

"HUME'S HAPPENINGS"

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your continuing support , following is my report for the month of **June 2007** .

REDUCTION OF HOBART TRIPS .

This month I held a discussion with the Hobart brethren and we mutually agreed that I needed to reduce my weekly drives to Hobart (410 Klms return) in order to make the time to set up a weekly private class with the two young men baptized last month . Thus Jackie and I will be making this trip just once a month from now on for a few months and then maybe we will revert back to weekly . The church in Hobart has a number of men who are willing to take turns teaching their Tuesday night Bible class .

NEW TUESDAY PRIVATE CLASS .

As mentioned above , this month I began a weekly private class with Neil and Stephen Grace whereby each Tuesday I drive to their homes and pick them up about 9 . 30 am and bring them to our house . From 10am until noon I raise and discuss with them Bible teaching re issues , situations , thought processes , attitudes , etc that are relevant to , and which have a daily impact on their lives as Christians .

Already it has become evident that they have more "baggage" to deal with (mental , physical , and past lifestyle) than any other babes in Christ that I have been associated with , thus these Tuesday sessions will have to be conducted by me with great patience , slowly teaching simple to understand principles that they need to learn and repeating that teaching over and over .

At 12 noon we quit and partake of lunch together (thanks to Jackie) and then I drive the boys back to their homes around 1 . 30 pm .

MY MUM'S HEALTH DETERIORATING .

This month my mother celebrated her 92nd birthday and until a few weeks ago she has enjoyed wonderful health , never missing Eastside's Sunday worship and opening her home for Eastside's midweek Bible class .

In recent times she has become prone to ongoing infections , and other ailments that have brought her down physically and emotionally . Because she has been unwell , she has found it difficult to remain living in her own home all by herself as she has done since Dad died .

We invited her to come and live with us so that we could be on hand to care for her , but she was intimidated by the fact that our split level home has two sets of stairs from our garage to the first floor and then from our living area to the bedrooms and bathroom . She cannot walk without her four wheeled "walker" to hold on to and thus without assistance she cannot negotiate our stairs .

Because Jackie and I are racing 100 miles an hour in and out of the house every day , there would be times when mum would want to go to the bathroom or bedroom and there would be nobody around to help her .

The outcome was that she has agreed to go to my sister's house to live for a while until she regains her health and Jackie and I will bring her to our home for overnight stays each week when we can ensure that one of us will be on hand always to assist mum .

NEW LOCATION - MIDWEEK CLASS .

Because of mum's situation we have transferred Eastside's midweek Bible class from her house to ours , which is much easier for Jackie as she cooks and serves a hot dinner at 5 . 30 pm for all those attending the 7 pm class .

Previously she would cook the meal at our house and then have to transport it all in pots and containers to mum's home , but now it is much more convenient for her . It is also easier for me as I do not have to pack hymn books , overhead projector , screen , lesson booklets , study aids etc into the car and transport them to another location .

“CHRISTIAN SCHOOL” LETTERBOXING .

Alan Horne is the brother in Christ I have mentioned in past reports who does all the preaching and teaching for the Ulverstone congregation , even though he works fulltime in secular employment as Headmaster (Principle) of the Somerset Christian school . The way this school operates means it is not connected in any way with any church but is totally financed by the yearly fees paid by the parents of the children enrolled , and additional finances come from various fundraising ventures that Alan and the school staff organise .

With the public schools here totally overwhelmed by evolutionary and ungodly thinking , Alan is attempting to give parents the opportunity to have their children educated in a school environment where Christ is proclaimed and Biblical principles are taught . In addition , because “religious” people are attracted to sending their children to a “Christian” school , Alan and Joy have the opportunity to build relationships with them and talk to them about New Testament Christianity and the true church (as opposed to Denominationalism) .

This month he visited Jackie and I to inform us that he is about to begin operation of a campus of the school in a building he has leased which is less than a quarter of a mile from our home . He is having six thousand leaflets printed , advertising the school in an attempt to gain student enrolments . He wants to distribute these leaflets to every house in our northern suburbs all around where the school will be located .

Jackie and I offered to help him distribute these leaflets and he asked me if I would be the coordinator of this endeavor , as he knew that I had in my files cardboard maps (200 houses per map) of this side of town . I created these maps several years ago to facilitate Eastside’s letterboxing program .

Thus next month I am scheduled to have private meetings with parents who have “signed up” their children to attend the school and allocate them sections of the area to be letterboxed . Several members at Eastside have volunteered to assist Jackie and I to letterbox these leaflets .

BOOKINGS FOR TWO QUIZ NIGHTS .

In conjunction with the above item , Alan asked me if I would organise and

conduct two quiz nights (these include both Bible and General knowledge questions) as a means of raising funds for the Somerset and Newnham campuses .

About the middle of August Jackie and I will drive to Somerset (about 200 klms) and I will conduct the quiz , we will stay overnight with Alan and Joy Horne at Ulverstone and then return home the next day . Then about two weeks later , I will conduct the quiz at the new campus near my home and Alan and Joy will stay overnight at our house .

TUESDAY CLASSES WITH NEW CONVERTS .

My private classes each Tuesday with Neil and Stephen Grace are going well , but it will be a long and slow process as their background and past lifestyle means they are coming from a long way behind anyone else I have ever been connected with . Everything I discuss with them has to be ultra – simplified and repeated over and over , but already they are showing exciting progress in so many areas of their life and thought processes .

BOOKLETS TO LAY PREACHER .

Through our activities with the Hillwood Football Club (see past reports) Jackie and I have come to know a young man who has recently been “ordained” (?) as a lay preacher for the Anglican church . He works in secular employment and does all the preaching and teaching for a very small Anglican congregation in a very small country town near Hillwood . Jackie and I have been considering for some time how we could create an opportunity to engage him in religious discussions and we came up with the following plan .

Last month I wrote him a letter and explained that I have for several years compiled Bible lesson booklets and sent them throughout Australia to people who requested them . I informed him that when I was processing my monthly mailing list I had the thought that these booklets might be useful for him in his preparation of sermons and Bible classes , so I enclosed a booklet entitled “*Who is Jesus ?*” for him to have a look at .

Thus he is now an addition to my monthly mailing list , which gives me the opportunity to send him not just lessons that we agree on , but also that hopefully will cause him to think seriously about New Testament Christianity and the errors of Denominationalism and human churches (such as the Anglican church) .

SUMMING UP .

It has been another “fast and furious” month for Jackie and I, but in a number of ways it has been satisfying and rewarding. There are a myriad of activities that Jackie and I have been engaged in this month that I will not elaborate on now as I am trying my best to make my monthly reports shorter.

Thank you for your wonderful support that enables me to labour full time for Christ, it is appreciated more than words can express,

Yours in Christ,

Barry Hume .

P . S . Following is a repeat of the items that form the basis of my activities each month .

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .

Set up school on five Friday afternoons at 4pm for Eastside’s Sunday meetings . (it takes Jackie and I about one hour to clear out the classroom and set up our “church auditorium”).

“Friend day” lunch at our house for brethren and visitors after Sunday worship on the second Sunday in the month .

Midweek Bible Class : Is held every Wednesday evening in my home .

Study periods : Preparing sermons and Bible classes for Eastside’s meetings .

Lesson booklets : Ongoing typing , photocopying , stapling , and binding of new and replacement booklets for requests , and for display at our church meetings .

Study packs : Ongoing photocopying , stapling , and packaging of these as time permits .

Letterboxing : We have temporarily suspended this program until we have placed new phone number stickers on 10 ,000 leaflets (see September's report) .