

From The Front-Line In Nigeria: How They Brought The Good News From Aus To Jos



Pastors' Conferences in Egypt (left) and Nigeria (above).

HORRIFIC attacks by Muslim extremists against Christians in Northern Nigeria have recently been reported in the secular media. At the same time one of our readers forwarded *New Life* to a friend in Nigeria who has laboured long in the Lord's service there. *New Life* feels privileged to report this man's response, showing that the Lord is at work there, over and above the worst that man can do ...

Dear Editor,

The recent edition of your magazine was forwarded to me by a friend. Last week we were in Egypt and held a pastors' conference to encourage the believers. They came from most denominations.

Our main work is in Jos, Northern Nigeria. We have hundreds of students who are converted Muslims and they train to be pastors and return to their denominations, from which they plant new churches in unreached regions. Many of these are from prominent Muslim families or were formerly in radical Islamic groups.

One of your articles comments on the use of the *Koran*. We have often heard how the Lord has attracted the attention of Muslims from the mention of Jesus and the Gospels in the *Koran*. They have then searched the Scriptures to find out more. Now as believers, these people see the *Koran* as the place where they first heard about the name of Jesus and the New Testament.

Many such new believers risk their lives and lose their family and income. So our College in Jos supports safe houses and teaches vocational skills as well as teaching theology in English, French and Hausa. The college also

teaches Arabic to students. These languages are a key to spreading the Gospel northward through Africa to the Middle East. Kent's theology book, *Christ In You*, written in straight-forward English, has been translated into Arabic by Egyptian Christians. It is available free on the web in English, Arabic and Hausa and also as audio (see links on www.cfaithministries.org).

We never cease to be amazed at what God is doing in Nigeria. As Australians working in Nigeria for 20+ years, Nigerian colleagues asked us to help them open a new Bible College in Jos in 2007. Despite church-burnings and massacres close by, the college grew. Our 2009 Pastors' Conference was attended by over 2,000 pastors and the Governor of the State gave a 2-hour sermon to the students. And now, despite persecution and hardship, the Gospel continues to radiate northward out from Jos.

There have been more attacks in our region, though not close to us, over the last weekend. They have affected most of the churches in the areas they occurred. We are blessed and it is a great privilege to serve the Lord in the Gospel in this region. We would be honoured if you included our material in your news. You are free to use names, photos, etc.

*Blessings to you and your work,
Kent & Ruth Hodge
kent.hodge@cfaithministries.org*

FOOTNOTE: See why we encourage readers to forward *New Life*: it's one small way of 'casting your bread upon the waters.'

— Ed

How Can YOU Help *New Life*?

- ◆ Keep us in your prayers.
- ◆ Recommend us to others.
- ◆ Forward *New Life* to your friends.
- ◆ Advertise with us.
- ◆ Send in your news and pix.
- ◆ Make a donation as you feel led.
- ◆ Check out our web-site (nlife.com.au)

FROM THE EDITOR

twr – Speaking Hope To The World

*THE heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.
There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.
Their voice goes out into all the Earth, their voice to the ends of the world.*

THESE opening words of Psalm 19 have a new edge to them in our day, as the Gospel goes out by radio, television and satellite. The great radio mission organisations have an important role to play in the eternal scheme of things as they carry the Gospel beyond all human barriers to many more people than can be reached by land-bound missionaries.

TWR is one of those organisations, whose work in China was recently highlighted by a visit from TWR China Director Joseph Hsiang and TWR Chinese Internet Youth Ministry Leader Wilson Chan, who at meetings in Melbourne, Perth, Sydney and Brisbane told of the growth of TWR's ministry to China in the context of meeting rising social problems with the Gospel.

One of the consequences of the amazing growth of Christianity in China is that overall church growth has outpaced growth in leadership. There are many Christians but few leaders, so much of TWR's focus is presently on providing training at seminary level via e-learning through the internet and seminary-of-the-air.

Coupled with this is a program for providing Radio Church Packs to disciple and train believers. China's one-child policy and forced abortion has led to a dramatic rise in social problems. The divorce rate is high, corruption is increasing, there is much pressure to succeed, the suicide rate is rising. All of this brings about a growing need for Christian counselling, in fact the volume of demand is huge. TWR uses radio, the internet and, increasingly, mobile phones in its comprehensive program of evangelism, training and counselling.

