

# VISION



DECEMBER 2009

## *Break through...*

Hi everyone, hope you've had a great 2009! I'd like to thank all those who contributed articles to this issue's Vision Magazine. You all did a wonderful job!

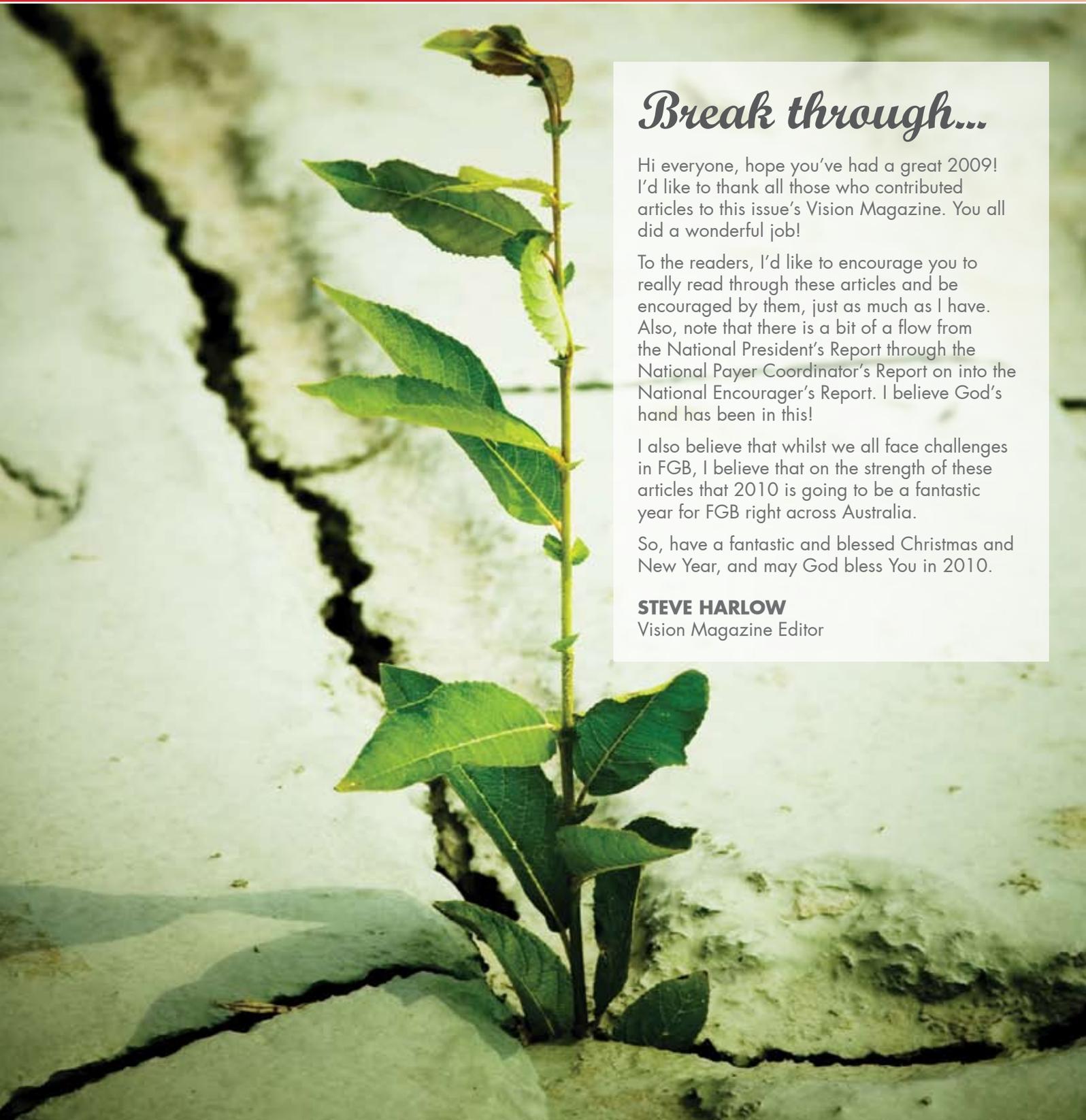
To the readers, I'd like to encourage you to really read through these articles and be encouraged by them, just as much as I have. Also, note that there is a bit of a flow from the National President's Report through the National Payer Coordinator's Report on into the National Encourager's Report. I believe God's hand has been in this!

