains, and at the same time supplicate for a complete break-up of the drought. Mr. Deakin has consulted the various State Premiers on the matter. The Premiers of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia have replied expressing their ready concurrence, and when answers have been received from the other Premiers, and all are expected to be like those already to hand, the whole of the people of the Commonwealth will be asked to make Sunday a day of prayer for the much-needed rain. This afternoon Mr. Deakin telegraphed to the various Premiers asking them to be good enough to give all possible publicity to the desire of the Council of Churches.

During this time Christians were coming together to discuss the Federation Movement and many were desiring to see God acknowledged as the ruler of the nations and so it was acknowledged in the preamble to our Constitution "...humbly relying on the blessing of Almighty God..."

(Even the Sydney Morning Herald's Editorial dated 14th April, 1897 stated "no Christian could in conscience vote for a Federation Bill that did not recognise God"!)

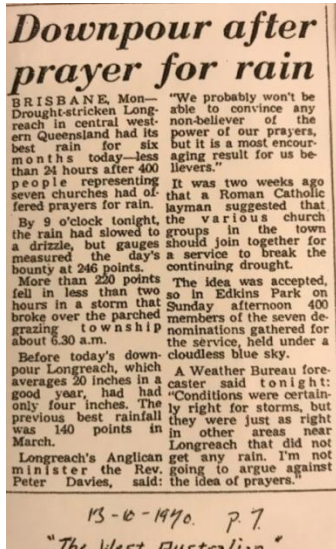
Churches also campaigned: "that there also be embodied in the said Constitution, or in the Standing Orders of the Federal Parliament, a provision that each daily session of the Upper and Lower Houses of the Federal Parliament be opened with a prayer by the President and Speaker or by a Chaplain". They also asked for the Governor-General to be empowered to proclaim National Days of Thanksgiving & Repentance.

Over a hundred years later in 2004, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery, has fulfilled the desire of many Christians in Australia in the 1890's, and indeed this new millennium, and launched a National Day of Thanksgiving. Now an annual National Day of Prayer and Fasting (Humiliation) has begun in 2010 on the 31 October.

The first Sunday in the 20th Century was proclaimed Commonwealth Sunday and Christians were called to pray for the Nation.

On the 3rd September 1938 [Joseph Lyons](#) called the nation to pray, prior to the outset of World War 11. The PM called for a Day of Prayer for Divine Intervention and Guidance to avoid another World War hoping the Munich Conference would settle many difficulties, pronouncing a National Day of Thanksgiving on Sunday October 9 1938.

The Prime Minister Joseph Lyons with wife Enid, first woman in the House of Representatives.



During the 1940's as the second World War began to take its horrific toll and Australia was being threatened, particularly after the bombing of Darwin, several days of prayer were held. One of these was called by King George VI throughout the Commonwealth and at least several others endorsed by federal and state governments. One held in Adelaide Oval South Australia was attended by over 30,000 on the 8th October 1940. Prayers were offered in Churches throughout Australia such as St Andrew's Cathedral in Sydney with their bells ringing at noon calling the city to pray.

Within another fifty years we have arrived at Australia's Bicentenary of European settlement and another National Day of Prayer has taken place.

The National Gathering held in 1988

There were numerous National Gatherings in the Old Testament which had ramifications for many years.

For instance in 2 Chronicles 34 the nation followed God for a generation. In Nehemiah 8 when they gathered in the capital their repentance led to national reform and restitution of godly traditions.

Whether it was in ancient Judah or Israel or in gentile Nineveh, when the nation gathered, repented and worshipped God, great blessings always followed.

So we can see that a gathering of a nation's people before God has deep roots and proven blessings in Biblical history.

For example, at the dedication of the first temple under Solomon, the whole nation gathered in Jerusalem and offered sacrifices with singers leading great worship to the Lord (1 Samuel 7:4-10).

The result was God's glory coming down on the temple.

We know that God will heal our land if His people humble themselves, seek his face and turn from their wicked ways (2nd Chronicles 7:14).

In the time of Asa, the nation assembled in the capital, offered sacrifices, covenanted to seek and follow God and worshipped joyfully, with the result that God gave them rest on every side (2nd Chronicles 15:8-15). In the days of Jehoshaphat, they gathered, fasted, prayed, the prophetic word came, they fell down and worshipped, stood up and praised the Lord, so that they saw victory in battle and rest on all sides (2nd Chronicles 20:1-19).

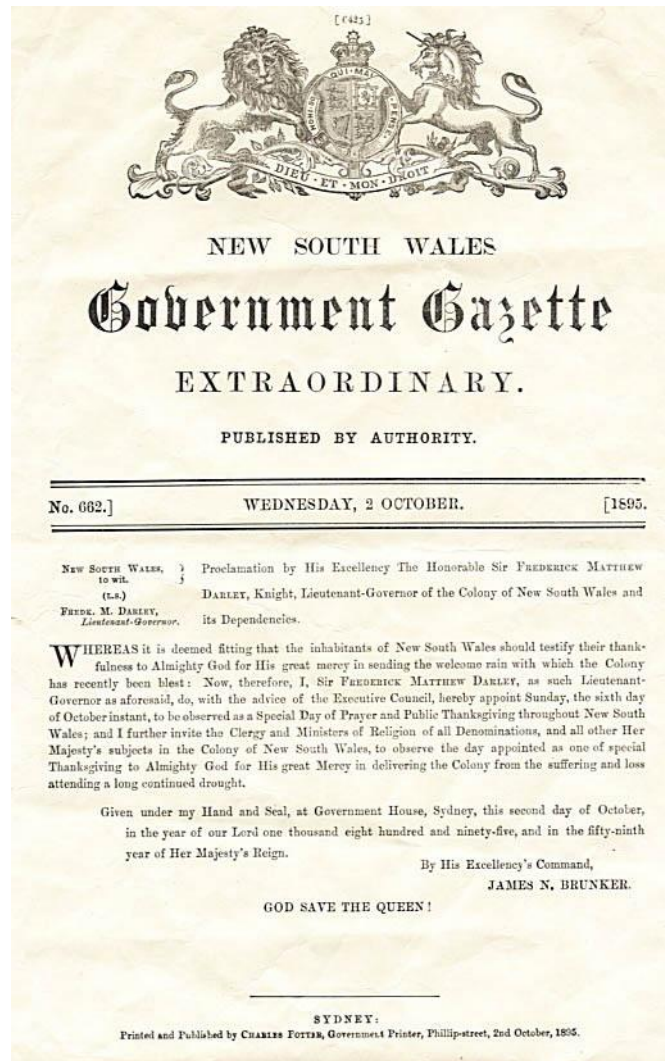
When Hezekiah was king, he called the people to the capital, though some of them mocked, some came. They prayed, offered sacrifices, rejoiced and worshipped to see God answer their prayer and national reforms followed (2nd Chronicles 30:1-27).

During the reign of Josiah, the nation gathered and God's word was read out and the people covenanted to follow God so that the nation followed God for a generation (1st Chronicles 34).

In the book of Ezra we read (Ezra 10:1-17) that the nation gathered in the rain and the leaders prayed and wept and prostrated themselves before God due to the nation's unfaithfulness with the result that behaviour changed throughout the land.

Again, in the days of Nehemiah, the nation gathered in the capital and fasted in sackcloth and ashes, confessed their sins and their fathers' sins and had God's word read aloud for three hours, then confessed and worshipped God for three hours. The result was that the nation covenanted to follow the Lord.

But this national humbling followed by the great blessing of God was not confined to just ancient Israel and Judah! We know from the book of Jonah that the gentile city of Nineveh was saved from the severity of national judgement when the Ninevites responded to Jonah's call, fasting in sackcloth and ashes, believing in the true God and calling earnestly on him and turning from their old ways.



Journey to the National Gathering

In 1986 the National Alliance for Christian Leadership was established, comprising a diverse range of theological persuasions. At one point during its first assembly, delegates broke into small groups for intercession. The Lord soon made clear that a large national Christian witness was to take place in 1988. At the conclusion of the assembly, a prayer chain was established by Youth With A Mission, Intercessors for Australia and others to pray continually until the end of the bi-centenary year.

Shortly afterwards Des Higgs, from the Ministry of 10,000 Men, took up the challenge to gather people from across the nation and to join with Fusion. The Fusion group had prayed around Parliament previously and had determined that May 7 and 8, immediately prior to the opening of the New Parliament House, was the most appropriate time to stage a huge Christian witness, to proclaim Christ in the capital and to pray for our government and nation.

The evening before the "Big Day", we gathered to share and exchange final instructions. It was pouring buckets of rain, but none of us on the Executive ever doubted that we were to have pleasant weather. We remained confident in God, whatever the outcome. At the same time, we were well aware that we needed to raise \$45,000 next day to meet our financial commitments and knew that the offering would be a disaster if there was consistent rain.

That night we listened to many of the workers sharing about God's provision regarding items required for the event, and all felt a little humbled as a result. Rain was still pouring down as we

closed the meeting and prepared for our last sleep for some considerable time. We woke next morning to a gloriously sunny autumn day, with not a cloud in the sky!

After the March round the New Parliament House, people assembled on the "Federal Mall", as it had just been named. It was intensely moving to view the 35 to 40,000 people from our "Treasury Office" - the O'Connor Uniting Church double-decker bus!

The Lord had been bringing the verse - "He will abundantly provide above what you are able to ask or think" - to my mind a number of times, even from the very outset of the Executive meetings. God's people were very generous over the week-end. Over \$30,000 was in the offering on the Saturday afternoon, \$18,000 in the evening and \$5,300 during the Sunday morning sunrise service, apart from \$12,000 profit from the sale of badges entitled "We Opened New Parliament House with Prayer". This meant that we could go ahead with plans for a video and a paperback to record the event!

Toilet facilities had to be provided for the expected crowds at the Opening on Monday, May 10th. By the Grace of God, the authorities decided to have them functioning two days earlier, a huge saving for us.

Over \$80,000 was donated in free printing, stickers, letterheads, ribbons and so on, and 32,000 apples (from Orange!) were provided at less than 3 cents each.

Canberra Christians opened their homes, acting as hosts to thousands of interstate people. Y.W.A.M. and Fusion personnel provided thousands of voluntary man-hours in labour. Groups such as Calvary Chapel, Christian Community School, Kings Kids, the International Institute of Creative Ministries, put many hours into rehearsals.

It was interesting to see how the theme changed throughout the week-end: starting with the March upon Parliament House - to prayer, reconciliation, celebration and worship - as the evening prayer vigils of concern for the nation - to intercessory prayer leading to repentance - and finally, at the NACL Assembly on the Monday, to humility, "If My people who are called by Name will humble themselves..."

A little weary and dishevelled, I stood on the platform at dawn on Sunday, watching the sun rise in the North-East, aware that, in a very real sense, God was birthing a New Day in this nation of Australia.

Double the number attended the National Gathering as attended the official opening of New Parliament House. A service for employees working on the building was conducted by a chaplain later in the week and a Christian service of Parliament in the Great Hall to mark the beginning of the first session of Parliament in the New Parliament House was attended by over 2,000 people.

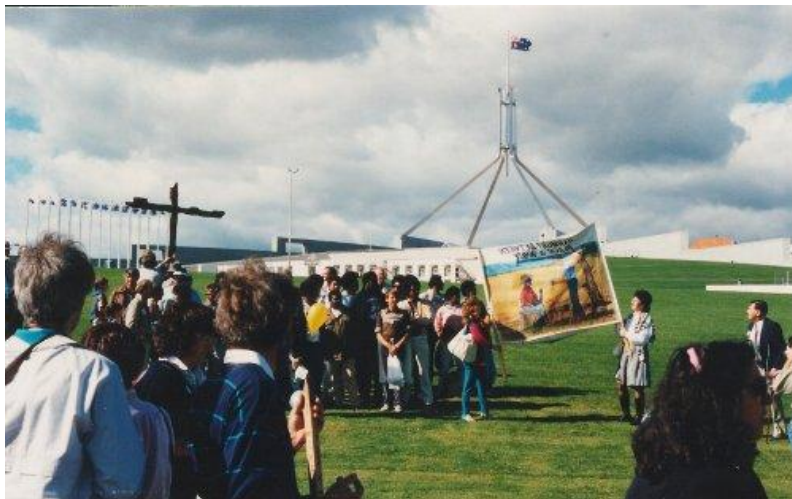


Top of a double decker bus counting the donations which covered the cost of the event. Very relieved as the Treasurer!



Looking toward New Parliament House from the National Gathering Stage.

In worship, praise and thanksgiving to God for all His benefits toward us, taking seriously the question raised in the first Christian sermon ever preached on Australian shores from Psalm 116 "What shall we render to the Lord for all His benefits toward us?"



Reconciliation celebrated with the Aboriginal Christian community. The cross made from the sliprails of Myall Creek stands above the crowd at the National Gathering in 1988.



The National Gathering, Credit: Worldwide Photos



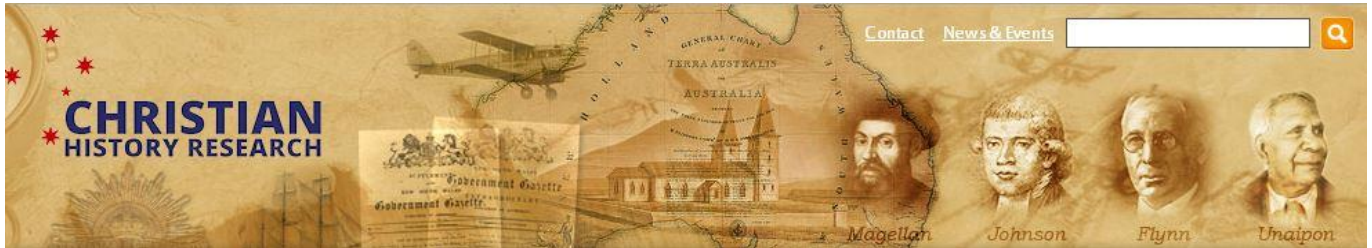
A New Day Dawns. Looking towards Old Parliament House from the Western Prayer Podium, at the conclusion of ten hours of continual prayer through the night for the Nation.



New Parliament House finally opened with prayer. "Jesus is the Light of the world", declares Rt. Rev. Owen Darling, Bishop of Canberra-Goulburn.

At the base of the flag support, second from right, is the highest room in the building, set aside for prayer, known as the "upper room".

Chapter 12. Commence Christian History Institute, Publish Southland of the Holy Spirit for the Bicentenary of Christian Schooling in 1993



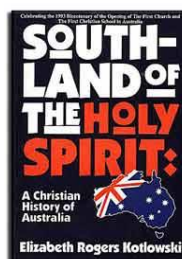
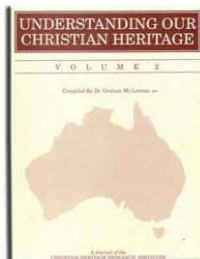
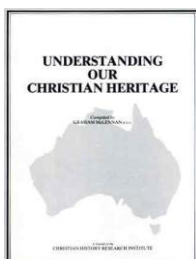
CHR books then website.

Our journey began with a five month trip to the US in 1980 when we learnt about America's Christian heritage. When asked about our national heroes we replied, "Ned Kelly", which showed our total ignorance of our Australian Christian history! On our return Pam lost three pregnancies at six months each in between 1981 and 1984, during which she was hospitalised and commenced reading Manning Clark's early volumes of "A History of Australia". We then realised that many of our foundations and early pioneers were Christian though Clark's theme was to create a battle between the Enlightenment, Catholicism and the Protestants! So we began looking at many original sources, discovering that the secularisation process had virtually eliminated all evidence of our Christian heritage.

Beginning with overheads in the 1980's, moved to a power point presentations, then with the beginning of the internet's World Wide Web commenced our CHR website. Our books, articles, video clips, audios, interactives were then on the net as we regarded the WWW a great blessing to reach people nationally and internationally (now comprising over 20% of opens) and overcoming the increasing limited demand in books. The initial books on Understanding Our Christian Heritage were mainly typed by our former neighbours, twins (now Drs) Sarah and Emily Lynar, and their dad Anton graciously commenced scanning books for the website.

During one month, January 2012 the website received 90,000 hits as the site was promoted by UCB on their Vision radio network with 500+ stations and in their daily devotional "The Word For Today". The CHR website receives well over 750,000 requests a year, many from schools, even a university!

Just to repeat the Christian History Research Website <https://www.chr.org.au/> has many online books on our Christian history in Australia and the South Pacific, as well as articles/videos on Law, Government, Revivals, Indigenous, Individuals, Events, Institutions and Documents such as [Our Australian Christian Heritage 97 Slide Presentation](#) - detailing individuals, institutions, documents and events.

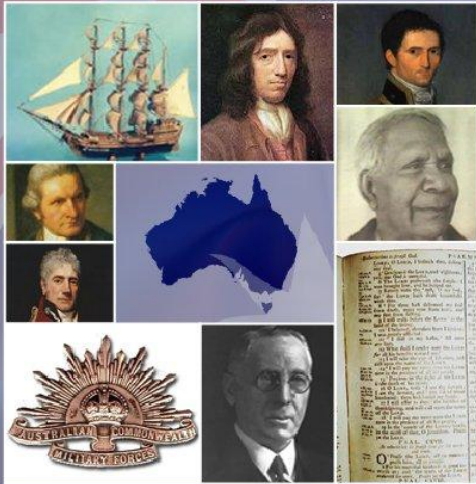


First published "Understanding Our Christian Heritage Volumes I & II" in 1986/89 after returning from studying US Christian history in 1980 and Pam reading Manning Clark's first volumes of A History of Australia.

Sold three thousand copies commencing renewed interest in our Australian Christian heritage
[Australian and South Pacific history book collection \(chr.org.au\)](http://chr.org.au)

The Hand of God

in the
 Discovery and Foundation
 of Australia



Through this site you will be able to explore the lives of many people from Australia's history. You will also explore some of the key events that have shaped this nation. Emerging from the many sections of this site is a picture of the very clear influence of God in the discovery and foundation of Australia.

[Start](#)

(c) Copyright 2012 Graham & Pam McLennan, Christian History Research

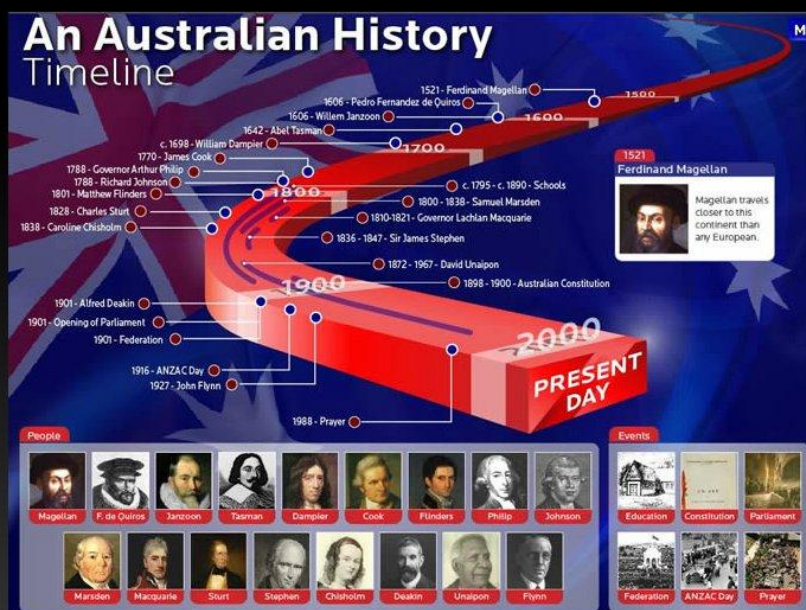
produced by Interactive History, www.interactivehistory.com.au

Using the timeline The Hand of God

Explore the timeline like this;

1. Roll your mouse over the images at the bottom.
2. Roll your mouse over the red dots beside the timeline.
3. The blue lines on the timeline show spans of time.
4. To return to the main menu click the "M" in the top right corner.
5. Click the "TIMELINE" button to begin exploring.

