

# VISI N

MARCH 2008



## President's Report



# State of the Nation



In my prayer room early one morning I asked the Lord, "What does the Fellowship need to do to have the greatest impact in our nation?" I also wanted to know what I needed to do to help achieve this?

As I sat there waiting on the Lord I sensed I needed to do some research on the state of the nation's spiritual health. I came across a report that will both shock and surprise, and also answer some concerns others have had for a long time about growth around the nation. For a more in depth study go to. {TheologicalStudies.org}

It starts with, "Crisis in our Churches" around the world, Bible knowledge at all-time low.' The survey called (Program for International Student Assessment) tested the Bible knowledge of people in 32 industrialized countries. The results of the study show an "insidious biblical illiteracy" in Christian circles.

As I read further I realised the far reaching consequences of not reading your Bible has on a Christian's life. The report showed that most church going adults rejected the accuracy of the Bible, rejected the

existence of satan, claimed that Jesus was a sinner, see no need to evangelize, believe that good works are one of the keys to persuade God to forgive their sins, and get them into heaven and describe their commitment to Christianity as moderate or even less firm.

Those surveyed represented every protestant denomination. All the statistics are in the report, but the statistic that grips me the most is only 20% believe satan is real. So this means that 80% do not believe in the devil at all, keeping in mind these are born again Christian people we are talking about.

This becomes very interesting because the church body is where we as FGBMFI get our men from, that's our number one resource base, so we only have 20% of church goers to work with. The rest don't even believe we have an enemy. That

means we have less committed men who are strong in the Lord and full of the Holy Spirit to want to go out and make a difference in our world.

To pray for the sick and oppressed, and pray for healing and deliverance.

So I could see that this decline in the effectiveness of evangelising in market place ministries, such as FGBMFI was not due to the lack of enthusiasm of the members, but in our case a lack of available committed Christian men, willing to come forward and minister in the manner as to how we are called.

As a Fellowship this is disturbing news, but it also means we now can focus on the real issue rather than pointing to our membership alone for lack of enthusiasm.

I have embarked on a program that is taking me from state to state in order to share my thoughts with all state leaders to encourage them to persist in what we are called to do, confident the Holy Spirit who knows all manner of things will guide and direct us to victory in our endeavours.

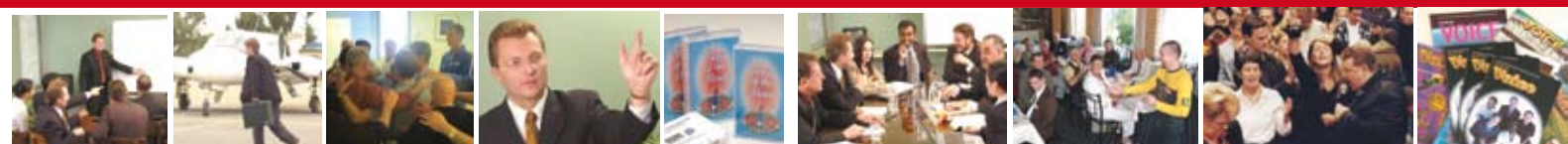
The Australian National office is well and truly established now in Geelong Victoria, and my gratitude goes to Charles Rockefeller, a National Executive member who is the office overseer, along with Joy Sgro the office administrator. Their dedication and commitment to excellence has to be commended when it comes to getting information out on time and in the most cost effective and efficient manner.

Along with the local chapter team of helpers they do a marvellous job, and make my role much easier to carry out.

Look forward to catching up with you soon, if not in your state, then at the 33<sup>rd</sup> National conference in Victoria in May this year.

God bless you all, as Demos always said, "together we can do it."

**BILL SGRO**  
National President



## Victorian - State Report



*“A by-product of this is great fellowship and a sense of fulfillment in one’s calling.”*

**DAVID WARD**  
VIC State Director

Victoria still has great potential in 2008 (Read the Vision Intensified and be inspired).

We are often asked, “Is FGB still relevant today?” and I think we often ask ourselves the same question. Some seem to be losing their way and leaving the Fellowship. Leaving us to ask why?

Well I have another question for you... Are we still doing the things we always did or are we just running a programme? It is great to have fellowship but if we are not bringing new people to hear the Good News we are not doing core business.

