



THE NEWSLETTER OF
PRISON FELLOWSHIP QUEENSLAND

UNCHAINED

SUMMER 2012

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
Because he has anointed me to
preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim release to the captives,
Recovering of sight to the blind,
To deliver those who are crushed,
And to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."
LUKE 4:18,19



Prison Fellowship
Australia Queensland

PF QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE 2012

This year's PFQ Conference will again be held at BWRUC. Please make every effort to connect with your fellow Prison Fellowship volunteers at this event. The details are;

9am-4pm Saturday 24th March
Broadwater Road Uniting Church
481 Broadwater Rd Mansfield Qld
4121

RSVP: March 20

If you have trouble with transport in the S/East, please contact the office as there may be others in your district able to assist. Ph 07 3399 3190 Em qld.office@prisonfellowship.org.au

CHAPLAINS! SCB CONFERENCE 2012

Opening Service

2.30pm Sunday 25th March 2012 at
St Andrew's Anglican Church - 89
Fairley St Indooroopilly.

In Service Training

10am Monday 26th - 1pm Wednesday
28th March 2012

Riverglenn Conference Centre - 70
Kate Street, Indooroopilly

Celebration Dinner

6.00pm Monday 26th March -
reservation only

For bookings contact the SCB
Administrator

Tricia Tschernez Ph 0409 269 678 Em
ptschern@bigpond.net.au

JONATHAN AITKEN VISIT



Jonathan Aitken brings the message of Prison Fellowship to over 500 in Queensland including this gathering of Christian lawyers.

We had a great week with Jonathan Aitken back in October last year. He spoke to 300 guests at the Gold Coast Mayoral Prayer Breakfast, 50 at a Volunteer's lunch, 100 at JUST DESSERTS and another 50 at a Business Breakfast in Brisbane. He also had 45 minutes with Steve Austin on ABC Radio Queensland and a short interview with Gary Hargraves on Brisbane Radio 4BC. Another highlight was the Christian Lawyer's Society Lunch hosted by the Chief Justice Paul de Jersey.

If you missed hearing Jonathan's very inspiring story you can catch both the Breakfast speech and the JUST DESSERTS address on our website www.prisonfellowship.org.au/qld

His story is really worth hearing. If you

have technical difficulties viewing these videos on your computer, ask someone under 25 to help ;^)

PFQ WEBSITE

The Prison Fellowship Queensland website is now packed with links to some very informative video clips and information. Can I encourage you to make yourself familiar with the resources on the site and maybe include the link in the signature of your emails?

Make yourself a cup of tea and spend some time having a look around at www.prisonfellowship.org.au/qld

Let the office know if you have any comments, and watch out you don't spill your tea on the keyboard.



PFQ BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

The PFQ office has had a number of inquiries regarding the details of the PFQ Bank Account.

For those interested in direct deposit;

Prison Fellowship of Australia (Qld Council)

NAB - National Australia Bank

BSB: 084-044 Account No: 123 729 969

Donations can also be made through the



website www.prisonfellowship.org.au/qld or by forwarding your support to:

Prison Fellowship Qld

PO Box 3310, Norman Park Qld 4170

All donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible. What a great way to support the ministry.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

If you have any stories or testimonies of what is happening in your area, please don't hesitate to send them in by email to qld.office@prisonfellowship.org.au

Photos are also very helpful but please check for permission to photograph and publish.

Cameras are not permitted in Correctional



Centres and inmate's names need to be disguised for privacy reasons, but many of your stories are very much worth telling.

Stories in the mail are also very welcome but email makes the editing process a lot easier.

LIVE TO FORGIVE – THE MOVIE

Next year Heritage HM, a faith based and family friendly film distribution company based on the Qld Sunshine Coast, is releasing Live to Forgive in Australia. Check

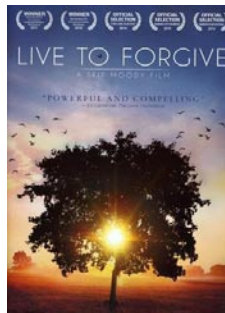


Prison Fellowship Australia

ANGEL TREE

out the trailer at

www.livetoforgivemovie.com



www.movieschangepeople.com

The State Director David Way worked with Heritage HM before joining PFQ.

Some of the Heritage HM titles are now being screened in Prisons across the state.

More of Heritage HM's titles can be found at

ANGEL TREE

Angel Tree 2011 has been successful yet again in providing gifts to 1160 'Angels' in Queensland.

This has been achieved by the involvement of church coordinators and their teams with a heart for children as well as a parent in a Correctional Centre. Many Churches also provided hampers for the carers of these 'Angels'. Others gave personal donations of \$500, \$200 and many \$100 amongst Christian Car Clubs, CWA and others who support the Angel Tree Program.