I also believe that whilst we all face challenges in FGB, I believe that on the strength of these articles that 2010 is going to be a fantastic year for FGB right across Australia.

So, have a fantastic and blessed Christmas and New Year, and may God bless You in 2010.

**STEVE HARLOW**

Vision Magazine Editor



LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT, AIRLIFTS, PRAYER, MAYOR PRAYER BREAKFAST, TAPE MINISTRY, BUSINESS DYNAMICS, OUTREACH MEETINGS, PARTNERS IN EVANGELISM, VOICE MAGAZINE

## New South Wales, ACT - State Report



*“As God’s men, we are going to press into God more, asking Him to move powerfully in our Chapter and outreach meetings.”*

**ANTHONY CONNELL**  
NSW/ACT  
State Director

On the evening of the 14th October Bill Sgro informed me of my appointment as State Director of NSW, which incorporates the ACT. I must admit I was pretty excited and yet recognised the witness in my heart that this was God’s appointment.

Since then I have been in touch with the Regional Directors and Chapter Presidents in NSW/ACT, for the purpose of sharing my heart and to gauge where the lay of the land was, so to speak.

I am very encouraged by the warmth and acceptance I have received, the willingness of these leaders to share their heart with me, and the sense of God’s presence with us. The commitment by all the leaders is pleasing.

I recognise that each Regional Director and Chapter President has a healthy desire to see even greater results.

The two Chapters in the ACT are having regular outreach functions which are well planned, allowing for a ministry time after the guest speaker has concluded. Similarly seven of the ten Chapters in NSW are also faithfully applying themselves and kicking some goals.

Some of the Chapters are working in well with their local Churches, with one Chapter having 200-300 people at their meetings. Another Chapter held an outreach with 22 decisions for Christ.

As God’s men, we are going to press into God more, asking Him to move

powerfully in our Chapter and outreach meetings, to see His vision realised.

God has challenged me personally to take ownership, by praying for breakthroughs, and that the Holy Spirit will inspire and direct my words and actions. The word “breakthrough” in the little Macquarie Dictionary means, any development which removes a barrier to progress.

I am very grateful to my wife, Heather, who is standing with me in this new responsibility. Please pray for the outgoing NSW State Director, Jim Brown, who has stepped down for health reasons.

**ANTHONY CONNELL**

## Western Australian - State Report



*“We have prayed for a breakthrough in Bunbury... God has now raised up the right men to lead such a team.”*

**DINKO MIOCEVICH**  
WA Regional Director

We are rejoicing in how good our God has been to us in His mercy, grace, and provision in every way.

Work has begun in **Margaret River** 50 kms south of Busselton. At an inaugural breakfast the vision God gave to Demos Shakarian and the purpose of FGBMFI was shared with the local men by a team from the Busselton Chapter.

We expect there will be a harvest here as the Holy Spirit works in men’s hearts when they are exposed to the testimonies of the faithful. The preparation for this event has taken place over a long period of time involving prayer and direct contact with the saints and Pastors in Margaret River.

A new lunch time group is also meeting in **Bunbury** 50 kms north of Busselton. At this stage it is involving men who work in that region sharing in fellowship, bringing about the beginnings of an outreach to form a Chapter there.

We have prayed for a breakthrough in Bunbury for a long time, and I believe that God has now raised up the right men to lead such a team. We trust Him only.

The **Busselton Chapter** is continuing with its monthly outreach functions and has had the opportunity to host our National Secretary Dr. Charles Rockefeller, and evangelist Dr. Dave Smethurst.