Several Chapters are praying regularly and doing core business and seeing results. A by-product of this is great fellowship and a sense of fulfillment in one’s calling.

Both Geelong and Waverley have lead the way over the past few months with some great functions and that have lead to salvations and

deliverance. God’s not dead, He is alive! Hallelujah!

Traralgon has had regular prayer nights and some outreach functions that have been fruitful.

Peninsular are having a monthly Gospel Sunday afternoon, at a local café where a number of locals have been exposed to the Gospel. They are doing this in addition to their other outreach programmes and Men’s Fellowship Breakfasts at a local Church.

Goulburn are working on the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast in October, speaker will be Alan Laurens. Also Ray is having talks with adjoining Shires and may have more news soon.

Dandenong have been having some joint functions with Waverley and Maroondah.

The Maroondah Chapter has been blessed by God in hosting the following events:

- Aug 2007, Breakfast meeting at Ringwood Regent Motor Inn. Speaker was Vaughn from Tribe of Judah Motorcycle Club
- Oct 2007, Breakfast meeting at Ringwood Regent Motor Inn. Speaker was Howard Willard.
- Feb 2008, Outreach at Croydon Maroondah Festival. 300 to 400 Voice magazines & tracts were distributed.

They also have a well planned calendar of very exciting events.

I would encourage you all to come to the **National Convention in Geelong**. You will be blessed and inspired to great exploits for God.

This will be the last one until 2010. We will be working on a State Camp/Convention for 2009. Be encouraged good and faithful servants.

DAVID WARD



*“For your day in, year out work, I want you Small, Local and Sensitive to me.”*

**JIM BROWN**  
NSW/ACT  
State Director

## New South Wales, ACT - State Report

With planning for 2008 well and truly under way, it is pleasing to confirm a number of our Chapters within NSW / ACT have truly picked up their batons and run with the responsibilities our Lord has placed upon us.

**In the South** – Canberra, North Canberra and recently restarted Queanbeyan Chapter, have been meeting together regularly and supportive of each other... “united as one”, the way Demos would have wanted.

A great evening was also held recently when Regional Directors Bruce Davy and Anthony Connell gathered the men of influence within their Regions for a 2008 focus group. Parramatta Chapter President, Graham Spooner, was also with us. We left with a rejoicing heart knowing the two Regions and their Chapters are in good hands.

**Sydney Metro** - Blacktown, Parramatta, Penrith and St George Chapters continue to hold regular prayer and dinner outreach meetings, which provide even greater unity for members and community. Due to the cooperation between

Chapters, visitors and every member within the Sydney Metro Region now have available a minimum of 3 prayer meetings, 1 dinner or breakfast outreach each week.

**To the North** – Port Stephens (under the care of new Chapter President Peter Arena) started the new year off well with a very moving Dinner Meeting in February and has since commenced fortnightly prayer meetings. We are still very hopeful of a restart in Port Macquarie with long term and faithful Chapter President Jeff Newham. Chris Aroyan has recently moved to Byron Bay and has commenced a ministry within the building industry, spreading the word of Jesus and FGBMFI.

Great things are to emerge from our brothers within the Northern and Western Regions of NSW. We look forward to bringing even greater news as they come to hand and seek support and prayer, from all, for this region... many thanks.

Other than the faithful application to the duties we have been entrusted within FGBMFI, we are seeing

growing examples that when we do the important things so-so well – for example:-

- A belief that healing and miracles will occur on our watch.
- Regular prayer meetings for all members.
- Outreach dinners where the speakers are not continually outsourced..... our own members giving their testimony.
- Frequent small meetings supporting the activities of the bigger Chapter picture (i.e. informal home groups as an example).
- “for your day in, year out work, I want you Small, Local and Sensitive to me” (refer page 9 – “The Vision Intensified” by Demos Shakarian).
- All functions handed over to the Holy Spirit.
- and “Listening to Jesus” (Matthew 17:5)

Chapter growth is being blessed.

God bless and keep your fires burning!

JIM BROWN

## South Australian - State Report



*“This saw over 100 mainly unchurched people presented with testimony and the gospel explained.”*

**GEOFF DYER**  
SA State Director

FGBMFI in SA continues to diversify, but bearing good fruit and sowing good seeds. We are encouraged by Demos’ book “Vision Intensified” that talks about Chapters having infinite variety.

