

PM

PROCLAIM MAGAZINE

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WHAT IS LOVE FEATURE
UPDATES FROM THE FIELD
POEMS FROM OAC'S HISTORY

SPRING 2024
AUSTRALIA

WHAT IS LOVE?

 **oac**
Ministries



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Love & Sacrifice

Welcome to the third edition of PM (Proclaim Magazine), OAC Ministries Australia's new national magazine.

In this edition, we recognise Bryan Greenwood, a key figure in OAC's history, and we explore the theme of Love and how misunderstood love is in our current culture.

Love is central to what it means to be human. We see the ultimate expression of love in Jesus. God, in the form of Jesus, chooses to come and be part of our world, living life as a human being, fully engaged in all that it means to be human.

Jesus lives a sinless life, builds His ministry team, launches His ministry, and He is rejected and crucified by the authorities of His day. His death and resurrection are the hope on which Christian faith and our relationship with God are based.

Sin could only be dealt with lovingly if God took on sin's consequences and defeated them. If God chose someone else, some other being or some other human to do this, it wouldn't be an expression of God's love because love is self-sacrificial. We don't express love by sacrificing others; it is only in self-sacrifice that love is truly expressed.

Bryan is one of many examples in OAC's history of people willing to self-sacrifice to make sure others could hear the gospel.

This edition includes more stories of the work OAC's staff and volunteers are doing all over Australia, and there is more to come.

Keep a keen eye out for upcoming announcements, including new staff in WA, a new evangelist in the ACT and more.

God is at work!

Jason Potter



By Jim Vine

I first met Bryan at the Olympic Christian Witness in November 1956. He had just driven down from Ararat in the newly donated VW van, where he had recently been made the first OAC North Western Area evangelist in Victoria. Bryan's bright smile made it easy to get to know him. Wherever he went he could easily become the life of the party. He was just 20 years of age, and one of the youngest men ever invited to join the OAC Staff.

His ability to tell a story was reflected by the number of subsequent OAC workers who all revealed they had learned from Bryan. e.g., (Barabbas). Their style of 'story telling' had that dramatic Greenwood excitement that kept children on the edge of their seats. Bryan was not an artist, but he used the board to dramatically illustrate the gospel story. He was not a polished musician, but he could play "Build on the Rock" in such a way the volume of the children singing covered any wrong base notes in his playing. He was not a great singer, but on one occasion at Norman's Corner on Friday night, a shop keeper asked that the amplifier be turned down – there was no amplifier. Bryan was a natural communicator, and used his whole personality to dramatise the story of the gospel.

By 1961 OAC was going through a tough time when 5 or 6 of the senior staff left OAC and joined Ambassadors for Christ, and Bryan became the only full time staff worker in Victoria. Bryan had full responsibility for the work in Melbourne.

He told the story of going to a city park, or to a wharf or factory meeting, shaking in his shoes, and standing up and sharing the good news of the gospel by himself. On occasion committee man Bob Coyle, and Bendigo voluntary worker Alan Bailey would join him for the lunch hour meetings.



Bryan did tremendous work when leading on the Port Phillip Bay beaches, and places on the coast, initially with Max Channon, then with fresh voluntary workers. These beach missions ran from Boxing Day through to Australia Day for many years. Thousands of people attended and heard the gospel.

Bryan had the ability to inspire people to consider becoming staff and together with more outreaches came more volunteers. Many young people seeing for the first time that God could use them in evangelism – all because one 20 year old from Kogarah in Sydney trusted the Lord to make him an evangelist.

I have to say the example of Bryan's commitment to the Lord and His work, was a great encouragement to Grace and me, and I'm sure is the reason why many here today have given their lives also, in the service of the King of kings.

Of course today we know that Bryan and Norma had many more wonderful years of ministry after leaving OAC in 1983, and we now believe they are enjoying the commendation of the Lord Jesus; having heard Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servants. Enter into the joy of your Lord."

By Andrew Walkington

Our world does not understand love. The word is used in so many different ways in our culture that it has lost its true meaning.

