

The Last Mailing

This will be the last printed 'Pastors' Link' mailed out to you. The 'Pastors' Link' has been mailed to every pastor/minister in the Illawarra since May 1994. It has been done with the hope there would be more sharing of resources, ministries and vision, resulting in a significant impact on the region of the Illawarra for the Kingdom.

There were only seven replies to the questionnaire sent out with the previous edition, but generally supportive of the value of a communication similar to this. My recent efforts to get new sponsors, however, have not been fruitful. We thank sponsors who have made the mailing possible over the years.

I feel now that a change of method of communication is needed. So, for those interested, there will be an email version of the 'Pastors' Link' each month, together with updates as required. If you would like to be on the email list, please make sure you let me know, or subscribe from our website!

Christ is All!

David Bartlett,
Editor and Network Convenor

The ABCs of a New Year

by Greg Asimakoupoulos

Ask the Lord to bless your future.

Be assured that's his desire.

Cast your cares upon your Father.

Don't despair.

Entertain hopes

For the new year.

Give no heed to old regrets.

Have a daily time to hear from God in prayer.

If you doubt what he is saying,

Just compare it with his Word.

Kings and prophets (even shepherds) found him true.

Let the Bible give you courage.

Meditate on what you read.

Never underestimate what God can do.

Own your fears, but keep on trusting.

Persevere and don't give up.

Quit the rat race so that you can catch your breath.

Risk rejection.

Share your struggles.

Take some time for fun each day.

Understand it's wrong to work yourself to death.

Vent your stress by exercising.

Worship weekly with God's friends.

X out guilt that tends to steal your sense of peace.

Yesterdays have no more power, thanks to what the Lord has done.

Zero in on what he offers. . . . life's new lease!

[From the National Pastors Prayer Network (USA) email and
<http://pastorport.com/stressbusters.asp>]

In this issue ...

- Events in the Region and beyond
- Pastors Network information

Don't forget to check out our website
www.illawarrapastors.org.au
for details of activities of the Network,

a list of regional events, positions available, papers relating to unity and city-reaching, and other links etc.

What's coming up in the Illawarra

Be part of these events with pastors supporting each other, and promoting a more effective witness in the Illawarra

● Pastors' Prayer Breakfast

There will be **NO** Pastors' Prayer Breakfast in **January**.

The first **Pastors' Prayer Breakfast** will be held on **Friday 29th February** at the new church in Wollongong led by **Barry Gaulke**. The church is called the "**Concrete Innovative Church**". The breakfast will be held in their office space in Suite 2/157 Crown St Wollongong (enter at stairs next to Cino's – near the Mall Amphitheatre).

Meet at 6.45 am ready for breakfast, and then for prayer from 7.30 am to 8.30 am.

Breakfasts are held on the last Friday of each month at various locations.

See page 4 for more details and more information about breakfasts.

● Wollongong Gospel Choir

Rehearsals recommence for 2008 on Tuesday 5th February 2008 – 7.00pm until 8.30pm at the Wollongong Seniors Citizens Centre, 194 Gipps Road, Gwynneville.

There is an opportunity for those in the community who have an open commitment to singing religious music to join the **Wollongong Gospel Choir**.

There are some great choirs in Wollongong and there are limited church choirs in operation and the **Wollongong Gospel Choir** may be the answer for those wishing to share with each other and with the community the joy, hope and inspiration of gospel music.

Those wishing to be involved in this type of choir are welcome to attend our regular rehearsals each Tuesday night. Come and

sing some great music as well as enjoying fellowship and even a cuppa. It has been encouraging to have nearly half of our members as teenagers, who enjoy singing this particular style of music.

If you are interested in joining or being a part of this multi-denominational choir you are invited to attend our Tuesday night rehearsals at the Wollongong Seniors Citizens Centre, 194 Gipps Road, Gwynneville commencing at 7.00pm until about 8.30pm.

Alternatively, please visit our website www.wollongong-gospel-choir-info and register your interest or by phoning Phillip Newton on 0412 603 333 or John Sandercock on 4272 3642.

● Evangelising Australia National Conference

The Evangelizing Australia national conference will be held from Mon 11 Feb - Thu 14 Feb 2008 at Chatswood Anglican Church in Sydney.

This four-day conference will focus on **four key Biblical priorities for reaching our nation**:

Mon 11 Feb – *'Preaching the Gospel'*

Tue 12 Feb – *'Evangelism (personal & corporate)'*

Wed 13 Feb –

'Church/Congregation Planting'

Thu 14 Feb – *'Raising up Gospel Workers'*

Thirteen speakers are scheduled to present material at the conference at the various plenary sessions and electives. Each day is self-contained, so if you are not able to make it to the whole conference, you can come

for one (or more) of the days. Please note that due to limited numbers, priority will be given to full time registrants.