The Chapter has also hosted many powerful local speakers. We still need to further train our men to reach out and bring the unsaved to Chapter meetings to make all the effort worthwhile. God will then do the work of salvation.

The **Perth South Chapter** has had several breakfast meetings and has been struggling to find direction in attracting its membership into supporting all its activities. More prayer and cohesion will bring success for those who have put so much effort into this area.

**DINKO MIOCEVICH**

The backbone of the fellowship is its men, men who have a vision inspired by God to reach out beyond their personal lives to help others find the reality... of Christ.

# Get my people ready



The story of Lazarus is a powerful story. It demonstrates the staggering supernatural power of God. Nothing God creates is dead until He says it's dead.

We have heard it said that "FGBMFI is dead; it has run its race, it is finished." Whoever said they have run ahead of God! The story of Lazarus was placed in the Bible for this very reason, to help us understand that the Holy Spirit decides when it's over, not man.

See, the fellowship was birthed by the Holy Spirit. Let me introduce you to the FGBMFI.

The Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International is an organisation sovereignly ordained by God. From its humble beginnings - one small Chapter in Los Angeles, California in 1951 - it was thrust into global ministry by prophetic visions and prophecy.

The Fellowship's story graphically depicts man's plans falling short of the mark and God's plan succeeding. The complete story is in the classic inspirational book by

Demos Shakarian, "The Happiest People on Earth". This Californian dairyman is our Fellowship's founder.

Today, the Fellowship operates in approximately 150 countries. Thousands of Chapters hold meetings in places from small farm towns to outlying suburbs and big city centres. Breakfast, lunch, or dinner, these meetings are a time of fellowship, outreach, and personal ministry.

The backbone of the fellowship is its men, men who have a vision inspired by God to reach out beyond their personal lives to help others find the reality of the Spirit-filled walk with Christ.

Thousands of men putting God first and letting their lives shine to the world. Men who join the Fellowship who participate in outreaches make a commitment to spread the Good News of Christ through the effective and powerful worldwide ministries of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International.

Our vision statement for the Fellowship is based upon a series of prophetic messages given over a period of time and are

confirmed by a literal vision from God. In the vision, untold masses of men from every continent and nation, of all races and diverse culture and custom, once spiritually dead, are now alive. Delivered and set free, they are filled with the power of God's Holy Spirit, faces radiant with glory, hands raised and voices lifting praises to heaven.

We see a vast global movement of laymen being used mightily by God to bring in this last great harvest through the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit before the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In his final book 'The Vision Intensified', Demos says, "I see a time when God will set us apart and release a new, mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit; it is a time to get our eyes off the past! It is time to stop talking about how much we have accomplished, and start prayerfully seeking God on what he wants to do now and what he wants for the future,"



**BILL SGRO**  
National President

## Victorian - State Report



*“... for your day in day out work, I want you small, local, & sensitive to me!”*

**BILL SGRO**  
Acting VIC State Director

In many ways we are back at the beginning. We simply have to do what the Fellowship requires, which is to have small local outreach events that give public testimony of what the Lord Jesus Christ has done in the lives of others. It's that simple.

Demos said in his final book "The Vision Intensified" the Spirit seemed to say, 'I do not want a big centralized organisation.

Come together on occasions as a collective group to inspire and encourage each other, to

light a fire for many to see. But for your day in day out work, I want you small, local, & sensitive to me!

I do not want uniformity. I will never take two men or two places in just the same way. Give me outlets for "MY INFINITE VARIETY".

In Victoria we are going through a time of rebuilding. We are encouraging Chapters to continue to do what the original mandate was, to keep strictly to testimony based outreach event.

Yes, we have had some very successful outreach

events this past year, but this year has also revealed the need to refocus on our effectiveness, and our relevance in the market place.

I am looking forward to a very productive 2010. Victoria will go through some leadership changes that will challenge each Chapter to find its most effective method.

