



NOVEMBER 2009

impacting our nation and the nations

Diary Dates

Feb 20 NSW State Gathering

June 7-11 National Leadership Gathering

July 17 Tasmania State Gathering

Sept 18 Victoria State Gathering

Nov 20 SA State Gathering

HILLTOP COMES OF AGE

Twenty-one years ago on October 2 the first meeting of the then North East Christian Church was held in Kendals Hotel in Scottsdale. Among those present were Arthur and Sherrie Russell, Bob and Helen Elder, Merv and Jan Chilcott, Don and Elvie Steel, Max and Geraldine Triebe, and Fritz Neiland, to name a few.

Pastor John and Denise Hannaford took the first meeting and it was through their endorsement of the vision held by others that the church began.

Recently on October 4, 2009 Hilltop together with some former members, regular attenders and all the pastors over the years (John and Denise Hannaford, Phil and Maxine Brown, Cliff and Audrey Roper) and the present pastors, Jenny Templeton and Lynden Russell, gathered together to celebrate.

National Leader for BMi, Mark Crawford was also present.

Early visionaries were presented with a certificate congratulating them on their faithfulness

by members of the up-and-coming generation of the church. Jamari Lockhart presented grandparents Arthur and Sherrie Russell with a shrub as did Caleb Chilcott and Emma Steel to their grandparents Merv and Jan Chilcott and Don and Elvie Steel.

John Hannaford and Mark Crawford then spoke to our hearts: John on the wise and the foolish virgins and the necessity of being ready and "getting our own oil"; Mark on a door opening as the church now came of age. Together both pastors then commissioned the church for the new season.

Then we ate... ham off the bone, chicken and sweets that filled us to overflowing in the natural as the goodness of God had in the Spirit.

It was a great day and we are grateful to God for His provision and love in bringing Hilltop to this place today.

A fitting celebration for a journey into a new place for the church that started in the heart of the Father and was carried by His faithful ones to this moment of time.

Thank you Father. You are amazing!

*Pastor Jenny Templeton,
Hilltop Church, TAS*



John Hannaford, former Hilltop pastor

Got news?

Prayer points? Written something to share?

Send to info@bmi.org.au or post to 200 Florey Drive, Charnwood ACT 2615

*A heathen philosopher once asked a Christian, "Where is God?"
The Christian answered, "Where is He not?"*

- Aaron Arrowsmith

SA STATE GATHERING

What could be better? A perfect spring day at spectacular Victor Harbor spent in company with the BMi family for the SA State Gathering. It was really good to get together again and enjoy some wonderful impartation from each of the National Leadership Team members.

I've been guilty at times of being a bit complacent about the blessing of true fellowship and therefore of not appreciating it enough. Recently though, the ever-developing, tangible sense of 'family' that exists in BMi has really touched my heart and changed some of my perceptions. For me it's that very real sense of family that has characterized recent state and national gatherings, and Victor Harbor this September was no exception.

Mark spoke about seasons and in particular challenged us with three key words for this particular season in BMi. Familiar enough words really—submission, honour and unity—but each one immensely

powerful and yet to be fully understood. I believe that as we allow the Lord to work them in us they will have much to do with shaping our future in God and our identity as a family of churches within Australia and across the world.

During the day Paul Glazbrook shared with us that he and Robyn had felt the Lord was leading them into something fresh and that it was the right time to follow the desire in their hearts to concentrate fully on pasturing their own church into the future. Consequently, Paul was stepping aside from the National Leadership Team to give himself to this. We want to thank you Paul for your heart to serve the SA churches in particular. We do appreciate your hard work and your willingness to stand alongside when any of us needed you. (Brilliant things to come south of Adelaide!).

Thank you also to the folk from Covenant Family Church for their warm hospitality as they hosted us for the day.

Pam Busby, Almond Grove Family Church, SA



Praying with Greg and Paul in the National Leadership Team transition

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Recently Paul Glazbrook after much prayer and discussion with his elders requested that he be released from his role on the National Leadership Team. He feels that he needs to focus, in this season, on Covenant Family Church and their expanding role within the region around Victor Harbor.

After discussion with the National Leadership Team and with Peter Vacca I want to announce to you that I have appointed Greg Phillips to the team. He brings a different perspective to the team and an apostolic gifting that needs further development; and his heart for this nation and planting churches will be also be a good addition.

We appreciate Paul and Robyn's contribution to the National Leadership Team and have so valued their input, work and support. During next year Paul and Robyn will have some long service leave and will focus on developing and growing Covenant Family Church.

I believe that we are entering into a new season and that the Father is releasing new things for us to embrace. During next year, we will be able to discover what those things are and continue to embrace changes that position us for the fullness of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Mark Crawford, National Leader

FROM LITTLE THINGS...

There is an advertisement on Tasmanian Television at present that grabs my interest every time I hear it. They sing a song "From little things... big things grow."

It reminds me so much of what the Father does with little things when by faith we place them in His hands:

- Five loaves and two fishes were placed in His hands and 5,000 were fed.
- Elijah asked for the last little bit of flour and oil from the widow and her and her son ended up with an endless supply of both.
- The widow gave her last 2 pennies and Jesus commended her
- Mustard seeds are about the size of those pesky poppy seeds on top of our rolls, yet Jesus says that if we have faith that small, we can move mountains.

Then, BMi...

Many people would say that BMi is a small group of churches, and I guess in comparison to other groups we are. But... out of little things big things grow.

We are surely punching above our weight!

So next time you catch yourself thinking that you can only give small, remember the hands that you are placing that small thing in—remember the size of a mustard seed of faith.

Remember, BMi... just remember.!

Jenny Templeton, Hilltop Christian Church, TAS



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