This year most of the donations to buy the 136 gifts for delivery to children in the Townsville area, and communities such as Palm Island (12 children), Mornington Island (16 children), Doomagee (8 children), and Cape York (Aurukun, Coen and Weipa -10 gifts), came through a donation from the Southern Zone Fellowship of the NQ Presbytery of the Uniting Church, from members of the NQ Presbytery Southern Zone Chaplaincy Committee & Aitkenvale UC, Mount Louisa House of Praise (UC), Townsville Central City Mission (UC), Willows Presbyterian Church and LIFE Church Townsville. A big "Thank You" to you all, and to West Wing Aviation, who transported

the gifts to Palm Island again this year, free of charge. Also, we are indebted to Followmont Transport again this year, for generously transporting gifts for children in care in Mt Isa, and also for 16 children on Mornington Island, to Department of Child Safety Mt Isa office. A big Thank You to all the case workers who then delivered the gifts, and especially the one, who with the generosity of Skytrans, got all the gifts over to Mornington Island for delivery. Although gifts for children up the Cape were organized in Townsville, and posted, rather than delivered, there was still an opportunity for pastoral care by phone when contact was made with each family prior to posting.

Qld sent requests to all States of Australia and received a request from NZ to deliver a gift to a small child from Dad. This is the blessing of Angel Tree and thanks must be extended to our Chaplains, Correctional Centre staff, Church Coordinators and the families who supplied and delivered gifts so a child would be blessed.

The Angel Tree blessing brings joy to the hearts of young and old in the giving and receiving just as God's love given and received brings joy and hope for the future.

Glenise Dagwell, Angel Tree Convener

"I just wanted to say a sincere Thank You for the food parcel your volunteer Susan and her friend dropped off today. The children and I were so blessed to enjoy a lovely, filling meal, the best we have had in some time. The fridge and pantry still have plenty of goodies in them even now, and we are so grateful. It seems that God has not forgotten us this Christmas. With love,"

Linda and kids. December 22, 2010



KIDS CAMPS

An exciting program was planned for Camp Breakaway 2011. The Boys and Girls had separate Camps again.

The Boys participated in the Emu Gully Adventure Program. The focus was on developing self reliance, general bush survival skills and GPS navigation was taught, as well as boating skills in an



exciting new boating activity called the "Mekong Delta Patrol". Motorised two seater buggies and mountain bikes, were also part of the fun filled action packed program. Doesn't that sound great. Ian Hoddinott again was the Boy's Camp Director.

The Girls attended Kindilan Outdoor Centre for "Camp Cookaway", with similar activities to Masterchef. All the meals were prepared by the campers



with opportunities to cook their own recipes, make and decorate cakes, produce creative serviette folding, make and decorate their own aprons. Wendy Schuster was our Fearless Leader, and we thank her for her Inventive Ideas. The girls also had the opportunity to Dance

Zumba, enjoy canoeing, and High Ropes.

Of course there was Christian Input at both camps, with sharing time and an invitation to consider their life pathway for the future.

GWEN LEWIS IN MARYBOROUGH

It has been a joy to minister to one of the partners of a guy I led to the Lord in prison. She has been coming with me to fellowship. I did Court Support for her and it was a quite a good outcome. He was released from prison last month and they are planning to come to church as a family and they want to get married. They have a 17 month old son. 'K' wants to become a member of the church. She is very near the Kingdom. Praise God for the working of His Spirit.

Terry West from Crossroads Bible Studies visited recently.

In one prison unit where there were hardly any followers of Jesus, there are now about 8-10 men who are meeting together themselves and doing Bible Studies. There are about 32 men enrolled in the Crossroads Bible Studies at Maryborough Correctional Centre.

CAIRNS WATCH HOUSE

I am part of the Watch House visiting team and we enter the Watch House on Sunday afternoons only. The Police are generally helpful and cooperative and obviously believe there is value in what we do. The Cairns Watch House can hold in excess of 40 offenders at any one time, very rarely less than 24.

The majority are aboriginal or Torres Straight islanders and mixed race. White people are in the minority.



Roger (centre) with Chaplaincy colleagues.

The offenders are there for a wide range of offences or reasons, including deliberate repeat offenders. Not many, but some choose a bed and a guaranteed meal in prison, to a lost life outside. No help no family, no money, no home, are the common reasons.

I have always found goodness in those I minister to and by talking about this and how important and valuable their lives are, they enter into deep sharing and

COUNCIL MEMBER PROFILE:

JAN DAVIS



Place of birth: Brisbane

Favourite hobby in Primary School: Netball, Vigoro, Softball

First job in the work force: Typist, Department of Education

How you met your husband Eric: Aged 16, Playing table tennis at Public Service Fixtures, the rest is history

Reason for joining PFQ: Matt. 25:31

Primary dream for the future: To see CoSA accepted as a QCS program for the rehabilitation of those charged with sexual offences

Other interesting trivia: Aimed to be the oldest women playing netball fixtures, but think I fell a couple of years short.

several will ask for prayer.

Meaningful rehab schemes don't seem to exist, in many cases.

The interesting thing is that although I do not "Bible bash" prisoners, they know who I am and more often or not will themselves raise the subject of "religion" and the conversation (which is often overheard in other cells!) is very encouraging.