Some will stress teaching, others healing, others evangelism, but none will exist without weekly prayer meetings which will bring in the power of God.

**BILL SGRO**

## South Australian - State Report



*“Many local and state government leaders, community dignitaries, local school principals, teachers, students will be present.”*

**GEOFF DYER**  
SA State Director

There have been many and varied activities and outreaches across the SA and NT.

The State Convention held at Tanunda, Barossa Valley on September 11 and 12 was an especially blessed event with Jimmy Njino as our main speaker. Peter Young from Kangaroo Island also blessed us with his worship music and backing to ministry times. Numbers were down on expectations but many felt this was one of the most anointed teachings they had received.

The Adelaide North Chapter held a Mayoral Prayer Dinner at the Central Districts Football Club with Martyn Manuel of Fibrelogic as the speaker and 140 in attendance. It was reported to be a very God glorifying event and the Mayor has already committed to next year's event. The Adelaide North Chapter is also involved with supporting local churches for the upcoming Elizabeth Crusade.

The Chapter has started business outreach luncheons in October, and the November luncheon will be part of the crusade.

The Adelaide North East Chapter will be holding their third Mayoral Prayer Breakfast in November with Australian Rugby Union player Nick Farr-Jones.

A good crowd of approximately 250 is expected. Many local and state government leaders, community dignitaries, local school principals, teachers, students will be present. There is also a growing support and involvement by local churches.

The Adelaide South Chapter held an Outreach supper evening in September with about 75 in attendance. Salvation Army's Don Woodward shared his involvement in trauma situations in natural and man-made national disasters over many years. The impact of Christ and the cross was evident in the healing of people's emotions.

The Adelaide East Chapter continues to do street evangelism to international students in the city who are very open to hear the Gospel and receive tracts, numbers are responding and praying with the team members.

The group has been encouraged by God's favour upon this work. This is well supported by prayer warfare and covering before each weekly outreach. The Chapter also provides speakers to Local Government library events and promoting Mayoral events for 2010.

The Naracoorte Chapter continues to hold regular outreach dinner evenings and are planning for another tent outreach at next year's Lucindale rural field days.

The Alice Springs Chapter were blessed as both Rod Winter and Geoff Dyer visited from Adelaide. They spoke at successive monthly breakfasts in September and October.

**GEOFF DYER**



## Watchman What of the night

# From the National Office

Greetings and God's richest blessing from the team at the National FGBMFI office in Geelong.

### 34th NATIONAL FGBMFI CONVENTION

Thursday May 13 to Saturday May 15 2010

Venue: Geelong Conference Centre, and Geelong Football Club.

You are invited and encouraged to attend the 2010 National Convention. By attending this Convention you will be supporting the work of the Fellowship and meet up with other FGBMFI members from all parts of the nation. It will also be a time to refresh the vision and passion for outreach and ministry at both individual and chapter level.

**Is it worth the effort to attend a Convention?** My answer to this question is YES! I have found that at each of the eight National Conventions I have attended I have experienced both the touch and empowerment of the Lord Jesus Christ, and have enjoyed the fellowship with other Christians.

### Why hold it again in Geelong?

Venues in other cities were looked at but they could not come close to matching the quality, cost of food, accommodation, and venue which is provided at the Geelong Conference Centre. The Geelong Chapter also has the necessary FGBMFI infrastructure and organisational team willing to host a National Convention.

**BOOK IN NOW:** for the 34th National FGBMFI Convention (May 13 - 15, 2010)

### Registration and Accommodation

**Enquiries:** FGBMFI National Office  
Phone 03 5229 6911  
Email mail@fgbmf.org.au

### 2010 FGBMFI Regional Director's Weekend in Adelaide

The 2010 FGBMFI Regional Directors meeting will be at Hosanna Heights in Adelaide between the 5th and 7th February 2010. The Regional Director's meeting will commence at 6pm on Friday 5th February and concludes on Sunday 7th February at 12 noon.

