

No. 17 March, 2009

# **INTRODUCTION**

After several appeals for help for our overseas missions earlier this year, we start off this issue with a short report on these collections.

Then we head overseas. More good news has filtered in from these same areas with reports of healthy growth and exciting events in Africa and elsewhere. Enjoy!

We've also got details of a couple of outreaches to unusual places later in this issue and finally we wrap up with all the news from Christmas Camps around the world and our own Australian Leadership Camp.

We trust you enjoy what the Lord is doing in your Fellowship, and that you are moved to keep these many brothers and sisters in your prayers.

"Ye also helping together by prayer for us..." 2 Corinthians 1:11

# CHRISTMAS CAMP MISSION FUND APPEAL

Many assemblies conducted appeals and the like over their Christmas Camps and raised a lot for the Mission areas. On behalf of the Council and all those overseas who benefit, a big "Thank You" to all those who contributed so generously.

While on the topic of appeals, we also had two special appeals: an emergency appeal just before Christmas for Ps Jose's collapsed roof in Brazil (it's now fixed); and another in the New Year for funds to build the floor for the new Pt Moresby Hall. We are pleased to tell you that we were able to complete about half the floor in January with the proceeds collected. The PNG saints are having a big hall opening (for their *very* big hall!) over Easter in April. We shall report on that in the next issue.



### AFRICA

We have great news to open this report: a new work in Ghana.

### Ghana - Hot off the Press!

Following an initial contact from Adelaide assembly, brother Jan Pieter from Holland investigated a contact at a refugee camp called Buduburam in Ghana, emailing backwards and forwards over some months. The camp is located just outside Accra. They showed plenty of interest in the things of the Lord, so when he and another brother, Wout, arrived 5<sup>th</sup> March, they were well received. An extract of brother Jan Pieter's report:

"The day after arriving we caught up with Melvin, his wife Lilian, Hawa and her six children and a few young men. After our first talk we soon established that none of them were born again, so we rented a couple of taxis, took them to a nearby lagoon and baptized them (nine people). Later on one of the sisters wrote: '*Revival Fellowship church started in Buduburam camp March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 - the day we got baptized.'* 

It proved to be the beginning of a very exciting week.

We held several meetings which were well attended with around 50 people. At an informal gathering there were quite a few questions and people were impressed that all the answers came straight from the Bible. This is unheard of at this camp, where there are already many churches, but according to the people, these only preach their own ideas and philosophies. They were surprised by our preaching and the "sound doctrine". On the Sunday this resulted in the baptism of 15 people. We had to hire a mini-bus. Although it was only a 16-seater, we managed to squeeze 27 of us in.

We also saw people being healed. One of the healings was of a little girl called Mimi, the granddaughter of Hawa. She could not eat and after five days had become very weak. She was prayed for, was healed, started to eat again and looked happy."

During the trip, in all, 28 people were baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking in other tongues. Our new brother, Melvin, the main contact there, is busy following these people up, and already another 4 people have asked to be baptized. Now the work is in their hands. Please pray for them.



Melvin and Lilian – the initial contacts

Wout giving his testimony at the Sunday meeting



Mimi, the girl that was healed



One of the baptisms - Hawa

### Liberia

The saints in Johnsonville (just outside the capital, Monrovia) have managed to erect a meeting hall on a small piece of land which they were able to purchase with a donation from the Mission Fund. The hall will seat about 150 people, and has become a focal point for the work amongst the local community. Our brother Augustine, ably assisted by a number of others, is doing a good job of spreading the salvation message.

Pr Ron Carslake visited the assembly at the beginning of March. At the Sunday meeting 35 saints took communion, and then walked 3km to the river where 10 new people were baptized. A young brother from the Dordrecht assembly, Johan van Bruksvoort, who joined Pr Ron on an earlier visit in 2008, was again able to make the trip, and will stay on in Johnsonville to continue working with the saints until the middle of May. In the 2 weeks since Pr Ron's visit another 13 people have been baptized, so the new hall is filling up fast!

A good testimony: a fellow named Prince was present at the first meeting which Pr Ron and brother Jan Pieter van Oostende (also from the Dordrecht assembly) attended in January 2008. In the middle of that meeting he collapsed with an epileptic fit. Our brothers prayed for him, and after the meeting he was able to walk to the river with them, where he was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues. From that moment he has never suffered another fit, although he had previously endured epilepsy for most of his life. He is very excited with his new life in the Lord. Praise the Lord.