**Adelaide East** took up the challenge to get into the world (community) and arranged an FGB speaker for an event hosted by a local library. This saw over 100 mainly unchurched people presented with testimony and the gospel explained.

**Adelaide South** with their Healing Heart meetings have grown in numbers and influence, with many ministered to and, even though the emphasis is on healing, there were 9 salvations reported at the last meeting. Further

ministry training is also part of this Chapter’s vision.

**Adelaide North** has been visiting the Copper Triangle area of Yorke Peninsula with their latest meeting being a BBQ to build relationships with local churches.

The **Naracoorte and Gambier Chapters** both finished the year well with Mark Mudri speaking and salvations reported at both meetings. Both Chapters have been attracting men from other areas who are also keen to see FGB established in their areas.

**State prayer meetings** recommenced in February with a special time of reconciliation, while individual Chapters are either meeting regularly

for prayer or being strongly encouraged to do so, as “Without Him we can do nothing” (John15:5)

The **State Men’s Day** was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February as a training day with Bill Sgro presenting his vision and strategies for FGB growth in Australia, and local speakers teaching on various aspects of evangelism as foundational to what FGB is about.

FGBMFI continues to move forward in SA, looking to God for new ways to be effective in presenting the Gospel of our Lord’s salvation to a world that is largely unaware of their dire need and their eternal destiny if they don’t turn to Jesus.

GEOFF DYER



*“... we will adapt and employ all known resources to attain achievable results.”*

**PETER MONSON**  
QLD State Director

## Queensland - State Report

Jeremiah 29:11-12 “For I know the plans I have for you” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.”

It was heartening to be with my fellow Directors in Adelaide. It became very obvious that there will be new beginnings for FGBMFI in Australia at all levels.

Here in Queensland we will adapt and employ all known resources to attain achievable results.

Special thanks to Bernie Gray for his work on the Queensland Outreach Itinerary. So far there have been 7 successful meetings,

the last being in Mackay with 30 plus people to hear the powerful testimonies of Rev. A. C. Male. A total of 18 meetings will be held in 2 weeks.

In the near future we will be forwarding an updated speakers’ listing to all Chapters complete with a comprehensive calendar of known events for this year. Training dates will be included and other relevant information for our Chapters.

We will be continuing with the Chapter Presidents’ and Directors’ meetings. The input from these meetings has always proved to be a vital asset for future planning.

Our Men’s Advance this year will be convened for 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>

August at the James Byrne Centre near Toowoomba with guest speaker Weston Carryer from New Zealand. This has generated a new enthusiasm amongst our membership.

We are currently addressing the issue of the financial status of our State Membership.

We also are aware that challenging changes will occur with our Mayoral Prayer Breakfast program after the local election on 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Yours in His service

PETER MONSON



## Western Australian - State Report



*"...breakfasts have been quite successful in uniting existing and lapsed members..."*

**DINKO MIOCEVIC**  
WA Regional Director

A group has begun meeting monthly in an Armadale cafe to share testimony and encourage one another. This is a new fellowship in the south east corridor of Perth, with Emmanuel Shyllon as convenor and which follows in the path of the Gosnells Chapter which closed some time ago.

Emmanuel recently attended the Regional Director's conference in Adelaide to meet with FGBMFI leadership personnel and to grasp the vision more closely. We look forward to establishing a Chapter in the region when a leadership team is formed. They have committed to regular prayer meetings to seek God for future direction.

The Busselton Chapter recently received Frank Woods from Hagar Catering into partnership and we rejoice as he joins Busselton member Bart Edwards who is on a two year mission with Hagar Design, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Hagar works with prostitutes,

street people, orphans and AIDS sufferers to bring new life and opportunity through Jesus Christ.

We are praying for guidance on airlifting a team to Phnom Penh later this year to organise an FGBMFI outreach banquet in Frank's restaurant. There are many English speaking business men in the capital who would respond to the fellowship and the gospel. If you are travelling through Cambodia, contact Frank at: frank.woods@hagarproject.org

Bill Sgro will be visiting Busselton early in March and as part of his mission, an airlift to Corrigin (250 km away) has been arranged so that Bill can share the vision at a breakfast meeting there, encouraging men from Brookton, Pingelly, Hyden and Narrogin to come together and renew the fellowship in the region

He will also be speaking to a fellowship barbecue dinner in Busselton. Bill's commitment

and dedication is deeply appreciated by all of us.