[TIMELINE](#)

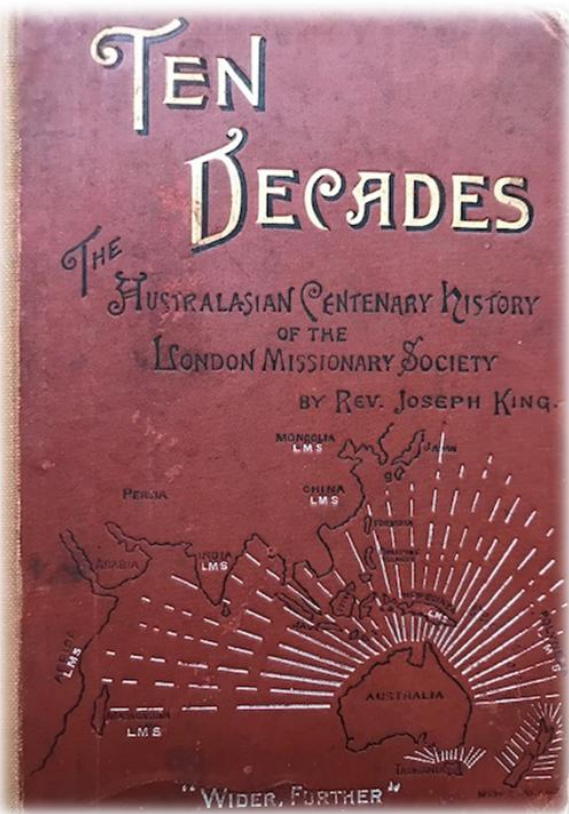
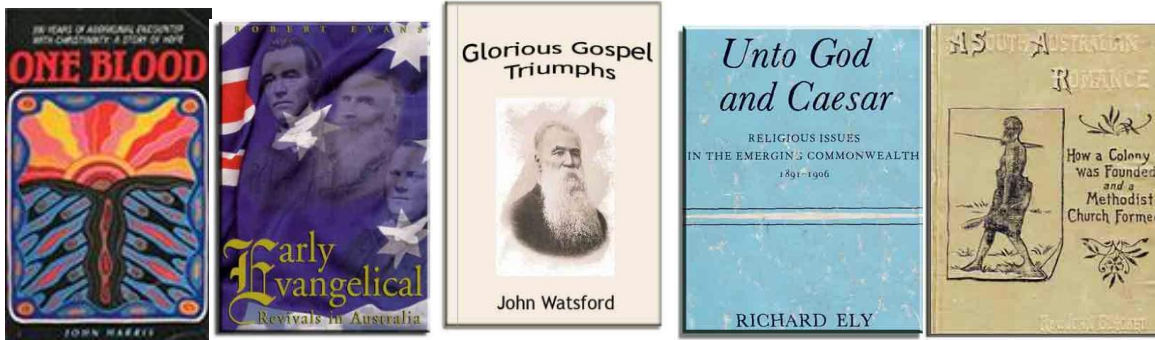


(c) Copyright 2012 Graham & Pam McLennan, Christian History Research

produced by Interactive History, www.interactivehistory.com.au

[The Anzacs and Israel - a common destiny by Kelvin Crombie \(HTML\)](#)

[DOWNLOAD: One Blood: 200 years of Aboriginal encounter with Christianity: a story of hope by John Harris, Albatross Books, 1990](#)



Left: Notice the rays reaching out from Australia and New Zealand in this London Missionary Society dating back to 1795. You can read it amongst other books [here](#)



Our CHR Library 2021



Executive Committee member of the Bicentenary Celebrations of Christian Schools 1993 on steps of the Opera House.

Below. With Dr Paul Roe, Dickson Library supervisor and A/Prof Stuart Piggin at the entrance to the NSW State Library. Olive Tree Travel March 2021



Commencing in 2021 several Christian tours have been arranged through [Olive Tree Travel](#) and [Christian Fellowship Tours](#)

Chapter 13. The Canberra Declaration



Website: <https://canberradeclaration.org.au/>

Please see Q&A [here](#) to understand more including the following question two: *How did the Canberra Declaration Come About*

In February 2010, Dr. Graham McLennan, founder of the National Alliance of Christian Leaders, raised the idea of having a Canberra Declaration with several Christian leaders and then later through his national email network, www.nacl.org.au. Amongst others, Bill Muehlenberg from CultureWatch, www.culturewatch.org, and Warwick Marsh from the Australian Christian Values Institute, www.christianvalues.org.au, responded positively. In consultation with several Community and Christian leaders, Bill crafted the first draft and Warwick used Institute resources to host the initiative and convene the consultative process. In the early stages of the drafting process, the Westminster Declaration was released in the UK; it was a source of great encouragement. Graham also met with leaders in the Australian family movement in May 2010 and received an enthusiastic response. After the first draft was compiled, the consultative process was put into play with input being sought from more than 20 different leaders. These leaders were from Evangelical, Catholic and Anglican backgrounds to ensure the finished document would receive wide support in the broader Christian community. The Canberra Declaration was released at Parliament House in Canberra, with support from Indigenous Christian elders, on Friday 23 July 2010.

Canberra Declaration Launch

The Canberra Declaration was launched in the Commonwealth Parliament on Friday the 23rd of July 2010 at a God and Government Conference where the conference members, from all over Australia and some from overseas, stood and read aloud together on the basis of Psalm 133 and Habakkuk 2:2, the entire Canberra Declaration, declaring it into Parliament House and into the spiritual realm over Australia.

Shortly afterwards, it was read again outside on the lawns of Parliament House, to the gathered media.



Dr Graham McLennan reading the Declaration outside Parliament House, Canberra supported by Aboriginal Pastor Norm Miller.

It is the work of many individual Christians, clergy and Christian ministries, representing a wide variety of denominations. Over 20 Christian leaders and clergy were involved in the drafting process.

We felt many Australians wouldn't read it, if it was the length of the 4,000 word Manhattan Declaration, hence the desire to "write the declaration and make it plain" to 850 words.

[The Canberra Declaration](#)

The Preamble to the Australian Constitution contains the words, "Humbly relying on the blessing of Almighty God". As Australian citizens we continue to declare that we too put our trust in Almighty God.

For centuries, to speak of Western civilisation was to speak of Christian civilisation. The two were in many ways synonymous. The values that we have cherished and sought to strengthen are in large

measure founded on the Judeo-Christian belief system. The many freedoms, advantages, opportunities, values and liberties which characterise the West owe much to the growth of Christianity with its inherent belief in the dignity of the human person as created in the image of God and the code of behaviour that flows from this belief.

The Canberra Declaration follows on from the [2009 Manhattan Declaration](#) and the [2010 Westminster Declaration](#). It declares that when Christian values are respected and allowed freedom of expression, not just confined to so-called sacred spaces but in the public arena as well, society is richer and healthier.

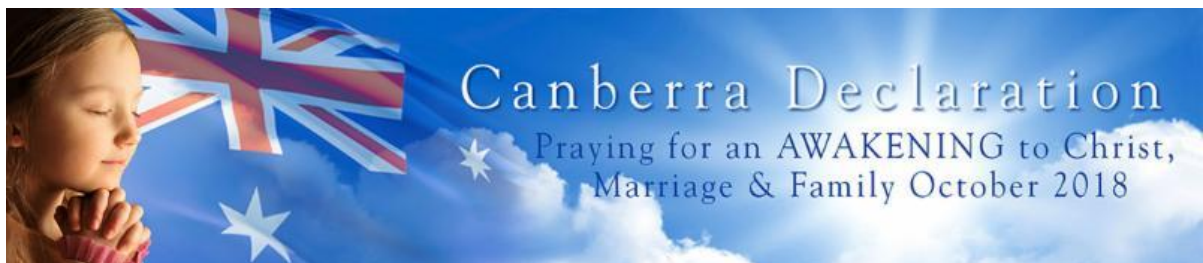
We wish to emphasise three areas that demand particular attention in our contemporary Australian society, namely religious freedom, marriage and the family, and the sanctity of human life. Were we to undermine any one of these values, the social fabric of our nation would be seriously weakened, to our personal and collective detriment...

The faith which is at the heart of many of the values and strengths underpinning the Australian nation now compels us to speak up in their defence. For the future of this nation, and for our children's future, we call upon all like-minded citizens to support and sign this declaration.

The Canberra Declaration is organised mainly by Warwick & Alison Marsh with initially others such as David & Marilyn Rowsome and more recently Kurt Mahlburg.

One of the Canberra Declaration Reflections on Prayer and Revival:

TODAY'S PRAYER DEVOTION, 22 OCTOBER 2018



Day 22: Is God Preparing this Land for Revival?

Contribution by Dr Graham McLennan, Co-Founder, Christian History Research

Intention:

God, in his sovereignty and eternal plans and purposes, has blessed Australia with a rich Christian heritage.

Scripture:

"We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done. ... Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands" ([Psalm 78:4.7](#))

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" ([Philippians 2:10-11](#)).

"What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?" ([Psalm 116:12](#)).

Reflection:

Robert Evans, Australia's foremost expert on Prayer and Revival, has written an extensive range of books documenting revival which can be downloaded here including these two books:

1. **'Early Evangelical Revivals in Australia'** by Robert Evans (2000,2007)

This book tells the story of movements of the Holy Spirit in this southern land up to 1880. The various denominations grew as a result of immigration from the British Isles. Most of the Protestant



churches were boosted because of revivals which had occurred in the "Home Lands". Varying Church growth also flowed from the revivals in Australia.

In this book, these revivals are described, and other observations are included at the end. It is the author's hope that the account of these revivals will not only illuminate Australia's own history, but also, stir Australians to pray for greater movements of the Holy Spirit today, and in the future.

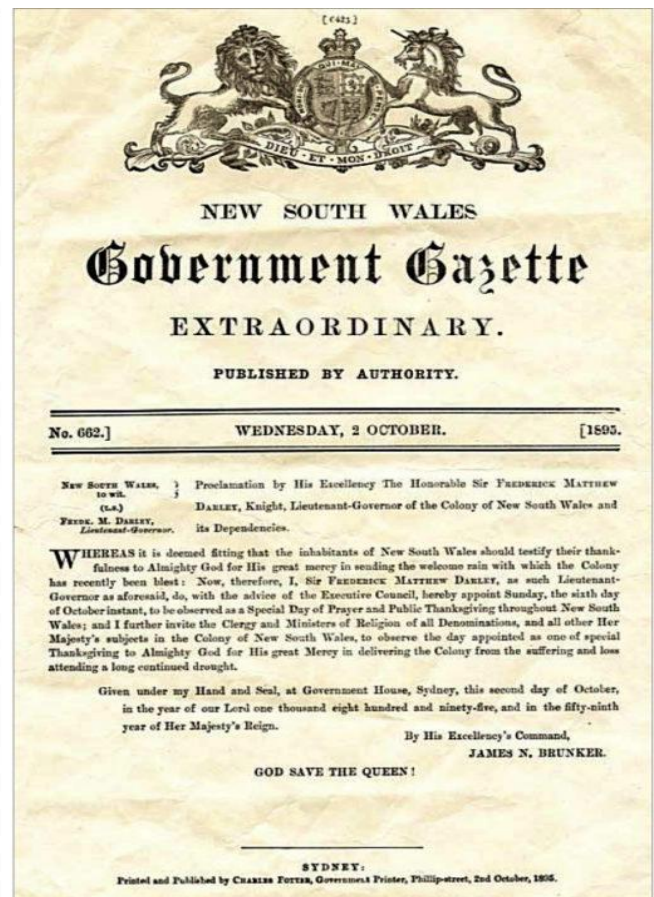
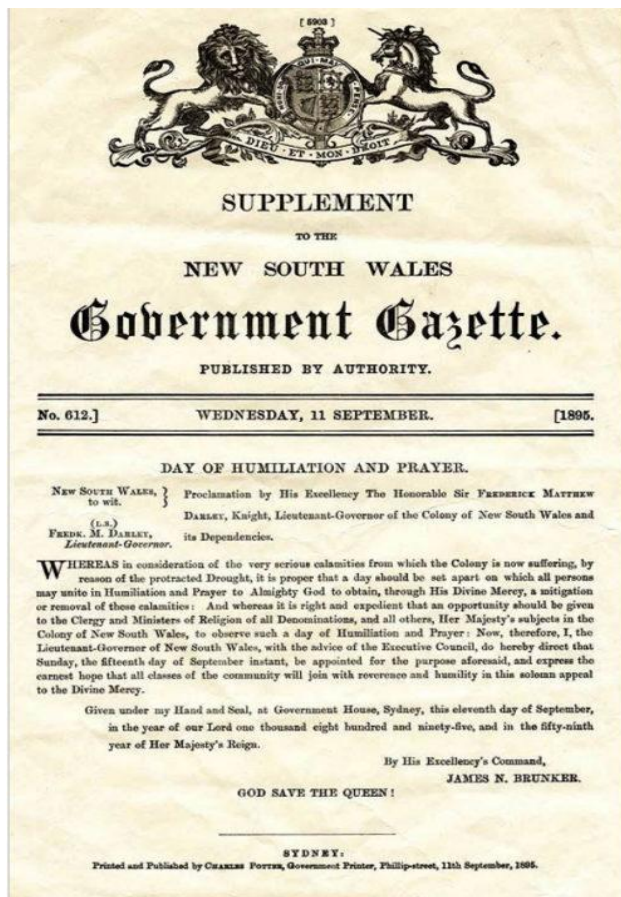
Download [Early Evangelical Revivals in Australia](#)

2. 'Evangelism and Revivals in Australia 1880 to 1914' by Robert Evans (2005)

This book seeks to outline the main features of evangelism and revivals in Australia in this period before the First World War. It was the hey-day of evangelicalism in Australia thus far. Hopefully other more detailed studies will be presented later into other aspects of this subject.

Download [Evangelism and Revivals in Australia, 1880 to 1914](#)

The examples of the NSW Government calling for a Day of Humiliation and Prayer after prolonged drought and of Thanksgiving in 1895 when rains fell, are documented [here](#).



It is not surprising that our Christian [heritage of freedom](#) extends back to over a thousand years, to God's [sovereignty over our nation](#) which is also seen in this 97 [PowerPoint presentation](#).

Even our first Commonwealth Parliament was a [Christian Service](#).

Further resources on Our Christian Heritage can be viewed [here](#) and at the [CHR Revivals](#) webpage. It is not surprising then that Scot Morrison when he was Treasurer prayed for rain at the Australian National Prayer Breakfast on 29 May 2018. Since he became Prime Minister and called for prayer again, our city has received well over 150mms of rain!

Recently each Member and Senator received a specially bound Bible. None were rejected!

Is God preparing this land for revival? Even as convicts were coming to this nation, revival broke out on two convict ships, the Earl Grey and Theresa. Please read this [book](#). If God can save a shipload of convicts, surely, he can save our nation. Though it has to have the right leadership! Look at former atheist [GG Bill Hayden](#) who has recently become a Christian.

Next year we celebrate [National Christian Heritage Sunday](#) on 3 February. It will be the 231st anniversary of the first known Christian service held on Australian soil, which was conducted by the Reverend Richard Johnson on the 3 February 1788.

Remember, it was Karl Marx who believed that a people who don't know their history can easily be persuaded!

Prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, Australia has been richly blessed by your goodness and mercy. There is so much as a nation for which we need to give thanks to you. We reflect on our parliamentary democracy, freedom of speech, freedom of religion and worship, our legal system and the independence of our courts of law. Today may we pause and recognise the Lord's benefits to this nation and give you thanks for our Christian heritage that has made Australia the great nation it is today. As we look to the future may we seek together to preserve our Christian heritage. May we continue to love and serve you for the good of all and the honour of your name.



Our loving Heavenly Father we come before you individually and as a nation to thank you for your goodness to us, as we continue to proclaim your loving and merciful message of salvation, brought to this country by your servant the Reverend Richard Johnson and for the Christian faith that was established throughout this land by our pioneers. Revive us O Lord! Amen.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEyKOBmZ4Yc>



Devotions are brought to you by the [Canberra Declaration](#).

And another [interview of fifty minutes on Revival](#) in July 2022 when I had a BIG dose of the Flu. Thankfully the coughing fit was edited out!

Chapter 15. Dental Practice

Dentistry Orange Practice

So after two years in Army National Service (1969/70), forty six years 1971 to 2017 in Orange with the Blayney practice for a short time 1972/73, I finally retired.

First to use Nitrous Oxide 1976 in Central West NSW and entered the Anson Street Practice as an associate in 1976 at 188 Anson Street with Alec Dalziel and Peter Gaha

In 1977 commenced a two year part time Orthodontic course at Sydney Dental Hospital flying down fortnightly and was Secretary for the MSW State Dental Convention here in Orange, 1979.

Dental Practice Changes - 4 associates, then 2 in 1989, then finally solo, 1993 and move from 188 Anson Street to unit 11, 256 Anson Street August 2000

No more Amalgams from 1998!



Pam and I being presented with a gift as the Secretary for the NSW State Dental Convention 1979 in Orange at the final dinner.

Two staff Pictures:

Leanne Herbert and husband, Michael Joshua & Pam. Rita Helen Jonathan & Kristy Gardiner. Helen's husband Gwyn. Helen was my secretary/receptionist for nearly thirty years!



Imogen, Rachel, Helen & Gwyn, Pam and Stephanie Charry.

Some of my DA's went on to become dentists, physio such as Rachel second from left and Karen Charles a doctor in the army in RAAF supervising medical supplies for air lifts etc . And most of the DA's became mothers!



Michael in the chair with Grace assisting with Stephanie Charry (in picture above as a DA), now a hygienist and Emily Nadwei now a registered dentist.



Steph and Imogen and helping out at the National Field Days with CSU dental students Oct 2015

Vanuatu Dental Outreaches



Mota Lava Banks [Torres](#) with Dresser Zebulon and wife Leannie2005



Only vehicle on Mota Lava island with one litre of fuel left. And another “Chief of Mota Lava” 2005

Below: our friend Dresser Zebulon given a medical care manual



Loy Island Torres Main Highway and bridge

Below: Our sleeping quarters



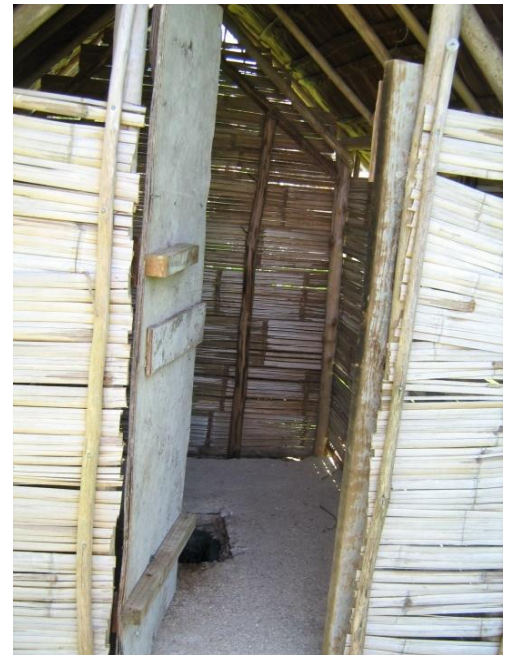
Paying departure tax on the beach with his armed guards! Notice the knives! Above: Our Porters



Main Highway Loh Island Torres



Only Medical Clinic supplies on the Island!

