

"HUME'S HAPPENINGS"

1st September 2007

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your continuing support , following is my report for the month of August 2007 . Please forgive me for being late , things have overwhelmed me again and I just have not had enough time to deal with all my commitments . The major reason for my late report is due to the first item below , and while it makes for tedious reading , it will give you an insight into what sort of month I have had .

MARRIAGE CELEBRANT'S LICENCE .

Due to the oversight and ineptitude of officialdom , many hours this month have been spent fulfilling my obligations to the Australian Government in order to keep my licence to perform marriage ceremonies .

In Australia , the government has imposed strict regulations that must be met for one to be granted and to retain their Marriage Celebrant's Licence . One of these conditions is that each year I must either attend a one day seminar (six hours of utter boredom) or alternately complete a course by correspondence that takes many days to finish . I have chosen each year to attend the seminar to get it over with in one day and we receive notices about December re the date of the next seminar .

When I had not received my notice by January this year I phoned the Marriage Celebrant's Centre in Canberra and was told there was a delay re the date due to an administrative bungle by the Australian Government . They informed me that I would be notified as soon as the mess was sorted out , and when I phoned them every month from January to July , I received the same answer .

Early this month I learned from another Celebrant that the seminar had been held in July and many Celebrants had not received notices . I phoned Canberra and they told me that they did not know why our notices went missing . When I asked them where that left me , they replied that because I did not attend the seminar I was required to complete the correspondence course and submit it to the Australian Government by the last day in August ! Failure to do so would mean my licence would be reviewed and most probably cancelled , the fact that I did not receive my notice being irrelevant (according to them) !!

Thus many days this month have been spent searching for Government authorized companies around Australia who would be prepared to send me their Celebrant's correspondence course at this late stage in the year , and I finally found one in Victoria . I had to pay \$ **125 .00** for the course and waited over a week for it to arrive by the postal service (it is in glossy magazine form and cannot be sent by E - mail) .

For three weeks I worked on this course which involves cross referencing many Acts of Parliament , by laws , and sub clauses , followed by many question and answer sections . I mailed this in the last week in August and received an Email informing me that my submission was satisfactory and that my Certificate of completion had been sent to me . I now have to photocopy this certificate when it arrives and get a Justice of the Peace to endorse that it is a true copy of the original and I must then mail it to the Australian Government's Head Office in Canberra .

In order that I do not have to endure this ordeal next year , I have already contacted several companies throughout Australia with the request that they all send me details of their 2008 Seminars . Surely I will get a notice from one of them .

EASTSIDE LETTERBOXING .

Jackie has been spending a number of hours this month sticking our current phone number onto our leaflets (see past reports) and by the end of September we will be ready to resume our program of letterboxing every house in our city .

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL LETTERBOXING .

In past reports I mentioned a brother in Christ who is Headmaster of a Christian School who is establishing a campus in our city and asked Jackie and I to

coordinate a letterboxing program advertising for pupils / students to attend the new campus . I have managed to distribute several hundred leaflets and the above mentioned brother in Christ phoned me to say about twenty five people had phoned him requesting interviews in an effort to have their children accepted onto the school enrolment .

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL QUIZ NIGHT .

This month the school's Head Office asked me to organise and conduct a trivia quiz night to raise money for the school . Jackie and I took Viktor Koskovic , Stephen and Neil Grace (Eastside members) with us and we made the two hour drive to North West Tasmania where I compered the night with Jackie as my assistant . It was a great success , a lot of fun was had by all who attended , and a considerable amount was raised for the school treasury .

MELBOURNE TRIP .

The Dandenong church (a suburb of Melbourne on the mainland) is continually inviting me to come over and preach for them and finally this month I organized a weekend trip . Viktor Koskovic and Stephen Grace (one of the two brothers we recently baptized) wanted to come with me , and so we made the one hour flight to the mainland where my eldest son Jason (he and his wife are members of the Dandenong church) met us and we stayed overnight at his home . I preached on Sunday morning and we flew home on Sunday afternoon .

It was great to see the brethren face to face again . To cover my absence at Eastside and thus allow me to make the trip , two brothers from the Hobart church drove up to Launceston on the Sunday morning and taught and preached at our meetings .

SUMMARY .

There are many other things that have happened this month re my labours for the Lord but as I am trying to shorten the length of my reports I will not elaborate on these at this time . If you have questions about any aspect of my work here in Tasmania that I have not included in my reports , please do not hesitate to ask me to elaborate on these in future reports .

Thank you again for your wonderful financial assistance ,

Yours in Christ ,

Barry Hume .

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

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .

Set up school on four 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 : Continues to be at my my house .

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 last September's report) .