### Africa in General

Apart from our established assemblies and outreaches, we also have contacts in Uganda, Chad and Nigeria which may lead to works being established in the future.

We wait to see what the Lord has in store.

On a final note there will be the first "Pan-African Rally" to be held in Kenya in August. We are excited that leaders from most of (maybe even all of) our African countries will attend, as well as Pr Brian Allen and Pr Paul Nobel from Australia. We'll bring you an update in a future issue of the Council Newsletter.

### ASIA

Ps Colin Tan summarises his movements and some baptisms in the region where we have assemblies:

"I was in Thailand in early Feb for 10 days. (See photos below)

They've had 17 baptisms since the beginning of the year and a good response in Laos. The saints in the second prison are also doing well: they have had 24 baptised and Spirit-filled recently. While I was in Thailand we drove about 1 200km: we visited the main groups up north, the 2 prisons and then headed to southern Thailand where a group of 7 were waiting for us to baptize them.

Philippines has had a good too run with 16 baptisms last month.

Singapore too is doing well: we had 7 baptisms at camp and others since."







## **BALI, INDONESIA**

"These are some pictures from our New Year's Eve night in Bali. We had great fellowship for closing the year in the Spirit with the saints." Pastor William



Even as we write, the Bali Hall opening is underway, followed by their camp. We'll bring you a report on that in the next Newsletter.

### AROUND AUSTRALIA

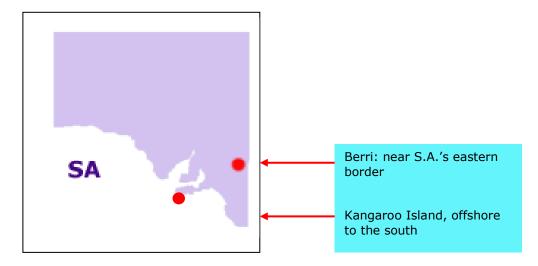
### Kangaroo Island, South Australia

A band of 10 Spirit-filled folk are meeting on Kangaroo Island, off South Australia's southern coastline. They are being ministered to by visiting leaders from the southern end of Adelaide assembly.

### Berri, South Australia

Known locally as the Riverland area, we now have a small outreach of half dozen Spirit-filled folk in this picturesque country town.

Again the centre is supported with extra ministry from the northern segment of the Adelaide assembly.



### Kalgoorlie, Western Australia

We also have a new, small outreach meeting in the Golden City of Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. One of the Perth saints, a policeman named Damian, was posted there last year and soon found himself witnessing to a colleague in the force, who was baptised and received the Spirit. An assembly consisting of two policemen! Soon after, another convert arrived and so an outreach was conducted in November, resulting in 9 locals being baptised that weekend. Subsequent outreaches have resulted in further baptisms. Please pray for these fledgling groups.



A meeting at Damian's (left) house in December



One of the baptisms - Lisa

### **JAPAN OUTREACH 2009**

Would you like to join an outreach to somewhere different? How about heading out on the 2009 Japan Outreach from  $22^{nd}$  September –  $6^{th}$  October this year?!

Ps Kevin Quirk of Perth assembly is organising an outreach to Fukuoka (a city of about 1.5 million on the southern island of Kyushu). He says you don't need to be able to speak Japanese (although it would certainly help!), merely be prepared to hand out leaflets.

If you'd like to know more please email him at <u>quirk@iinet.net.au</u>.





# YOUNG PEOPLE'S GEORGIA, USA OUTREACH 2009

Whilst on the subject of outreaches to exotic places, you might want to keep your eye out for a cheap fare to Georgia, USA, for the "Young People's Outreach" from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 11<sup>th</sup> July. It promises to be something special - and they speak English!

For more information contact John Lawson on jlawson62@hotmail.com.

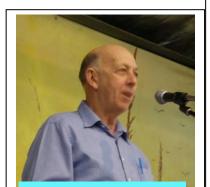
# AUSTRALIAN LEADERSHIP CAMP

The second Australian Leadership Camp was held in Adelaide over the March long weekend several weeks ago and was an outstanding success. Six of the Australian Council Pastors plus many other local pastors joined in.

Of the 400 or so participants, all keen to glean anything from the array of pastors on hand, some 150 had come from outside the home base of Adelaide. And although it was billed as the Australian Leadership Camp there were leaders and aspiring leaders from New Zealand, India, Singapore and Philippines.

The attendees listened to inspiring testimonies, the histories of the humble beginnings of a number of assemblies, basic doctrine from Bible talks, and inspiring preaching about the need for young saints to "step up to the plate".