The Malaga Chapter north east of Perth under Alan Johnson and Case Hemmes are progressing well and meet regularly for prayer and fellowship. Garry Pratt, State Director, is currently in the USA and upon his return we expect that this group will have a new impetus. Bill Sgro will be speaking to a combined group of Chapters while in Perth.

The Midland Chapter has been meeting regularly under Charlie Fondacaro and Russell Barriball and breakfasts have been quite successful in uniting existing and lapsed members as a nucleus for future growth. Midland has a long railway history and is the hub of a dynamic population growth region in the foothills east of Perth.

**DINKO MIOCEVIC**



# House of Prayer



**It can not be over emphasized the tremendous value of Chapter meetings, and the blessing associated with praying together.**

The exiting feedback from the presidents of Chapters holding regular prayer meetings highlight the following benefits:

- **It brings God's blessing on Chapter activities**  
Proverbs 3:5, 6 state that "if we acknowledge God in all our endeavours, He will guide and bless our ways". Coming to God in prayer allows the Holy Spirit to give us guidance and assurance of success in reaching the unsaved. Nothing refreshes the spirit of a believer than a time of worship and praise. If we honour God, He will honour us.
- **It provides a medium for fellowship and togetherness**

At prayer meetings we are more apt to share our needs and relate to each other in a close bonding as we pray for each other. Members are less likely to fall away when they know they are supported and understood in their concerns and difficulties.

- **It reaches out to the community**  
Members become much more conscious of community needs about them as prayers are offered for

extended family members in crisis situations often resulting in inspiring testimonies of God's delivering power.

- **It provides a medium for Chapter communication**  
Communication to and between members is vital to a healthy Chapter. Discussion and prayer leads to greater understanding of chapter focus and the various responsibilities of members.

- **It promotes evangelism**  
Prayer can be focused on unsaved business men and associates, preparing the way for the Holy Spirit to move in their lives and prepare them to respond to an invitation to attend a Chapter meeting.

- **It promotes unity and commitment**  
In a prayerful atmosphere, past hurts and misunderstandings are healed and Christian love becomes dominant. Identification with the Chapter vision and goals becomes more apparent as members feel their contribution is valued and accepted.

- **It brings a sense of fulfillment**  
Prayer is a positive activity that we know is acceptable to God. It

promotes confidence and a feeling of well being that gives a sense of security and promotes health and happiness. It encourages members to value and cherish the presence of God and seek His will and guidance.

**How often should we hold Chapter prayer meetings?**

This can vary according to geographical considerations. Where members are considerable distances from each other meetings will not be as frequent. It is recommended in our Chapter Training Manual that prayer meetings should be held on a weekly basis. This appears to be the norm of those Chapters giving feedback on this issue. Some Chapters such as Busselton in WA which has 3 prayer meetings a week are seeing the rich blessing of signs and wonders occurring in their midst.

**Where should we hold prayer meetings?**

Prayer meetings can be rotated between member's homes or at a mutually acceptable location which is convenient to all concerned. Times for prayer meetings can be flexible to encourage attendance.

Finally let us remember the words of Jesus, "my house shall be called a house of prayer".

Love to you all!

TONY BRAIN

## Tasmanian - State Report



*"I am sure we are all aware that any activity we undertake should be based in prayer..."*

**DAVID KLEYWEG**  
TAS State Director

The commencement of 2008 saw the implementation of some additional activities for FGBMFI within the state and some changes to the normal program to take us through to December this year.

After consultation with several key leaders we have appointed a state prayer coordinator for Tasmania, Mr John Smith of Davenport. I am sure we are all aware that any activity we undertake should be based in prayer, so commencing Monday the 4th of February we undertook a week of prayer and fasting.

There were a number of specific activities that were covered on this prayer list starting at chapter level and going right up to the National Board. This I believe will set a firm base for the activities we undertake this year.

The National Conference in May will be strongly promoted this year as we will not be running a Tasmanian State Conference normally held in October. To compensate for this a state training day will be held around August this year.

