

# the real australian

AUTUMN 2015



Networking tomorrow's leaders: Dusty Boots Page 14



print post approved 100001234

# BCA Directory

The *Real Australian* is a registered trademark of the Bush Church Aid Society.

First published 1920—Edition No. 365

Circulation 32,000

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Cover: Penrith Anglican College students and Broken Hill locals on a recent Dusty Boots trip

### APOLOGY

The editorial team of *The Real Australian* would like to apologise for a mistake in the article 'An Eye-Opening Experience on the BCA Bus' (page 22 of the summer 2014 edition). It erroneously stated that there was no cathedral in the Diocese of Willochra, when in fact the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul is thriving in Port Pirie. We apologise to the congregation and those serving at the cathedral for this oversight.

## Editorial

### When it comes to leadership, where you put the emphasis makes all the difference.

Even in business circles, there is a great deal of talk today about the value of 'servant leadership', of taking into account the needs of others as we seek to move them forward. It's hard not to hear echoes of the teaching of Jesus in such language.

However, when we read what Jesus actually teaches He sounds far more radical. This is what He says to His bickering followers in Mark's gospel: "Whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all." (Mark 10:44-45, NIV).

Jesus is not into 'servant leadership', as if service is a flavour we sprinkle onto a dish we've already prepared. According to Jesus, service is leadership - service expressed in a tough-minded and tender-hearted determination to do whatever is in the best interests of the other. That is, of course, what Jesus expressed when He went to the cross for us.

This edition of the *Real Australian* highlights how through the mission of BCA, God is raising up men and women to serve others by going wherever they are needed, to do whatever it takes to reach our nation for Christ. It is because they are servants that they are leaders also. It is because God is at work in and through them that we are confident that they, and the fruit of their ministry, will endure.

Thank you for serving God's mission with your giving, prayers and words of encouragement. That makes you a leader as well!

### Mark Short

National Director



### REGIONAL OFFICER COMMISSIONINGS FOR SA/NT AND QLD/NTH NSW

**The Revd Steve Davis will be commissioned as SA/NT Regional Officer by The Most Revd Dr Jeff Driver**

Sunday, 15th March at 3pm

St Mark's Anglican Church

150-160 Wynn Vale Drive, Wynn Vale SA  
Followed by afternoon tea in the Parish Hall

RSVP to Helen Spring,

sa@bushchurchaid.com.au or (08) 8221 5444

**The Revd David Rogers-Smith will be commissioned as Qld/Nth NSW Regional Officer by The Rt Revd Jonathan Holland**

Thursday, 12th March at 7pm

St Andrew's, Lutwyche

673 Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche Qld  
Followed by supper in the Parish Hall

RSVP to Marj Wellings,

marjrhy@me.com or (07) 3162 6944

WE WOULD LOVE YOU TO JOIN US AT EITHER OR BOTH COMMISSIONINGS

# Where now shall we live?



David and Priya Morgan

**Moving to the Pilbara has reminded me vividly of the massive size of Australia. The town we live in is five hours from the closest McDonalds (which some would consider a blessing), and even the closest Coles is 80km away.**

We minister in two mining towns in the Pilbara - the North West's mineral rich region famed for iron ore, Red Dog and Karijini National Park.

Resourcing gospel ministry for such a vast country has always been a challenge. For one thing there is always the need for the gospel in cities, but there are also great needs and opportunities in the Bush. There are about 6000 people living in our two towns, plus a massive amount of fly-in fly-out workers at the mining camp, plus a lot of tourists through the winter. If you go a little further afield there are some

bigger centres - Port Hedland, Karratha, Broome, etc... These centres, on top of thousands of local residents are also host to tens of thousands of tourists each year. On top of that there is the important work of numerous centres set up to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of visiting seafarers. Many of these towns have gospel ministry happening in them, but I know of at least one town (Onslow) where there is only one church service a month for a town of over 1000 people (and the nearest town is hours away).

Jesus said "the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few". I am deeply thankful to God for the generosity of those who make it possible for us (and other BCA Field Staff) to serve here, but there are so many more opportunities. If only there were more harvesters!

The work here has its challenges. Most people are indifferent to the gospel. Some Christians here are having a few years off church while they make money to pay off the home loan, others have a break from church because they are unsatisfied by the style of ministry provided at the only church in town. There are a small group of faithful disciples who work hard to serve the Lord Jesus in their work, family, community and church, but we are certainly few.

Recently Priya and I were in Sydney for the BCA Field Staff conference. Almost all the BCA workers from around the country gathered together for fellowship, Bible study and training. This was a really encouraging time but once again I was struck by the tremendous need and challenge which our country presents us with. Just a couple of people I was blessed to meet include:

**Brad and Joh Henley** serve on Kangaroo Island off the South Australian coast. They are responsible for leading three church



The Henley family



The Chapman family

congregations in different towns on the island 150km apart. The members are all in their 70s and 80s and as much as Brad and Joh long to start some ministry with young families and the primary school of 500 children, they find this very difficult with their existing commitments.

**Bruce Chapman**

(serving in Darwin with his family) is the Youth Minister of the entire Northern Territory! He also serves as the part time Assistant Minister at Nightcliff Anglican Church.

It's wonderful that God has sent these (and many other) faithful ministers into His harvest field, but imagine the help a few more harvesters would be to them. We need committed Christians to move

*Continued Over*

to these areas and help in all kinds of ministry – especially children’s ministry and evangelism. My home church has a weekly attendance of about 600, there must be over 200 faithful Christian families. Some ministers would thank God for fellowship with just one such family. What a tremendous opportunity God’s people have to be profoundly useful and encouraging in His service.

Jesus challenges us in all kinds of ways doesn’t He? Jesus - “Love your enemies”. Us - “What!?”, Jesus - “Forgive others as you expect your Father to forgive you.” Us - “Ouch!”

But how about this one? Jesus - “Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head”. How do we respond to that?

Maybe there are godly reasons for us to stay where we are (especially if that is a place that Christians often move away from and therefore has greater gospel need), but perhaps our response should be to move to a place where our gifts, and fellowship, would bless God’s servants there and be a powerful witness to the lost. Are you a teacher? A nurse? A doctor? A tradesman? A community minded person? A pensioner with a heart for people? If so there are literally hundreds of towns in this country where your mere presence would be such a

blessing for the gospel. Why not give it a go for 2, 4 or 10 years and see what the Lord will do? In some towns such a move, under God, could be world changing.

The Christian who moves to a small town for the sake of the gospel will be a profound gift and blessing to God’s people, to those who minister to them and to the lost.