For further information or involvement in supporting this vital and growing ministry, contact TWR at PO Box 275, Kerrimuir 3129, phone 1300 123 869, email infoaus@twr.org.au or go to www.twr.org.au

PLEASE NOTE:

AFTER the next issue of *New Life* (NL 2011-12-01) we take a break over the summer vacation period. The first issue in the New Year (available 15 February 2012) will be NL 2012-02-15.

If you have any advertising needs during this period please ensure that you contact Mignon (phone 0434 313 646 or email office@nlife.com.au) by Monday 28 November.

We wish everyone a blessed, safe and refreshing holiday break, and thank you for your support during the past year.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

MYANMAR (BURMA): Ethnic Cleansing Behind Token Reforms

WHILST the West is lauding Burma for its reforms, these reforms are not about democracy but regime survival and advancing the regime's interests as anti-China sentiment inside Burma is soaring. Burma's duplicity is evident in that its war against the Christian Kachin people continues unabated. The regime appears intent on ethnically cleansing Kachin State where China wants to build a massive dam and hydro-power scheme. Some 30,000 Kachin are displaced, most without food, shelter or medical aid.

The regime is imposing severe restrictions on Christianity in some Kachin towns. War and repression are escalating behind a smokescreen of token reforms from a Burman-Buddhist-supremacist regime operating from a position of increasing geo-strategic significance. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has inexplicably downplayed the situation. In contrast, the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in Burma, Tomas Ojea Quintana, told the UN General Assembly on 19 October that recent fighting had resulted in more than 15,000 displaced Kachin being confined to a remote mountainous area on the Chinese border in conditions that can only be described as 'perilous'. According to Quintana, the UN informed the Burmese authorities that it was willing to help these Internally Displaced Persons but Thein Sein's government declined the offer. Furthermore, it is being reported that China is blocking the delivery of food, emergency shelter and medicines, leaving some analysts wondering if Kachin State is being ethnically cleansed at China's behest. The Christian Kachin need our prayers for God's intervention now more than ever.

Please Pray Specifically That:

- ❖ the LORD will rise up in defence of His own people (Isaiah 59.15b-19);
- ❖ their enemies may 'be scattered' (Psalm 68.1), 'be put to shame and confusion' and 'turned back and brought to dishonour' (Psalm 70.2 ESV).
- ❖ the God who provided manna in the wilderness (Exodus 16) and water from the rock (Exodus 17), who instructed the ravens to feed Elijah and resupplied the widow each night (1 Kings 17), who performs miracles (Matthew 14.13ff) and opens and closes doors definitively and at will (Revelation 3.7) will meet the needs of all the displaced Christian Kachin.

*– Written for the Australian Evangelical Alliance Religious Liberty Commission
by Elizabeth Kendal, international religious liberty analyst and advocate,
and a member of the AEA RLC team.*



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ODD-SPOT:

'Blessings From Above'

Mark Reformation Day In Germany

THE Evangelical Church in Germany marked Reformation Day on 31 October with a soaring, whimsical approach to spreading Martin Luther's message that the grace of God is available to all. Across the country, schools, student organisations and church groups organised 'flashmobs' that launched 'blessings from above' – paper airplanes with inspirational messages. Most flew their gliders from windows or other high vantage points simultaneously at 3.17 pm in recognition of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation on 31 October 1517.

When Things Go Wrong – PRAY!

EVERYTHING was going wrong during a film showing with a JESUS Film Project partner team in Paraguay. Equipment failed and the computer malfunctioned. But the seats filled up anyway. As the crowd grew restless, a pastor reportedly pulled the team aside and prayed. As they finished, equipment started working and they were able to show the film *Magdalena: Released From Shame*. The pastor preached afterward, and many decided to follow Christ that night.



OFFICE SUITE TO LET – MELBOURNE (BOX HILL)

Steer Incorporated will have an office suite available for rental in the Melbourne suburb of Box Hill from late March/early April 2012 onwards. The suite is located in a building occupied by a number of mission agencies and would suit another mission agency or Christian organisation.

Location: 5 Court Street, Box Hill (just off Whitehorse Road).

Space: 145 square metres. The suite is divided into a reception area, open office area, 5 separate offices and a small waiting room/office.

The space is available as a single area, but requests for smaller areas will be considered.