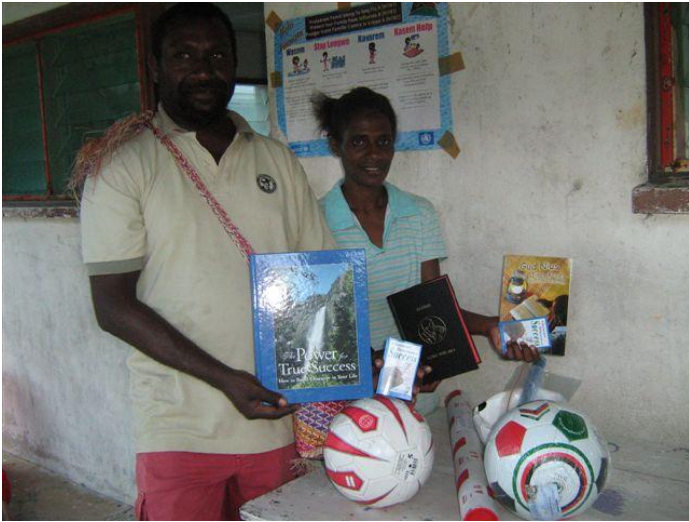


Our "modern" drop toilet



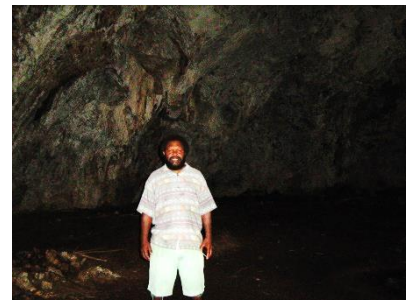
Torres Group of Islands the most northerly of Vanuatu Islands.

Why are they looking back? Well the outboard engine was just repaired this morning and if it breaks down again the boat will drift for thousands of kms! Their only hope has just passed them!



School Principal given soccer balls and character development materials as well as Bislama Gospel of John and full Bible.

Top right: Kids playing with the new soccer ball one of the few on the island.



Shelter from the cyclones for the whole community. Entrance to the cave with Dresser Zebulon inside



Pastor receives his first Bible in Bislama. Loh Island, Torres



Looking toward Port Patteson Vanua Lava Island, Banks Group and some of the dental supplies including syringes, forceps and local anaesthetic given to Zebulan on our Loh Island trip.



Presenting the "Howard" Cup to Soccer winners. Mota Lava 2005.

Some thought I was John Howard!



Looking back to Mota Lava. Note the clear water!



Above: Arriving at airstrip through several kms of tropical jungle on foot after arriving by open medical boat with last fuel on the Island.

Healthcare Christian Fellowship Medical Camps in Vanuatu

[HCF medical camps Tongoa](#), (2008), Hogg Harbour, Espiritu Santo Sanma Province(2009) pictured below, Norsup, Malakula (2010),and East Ambae (2011), Lenakel, Tanna Island (2012), Sola Banks Group (2013), Epi Island (2014).



Chief on Tongoa Island has a tooth extracted.

Below: Tabitha Pandey one of my DA's with Sarah and Toumulu and the latest dental chair hauled out of the sea!



Left: Chicken clean-up crew after breakfast on Tongoa Island 2008. They also laid their eggs on the beds in the health centre maternity ward!

Bottom left: Toumulu giving tooth brush instruction. Right: Alice my first patient on Tongoa Island had a tooth extraction then became my assistant holding the light and acted as interpreter as well as definitely reassuring subsequent patients.





Hogg Harbour dental team with Dr Sherri George ENT Physician. Top right. Bislama Bibles arrive. Speaking is Dr Chelliah with Sherri's husband A/Prof Sean George whose heart stopped for 85 minutes and who lived to tell about it after 13 electric shocks failed. Sherri's prayers along with many others were answered!

A summary of the 2014 HCF trip:

The Annual Healthcare Christian Fellowship camp to Vanuatu was to Epi Island with a population of 5,600. On the last day the RN's triaged 560, that's one tenth of the island. Eight doctors and various specialist nurses treated many complaints. Most patients were given an understanding of the gospel with a substantial number wanting to have a more meaningful faith in Christ.

Among some of the highlights was a mute man who began to speak. His first words were "Jesus loves me." Both a man and a woman with hard large tumours commenced disappearing after prayer.

2000 Bislama New Testaments were given to those who came forward as well as those who were counselled. Please pray for Paul and John from the Bible Society of Vanuatu as they distribute 2000 Bibles in the Bislama language throughout the Island. With the Chief's help a whole village in Lamou Bay committed their lives to Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

The members of our dental team consisted of four Australian dentists, two Ni-Van dentists and a dental therapist from Port Vila hospital as well as two dental health educators from the Presbyterian dental and eye clinic in Port Vila. We extracted about 420 teeth on 263 patients. For the first time we used a [mobile dental unit](#) which was shown to second year dentistry students at CSU prior to our departure. We carried out 60 restorations as well as some ultra-sonic scaling and cleaning & handed out over 700 toothbrushes with toothpaste.

We had five dentists in the clinic, others visiting villages and several primary schools as well as the local Epi High school where we examined about 260 pupils. Most were boarding students coming from other isolated regions including outer islands many of whom accepted a discipleship/devotional book "GROW" published by Scripture Union. It was delightful sitting under the palm trees with the sea breeze during lunch time listening to the singing of Christian songs from the dining room. About 85 percent of these students had excellent teeth! Why - very little sugar!

We worked well as a team and God was good to us providing a fully operational dental chair the day before we arrived, off a vacationing yacht from New Zealand!

Beginning in Prayer Epi Island 2014. Dr on right in blue shirt died and came back to life after 85 minutes. Please read his story [here](https://seangeorge.com.au/) (<https://seangeorge.com.au/>)



Below: Hogg Harbour Champagne Beach Espiritu Santo.



Above Right: Waiting for dental treatment Hogg Harbour along with the mandatory dogs!



Above Left: A good headrest. No broken necks when extracting upper teeth! Here there was no electricity. Sterilisation done on gas burner with boiling water.

Right: Only chair in the village. It belonged to the Chief. Lower teeth extracted with patient lying on planks!



Toothbrushes and toothpaste care of Colgate

Our annual trip to Vanuatu with [Healthcare Christian Fellowship](#) took place in June 2012 to the [Island of Tanna](#) with its [active Volcano Mt Yasur](#).

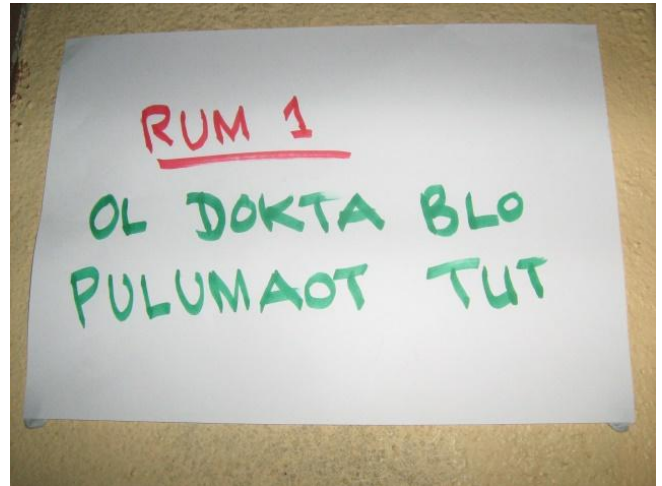
We treated 2,000 patients at Lenakel hospital, counselling over 1750 with [Steps to Peace with God](#) with a significant response, 469 making first time decisions and 188 rededications.

The Gospel of John published in Bislama by our son Michael McLennan, was also distributed.

Both acute and chronic diseases were treated by the eleven doctors including an ophthalmologist, gynaecologist, cardiologist and an exhausted Victorian physiotherapist!

Eleven [Global Recordings Network MP3 players](#) were distributed in local Tanna [languages](#) with [flipcharts](#) telling the Gospel along with many bible stories.

One of those receiving an MP3 player, Isaac Won was recently converted from the [John Frum cult](#) that his grandfather founded seventy years ago. He acted as a counsellor.



Our dental team treated nearly 350 patients and extracted 456 teeth, thirty deep scales, and about fifty therapeutic restorations. In Australian terms this is worth over \$90,000!

We did make an HCF Vanuatu record one day by extracting 171 teeth in the one day! Oral hygiene instruction was given to each patient by Jenny a Ni van dentist, over 800 toothbrushes distributed with the children receiving stickers of encouragement. For the first time we didn't have to rely on cold sterilisation and boiling to sterilise instruments as Wes (pictured above) from WA managed to bring along a working autoclave which we greatly appreciated.



A woman from North Tanna, Sheila (pictured above) who founded a Christian school - the first one was burnt down and the principal threatened with death, was given an MP3 player and treated with a composite bridge to replace a lost anterior tooth. She departed with a great smile! We gave another MP3 player to Joe the man threatened with death - he went to South Tanna and commenced a Christian School there! The Southern Tanna people have just had their first bibles printed in their own language. It took an American couple 9.5 years to do it, finishing their project a fortnight ago. Twenty four Moody Bible Institute linguistic students were present at the launch.

Following is part of a press release from the Director General of Health of the Republic of Vanuatu:

"The first Medical Team that visited and ministered to the people could be dated back to the early Christian Missionaries who landed on our shores more than a hundred years ago. Some of the current public health facilities in operation throughout Vanuatu today were established by these early missionaries. The missionaries back then did not come to just share the gospel of Jesus Christ, but also they were carpenters, auto mechanics, teachers and healthcare professionals like doctors or nurses.

The Ministry of Health saw the need to support and introduce the HCF in Vanuatu as an initiative to provide holistic healing in the Healthcare Field. The Motto of Vanuatu says "Long God Yumi Stanap" and also our preamble says that our country is established on our "traditional Melanesian Values, Faith in God and Christian Principles..."



Some of the counsellors and hospital staff at the closing ceremony.



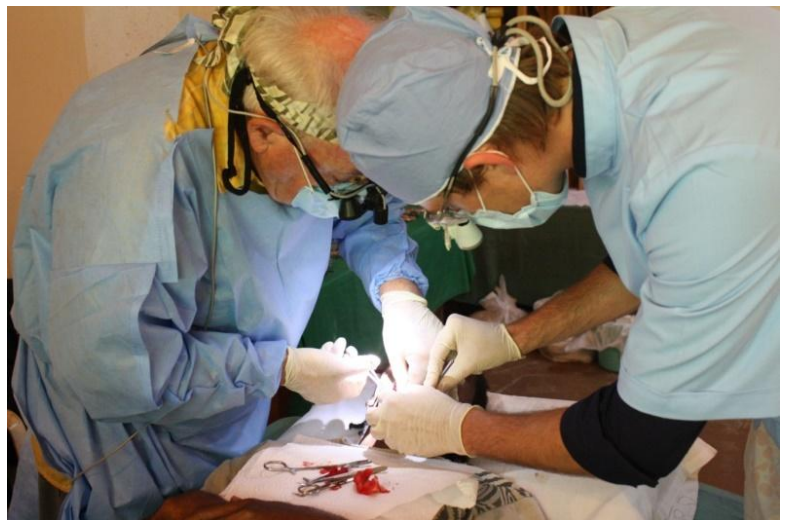
The Tanna HCF team June 2012

Chapter 15. CSU Dental School and Cambodian Outreaches

[CSU Dental School](#) Campus Foundation Committee, Vice Chancellor's Advisory Committee

Tutor for a decade retiring in 2017, taking 4th year dental students to Cambodia

Sim Clinic second year students 2010



The patient walked for ten hours overnight with her three children then waited all day to come to the East Ambae hospital. We extracted 15 teeth with Pascal a Second Year Dentistry Student CSU. Two years later the Ambae Island was covered with volcanic ash from an erupting volcano. Most of the Island had to evacuate especially in the West. This island was made famous in James Michener's book "*South Pacific*" as Bali Hi.

Fourth year CSU dental students off to Cambodia 2015



Below left: Group photo and right Shamiso and Ben with developing posture problems



Above right: With Pastor Barnabas Mam who miraculously survived Pol Pot's Killing Fields and told in his book *"Church Behind the Wire"*. Had to knock back Shamiso's Zimbabwe wedding invite.

Letter of thanks from head of dental school:

Graham,

Thank you very much for these and the other movie/pictures and report of activities...

It looks as though everything went very well and once again thanks must go to you for your guardianship of our dental and OHT students. Your continued willingness to get involved in this program is very much appreciated and I am sure that the students benefit greatly from your wealth of professional and cultural experience.

Regards

David Wilson
Professor of Dentistry (Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology) School of Dentistry & Health Sciences Charles Sturt University Orange NSW 2800

Below: Shamiso, Barnabas Mam and Ben Khouray. Barnabas wrote a book *Church behind the Wire*, his story of enduring torture and miraculous provision in Pol Pot's killing fields.



Two page article in Orange City Life July 2019

OCLife STORIES FROM THE HEART OF ORANGE

Making a difference in the real world

BY DAVID DIXON

Most of us either know or have heard of someone who has packed a "bed of a lot" of adventure into their lifetime. This story is about one person, who with his wife, is just like that, but the adventure in this case is mostly built on serving others. We hope you enjoy David Dixon's story about an energetic Orange dentist who's done far more than most to help relieve people's suffering and at the same time, make our world a better place. We're sure you'll marvel at what he and his wife have done over the years, but more than that, we hope you're inspired to think about what you may be able to do to make the lives of others better.

Ever wanted to make a REAL difference to the world around you? No, not just the symbolism of putting a strip, pretty much signing an online petition, or buying a coke t-shirt, but saving lives in the poorest countries in the world?

Regal has been in the news for all the wrong reasons this climbing season with dozens of hikers perishing on Mt Everest, but retired Orange dentist and Christian missionary Graham McLennan is there now (June 2019) for all the right reasons.

Graham is currently in Kathmandu volunteering in the impoverished mountain nation at a clinic attached to a leper colony. The disease still carries huge negative stigma in many Third World countries.

He is also helping establish a Christian radio station in the elongated Hindu majority nation that straddles the Himalayas: the world's tallest mountain range between India and China.

Officially retired after many years of working and teaching in Orange NSW, this however, is not Graham's first time at the rodeo. In fact, he and his wife Pam have worked on numerous overseas projects starting with his marriage in Fiji just as he was about to commence training as a consultant with the Australian Army during the Vietnam War (which he has given much of his own blood, sweat and tears helping the world's poor; it was actually money that first drew Graham to dentistry).

"I grew up in the central west just out of Dubbo (NSW); that's why I went to Hutchison Agricultural High School, Glenfields. I was going to go on the farm," he said of the family's 3000-acre property at Fumungulla.

"But I saw all these rich dentists and I thought to myself, 'that's a better life'" Graham explained. But the call of love, the church, and the stark clouds of war swept him up unexpectedly when he was conscripted via the infamous lottery ball draft of draftees during the Vietnam conflict.

"I became a Christian at Sydney Uni in the mid-sixties. I was then conscripted and deferred until I graduated. I did officer training but, instead of being posted overseas, spent the rest of my time at University Army Base, near Liverpool.

"I got married to my wife Pam in Fiji. I was doing a Christian Outreach there, we were married by the Solicitor General in 1969 -- Pam and Graham have just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. I graduated, flew back, and had my 'honeymoon' with 400 babies at Pakupakupu Army training base in central Victoria.

Graham and Pam then settled down in Orange in 1971 running a thriving practice and raising a family but his ultimate interests brought another unexpected change with an opportunity to again serve with Christian communities overseas.

"My son Michael married a Malaysian girl, Rita, who helped organise the building of a catholic school in Vietnam. Michael is a teacher at the school, he's still there, been there 18 years" Graham said proudly.

With communication a major problem in the dispersed island chain that makes up Vanuatu, Graham was inspired to repeat his success as chairman of Remya Christian Radio in Orange and establish Christian Radio in Vanuatu.

Regularly returning to work with the local population and to oversee the hugely popular radio station Graham was tasked to discover on one of his trips to the isolated island of Most Lava in the Banksia group of islands that no paediatricians were available for any patients.

"They've got a man called 'the deacon' who looks after the sick; he has a pair of pliers and he was trying to pull teeth out with an anaesthetic; that was a shock," Graham said.

"We've been there more than 30 times, helping with dental work and introducing Christian radio. My son and daughter in law are still there; I've even got their grandkids, two boys and a girl."

With a plan for travel with a purpose, for three years Graham also escorted groups of trainee dentists from Charles Sturt University, Orange to Cambodia.

"One student took out 96 teeth in eight working days there. For the students it was a wonderful experience helping out, they loved it!"

Graham's latest tour involves working from the Lapeyrie Medical and Dental Hospital in Nepal. Leprosy is a chronic bacterial infection that eventually leads to loss of sensation in the hands and feet. Due to the disfigurement it eventually causes long term suffering. It is traditionally feared in many societies with sufferers banished to isolated "leper colonies".

"Even though there is now a cure for the disease, there is still a great stigma," Graham explained. "For instance, a woman with the infection was turned out from a Tibetan village (in China) and walked over the Himalayas to come to the hospital."

Graham will also again be helping with Radio Nepal's 'Message of Hope' program that is hugely popular with the local populace.

Witnessing first hand the long term devastation of the 2015 earthquake on the impoverished nation, he believes that dentists in Mt Everest -- over-achieving wealthy Westerners -- should be asked to provide more for the struggling people of the local Nepal. This increased giving figure, now set at about 50000 US per climber, could then be used to help rebuild the country.

"In a way this money is just insurance, because when the climbers get into trouble, as they often do, it's the local Nepalese who have to go out and rescue them," Graham explained.

Graham says that working in some of the poorest countries in the world can offer a perspective on our "good fortunate to live in Australia. People complain about their lives here, but they don't really know how happy they've got it" he concluded.

Want to help Pam and Graham's work? Here's how...

As well as their overseas work helping the world's poor, Pam and Graham McLennan also from the National Christian Heritage website at www.nch.org.au

The website provides resource materials for schools, churches, and other institutions on Australia's history from a Christian perspective.

If you'd like to help Graham and Pam's work in any way contact them at gmc@kennan@gmail.com

Graham in Cambodia with a team of Charles Sturt University dental students in 2016.

Graham in Cambodia with children at Sang Ring process near the Vietnamese border.

On the "highway" from the airport with dental work done on-site at Lot Island in the Banksia group of islands, Vanuatu, one of the 8000 islands.

Pam and Graham treating the Chief of Orange Island, Vanuatu.

Graham McLennan at Most Lava Island in 2012 presenting the Howard Cup to Soccer Football. Many locals intensely thought Graham was their Prince Maurice. John Howard

Maria Lene, Vanuatu in 2016 with Graham and Pam McLennan with two newborn babies nestled in their bosom. "Sineba" and "Pam".

An night session for those new Charles Sturt University dental students.

OCLife

8.11.19, 2019, 11

Fourth year CSU Student Akhil treating a school pupil in Cambodia being comforted by a friend. Akhil extracted 96 teeth in the eight working days. Great supervising the outreach for several years though humidity was high and hygienic conditions difficult.



Last working day with CSU dental student team May 2015 Cambodia
 Cambodia Dental Student Trip June/July 2015: Mina, Erin, Tessa, Glen (back) with Eric Georgina, Sam, Dr Graham McLennan (front) with Kimberley, Phil, Grace, Caitlin & Darren

Overall the students felt it was a very fulfilling time in their lives. Dentally they worked as a team extremely well. The Oral health students complemented the dental students and they sorted themselves into pairs which was very productive.

The students were highly motivated doing 679 extractions, 308 restorations & over 1000 fissure sealants. The first few days I was flat out, continually assisting students particularly with extractions. By the next week most had become proficient and it became more relaxing. Other than mix ups with treatment plans during the three minute exams(!) all went well. Because of continually abscessed teeth intra ligamentous injections were used and they became quite good at administering LA. They were instructed on placing pressure behind palatal injections before giving them, use of silver fluoride, prevention of needle stick injuries, use of luxators, elevators, suturing etc. Several had upset tummies but a Lomotil was enough to fix them.

I have a copy of the protocols set out by the One2One dental team under Dr Callum Durward which would be good to use prior to any further trips.

- The female students were much better at handling upset children than most of the males!
- One2One looked after us extremely well. Transport was good. Their staff looking after instruments sterilising, interpreting were good.
- The head of the dental One2One group Dr Callum Durward has commenced a new Cambodian dental school. Dr Prabhu Soorebettu will be supplying them with many of his books especially in oral medicine. Pictured on arrival...



We asked that a Cambodian accompany them in their outings which I think helped them immensely gaining friendships - the soccer match with them was a great outing. The soccer match at the slum village school also was a great event though most of the blokes suffered from dehydration in the extreme heat which was rectified by hydralyte.