The Christian who moves to a small town for the sake of the gospel will have the opportunity to serve in ways they never imagined (an average guitarist in Sydney is an exceptional guitarist in Paraburdoo!)

The Christian who moves to a small town for the sake of the gospel will learn so much about community, the world and themselves

from Christians and non-Christians alike.

The Christian who

moves to a small town for the sake of the gospel will suffer, but God will use that suffering for their ultimate good.

Christ has given us new life and hope, and work to do; the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Where now will we live? Where now will you live?

Wherever you live, may you live there for His sake.

### David Morgan

Paraburdoo/Tom Price

**Jesus challenges us in all kinds of ways doesn’t He? Jesus - “Love your enemies”. Us - “What!?”, Jesus - “Forgive others as you expect your Father to forgive you.” Us - “Ouch!”**



Happy faces all around at the recent Bible in the Bush conference

**From the first event in 2008, the organisers of Bible in the Bush have had a simple goal – to provide Christian fellowship and good quality Bible teaching to people living in rural areas. And last year’s conference was no exception.**

Hosted by the Anglican Parish of Sunraysia South (APOSS), the seventh annual Bible in the Bush conference was held from 31st October to 2nd November 2014 in Red Cliffs, Victoria.

The talk series, called ‘Famous Last Words’, was from the Gospel of John and was delivered by Bishop Trevor Edwards, the Vicar General and Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

Fay Groves has attended all seven weekends and always enjoys the conference. “I really look forward to and enjoy the teaching and fellowship of our Bible in the Bush Conferences”, she says. “For me, it is a great opportunity to experience God’s greater family – it’s like a big family gathering – and His bigger

picture for us in this world.”

As well as the talks from John, Grant Hay spoke about his work with BCA in prison chaplaincy ministry in Willochra and conducted a workshop on Aboriginal culture and mission.

Dale Barclay, BCA Field Staff and the Rector of APOSS, is encouraged by how the conference has developed over the last seven years.

“Each year, the weekend grows in many ways, and the relationships that are developing

among the participants are encouraging to see.”

Fay is also encouraged by the conference: “I give thanks to God that by His grace and the support of BCA, speakers so graciously give their time and talents so we are able to listen to good Bible teaching and have fellowship with other believers in our small rural community.”

After taking a short break, preparations will soon begin for the 2015 conference.

**Melinda Law**

# Supporting young adults to serve Christ as they go bush for work

**Each year many thousands of young Australian Christians graduate from high school and tertiary studies, and many will move to the bush to start new careers. Can BCA encourage them to consider this as an opportunity for strategic ministry for Christ too?**

This was a key theme of the National Training Event in December, where 1500 Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students from around the country converged on Canberra. Celia Toose from the Evangelical Union at Sydney University spoke at workshops about sending graduates out to the less reached and less resourced areas of Sydney and beyond – taking “Jesus’ words to go seriously and to follow Him no matter what the cost”. During the conference a number of students visited the BCA display and expressed interest in connecting with rural ministry.

There are clear opportunities for BCA



to encourage young people to link in with other Christians as they head out to work in rural locations. To this end, BCA is launching a new area of support which we have called “Going Bush.” One of the components of this support will be BCA staff contact with interested graduates. A new section of the website has been developed with a registration section: [www.bushchurcaid.com.au/supportingmission/goingbush](http://www.bushchurcaid.com.au/supportingmission/goingbush).

**Please encourage your youth to check it out and please pray for this new area of BCA activity. We’re hoping to do more work with university students this year.**

## Jen Schabel

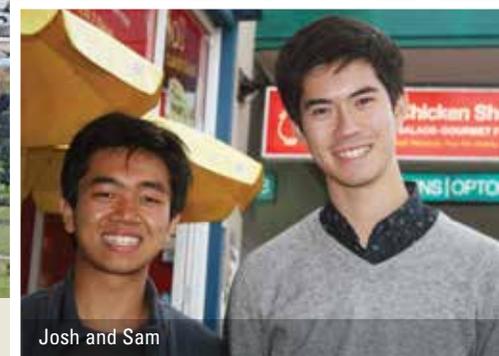
Bush Church Aid Youth Promotions Officer  
[j.schabel@bushchurcaid.com.au](mailto:j.schabel@bushchurcaid.com.au)

## Coober Pedy’s plea for young workers:

“Our town has 40 different nationalities and 100,000 tourists through town each year. It doesn’t take long to be known here! Life here allows us to mix freely with people from all walks of life and from overseas. There are so many opportunities to build relationships and speak of Jesus but our church is small and what a difference one or two new enthusiastic serving Christians can make to the whole feel and ministry of our church.”



Geoff and Tracey Piggot



Josh and Sam

Two students who visited the BCA display were Josh and Sam, who have known each other since Year 3 and are now studying 3rd year medicine together at the University of New South Wales. Like all students in medicine they will both get to experience life in the bush on rural placements before

different and being more independent. It helps that he’ll be heading there with two Christian mates, and that their “Christians in Med” group at Campus Bible Study (CBS) at Uni will be praying for them. Compared

## Supporting youth to serve Christ as they go bush for work

Are you a recent school or Uni leaver and thinking about work in a rural part of Australia? Would it be helpful for you to know Christians in the place you are going, or learn about where you might serve God?

### Going Bush involvement may include:

- receiving prayer support
- connecting with local Christians and churches
- sharing your journey with other Christians going bush

<http://bushchurcaid.com.au/supportingmission/going-bush>

they graduate. Josh will be spending most of 2015 on placement in Griffith, country NSW. Sam will probably head to the country in 5th year. Josh and Sam have both grown up in Sydney in Christian families, made personal commitments to follow Jesus as teens, and are active in their churches. Neither have spent much time in the bush though. Josh is heading away from family, friends and his church for the first time to live in a town seven hours away, but he is excited. He is looking forward to experiencing somewhere

to many students going bush Josh and his friends will have support.

Many students who go bush do make an impact while they are there. Some, whom Josh and Sam know, recently came back from the country where they’d spent all their spare time involved in the local church scene and running evangelistic events. Wouldn’t it be great if BCA could help support and encourage other young Christians going bush to be as intentional in mission while they are there too?

# Becoming Co-workers

## In 2007 Peter and I packed up our motorhome and set off on our first trip to outback Queensland.

We had just retired from teaching and had registered as VISE tutors (Volunteers for Isolated Students' Education) so we were travelling to our first placement – a property between Charleville and Cunamulla, where the children were being schooled through the Charleville School of Distance Education. After our six weeks on the remote property, tutoring five energetic and delightful children, we continued touring through Queensland.

One Sunday morning we found ourselves in Winton and attended the local Anglican and Uniting church where we met Dennis and Lois Quinn, serving with BCA. We were very warmly welcomed by the Quinns and the small congregation of faithful, elderly women.