Features:

- ❖ Ground level.
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- ❖ Pleasant environment shared with 6 mission agencies.

Further information from: Ian Teh, Operations Manager: 03 9899 6413 or ian_teh@steer.org.au or Richard Dickins, National Director: 0419 748 318 or richard_dickins@steer.org.au

www.steer.org.au



i SAY ...

Father/Son Team Launch First-Ever Christian News Podcast – Now On iTunes

ASSIST News Service Founder Dan Wooding and his son Peter have launched an exciting new monthly podcast called *Window On The World* – and it is now available on iTunes.

To subscribe, just download iTunes at <http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/> then subscribe to the podcast by starting iTunes, selecting Subscribe to Podcast from the Advanced menu, and entering the feed URL in the dialog box which is:

<http://www.ministrysystems.net/Assist/podcasts/window.xml>

'Each month the podcast will give listeners a unique perspective on what God is doing around the world as the father and son team discuss some of the most topical stories of the month and plays clips from some of their most interesting interviews,' says Dan Wooding.

The first *Window On The World* podcast has been posted. It allows listeners to hear the story behind how Dan Wooding founded the ASSIST News Service, which has been going for more than two decades.

The podcast also includes interviews with the founder of Joy Junction homeless shelter Jeremy Reynolds, Princess Zulu of Zambia and Christian recording artist Karen Lafferty.

'With all my experience as a radio journalist, having been news editor at UCB radio in the UK for ten years, combined with all the fascinating stories my father covers each month for the ASSIST News Service, I thought it made sense for us to team up

to launch this podcast,' said Peter, Europe Bureau Chief for ANS. 'I thought the podcast would add another dimension to all the print stories from ANS that subscribers can read every day, and enable them to hear some great testimonies from people doing amazing things for God around the globe.

'With more and more people catching the social networking phenomenon, it's vital for us to utilise this technology and these platforms to communicate a positive and inspiring perspective on world news. It's amazing that through the wonders of technology we're able to present this podcast across the "big pond" from my home in the UK over to my father's home in Lake Forest, California.'

Dan Wooding added, 'With today's technology, it was wonderful to be able to connect with Peter so we can co-present this new addition to ANS. I hope many will tune in to our first broadcast and all of our subsequent ones. I would also be delighted to get your comments and suggestions at: assistnews@aol.com'

If you don't have iTunes, you can also listen to it at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWZYN-mjTMNo>



Dan (left) and Peter Wooding.

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HERE'S HELP FOR YOU:

Sick Of Lame Children's Talks In Church?

HAVE you ever been sitting in church, listening to a children's talk, and cringed? Have you ever been the one giving the talk, watching others (and feeling yourself) cringe? Are you sick of church children's talks that are lame?

Quiz Worx Kid's Ministry could be the answer for you!

Geelong, Vic, was the location for an adult training day run by Quiz Worx Kid's Ministry. Their aim was to equip us uncreative adults in sharing the Bible's message clearly with primary aged children. In other words, being faithful to the text of Scripture, while being engaging and relevant to the kids of today.

What is Quiz Worx?

Quiz Worx is a travelling children's ministry group based in Sydney. They exist to:

- Share the message of Jesus from the Bible to kids, especially within state schools.
- Minister to Christian children within the wider Christian community.
- Resource others, especially those working in SRE in state schools, in their ministry to children.

Quiz Worx has performed in excess of 2,000 shows throughout Australia. They have been seen by over 200,000 people. They use the mediums of puppetry, music, chalk talks, animations, storytelling, drama, quick draw, comics, and numerous other tools to present the good news.

Tips For Kid's Talks: BEAMS

The Quiz Worx trip to Geelong saw them run several holiday club programs, a church service and an adults training day.

The holiday clubs were a hit. The children were mesmerised by the puppets, as well as actively engaged through drama, chalk talks, and rocking out music from the Quiz Worx music CDs.

The church service saw Batesford Presbyterian Church double in size, as many came to watch. The whole church sang and danced their way through

the Quiz Worx rocky version of the children's classic *Jesus Loves Me*. We then all heard of Jesus, the One who has power to give life, even to the dead.

The training event focused on creating children's talks that are not lame. We were introduced to the BEAMS method:

Bathed always in prayer, the first step is to read and be faithful to the Bible. What is it saying and in what context? This is the foundation of any children's talk. Remember, the Bible has the most amazing message, so spend a lot of time studying the Bible passage. Don't go from memory! Read, read, and read again!