We are not permitted to make outside contact with their friends or families.

I often have group discussions with several prisoners and this seems to work well. I can only pray that something will stick. God's word never comes back void.

In the last month I reached out to 19 prisoners. Their names are recorded in my private prayers book, and each knows that I will continue to pray for them.

Blessings, Roger Brading

Freshwater, Cairns



BRISBANE WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL CENTRE

On Sun. 25th September, 2011, God made the impossible happen at two Sunday Services. We have been visiting C. in Medical for a few weeks. She is bed-ridden and has very little eye-sight due to Diabetes. I have been so inspired by this lady's horrific story I asked if she could come to Chapel and share how her belief in God has brought her thus far by His grace. From the age of 10 her life has been anything but good.

She is now about 45 and received a sentence of 10 years for taxation fraud due to her name being on her ex-husband's business he was running. That sentence has been reduced to 8 weeks as a result of her prayers and honouring God in all circumstances.

C put in a request to be allowed to go to Chapel and give her testimony and we prayed, thinking they would never allow it but we will leave it with the Lord. What a surprise to see her coming in her wheelchair with her 24 hour Nurse and two Officers. I stopped to praise God and thank Him for answering our prayers. What a testimony, you could have heard a pin drop in both services. C. has every right really to be angry and unforgiving but she shines for Jesus and this spoke so loudly to the women. We didn't give our message which was on Anger as God had a purpose and plan for C and obviously used C in her prison uniform to touch many areas which the women were dealing with in their lives, not only anger. The Nurse had never been to Church inside or outside Prison and was



in awe. C continues to witness to her.

Audrey McMillan and Wendy Schuster – Chaplains

Letter of Thanks: *To all the angels that work at B.W.C.C.*

My name is Samantha and I was released from prison on the 29th of September, 2011. I was also incarcerated 12 months ago for a period of 4 months.

During my time in prison I took a long look at my circumstances and lifestyle and took my life back. I did the I Wonder

Study booklet and thought a lot about my life. I also started something I needed to do a long time ago ... to forgive those that hurt me in the past. With help from DV Connect and putting my life in God's hands I have found a strength and determination that I haven't felt before. The best part is my son and I are both putting our trust in God, each other and ourselves.

Corey was 17 last December and he wears the cross that was given to me in prison with pride all the time.

I just wanted to say thank you to everyone. Thank you,

Samantha – Ex-inmate

The consistent message from inmates was "I didn't realise the harm my crimes have caused". This is very significant finding for our chaplains and all of us involved in working with inmates. Basic victim awareness is simply not happening in the courts and correctional system.

During the sessions we were able to bring perpetrators of violent crimes together with victims of similar crimes. There were no fights though, because I shifted everyone's attention to the redemptive stories of Zaccheus and the Prodigal Son. As we examined the process of forgiveness, repentance and reconciliation in those stories, we created a transformative

environment where people could choose to embrace those values. This begins a journey that continues between sessions and beyond the seven weeks of the program.

I am particularly grateful for the support and encouragement we received from the management at the centre and the chaplaincy team. Not only did they give us practical assistance, but they



David Way (PFQ State Director), Scott McNairn (Director of Borallon Correctional Centre) Martin Howard (Sycamore Tree Facilitator) Wayne Wendt MP (Member for Ipswich West)

SYCAMORE TREE PROJECT

Once again the Sycamore Tree Project was able to achieve remarkable outcomes in the lives of inmates and crime victims during the latest program run in late 2011.

A number of VIPs joined us at the graduation session to hear the testimonies of participants. Among them were: Justice Debra Mullins, Mr Wayne Wendt MP – Member for Ipswich West, (Representing Mr Neil Roberts, the Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services), Mrs Desley Scott MP – Member for Woodridge, David Way – Prison Fellowship Qld State Executive Director, David Cormack – Prison Fellowship Qld Chairman (Barrister), Scott McNairn (Director of Borallon Correctional Centre) yOni Yinarr Kriewald (Borallon Head of Restorative Justice, Culture & Reintegration) and Jessica Howard (my wife!).

have created an ethos in the Centre that compliments the restorative justice values of the program.

Thanks to Chaplain John Lawson and admin assistant Suzi Schuhmacher for their assistance to me. Also, thanks to the STP prayer team, for your spiritual intercession for STP.

We hope to run more STP programs this year.

Several people underwent intensive facilitator training in November, with an inspiring trainer from New Zealand, Chris Chevalier. He was able to enlarge our vision of what we can do with this program. These new 'recruits' will give us the capacity to run many more programs in the coming years.

I will plant cedar, acacia, myrtle, and wild olive trees in the desert. I will place cedar, fir, and cypress trees together in the wilderness. (Isaiah 41:19)

Martin Howard, STP Coordinator



PRISON FELLOWSHIP QUEENSLAND

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Queensland Government

PFQLD receives funding from the Department of Corrective Services and the Department of Communities

How can Christians respond to the problem of crime? Find out at our website www.prisonfellowship.org.au/qld