We hadn't previously heard much about BCA, but Dennis and Lois soon filled us in and told us of the great work done by the BCA Nomads – ordinary Christian people who combine Christian service with travelling around Australia.

When we returned to Sydney after four months away, we enquired some more and eventually went through the procedure to become Nomads. With a little organising, we were able to combine our VISE work with helping out as BCA Nomads.

Peter used his computer skills to make some videos which Field Staff used with their deputations and I helped with preparation of Religious Education material,

cleaning and cooking. We really enjoyed our time combining voluntary work on the farming properties with BCA Nomading as we travelled around the eastern half of Australia.

After four years of travelling for four months, and living in Sydney for eight months, God spoke separately to each of us about the possibility of moving to a remote area and supporting an ordained minister in his parish.

We had been worshipping in a large parish in suburban Sydney where there were many workers for all areas of ministry and we could see the great need in many of the little country churches where there were few parishioners, no children's or youth ministry – very often there were no children or young people – no regular Bible studies and no ladies' or men's work.

After talking together and praying about this exciting but scary idea that God had given us, we spoke to Ron and Crystal Spindler, past BCA Field Staff at Broken Hill, and they suggested we speak to Bishop Doug Stevens, the then Bishop of the Riverina.

As a result of much prayer and discussions with the parties involved, the decision was made for us to move to Hay and support the Lay leaders and people in the church in their ministry.

Shortly after arriving in Hay, we began Scripture classes (RE) at Hay Public School where there had been no Scripture classes for many years. The school community welcomed us warmly and we continue with



In the jungle - the 2014 Holiday Kids' Club was a huge success but follow up is needed

weekly lessons for all children in Years 3 to 6. A lovely Catholic lady has lessons with the Kinder to Year 2 children.

An after-school programme on Tuesday afternoons was commenced about a year ago for children in Years 3 to 6. We have an average attendance of 15 exuberant children, mostly from unchurched families. This is hard work and we know that unless some more leaders come forward, this programme may not be able to continue next year.

We have just scratched the surface of ministry to children in Hay. There is a great need for more workers – Christian people of all ages to minister alongside the children, youth, young families, seniors and the list goes on.

In the September school holidays an enthusiastic team from Engadine Anglican church travelled to Hay to conduct a week of activities – Kids Club, Coffee and Chat time during Kids Club, Youth Café, Ladies' afternoon tea and a community BBQ. There was an amazing response from the

people of Hay to all these activities, praise the Lord!

But, the big 'but' – how do we follow up with just the two of us and one or two helpers from the Baptist church?

If you are thinking of a 'tree change', or wondering how you will spend your retirement, please consider service in a small church in a rural or remote area of this great land of ours. With God's help and the prayer support of the BCA pray-ers, you can be part of His work planting, watering and/or harvesting.

It hasn't been easy for us, perhaps we moved to Hay with unrealistic expectations, and we have had much to learn. As many in ministry can tell you, it can be lonely with many frustrations, hurts and disappointments. We regularly need to ask God for grace, humility and patience – and we certainly aren't 'there' yet, but we know that this is where the Lord has placed us and we have His peace.

**Lee and Peter Caspersonn**  
Hay NSW

**“BCA is like a big family.” I remember clearly the then National Director Brian Roberts saying these words to me in late 2008 when he first met with Skye and me to discuss joining BCA. How true those words have been!**

Over the past six years we have experienced such encouragement and love from staff and supporters that there is no better way to describe it than as being a part of a big loving family. Thank you BCA!

We first began our association with BCA under the Ministry Training Arrangement while in Wagga Wagga and Tarcutta. Our position there was part-funded by BCA which enabled me to do my curacy while gaining invaluable experience in a regional and rural setting. After two years we moved an hour south to Holbrook where I took on the incumbency while continuing as a BCA Affiliate. We again felt incredibly blessed knowing that there were BCA supporters right across the country (and even overseas we discovered!) praying for us regularly.

Occasionally we would receive a card or letter from a BCA supporter in Brisbane, Sydney, Perth or elsewhere, spurring us on in our ministry and sharing their lives with us. We have had BCA supporters offer to speak at our men's breakfast after reading prayer points about it. What a blessing! We have had Nomads drop in, the privilege of attending the Field Staff conference and the wonderful personal support and mentoring of BCA staff from the National Director down. For all this we are immensely grateful.

Although our term with BCA is coming to a close, we are glad to be remaining in Holbrook where we hope to continue serving Christ for some time yet. Although we will no longer be in the prayer diary, we will continue as enthusiastic BCA supporters. We thank God for the fellowship and support of the BCA family.

**James Coats**  
Holbrook NSW



**“Keren!!” two young girls chorus as they hurl themselves across the room into Keren’s arms. “Can we sit with you-ou-ou!!”**

Keren smiles broadly, puts the girls back onto the ground, and taking them by the hand leads them off to help her settle in for the morning.

It's Keren Luke – Children's and Family Worker at Roxby Downs Christian Community Church (RDCCC). We're in the church building on any Sunday morning.

When I first met Keren she was still at school, worshipping regularly and helping in children's ministry. She had one special friend to pray with at school. Keren finished Year 12 in 2012 with particular merit in art and found work at Mitre10, being unsure of her next steps.

The church was aware that the school-work-study transition time can be crucial in someone's faith development, especially without a like minded support group so we offered Keren a Ministry Traineeship (like an in-house apprenticeship) in children's ministry for 2013 to “keep her in the faith”. We supported Keren with a small living allowance, put in place some training parameters and job specification, sought out external training and ministry experiences and Keren took up this position developing and coordinating after school

and Sunday morning learning and activity programmes for children. The fruitfulness of this led us to appoint Keren for two days per week as our Children's and Family Worker. She is an active contributing member of our Church Leadership Team.

We based her training on “Passing the Baton” by Col Marshall, with set reading, Bible Study and reflection assignments and regular meetings with me. In 2014 and 2015 Keren is studying the Ridley Certificate on line, attends Invigor8 training days (run by the Lutheran and Uniting Churches) and has a great training



Keren (right) leading children's activities

partnership with Steve Stokes in OAC South Australia. Through Steve, Keren has had experience on Beach Mission, Christian camps and holiday programmes where the team study the Bible together as well as being equipped to teach and lead children.

Speaking of her ministry, Keren says, “I love working with children in a Christian atmosphere, and am so grateful to God for giving me the passion, opportunities and potential I need.”

At RDCCC we are delighted to be part of the team training and giving Keren opportunities to serve God and while doing so, providing a nurturing faith environment for our children. We wonder what God has in mind next!