Engaging the children with the Bible text is vital. This is where your creative skills come in, and Quiz Worx are the masters at anything: puppets, paintings, drama, and music. Apart from learning some live presentation skills, we were also introduced to some of their amazing video resources.

Application of the take-home message is the 'so what?' The idea of any Bible talk is not simply to impart information, but to have the Bible's truth impact people's lives.

Main point of the Bible passage is where the application must stem from. What is the central point or big idea of the text? We were encouraged to ensure our talk had only *one* main point.

Simple easy to understand words and concepts must be used throughout the whole message. Just as Jesus taught difficult spiritual concepts using simple known concepts ('The Kingdom of Heaven is like ...') we also must keep our sentences short and avoid theological jargon.

The Result

We have been trained and blessed by the Quiz Worx team in Geelong. Their ability to present the concepts of sin and salvation to children was outstanding. It was also a great lesson in being faithful to the Bible and using it to share the hope we profess. The result was that we came away with a host of resources and were better equipped to serve.

– *Jeremy Dover, former sport scientist, now sports chaplain and pastor in Geelong, Vic. Christian Today Australia via Press Service International. Go to: www.quizzworx.com to find out more about Quizz Worx.*



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URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

Consultation On Ministry Among Muslims

ON Monday 14 November the World Reformed Fellowship Consultation On Global Ministry Among Muslims commenced and prayer is asked: that the Lord will protect, bless and guide all of those participating.

WRF International Director Dr Samuel Logan says: 'We have a wonderful group of Evangelical and Reformed Christians, many of them Muslim Background Believers (individuals born and reared as Muslims who are now Reformed and Evangelical Christians), coming to the Consultation from the following countries: Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Persia, Senegal, South Africa, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan. We want to hear from them about what they think are the most effective ways of reaching out to Muslims with the love of Jesus Christ.

'In fact, the breadth of church involvement in this project is almost as exciting as the project itself – the WRF has received active and significant support for the Consultation from sources within the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in America, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church in the USA, and the Reformed Church in America.

'There are very few, if any, other ministry projects that have this breadth of support among American Reformed evangelicals. Significant additional support is being provided by others such as the Presbyterian Church of Brazil.

'We anticipate that this Consultation will be just the first step in the WRF's service to the global Evangelical and Reformed Christian community in the area of ministry among Muslims.

'Please pray especially for the primary leaders of the Consultation and for the four WRF Board members who will be present.'

Topics For Discussion:

Among the specific topics to be addressed at the Consultation are the following:

- ◆ Existing trends and challenges of Christian ministry in Islamic contexts.
- ◆ Theological and discipleship training to equip workers for Muslim ministry.
- ◆ Mercy ministry in Islamic contexts.
- ◆ Muslims and Christians in dialogue and theological debate.
- ◆ The contribution of the Reformed Faith for ministry to Muslims.
- ◆ Partnerships between Muslim Background Christians and Western Churches.
- ◆ Critical analysis of issues in Contextualisation.

Bible Translations To Be Completed For 100-Year-Old Churches

CHURCHES with a rich history are inspiring in many ways. They are filled with stories, hardship, fellowship, and answered prayer. But can you imagine being in a 100-year-old church that has never had access to Scripture in the heart language of its people? This is the exact scenario facing some churches in the Pacific Islands. The churches have survived on Scripture written in other languages which the people understand, but the Bible may not speak to them the way those same passages would in their heart language. Misunderstandings about the meanings of various passages are significant.

The Seed Company is bringing the translated Scriptures to these Pacific Island churches. Project personnel, working with local Christian leaders, will help the church translate remaining Scriptures in the mother tongue with a focus on local needs. As part of Wycliffe's Last Languages Campaign, the project will begin work in all of the remaining Polynesian languages that still have translation needs and want to invest in translation. Some groups will translate the four Gospels while others will complete the entire Bible. Local churches, several Wycliffe organisations, and the Christian Leadership Training College in Papua New Guinea are partnering with The Seed Company in this project.

This cluster initially involves 11 languages. The Seed Company has some specific prayer requests regarding this project. Pray about a setback in typesetting due to the death of the facilitator's father. Pray that one missionary's trip to the Solomon Islands is prosperous and that the Tikopia translation project gets up and running again.

