

Ray's Backpage

Happy New Year!

I know, it's already February, but this is the first opportunity to extend my best wishes to you for 2013. As much as the Lord instituted the Sunday as a rest day, a once a year break for refreshment in this day and age is also absolutely necessary. While Jack our office manager was away for his well-earned break with his family in Fiji, we somehow kept the ship afloat. *Lauren and Mary were wonderful* and were a decisive factor in keeping up with the mail – the lessons coming in and attending to the many emails. *Solomon Islands* came back big time when we received around 200 lessons during the latter end of January. A steady flow from Fiji, PNG and Tonga also ensued. Jack told me that every available Instructor got a lesson and some Mentors a couple of extras. But we've now caught up lesson wise. **Technology!** It continues to frustrate us and no doubt some of you have shared in our technical hiccups. But please be patient – we're working on it. Our IT man has been kept busy in his private time, especially when during the intense heat (46.8 C) one of the computer's power pack burned out and another time the motherboard.

By the way, we're holding on to our current email address but our new telephone number is as advised in December (02) 8014 6485.

What's happening? Right now, Terry is following a very busy schedule in Western Australia, visiting most of the jails and conducting what will probably be our largest seminar to date. But fairly soon after his return to NSW, he will be off to PNG to do the groundwork at the Buimo Prison in Lae. Bibles from Australia and lesson materials from America are in transit. All should be ready to commence from the beginning of March. **Financially!** December's income was on par with budget \$ 9588 just ahead of expenses \$9100. We also received another donation of \$5000 to boost our Special Fund to employ chaplain Japhlet in the Rove Prison and to courier the lessons to and fro between Sydney and Honiara. January was a little concerning with income down to \$4236 which is way below our expenses of \$9246. We hope that reading this will encourage you to take up a regular sponsorship or a one off donation necessary to keep CBI financially afloat.

Think about it! I warmly commend it!

CROSSROAD BIBLE INSTITUTE

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Networking in Australia and the South Pacific.

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"I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed." Luke 7:7

We often hear someone say, "I don't care". But this text comes from a story of a man who came to Jesus and was deeply concerned about his servant. This officer of the Roman army had heard about Jesus' healing power and he cared very much for his servant. He had a totally different attitude. The officer asked some Jewish elders to go to Jesus for him to come and heal the servant. When Jesus was approaching, he came out of the house and said the above words. This Roman man had "faith", he believed that Jesus could heal by just saying 'the Word'.

As I was writing this, an Instructor and my website helper, Rebecca, wrote that she is very much in pain and discomfort. She had a disc extrusion in her neck and has a specialist appointment for April. She prays that this will give her more time to trust (have faith) in God for Healing... Please join with us here at CBI for the great Healer and Specialist to give her relieve from pain and heal her completely.

As we start a New Year, we know there is a lot of spiritual healing to be asked

for. Our 350 Instructors know this only too well and they are encouraged to ask our Spiritual Healer for healing in the lives of the students from CBI. So these students can in turn encourage those around them and show that they too do care about others.

The Roman Officer received praise from Jesus: "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel." This Gentile (non-Jew) was a model of faith for God's own covenant people (the Jews)! Do we have that kind of faith that inspires us to action for the needs of others? James 2:17 says, "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." May we all be moved to action in the name of our Lord Jesus.

From Anne's Desk:

I welcome you all to a brand new year. Trust that everyone had a refreshing time. We welcome **Jack and Amelia** back at the helm in the office. Recently we have had the **bushfires and the floods**. They are difficult times for everyone involved. It is very devastating. We especially remember the Instructors and Inmates that are in this situation. Limited staff, may mean the inmates are locked in all day and visits may be denied and no mail is

received. Please let us pray for them. **At the office** we too need to have faith and lots of patience. Lauren needed to send out Instructor **Late lesson**/Score reminders by email, some as far back as November. At times our answering machine has been out of order. (See also Ray's explanation) And so the Instructors had great difficulty in getting scores through either by phone or email. And even our old address is now obsolete and does not come to us anymore. We may have missed out on letters as well as emails. *So please would those who have been asked, resend their scores once again.* Thank you so much for this extra trouble. With so **many new Instructors** coming on board and perhaps some 'older' Instructors needing a refresher, I would like to give you an easy and proper way to *record your scores to us.* Our training taught us as follows:

Students name:

From:

ID:

Lesson:

Roadmap:

Errors:

Comments:

Instructor:

Code: AUS

While taking Jack's place, the girls, found it helpful to know where the student came from, which country or prison. Please help us with this simple procedure.