So many people in our world try to define love in ways that don't match the Biblical picture. Our world's view of love is almost entirely inward focussed. Love is something that is contingent on whether this person is good to me, or whether they give me what I need. I love people or things that scratch my itch or fulfil my wants. For example, our culture has confused lust with love. Love is therefore the feelings that I have towards another person when I am physically attracted to them, and they make me feel good.

With so much confusion about love, we have to ask what the Bible says about love and then consider how it tells us to live. John argues that love is an essential aspect of God's character (1 John 4:8) and that God's love for us is then the motivation for us to love one another (vs 11). John shares that God's ultimate love for us was shown in the life and the sacrificial death of Jesus upon that cross which purchased our forgiveness (vs 9). He argues that the presence of love in our lives is the evidence of the true work of God in saving us (vs 13), and conversely that a lack of love for other people is evidence that God is not truly in us (vs 19-20).

Many of the best-known verses about love in the Bible are related to what God has done for us. Romans 5:8 declares, "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us". John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life".

It was God's amazing love for us, entirely undeserved, that caused Him to send Jesus.

Because of this amazing love demonstrated towards us, it makes sense that we would love God in return (Luke 7:47) and that love should then result in obedience (John 14:15). Our love for God leads us to voluntarily submit our own desires to His and leads us to obey him in every area of our lives.

How does this love then impact our desire to do evangelism? Firstly, if we love God and we desire to obey Him, then we should desire to obey Him in the area of gospel proclamation.

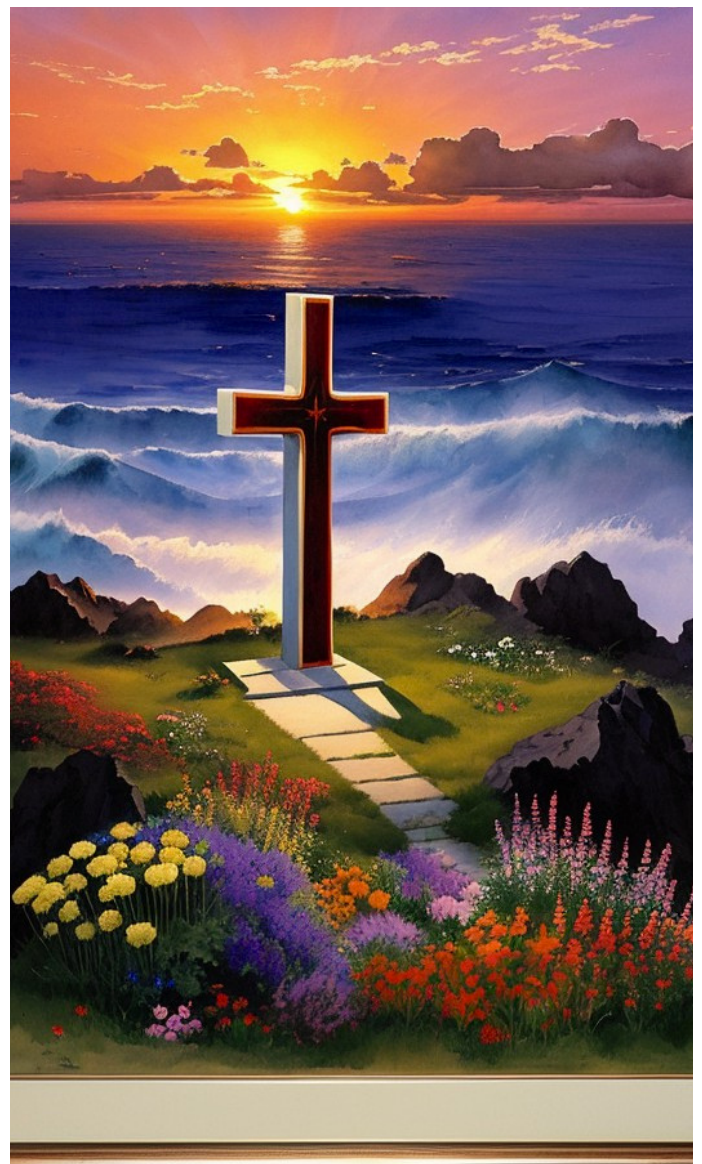
In Matthew chapter 28:18-20, Jesus clearly told His followers to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations". He instructed them to make disciples and then to teach those disciples to make more disciples. Of course, this is how we became disciples of Jesus. Someone taught the gospel to us, they learned it from someone before them, all the way back to the first disciples of Jesus. More than that, Jesus promises that He would be with those disciples even to the end of the age. Given that those remaining disciples there with Him on the mountain would not live to the end of the age, that promise must have been ultimately for all disciples in all time. If the promise is for all believers, then so is the command to make disciples. If we truly love God because of his sacrificial love demonstrated towards us at the cross, then our response of love towards Him is to preach the gospel and obey Him in the area of evangelism.

