

Theological Bursary News

From the Desk of the National Director • February 2026



G'day supporters, we are delighted to begin the year by announcing that we have a total of nine Theological Bursary students for 2026. Four of our students graduated in 2025, and one of them is now serving as a minister in training with BCA! Read on to find out more...

After being supported by BCA through our Theological Bursary Initiative for the past two years, Samuel Ogg has completed his studies at Moore College, and this year joins us as a Minister in Training. Samuel, Grace and their kids Tommy and Josie have moved to Lightning Ridge where they will serve alongside Kurt & Bec Langmead. Samuel says...

When we were at college and thinking about what the future might look like, country ministry was always at the top of our minds.

College hosted a lunch with Greg Harris, Mark Calder (Bathurst), Rod Chiswell (Armidale) and Darrell Parker (North West Australia) who came and spoke about pathways for training to get people thinking about ministry outside of Sydney. So that really put BCA in the conversation. Then we heard about the bursary program for those who wanted to go to the bush & we thought, 'that sounds like us'.

When we first met with Rod Chiswell about potential ministry opportunities, he circled a couple of towns that

might be good training places. Lightning Ridge was one of them. I didn't even notice it was circled. Grace said that she saw Rod circle Lightning Ridge and she thought, 'no way'.

As bursary students, we got invited to the BCA Field Staff Conference in 2024 which was really incredible. We got to meet Kurt & Bec and we came away from the conference thinking quite differently about Lightning Ridge and the opportunity there.

We believe that Lightning Ridge will provide us with a really good opportunity to learn, to be trained up in a difficult place, but a place that might really teach us much about loving and serving Jesus.

We're excited for the next two years; to meet people, to become a part of the community, and to tell people how Jesus can make an impact in their lives.

Please pray for Samuel, as well as the three other concluding students: Sharon, Terrence and Matt. May they continue their faithful service of our gracious Lord where He has led them.

Middle Image: QLD/NNSW Regional Officer Mike Uptin with the Oggs and the Langmeads in Lightning Ridge

Bottom Image: 2026 Bursary Student Shannon with his family

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Our 2026 new students

Shannon, Meg and Daniel join us as bursary students in 2026. Let me tell you a bit about them...

Shannon gave his life to Christ and got baptised when he was 19. He attended Victor Harbor Baptist Church and got involved in various ministries and growth groups over time.

When he was 23, Shannon started his Advanced Diploma in Ministries at Adelaide College of Ministries which he did full-time for three years.

In 2017, Shannon and his family moved Trinity Victor Harbor. "We have been very blessed to be a part of the growth of a young church. I am currently serving on staff as the Magnification Leader. This role is to support and oversee the team leaders who together make our services happen."

This year Shannon is heading to the Bible College of South Australia where he is commencing a Bachelor of Theology.

Daniel grew up in a Christian family with his parents and

both sets of grandparents followers of the Lord Jesus. He speaks warmly about 'generational faithfulness' and how that heritage has shaped him. Growing up in country Queensland has given him a great affection for the bush and ministry. Straight from school Daniel did a gap year at Maylon Theological College (now Morling) and completed a Diploma of Ministry.

I thank God for your ongoing partnership as we go the distance to raise up the next generation of leaders

After commencing a Bachelor of Theology through Morling, Daniel switched to the Brisbane School of Theology in 2025.

Meg hails from Wagga Wagga but found her faith deepened during a gap year discipleship program through Coast Evangelical Church in Forster.



2026 Bursary student Daniel

She served on the staff team for three years and is now studying a Bachelor of Theology through SMBC. Meg is committed to serving in regional or rural ministry post study.

Would you please join me in praying for our new bursary students: Shannon, Daniel and Meg as well as our continuing students: Callum, Cam, Dale, Grace, Nich and Riley. I thank God for your ongoing partnership as we go the distance to raise up the next generation of leaders.



2026 Bursary student Meg

In Him,
Greg Harris

Pray for

our Theological
Bursary Students

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