A **brochure** containing more details on the conference can be downloaded by going to the following link www.gospeloutreach.com.au/resources/EAConferenceBrochure.pdf

To **register** simply print off the registration form (on page 3 of the brochure) and post or fax it to us with your payment.

Alternatively you can register over the phone by calling 02 9980 9913.

Further Information:

Gospel Outreach Ministries
21 New Line Rd
West Pennant Hills NSW 2125
ph 02 9980 9913 fax 02 9980 9914
Email info@gospeloutreach.com.au
Web site: www.gospeloutreach.com.au

● Advanced 'Perspectives' Course

The New Advanced Perspectives Course 2008 starts 21 Feb 2008.

REQUIREMENT: must have completed Standard Perspectives.

The 2008 course will be held on Thursday nights from 7:00 – 9:30 PM and runs for 13 weeks.

The course will be held at the Keiraville Anglican Church.

We ask you to inform and encourage members to join the class as it studies the four foundational perspectives of missions: Biblical, Historical, Cultural, Strategic.

This course is widely used and recommended by major mission organizations.

Total Cost: \$130 (Course notes) Reader \$50 (if required) offers great value for money, spiritual growth and training for service.

N.B. A PowerPoint Slide is available on Pastors Network Events Web site.

Co-ordinator: John Vidler 4261 4518
Email: vidlerjl@tpg.com.au
21 Myee Street, Kanahooka, 2530]
Applications to:
Mr John Bradd
20 Araluen Avenue, Mount Kembla, 2526
jbradd@bigpond.net.au

● **Clinical Pastoral Education**

An Introductory (40 hours) Clinical Pastoral Education Course is starting 3rd to 7th March 2008.

Many churches send their Pastoral Care workers to do the course but the course is also training those who want to apply to do volunteer hospital chaplaincy.

For more information ring 42225999 (Wollongong Hospital Pastoral Care Department)

● **WYD Wollongong**

The Catholic Church in the Illawarra is holding a number of events in 2008 as part of the "World Youth Day" (WYD) programme.

The following items are given for information:

WYD Wollongong - Journey of the Cross and Icon: 25 March - 5 April 2008 - Includes *'The Light of the Cross' Festival* (at WIN Stadium?)- 4 April 2008

WYD Wollongong - Days in the Diocese: 10 - 14 July 2008 - Includes *'The Great Aussie BBQ'* - 12 July 2008

WYD: 15 - 20 July 2008

See www.wyd08wooll.org for more details

● **Regional Men's Day - date to be announced!**

John Cornford says there will definitely be one this year - date, venue and speaker still to be confirmed! So, check the 'Regional Events' page on the Illawarra Pastors Network website at www.illawarrapastors.org.au

● **IMD 2008 23rd & 24th MAY 2008**

Make Illawarra Missions Day 2008 a part of your church calendar and introduce your church to a biblical & global mission perspective. Help your people become world Christians.

● **Kid's Pastors Dinner**

To be held 25 July 2008. More details will come from Yvonne Gunning - Kid's Pastor at Figtree Anglican.

● **'Recharge' - Kid's Ministry Leaders Conference**

Keep the date 26 July 2008 free. More details will come from Yvonne Gunning - Kid's Pastor at Figtree Anglican.

● **Crossroads Christian Fellowship**



Crossroads Christian Fellowship NSW Inc – Wollongong Branch, is a vital ministry to **people with disabilities**, and has been running in Wollongong for nearly thirty years.

Can your church help?

Crossroads holds monthly activity evenings on the first Friday of each month. Churches are invited to commit to hosting an evening – i.e. provide activities e.g. games, do the devotions – puppets, drama etc are good, and provide supper for the evening.

If you can help, or you would like further information contact Max and Judy Edwards on 4228 6296 or email maxjudy@ozemail.com.au

● **"Down But Not Defeated"**

During 2007, St. Paul's Shellharbour ran a trial of a 10 week Biblestudy Series for those who suffer from Depression, and those who support them. It was very well received, with a large number of participants.

The studies, "Down But Not Defeated", have been written by Dr. Helen Rienits and include extensive Leader's Notes. They have been written to be suitable for a capable small group leader to run. They have now been printed and are available for purchase and distribution. Each pack includes a Leader's Manual and a set of Photocopy Masters with permission to make up to 20 copies of the participant's material per pack purchased.

The pack costs \$20. If postage etc. is required, add \$5.