Visiting Melbourne?

Join us at

St Kilda Presbyterian Church, cnr Alma Rd/Barkly St
Every Sunday 11am and 7pm;
St Margaret's, Balaclava, cnr Hotham St/Denman Rd
Every Sunday, 9.30am.

Rev Bob Thomas. Phone 0417 592 646

You're welcome at 'The Church on the Hill' – a Friendly, Caring, Bible-Believing Christian Fellowship

WHAT'S ON?

CITY BIBLE FORUM'S next series of lunchtime sessions will be an interactive lunchtime discussion as a psychic, a skeptic and a Christian discuss the question: *Angels And Demons: Is There A Spiritual Dimension?*

The panel comprises: a psychic: Salvatore Trimboli; a skeptic: Dick Gross; a Christian: Ian Powell.

Session times will be at: 12.30pm Wednesday 23 November – Telstra Conference Centre (242 Exhibition St, Melbourne – up the escalators); 1pm Thursday 24 November – Saxons (Level 8, 500 Collins St, Melbourne); 12.30pm Friday 25 November – The Hub@Docklands (80 Harbour Esplanade).

BELGRAVE Heights 94th Summer Family Convention will be held from 29 December 2011 to 2 January 2012 on the theme *God's World Changers*. Speakers will be Bruce Milne of Canada and Murray Capill, Principal of Reformed Theological College, Geelong.

Bruce's messages from *Acts* are about *The Church That Changed The World*, and Murray will be speaking on *Joseph And God's Ways Of Breaking, Shaping And Making His People*.

Sessions will be held in the Auditorium, Convention Ave, Belgrave Heights at 10am, 11.30am, 2pm, 4pm and 7pm.

Call 03 9752 6855 or go to: www.bhc.org.au for more information.

BIRTH NOTICE:

Andrew and Ruth KERNICK of Mitcham (Vic) praise God for the safe arrival of Max on 2 November. A little brother to love for Liam and Charlie. Another grandson for Jim and Pam Sterrey (VIC) and Ean and Bronwyn Kernick(QLD).

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Senior Pastor For Faith Bible Baptist Church

FBBC, located in Sydney's Hills District, is seeking an English speaking pastor for its 100+ congregation as the current pastor is retiring.

This full-time position, with primary responsibility for the spiritual and pastoral leadership of the congregation will require a minister with previous successful pastoral experience.

A statement of doctrinal belief and more information, or your application, marked For Attention of Chairman, FBBC Pastoral Search Committee, can be emailed to: fbbcpsearch@tpg.com.au or mailed to: 5/7 Salisbury Road, Castle Hill 2154, NSW.



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Join us for College Graduation and End Of Year Service.
Date: Friday 25 November at 7.30 pm.
Venue: Canterbury Presbyterian Church,
146 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury.
Speaker: Rt Rev David Jones 'Gospel Ministry Today'.
Supper will be served afterwards.

PERSECUTION WATCH

Attack On Church Compound In Kenya Kills Two, Wounds Three – Children Among The Dead

SUSPECTED Islamic extremists with Somalia's al Shabaab militia threw a grenade into the home of the church guard of an East Africa Pentecostal Church congregation outside Garissa, Kenya on 5 November, killing an eight-year-old girl and another member of the church, sources said. Three other people were seriously injured in the grenade attack on the house, which is near the gate of the church compound. Killed instantly were 8-year-old Winnie Mwenda Mutinda and 25-year-old church member John Kikavu. The child was the youngest daughter of church elder Patrick Mutinda, who also serves as the guard or watchman of the church building, sources said. The watchman's son, Samuel Mutinda, 12, suffered burns on his chest and leg, and his ten-year-old brother, Peter Mutinda, sustained burns on his hand and leg. Their grandmother, Rachael Kandu, was also severely burned, but all three are in a stable condition. Al Shabaab activity near the Somali-Kenya border, including Garissa in northeast Kenya, has increased since Kenya began air strikes on al Shabaab-held territory in southern Somalia last month in retaliation for the rebel group's kidnapping and murder of foreigners in Kenya. An area pastor said a fellowship of church leaders met on 3 November and wrote a letter to authorities requesting police security for churches in Garissa, especially on Saturdays and Sundays. The pastor said he received a threatening message yesterday on his mobile phone, reading, 'Message from al Shabaab. You must migrate [from] Garissa town within 48 hours or you will see bomb blast taking your life and we know your house, Christians will see war. Don't take it so lightly. We are for your neck.'