**Mary Lewis**  
Roxby Downs SA

# Dusty Boots, the Book!

**After five years of the Dusty Boots Programme – designed to encourage city students to experience service for BCA in remote parts of Australia – we decided to review the programme and evaluate the process.**



Gardening at BCA House

Jenny Stubbs and I spent the better part of 2013, and early 2014, refining and documenting the programme. Cross continent visits and many emails later, we were pleased to launch Dusty Boots, the book, at the BCA Field Staff Conference in September last year.

Although service trips are becoming common in many schools, BCA and Dusty Boots need to compete with professional tourism operators offering the ability to undertake the planning and organisation of trips for schools. The existence of these operators has resulted in a significant increase in the number of schools undertaking service in local Asian countries. This is not a bad thing

but our heart is for service to those working to promote the Gospel in remote areas of Australia.

The decision to write Dusty Boots, the book, came from the need to make the programme more accessible to those wanting to organise a service trip. As a result the programme is now available through the BCA website. For schools and youth groups it improves the flow of information. Instead of Jenny, Rob and me being the conduit for information between the Field Staff and the trip organiser, there is direct communication which should make planning a trip more straight forward for schools. Of course Jenny, Rob and I are still available to discuss and promote the programme.

Hopefully, having the programme online and setting out the roles and responsibilities will encourage more Field Staff and student or youth groups to be involved. Some schools have chosen to revisit the same location every year to undertake service.

They have built links with the community and so when Field Staff relocate, the service trip proceeds regardless. This is what we are aiming at! It has been encouraging to receive feedback about the programme from BCA supporters who have accessed it on the website. We value your prayers for an increase in the number of teams each year.

**Beth Hazell**

Dusty Boots Co-ordinator NSW

**DUSTY BOOTS**



Backyard soccer with some local kids

**In 2014, the Living Desert Indigenous Church, a BCA and UAICC supported Ministry centre, were pleased to host three schools for the Dusty Boots Programme.**

Penrith Anglican College came and served in the community and helped clean and tidy around BCA House and the church. The students also helped run a picnic day for the kids and helped with Kids' Church Sunday morning.

Wycliffe Christian School, Blue Mountains, came to serve the community. Before they arrived we identified some elderly people in our community who needed their yards cleaned and lawns mowed. They were a



real blessing to the community.

Innaburra Christian College was our biggest

group with 36 students and 4 teachers. With their help we were able to build a landing on the back of our little church and a ramp for disability access. They led the church Sunday night and ran a picnic day for the Kids' Church kids.

Thankfully, all activities were completed without incidents, praise the Lord. If you are contemplating taking a school under the Dusty Boots programme, then I encourage you to do so. They are a big help and they will bless

your school as well as the BCA church and community.

**Neville Naden**  
Broken Hill NSW

Dear Friends and supporters of BCA,

I am writing from the little township of Denham in Western Australia, with a permanent population of less than 700 people, situated 130km off the North West Coastal Highway on the middle peninsular in Shark Bay. Our Church of St Andrew-by-the-Sea is the only church building in town – in fact the only one of any denomination between Kalbarri (350km to the south) and Carnarvon (350km to the north). Denham is the most westerly town on the Australian mainland, and is part of the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, and close to the Francois Peron National Park and Monkey Mia. We have a very unique church building made from quarried compacted shells cut into blocks. One recent visitor said the shell blocks reminded her of Rice Bubbles!

This past couple of years we have been really blessed by BCA Nomads, who have made a point of driving all the way from the eastern states, staying a few days here, and assisting with various tasks around the building and grounds. What a wonderful boost they are to our small congregation and to the minister!

Thank you BCA and the Nomads, you are very much appreciated. I would like to encourage anyone thinking of joining this team of wonderful people to do so. We may not be a BCA supported parish, but just knowing that other people are praying and helping these very small communities such as ours is a bigger help than you can imagine.

With our love and prayers to you all,

Kathy Knife

# Murder Mystery on Flinders Island

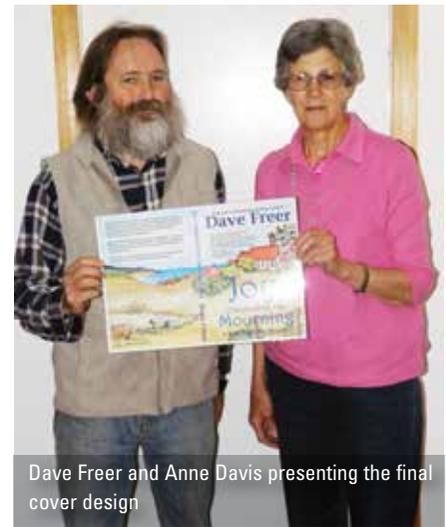
**Our parish, without a Rector, is waiting, praying and hoping. However on Flinders Island, the church is alive! Exciting opportunities for engaging with the community have challenged us and lifted our spirits.**

Sadly, our congregations do not often include children and it is difficult to engage meaningfully with young families. But twice this year we have been able to provide programmes for children when there have been 'pupil-free' days at the school.

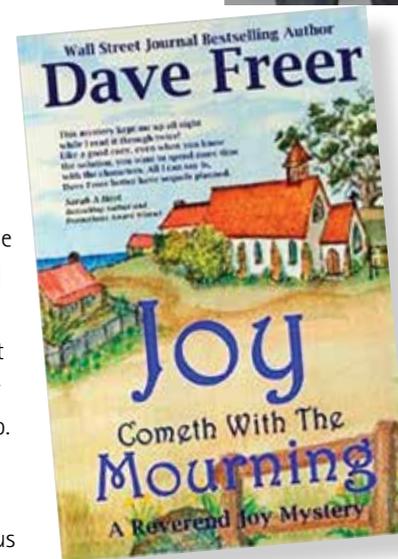
As a fundraiser for our small Anglican Parish here on Flinders Island, one of our congregation –

Dave Freer, who is a professional author of 20 novels – has written a 'Cosy' Whodunnit and donated the book's rights to the church. The book is about Reverend Joy, who is a rather timid, urban priest, sent out to a little parish far beyond the black stump. Her predecessor was found dead in his own church under mysterious circumstances. Joy finds herself having to heal the rifts this has caused in a tight-knit rural community. The only way to do that is to solve the mystery surrounding Reverend Hallam's death.

It is a gentle, comfort-read about the quirky characters, the loves and the warmth of country people and has been described



Dave Freer and Anne Davis presenting the final cover design



as somewhere between an Agatha Christie and a Miss Read novel. L. Jagi Lamplighter, an American children's author, has said about the book, "It is the kind of book that one can share with one's non-Christian friends, and yet the strength of the character's faith shines through."

