

Emmanuel Church Clermiston

February
2013

A Church for all people to celebrate Good News

AUSTRALIA (and New Zealand) - Here we come!

Faith can be dangerous!

In 1787 a flotilla of eleven ships transported the first batch of British 'Thieves and Undesirables' to Australia. According to Thomas Keneally in his book 'The Commonwealth of Thieves', the offences for which someone might be despatched under the Transportation Acts of Britain included being '*Ministers of the Episcopal Church of Scotland suspected of support for Bonnie Prince Charlie, exercising their functions in Scotland without having registered their letters of orders, taken all oaths, and prayed for His Majesty and the Royal Family by name.*' In short, religious revolutionaries!



This January I return to Australia and New Zealand after some thirty three years! As a young man I had spent two years down under, during which time I came to faith and was baptised.

As a child I thought that the way to God was through trying to be good and doing religious things. As a young man I gave it up as a bad job. Sometime later after travelling overland to Australia and New Zealand and seeing a lot of other religions on the way, I asked myself 'What do I believe?' I read the Gospel of John and heard its message that Jesus had died on the cross to provide the way to God. I came to believe that Jesus was alive and I could stop relying on my own effort. The more I read the Bible the more I wanted to know and tell others, and so I came back to Britain, studied theology and eventually became a 'Scottish Episcopal Minister.'

It will be a joy for me to revisit the Antipodes this January-February, visiting both my brother (in Brisbane) and my brother-in-law (in Perth) and seeing *old* friends in New Zealand including a young couple you all know in Rotorua.

The purpose of my time away is for a 'Sabbatical' which has the meaning of 'a period of rest to re-energize.' I trust that this period will be good for you here and me there.

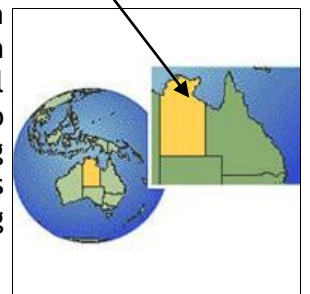
Times have changed since 1787 and I expect to be back in mid-March.

With many thanks for your prayers and good wishes.

Blessings Terry

No doubt you will have heard of Brisbane and Perth but have you ever heard of Arnhem Land?

In 1973 Mission Aviation Fellowship took over the aviation work pioneered by Anglican and Methodist missionaries among the communities of eastern Arnhem Land in Australia's remote Northern Territories. Today as they continue to offer professional aviation services to those living and working in these remote communities, they also aim to provide an effective Christian witness. They fly medical personnel to outlying communities and patients to hospital. MAF has been trialling technology that enables Gospel resources to be delivered by mobile phones. Pray for a good outcome among Yolnu people in Arnhem Land who are hungry for Christian materials.



0131 331 1958



tjharkin@emmanuelchurch.org.uk



Rev. Terry Harkin

CHANGE YOUR LIFE. TRANSFORM YOUR CHURCH. LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY.



Throughout these sessions you will have the opportunity to explore just how big God's mission really is and discover what part we each have to play within it. By the end we hope that we will be inspired to help bring change to our community.

In the next 4 weeks the course explores the themes of 'influence', 'lifestyle' 'evangelism' and 'what next?' Each evening is a mixture of group discussion and teaching based around key biblical texts, all with a focus on a practical outcome. There is of course tea/coffee and a warm welcome for all!

Although two parts of the course have already taken place, you can still join in the rest of the course which is taking place in the **Craigmount Community Wing from 7.30-9.30pm on the following Thursday evenings: 7th and 21st February, 7th and 21st March.**

Florence Mukakabano In December's newsletter, Billie told us that Florence had experienced many difficulties lately and had probably lost her salary. Billie has now heard that Florence hasn't been paid since November. It seems that the minister of Health is a satanist woman and doesn't feel comfortable with Christian believers. She has been making life very difficult for Florence. Obviously this is a need for urgent prayer. Florence really needs her salary to support her family. On a happier note, David's wedding went well and they felt really blessed.

Dates to Remember

Sunday February 3rd
Talk-Talk 3 'The Son'
NB Fellowship lunch after the service

Sunday February 10th
Talk-Talk 4 'The Bread'

Sunday February 17th
Talk-Talk 5 'The Light'
NB Holy Communion

Sunday February 24th
Talk-Talk 6 'The Shepherd'

Monday February 26th
'The Seedling'
Coffee morning at 10.00am
in the Kirk Loan Hall
Speaker - Linda MacDonald

Sunday March 3rd
Talk-Talk 7 'The Way'
NB Fellowship lunch after the service



Please pray for:

- Terry and Jane as they travel in Australia and New Zealand that they will enjoy reunions with family and friends and come back feeling refreshed.
- Those who remember the loss of loved ones and friends over the past year that they will know the peace that only God can give.
- Health and safety for people who find the wintry weather difficult.
- Neil as he works alongside the Community Youthwork Team in the Drum Brae Hub on Friday afternoons. Pray for relationships with the local council and also establishing a presence among the young people in the community.



Let your creative juices flow...

- Please give Dorothy items for the **March** Newsletter by **Friday, 22nd February.** email ken.dorothy.893@btinternet.com
- Please let Dorothy know any **change of address or phone number.**
- **Remember you can post articles directly to the blog** on the website by emailing info1588.emmanuel@blogger.com
- **Jane updates the website to reflect any changes but please review the website and email janerobbo@blueyonder.co.uk with any new information. It is important to keep the website up-to-date as many people looking for a new church will check the internet first.**