– Simba Tian, *Compass Direct News*

Cuban Pastor Denied Permission To Leave Issues Public Appeal

A CUBAN pastor and his family are issuing a public appeal to the government to allow them to leave Cuba. Pastor Omar Gude Perez, his wife and two children were granted asylum in the United States in July but have been refused permission to exit the island. After receiving asylum in the US in July, the couple was informed by government officials that they would not be issued exit visas. Following negative press coverage, officials told the family they would in fact be allowed to leave, but three months on they say they have yet to see any indication that they will be permitted to go into exile. The family told Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) that they are concerned about the long delays and contradictory messages.

BURMA: Authorities In Kachin State Issue Order Regulating Bible Study, Sunday School, Fasting And Prayer

BURMESE authorities are imposing new restrictions on religious activities in Kachin State, according to information received by Christian Solidarity Worldwide. On 14 October the Chairman of Maw Wan Ward in Phakant Township, Kachin State sent a letter to local churches, titled *Concerning Christians Conducting Cultural Training*. The letter refers to an order by the General Township Administration Department requiring Christians in Phakant Township to submit a request at least 15 days in advance for permission to conduct Bible study, Sunday

school, reading the Bible, fasting, prayer. A request for permission must be accompanied by recommendations from other departments, and must be submitted to the Township Administration Office. Churches in Burma are already required to obtain permission for any events other than Sunday services, but this new regulation imposes further severe restrictions.

NATO Pulls Out Of Libya; Christians Dig In

NATO has decided to end its mandate in Libya on 31 October. This, despite the transitional government's request to remain for security reasons until the end of the year. The government has already declared full Sharia law, and the hostility toward non-Muslims has Christians keeping the low-profile status which was adopted under Gaddafi. Open Doors workers have been providing aid, Christian literature, and Bibles. They're urging prayer for strength and wisdom for believers there.

Burmese Soldiers Target Christians

A SERIES of recent attacks provide more evidence that the Burmese army is targeting Christians. Dyann Romeijn with Vision Beyond Borders reports: 'Two churches have been completely destroyed in a village. They're taking people prisoner and forcing them to porter for the army. There have been reports of people killed and tortured, and also reports of rape and abuse.' A recent *Compass Direct* report cited instances of soldiers opening fire at a church and detaining church leaders without reason.

GOOD NEWS FROM ABROAD

Bible Quotes Allowed In Egyptian Newspaper Ads – First Time In History

INSPIRE Magazine UK reports that for the first time, front-page advertisements by the Egyptian Bible Society in eight Egyptian national newspapers are being allowed to quote the Bible.



The report notes: 'The adverts, part of the Society's campaign called *Rebuild Egypt*, quote the prophet Jeremiah's call to 'seek the peace of the city ... and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace' (Jeremiah 29:7)

Apparently the change is in response to the recent persecution and deaths of Coptic Christians in a 9 October incident.

Ramez Atallah, Bible Society of Egypt General Secretary, said, 'This is the first time we have been allowed to quote a Bible verse in any of our public advertising. Many people from all religious backgrounds have called the Bible Society to thank us for the timely message and positive role. One prominent political figure, the editor of a major newspaper, called to say that he is grateful for all that we are doing to promote peace and unity in these difficult days.' – *Teresa Neumann*

HCJB Global, Feba UK Announce Partnership Including Idea-Sharing Website, Consultancy, Training, Mentoring

HCJB Global and Feba UK have united in a special partnership called 'OneSheep' to collaborate in providing new media skills and resources that help touch those who aren't Christians with the message of new life in Christ.

Wayne Pederson, president of HCJB Global said: 'Working together is far more effective than working alone. Our rapidly changing world expects instant information, especially the younger generation. This consortium will strengthen the capacity and creativity of both HCJB Global and Feba UK and empower both organisations to better reach the youth of today.'

Jonathan Frank, Feba UK chief executive officer, said: 'Whilst radio continues to be of huge importance, newer forms of media are increasingly vital as we seek to engage with communities in many different situations around the world. In choosing to work with HCJB Global as we invest together in this consortium, we are looking forward to sharing the experience and inspiration that each of us brings, so that together we can be more effective in God's Kingdom work.'

