

Church Matters

Keeping a link with the Sydney congregation



Living and Sharing the Gospel

Dec. 2015—Jan. 2016

Sydney Church Luncheon

The Sydney congregation has begun a regular luncheon gathering before services at 1 pm on the first Saturday each month. This is a chance for extra fellowship time while enjoying a BYO lunch. A tray of sandwiches is provided, as is tea and coffee. Everyone is welcome.

SEP 2016 will again be held in Morisset, NSW, at the lovely Yarabah Conference Centre. Camp will run from Monday, 4 January – Thursday, 14 January 2016.

Senior Dorm Leaders: **Jon Richardson, Scott Kevill, Grace Merriman**

Dorm Chaplain Team: **Drew Garratt**

Orienteering: **Zane Garratt**

Pre-camp kitchen: **Jim Thomas**

Thank you for your service to SEP.

Locals Serving at SEP



Lou Miranda Reaches 90

Who was still climbing up the scaffolding in preparation for a major paint job on his Hunters Hill home on November 18th — which happened to be his 90th birthday? The unstoppable **Lou Miranda!**

Lou Miranda, when aged 21, founded Duralex in 1946. Its name was derived from the word "Durable". Lou believed there had to be a better, more environmentally friendly way of producing paint at a time when little, if any, thought was given to pollution. He chose the field of water-based paints which was then unexplored, to pioneer many of today's developments.

Duralex has produced many Australian- and world-firsts in the development of acrylic paints. One example was in 1960 when Duralex introduced the first GLOSS ACRYLIC PAINT. This 'world-first' developed after many years of research by Duralex was confirmed as a world breakthrough by such bodies as the Society of British Paint Manufacturers, the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association, Washington USA, and the Canadian Paint and Lacquer Association.

Lou has always been a very active person and so we congratulate him for his fighting spirit and example of resilient living trusting in God.

There will be no services in Sydney and Wollongong on December 26th, January 2nd and 9th.

Service Update

After SEP **Randal Bouchier** will be speaking in Sydney and **Matt Gudze** in Wollongong on Saturday, January 16th.

Because of the PNG annual meeting on Sunday, January 30th, **John McLean** will be speaking on in Sydney and **Rod Matthews** in Wollongong on Saturday, January 29th.

Buduburum Ghana

We continued our commitment to the refugee church in Buduburum by sending \$4,100 for education and grain in December.

The Canberra church in November sent \$3,000 to help **Deben** cover funding for his mobile Bible Schools for this year. Thank you for this generous amount.

Nepal

His 3-4 days' mobile Bible Schools will then become the basis for his 3-month intensive Bible School next year.

... more on Web



**Birth
Announcement
- Locky
Merriman**

We have exciting news! **Lachlan John Merriman** was born Thursday night, 5.45pm, at Royal North Shore Hospital, weighing 3.95 kg (8 pounds 11 oz) and 54 cm tall. **Lauren** and Locky are both doing well. Lauren was discharged the same night Locky was born and both have been at home since then.



He is the first grandchild for **John** and **Sharon Merriman** of Jerrawa and 10th grandchild for **George** and **Narelle Ward** of Alectown.

**PNG Annual
Meeting**

Rod and **Ruth Matthews**, **John McLean**, **David Jordison**, **Mark Latham** and **Rod Dean** will be holding the annual PNG planning meeting on Sunday, January 31st.

Last year's trip will be shared and issues arising out of it.

Areas to be discussed for the 2016 trip:

- Education of young people.
- Development of camps
- Creating a safe place for women
- Completing the building project
- Relationship with Mercy of Life orphanage and support
- Communicating with scattered members
- Registration and governance issues
- Purchases and budgets
- Articles and sermons to support the pastors
- Trip planning

Please pray for God's guidance on the meeting as we walk alongside our growing PNG church.

Bible Fund

The Wollongong congregation has placed \$3,000 into a Bible fund so that **Rod Matthews** is able to provide Bibles where he comes across the need in his travels. This is very helpful to Rod in serving the people of South-East Asia. He knows that he has the funds before he goes and thus is able to plan for or just respond when the need arises.

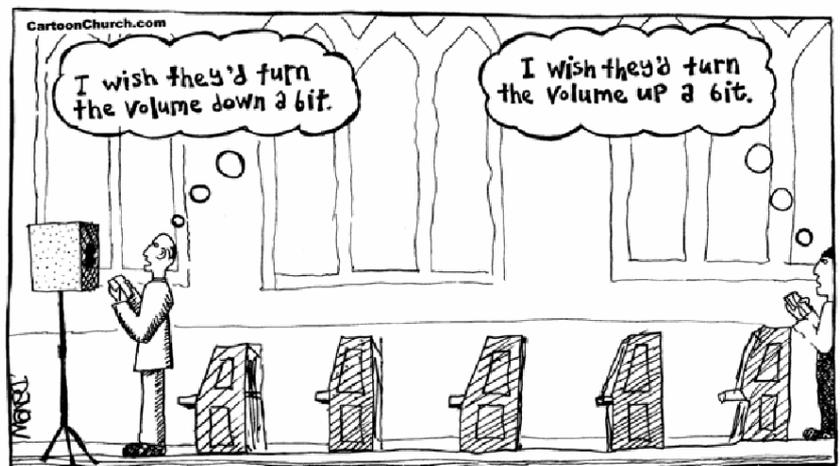
Rod is deeply appreciative of the Wollongong Church's faithfulness.

**Collection of
Unwanted Bibles**

Another call is going out for unwanted Bibles and theological books for the Bible Society. Anyone with

Bibles (of any translation) and books that would be helpful to pastors in Asian countries where there is limited access to resource material, can bring/send books to Sydney congregation.

This collection will run until February, when we will organize a pick-up. Last year's collection was greatly appreciated by the Bible Society which regularly sends shipments to needy areas. This opportunity provides us with a reminder of the abundance we enjoy in our materialistic Western culture.



This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker originally appeared in the Church Times.

NOTE: More articles on Web re PNG Festival, Kenyan School, etc. (click here)