

# Partnership

The newsletter of the Australian Presbyterian World Mission

The Australian Presbyterian World Mission

[www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au)

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WINTER 2012



## What will last?

We live in a world that is marked by decay. We build a house that we think will last but over time it develops problems and one day will be knocked down. We buy a shiny new toy but that too will one day stop working. As the years progress, our bodies slow down and wear out. In all this, God is constantly reminding us that things are not as they were meant to be. All of creation cries out: 'This world does not last'. It makes us long for something permanent.

What will last in a world marked by decay? The Word of God, the Word declared by Christians in Australia and overseas.

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus says *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.* (Matthew 4:4). The Word of God is central to all that we do in mission.

Without the Word of God we have no life because this Word has a unique origin — it comes from the very mouth of God.

But how do we know that this Word will succeed? In Isaiah 55:11 the LORD says *so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.* It's because God guarantees that His Word cannot fail that we take the gospel to people everywhere.

However, I think we're sometimes tempted to believe this promise with our heads but not our hearts. So let God's promise sink in. What does He say? *It will not return to me empty.* That's the reason that we engage in mission. It's God's Word that goes out and therefore it cannot fail!

**Kevin Murray**



## John and Rose Evans

John and Rose Evans were commissioned on Saturday 14th July at Central Church, Ipswich for service in Japan. God-willing, they will leave on Tuesday 7th August for a brief holiday prior to commencing service in Japan. Thank you to the many churches and individuals throughout Australia who have partnered with them to take the gospel to Japan. Please pray for them as they settle into their new life.



## Workpartners Vanuatu December 2012

Applications are now open for our Workpartners December team. The details:

**Workpartners** 7th to 23rd (or 24th for Sydney people) December. There are two teams:

**1. Paama Island:** Building a Presbytery Resource Centre

**2. Talua Ministry Training Centre:** Constructions of bathrooms and toilets for the Bachelor of Ministry houses.

**Cost** Approximately \$2,000. We suggest that participants pay 1/3 themselves, approach their church seeking a contribution of 1/3 and then fundraise the remaining 1/3.

**Who can go?** Committed Christians, minimum age 15 years (Talua) and 18 years (Paama). Get in early as numbers are limited.

**Contact** APWM (02) 9792 1373 or [national@apwm.org.au](mailto:national@apwm.org.au) or go to [www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au) and click the 'Workpartners' page to find and download an application form or to get more details.

Please note that we also plan to send our next Workpartners' teams to each site in July, 2013.



*After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. (Revelation 7:9)*

## They're Off!

Please join with us in praising God for those that have recently commenced serving overseas:

### Daniel & Rachel Djamaludin

(Kenmore PC, QLD) Interserve, Thailand. Dan works as a project manager in Child Protection to help the Thai Church (Church of Christ)



develop an effective response to the needs of children in the church, especially those who may be vulnerable.

### Daniel & Courtney

(Donvale PC, VIC) Pioneers, South Asia.

### David and Georgina Newmarch

(Tregear, NSW) CMS, South Asia.

**Mrs Ibolya Pillar** has been recognised as an APWM Associate Missionary along with her husband, Granville Pillar.

## Brian & Judy Cullen

Brian and Judy Cullen are retired Maths and Science teachers from Stanthorpe PC, QLD. They have been accepted by APWM



National to serve as self-funded APWM Associates teaching at Onesua High School, run by the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu. Their role is quite strategic in developing critical thinking as some of their students will probably serve as future elders and pastors in the Presbyterian Church of

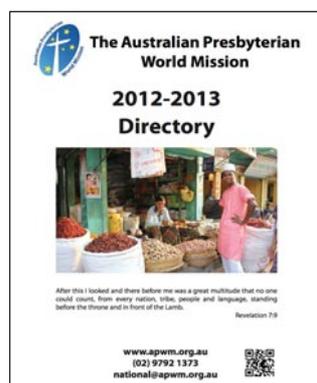
Vanuatu. Brian and Judy will be leaving in January/February 2013 for a two year term of service. If you would like to receive their prayer letter please contact our office.

## Prayer Directory 2012-2013

Our free 2012-2013 APWM Prayer Directory has been published and posted to churches. Since some of the information is sensitive, the Directory will only be distributed on a personal basis. There is no digital version. If you didn't receive a Directory and would like one then please either ask your Minister or someone on your church missions committee. If they can't help you then please contact us.

This can be supplemented with the prayer points in our bi-monthly "Email Update".

If you would like to receive 'Email Update' then please email [national@apwm.org.au](mailto:national@apwm.org.au) with your email address &



phone number, together with the name of your minister and their phone number – this is so that we can verify that you attend a Presbyterian Church.

## Our Name Has Changed

At a meeting of the APWM National Executive in May, the decision was taken to stop using the name 'Mission Partners' and revert to referring to ourselves as 'the Australian Presbyterian World Mission' or 'APWM National'.