Together the two organizations will learn how to present the Gospel in a rapidly changing, increasingly globalised and connected world. The group also welcomes other Christian organizations to join and participate.

The consortium will place a priority on projects that impact unreached and limited-access people groups. These groups are embracing new media, particularly that which is delivered via mobile devices. – *Peter Wooding, ASSIST*

UK Soccer Star Wants To Start Prayer Group Before Games

ANTON Ferdinand wants to get Queens Park Rangers players praying before games, like he used to do at Sunderland.



According to the *Metro* newspaper, the English premier league player, who is known for his spirituality, explained that at his former club a group of players would get together to pray, and said he hoped he could bring this experience over to Queens Park Rangers. Ferdinand said: 'At Sunderland we had a group who prayed. There was me, Kieran Richardson, Stephane Sessegnon, Asamoah Gyan, John Mensah, Nedum Onuoha. Hopefully I will start building that here.' The 26-year-old said that he believes his career is still to peak – great news for Queens Park Rangers. – *Peter Wooding, ASSIST*

Seven Billion People – 4.9 Billion Oral Learners

THE world has welcomed its seven-billionth person. That means even more people need to hear the Gospel. Many don't read, requiring them to hear it. Jerry Wiles with Living Water International says, '70% of the world's population would be oral, people who can't, won't, or don't read, or who learn and communicate best by means other than print-based media or written instructions.' *Storying* has been an effective way for LWI to share Christ. 'There are very broad applications for this because it's great for people who are going on short-term mission trips, but also people who are working in cross-cultural situations or different language groups, people working with children or prison ministry, or just general outreach.' Get workshop info at MissionNetworkNews.org.

FROM ALL QUARTERS

Chinese Prison Bible To Be Displayed In US

PART of a fading Bible, painstakingly and secretly hand-copied by a group of Christians sentenced to a labour camp in China, will now be on display at the George W. Bush Institute in Dallas, the institute announced. A manuscript of *Revelation* was given on 2 November to former US President George W. Bush by ChinaAid Association, a Pennsylvania-based non-profit organisation that monitors the state of religious freedom in China, especially the condition of banned churches run secretly in private homes. The Chinese Bible was assembled more than a decade ago by a group of nearly 20 Christians who were sent to a labour camp in northwest China after being arrested at a prayer service, ChinaAid President and founder Xiqui 'Bob' Fu said. – *ENI News*

SAT-7 Expands Viewership Further Across North Africa

SAT-7 is a Christian satellite television ministry to the Middle East and North Africa with about 15 million viewers already. Now that number is about to grow. SAT-7 recently announced that SAT-7 ARABIC and SAT-7 KIDS switched to a new satellite within the same system to offer better and broader coverage. Now all of Morocco and West Algeria will be able to watch numerous programs exploring Biblical truths. Pray for changed hearts in a region full of uncertainty.

New Satellite TV Channel Dedicated To North Africa

CNA or Chaîne Nord-Africaine (Channel North Africa), started in 2000 by the efforts of several partners who wished to broadcast the Gospel into North Africa using audiovisual materials. Channel North Africa was created as a French cultural association with a goal to produce and broadcast media content that announces the Gospel and teaches the Bible for the region of North Africa and to North Africans living outside the region. The vision of CNA is to see the peoples of North Africa reconciled with God, regenerated and transformed by the Gospel in the communities in which they live.

Starting on 1 December 2011, Channel North Africa will be broadcasting on Atlantic Bird 7 (7 degrees west; frequency 10.81508; polarity H; symbol rate 27,500; FEC: ≤)

CNA broadcasts Christian programming targeting the population of North Africa as well as the North African communities of Europe and the Middle East. Its uniqueness lies in its vision to broadcast content that has a Biblical perspective using the heart languages of North Africa, emphasising the Berber languages but also remaining inclusive in broadcasting in Arabic and French. CNA says its mission is 'to proclaim the Gospel and teach the Word to North Africans, and to facilitate the integration and training of disciples in a local church.'