Here are a couple of student thoughts on the trip: Kimberley Oral Health student Wagga:

To say this trip was amazing would be an understatement. Words cannot truly describe this unforgettable experience which has enriched my life and will forever be entrenched in me. From the moment I started this course I knew I had a passion for working with those less fortunate. I envisioned working in rural Australia. I never expected to be able to participate in such a worthy program and provide well-needed dental care to those less fortunate.

Arriving in Cambodia, I did not have any expectations. Having once been there before I knew the work would be challenging and the conditions unfavourable; however nothing could prepare us for what was installed. With a bench as a dental chair and a headlight for lighting we saw patients continuously for hours, swapping between ourselves once fatigued, to assist our partner. The weather was unforgiving, the drinking water was warm and the fans provided seemed to only rotate

the hot air around the room. These were the conditions of the makeshift clinic, and these were the conditions that made the experience what it was.

We learnt the language very quickly to enable effective communication between ourselves and the patients. Basic phrases/words such as; hello, how are you, my name is, thank-you, goodbye, open, close, pain, spit, good boy, good girl ensured we, as clinicians, could have some communication with our patient. Interpreters were on hand when required.

The most rewarding moment of this trip was seeing the smiling faces on all those who we treated. When we arrived in the morning we were greeted with smiles and waves. It was fulfilling to know we had arrived for a long day of work where we were providing preventative treatment to some patients and removing the source of pain from others who had suffered for weeks or even months.

This experience has planted the seed to want to go back and help those less fortunate. I honestly believe a few of us will get back there one day. There is a bond that has been created by this experience, which in time will allow for this to happen.

It's not until you have experienced the work and come home that you truly are aware of the difference you have made. It was a privilege to be able to work on the smiles of such a vulnerable community, one that is always smiling.

Caitlin 4th year Dental student Orange

The program was definitely one of the most rewarding experiences:

- in total we saw 557 patients and completed 1064 fissure seals, 679 extractions and 308 restorations
- It was great to have Dr McLennan as our supervisor on the trip, as he has such incredible knowledge and experience which he was always willing to share with us throughout the program
- The Cambodian dentists were extremely hospitable and became good friends throughout the duration of the program. It was great to learn from them during the dental program. They also helped us experience the culture by showing us around Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, taking us to visit Angkor Wat and their favourite dinner venues, etc. They were also lifesavers with the language barrier!
- We visited the Killing Fields which was quite emotional, especially since we had received a talk from one of the few survivors, Barnabas (a friend of Dr McLennan) and learnt about his personal experience
- The Cambodian people that we met associated with the program were so friendly and welcoming, and great to work with
- It was great to meet and connect with the CSU oral health students on the trip, who are not just future colleagues but now also great friends!!!
- It was tricky at times to communicate due to the language barrier, especially in the dental setting - we managed by learning key phrases we could say to the children (but of course also needed lots of help from the Cambodian's on the program with us!)
- The food was great to experience and very different from Australian food
- We visited Angkor Wat at sunrise which was simply breathtaking - definitely one of the most memorable moments of the trip!
- My highlight would be the kids. Majority of them had been in pain for months or years yet were still so happy, always smiling and seemed very thankful for us being there. They were incredibly brave and it's extremely rewarding to know that we have helped them in some way. The six 4th year dental students are all back at Uni this week, and missing being on the

trip so much! This is definitely not the first and last time I will volunteer my dental skills to those less fortunate

I look forward to being able to do it again!

Media Coverage.

Whilst in Cambodia we had five national networks cover our welcome to Svay Seing Province on the Vietnam border as we had a luncheon with a deputy Prime Minister (they have six!) and official welcome at the school in a poor area.

We had Media coverage locally the Central Western Daily before the trip. Please click [here](#).

Prime TV, & Life Photo News as well as invitations to speak at Rotary & Church groups.

CSU Media has a good video on their site [here](#).



Treating land mine victims



Above: Another group of dental students May 2017. Behind is the school in a remote province where we treated all the pupils.

Right: Presented with scarf by Deputy Prime Minister(several of them!) May 2016 Wearing a bandana. Some of the blokes perspired so much I had to continually wipe their faces!

Chapter 16. Further Journeys

1980 US Trip, About five months. YWAM Solvang California. Study American Christian Heritage San Francisco. Involved in organising the [Washington for Jesus Rally](#)

North Orange Rotary Club member during the 1980's resigned in 1992 due to time commitments.

Church: Lay preacher Five Ways Congregational Church then Wesley Church Anson Street - Elder and Secretary. Mt Hope elder and magement committee from 2019 taking occasional services.

Commenced the [Religious Freedom Institute](#). With Pedro Moreno from Rutherford Institute Virginia to meet Christian lawyers in Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney. The Rutherford Institute contract to begin it here was huge, controlling every imaginable scenario so we decided to form our own calling it the Religious Freedom Institute. John Heining and John Swan QC were of great help initially. RFI began 1991 closed about 2006 years though another lawyer Robert Balzola tried to resurrect it.

Jim Wallace from the Australian Christian Lobby became involved and was later instrumental in commencing the Human Rights Law Alliance.

We had some well attended Dinners though little support for pro bona work from lawyers especially Protestant ones!

It was difficult to run it as I wasn't a lawyer. We did save some from jail and deportation especially Muslims who had become Christians. Nowadays Christians are in the firing line even on trumped up charges. But we are paying the [price for negligence as Francis Schaeffer warned](#).

Canobolas Christian Men's Fellowship Committee. Closes 2020 after 27 years.

First [Aussie Easter](#). Executive member and Treasurer, 1990. Sydney

Foundation Director Australian Christian Coalition later named Australian Christian Lobby - In 2020 ACL had 175,000 subscribers doing a magnificent job with CEO's David Yates, Jim Wallace, Lyle Shelton and Martyn Iles.

Australian Christian Coalition



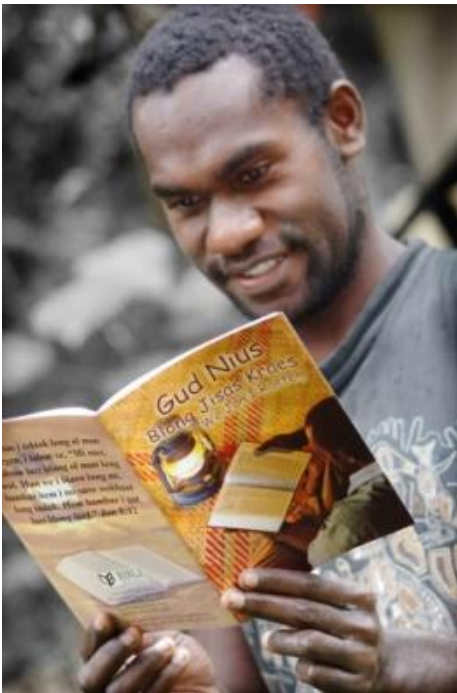
- President John Gagliardi
- Acting Chief Executive Officer John Miller
- Financial Director Robin Coulson
- National Board Members Mark Cooray, Robin Coulson,
Rev Dr Campbell Egan, John Gagliardi, Kay Gagliardi, Dr Graham McLennan, Brian Millis,
Warren Rout

Consultation on Discipleship Colorado Springs, Santa Barbara, Washington DC. Eastbourne England - visit Tess

Attended two [Presidential Prayer Breakfasts](#) with Mother Theresa, George Bush as speakers.

Organising committee Asian Pacific Consultation On Discipleship ([APCOD](#)) [Malaysia](#), [Sri Lanka](#) as the Australian Representative.

Below: Attended the [Constitutional Convention 1998](#) as [proxy for Alasdair Webster](#) after his election to it. Alasdair and I were on the CDP ticket. Whilst there chattered with Prof Geoffrey Blainey Australia's most prominent historian. He certainly agreed with Australia's Christian foundations as we shared about the literature I'd given him. He said he was a member of the Congregational Church, which Pam's family had belonged. Also attending was Neville Wran former premier of NSW who was a staunch republican. He was after statements by former GG Bill Hayden who was previously a republican and after being GG had changed his mind. Our office was next to the library. I had brought along the exact article but kept quiet about it!



Michael's project: Gospel of John in Bislama distributed in 2011
Aim - every household in Vanuatu 67,000 copies printed

Initiated the May 2006 De Quiros 400 year Celebrations at Big Bay Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu.





Vanuatu National Medal to go with Military & National Service Medals



Aussie bushman in the middle! International Conference on Evangelism November 1997.
Mar Del Plata Argentina

International Leaders for Discipleship ILD committee meeting in Colorado Springs, USA 1997.

Pictured second from right.

There are some very influential leaders here, including bank and oil company owners. Head of David Cook publishing who hosted the event, head of Regency College Canada and colleague of CS Lewis, head of Navigators...



Below. One of the Eastbourne England ILD Dinners



Above: Australian Prayer Network (APN) ANZAC Service at Lone Pine Gallipoli, Turkey after attending the Eastbourne ILD Conference. Visiting ANZAC Cove (right) then the Seven Churches of the Book of Revelation and Israel.



Ephesus Theatre Worship Celebration 1 Oct 1999 with South Korean Choir and Orchestra. Paul's letter to the Ephesians is remarkable, one of the verses is at the beginning of this book [Eph2:10](#)



With the Australian Prayer Network at the [Seventh Church in Revelations](#), Laodicea known for its indifference. Sadly it reminded me of the Church in Australia!

Below: Giving valedictory address at a Breakfast to honour John Anderson MP in Parliament House.
 Right: Presenting Deputy PM and leader of the National Party the Christian Values Award on his last day in Parliament before the November 2007 elections with John Comino and MC Warwick Marsh on right.



Visiting Houston Control Centre with Carol Vance friend of [Astronaut John Glenn](#). Carol headed up the Texas Prison System and established a Prison for those who had committed their lives to Christ which substantially reduced the recidivism rate after their release. We were in the Command Centre just before the space shuttle take off!



Christian Leaders praying with the Governor General at Yarralumla June 2005

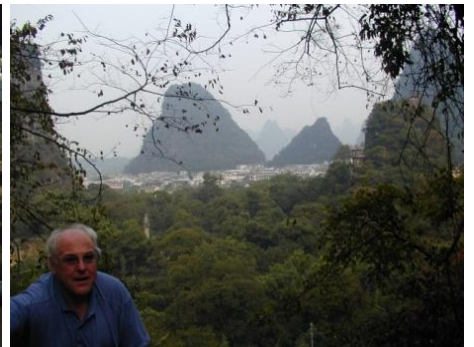


With the grandson of the last Dynasty Emperor of China in Parliament House Canberra



Speaking in NSW Parliament House at a Transforming Sydney Luncheon 2011

Our visit to China. Great Wall, Terracotta Warriors and along the Li River



Pam at Amity Foundation which prints several million Bibles and other literature each year

Launching of National Day of Thanksgiving Yarralumla Canberra with Ian Worby UCB CEO, Cardinal George Pell & Prof James Haire Australian Centre for Christianity & Culture in 2004 at Yarralumla, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery, residence. Ian Worby CEO UCB, Cardinal George Pell and Prof James Haire Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture where we hosted several NACL Dinners.



Central West Christian Health Fellowship (CWCHF) 2009-2017.

Central West Christian Health Fellowship with Dr Ros Bullock and Dr Geoff Chu

Below: Dr Ernest Crocker who pioneered ultrasound in Australia addressing CWCHF March 2012 with 54 in attendance



Director [Orange Aboriginal Medical Centre](#). 2010 to 2012 & Chair Clinical Advisory Committee. OAMS move into a three million dollar facility with dental surgeries.

CSU Dental School tutor. CSU Orange foundation & Vice Chancellor's advisory committee

Christian Values Institute Check Lists Committee member



Samson Javed with his wife in Pakistan presenting Rehmat with a gift from NACL. Rehmat had just been released from prison after 18 months on trumped up blasphemy charges. Christians are often imprisoned because of their faith on trumped up blasphemy charges 295(C). It is a method of confiscating property owned by Christians.

Pakistan has a population of 220 million people. 96% are Muslim.

Below are some Christian families whose husbands/fathers have also been jailed for this. NACL supported a Christmas Party.



During the 2020/22 Covid-19 Pandemic Christians would only be provided aid such as food packages if they converted to Islam!

Commence Christian Business Fellowship with Dinner Oct 2012

Below: Tony McLennan our first speaker from Business Alpha and the Bible League



Prime Minister John Howard addressing delegates with Warwick & Alison Marsh facilitating, Jack Sonneman, Indigenous leader Peter Walker, Babette Francis Endeavour Forum and Bill Muehlenberg from Culture Watch. This was one of the John Howard's last addresses as PM.



Signing letters to all MP's and Senators on behalf of the Australian Christian Values Institute



Chanthorn was at CSU studying for a Master's degree in sustainable primary industry and had sown over forty thousand seedlings back in Cambodia for fruit, timber and shade.



Chanthorn Sok with his wife and daughter Sometta asleep with Jenny my DA.

He placed remarks up on his FB page which displeased the Cambodian government. One of his relatives, a police official said if he returned he would be jailed. So we helped him get political refugee status. Chanthorn grew up under Pol Pot regime and lived on a dish of rice a day in Battambang Province. He is very industrious.

During the 1998 CDP Campaign when standing for the Senate a similar situation arose with a Lebanese Muslim woman who became a Christian and overstayed her visa, and was doxed into the authorities by her Muslim "friends and relatives". She may have lost her life had she been deported. Thankfully we helped her gain a similar visa.



Human bone exposed after rain in Killing Fields near Phnom Penh Cambodia

Vehicle Escort for Bill Town's Unity Ride to Canberra from the Pilliga Scrub Oct 2017



Below left : Near Boorowa where we had a Service near the Cenotaph.



Above right: Ralph Naden teaching children the Emu song at the Eumungerie Pun

The Eumungerie School



And Cumnock Public School



Visit South Korea February 2013

At the Nth/Sth Korean Border with Pastor Daesop Yoon February 2013. Nth Korea behind us. Daesop became a Christian when he was in the army and read Christian literature which floated back over the river from balloons intended for Nth Korean's. That's what boredom can do!



During a recent trip to South Korea at the invitation of the Korean History Church in Sydney and the [Yonsei Central Baptist Church](#) in Seoul where they had seating for twelve thousand people in their two hundred and fifty million dollar complex, we were bathed in worship and prayer for an entire week concluding with a Pastor's conference of three thousand pastors and their wives in the Prayer Mountain Retreat Centre.

The Australian group of twenty visited the [Demilitarized Zone](#) (DMZ) where we prayed for the "wall to fall".

Our guide Pastor Daesop Yoon from the Orange Prayer House told the story of his father who was in the North Korean Army, was captured then released in South Korea at the end of the war in 1953. He married and Daesop was born along with a brother and sister. Some years later when Daesop was serving his obligatory one year's army service he was patrolling the DMZ when one of the helium filled balloons sent into [North Korea with the Gospel](#) blew back into the south where he picked it up, read it and accepted Christ as his Saviour!

The first president of Korea [Seung Man Lee](#), was a Christian who had been imprisoned during the 1890's under the Korean [Chosun Dynasty](#). He had led many of his fellow prisoners to Christ and some of these men became influential leaders after the Japanese occupation from 1910 to 1945. With the help of missionaries he was educated at George Washington/Harvard and Princeton Universities gaining a doctorate in political science. Lee even warned the US of a possible Japanese attack on Hawaii. Many years earlier in 1912 he was exiled to Hawaii due to the Japanese occupation and began a Christian school for Korean immigrants.

This year commemorates sixty years from the end of the Korean war in 1953 where sixteen nations including [Australians](#) fought the Chinese, Russian and North Korean puppet government.

Left in poverty Korea has now the eleventh wealthiest economy in the world with a GNP larger than England, thanks mainly to the USA through free technology and protection. With very few Christians before 1890, missionaries built hospitals and schools. We visited the graves of 145 missionaries who profoundly influenced Korean society. Christians are presently nearly one third of the population with six of the ten biggest Churches in the world!

See Operation World for further details <http://www.operationworld.org/kors>



A South Korean checkpoint in the DMZ (Viewed from the North Korean Side)
[Ten Second video of DMZ](#)



Twenty eight second video of [Pastor's Conference at Prayer Mountain Retreat](#).

Preaching to 20,000 + empty seats at Yonggi Cho's [Yoido Full Gospel Church](#) with 800,000 members!

Several years later NACL brought together a team to go to North Korea with Daesop but the Ebola crisis prevented us from going as we would have been quarantined for fourteen days.

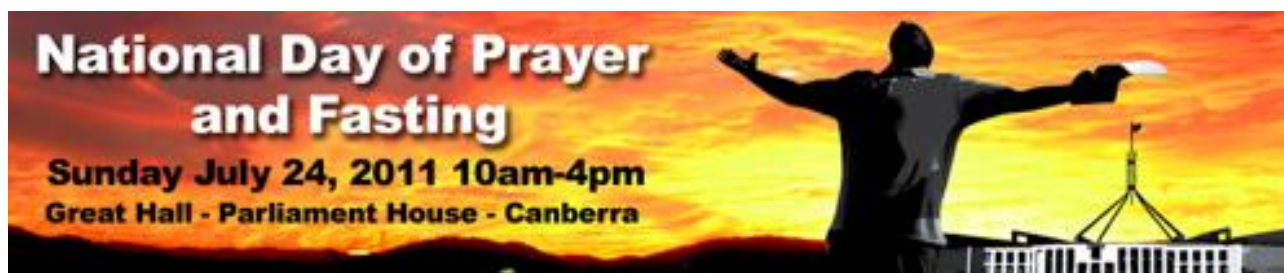
Chapter 17. National Day of Prayer and Fasting

Inaugural 2011 National Day of Prayer and Fasting Sunday 24 July 2011

[National Day of Prayer and Fasting \(australiaprays.com.au\)](http://australiaprays.com.au)

I had been involved in the Washington for Jesus Rally and the National Gathering in 1988 and still had a burden for national prayer in Australia so in 2011 we began the ND of P&F.

The following is a report from the website:



The National Day of Prayer and Fasting had been in discussion phase amongst several Christian leaders from different church denominations for many years; Dr Graham McLennan, Warwick Marsh, Bill Muehlenberg to name a few. It was first raised at a meeting of the National Prayer Council at Parliament House in June 2003. It was decided at that stage to proceed with a National Day of Thanksgiving.

During a meeting of Christian leaders at Parliament House, Canberra for the National Prayer Breakfast on 28th February 2011, a unanimous decision was made to proceed with a National Day of Prayer and Fasting for marriage and family to be held on Sunday, 24th July 2011. It is significant that the 24th July was first proposed by Aboriginal Christian leader Pastor Norman Miller from Cairns.

Following this day, and after much prayer and consultation across the wider body of Christ, it was decided to adopt a 5-year Prayer Plan and place the National Day of Prayer & Fasting on the Sunday before Lent each year starting in 2012. In 2012, the theme was MARRIAGE AND FAMILY; in 2013, the theme was LIFE. In 2014, the theme was REVIVAL. In 2015 the theme was Australia finding her DESTINY IN CHRIST In 2016 the theme was JESUS. The theme. in 2017 was the OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The list of supporters and endorsers of the NDOPF is growing daily and now includes key Christian leaders such as Bishop Peter Elliot from the Catholic Church based in Melbourne, and (former) Anglican Archbishop of Sydney Rev Harry Goodhew along with others such as Pastor Paul Bartlett who is on the State Executive of the Australian Christian Churches and Rev Keith Garner from Wesley Mission in Sydney.

Please find below the list of just some of those Christian leaders who were part of the initial launch of the NDOPF at the meeting at Parliament House in 2011.