The cover was painted by Anne Davis, one of the artists in our congregation.

So we offer you a good read with "Joy Cometh With The Mourning" (available as an e-book for \$3.99, on Amazon, or paper copy for \$11.99). Your purchase will be helping the ministry on Flinders Island.

**Anne Davis**

# Decades of BCA Support

**BCA is so grateful for all its supporters and their commitment to our mission of reaching Australia for Christ and equipping leaders to take the gospel around Australia and make a difference for eternity.**

Some of our supporters have served alongside us for long periods of time and it is always very encouraging to hear their stories. These three women have shown wonderful leadership and commitment to BCA's mission over many decades and we have recently been privileged to meet with two of them.

## **Mary Morley, SA**

Mission Contacts are an important part of BCA ministry and are the point of contact between a church and BCA. They are the



Helen Spring with Mary Morley

ones who keep BCA on the front of people's minds and can arrange for Field Staff to visit and speak about their work. They also have fiscal responsibilities and are in charge of collecting and counting what is raised through BCA Money Boxes.

Mary Morley has recently ceased being the Mission Contact for St Cuthbert's Prospect. She became a Box Secretary (as

it was called) in 1975, so has served for almost 40 years in this role. Vivien Bleby and Helen Spring from the SA/NT Office visited her towards the end of 2014, to personally thank her for her fine effort over so many years.



Glenda Lee balances the current money box on hers

## **Glenda Lee, NSW**

Faithfully using your money box can be a wonderful example to those around you and demonstrates how important BCA's mission is to you. BCA is so thankful for its many money box holders.

Glenda Lee from Ulladulla has been supporting BCA's ministry through her money box for at least 35 years. When Peter Adkins, NSW/ACT Regional Officer visited her church a few months ago, he had a supply of BCA material at the ready to hand out, including brochures, publications and new money boxes. Upon speaking to Glenda, he assumed she was ready to upgrade her somewhat tattered box but

soon realised the sentimental value it now has. It has become a sign of the longevity of Glenda's support.

## **Mrs Nina Cooper, NSW**

Mrs Nina Cooper passed away last year on 2nd November just before her 104th birthday. She had a remarkable and long history of supporting BCA, particularly through the Ladies' Auxiliary. BCA Chairman Fred Chilton and his wife, Jill were able to attend her funeral at St Stephen's Willoughby.

Nina was married to The Reverend Austin Cooper, who served for many years on the BCA Council. She was a key member of the BCA Ladies' Auxiliary for 45 years, until it closed down in 2003. As part of the Auxiliary, Nina would make toffee each year



Nina Cooper

for the annual fundraising fete and luncheon in the Chapter House and would be heavily involved in the two street stalls held in Chatswood each year, also to raise money for the Auxiliary.

She had a special interest in providing hospitality to Field Staff and families when they were in Sydney and

would go along with them to deputations so she could help mind the parish children.

Nina's daughter, Patsy has fond memories of travelling around Australia with her in 1984 and staying at a motel in Newman, just over the fence from Arthur and Pat Williams, the BCA missionaries at the time.

**Alison Pearce**

## **THE NSW OUTBACK ODYSSEY TOUR** AUGUST 2015 – 13 DAYS

*Come on a BCA CFT holiday for a fantastic time of sightseeing and fellowship. This particular holiday takes you through iconic Australian Outback towns and onto vast tracts of green irrigated land as you experience a taste of Outback life and BCA ministries.*

**Sydney – Muswellbrook – Tamworth – Lightning Ridge – Bourke – Cobar – Broken Hill – Mildura – Hay – Hillston – Griffith – Narrandera – Albury – Gundagai – Yass – Sydney**

*Packages are available departing from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide.*

**For more information contact your Regional Office or email**  
[BCATours@bushchuraid.com.au](mailto:BCATours@bushchuraid.com.au)

**TOURS OPERATED BY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP TOURS**

# Snippets of the BCA Experience

**Meeting with some of BCA's previous workers over lunch at the recent Field Staff Conference gave rise to a wonderful opportunity for many to reminisce and share in memorable experiences, sometimes from the same location. Here are four snippets from some fascinating conversations.**

## Winton in the 1980s

### Stewart (deceased) and Helen Thorne

We went [to Winton] in 1982 for five Sundays because they hadn't had a minister there for 18 months, so we gave up our



Stewart and Helen Thorne

holiday and they asked us if we would come back. So that's how we ended up there. During our time, we would visit

a lot of properties and I think I was very privileged to go and meet so many lovely people on the properties.

One memorable moment for me is when we were towing a car through the Simpson Desert and right in the middle, it jack-knifed. We were sitting there with no lights and no nearby houses, wondering what we were going to do. I ended up jumping up and down onto the A-frame to try and disconnect it from the car.

## Winton in the 2000s – Dennis and Lois Quinn

We had a wonderful time. We got to know a lot of the graziers and townfolk and we were very welcome in the school to

teach Religious Education. They were just generally lovely and very friendly. Yes, it was hot – we had one day that got to 47 ½ and was 40 degrees by 9am – but there was always a breeze, which I was not expecting.

One of the amazing things we observed

when we were up there was people dancing in the rain after a long drought. I had heard about this sort of thing but when it happened, I was amongst them, dancing in the rain. We also saw an emu, and another time a five-foot goanna, on the children's crossing going to the school.

## Kununurra in the 1990s

### Bob and Denise Rothwell

Kununurra had a very definite tourist season; people would come during the dry season when you could travel but at the end of the season, the congregation would plummet again to a small level.

One of the great joys at Kununurra was seeing a number of young adults, mostly men, but women too, who came to work. Many came as pilots because of the great amount of flying in the area, some came to work in the mill or as electricians and other fields and we got to be involved with some of them. We became the church for pilots so that when the Christian pilots were in town they would come and visit us and come to church or Bible study if it was the



Reminiscing about Winton: Dennis and Lois with Helen



A Kununurra reunion: BCA Field Staff who have served or lived there

right day and we really enjoyed that. Many of them had come from areas where they hadn't studied or understood the Bible very



Denise Rothwell at a stall in Kununurra

much and often were surprised to learn what was in it and to learn that they could read it and get a great deal out of it.

## Kununurra in the 2000s

### Ron and Robyne Johnson

It was the adventure of our life to be there. One memorable moment was when we held a baptism in the biggest baptismal font in the world. We hired a boat and took 70 or 80 people out to a little island and while some people were watching for crocs, we baptised three people in Lake Argyle. It was wonderful to see so many people come out to see those people stand up for Jesus and give their lives to Him.