This is in distinction with APWM Queensland, APWM Tasmania etc. This also means that the address of our website has changed. You can now find us at [www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au). We also have new email addresses as follows:

[kevinmurray@apwm.org.au](mailto:kevinmurray@apwm.org.au)

[national@apwm.org.au](mailto:national@apwm.org.au)

(Tracey Evans, our Office Administrator)

[finance@apwm.org.au](mailto:finance@apwm.org.au) (Bruce Campbell, our Accounts Clerk)

Our mailing address remains the same.



## Facebook



You can now keep up to date with some of our latest news via Facebook. Simply search for 'Australian Presbyterian World Mission' and 'Like' us.

## Missionaries, please note

If you are one of our missionaries, then please:

- send your newsletters to our new centralised email address [newsletter@apwm.org.au](mailto:newsletter@apwm.org.au) and delete Kevin Murray, Julie Murray and the Office from your mailing list;
- use our new name 'APWM' or 'Australian Presbyterian World Mission' in your literature;
- use our new logo. You can find a collection of logos by going to our website [www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au) and clicking the tab 'Logos' on the front page.

## Building Partnerships

We currently have missionaries who are available to visit churches to build partnerships.

**J & R** (Camden, NSW) SIM, East Asia. J & R had hoped to leave soon to commence serving overseas but have been delayed for medical reasons.

### Andrew and Marilyn Schache

(South Toowoomba, QLD)

Andrew has just returned from Vanuatu where he was part of the July Workpartners team. God-willing, Andrew and Marilyn will be serving at the Talua Ministry Training Centre, Vanuatu from 2013. Andrew will be serving in the much-needed area of maintenance and Marilyn will be serving in administration. We need partnership support of \$44,000 in order to send them. To contact them or have them speak at your church, please email them [rvltn7vs9@gmail.com](mailto:rvltn7vs9@gmail.com)



## God at Work in Japan

Sometimes it's very easy to lose perspective, especially when things aren't happening as fast as we would like. However, we need to remember that even in times when we think growth is slow, God is at work for His glory.

In Japan we work in partnership with the Presbyterian Church in Japan and 'Mission to the World', the missions arm of the Presbyterian Church in America. This is the team with which John and Rose Evans will be serving.

Dan Iverson, leader of the Mission to the World Japan Team for over 20 years, reflects upon the current state of the ministry to Japan.

"The Lord has been at work in Japan, continuing to grow His Church. Thirteen years ago our



Dan Iverson and John Evans

Tokyo/Chiba Mission Team had only 2 churches/mission churches with fewer than 100 worshippers in total. God has blessed this ministry and now about 370 people worship Him each week in 6 churches/ mission churches that God has established through our team. Increasing numbers of ordained and lay Japanese workers are also now actively proclaiming the Gospel. In our broader partnership with the East Tokyo Presbytery, we have seen 3 mission churches of about 60 worshippers grow into a fairly healthy presbytery of 18 churches/mission churches with about 800 worshippers over the last two decades. I say this not to boast (although I confess that tendency is certainly in this sinner's heart), but to encourage you that Christ IS building His church in Japan, and to invite you to join us in that effort by sending more harvest workers.

We need help. The challenges are so great. So few profess Christ, or have even heard. Nationwide, less than 1/2 of 1% of Japanese people are active worshippers in Christian churches. The need is great.

In addition, through the 3/11 tsunami and devastation, God has opened up a new door of what we believe will be effective service. The Presbyterian Church in Japan is moving forward by faith to start a presbytery in northeastern Japan (Tohoku region). We are actively partnering with them in this, seeking finances, workers, and prayer support for this new work that was not in our 5-year plan, but God through the tsunami has put it into our plans. (Actually, I am writing this on the bullet train as I head north to pray and confer with other evangelical leaders in the disaster area as to how we might best partner in starting churches "in the wake of the quake" in Ishinomaki City.) We have the first Japanese church planter approved and moving north this summer with a missionary partner. Some short-termers are working up north with teams coming and going to help, and we are praying for more Japanese and career missionaries for this new focus.

As a Japan ministry field, we are praying for 70 new labourers to be raised up by 2020 (70 Japanese and overseas missionaries). We pray that the Lord of the harvest will send people from Australia to be part of the 70 if He so wills.

## Bush Meat and the Gospel

In recent years, some churches have held a 'Men & Meat' outreach event, inviting a local butcher along to explain different cuts of meat for barbequing and other cooking methods. But what does something like that look like in remote parts of Australia? Bob McKerrrell has developed a unique 'Men & Bush Meat' ministry to reach Indigenous youth and men.

Indigenous Australians in remote communities face many problems — boredom, loneliness, lack of meaningful employment, lack of proper medical care. Along with these problems is a shortage of fresh food. In some remote communities, groceries that would cost \$20 in a large city can cost up to \$60.

Bob and Deb McKerrrell live in a van and travel to remote communities. In each community they visit, they run a Kids' Holiday Program or After School Program to reach out with the gospel. They are also involved in Sunday School and Bible Studies. Sometimes they call in on local people for a cuppa and a prayer time. With some people they are able to read the Bible or share the Bible via a Megavoice Player.