Dr Graham McLennan: [National Alliance of Christian Leaders](#)

Ps Matt Prater: [New Hope Brisbane](#)

Bruce Lindley: [Harvest International Ministries](#)

Ps Ben Irawan: [Life Centre](#), NSW

Ps Matt Madigan: [Hope Project Church](#), Sydney

Wesley Leake: [Business Blessings](#), Brisbane

Dr Hilary and Paul Moroney: [Canberra House of Prayer](#)

Warwick Marsh: [Australian Christian Values Institute](#)

Ps Norman and Barbara Miller: [Centre for International Reconciliation & Peace](#)

David and Marilyn Rowsome: [Canberra Declaration](#)

Darryl Stewart: Illawarra Pastors Network

Bill Muehlenberg: [CultureWatch](#)

Sunday 24 July 2011 a Great Success

About 800 people came to Parliament House to pray and fast for marriage, family and the nation over the course of the day. The push to destroy marriage by redefining it was an obvious prayer point. Peak attendance for the 10am – 4pm prayer service was approximately 500. Prayers were said for National leaders and parliamentarians including 211 media leaders. Anglican, Catholic, Uniting, Salvation Army, Presbyterian, Baptist, Church of Christ, Apostolic, Christian City, Australian Christian Churches along with dozens of other independent Christian assemblies were represented in the Great Hall Prayer Service. Hundreds of other churches, perhaps even thousands, took part on the day around the nation. These are some of the comments from participants on the day:

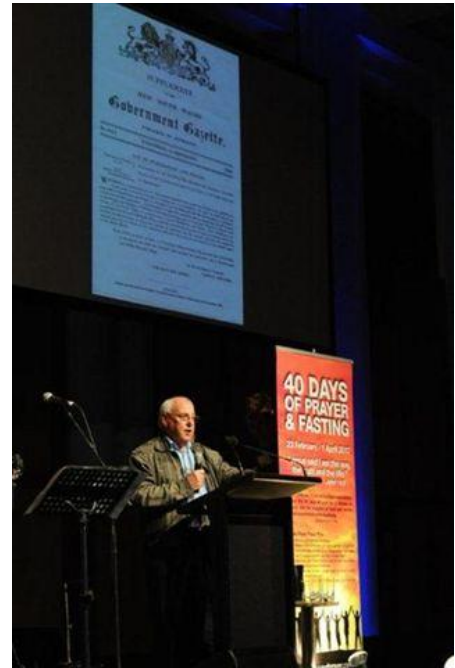
I believe the National Day of Prayer and Fasting will go down in history as a time when the church came together in unity and made a stand and repented and cried out for Godly decisions to be made in the political and media arenas in this country. The Lord does not shut His ears to the petitions of His people, nor does He turn a blind eye to the sinful ways of this generation. I'm expecting leaders who hold important positions across Australia to start making decisions which will benefit the whole community and bring back a Godly Nation.
T. Eyles. Brisbane

Attending the National Day of Prayer and Fasting on Sunday the 24th of July 2011 was so wonderful as it was such a day of unity, love and togetherness. The repentance and forgiveness times were extremely powerful... It was wonderful to gather in unified prayer with other Christians... We just want to thank you so much for making it possible to represent our country in such a unique and humbling way. We were totally blown out by the whole experience...
K. Atkin. Moruya

What a privilege to be part of a National Day set aside to pray and fast for our great nation! I can't go to Canberra, but I gathered with other like-minded people in my home village, in a show of unity, faith, and determination to see this country of ours, turned around from our Godless ways to become at last, THE GREAT SOUTHLAND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
M. Aldred. Brisbane

Matt Prater said "The organising team for the National Day of Prayer and Fasting would like to thank all those who sacrificed to come to Canberra, those who gave, and those who prayed in their own churches all over the nation on the day. We are keen to see this happen on an annual basis so we encourage you to pray for us as we plan a prayer strategy for the good of the nation. We also encourage those who are praying for the nation to keep on praying. I believe we are going to see the answers to our prayers in the headlines of the newspapers. Let us, together, believe God for a shift in the nation because Australia needs to turn back to God."

The original committee from L to R David Rowsome, Graham McLennan, Marilyn Rowsome, Warwick Marsh, Wes Leake, Sue Tinworth, Matt Prater & Ben Irwin.



National Day of Prayer and Fasting. Praying in the Great Hall Parliament House Canberra with Warwick Marsh & Matt Prater.

Chapter 18. Billy Graham Outreach in Central West May 2012

Will Graham, the grandson of world-famous US Evangelist Billy Graham, has just finished the first series of Reality events in the Central-West city of Orange in New South Wales. Orange has a population of just under 40,000.

Organised by a local committee, chaired by Graham McLennan, Reality Orange saw 17 local churches working together. "It's been a great response. The Christian Life and Witness classes, which were run earlier in the year, were excellent. Five hundred people attended and that was what brought all of us together," Graham said. "We were also encouraged to specifically invite people whom we knew to come and hear Will Graham preach under the Operation Andrew program," he said.

The weekend kicked off with a luncheon at the Orange Ex-Services club last Friday (May 4th) attended by the Mayor of Orange, John Davis and the Member for Orange in the NSW Legislative Assembly, Andrew Gee.

They were joined by 200 guests who heard host Karl Faase interview former radio broadcaster Stephen O'Doherty about coming to faith. Will Graham then spoke about his grandfather and how he was called to preach, before bringing an evangelistic message.

The remainder of the weekend's events were held in the Orange Function Centre. The youth night on Friday night featured well known bands 'Jonnday' and 'Compliments of Gus.'



Full Orange Function Centre



One of the many training sessions with John North.

Families were invited to the Saturday night event which featured children's entertainers 'The Toads' and an interview with Home and Away actor, Lynne McGranger, who spoke about her Christian faith.

At each event, Will Graham spoke about faith in Christ and the importance of making a personal commitment. At the conclusion, Will invited people to come forward as a sign of their willingness to make their decision to follow Jesus.

The weekend ended with a Sunday afternoon meeting which featured an interview with Kate Bracks, winner of the television reality show, MasterChef in 2011. A resident of Orange, Kate spoke about her search for 'something to believe in' and then how she had committed her life to Christ in her early 20's.

Each of the live events in the Orange Function Centre were webcast via the internet around the world.

A total of 711 places watched the webcasts over the weekend, including in India and Ireland. The Orange Sudanese community met in a local home with ten counseling packs provided by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. The local Korean community were invited to watch the webcast at the Orange Prayer House with the Chinese community hearing Will's message in a local church.

Attendance for the three days was 2,200 with 127 people responding to Will's invitation.

Orange Reality committee member Bruce Bennett said the weekend was a great success. "The numbers who attended, the quality of the artists who performed and the enormous volunteer effort was nothing short of fantastic. It must also be said that Will Graham himself, both as a speaker and as a person, was a breath of fresh air. He brought a simplicity and transparency to both his message and his manner, that made it hard not to like him," said Bruce.

"It was also hard to miss his simple message about the need to get real about Jesus," he added.

Below: From left Warwick Baines (CSU & OEC) Andrew Gee MP James Pearce (our accountant) Kerry Madden(CSU), Mrs Kevin and Prof Kevin Parton(Head of CSU Orange Campus)



Below: With Danny Little BGEA USA, left & Will Graham on right





Above left. With Councillor Fiona Rossiter, Mayor John Davis, myself and Barry Frew (Treasure Reality) standing, Mr & Mrs Stephen O'Doherty. Martin Johnson, Karl Faarse

Above right. Reality Committee Left to Right: Graham - Chairman. Bruce Bennet - Counselling & Follow up, Dave Saunders - Youth, Shelley Taberner - Secretary & Communications, John Shuttleworth - Ministers' Association rep, Geoff Langdon - Arrangements, Greg Barnes - Community Liaison, Barry Frew - Treasurer, Elaine Cooper - Prayer & Steve Hinks - BGEA Australia

A list of positive outcomes - the Orange Reality 2012 event. Increased cooperation of Churches. Seventeen Churches involved at various levels:

- **Increased enthusiasm and cooperation of youth groups**
- **Friday Community Luncheon effective as outreach to non-churched**
- **CL&W Classes - 400+ trained in sharing the Gospel. This was rated highly amongst attendees**
- **Photo News editor very cooperative. Front page article as well as numerous promotional material including several editorial comments inviting people to attend. In financial terms worth thousands of \$\$\$.** Thankyou Bob Holland
- **Very effective outreach to several of the high schools. Continuing outreach in schools resulting in further commitments.**
- **Several follow up Discipleship/Discovery classes commenced**
- **Webcast reached several ethnic groups including Muslims, Koreans & Chinese**
- **Several large donations & generous in kind gifts such as B&B accommodation, Orange City Council waving the \$5.8K Function Centre fee, resulting in a surplus of funds**
- **Consideration of further future outreaches to the Orange community**



Executive meeting with Will Graham on right, grandson of Billy and son of Franklin in our lounge room.

Chapter 19. Bligh Point Bruny Island Tasmania

Captain's Cabin

The property was purchased with Super funds in 1993 when we weren't keen to invest in shares. Tess was ill in Hobart and Christine was studying at University of Tasmania. Built in 2006 by Mick Murphy & son and designed by Christine. Sold 2017 to retire. Sad but essential.



Review 10 December 2012

After some dubious stays in Tasmania in so called luxury accommodation, we held our breath as we drove to Captain's Cabin. It literally took our breath away from the moment we pulled up. The view is sensational, the staff friendly, efficient and extremely helpful. The cabin is just gorgeous, fully equipped and so comfortable. We felt at home immediately. As we only stayed one night at short notice, we took all of our food and drinks so had no need to go to the shop. Sitting on the deck looking over the channel, watching turtles, birds and fish go past, sipping champagne and strawberries - life does not get much better than this. The beds were very comfortable, brilliant showers, great kitchen - fully equipped. The only problem was we had to leave to go home. I strongly recommend this stay for anyone - particularly couples who are not after a busy holiday, just arrive, distress and have a relaxing time. The Weber BBQ was great on the deck for cooking our dinner. Cannot recommend this place highly enough. Have already re booked for 2013 for a longer stay. Thank you for providing truly wonderful accommodation with the most amazing views. The CW's - both over 50!!





Bligh Point from the Air!

Chapter 20. Begin National Christian Heritage Sunday



Website: <https://www.nchs.net.au/>

We initiated National Christian Heritage Sunday which celebrates the Gospel of Jesus Christ arriving on Australia's shores. Australia's first minister was the Reverend Richard Johnson. He arrived with the first fleet.

Australia's first minister, Rev. Richard Johnson, arrived with the first fleet on the 20th January 1788. Then, on 3rd February 1788, Rev. Johnson held the first Christian service in Australia. This event is celebrated on the first Sunday in February each year.

As Australia's first Chaplain, Rev Johnson, spent 12 years in Australia from 1788 to 1800 with several roles as military and prison chaplain, parish priest and as a missionary to the indigenous community.

William Wilberforce and John Newton, the former slave trader of Amazing Grace fame, were the chief sponsors of the Botany Bay chaplaincy. Newton becoming Johnson's important mentor, confidant and advisor, calling him the "first Apostle to the South Seas"

Newton with friends such as William Wilberforce founded the Eclectic Society seeing Johnson as "the means of sending the gospel to the other side of the Globe".

It was William Wilberforce in 1786 suggested to the then Prime Minister William Pitt to have a Chaplain.

The first service conducted on Australian soil was an impressive occasion. Careful preparations were made, the convicts being ordered to 'appear as clean as circumstances will admit...' and 'No Man to be Absent On Any Account Whatever', the guard was to be changed earlier than usual, so as to give those who had been relieved 'time to cleanse themselves before Church', and the 'Church Drum' was to beat at 10 o'clock.

The Fleet had been in Sydney Cove the previous Sunday, 27th January, but no service was held until some semblance of order had been created on shore, the service taking place the following Sunday the 3rd February 1788, 232 years ago on a nearby grassy hill, the text being Psalm 116:12; 'What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?'

Watkin Tench reported that the behaviour of both the troops and convicts was 'equally regular and attentive'.

Little is known about Richard's wife, Mary as there is only one letter recorded of her corresponding with friends or relatives. She must have been a very pioneering, courageous, adaptable, patient, caring women.

Johnson was a man of prayer and hope looking beyond the immediate and mortal, believing in God's sovereign purposes for this new nation. He had brought with him over 4,000 pieces of Christian literature including 100 Bibles and 400 New Testament's.

He was Australia's pioneer educationalist establishing Australia's first schools. You can read more about the foundations of the church in Australia [here](#)

The NCHS Board of Reference includes Canon David Clayton, Dr Ross Clifford Principal of Morling Baptist Theological College and former head of the Baptist Churches, Tom Hallas YWAM Asian/Pacific Director, and Dr Peter Barnes Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. The initial committee consisted of Douglas Maclennan from St Philips Church which traces its history back to the first Church in Australia, as well as another Sydney Anglican, Canon David Clayton.

Below: Pam and I at Richard Johnson Square and speaking at Johnson Square 3 February 2014



Your Excellency, Honourable Professor Marie Bashir, Church leaders, ladies & gentlemen;
The Rev Richard Johnson as Australia's first Chaplain spent 12 years in Australia from 1788 to 1800.

The first six years as Chaplain were by himself though the Rev James Bain a Military Chaplain to the NSW Corp arrived three & a half years later in September 1791.

Johnson had to fulfil several roles as military chaplain, prison chaplain, parish priest & as a missionary particularly to the aboriginals as well as being a husband, father & provider especially during the early years of food deprivation.

He & his wife lived on the ship Golden Grove for some months before a cabbage palm walled building was built with a thatched roof which leaked continually flooding the dwelling during heavy rainfalls. (See lot 30 above red arrow in [James Mehans 1807 map](#) of Sydney)

Several years later a permanent home was erected a block away from here where the Lands building now stands with its many statues of pioneering explorers on its walls. Opposite is a drinking fountain (pictured below) in Macquarie Place at the corner of Bridge & Loftus Streets with the words from John 4:13&14

*“whoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again;
But whoever drinketh of the water that I shall give shall never thirst”*



Chapter 21. Atomic Biology Institute ABI

<https://www.atomicbiology.com/>

Tom Rogers – President

Dr Graham McLennan – Vice President

The Newly Discovered Life-Science of “Atomic Biology”

Don't let the name scare you. Although the physical works of building us from our foods involves Super-Intelligence, speed, and enormous care, the basics are simple enough for a fifth-grader to understand.

Through over three decades of research and development, with input from 20 PhDs, 3 MDs, 9 DScs, 3 Mathematicians, 2 MScs, and 8 Independent Researchers, this life-science shows how we are all amazingly constructed and maintained by our super-intelligent Creator.

The term “super-intelligent” is used because the three 2016 Nobel Prize Winners in Chemistry showed us (probably unintentionally), that mankind, even with all our accumulated scientific knowledge and sophisticated equipment, we do not have anywhere near enough intelligence to build even the simplest molecular machine needed for any of our cells.

As the founding principles of the proposed new life-science of “Atomic Biology” are formulated, and The Atomic Biology Institute is established, the applications and benefits of this new science are being developed.

The two chapters I wrote were Chapter 12. “*God in the Government in Australia*” on Australia's Christian Heritage and Chapter 14 [“The History of Why Nations Collapse Can Teach Us How To Restore Our Own Nation”](#)

Dr Jeremy Bergman below left in the Summary Edition published early 2020 has more science



Dr. Jerry Bergman
Professor of Biology,
Author, and Speaker



Dr. Graham McLennan
President of the National
Alliance of Christian Leaders



Thomas W. Rogers
President of The
Atomic Biology Institute

Darwin's Replacement is a culmination of 3 decades of research including significant input from 20 PhDs, 3 MDs, 9 DScs, 3 Mathematicians, 2 MScs., and 8 Independent Researchers.

What this book reveals:

- The 'proven' essentiality of a super-intelligent force for creating and sustaining living cell-parts, cells, and entities, including us. Our Governments and the majority of our citizens call this force, "God."
- Some of the scientific, brilliant, and careful works He performs for each of us every second of every day. The study of this super-intelligent and caring work is the object of the God-based life-science of "Atomic Biology."
- Some of the ways He is officially recognized and involved in our Governments. This gives our students the inalienable right to be taught Why God is a Highly Recognized Part of Their Government, especially now for scientific reasons.
- A few of the numerous benefits of knowing how amazingly each of us are cared for by our Creator every second of every day.



DARWIN'S REPLACEMENT

Summary Edition



HOW WE ARE AMAZINGLY MADE AND CARED FOR BY OUR
SUPER-INTELLIGENT CREATOR, THE GOD OF OUR NATION

BERGMAN - MCLENNAN - ROGERS

degrees than anybody else in the world! He also rates in the top ten with any degree.

Bringing the God of Our Nations Back to Our Students with a New Basic Science

In ABI report below are some highlights in this latest book titled *“Darwin’s Replacement.”* It has just been released and can be found on [Kindle and Amazon](#) or by directly [Contacting Us](#).

With all the scientific disagreement re: Darwin’s Theory of Evolution as the cause of life, WHY are we not teaching at least one logical alternative to our public school students at all pertinent levels?

Atomic biology is less outside-the-box than it is a thorough analysis of exactly what has to happen at every cell construction site in order to produce living cell-parts, cells, and entities, including us.

Digging into Atomic Biology

As the subject of biology has advanced through cellular biology, molecular biology, and microbiology, it is interesting to note that it has not gone into atomic biology before now.

The likely reason is that when you dig into this level where the right numbers of the right atoms have to be found, sorted, selected, counted, grasped, and precisely assembled in proper sequence, you discover that intelligence beyond that of mankind is essential to do this highly complex work.

Evolution, by definition having no intelligence to use, should now be out of the running as the cause of life. Also, because atoms have perpetual, controlled energy supplied, but not ‘Life’, this has to be added in order for cell-parts and cells to function. When this special “breath-of-life” is removed, the cell no longer lives.

Our forefathers understood that super-natural work is performed in reliably making our foods and us. This is why they gave credit to our Creator for His wisdom and His enormous works for each one of us every day.

The Governments of the USA, UK, Canada, and Australia have provided high recognition and appreciation for His works through Thanksgiving Days, Christmas and Easter holidays, in Declarations, Constitutions, Pledges of Allegiance, Justice Systems, Anthems, and more.

They had learned through history that nations which disrespected the Creator’s enormous works and care in providing their food and life, soon found themselves in deep trouble.

Today, after about three generations of teaching that we don’t need our Creator because “evolution” is the cause of life, we are gradually falling into the same trap as the nations who have drifted into deep trouble over the ages.

We have mighty, defensive, military forces, but we also have subtle enemies tearing our standards down from within.

It is time to acknowledge and understand the true cause of life. Our students need true science that follows the evidence where it leads. The current academically enforced restriction against this is obviously anti-science.

Fortunately, a number of education leaders are looking for a suitable alternative to Darwinism as there is now so much evidence showing that evolution is incapable of building cell-parts and causing life.

It is our belief that “Atomic Biology” will prove to be a suitable, logical, and easily understandable alternative. Our Creator has probably been using this science since the beginning.

One of the mind-boggling examples is the enormous work performed for us constantly just to replace our worn our red blood cells (rbc's).

We need a whole new batch of these built over about every 120 days (about 20 trillion of them). C.J.Pallister says a 150 lb. male gets about 2.3 million new rbc's built for him every second 1; G.J.Tortora says every rbc is made of about 280 million molecules of hemoglobin 2; and Max Perutz says every molecule of hemoglobin is built with about 10,000 of the right atoms³.

These atoms are selected and counted from his blood system that picked them up from his digestive system. If you do the math, the number is about 6,400 Quadrillion correctly selected and counted atoms per second 24/7 for this 150-pounder.

We can figure out how big this number is for our RBC replacement using our relative weight.

Then of course, there are the other approximately 80 trillion cells in each of us that are being replaced with new ones over varying periods of time. (Our taste buds are replaced about every 5-7 days).

We have to stop for a minute and just appreciate how much brilliant, constant, and reliable work and care our Creator is providing for each of us every second of every day.

Here are a few points we can remember:

- It takes super-intelligence and enormous careful work to create and maintain living things, including us.
- Evolution, by definition, has no intelligence to use.
- Therefore, evolution is not the cause of life, and should not be taught as if it is.
- Evolutionists have to pretend, against their observation, that there is no intelligent design or work involved in building living things.
- Enforcing the elimination of the “following of evidence in science research” is anti-science and should be outlawed.
- The billions of necessary missing links for evolution to be true, are still missing.
- There is no “common ancestor” but there is an essential common designer, builder, and maintainer of living things.
- We all have an awesome Creator who cares for each of us immensely.

