

Church Matters

Keeping a link with the Sydney congregation



Living and Sharing the Gospel

April 2015

This month **Rod Dean** had the privilege to do the funeral of **Patricia Robertson** who was baptized and attended the Belmore congregation in 1973 and then moved up to Denman in 1976. Many know her son **Mac Robertson** and his wife **Lorna**. The younger daughter **Jennifer McFall** attends the Eagleby congregation. I think the following poem captured the essence of the lady. It was read by Jenny during the funeral.

**Patricia
Robertson
(1920-2015)**

Death is nothing at all
I have only slipped away into the next room
I am I and you are you
Whatever we were to each other
That we are still
Call me by my old familiar name
Speak to me in the easy way you always used
Put no difference into your tone
Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow
Laugh as we always laughed
at the little jokes we always enjoyed together
Play, smile, think of me, pray for me
Let my name be ever the household word that
it always was
Let it be spoken without effort
Without the ghost of a shadow in it

Life means all that it ever meant
It is the same as it ever was
There is absolute unbroken continuity
What is death but a negligible accident?
Why should I be out of mind
Because I am out of sight?
I am waiting for you for an interval
Somewhere very near
Just around the corner
All is well.
Nothing is past; nothing is lost
One brief moment and all will be as it was before
How we shall laugh at the trouble of parting when
we meet again!

*(Canon Henry Scott-Holland, 1847-1918,
Canon of St Paul's Cathedral)*

Skype Review

One of our goals is to overcome the tyranny of distance for scattered congregations and members. For about 4 years we have endeavoured to Skype the service to congregations and individuals. This originally was an idea that **Jon Richardson** initiated.

Using borrowed equipment we have tried to provide a regular service. Recently, based on feedback, we have had to take stock of the whole exercise and to see if we can produce a consistent quality of sound and video. **Trevor Liu** from the Bathurst congregation joined up with **Nathan Parris** in Sydney. Using people in Bathurst as receivers they went through the whole process addressing the problems we were having.

Simple and cheap solutions were tried with success. Bathurst had good sound and video that day and the following week Canberra said it was the best they had had. Feedback from widespread individuals in the following week also confirmed they had received a stable and reliable transmission. Nathan will continue to look at improving the service. So thanks to Trevor for coming down and thanks to Nathan for taking on the responsibility.

The situation now is this: we plan to send the service by Skype twice a month. Nathan will coordinate this. **Rod Dean** will send out the schedule for the Skype with the speaking schedule. Those interested in this service need to email to Rod Dean their Skype account name and we will add you to a group contact list.

Jon Richardson is now free to concentrate on the worship band. We thank him for all the work of juggling both responsibilities over the last four years. Also we thank **Wayne Garratt** who with Jon spent a lot of time investigating the use of Optus 4G modem. We also thank all those that allowed their equipment to be used or donated equipment. We also thank **Barry Hatfield** who has always sought to assist from his area.

We believe there is a need for this service and are appreciative of the patience and perseverance of Canberra and Bathurst with it over the years. Hopefully the quality can keep improving and we can keep the whole exercise as simple as possible.

Upcoming dates for Skype: April 4, 11; May 2, 16; June 6, 20.



Lee Harris restores Packard

Lee Harris, of the Bathurst congregation, has loved cars over the years. He had a burning desire to restore a 1951 Packard Coupe. He found one in 1998 but had to wait until he had time in retirement from Telstra. In 2007 he began the grand project. It took longer, cost more, as is usually the case. But what a tremendous achievement and satisfaction. Lee did all the work except the very specialized skill of cutting out the rust.



Here was a car, the only right drive model of its type in the world, going to the scrap heap now lovingly restored. Antique car rallies and belonging to the Packard network are new opportunities for Lee and his wife **Marilyn**.

Lee said he learnt a lot about mechanics and restoration. A restoration web site in the US was very helpful. There will be little on-going improvements but the photos show the contrast.

Congratulations for a job well done.

John Biswas:

Bangladesh Thank You

Thank you for donating AUS\$1,250 for Bengali Bibles for Bangladesh mission field.

I am leaving for Bangladesh mission trip on 11th of March; after returning, I will update you. We always appreciate your prayers and support.

Buduburam Children's Building

With the toilet project completed, the next requirement is for a children's building for the 32 children who are under 12 years and 28 children under 17 years, for a total of 60 children. The estimated cost is about USD15,000.

We will be including this project in our next budget. At present we are looking at a minimum of AUS\$5,000 in our next budget to be increased if we are able. more on Web.

From WHO (World Health Organization):

PNG High Priority

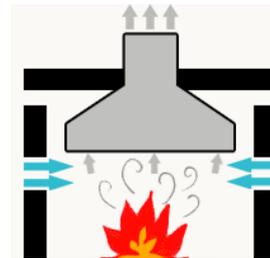
Controlling pollution emission rates from household energy use is one of the most effective ways of ensuring cleaner air in the home, as this addresses the problem at source for the nearly 3 billion of the world's poorest people who still rely on solid fuels (wood, animal dung, charcoal, crop wastes and coal) burned in inefficient and highly polluting stoves for cooking and space heating. The resulting household air pollution led to more than 4 million premature deaths among children and adults in 2012.

Mark Latham has been working on a prototype for a number of years. This report has emphasised how important the vents/hoods be installed up in Mt Wilhelm. It is one of our high priorities.

The principle involved is shown opposite.

A metal hood draws smoke up from the fire and out of the house through a chimney, cutting smoke levels.

Small windows help air to circulate and let in light.



Eaves ventilation, between the roof and the walls, lets more clean air in.

A fire beneath a smoke hood burns more efficiently, so the family spend less on fuel.

.... more on Web.



Special Lord's Supper

Please let **Rod Dean** know if you need to take the Lord's Supper on May 2nd.