One thing we intend to focus on in 2008 is identifying and confirming the type of outreach meetings that will be most effective within the specific area that each Chapter has been established. This of course can alter depending on the time of the year the function is held; summer is obviously a good opportunity for outdoor activities.

Recently a training evening was run for the newly established Launceston Chapter and much information was discussed with those who attended.

One way our organisation can lift its profile in their local area is by undertaking activities that show our appreciation of service groups and similar institutions.

Over the next 12 months each Tasmanian Chapter will explore ways of saying thank you to these important groups within our community. This may involve providing a morning or afternoon tea at that organisations workplace, this is just one option.

It is important for us to be flexible in our approach to tasks that we must undertake in our role or areas of responsibility; however we should not in any way sacrifice the high standards that the Lord has asked us to be guided by or function within, while undertaking those roles.

**DAVID KLEYWEG**



# Partnering with us

Following much discussion the National Board in consultation with various State Leaders, determined that from the 8th of February 2008:

1. All existing members to now be partners.
2. Partnerships would be a four tier structure namely – Partner, Bronze Partner, Silver Partner and Gold Partner.
3. The minimum partnership level to be \$10/monthly with all other levels to be continued as before.
4. The Fellowship will still honour existing and new pensioner concessions at the current level.

All Regional Directors will be working with their respective Chapters in order to enable a smooth transition.

I recommend that we all need to seriously consider offering Partnership to those that we believe can work with us to fulfill our destiny and calling.

We also need to reflect on what is a FGBMFI Partner:

1. He is a born-again Christian and baptized in the Holy Spirit or seeking to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.
2. He is a member in good standing of a local church.
3. He desires to serve in the body of Christ.
4. He regularly attends Chapter and monthly meetings.
5. He prays regularly for Chapter officers and partners, Regional and National Directors.
6. He prays for monthly meetings and speakers, supported with fasting if led to do so.
7. He has a burden to lead men to Christ.
8. He invites non-Christian people to Chapter meetings.
9. He is prepared to minister in the power of the Holy Spirit to those with needs such as: salvation, baptism in the Holy Spirit, healing and deliverance.
10. He financially supports Chapter activities and the wider outreach of the Fellowship.

Partnership in the FGBMFI is open to any man who is a born-again Christian.

Each partner should have received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit or be earnestly engaged in seeking this experience.

**ROD WINTER**  
National Vice President

## Convention 08



COL & JAN STRINGER



JIMMY NJINO



KUL BAL



AMANDA BEST

# Convention...Yes!

You are invited and encouraged to attend the 2008 National Convention. By attending the 2008 Convention you will be supporting the work of the Fellowship and meet up with other FGBMFI partners from all parts of the nation.

The Convention will also be a time to refresh the vision and passion for outreach and ministry at both an individual and Chapter level.

Personally I have found that attending a National Convention comes at a cost (financial, time away from work and family, travel considerations, etc). Is it worth the effort to attend a Convention? My answer to this question is YES! I have found that at each of the seven conventions which I have had the privilege to attend I have experienced both the touch and empowerment of the Lord Jesus Christ and have enjoyed the fellowship with other Christians.

Please note that at the February National Board meeting it was decided not to have a National convention in 2009 but to instead have six smaller state conventions in 2009. Thus the next National Convention will be not be held until 2010.

The majority of the 2008 Convention events will be held at the Geelong Conference Centre. This Centre is surrounded by 80 hectares of peaceful gardens and parklands yet just minutes from the Geelong CBD and waterfront.

On the afternoon of Wednesday the 30th of April 2008 there will be

## Convention 08

### 33rd AUSTRALIAN FGBMFI NATIONAL CONVENTION

GEELONG CONFERENCE CENTRE, EASTERN PARK GEELONG  
THURSDAY 1 MAY to SATURDAY 3 MAY 2008

time for registration and at night an informal meal and a time of prayer and praise.

The official opening of the 2008 Convention will take place on Thursday morning May 1st.

A Civic breakfast with Col Stringer is planned at the GFC function room, the home ground of the AFL Geelong Cats. After the breakfast, we return to the Conference Centre for teaching sessions, Ladies' Luncheon, Members AGM and an evening Celebration rally.

Another full day is planned on Friday with teaching sessions, Luncheon with Amanda Best and a Convention Dinner at night.

On Saturday a breakfast and teaching sessions are planned at the Conference Centre with the 2008 National convention finishing at lunch time.