Uses and Benefits of Atomic Biology

The extended applications for this science are under development starting with the following objectives:

- To provide textbooks for students from grade five through university regarding accurate details for the cause of life;
- To show students and other readers how much work and care their Creator provides for them every second of every day;
- To show “Why” our founding fathers and other Government leaders got it right in the US national motto stating, “In God We Trust”;
- To advance nutritional quality of various foods through atomic analysis and recommendations for agriculture and aquaculture;
- To provide recommended soil content for various grown foods. Then by soil analysis, custom fertilizers can be produced to improve specific fields, gardens, and orchards;
- To provide similar recommendations for the aquaculture industry;

- **To assist the health-care industry with research into the composition of certain healthy and unhealthy cells to determine what supplemental elements may be needed by unhealthy cells;**
- **To research the healing qualities of some international herbal remedies to determine further uses for their healing content. This will help in development of new medications;**
- **To provide the information to the public for the benefits of improving health generally;**
- **To assist in lowering health-care costs.**

Chapter 22. Retirement at 72 after 48 years as a Registered Dentist



Last day as a dentist June 2017 with (Helen on left) my secretary for nearly thirty years and DA Linda De Jesus now doing Oral Health at CSU Wagga.

Helen has been with me for 29 years, a real champion!

Pam has worked on the accounting side and has been a secretary for many years as well.

The practice was purchased by a fine young dentist who graduated from Sydney University five years ago. The feedback I'm getting from patients is excellent. I could have sold it several times over in the previous three years but declined their offers- all overseas trained!

Suppose I reckon I have extracted about 25,000 teeth & over a hundred thousand restorations.



Wedding of Alice and Bishoy now both dentists who met on the front steps of our home as dental students.



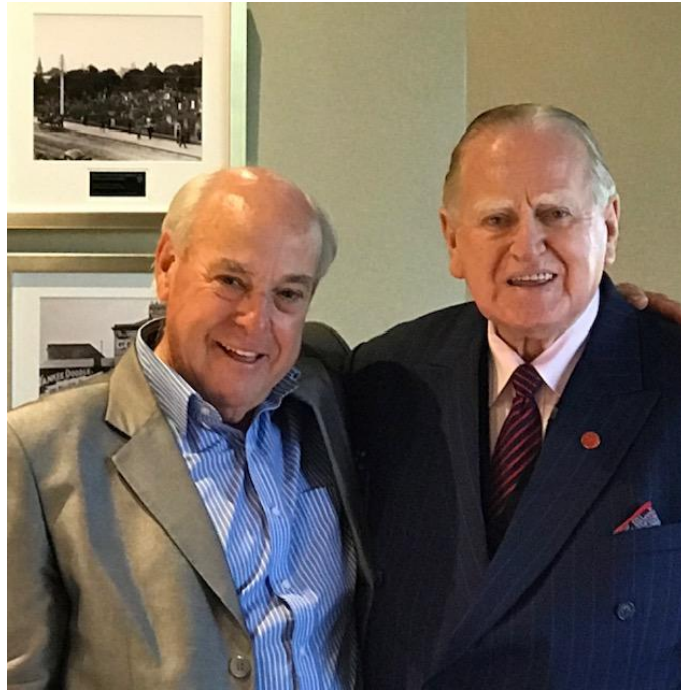
Brothers & Sisters: Graham, Margie, David, Barbara & Ian at Margie's son Joel's wedding 2018 Nelson's Bay



Pam, James and Josh celebrating my 71st birthday.



Our 50th Wedding Anniversary 20 January 2019 at Duntryleague with Michael and family



At Fred Nile's 85th Birthday Party in 2019, NSW Parliament House and celebrating his 38th year in the Legislative Council, one of the longest serving NSW parliamentarians on record! Before the CDP imploded he announced he would stand down after forty years in the NSW Parliament Legislative Assembly. However he didn't and he now hopes to stand as a Senior in March 2023.



Home hobby: South American Blue & Gold Macaws Pedro and Maria in backyard aviary and Princess Parrots and some of our other visitors pictured below.



Chapter 23. Reflections Over Seven Decades of Change

My first thoughts when writing this was for my family especially our grandchildren and friends. Since it has grown to 27,000 words and 350 pictures my “advisors” wonder if it should extend interest to a broader readership through my own life experiences, with some insight into the huge changes in the Australian Christian scene especially with technological advances such as the internet with zoom relating to one another anywhere in the world and distance learning.

One major shift which has occurred during my lifetime has been the shifting in attitudes from a Christian Culture to a post Christian, postmodernist, secular humanist, existentialist, pagan culture with hostility to those holding absolute values and faith in God.

Then of course there is globalisation and the influence of world bodies such as the United Nations.

Even with learning history there is little interest, though biographies and storytelling are making a comeback.

Two well known statements:

1. Those who haven't learnt from history, are prone to repeat it.
2. Those who don't know their history can be easily persuaded. Karl Marx

Those born in 1945 at the beginning of baby boomers, certainly have traversed an intriguing period of history and change such as the following:

States schools commenced with prayers and the national anthem. Not now!

Corporal punishment such as getting a belting or the cane when we were youngsters is now regarded as child abuse. I remember getting the cane at Hurlstone from a teacher who was the winger for the Australian Rugby Wallabies. It felt like he broke my fingers! Anyway I got revenge when I stood on his shoulders to place the crossbar between the goal posts. He was looking up at me seeing how I was going and I thought this dirty old b..... is looking up my shorts. So I dropped the bar on his head!

At school, no porn, no alcohol, no drug problems in the fifties and newspaper as toilet paper.

Then by the mid-sixties, after leaving high school I had become a Christian at university, the sexual revolution had begun with pregnancy prevented by “the pill” and the Vietnam War protests were beginning especially with conscription. Many of us remember the turmoil of the Cold War between Russian and the West including MAD, Mutually Assured Destruction which was making us very insecure!

My parents were born around the time of WW1, as teenagers the depression occurred, then as young adults WW11 broke out.

Technology has grown exponentially. We began school with ink nibs and ink wells, no mains electricity but generators, windmills for water, party line telephones... Now we have personal I phones that have more data than NASA used to put a man on the moon!

Two generations have grown up in affluence, not knowing want nor war.

So one could go on with such things as world travel and the increase in knowledge which is [predicted in the Bible](#).

Chapter 24. Addendums:

Further reflections are contained in the following articles:

Proverbs' Seven Pillars of Wisdom
 Why Nations Fall and What We Can Do to Save Ours!
 National Solemn Assembly Sept 2020 Report
 Forty Six Years of Dentistry in Orange
 2GZ Interview 2020
 Conclusion

Proverbs' Seven Pillars of Wisdom.

[Dr Graham McLennan](#)

In my role as the Chairman of the [National Alliance of Christian Leaders](#) (NACL), I recently shared about the seven pillars of wisdom mentioned at the beginning of Proverbs 9:

*Wisdom has built her house;
 she has set up its seven pillars.*
 — [Proverbs 9:1](#)

At that time, I suggested that the seven pillars of wisdom are:

1. Prudence
2. Discernment
3. Knowledge
4. Discretion
5. Judgement
6. Understanding
7. Counsel

Since that time, I have been asked to expand on wisdom's seven pillars. The timing could not be more relevant. Our nation, our media, and our political and education systems certainly need wisdom at this crucial time in our history. Just as Solomon prayed for wisdom and discernment, we must [pray that our leaders will do likewise](#).

If there is a single message in the book of Proverbs, it is this: wisdom is supreme, so get wisdom! In the book of James, sometimes referred to as the "Proverbs of the New Testament", we read:

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
 — [James 1:5](#)

Likewise, the author of Ecclesiastes explains his journey towards finding wisdom:

*So I turned my mind to understand,
 to investigate and to search out wisdom and the scheme of things
 and to understand the stupidity of wickedness
 and the madness of folly.*
 — [Ecclesiastes 7:25](#)

Reading [Proverbs 1-9](#) and [Job 28](#) also provide us with an excellent backdrop as we consider the seven pillars of wisdom. Consider this highlight from Proverbs chapter 4:

*Get wisdom, get understanding;
do not forget my words or turn away from them.
Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you;
love her, and she will watch over you.
The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom.
Though it cost all you have, get understanding.
Cherish her, and she will exalt you;
embrace her, and she will honour you.
She will give you a garland to grace your head
and present you with a glorious crown.”
Listen, my son, accept what I say,
and the years of your life will be many.
I instruct you in the way of wisdom
and lead you along straight paths.
When you walk, your steps will not be hampered;
when you run, you will not stumble.
Hold on to instruction, do not let it go;
guard it well, for it is your life.
Do not set foot on the path of the wicked
or walk in the way of evildoers.
Avoid it, do not travel on it;
turn from it and go on your way.
— [Proverbs 4:5-15](#)*

It is imperative that we apply the seven pillars of wisdom to our lives. They show us how to [grow](#) our [character](#) and produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit — love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5)

There is not much we can take from this life into eternity, but our character is one of those things. It is therefore very important for us to develop a godly character, including traits such as perseverance, attentiveness, integrity, decisiveness, boldness, initiative, obedience, thoroughness, diligence, truthfulness, alertness and self-control. Other character traits we must pursue include responsibility, resourcefulness, benevolence, availability and meekness.

When it comes to employment, it is striking to realise that most people are hired on the basis of skills — but if they are dismissed, it is due to a lack of character. In other words, character matters far more than we often realise.

So what is a “pillar of wisdom”? We know that pillars are an essential part of many built structures. They are a foundational element of a building, without which the structure will collapse.

Noah Webster’s American Dictionary, written in 1828, contains over 140 biblical references to pillars. A descendant of the Pilgrim Governor William Bradford, Webster wrote his dictionary at a time when the home, church and school were founded on biblical principles in America. [Wrote Webster,](#)

In my view, the [Christian religion](#) is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government ought to be instructed... No truth is more evident to my mind

than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.

Defining the word pillar, Webster referred to [Numbers 14:14](#), where we read of “a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of cloud by night” by which God led His people. Webster explains that, in this light, a pillar speaks of leadership, guidance and safety.

That [Proverbs 9:1](#) speaks of seven pillars is significant, given that the number seven means completeness and perfection, both physically and spiritually. To possess these seven pillars, then, is to possess complete and perfect wisdom.

The Scriptures teach us that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.” ([Proverbs 9:10](#); see also [Psalm 111:10](#))

Truly, it would take a lifetime to comprehend the depths of wisdom and have it penetrate our soul, body and spirit. Until we experience divine revelation, we cannot see things clearly. It is as though we are squinting in a fog, peering through a mist.

But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We will see it all then, just as clearly as God sees us — knowing Him directly just as He knows us. “For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face,” we read in [1 Corinthians 13:12](#). “Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.”

In [this series](#), we are considering the seven pillars of wisdom mentioned in [Proverbs 9:1](#), which I contend are prudence, discernment, knowledge, discretion, judgment, understanding and counsel.

Pillar One: Prudence

Today, many associate prudence with the idea of cautiousness. But prudence comes from the Latin *prudencia*, which means sagacity, or the ability to see ahead.

To be prudent is to govern and discipline yourself by the use of reason — and biblically speaking, by the wisdom provided by the Holy Spirit. It means being able to discern the correct course of action to take in specific situations and at the appropriate time.

Classically, prudence is regarded as one of the four cardinal virtues, the other three of which are justice (fairness, righteousness), fortitude (courage, endurance) and temperance (restraint, moderation).

To the cardinal virtues, the [Church Fathers](#) added three theological virtues — namely, faith, hope and love. These appear first in [1 Thessalonians 1:3](#), and later in [1 Corinthians 13:13](#), where Paul highlights love as the preeminent virtue. The Catholic Church eventually came to regard the cardinal and theological virtues together as the seven virtues.

(These remain distinct from the [seven virtues](#) that oppose the seven deadly sins.)

The Ancient Greeks and Christian philosophers such as [Thomas Aquinas](#) considered prudence to be the cause, measure and form of all virtues.

Left unchecked, prudence could morph into [cunning](#). But what sets prudence apart is the intent with which it is practised. An act becomes cunning or a kind of “false prudence” when it is done for evil ends or with evil means.

By contrast, true prudence is the ability to judge between virtuous and vicious actions in specific, real life scenarios. Prudence includes the ability to read the circumstances of a situation to

distinguish when an act might be either cowardly or courageous. To risk one's life, for example, might be done for reckless reasons, or for honourable martyrdom. Prudence is the ability to tell these two apart.

Pillar Two: Discernment

Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines discernment as the power or faculty of the mind, by which it distinguishes one thing from another, such as truth from falsehood or virtue from vice. It notes that the errors of youth often proceed from a lack of discernment.

To be discerning is to go beyond the mere perception of something and making more nuanced judgments. Someone who is discerning is considered to possess wisdom and be of good judgment, particularly when they perceive details that are overlooked by others.

In Christian usage, discernment may have several meanings. It can describe the process of determining God's desire in a situation or identifying whether something is good or evil. Often, discernment is related to the search for one's vocation — namely, whether God is calling one to be married, single, consecrated, ordained, or in some other specific calling.

The discernment of spirits is mentioned in several New Testament passages, and is used in both Catholic and Charismatic theology to indicate judging different spiritual agents for their moral influence in a given situation.

When we ARE in the process of discernment, there are steps we can take in order to do so. For example, taking time to make a decision is vital in discernment. Decisions made in a hurry can be tainted by a lack of contemplation. But when time is variable to assess a situation, it improves the discernment process.

Using both the "head" and the "heart" is another important step in discernment. Making a decision with the "head" means first reflecting on the situation and emphasising the rational aspect of the decision-making process. The "heart" is also important, in that it involves experience and emotion, which a purely rational approach lacks.

Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) designed a series of [spiritual exercises](#) that helped him discern life choices, and these included identifying the issue; taking time to pray about the choice; making a wholehearted decision; discussing the choice with a mentor; and then finally trusting the decision made.

For the Christian, discernment means making decisions in accordance with God's will. Christian discernment emphasises Jesus — making decisions that align with His character, as revealed in Scripture.

Pillar Three: Knowledge

The first place we encounter knowledge in the Bible is in the Garden of Eden, at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This tree contained the knowledge that separated man from God:

And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."

— [Genesis 3:22](#)

This highlights to us that, biblically speaking, knowledge can be wielded for either good or evil. The [Encyclopedia of the Bible](#) elaborates:

The Bible frequently commends knowledge and wisdom... [but] nowhere does Scripture modify the high value it places on knowledge by deprecating “mere” human reason. Reason and knowledge are integral parts of the image of God in which man was created.

Knowledge can be defined as a familiarity, awareness or understanding of something. In many Christian expressions, knowledge is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. And whereas human knowledge is very limited and gained mostly by observation and experience, God has perfect knowledge of everything.

Pillar Four: Discretion

[Psalm 112:5](#) tells us that a good man “*will guide his affairs with discretion*”. [Proverbs 3:21](#) enjoins us to “*keep sound wisdom and discretion*”.

The Miriam-Webster dictionary defines discretion as “individual choice or judgment,” and the “power of free decision or latitude of choice within certain legal bounds”.

Discretion is about wise judgment — but in particular, it means having the liberty to act without the control of someone else’s judgment. It is about being sober-minded, and acting with the wisdom and judgment that God has given us.

Pillar Five: Judgment

Webster’s 1828 Dictionary defines judgment as:

The act of judging; the act or process of the mind in comparing its ideas, to find their agreement or disagreement, and to ascertain truth; or the process of examining facts and arguments, to ascertain propriety and justice; or the process of examining the relations between one proposition and another.

In Scripture, judgment includes the spirit of wisdom and prudence, enabling a person to discern right from wrong, and good from evil. Ultimately, the person who enacts perfect judgment will be God, when He judges the whole world. This is the declaration of [Ecclesiastes 12:14](#):

For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

But God’s judgment is not relegated only to the end of time. Biblically, judgment means the spiritual government of this temporal world. “*Give the king Your judgments, O God,*” pleads Solomon in [Psalm 72:1](#). Likewise, in [John 5:22](#), we read that “*the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son.*”

Pillar Six: Understanding

Webster’s 1828 Dictionary defines understanding as “the faculty of the human mind by which it apprehends the real state of things presented to it, or by which it receives or comprehends the ideas which others express and intend to communicate.”

Understanding also includes intelligence between two or more people; and agreement of minds; a union of sentiments.

In Catholicism and Anglicanism, understanding is one of the [seven gifts of the Holy Spirit](#). In [Ephesians 1:18-19](#), Paul’s prayer is that:

*“the eyes of your understanding [are] enlightened;
that you may know what is the hope of His calling,
what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe.”*

Pillar Seven: Counsel

Counsel means advice given by a professional regarding the judgment or conduct of another, or advice, opinion or instruction, given on request or not.

[Proverbs 20:18](#) declares that *“plans are established by counsel”*. There is likewise a warning in [Proverbs 12:15](#) that *“the way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds counsel is wise”*; and yet another in [Proverbs 11:14](#), that *“where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.”*

In concluding this survey of the seven pillars of wisdom, let us turn to [Isaiah 11:2](#), which describes the manifold wisdom of Jesus:

*The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him —
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord*

In Jesus is found all of the wisdom we need. When our lives are filled with His wisdom, wellbeing follows. As [Proverbs 9:11](#) declares,

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.
For by me your days will be multiplied,
And years of life will be added to you.*

And remember there are two kinds of Wisdom:

*Who is wise and understanding among you?
Let them show it by their good life,
by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.
But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts,
do not boast about it or deny the truth.
Such “wisdom” does not come down from Heaven
but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.
For where you have envy and selfish ambition,
there you find disorder and every evil practice.*

*But the wisdom that comes from Heaven is first of all pure;
then peace-loving, considerate, submissive,
full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.
Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.*

~ [James 3:13-18](#)

Why Nations Fall — and What We Can Do to Save Ours

[Dr Graham McLennan](#) with some help from Bill Muehlenberg

Why Nations Fail

DARWIN'S REPLACEMENT - SECOND EDITION

HOW WE ARE AMAZINGLY MADE



AND CARED FOR BY OUR SUPER-INTELLIGENT
CREATOR, THE GOD OF OUR NATION

BERGMAN - MCLENNAN - ROGERS

This article is an abbreviated version of Chapter 14 of [How We Are Amazingly Made](#).

"Those who cannot remember the past, are condemned to repeat it."

— *George Santayana, Philosopher*

"People who don't know their heritage can easily be persuaded"

— *Karl Marx*

Every civilisation in recorded history has eventually fallen. In recent historical memory alone, China's traditional Confucian monarchy; the Turkish Ottoman Empire; the Royal House of Iran; and the mighty [Soviet Empire](#). All collapsed with sudden totality after allowing major problems to accumulate.

While all these Empires suffered from well-recognised structural, social, and economic flaws, few commentators and historians at the time saw these challenges as threats to the very existence of these societies.

Most people, if they think about it at all, would view the possible decline and fall of modern [Western civilisation](#) as a highly unlikely proposition. The modern state, with its supposed evolutionary adaptability, its representative [democracy](#), ever-increasing technological development, and fluid market economies, would simply mould and adapt to any internal or external challenges it may face.

This was the alluring proposition of political philosopher Francis Fukuyama's hugely-influential 1992 work, [The End of History and the Last Man](#). He argued that the ascendancy of Western democracy — which followed the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War — meant that human society had reached “not just... the passing of a particular period of post-war history, but the end of history as such: That is, the end-point of mankind's ideological evolution and the universalisation of Western democracy as the final form of human government.”

Events since that time — the rise of [radical Islam](#); the increasing fragmentation of society, [family](#), and [community](#); the increasing levels of [depression](#), self-harm, and [drug abuse](#) in advanced Western countries — indicate that this optimism was naïve at best.

Historians looking at the fall of civilisations often use as an example, the once-seemingly unassailable Roman Empire. With its ruthlessly efficient armies; its technological, economic, cultural, and social sophistication relative to its contemporary challengers; and its ability to adapt and absorb influences from other civilisations and cultures; it provides a rich example of the folly of seeming historical inevitability. With the invaluable benefit of 1500 years of hindsight, reasons for the decline of the Western Roman Empire based at Rome are often listed as including:

- Economic upheavals and the over-reliance on [slave](#) labour
- Geographical and territorial over-expansion and military over-spending
- [Government corruption](#) and political instability
- The increasing threat from migrating Germanic tribes from the North including the Visigoths, the Franks, Vandals, Burgundians, and Huns
- Weakening of the Roman legions.