This time I would like to say a **huge thank you** to all the Chaplains and also the Sentencing Boards, who are so helpful with giving information of the

changes the inmates have made within the prison system. This has indirectly resulted in a large increase for the Australian lessons last year. In 2012 we had *662 more lessons. In 2011 we had 1814 lessons and in 2012 we had 2476 lessons in Australia.*

From America we heard that CBI Kenya and Cistern Prison Ministry hosted a walk in support of the ministries' re-entry program, 3500 Kenyans marched with banners and placards. **Cynthia**, CBI's Deputy Director for international Development made a visit to Sierra Leone, where CBI's newest satellite campus was launched to reach incarcerated teens. These documents can be viewed on CBI Australia's Website :

www.crossroadbibleinstitute.org.au

Lastly we have received the great news that Dr. Schuringa's son, Greg, brain tumour survivor, is still doing well after good results from his latest scan. All this give us great reasons for thankfulness.

May you all be blessed by reading this Update and the Testimonies, giving us FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE..

In Him, Anne

Statistics for December:

Lessons received:

AUS=207, FIJI=52, SI=106, TO=22, NZ= 89

Enrolments for December:

AUS=46, FIJI=8, SI=3, TO=1, NZ= 28

We had 19 GT01 lessons this month

Statistics for January:

Lessons received:

AUS=210, FIJI=14, SI=137, PNG=11, TO=11

Enrolments for January:

AUS=24, FIJI=2, SI=3, TO=4

We had 27 GT01 lessons this month

From the Fields:

Greetings Friends,

A happy new year to you as I look forward to serving our Lord in this wonderful ministry.

As **I reflect** on 2012, I met some of the most amazing and also diverse people and students of CBI. At a certain Sydney Prison I sat next to a man in a Chapel service who society tells me is bad and will never change. The man I sat next to is now a child of God, he has put his trust in our Lord Jesus. He is a student of CBI and leads a prayer meeting in his pod each morning with other believing inmates. This in itself is quite remarkable because of the ongoing threats of violence from men of another faith.

At a Qld Prison I met one of Australia's most notorious prisoners. This man escaped from custody and sent postcards from the towns he was in to the pursuing police. This man truly is saved and has an amazing relationship with our Lord.

But I reflect on our students, who with no fuss eagerly do their studies and then even more so wait for your letters to come back to them. Friends, after 5 years of being your Fieldworker, our students continue to amaze and inspire me. Stories that are repeated over and over again of childhoods with loveless and predominately fatherless upbringings. Stories how these men fled from God, but God in His mercy pursued them even to the darkest of places and met them. I do get inspired by these stories because these men and women truly are the bravest people I

will ever meet because they surrendered to God and want to change. Please continue to pray for our students.

During December I had visits to the following prisons – Woodford CC (Brisbane, Qld) on the 2nd, Nowra CC (NSW) on the 8th & 9th, Bathurst CC (NSW) on the 10th, Oberon CC (NSW) on the 11th, Glen Innes CC (NSW) on the 12th, Kempsey CC (NSW) on the 15th, Wolston CC (Brisbane, Qld) on the 18th, Grafton CC (NSW) on the 23rd and in January, Capricornia CC (Rockhampton, Qld) on the 6th of January. My sincere appreciation to all the Chaplains involved in my visits.

A special thank you this month to Chaplain Brian for my access to Woodford CC. This was a first time visit to this maximum security facility. Also this month David from Panania in Sydney was trained as an Instructor on the 7th of December and we welcome him to the ministry.

During 2012 I had 94 prison visits, 14 church visitations, there were 19 separate Instructor training sessions and 12 functions that I spoke at or attended on behalf of CBI.

Finally, a **reminder** to our Western Australia Instructors and supporters of the upcoming seminar on the 9th of February at the **Gosnells CRC**. If you are intending to come to the seminar please let me know as soon as possible.

Friends, we thank you for your continued prayers, support and giving to this ministry, Blessings Terry