The National Board is encouraging Chapter Presidents to also attend if they are able. Costs for two nights accommodation for two nights at Hosanna Heights (Friday 5th Feb and Saturday 6th Feb) and all six meals starting with dinner on Friday and ending with lunch on Sunday will be only \$150.00.

Each person is responsible for booking and paying for their own airfares to and from Adelaide. Please advise the National office by the 20th December 2009 if you can

Your prayerful support and words of encouragement are valued. We are thankful for every member of the fellowship across Australia and your faithful financial partnership is greatly appreciated.

God Bless!

### CHARLES ROCKEFELLER

National Secretary

An encouraging word the Lord brought to me several years ago was this: "I have set my watchmen on the walls in Australia and day and night there is always a prayer rising up to me." Also, Jesus said to his disciples in the garden, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation." (Matt 26:41).

If ever there is a time to watch and pray, it is now, for the old devil goes around like a roaring lion seeing whom he may devour.

Are you a person that the Lord has called to be a watchman and/or an intercessor, one to stand in the gap between Him for the people and the land?

I recently travelled into Melbourne with other volunteers who had helped others in the aftermath of Black Saturday to receive a thank you from the Governor, the Premier, Christine Nixon, and Bill Shorten. Right amongst the people, the old enemy hit my mind with strong temptations as I spoke to a local Mayor from a bushfire area. Thank God I put those temptations aside and then be open to the Holy Spirit to ask this question the Lord laid on my heart:

"What is the greatest need at the moment or your greatest need?" She replied that in the next couple of days she needed the strength and guidance to make some very important decisions. I said I would go in to bat for her and it was my great pleasure to be an intercessor for her.

She was so grateful that she gave me a great big hug because people really appreciate someone who will pray for them in their hour of need. I had the opportunity to say to other fire affected people, "Right, I've come in to bat for you and there is someone greater than I batting for you too".

Then this word came through, "I've come in to bat for you". What a tremendous difference it makes when the Lord Jesus Christ comes in to bat for you. And it did!

He is there at the right hand of the Father interceding for us and he calls us to be willing to intercede for others.

### REX CARDWELL

National Prayer Coordinator

## Queensland - State Report



*“A lot has happened during 2009 and we are expecting to make greater headway during 2010.”*

PETER MONSON  
QLD State Director

Again I must congratulate the organising committee for the wonderful work they put into our Queensland State Convention. There was naturally a lot of helpers whose tireless efforts were also much appreciated.

To the members of National Board, thank you for bringing the quarterly meeting and your wives to our State. This has helped immensely in bringing FGBMFI Australia into a closer bond of unity.

It is also pleasing to note that Chapter Presidents have been invited to attend the National Board meeting in Adelaide in February 2010. The insight to Chapters from this meeting will be invaluable to the life of FGBMFI in all areas around Australia.

A lot has happened during 2009 and we are expecting to make greater headway during 2010 with the birthing of a new Chapter in the **City of Bowen** and a complete change of leadership for the **Gold Coast Chapter**.

In order to achieve the goals in 2010 we will be making time to be in your area for a Chapter function as well as helping to brush up on Chapter procedures and requirements.

Remember it is the same old story - the job is not done properly till the reporting paperwork is completed.

Please notify the State Office of your plans regarding functions, etc., for the coming year. Please do this before February 1st.

Once again, Bernie has the Mayoral Breakfast plans well in hand with a number eagerly awaiting our visit. On one of these trips, we shared a meal with a lady who sat on her mother's knee at those meetings in Clifton's Cafeteria where FGBMFI was birthed from the God-given vision to Demos Shakarian.

On a closer front, it must be noted that Doug Gray has resigned as Regional Director for the Darling Downs. Whilst this move was foreshadowed at Adelaide in January, it is still no easier to accept. Doug we, your brothers in Christ, wish you well and look forward to your continued input to the Fellowship.