The second way that love impacts our evangelism is love for the lost. As Jesus begins to transform our lives to be more and more like His, one of those areas in which we will become like Him is the area of compassion. Matthew 9:36 tells us that Jesus looked at the crowds who came to him and "he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a

shepherd". That word for compassion is the Greek word σπλαγνίζομαι ("splug-nitz-o-mai"). It carries the sense of feeling something deeply inside of us. The English equivalent might be to say that something is 'gut wrenching.' When Jesus looked at the crowds, he could feel something deep inside of him that caused him discomfort, and his response to that was to send out his disciples preaching the gospel, meeting the greatest need that those people had.

When we become Christians and God begins to work in us by His Holy Spirit, we start to look at the world the same way that Jesus does. Of all the many ways we might see people around us, it is Biblical to see people in two categories, the lost and the saved. Having come to an understanding of the gospel for ourselves, we understand that someone who is lost is destined to an eternity in hell, should they not receive the great love and forgiveness that is given through Jesus. Understanding their destiny should move us with compassion that we might bring them the message of everlasting life and tell them how they can be saved. The more we understand the depths of our sin, and the more we understand the finished work of Christ and the forgiveness that He's purchased for us, the more we will come to understand the great kindness that God extends to sinners. We too should feel compassion for those who do not know Jesus. We should fear for them when we consider their eternal destiny should they not understand and respond to the gospel. In this instance, the most loving thing we can do for them is to tell them how they can be saved. In doing this, we obey Jesus' instruction to "love your neighbour as yourself" (Mark 12:31). Now evangelism is a genuinely scary thing sometimes. We risk something every time we open our mouth to speak to people about their eternal destiny. At the very least, we risk them thinking they we're fools, but there is

also a time coming in this culture where we stand to lose jobs, housing opportunities, and good standing in the society around us. These are real fears, and they do slow us down from speaking about Jesus. Yet if the person we are speaking to really is destined for eternal punishment for their rebellion against a holy God, the most loving thing we can do is share with them what God has done to purchase forgiveness for them on the cross at Calvary. Even though many in our culture will accuse us of being hateful for telling them that they're wrong and that they need to repent and put their trust in Jesus, we understand from the Bible that it's actually the most loving thing we can say.



As we go and share with people about their need for Jesus, we have to make sure that that the love that we have for them comes out in the way that we speak. We should make sure that our tone conveys that love because Jesus told us to be wise as serpents and yet harmless as doves (Matthew 10:16). 1 Peter 3:15 tells us to “always [be] prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect”. The fruit of the Spirit that God is cultivating in us includes things like love, peace, patience, kindness (Galatians 5:22-23). The way that we speak to people when we share the gospel really will impact the way that gospel is understood. So how can we make this happen?

1. **Remember:** We should preach the gospel to ourselves every single day. It's very easy to become complacent.

In Ephesians 2, Paul reminds the Ephesians of the gospel, but he starts by reminding them of how they started before they were saved. He reminds them they were “dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind” (Ephesians 2:1-3).

2. **Look:** We need to start looking at the people of the world the way that God looks at them. It's so easy to fall into the paradigm of thinking that they are enemies who are just out to oppose us. It's so easy to fall into a combative mentality. We need to remind ourselves regularly that these people aren't fundamentally different to us and they're certainly not some enemy that we need to vanquish in the political sphere. The reality is that they are lost sinners who desperately need the same salvation that we have

received. D.T. Niles famously said that “Evangelism is one beggar, showing another beggar where to find bread.”