As part of their ministry, Bob takes local Indigenous men hunting for 'Bush Meat'. This has been an effective means of outreach into the community. It has allowed Bob to meet Indigenous youth, men and families that would not have been reached by other means.

In this ministry Bob takes a group of teenagers and men hunting for 'bush meat' — kangaroos and bush turkeys. They are trained in how to use a rifle and the legal requirements that go with such use. Bob says "I wish you could experience the richness of just spending 'time' and 'doing' simple and menial things like spending time with a motley crew of kids that are so eager to soak up almost anything that we do, especially something as exciting as learning to shoot safely." It is through these bridges that Bob is able to reach not only these men but their families.



Please pray for Bob that he would have the wisdom to know when and how to talk freely about Christ with the people he meets through this ministry. Pray that as others watch him they might see Christ at work in His life and be drawn to Christ.

Bob and Deb McKerrrell serve with Australian Indigenous Ministries. If you would like to support this ministry or find out more about it then please contact them on 0411 965 700 or [bdmack@bigpond.com](mailto:bdmack@bigpond.com)

# We've been here for sixteen years and love it!

## Ministry in Mount Druitt



Rev Rick and Mrs Kayleen Manton

Rick and Kayleen Manton serve at the Mount Druitt Indigenous Church, a joint ministry of the Presbyterian and Anglican Churches.

### How long have you served at Mount Druitt?

Rick: This is our sixteenth year. We were only supposed to come here for ten years but we've been here for sixteen years and love it — it's beautiful.

### What sort of changes have you seen in that time?

Rick: We started off with nothing. The church is constantly evolving and the changes have been positive. People have taken ownership of church and ministry, whereas before they were just attending and then going home. Now, they see the church as their church and they get involved in mowing the grass, painting and whatever needs to be done.

Kayleen: Our church has become more well known and people have started to sit up and take notice of what we are doing. We feel that the Church is starting to make a difference in the community. We now see enthusiasm among our young people as they want to be a Church.

### What is the Mount Druitt area like?

Rick: It's a very multicultural area. It has the largest Indigenous population in NSW. Mount Druitt as a community is evolving all the time. The Indigenous people come from all over NSW and move here for various reasons — education, employment, family.

### What are some of the Church's ministries?

Rick: We have a Sunday School, Kids' Club and Youth. We have about 100 plus kids every week and we run a Discipleship Course for the men and women. We're looking to develop the young adults group as well. We have prayer meetings and Church on Sundays.

### You run a 'Theological Education by Extension' course. How does that work?

Rick: It's a booklet that each student uses. They either do the work at home or in a group setting. They have a green sheet which is like an exam paper and they have to do that for marking. There's no time frame for doing the booklet, they can take as long as they like.

### What has encouraged you in the last few years?

Rick: The stability of the people, the growth of the church and the consistency of the young people who come along. There's more of an awareness in the community that there is an Indigenous Church here. More recently a local person has been doing youth ministry. That's been a long time coming but it's the first and it's very exciting to see one of the locals step up to do ministry among his own people.

Kayleen: The fact that I don't have to do Kids' Club or Youth Group anymore. Other people are doing it now which is a real contrast with when we started and we were doing everything. The young people have embraced us and we feel like we're part of their family. We can work with them because their parents allow us to be a part of their lives and they call us 'Aunty' and 'Uncle'.

### What can we pray for?

Rick: The programmes of the church and our leaders. Pray that God will help us to know how to build an Indigenous Church. Pray for our community that we might know how to reach the people. Please pray that God will give Kayleen and myself health and strength to keep going in what we need to do.

If you would like to support this ministry then please contact us at the APWM National Office, 8 Sylvan Grove, Picnic Point NSW 2213 Phone 9792 1373 Email: [national@apwm.org.au](mailto:national@apwm.org.au) or [www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au)

## Thank You

The apostle Paul told the Corinthians *I will visit you after passing through Macedonia, for I intend to pass through Macedonia, and perhaps I will stay with you or even spend the winter, so that you may help me on my journey, wherever I go.* (1 Corinthians 16:5-6). The word *help* includes gifts of support for the ministry in which he was engaged.

Thank you very much to you, the members of the church, who support the work of global mission through gifts of money.

Thank you to Treasurers who do the important work of passing these gifts on to us. We do value your partnership.

To make your role easier, you can make a direct deposit of funds into our bank account.

Bank: Westpac

Account Name: Australian Presbyterian World Mission

BSB: 032 260

Account Number: 151207

When you make your deposit, please put the name of the missionary in the 'Description' box on the bank transfer page.

In addition, please send a short email to [finance@apwm.org.au](mailto:finance@apwm.org.au) to let us know that you have deposited the money so that we can also email you a receipt. Unless you do this we cannot send you a receipt.

To find out about other ways of giving, please go to our web page [www.apwm.org.au](http://www.apwm.org.au) and click on 'Find out more' under the 'Give' tab.