A second moment happened just before we left Kununurra. We'd had a ministry with some Aboriginal people in Wyndham and a few people had given their lives to Jesus. On our last Sunday in Wyndham, this one guy, Peter, came out the front to give me a gift of a carved Boab nut. We'd been speaking about Jesus in the service and as I thanked him, I said, "Now Peter, we've been talking about getting closer to Jesus for a long time. You haven't done that yet, have you?"

He replied with "No, Ron."

So I told him, "Well it's up to you mate, I can't do it for you."

I thought that would be the last time I saw him, but a week later he happened to be in Kununurra and ran across the car park to tell me, "Pastor Ron, Pastor Ron! I gave my life to Jesus!" It was such an encouraging farewell gift from God to us. •



Ron and Robyne Johnson

**The Bush Church Aid Society of Australia  
for the purpose of adopting the audited accounts of the Society for the financial  
year ended 31st December, 2014 and to elect Councillors.**

**Wednesday 27th May 2015 at 9:30am  
Anderledy Lodge, 80 William St, North Sydney**

## Queensland and Northern NSW

Saturday 21st March 2015, 9:30am  
North Pine Anglican Church,  
2 Wyllie Street, Petrie  
Followed by the Bush and Bible Day  
The Revd Graeme Hodgkinson, past Qld/N NSW  
Regional Officer will lead studies in Colossians  
Meet our new Regional Officer, The Revd David  
and Mrs Julie Rogers-Smith.  
\$15 includes lunch and morning tea.  
RSVP by 13th March to Marj Wellings,  
marjrhys@me.com /07 3162 6944 or John  
Nicholls, johnnicholls270@gmail.com  
0435 800 270

## Victoria and Tasmania

Friday 1st May 2015, 6:15pm  
All Saints Greensborough, 14 Church St,  
Greensborough  
Keynote Speaker: The Revd Dr John Harris  
(author of ONE BLOOD)  
Guest Speakers: The Revd Neville Naden and  
The Revd Dr Joy Sandefur  
\$30.00 per person to cover a Prime Stud Gourmet  
Spit Roast dinner, desserts, pre-dinner drinks and  
nibbles  
RSVP by Friday 24th April  
victoria@bushchurchaid.com.au or 03 9457 7556

## South Australia and Northern Territory

Saturday 11th April 2015, 12 noon  
Christ Church, 62-72 Jeffcott St, North Adelaide  
Guest Speakers: The Revd Steve Davis, new SA/  
NT Regional Officer  
\$15 per head to cover the cost of the provided  
lunch.  
RSVP by 7th April to Helen at  
sa@bushchurchaid.com.au or 08 8221 5444

## New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory

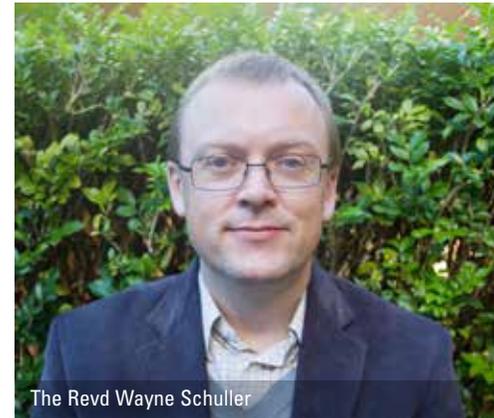
Thursday 9th April 2015, 12 noon  
BCA Boardroom, Level 7, 37 York St Sydney  
Guest Speaker: Mrs Cheryl Hallinan, NSW Bush  
Scripture Adviser  
Light lunch provided, a small donation to cover  
lunch costs would be appreciated  
RSVP by 2nd April to Vika Ta'ofi on 02 9262 5017  
or vika@bushchurchaid.com.au

## Western Australia

Saturday 18th April 2015, 12 noon  
St Philip's Anglican Church, 240 Marmion St,  
Cottesloe  
Guest Speakers: The Revd Les and Mrs Jenny  
Gaulton, Field Staff in Karratha/Dampier  
Luncheon at 12 noon followed by the AGM at  
1:15pm  
Cost: \$20 per head (\$15 concession)  
RSVP by 3rd April to 1300 554 025 or  
wa@bushchurchaid.com.au

**'... for all have sinned and fall short of the  
glory of God, and are justified freely by His  
grace through the redemption that came  
by Christ Jesus. God presented Him as a  
sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His  
blood.' (Romans 3:23-25)**

When I was a young Christian at the  
University of Melbourne, God opened my  
heart to grasp the life-changing truth of  
the gospel from Romans 3. I discovered I  
could be declared  
righteous only  
through the  
atoning work  
of Christ on the  
cross, and that  
Christ alone has  
propitiated God's  
wrath for my sin.  
Is there anything  
more important  
than helping all  
Australians hear this gospel?



The Revd Wayne Schuller

I am an Anglican minister working in the  
Diocese of Melbourne. In 2007 and 2009, as  
a curate from Holy Trinity Doncaster, I was  
privileged to serve with two BCA sponsored  
mission visits to Port Hedland. On the  
second trip I took my family and after the  
mission we toured around the Kimberley.  
We loved the beauty of the terrain and  
the down to earth culture of the locals.  
We realised how significant it was to have  
BCA providing godly gospel leadership to  
struggling churches in rugged and remote  
locations.

I have been involved in the Victorian

BCA Regional Committee for about five  
years and as a National Councillor the last  
two years. Hearing about and praying for  
the BCA gospel work around our nation fills  
me with joy.

I have a passion for renewal of the  
Biblical and evangelical foundations of the  
Anglican church. We desperately need to  
raise up and support godly gospel leaders  
who themselves can train and raise up

other faithful  
leaders (2 Timothy  
2:2). Faithful  
Bible ministry  
has always  
been tough,  
but our secular  
and spiritually-  
apathetic  
age makes  
disciple-making  
particularly

challenging. As I see Christian leaders in  
my own capital city struggling to thrive, I  
wonder how much harder it must be in the  
smaller cities and towns of our nation. I  
therefore praise God and pray for the Bush  
Church Aid Society.

May God continue to use BCA to raise  
up leaders who will preach Christ crucified  
with Spirit-empowered courage.

## The Revd Wayne Schuller

Senior Pastor Berwick Anglican Church and  
BCA Councillor

## WELCOME

**Joel and Hannah Hill** moved to Roxby Downs in January to begin a Ministry Training Arrangement in partnership with BCA. They have three children – Amy,



The Hill family

Finnegan and new baby John. Joel has recently completed studies at Ridley College in Melbourne and will serve with Mary Lewis as Assistant Minister and Curate.

**David and Crystal Fell** have been appointed to Norfolk Island for a four year term. David was most recently Assistant Minister at Manly and he and Crystal have had strong connections with BCA over many years. They will serve as BCA Affiliates.