We pray the weekend inspired many of our up-and-coming leaders throughout the Australian Fellowship and that we will look back in the future on this weekend as the auspicious beginning of many new centres. There is a third Leadership Camp planned for March, 2010. For any information in the meantime please email Ps Paul Nobel of Adelaide at <u>thenobels@bigpond.com</u>.



Ps John Kuhlmann inspiring the young to "take up the challenge"





Young folk enjoying the fellowship over dinner



Some of the 50 W.A. young people that attended



Ps Joseph (Manila), Ps Colin (Singapore) and Ps Steve and his wife Pam and daughter Rachel (India).



Young folk caught up from all over Australia

### CHRISTMAS CAMPS AROUND THE WORLD

A quick wrap-up on some of the many Christmas Camps conducted around the world.

### **Continental Europe**

### "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine. I Tim 4 : 16.

This was the theme for our Winter Camp, held during the final week of the year in the picturesque snow-covered hills of Wasserkuppe, Germany. More than 200 brothers and sisters came to enjoy a week of fellowship. We were particularly pleased to have Roger, Liz and the kids all the way from Alice Springs, Australia joining us as well. Being a popular spot for winter sport, it gave us plenty of opportunity to outreach. We were pleased to have a few visitors coming along. Debi, who lives in Gottingen, Germany, was invited by her sister Bebi from the Rotterdam assembly. She received the Holy Spirit and was baptised that evening - which we watched on the big screen!

"Camps are an investment in revival." Many of the talks centred around the theme, reminding us that we should not be willing to compromise on any aspect of the gospel. It is not up to us to select parts of the Bible to accept or reject. We are not going to change the gospel as it is a doctrine of truth that will save the soul. We have gained a perfect life of promises. Have it all or loose it all – it is up to us.

We enter a new year where we will experience good times and tough times, but we have grown stronger throughout the past year. Go on and go out with the work of the Lord the centre of our lives. Know the importance of the building job God had called us to do. We expect great things in 2009!" Ps Pieter Visser



Not everyone was brave enough to pose in the cold









In the meeting hall

#### **United Kingdom**

"With approx 180 saints from all over the UK, Ireland, Switzerland, Australia, and a large contingent from Holland, this proved to be our biggest Camp ever. We had a new venue too - the Royal Grammar School in historical Lancaster, overlooking the medieval castle with Morecombe Bay and the Lake District in the distance. With flexible accommodation suiting all budgets and saints doing the catering, we were always going to be in for a week. However, it does not stop there. As always, the real goodness lay within. The theme "For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost" reflected that and this little verse from Romans 14:17 provided much inspiration with virtually every speaker drawing something precious from it. Overall, we must not get caught out with trivial matters and aim for things that edify each other. Indeed, if we ensure that righteousness is our aim, then peace and joy are found within us, so much so that the overflowing covers our neighbours within and without. As a result a number of visitors came to Camp and there were two baptisms; one at Camp and the other the next day in Manchester. Over the week, we also collected over £800 for the Mission Fund through enterprising ideas like real coffee in Revival-branded coffee mugs and a Sunday collection." Ps Lee Finney



### **Capetown, South Africa**

"About 65 saints enjoyed a great time of fellowship at this year's annual Christmas camp at Noordhoek, just south of Cape Town. Visitors included 2 sisters from Perth (Emma and Alex) and a sister from Dordrecht (Jolanda). The camp theme was "Forever" which provided inspiration for many uplifting thoughts from the Word of God. As always the food and fellowship were excellent. New Year's Eve was celebrated with a concert of lively items, as the saints said farewell to 2008 and welcomed 2009 with eager anticipation for the Lord's work in the coming year." Ps Ron Carslake



# Victoria, Australia

Once again, Anglesea proved a great venue for the Victorian Camp, with great ministry and plenty of fun (see photos below!).





New Year's Eve was a fancy dress night based on the theme "Country and Western"

### Tasmania, Australia



### Western Australia

"We went down to the beautiful Kalgan River Caravan Park in Albany again this year and adopted the Camp theme of 'Here am I, send me!' from Isaiah 6. It proved a source of inspiration for some wonderful ministry from the Word. As usual the fellowship was great and there was lots of entertainment and fun in the items and skits. Another big hit was the Annual Mission Fund Auction, where the generosity of the saints produced astonishing bids of \$150 for a mere bottle of grape juice! Praise the Lord: it was all for a great cause."









Fellowship after the night meeting - young people just having fun

# Adelaide, Australia