Francis Schaeffer in his book [How Should We Then Live](#) (in commenting on Edward Gibbon's seminal work, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*), marked five fatal attributes of Roman society in its slow but inevitable decay from about the third century AD:

- A mounting acceptance and approval of ostentatious displays of “show” and luxury (affluence)
- Economic disparity creating a widening gap between the very rich and the very poor
- An excessive obsession with [sexual gratification](#)
- Decline of traditional and formalistic [artistic conventions](#) and their increasing substitution with outlandish and [absurdist styles](#) betraying little originality and creativity
- An increasing toleration and desire to “[live off the state](#)” without any commensurate social obligations.

To many contemporary observers viewing — with increasing alarm — current social and cultural trends of Western society entering the third decade of the third millennia AD, this catalogue might sound depressingly familiar.

States don't fail overnight. The seeds of their destruction are sown deep within their political institutions.

Is it culture, weather, or geography? What about war or some singular event that rewrites history? In their book, [Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty](#), authors Daron Acemoglu and James Robinson argue that man, not nature, sows the seeds of his own destruction through political and economic institutions. They write:

Korea, to take just one example, is a remarkably homogeneous nation, yet the people of [North Korea](#) are among the poorest on earth while their brothers and sisters in [South Korea](#) are among the richest. The south forges a society that created incentives, rewarded

innovation, and allowed everyone to participate in economic opportunities... while the lack of property rights by North Korea's economic institutions make it almost impossible for people to own property; the state owns everything, including nearly all land and capital. Agriculture is organised via collective farms. People work for the ruling Korean Workers' Party, not themselves, which destroys their incentive to succeed.

Commentator Bill Muehlenberg, on his website CultureWatch, [observed](#):

A lot of thought has gone into human mortality, and how we can prolong life. Less thought has gone into the question of why nations die. But nations, like people, do have a beginning, and do have an end. Thus, it is worth looking at the questions of: how and why nations collapse? ...

One common theme that emerges from those who have thought carefully about the decline of nations is that often it is the case that they collapse from within, instead of perishing from without. Thus, Arnold Toynbee could rightly say, "Civilisations die from suicide, not murder."

He goes on:

British historian Arnold Joseph Toynbee (1889–1975) is most famous for his magisterial [A Study of History](#), 1934-1961. In this 12-volume work, he examined the rise and fall of nations, remarking,

"Of the twenty-two civilisations that have appeared in history, nineteen of them collapsed when they reached the moral state the United States is in now."

Given that this observation is more than half a century old, how much more true could it be today?

Other historians have noted the seemingly suicidal tendencies of nations to self-destruct. American historian [Will Durant](#) (1885-1981) said,

"A great civilization is not conquered from without until it has destroyed itself within. The essential causes of Rome's decline lay in her people, her morals, her class struggle, her failing trade, her bureaucratic despotism, her stifling taxes, her consuming wars."

In collaboration with his wife Ariel, Durant penned the monumental 11-volume series, *Story of Civilization*, between 1935–1975. The two also authored (among other works) the 1968 study, *The Lessons of History*, which encapsulated many of their observations on the tendency of nations to wither from within.

English writer and historian [Lord Macaulay](#) (1800–1859) made a similar observation about the fate of democracies in a letter to an American friend in the mid-1850s. In this, he theorised that the average "age" of the world's great democratic nations rarely passed 200 years, with each following a similar pattern from prosperity and freedom to dependency and decline:

*From bondage to spiritual faith.
From faith to great courage.
From courage to liberty.
From liberty to abundance.
From abundance to complacency.
From complacency to selfishness.
From selfishness to apathy.*

*From apathy to dependency.
And from dependency back again into bondage.*

Questions arising from this supposedly inevitable progression from liberty and abundance to dependency and bondage include: Where are we now in this supposed cycle? In other words, how far along are we at this moment on the road to this seemingly inexorable decay?

For those not just studying history as an academic field, but who also believe that the modern democratic state is the best model for maximising human freedom, prosperity, and happiness, the more important question is: Can we possibly escape this typical collapse? Are we next?

Muehlenberg continues:

Using Macaulay's timeline, it is not hard in itself to pinpoint where we are as a society at this moment. Outrageous and publicly tolerated examples of corruption, selfishness, apathy, and decadence are not just accepted but celebrated on social media platforms and in major cultural outlets, including in movies and television series.

For a real-life taste of the current state of society, simply go to a popular news site or, if you're old-fashioned enough, open a daily newspaper. Recent lead stories around the world include:

- Paedophiles in the Netherlands sought registration for a political party to press for lowering the legal age of sexual relations from 16 to 12 and allow child porn and bestiality. The party says it eventually wants to get rid of any age limit on all sexual relations.
- Religious symbols such as Bibles, crosses, crucifixes, and scripture are regularly banned in hospitals, schools, and other public places in order to not "offend" non-Christians.
- [Rioters](#) around the United States in [supposedly protesting](#) the violent and unwarranted death of a black criminal by white police officers in Minnesota in mid-2020, randomly [destroyed](#) private properties and attacked other civilians, including African Americans. Social media platforms then banned a number of conservative commentators from their sites for calling for a greater police presence and for describing the rioters as anarchists. Many of these arrested during the upheavals were improperly set free by local district attorneys who professed support for their "cause".
- A recent Associated Press (AP) investigation revealed that more than 100 United Nations (UN) peacekeepers ran a child sex ring in Haiti over a 10-year period and none were ever jailed. The report further found that, during the previous 12 years, there had been almost 2000 allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by peacekeepers and other UN personnel around the world that were never investigated.

These examples show not only the usual catalogue of human vice, common enough in any age, but also the pervasive culture of conformity, cowardice, and moral compromise among our society's bulwark institutions.

The preparedness of elected officials, bureaucrats, and even churches to bow to the demands of the mob (ochlocracy, or tyranny of the mob, as the ancient Greeks described it) indicates a culture in steep decline.

Bill Muehlenberg, in his article on the decline of nations, notes:

An American sociologist and elected Senator once described such events as "Defining Deviancy Down". Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan (1927–2003) in an important 1993 essay — one that today would see him, ironically enough, evicted from his own party — decried the moral collapse in the West, observing,

“The amount of deviant behaviour in American society has increased beyond the levels the community can afford to recognise, and that accordingly, we have been redefining deviancy so as to exempt much conduct previously stigmatised, and also quietly raising the ‘normal’ level in categories where behaviour is now, (but would have been) abnormal by any earlier standard.”

He asserted that the “saturation” of evil in modern society was so complete that the only way to psychologically cope was to “redefine” it.

The prophet Isaiah warned of the relabelling of such aberrant behaviours more than 2500 years ago:

*“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,
who put darkness for light and light for darkness...”*

~ [Isaiah 5:20](#)

How did we come to this?

There is a long and short answer to this vexing question. The long answer runs all the way from the ‘Enlightenment’ in 17th century Europe through Marxism and humanism, through the counter-culture of the 1960s, to the modern consumerist society.

The short answer is: from about World War I (1914–1918) on, Western society has embarked upon an historically dangerous social experiment to see what life is like when we reject God.

The normalisation and celebration of [gender dysphoria](#); the epidemic of drug use and [physical abuse](#) in Western society; and record societal levels of depression and alienation, show that the results are now in.

For a society that so freely discarded the centuries-old virtues of duty, loyalty, hard work, and faith in God, the bill is now due. We, as a societal whole, sowed the seeds, and are now reaping our own destruction.

Muehlenberg continues:

One of the world’s greatest modern prophets, former communist and Soviet War hero (and later Russian gulag prisoner), [Alexander Solzhenitsyn](#), exposed the industrial-scale slaughter and callous indifference to human life in the Soviet Union (USSR), the world’s first post-God society, in his seminal work, [The Gulag Archipelago](#).

He has written passionately and eloquently on this theme and the reasons for the grisly tragedy that has become human history since the start of the 20th century. His assessment is simple and yet profound:

“It is because we have forgotten God. That is why all this is happening to us.”

“This moral, ethical, and societal decline,” [Solzhenitsyn said](#), “is directly connected to our wide-scale rejection of God.” Historian Will Durant again offers this insight:

“There is no significant example in history, before our time, of a society successfully maintaining moral life without the aid of religion.”

Celebrated American-British poet and critic, [T.S. Eliot](#) (1888–1965), author of *The Hollow Men* and *The Waste Land*, essayed an important volume of articles in 1948 (Notes Towards the Definition of Culture) where he declared:

If Christianity goes, the whole of our culture goes. Then you must start painfully again, and you cannot put on a new culture ready-made. You must wait for the grass to grow to feed the sheep to give the wool out of which your new coat will be made.

You must pass through many centuries of barbarism. We should not live to see the new culture, nor would our great-great-grand-children: and if we did, not one of us would be happy in it.

His thesis: Throw out God and the work of “civilisation” becomes very difficult, if not impossible. Again, Will Durant [agrees](#):

“From barbarism to civilization requires a century; from civilization to barbarism needs but a day.”

Although our road seems to keep leading us back to the fall of Ancient Rome, let’s look instead at a scholarly tome from the mid-1800s that has done almost as much harm to the Christian basis of our society as Marx’s *Das Kapital* (1867).

Although not as overtly materialistic and anti-Christian, naturalist Charles Darwin’s opus, *Origin of Species by Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle of Life* (1859) created the myth that humans are simply the end of an evolutionary ladder, a hairless ape.

This work, with its central thesis of “survival of the fittest”, proved a rationale for some of the greatest atrocities of the late 19th and 20th centuries, from the desecration of tribal peoples who were considered to be anthropologically a lower level of sub-human, to lynchings in the Deep South, to Hitler’s holocaust through his belief in a Master Race.

Australia, with its [hunter-gather Aboriginal societies](#) surviving thousands of years, was a subject for some of these dehumanising Darwinian theories to be put into practice. [Dr Carl Wieland](#) documents one troubling episode that involved a German evolutionist, Amalie Dietrich (nicknamed the “Angel of Black Death”) who came to large Australia pastoral properties in the 1860s, asking the station-owners’ permission to shoot Indigenous inhabitants for a specimen collection.

This then involved removing the skin from dead Aboriginals for stuffing and mounting for the Godeffroy Museum in Hamburg. Although evicted from at least one property for this barbarism, she shortly returned home with a number of “specimens”. U.S. evolutionists were also strongly involved in this flourishing “industry” seeking to collect “specimens” of other “sub-humans”:

Along with museum curators from around the world, some of the top names in British science were involved in this large-scale grave-robbing trade. These included anatomist Sir Richard Owen, anthropologist Sir Arthur Keith, and Charles Darwin himself.

Darwin wrote asking for Tasmanian skulls at a time when only four full-blooded [Tasmanian Aborigines](#) were left alive, provided, he said, that his request would not “upset” their feelings. As with Dietrich, Museums were not only interested in bones but also in fresh “skins” to provide interesting evolutionary displays when stuffed.

These 19th century eradicators and grave-robbers though were rank amateurs in comparison to the Darwinian adherents of the 20th century: the fascists of [Nazi Germany](#) and the Bolsheviks of the [Soviet Union](#).

Adolf Hitler’s belief in the superiority of the Aryan Master Race (“herrenvolk”), which he directly attributed to Darwinian theory, led to not just the industrial-scale slaughter of Jews, Slavs, and gypsies (“Untermensch”) but also [eugenics](#): the killing of the disabled and handicapped.

Let's not forget that champion of "reproductive rights" in the United States, [racist Margaret Sanger](#) who, in the early 1920's, introduced this Darwinian ideology to America via [abortion](#), the annual termination of millions of lives through [killing the unborn](#).

At the 1977 March for Life, Jesse Jackson asked,

"What happens... to the moral fabric of a nation that accepts the aborting of the [life of a baby](#) without a pang of conscience?"

If we humans are in fact created by God in His image, and we now know how much super-intelligent physical work with atoms plus the immense care that this takes, we have to believe that He is more than a little unhappy with abortions.

How much of the destruction of His work will He tolerate?

The false belief system of evolution has been used since its inception to dull people to the societal benefits of Scripture. Using Darwinism to justify Nazism, Stalinism, the [abortion holocaust](#), indifference to starvation in [Africa](#), or the [maltreatment](#) of indigenous peoples, is all against the wise godly principles provided for our most enjoyable life.

In Europe — during what we now consider to be the barbaric 17th, 18th and 19th centuries — wars tragically cost the lives of several million people each century. But in our more "enlightened" 20th century, it was not the more sophisticated weapons that created the untimely deaths of well over 70 million people, but the ideologies driving them to war, including Darwinian theory, Marxism, and the teachings of Friedrich Nietzsche ("God is dead").

What We Can Do To Save Ours

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

— [Romans 12:21](#)

For those grieving at our torn society, weeping at the [murder of innocents](#), at a society that celebrates the abuses of the powerful and strong against the weak and defenceless, is it now too late to repair what is broken?

As any engineer knows, the most important part of any building is its foundations. What is needed now more than ever is a rebuilding of the foundations of our society. As the Psalmist noted, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" ([Psalm 11:3](#)). For those willing to take up the tools, the job will not be easy, but for a better future, it must be done.

We as a society need to preserve and expand what is left of the good in our society and to [resist](#) those anarchic voices who would take it away from us. We must learn to [speak](#), and to stand alone if need be, against the voices of dark destruction.

The first task is to learn from history in order to avoid repeating, as Santayana said, the major mistakes we encounter there. But it is not enough to just recall the lessons of history. We must be willing to act, to take a stand, to make a difference. We cannot [sit on the sidelines](#), shrinking from the fight, in a time of danger and threat. The greatest poet of the Renaissance, Dante Alighieri in his [Inferno](#), wryly [observed](#):

"The hottest level in hell is reserved for those who remain neutral in a moral crisis."

At this crucial point in history, we all must [get involved](#). It is not enough just to talk about the problem and define it, shaking our head sadly and avoiding the fray. There are [enemies of civilisation](#) who are all-too-involved in continuing to subtly destroy our nations from within.

Muehlenberg writes:

But what difference can one person make? Aren't the problems just too big? Legendary anthropologist Margaret Mead [said otherwise](#): "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world... indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Philosopher [Edmund Burke](#) also wrote, "Nobody makes a greater mistake than he who did nothing, because he could only do a little." In another context, radical Black Panther activist Eldridge Cleaver observed, "If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem."

Another prophet 2,000 years ago said,

*"You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world."
~ [Matthew 5:13](#)*

So what should we do, as concerned citizens? Often people debate as to whether we should seek personal revival or social reformation. This argument is often presented as an artificial either/or, yes/no, binary choice. But the need of this desperate hour is to do both. We must be a light in a dark world.

It is less than a century since our Western [democracies](#) enjoyed "The Happy Days" of the 1950s. Personal honour and [God-based principles](#) were highly regarded and life was good. The USA, the UK, Australia, and Canada were all considered to be "Christian" nations. That was only 60 to 70 years ago.

To paraphrase Lord Macaulay, after the "faith, courage, liberty, and abundance" of the 1950's, we headed into "complacency, selfishness, apathy, dependency" (on the state to solve our problems), and now we are facing the "bondage" of huge debt and excessive expense.

A major turning point happened in 1963 when an atheist woman named Madelyn Murray (O'Hair) and a few misguided friends were allowed to persuade the Supreme Court of the USA to outlaw prayers and other godly benefits for American students. Other nations followed, and almost immediately there was a rampant rise in promiscuity, increased sexually transmitted diseases, many more [fatherless children](#), anxiety, depression, drug abuse, increasing crime, and suicides. Many foolishly threw away the faith in our super-intelligent Creator and provider, along with the moral compass He provided for the benefit of all.

When I trained as an officer during the Vietnam War, one of the "Principles of War" was "Know Your Enemy." We must understand that there is an enemy of us all who works against us, but we can overcome evil with good.

Madelyn Murray O'Hair and friends were only one group whose work began to destroy America from within. The religion of atheistic Humanism [expressed in their magazine](#), The Humanist, Jan-Feb 1983:

The battle for mankind's future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers who correctly perceive their roles as the proselytisers of a new faith... these teachers must embody the same selfless dedication as the most rabid fundamentalist preachers, for they will be ministers of another sort, utilising the classroom instead of the pulpit to convey humanist values in whatever subject they teach, regardless of educational level — pre-school, day care or large state university. The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new — the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjacent evils and misery, and the new faith of humanism.

One of the many [unsubtle quotes](#) of [racist Margaret Sanger](#), the founder and promoter of Planned Parenthood, was, “*The most merciful thing that the large family does to one of its infant members is to kill it.*” Her work has led to the deaths of millions of unborn babies.

Other destructive thinking ties into the enforced teaching of evolution-only as the cause of life, and survival of the fittest. Teachers and professors have been fired for daring to suggest that there may be some intelligence in the way living entities are designed. This is obviously anti-science as it eliminates the foundational scientific principle of following the evidence wherever it leads. It takes a super-intelligent and caring force (i.e. God) to create and maintain living entities. Evolution by definition, having no intelligence, is incapable of causing life.

What is not taught or spoken of enough, even in Christian churches, is the understanding of the other supernatural force known as Satan, who subtly tempts unsuspecting individuals and groups into making bad choices.

He can shrewdly make bad things look good (for a while). “Try some of this new ‘candy’ (crystal meth). It will make you feel fantastic!” Then, with just one or two ‘hits’, the unsuspecting individual is trapped into such a horrific [addiction](#) that the rest of their usually-short life is just a horrendous nightmare.

This is only one of Satan’s hundreds of subtle, destructive temptations that are gradually destroying the good life of individuals and our nations. We have to wake up, understand, and resist this “Public Enemy Number One”! Our nations are being destroyed from within, and that is where our healing must begin.

History from two to four millennia ago shows that collapsed nations were [revived](#) after they called out to the Creator for help.

Today, we even have the spokesman for the [atheists of the world](#), none other than Dr. Richard Dawkins, telling the world [through CBN News](#),

There are no Christians, as far as I know, blowing up buildings. I am not aware of any Christian suicide bombers. I am not aware of any major Christian denomination that believes the penalty for apostasy is death. I have mixed feelings about the decline of Christianity, in so far as Christianity might be a bulwark against something worse.

It is the Christian community that provided the USA, the UK, Australia, and Canada with strong moral foundations years ago, and it will take a unifying effort by the current and future Christian community in these nations to lead the way in saving our nations from collapse. However, non-Christians have to participate as well if they want our nations to survive and improve.

To start, the restrengthening of the Christian community from its present weaknesses of timidity and retreating before threats, will come from a revitalised understanding of its potential influence-for-good through prayer and action with God’s help.

As examples: in the USA, if the expression of “*God Bless America*”, and in Canada’s anthem, “*God keep our land glorious and free*”, are treated as prayerful requests rather than arrogant demands, God may listen and respond more favourably — if He receives more of the credit He deserves as our caring provider.

We need to get back to knowing our Creator. We need to [stop our trivial pursuits](#) and to realise that we are here for a good purpose, and the purpose of our existence is to love and appreciate our Provider and to love our neighbours as ourselves, with all that entails.

Recovery starts with us. Let’s get involved! Which of these can you do?

- I can share some ideas from [this book](#) with friends.
- I can [help my friends and neighbours](#).
- I can watch for people who are hurting and see if I can help.
- I can seek truth.
- I can get to know my Creator better.
- I can count my blessings.
- I can give God thanks for the many works He performs for me.
- I can use the Ten Commandments as my life-guide.
- I can see if my favourite school(s) would put the Ten Commandments somewhere visible.
- I can [join a political party](#) and try to be a good influence.
- I can regularly plan with some friends to do something positive for our nation.