**PETER MONSON**

## Tasmanian - State Report



*“You are important and so is your role for that team to function efficiently and effectively.”*

DAVID KLEYWEG  
TAS State Director

After the AGM meetings were held in May, a group of men from Kingston, south of Hobart showed interest in establishing a chapter in that area. They have held a number of outreach meetings and in the near future we hope to run the inaugural AGM.

The Tasmania State men's camp was again held at Camp Banksia in Port Sorell and ran from Friday the 23rd to Sunday the 24th of October.

The guest speakers this year included our National President, Mr. Bill Sgro, and Pastor Peter Shurley, who has ministered at many state and national FGB conventions over the years. John Gift, who runs "The Big Tin Shed" outreach, also came and shared with us on the Saturday night.

This really was a very good camp; we were privileged with these quality speakers. Unfortunately the numbers were down, but those that attended were certainly blessed by the ministry, fellowship, music, testimonies, and of course, The Lord.

We have no firm dates for our activities for next year, but normally our State training day is held in March, the AGM's in April/May, and the State Men's camp in October.

I would like to encourage all those reading this report to consider themselves as being part of a team. Some members of a team have a more prominent part to play, and some not quite as prominent a part to play, but never the less, still a very important role within that team.

No matter what your role is within FGB, or any other organisation for that matter, try and remember - You are important and so is your role for that team to function efficiently and effectively.

Therefore I would encourage us all to give whatever we take on our best shot, then at the end of the day we will have a clear conscience and hopefully very few regrets.

May The Lord Bless your efforts,

**DAVID KLEYWEG**



# PRAYING IN TONGUES

*a key to power*



It cannot be overemphasised that the return of Jesus Christ to earth is imminent and that the Church is being called to reach out to the world with a renewed compassion, authority and power.

Jesus, on declaring that out of our belly would flow rivers of living water, was anticipating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

As we speak in tongues, releasing the compassion and burden of our hearts we allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct our intercession to effectively bring about God's will and the desires of our hearts.

Since the direction was given by our National President, Bill Sgro, for all FGB Chapters to hold weekly prayer meetings, a new wave of enthusiasm for market place ministry has been evidenced.

I believe a contributing factor to this enthusiasm has been the praying and worshipping in tongues as members gather together and express the burden of their hearts.

Here is an interesting health thought. Dr Carl Peterson of Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, OK is a brain specialist and was doing research

on the relationship between the brain and praying or speaking in tongues. Some amazing things were discovered!

Through research and testing, Dr. Peterson found that as we pray or worship in the Spirit there is activity that begins in the brain. As we engage in our heavenly language, the brain releases two chemical secretions that are directed into our immune systems giving a 35 – 40 percent boost in the immune system. This promotes healing within our bodies.

Amazingly, this secretion is triggered from a part of the brain that has no other apparent activity in humans and we don't use it. It is only activated by our Spirit-led prayer and worship.

We need to pray in our prayer language more than we ever have before.

The Bible states that praying in tongues edifies us (builds us up).

St Paul stated that he prayed in tongues more than all of the church (1 Cor 14:18).

Let us follow Paul's example and change the world.

Love you all!

**TONY BRAIN**  
National Encourager

## Waverly Chapter Report

During the second half of 2009 the Waverley Chapter has been extremely busy with many varied events. July saw a very encouraging and challenging special prayer night teaching from guest Rex Cardwell on how we can release the power of God into any situation when we are thankful for all things.

Four events in September included a powerful dinner outreach event with Pr. Kul Bal, a dinner outreach event arranged by Waverley and Rex Cardwell in Whittlesea with Gary Raymond, a social pitch and putt golf day, and concluded with a dinner outreach event with powerful words and testimony from Peter Pollock. In October we saw an outreach dinner with well known Economist Professor, Ian Harper.