We welcome **Nathaniel Naden** also as a BCA



Nathaniel Naden

Affiliate. Nathaniel will be a Student Minister at the Living Waters Church in Redfern, an inner Sydney suburb, whilst studying at Moore College. He is the son of Neville and Kathryn Naden who serve with BCA in Broken Hill.

In February, we welcomed two new



David and Julie Rogers-Smith

Regional Officers: **David Rogers-Smith** and **Steve Davis**.

David has been appointed Regional Officer for Queensland and Northern New South Wales.

He and his wife Julie recently served as BCA Field Staff in Launceston,

where David was the Ministry Development Officer for the Diocese of Tasmania and Ministry Enabler in the Parish of Riverlinks. He has run the Tasmanian Bible Forums for the last seven years and helped develop the Tasmanian Certificate in Theology and Ministry in Tasmania. His commissioning as Regional Officer will be at 7pm on Thursday 12th March at St Andrews, Lutwyche. For more information contact Marg on (07) 3162 6944.

Steve has been appointed as the Regional Officer for South Australia and the Northern Territory. Steve and his wife Lyn come to BCA after having served in the Parish of Streaky Bay in the Diocese of Willochra. A trained teacher and principal, Steve resigned from the Department of



Steve and Lyn Davis

Education in 2007 and the following year both he and his wife Lyn enrolled at the Bible College of SA. They have many years' experience of life and ministry in the bush, including BCA locations such as Tarcoola. Steve will be commissioned at 3pm on Sunday 15th March at St Mark's, Wynn Vale. For more information contact Helen Spring on (08) 8221 5444.

**The Revd Stephen May** has been appointed Chair of the Victorian Regional Committee following The Revd Ernest Horth's resignation last year. Stephen has had an association with BCA over many years and was Rector of Eaglehawk in the Diocese of Bendigo overseeing Tracey Wolseley's appointment to a Ministry Training Arrangement with BCA in 2003.

## CONGRATULATIONS

A big congratulations on our two new BCA babies. **David and Traci Mitchell** have welcomed their second child, Edward David, who came into the world early on 29th November. Daphne is enjoying being a big sister. **Joel and Hannah Hill** welcomed their third child, John

Michael, on the 22nd December. A new little brother for Amy and Finnegan.

**Jane Harris** was deaconed in November last at the Cathedral Church of Sts Peter and Paul, Port Pirie. Jane with husband Frank were BCA Nomads No 158 in 2009 and after some travelling, stayed to serve in the

Parish of Roxby Downs with Mary Lewis. Jane has been licensed as a Local Deacon in the parish there.

## FAREWELL

**James and Skye Coats** and **Geoff and Sarah Chambers** have completed their terms of service as BCA Affiliates.

James and Skye will continue to live and serve Christ in Holbrook with their four daughters at Holbrook Anglican Church. We are thankful for their faithful service and pray for God's continued guidance and strength to serve Him faithfully.

Geoff and Sarah will remain in Tamworth as members of the Parish of St Peter's with their three children. Geoff has taken up work as a boarding master at a local school. We are grateful for their ministry in South Tamworth and pray for them as a family as they adjust in this time of transition.

**David and Trudy Robinson** have thoroughly enjoyed their time at Northampton and it is with great sadness that they recently left due to David's poor health. They are thankful for being accepted into the community and that they were able



The Mitchell family

to witness growth with some of their congregation drawing closer to the Lord. David and Trudy have really appreciated the wonderful prayer support received and the friendships made in the BCA family. •

## Kirkby and GGG

**In 1932, SJ Kirkby was moving out of the BCA Organising Missioner role into a Coadjutor Bishop's role in the Diocese of Sydney. On 9th September that year Canon Langley, who had been active in promoting the establishment of BCA and the corresponding committee it sprang from, congratulated Kirkby saying that he was a man of "grit, grace and gumption" (The Sydney Morning Herald p12 Sept 10 1932)**

Was Langley quoting Kirkby's words back to him or were they a phrase in general circulation at the time?

Maybe both. Kirkby had used the phrase often in *The Real Australian*, the Society's promotional journal, to call leaders who would endure as well as have the courage to face the challenges and the ability to grasp the opportunities to bring Christ to Australians.

Was it Kirkby's phrase? Did he make it his own? It certainly fitted the skill set BCA Missioners required. It is hard to say at this distance but it was a phrase used in a number of contexts both before and after

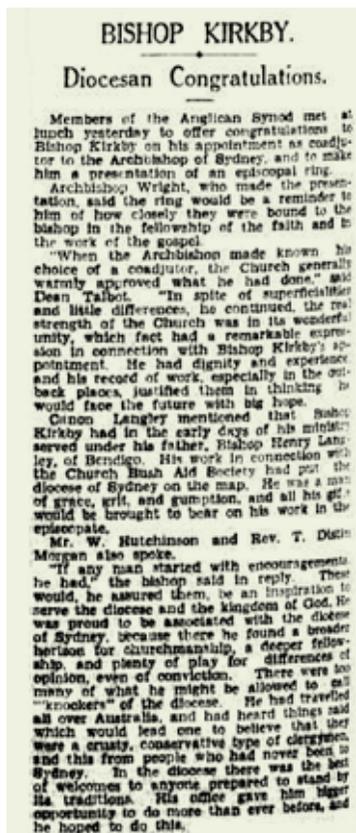
the quote in 1932.

A quick Google search shows the phrase was used around the time of women in veterinary medicine; by the Women's Christian Temperance Union in the 6 o'clock

closing campaign and in an American cowgirl guide to describe Mary West. Anne O'Brien from the University of NSW wrote in her article about Christian Church Workers that 'grace, grit and gumption' was one catchphrase Kirkby used in church literature publicising women's mission work, where he suggests "that the ideal worker was expected to bring robust practicality, determination and courage..."

It was quoted by Kirkby's successor in his work 'These Twenty Years' as the 'secret' of BCA's success; "The BCA has always insisted upon personal experience of

Christ as Redeeming Saviour and Indwelling Friend as the primal qualifications for its ministry; it also asks that its candidates shall be real 'red blooded' men and women of character and powers of leadership. 'Grace, grit and gumption' make up the trio of its requirements."