Reflections on the National Solemn Assembly held by Zoom due to the Covid Pandemic

Turning the Tide in Prayer



National Solemn Assembly

26-27 September 2020

By Dr Graham McLennan

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

People of Australia, joined together to seek God's face for the healing of the land according to 2 Chronicles 7:14, and Joel 1:14,

*Declare a holy fast;
call a sacred assembly.
Summon the elders
and all who live in the land
to the house of the Lord your God,
and cry out to the Lord.*

Acts 3:19, *“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”* The 'times of refreshing' from the presence of the Lord that Peter the Apostle is talking about is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that is found in Acts 2:1-21. That is what Australia needs. We are praying that Australia will get a revelation of the love of God through Jesus Christ. [Acts 17:26](#) says *“From one man (other translations say blood) he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth...”*

And Matthew 18:20 gives us the key, *“Where two or three are gathered together in My name there am I in the midst of them.”* We thank the National Council of Churches Australia and the National Day of Prayer & Fasting and other groups who are helped facilitate the National Solemn Assembly on behalf of the Indigenous people.

Having been involved in the [Washington for Jesus Rally](#) in the US in 1980, it inspired us to do something similar in Australia.

This was at the height of the Cold War and in 1980 Ronald Reagan became President of the United States of America and a little known Australian [Dr Karl Schwatz](#) was a major influence on Reagan's America and in the fall of Communist Russia.

As a result of the Washington For Jesus Rally we joined others in the [National Gathering of 1988](#) in Canberra when our PM at the time Bob Hawke was reluctant to open the New Parliament House with prayer.

Forty years later in Washington DC last Saturday the [Return Rally](#) as well as [Franklin Graham BGEA Prayer March](#) was attended by tens of thousands and [watched by millions](#).



The March section that was to later join the Return Rally near the Washington Monument in the distance.

And on the same date it was great to see a new dimension in Australia with the Indigenous National Solemn Assembly with several thousand joined together by zoom.

Indigenous people from all over Australia came together in a truly remarkable event facilitated by the National Day of Prayer and Fasting team and the National Council of Churches with Indigenous Pastor Peter Walker and other pastors such as Pastor Tim Edwards, Rob Knight, Norman Miller, Robyn (Green) and her husband Anthony Beazley, Rodney Minniecon and Rodney Rivers.

One of their major concerns was the alarming rate of suicide particularly among younger people. Tragically one of the prayer warriors lost her son-in-law just days before the Assembly began. [Suicide is now the highest cause of death among young Australians](#).

It is interesting that the fear of the spirit of death was the reason preventing the Hindu Buddhists from settling Australia. Two other major groups were coming south as well, including the Muslims who feared the spirit of Antichrist who they called Dedjdal. The other group were the Chinese who feared a kingdom of women! (*A History of Australia* C.M.H. Clark Vol 1 pages 5-9 MUP)

Pastor Peter Walker spoke about the swallow mentioned in [Psalm 84:3](#) which is a migratory bird, noting the difference to the sparrow also mentioned in the same verse. It is also interesting that on

the previous page 4 of the book by Manning Clark just mentioned there were at least three major migrations prior to the Aborigines, that of the Negritos, Carpentarians and Murrayians.

Let's not kid ourselves that the present migration will be the last one as we learn from history about the rise and fall of nations.



“For the Healing of the Land”

Among the many touching moments during the weekend, I found the Indigenous woman from Western Australia praying with her children kneeling to the ground laying their hands on the dusty earth pleading for the healing of the land, a truly sacred moment.

To quote Ps Peter Walker who found it hard to highlight the many cries as incense to God's throne: *"We're believing for a breakthrough in the nation. Already we hear testimonies of women who have been healed and young Indigenous coming to the Lord"*.

The fervency of the prayers especially from the "weeping women of the desert", who could remember the wave of revival changing lives from the Elcho Island revival in the 70's as it moved south into Arnhem Land in the Top End and beyond.

Dr Lynore Geia, a Torres Strait Islander woman born and raised on Palm Island, a nursing and midwifery academic, pleaded for renewal and the restoration of family.

It brought real joy to those participants, such as Dan Armstrong and John Blacket who have longed to see the fruition of these prayers.

Certainly this time was a landmark in spiritual terms as we shared Communion together many times, hoping for a breakthrough in the heavenly realm, the ripple becoming a wave, the wave turning into a tsunami!

The [National Solemn Assembly has been recorded](#) with the Indigenous people sharing their dreams and aspirations for their families and country.

Solemn Assembly Prayer

By Peter Walker

Father, I bring repentance before you for the sins and transgressions of my forebears.

1. I repent for the sins of idolatry, sorcery, necromancy, fornication, adultery, magic, divination, occultism, witchcraft, bloodshed, slavery, sexual perversion, injustice, oppression of the poor and the helpless, rebellion and evil dedications. Father forgive and cleanse us from these abominations through the Blood of Jesus Christ.
2. Father, I also repent for my direct or indirect participation and involvement in these sins. Forgive me, O Lord.
3. I receive a complete cleansing from all contaminations arising from these abominations in Jesus Name.
4. Right now, I send the Blood of Jesus to visit my roots and foundations and dissolve all satanic covenants, tokens and pacts, oaths, allegiances, and agreements associated with them.

5. Lord I repent of any broken covenants, and oaths I may have entered into knowingly, and unknowingly.
6. I render impotent and ineffective any covenants made on my behalf at any evil altar in Jesus Name.
7. We ask for forgiveness for not being the stewards of the land that he has called us to be and allowing defilement over the land.
8. Lord thank you for your great mercy that will avail for myself, my family members, and the nation through the Cross of Jesus Christ.

DECLARATION

By Rob Knight

I declare and decree that the National Solemn Assembly will deliver its God given mandate of uniting the Body of Christ to cause a reformation in Australia. This Godly reformation will start a move of God that will bring a shift in righteous God given mountain moving authority around the world.

Dentistry in Orange over Forty Six Years

Notes for an interview in two parts with local radio station 2GZ Dr Graham McLennan

After doing two years as a National Serviceman during the Vietnam War 1969/70, had a child die from a cot death (SIDS) came to do a locum in 1971 and have stayed here since.

Practiced here for 46 years retiring in 2017 (Three years ago).

Dentistry has changed.

One experience I can relate in the region was Dundedoo with Edith Stewart who practiced there in the 1920's and 30's reading to Miss Loret Brady who practiced here since 1936 after she was qualified after an apprenticeship with a dentist.

Some of these women were initially dental assistants. There are many more women in dentistry these days as well as other professions such as Veterinary Science. In our graduating year of 65 dental students there were only two women!

Days of the treadle low speed drill up to the early 70's when I arrived.

High speed invented by former WW11 veterans who had flown jets and the high speed drill was similar in design with air which manage 100's of thousands of rotations per minute. These days even faster and more less noisy. If you could invent a silent jet and high speed no doubt one would be very wealthy!

There have been several major advances in dentistry after finishing dental school in 1968 not just the high speed drill but in anaesthetic, both local and general anaesthetic. I was the first to use Nitrous Oxide as Relative Analgesia the Central West in 1976 though it was used as a general anaesthetic since 1846 initially in the US by a man named Horace Wells

After a few years of using Nitrous Oxide Relative Analgesia many patients were weaned off it as they overcame their fear though it continued to be very advantageous for children especially as deciduous teeth didn't require injections for restorations. Some people loved it and I used huge "G" cylinders. "Happy" gas is also used in maternity when mothers are in labour where it is known as Entonox and limited to 3 litres of oxygen and N2O. However we could vary both the oxygen and N2O to suit the patient altering it from very low to sometimes very high.

One day I became so affected myself from the N2O that I had to go outside for some fresh air! We use a nasal piece to remove exhaled air so that shouldn't happens these days

A local doctor performed a general anaesthetic in the early 70's at Blayney hospital with a chloroform filled cloth. Also ether was also used but fell into disrepute after people were blown up when a spark was produced by mainly bone cutting instruments!

In the block in Anson street south of Summer Street many of the medical, dental, accounting professional people has their practices as well as a number of solicitors. Most of the doctors and dentists had moved out from the area by the year 1990 and I was the last to leave in the year 2000, twenty years ago. Most us moved north towards the Orange Base Hospital especially in Byng, Prince and Dalton Streets as well as Anson Street.

Other areas of change in dentistry:

From vulcanite to acrylic dentures. Later on dental mechanics were allowed to treat the public. The trade-off was to give dentists the courtesy title of doctor. Most dentists in the world graduate with a DDS not a BDS, similarly with medical doctors here who graduate with a bachelor's degree but in most countries graduate with a MD.

Composites v's amalgams with mercury.

Fluoride both in water (Orange 1960's) and in toothpaste or as a tablet supplement should have more than halved the decay rate –Tamworth, Yass & Orange were the earliest Cities in Australia to introduce Fluoride. One of the best tips I can give is to keep rinsing your mouth with the Fluoride toothpaste after cleaning your teeth, for a minute or so, then spit it out and not rinse out or eat for at least thirty minutes. This way you can give added protection to your teeth. And the best way to clean in-between your teeth is of course flossing but I find using the right sized Pikster is very good.

Snack foods causing not only decay but diabetes, obesity etc. Even milk can be a problem with babies going to sleep with a bottle of milk- lactose is cariogenic! Also Citric fruit because they are very acidic can erode enamel. When sweet mandarins are available I have treated numerous cases of tooth sensitivity as well as some local wine growers who have severe enamel erosion from wine tasting.

Cardiac problems such as Rheumatic fever lodging germs (Strep Viridens) on weak valves from gum disease. A bacteraemia can develop and cause infection especially such as after orthopaedic operations. Orange should have the best teeth in Australia not only because of the early introduction of FI here but now we have the services of the CSU Oral Health School.

Up to the 80's we were so booked out we never sent out reminders. How times have changed!

The aim of the dental profession is to eliminate itself whilst the aim of most occupations is to perpetuate themselves.

We are fortunate to have a dental school here in Orange so there is no excuse for us not to have good teeth!

Reasons Why We should Have Regular Check Ups:

Especially for children to familiarise them to seeing the dentist. To get accustomed to the dental staff and surroundings.

Early intervention with children is important. It is terrible for a child to come in for treatment the first time say for an extraction. Also interceptive orthodontics can in some cases prevent further expensive orthodontic treatment.

It also helps adults who particularly have had bad experiences.

Also regular check-ups are less distressing even for adults and less expensive! It is costly to replace lost teeth with dentures, bridges or implants, the latter will fail particularly with insufficient oral hygiene as we have now learnt since their advent over the last thirty years.

Fear Prevents People from attending because:

Some like to be in control and feel threatened by the intrusion into their mouths by some stranger! They tend to be A types/Cholerics who like to be in charge!

With children tension can be transferred by parents bringing their children to the dentist.

Dentistry has improved considerably since I graduated in the late 60's. We have much better topical anaesthetic, local anaesthetic even syringes with smaller gauge needles.

Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) as mentioned before can be used to calm and most procedures especially with children are painless. Of course the last resort is Intravenous Sedation or a General Anaesthetic.

The tale of two patients.

- 1. A woman came in to see me because she was in pain with her gums. She had been so fearful of attending the dentist she didn't come until a friend finally convinced her and accompanied her to see me. We gave her a thorough check up and a good clean as she had severe periodontitis. She returned a couple of weeks later as she hadn't gained any relief. A biopsy was taken. She has squamous cell carcinoma and died within a year from it!**
- 2. Another patient who came in for regular check-ups was concerned about an ulcer from a worn cusp on his tooth that was cutting into his tongue. I removed the sharp edge and told him he must come back within a couple of weeks if it didn't heal. Because it didn't heal we carried out a biopsy and it was also a squamous cell carcinoma. Years ago all patients who developed SCC died as a result. We referred the patient to Dr Chris O'Brien (who was to later die from cancer and had the RPAH Cancer clinic named after him) who removed half his tongue and basically carried out a neck resection of his lymphatic system. The result- he is still alive today!**

Conclusion

So in summary, apart from our family life mentioned in the first few chapters, I would say studying under Dr Francis Schaeffer in L'Abri in Switzerland in 1974 put us on the right path with my wife Pam and I learning about the false dichotomy between the sacred and secular. We had read Schaeffer's books before staying at L'Abri including *Escape from Reason* and *the God Who is There* which we thoroughly recommend.

On returning to Australia I decided to go down to a Liberal Party meeting where people were invited to attend in our hometown of Orange.

My grandfather had stood for the Federal elections as a member of the Progressive Party for the local seat in 1917. He had been the Shire President of Swan Hill at the turn of the century and had pioneered irrigation in the district and my father was a founding member of the Country Party, now the National Party. As a "new chum" I ended up as the local branch and state electorate president after two years which was not due to any outstanding eloquence or abilities on my part but mainly I think due to apathy and indifference of local people to join a political party.

Within a couple of years I was then elected to the NSW State Executive with people like John Howard. Being on their policy committee I discovered some of the input I gave was stated publicly by leaders.

So one can have a position of influence without being in parliament!

I was then asked by Fred Nile to stand with him for the NSW Legislative Council. To prevent this the Liberal Party promised me a Legislative Council seat in parliament but I felt the promise had a hollow ring to it.

Fred and I campaigned around the state and he was duly elected in 1981 and has been there ever since! He received over 9% of the vote, more than the National Party!

I was nearly elected with him, the last to be excluded. I stood as the senate candidate in 1984 campaigning against X rated videos which the Premier Neville Wran wanted to introduce. We managed to stop them as did also the other states later but not both the Territories which had huge consequences especially amongst indigenous communities.

During this time a lady and I stood together for the local Orange City Council. Nancy Weathersten was duly elected as we decided by lot for her to lead the ticket. Nancy helped on one occasion to have a quarter of the city turn out for Carols by Candlelight.

As well after Orange City Council approved a Nuclear Free Zone we rounded up support for Orange to become Australia's first Pro Life City!

In 1980 we joined with YWAM group in the US which helped organise the Washington for Jesus rally attended by over half a million people. It had its Australian fulfilment in the National Gathering in 1988 during the bicentennial when Bob Hawke the PM wouldn't open the new Parliament House with prayer so a convergence of groups decided we would, and 40,000 turned up to do it!

We also were made aware of the secular humanist movement particularly influencing schools and universities. A copy of *Weep for Your Children* which included the Humanist Manifesto particularly disturbed us.

On returning we got together some parents and founded the Orange Christian School which commenced in 1981 with 17 pupils and now has about 400 children from kinder to year 12 with a HSC student topping the entire region with a HCS mark of 99.55.

We were then asked to initiate other schools in the region. Afterwards a booklet on commencing a Christian School was circulated by the then Festival of Light which no doubt helped towards the rapid growth of Christian schools in the 1980's.

In the early 1990's community radio licenses became available so in Orange we commenced test broadcasts gaining a permanent licence. We helped commence some other stations in the region and with other likeminded Christians decided to have a national satellite signal to mainly country regions. Christian Vision Media (VCM) now has over 750 stations throughout Australia.

We also helped initiate Christian radio in Vanuatu as well as the first Christian programme on Radio Nepal in 2006.

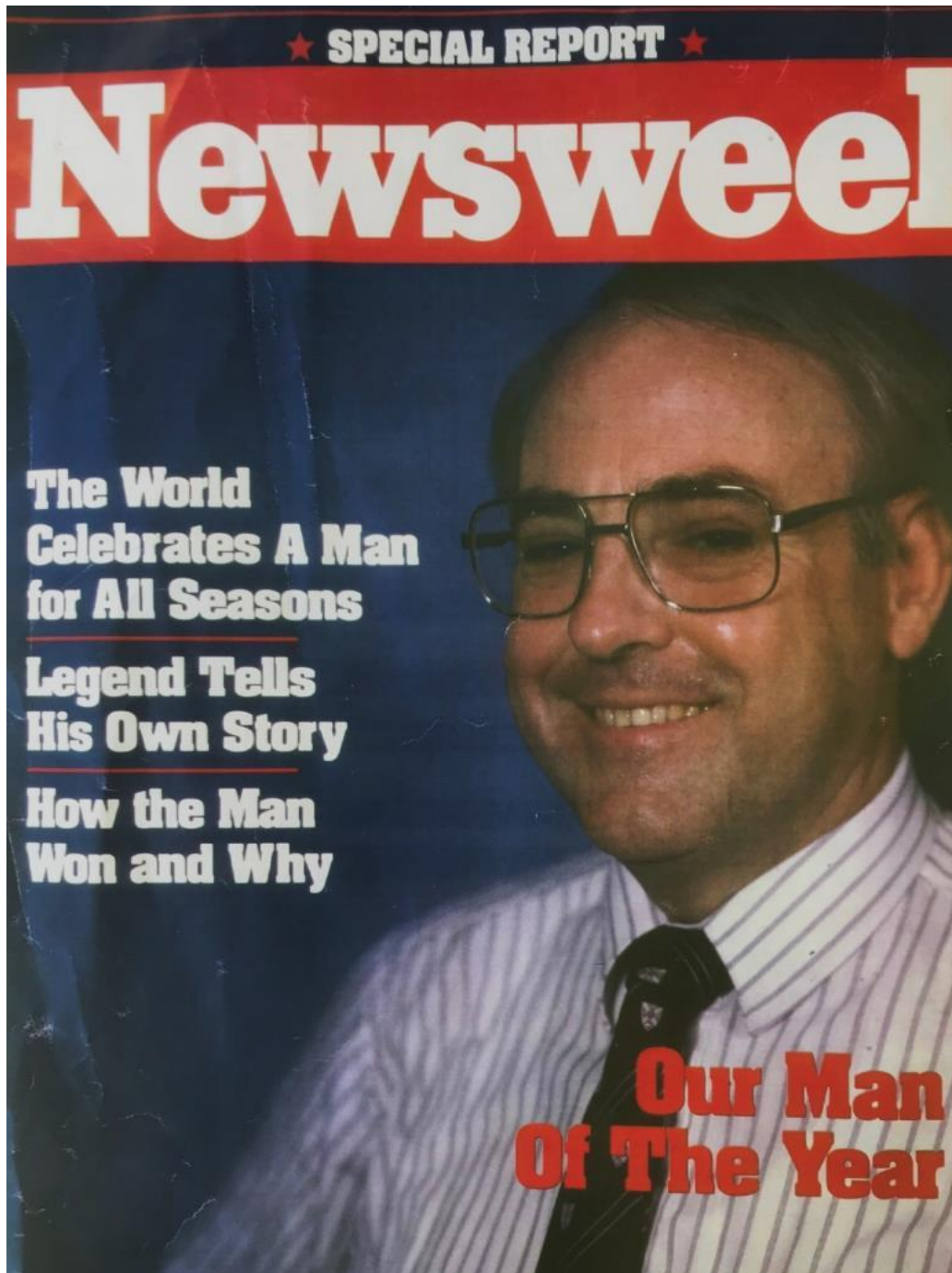
As a director with VCM in 2019 we created an UCB Asian/Pacific branch commencing Christian radio in places such as East Timor and the Solomon Islands.

Pam and I have been involved in other areas such as in health, delivering dental care in isolated islands in the Pacific.

So when we think of influencing spheres of influence such as Abraham Kuyper who was homeschooled, founded a newspaper, a church denomination and became prime minister of the Netherlands 1901/5 we should think globally and act locally!

The National Curriculum was changed in 2022 to reflect more on our Christian foundations and we updated the Christian History website to encourage a deeper understanding of our Christian faith with books such as ANZAC's Origins a 400+ page book on Chaplains returning from Gallipoli who founded this Day of Mourning, and not the RSL!

So I suppose one could write a book dealing with many of the issues raised here in [my journey through life](#) though I have found it essential to have one's name written in the "Book of Life" than to be written up in something like the following Newsweek (fake) Report, though my mother in law and others believed it!



The Book of Life is referred to six times in the [Book of Revelation](#) (3:5, 13:8, 17:8, 20:12, 20:15, 21:27) one of the books of the [New Testament](#), written by [John of Patmos](#). As described, only those whose names are written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, and have not been blotted out by the [Lamb](#), are saved at the [Last Judgment](#); all others are doomed. *"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the [lake of fire](#)"* (Rev. 20:15). *"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works".* (Rev. 20:12)

Compiled mainly during the 2020/22 Covid –19 lockdown!

Thanks to my dear wife Pam for your help through our 53 years together so far!