Blessings and regards

**MARK BENNELL**  
Chapter President

## DIARY DATES

May 13 - 15, 2010  
National Convention  
Geelong Conference Centre



February 2010  
South Australia State Training Day

February 10, 2010  
National Day of Prayer for FGB

March 2010  
Tasmania State Training Day

*Please contact the relevant State Director for more information about any of these dates.*

## New Members

# Welcome...

### NSW/ACT

Jeffrey DANAHER, North Canberra

### QLD

Frank MILES, Cairns

### SA

Ronald BLYTHMAN, Adelaide North  
Joseph CRISTEA, Adelaide North East  
Daniel DUSCAS, Adelaide North East  
Tony JAJA, Adelaide North East  
Irimo KELLY, Adelaide Eastern  
Brian MORTIMER, Adelaide Eastern  
Barry DYER, Adelaide Eastern

### WA

Michael MUNRO, Perth South  
Allen HOFFMANN, Busselton  
Graham PATULLO, Busselton  
George SMITH, Busselton

### VIC

David CHRISTOFFELSZ, Dandenong  
Nathan AHMADI, Dandenong  
Harold DOSWELL, Traralgon  
Lester ALLEN, Traralgon  
Joshua TRAILL, Geelong  
Brian KELYNACK, Geelong

## Home To Glory...

Mr Ian J RICHARDSON  
Elohim Lodge, TYNONG NORTH VIC

## CONTACTS

### NATIONAL BOARD

Bill Sgro, National President (M) 0411 035 102  
Bernie Gray (H) 07 3800 5361  
Rod Winter (H) 08 8251 7112  
Charles Rockefeller (M) 0425 721 154

### STATE OFFICES

NSW - Anthony Connell (M) 0449 127 695  
QLD - Bernie Gray (H) 07 3800 5361  
SA - Rod Winter (M) 0438 818 047  
TAS - David Kleyweg (H) 03 6431 5367  
VIC - Bill Sgro (M) 0411 035 102  
WA - Garry Pratt (H) 08 9405 1374

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL OFFICE

Joy Sgro, Office Administrator  
P: 03 5229 6911  
E: mail@fgbmfi.org.au  
W: www.fgbmfi.org.au  
Office open Monday to Friday 9am - 1pm.

## FGBMFI WEBSITE

The Australian FGBMFI Website has been gradually updated. Please have a look at our website [www.fgbmfi.org.au](http://www.fgbmfi.org.au) and take notice of the updated Membership and Merchandise sections. On the home page you will be able to download this December 2009 copy of the Vision Magazine. In the Membership section, you can download the latest Membership Application form. State Directors are encouraged to email information of upcoming Chapter and State FGBMFI functions to Joy Sgro at the National Office. Joy Sgro will then email the information to the National FGBMFI website coordinator.



**JOY SGRO**  
Office Administrator

## PRAYER COVENANT CARDS

This is a business size card and will fit in your wallet and is a convenient way to encourage the men of the Fellowship to pray daily for the people listed. These cards are free so please call the office for your supply.

## BOOKSHOP

**"THE AWAKENING GIANT"** - The bookshop now has an abundant supply of this book; it has been reprinted with the permission of the author, Val Fotherby and is a follow on from "The Happiest People On Earth". These are available for \$8.00.

**"THE HAPPIEST PEOPLE ON EARTH"** - Our bookshop is overflowing with this powerful book written by our founder, Demos Shakarian. Please purchase your copy now, available for \$11.00

## NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM

There is a real need to update the National Office Computer system. Some of the present computer software and hardware is now a decade old and quite slow and inefficient. The Computer program which looks after all Membership and Chapter records is also in great need of updating. The National Board is asking the Membership of the Fellowship for financial gifts towards the computer update appeal. Financial gifts can be sent off to the National Office. Our Computer Update Appeal target is \$6,000

## TESTIMONY TRACTS

We have another tract available, "One day God is going to get you", The Rod Bowkett story. Rod is a member of Callide-Dawson Chapter with a great story of "grog to God" This makes 13 Testimony Tracts available for purchase. You can view the bookshop price list on the web site [www.fgbmfi.org.au](http://www.fgbmfi.org.au)

These powerful testimonies are available in packs of 50 for \$12.50 + postage