To do this, CNA holds to these Core Values: 'We strive to be Christ-centered (Matthew 4.19), dependent on God and Holy Spirit-led. We are evangelical, under the supreme authority of the Bible, the inspired Word of God. We are strongly committed to North African communities worldwide. We desire excellence in our work, stewardship and relationships.' CNA will be broadcasting a vast range of programming including life stories, documentaries, talk shows, educational programs, lifestyle series including women's, men's and children's programming, musical performances, dramas, films, shorts and much more.

Channel North Africa relies on a network of like-minded production partners for broadcasting content. The channel may also be viewed as a live streaming channel on www.cna-sat.tv

– *Michael Ireland, ASSIST News Service*

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'...We...know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.' (Galatians 2.16)

LIVING HISTORY

JIM and Grace Vine are working on compiling a set of two DVDs on *The Expansion Years Of The NSW Open Air Campaigners: 1945-1961*. The completed project totals four hours of viewing on the two DVDs.

The last interview included was that of Lynne (Duffecy) Wright. Their son Dave is presently working on the sound sweetening and DVD authoring, which should be completed around 21 November, when *The Expansion Years* should be ready for sale, in time for Christmas.

In *The Expansion Years Of The NSW Open Air Campaigners 1945-1961* there are about 1,000 still images; interviews with 79 former OAC staff, voluntary workers or family, and the whole story is all held together with a 49 page script, narrated by Jim.

OAC Ministries has authorised the Vines to be responsible for the distribution and sale of *The Expansion Years*, and they are now taking pre-orders.

Write to Jim and Grace Vine, 8 Thompson Rd, Ross Creek, Qld. 4570; phone: 07 5483 3526 or email: javine@optusnet.com.au for further details or to place orders.

Burma Steps Up Attacks On Christians

SOLDIERS shot at worshippers at a church, tortured the pastor and forced dozens of congregants to work as porters for the army in military-ruled Burma, also known as Myanmar, an organisation that advocates for religious freedom said.

Soldiers from the Burma Army's 88th Light Infantry Division attacked the Assemblies of God Church in Muk Chyik, a village in Kachin, Burma's northernmost state, bordering China, on 6 November, according to Christian Solidarity Worldwide, based in New Malden, Surrey, England. — ENI

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Ramon A Williams – Worldwide Photos

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VIEWPOINT

WA Politicians Should Not Pass Prostitution Bill – ACL

THE Australian Christian Lobby is urging West Australian politicians not to pass the Prostitution Bill 2011, which has been introduced into state parliament. ACL spokeswoman Michelle Pearse said that keeping prostitution out of the suburbs but allowing it to be legal in 'tolerated zones' would not stop the expansion of the illegal industry, as has been seen in other parts of Australia which legalised prostitution.

'The Queensland Government legalised brothel prostitution in 1999 and research from the University of Queensland estimates that 90% of prostitution in Queensland is still illegal, even after the government set up the Prostitution Licensing Authority to regulate the industry,' Ms Pearse said. 'It will be impossible to confine prostitution to certain zones when there is an increasing number of men purchasing sex. As long as there is a legal industry, men will continue to assume the right to exploit women by purchasing them for sex,' Ms Pearse said.

The ACL said a government which legitimises prostitution through legalisation is legitimising the exploitation and abuse of women.

'A report by the US Bureau of Public Affairs cited a study into the trauma prostituted women face and revealed that 60-75% of women in prostitution were raped, 70-95% were physically assaulted and 68% had post traumatic stress disorder in the same

range as "treatment seeking combat veterans". Why would the WA Government sanction an industry where this occurs?' asked Ms Pearse.

Instead of legalising the industry, the ACL is calling on the government to shut down all brothels and implement a law similar to Sweden's, which penalises the buyer rather than the women who are exploited in the industry. This model is now being adopted by several European countries and South Korea.

'The key is to tackle the demand, to send a strong message to men that it is not okay to purchase a woman's body for sex because it is exploitation,' Ms Pearse said. 'Penalties on the purchaser would be a deterrent and discourage men from using prostitutes. This would mean that fewer women would be exploited in the industry and fewer illegal brothels would exist in the suburbs, which is not only better for community safety but is also better for the women who are exploited in prostitution. Community safety will only be achieved when the government recognises that prostitution is exploitation and seeks the safety of those in prostitution as well as the wider community.'

'The Prostitution Bill 2011 also ignores the fact that many legal brothels in the eastern states are using trafficked women, as highlighted in recent media reports.'

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