Delegates will be free to organize their own leisure arrangements on Saturday afternoon (for those interested an informal tour of the National office is planned for Saturday afternoon). An outreach

rally on Saturday night for the public with Jimmy Njino speaking is being organized by the Geelong FGBMFI Chapter.

The confirmed keynote speakers at the convention will be Col Stringer, Jimmy Njino and Kul Bal. Col Stringer with his wife Jan. You are encouraged to register for the Convention now. If you are financially able please invite and help pay for a friend who would benefit from attending the Convention. I would especially welcome people who may have never attended a National convention or who missed the 2007 Convention to make a special effort to come to the 2008 National Convention in Geelong.

CHARLES ROCKEFELLER  
2008 National Convention  
Coordinator



### BOOK IN NOW

**The 33rd National FGBMFI Convention**  
May 1 – 3 2008

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

**Accommodation Enquiries:**  
Adrian Ganim  
P: 03 5229 6237  
E: geelongfgbmf@bigpond.com



# New Members Welcome...

## NSW/ACT

Peter ARENA Port Stevens  
William STONEHAM St George

## QLD

Darryl SHARPE Brisbane  
Philip WHITTAKER Brisbane

## VIC

Enzo DE VINCENTIS Maroondah  
Glenn TAIGEL Maroondah

## SA

Michael THOMAS Adelaide Eastern  
Peter BRASSEL Adelaide North East  
Bruce BENNIE Onkaparinga

## WA

Alister JOHNSON Malaga  
Frank WOODS Busselton



Peter Arena receiving his membership pin from Life Member, John Wooden at their AGM on 11th November, 2007

## 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 - Jim Brown (M) 0418 234 692, QLD - Bernie Gray (H) 07 3800 5361, SA - Geoff Dyer (H) 0417 819 993, TAS - David Kleyweg (H) 03 6431 5367, VIC - David Ward (M) 0404 881 888, WA - Garry Pratt (H) 08 9405 1374

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL OFFICE

P: 03 5229 6911  
E: mail@fgbmf.org.au W: www.fgbmf.org.au  
Office open Monday to Friday 9am - 1pm.

## FGBMFI WEBSITE

Over the past months, the Australian FGBMFI Website has been gradually updated. Please have a look at it [www.fgbmf.org.au](http://www.fgbmf.org.au) and take notice of the updated Membership, Merchandise, Prayer and Current Events sections.

On the home page you can now download a copy of the December 2007 Vision Magazine. In the Membership Section you can download the latest Partners Application form. In the Current Events section you can download all the forms and information related to the 2008 National Convention in May.

Each State has a state website representative who can feed information of upcoming chapter and state FGBMFI functions to the National website coordinator. Chapters are encouraged to have up to date information posted on the website thru their state website representative

## PROMOTIONAL PAMPHLET



It is exciting to announce that a new Australian FGBMFI promotional pamphlet called, "Men on the Move for Jesus" has been produced and printed. It is a great promotional pamphlet to give to people interested in wanting to know more about the Fellowship, or who want to become a Fellowship Partner. These pamphlets are of no cost to the Chapters and Partners in the Fellowship

## BOOKSHOP

The bookshop has a stock of new car window stickers with the FGBMFI logos for \$2 each. There are out of date foreign language Voice Magazines which Chapters can have at **no charge**. Please phone the office for details, or visit the website and go to the merchandise section to download the latest bookshop order form and pricelist.

## FGBMFI BANNERS



Bernie Gray is organizing the production of two new FGBMFI banners. One will be a large FGBMFI Banner over 2 meters with "His Banner over Us is Love" in bold print - \$220. The other will be a smaller rostrum banner with the FGBMFI logo and cost \$90.



These banners are great for Chapter meetings and Chapters are encouraged to use both where applicable during functions.

## TESTIMONY TRACTS

At present, the bookshop has 8 different testimony tracts in stock (Michael Aish, Major Alan R Laurens, Ian McCormack, Barry Magee, Johnny Lee Clary, Peter Pollock, Charles Rockefeller, Tony Brain). We are hoping to release three new Australian testimony tracts at the May 2008 Convention.

These powerful testimonies are available in packs of 50 for \$13.75 + postage



JOY SGRO  
Office Administrator