Newspaper article found in Trove, reproduced courtesy of the National Library of Australia



SJ Kirkby on the Nullarbor

However it appears that its first use was in 1891 in the Student Mission Power: A Report of the First International Convention of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions. It quoted a missionary of some 14 years to China and Japan, The Revd Lambeth who said "First a missionary needs Grace, Grit and Gumption. Gumption to take care of himself, to keep out of others way: Grit to stay upon the mission field for life; Grace to love poor human souls, though darkly visaged, ... to see there is a soul upon which is the impress of Almighty God his Father" (page 154)

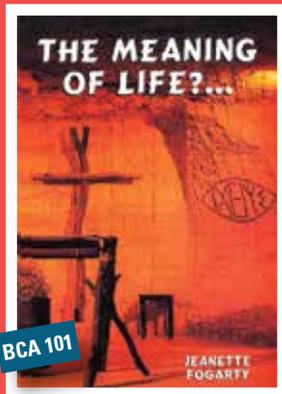
Not a year later, on the other side of the Atlantic, John Pugh speaking to theology students in 1892 said, "The men who would be leaders must have these three things; first grit or moral stamina. A soft, flabby, goody goody baby of a fellow in a man's clothes will never do much good for God, nor harm to the devil. Second you must have a great grace; you must abound in

the grace of faith and in mighty hope and love. Third, you must have gumption." He feared some were short on common sense and not street wise. Pugh, a railway worker converted in the Welsh valleys became a dedicated pastor who planted and grew several large churches. Pugh's plan was to reach the unchurched industrial wasteland of Splott, next to Cardiff. He advertised the fact that he wanted "To secure men of GRACE, GRIT AND GUMPTION" for the work.

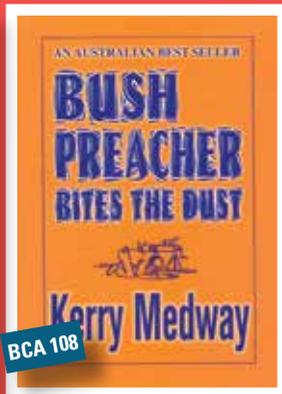
The 1932 SMH article reports that Kirkby was very focussed on the needs of the Australian Church and reaching men and women, boys and girls for Christ. Kirkby knew that God could change everything through men and women who were called by His grace and to whom He had given the grit and gumption to carry out His work. Kirkby's 'Grace, Grit and Gumption' criteria have been a mark of BCA's selection processes since its inception in 1919.

**Brian Roberts** Honorary Archivist

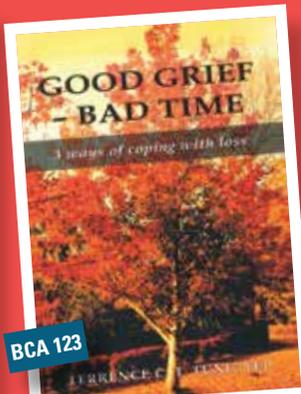
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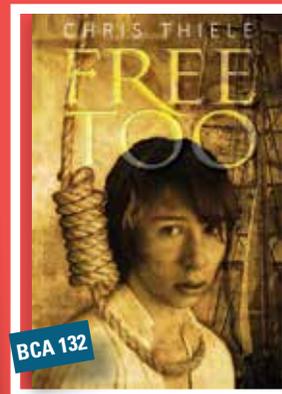
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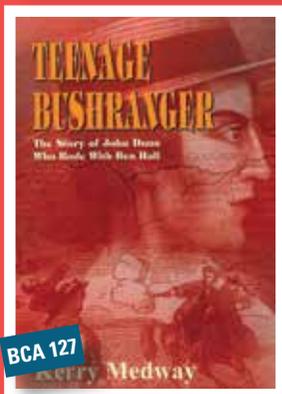
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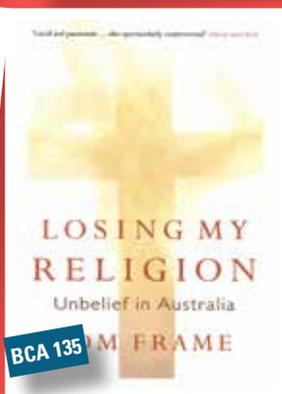
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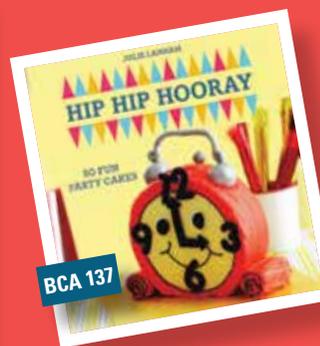
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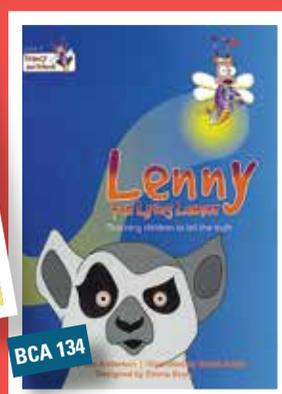
BCA 117



BCA 135



BCA 137



BCA 134



BCA 133

<b>BCA 101</b>	<b>The Meaning of Life</b> Jeanette Fogarty	\$6.00
	<i>Looking in the right place for our purpose and meaning</i>	
<b>BCA 108</b>	<b>Bush Preacher Bites the Dust</b> Kerry Medway	\$8.00
	<i>God has used this book to introduce many Aussie men to God</i>	
<b>BCA 117</b>	<b>Desperate</b> Kerry Medway	\$8.00
	<i>Developing a lifestyle that is desperate for God in the good times</i>	
<b>BCA 127</b>	<b>Teenage Bushranger</b> Kerry Medway	\$8.00
	<i>The story of John Dunn who rode with bushranger Ben Hall</i>	
<b>BCA 123</b>	<b>Good Grief - Bad Time</b> Terry Tung-Yep	\$6.00
	<i>3 ways of coping with loss</i>	
<b>BCA 135</b>	<b>Losing my Religion</b> Tom Frame	\$15.00
	<i>A blend of history, theology and sociology</i>	

<b>BCA 132</b>	<b>Free Too</b> Chris Thiele	\$12.00
	<i>An historical novel about the lives of ordinary people in Hobart Town 1815</i>	
<b>BCA 128</b>	<b>Amazing Grace</b> Peter Rahme	\$7.00
	<i>Retelling the life of John Newton and the writing of the hymn</i>	
<b>BCA 131</b>	<b>Party Cakes</b> Julie Lanham	\$15.00
<b>BCA 137</b>	<b>Hip Hip Hooray</b> Julie Lanham	\$15.00
	<i>Fun celebration cakes with plenty of tips, techniques and templates</i>	
<b>BCA 134</b>	<b>Lenny the Lying Lemur</b> Jen Anderson	\$10.00
	<i>For children – about the importance of honesty</i>	
<b>BCA 133</b>	<b>Francy the Fearful Firefly</b> Jen Anderson	\$10.00
	<i>Help your children learn that God is greater than their fears</i>	