Enquires and orders: please email: down_but_not_defeated@stpaulsanglican.com

● **Liberty Christian Ministries Inc.**

Liberty Christian Ministries Inc is a non-denominational Christian organization with the following key aims:

- Providing support, hope and education to Christian men and women who struggle with unwanted same sex attraction
- Providing support to families, spouses and friends of those who struggle with unwanted same sex attraction or who have embraced a homosexual lifestyle

- Educating the church and the wider Christian community about same sex attraction and how to care for and pastor those affected by it. It endeavours to equip churches to better care for their members who struggle in this area but who seek to live a life according to the standards taught in the Bible.

Recently, in spite of having a much needed and appreciated ministry, Liberty has been struggling financially. Your church may like to prayerfully consider supporting the work, or communicating the need to your people.

For more information contact
 Liberty Christian Ministries Inc,
 PO Box 67 Summer Hill NSW 2130
 Ph.02-979884685
www.libertychristianministries.org.au

• A Few More Pastoral Movements in the Illawarra...

There are a number of movements among pastors/ministers in the Illawarra for 2008. Here are a few – we pray God’s richest blessings on each as they move on:

- **Michael Anway** has finished ministry at Gerringong Baptist (not Kiama, as reported in the last Pastors’ Link!)
- **Rev. Sam and Janet Reeve** has left Wollongong Baptist Church to go into a teaching role in the Bible College of Victoria. Sam and Janet will be a big loss to our city and the Uni.students ministry which is strong in that church.
- **Mark and Jennifer Wheatley** have moved from the Salvation Army Centre at Berkeley to Broken Hill. **Capt Christy Jessop** has become the new Corps Officer at Berkeley.
- **Ron Watts** is retiring (15th February 2008) from Hospital Chaplaincy and taking a role in MAF (Missionary Aviation

Fellowship). **June Bock** will be overseeing the Hospital Chaplaincy programme full time

for 3 months until the position is filled.

Illawarra Pastors’ Network Information

• Illawarra Pastors Prayer Breakfasts for 2008

The first **Pastors’ Prayer Breakfast for 2008** will be held on **Friday 29th February**, at the new church led by Barry Gaulke. The church is called “**Concrete Innovative Church**”. The breakfast will be held in their office space in **Suite 2/157 Crown St Wollongong** (enter at stairs next to Cino’s – near the Mall Amphitheatre). Meet at 6.45 am ready for breakfast, and then for prayer from 7.30 am to 8.30 am.

Breakfasts are usually on the last Friday of each month at various locations.

The other breakfast for this year are:

- 28th March - Albion Park Anglican;
- 2nd May (25th April is Anzac Day) - Corrimal Anglican;
- 30th May -Woonona Baptist; 27th June –Shellharb’r Village Uniting;
- 25th July [*To be decided*] 29th August Lighthouse Church
- 26th September - Shellharbour Bapt; 31st October - Woonona Presbyterian
- 28th November - House of Hope Warrawong

• Illawarra Pastors’ Network

Illawarra Pastors’ Network Coordinator: David Bartlett

David is a pastor to pastors, is available as “**an ear to listen**”, to pray with you and support you in ministry.

David is also available to come to your church to **preach and share vision** on areas such as unity and impacting the region. Phone David on 42836845 or email: david@illawarrapastors.org.au

*[If you would like to support David’s ministry, cheques can be made out to **Illawarra Pastors’ Network** (with an indication that it is for support) and sent to Illawarra Pastors’ Network, 3/119 Campbell St, WOONONA 2517, or payments can be made directly to the **Illawarra Pastors’ Network account** through the IMB (BSB No. 641-800 Account Number 200127259)].*

Network Servant-Leaders: David Bartlett, Peter Currie, Warwick Marsh, Robin Nance and Lloyd Ollerenshaw.

• On The Illawarra Pastors Email List?

Do you receive regular email updates, reminders or information from the Pastors Network? If not, and you would like to, **please send your email address to the Convenor**, David Bartlett, and your email address will be added to the mailing list. [*Note: The list is confidential and not released to anyone. Information may be sent to the Convenor for forwarding or putting on our website.*]

• The Illawarra Pastors’ Network Web Site

For an update of Events, Breakfasts, and details concerning the Network, check the web site www.illawarrapastors.org.au

• The Illawarra Pastors’ Link

is produced by the **Illawarra Pastors’ Network**, as a service to the Body of Christ in the Illawarra Area and is published monthly.

Send any information about events, concerns, resources, needs, ideas that might be relevant to the wider Body of Christ and His ministry in the Region to:

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 Phone/Fax 02-42836845 Email: david@illawarrapastors.org.au