

The Harvest Field

with Jack & Lill Harradine • July 2025



Hello from the Harradines. Our time at Murray Bridge came to an end on Wednesday 18 July. We arrived in Copley the day after leaving Murray Bridge and officially began our ministry with an outreach that started on Friday and included the official re-opening of the Copley Christian Fellowship on Sunday 21 July. People came from as far as Adelaide and Port Augusta to be here.

As you can see, we hit the ground running, and it was exciting and a great blessing to everyone involved over the weekend. There is a real sense of expectation and excitement here.

Copley is in the Northern Flinders Ranges. It is a very rugged and beautiful part of the world, and well worth a look, you Nomads.

We were sad to leave Murray Bridge, as we had developed some strong friendships and seen some fruit for our labour, but all good things come to an end sometimes. We know that the work we began in Murray Bridge is now being continued by the people leading it themselves. It is a real blessing to know this is happening.

As you can imagine, in small towns like this, everyone knew our names before we arrived here, and we have had people walking up to us and welcoming us. People in Copley, Leigh Creek, and Nepabunna have expressed their happiness at having church services again in these communities.

The Leigh Creek mines closed about ten years ago, and the population dropped from 820 to 150 in two months. You can imagine how this affected the town and the surrounding area in job losses alone, but there is a lot

of resilience out here in the bush.

The Copley Fellowship closed even before the mine did. The local Pastor who served this area for about fifteen years suffered a stroke and had to leave. They have not been able to replace him until Lill & I arrived last week, so there has been very little Christian preaching or other ministry for a very long time.

Additionally, the church building had to be closed due to asbestos contamination.



Lill & a group of ladies in our new home

God is good and He is faithful. In what has been described as a miracle that only God could have orchestrated, through the work of *Mobile Mission Maintenance*, the asbestos has been removed, and the entire building has been renovated and restored, allowing

Main Image: A harvest field

Circle Image: Jack & Lill

Middle Image: The welcome sign at Copley

Bottom Image: A stunning Flinders Range sunset

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us to minister here. Also, the timing has been perfect. We finished our work at Murray Bridge a few days after the renovations had been completed.

As I said, we started with an outreach over the weekend, and some of the men visited Nepabunna on Saturday morning and had prayer and praise outside the church.

We sat around with guitars and had a great time. One of the locals joined us. He enjoyed a beer or two before he started singing with us, and then introduced himself. I prayed with him. It was encouraging.

Lill & I have been back to Nepabunna and met a few of the locals. Some young people are looking forward to church starting again, and I have already prepared sermons.

At the re-opening service on Sunday, Pastor Donald Hayward preached, we worshipped, thanked God and prayed. I baptised a lady who had a dramatic conversion three years ago, and she loves Jesus as her Lord and saviour.

We have already started prayer meetings and Bible studies, and formally start church services at Nepabunna next week. We cannot go out there now because the flu and COVID are going around.

Starting anew out here, I need some good study Bibles. If you or your church can provide some, please get in touch with BCA.

I want to extend a special thank you to Saint Jude's Anglican Church Bowral for their support in bringing a ministry team to Copley for the outreach and re-opening of the Copley Fellowship.

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On a personal note, we recently had a couple of deaths in the family. Lill's 95-year-old aunty and my younger brother.

Finally, we are aware of the opposition that we face out here, not everyone is supportive. We are also mindful of the spiritual forces that we are up against.

We need people to pray for us. Please also pray for our family, for their deliverance, and for their salvation.



Outside Nepabunna church



The reopening service in Copley

**Thanks & God Bless,
Jack & Lill**

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