3. **Pray:** As we grow in our love and compassion for the lost, we need to become deliberate about praying for them. We should make a practise of thinking of those who are in our circle that we might speak to and praying that God would work in their lives, to bring them to saving faith. We should then start praying that God would use us to speak to them about their soul.

As we remind ourselves of the gospel, as we start to look at the world the way that Christ looks at the world, and as we start to pray for those people who are in our circles, we will then take the step to start sharing with them about how they can come to know Jesus for themselves. Little bit by little bit, our love for God and our love for the lost will grow to the point where we will speak to people about how they can be saved. It might be just a small start where we tell people that we go to church, or that we read the Bible, or that we'll pray for them. That's what love looks like.

Andrew at Brisbane School of Theology



AN EVANGELISM OPPORTUNITY THAT COMES KNOCKING

Spring, 2024

By Dr Rob Ross



Culturally, Christians have had a range of responses in regards to Halloween. Some consider it a demonic festival that Christians should flee from and have nothing to do with. Others see Halloween as a bit of harmless fun, with dress-ups and enough candy to keep dentists in business. Others celebrate All Saints Day – honoring saints of the past. Amidst this confusion, how can we love God and our neighbors on October 31st?

Whilst not wanting our children to dress up as the thing of nightmares, Halloween is distinctive as it is the only day of the year where it is normal to go to your neighbor's houses and issue a candy ultimatum. Having a steady stream of kids and families beating a path to your door affords a unique evangelism opportunity.

What if that tooth decaying chocolate was accompanied by truth that could redeem the soul? That's right, we attach a (child appropriate) tract to each mini-Mars bar that goes out. If you are a family, this is a great opportunity to include your children in evangelism that comes right to your door. Our kids help prepare by sticking the tracks to mini chocolate bars or putting them in mini bags. As a family we pray over the treasure trove of gifts that God would prepare the hearts of the recipients. Our kids then cheerily greet the door-knockers and offer them the basket of tract laden chocolate treasures – figuratively shining light into the darkness.

The level of bravery (and lack of fear of man) required for this form of evangelism is vanishingly small. It can be conducted (with some supervision) by any five year old. There are plenty of tracts that could be used – in the past we have had some with puzzles, "Are You A Good Person" comics, million dollar notes and 10 commandment coins. A few balloons on your letterbox is all that is required to let everyone know of the treasures you have to give away.

Imagine for a moment if just 10% of Christians did something like this. Overnight millions of tracts would be distributed – all with no one even leaving their houses. It would turn Halloween into the biggest night of evangelism – one that comes knocking.

One question that has arisen from our own little ones has been – 'why can't we go out and get candy from all our neighbors as well?' We have done three things to help address this. Firstly, we help our whole family know this is a chance for evangelism and to share the love of Jesus with our community – many of whom may never otherwise hear. Secondly, we let them share in the spoils of the chocolates we prepare together. And finally, we celebrate Reformation Day games – a day when 500 odd years ago the doctrines of salvation by grace, through faith, in Christ, as revealed in Scripture alone for the Glory of God alone was restored within the Church. We have had Reformation Day parties (pin the thesis on the door) and feasts with other families recounting the preciousness of God's grace. Why drop down to the level of begging for candy when we can have a celebration of light instead?



By Shamina Rozario

Our culture today is so focused on the concept of 'love' equalling 'niceness' that it often forgets the bible's definition of love is not as simple as culture makes it look. A society which 'loves' people by never causing offence, never challenging false beliefs or never prodding conversations where the bible says it ought to go, is not a culture that values 'love' but a culture that actually covers up issues, or deceives our neighbour.

Love as defined in the bible, won't always look like 'agreeable behaviour.' The greatest expression of love in the bible is actually when Jesus laid down His life for His friends. Self-sacrifice is actually the bible's definition of the greatest expression of love (John 15:13). Love in the bible looks like bringing people towards a relationship with Him. When you realise that is actually what real love aims to do, the expression of love in our daily lives may look quite different to what culture tells us love is.

Hollywood's definition of love looks like obtaining constant validation from one's partner or spouse, agreeing on matters without thinking them through. Love in movies looks like physical or emotional attraction, expressed quickly and without commitment. It totally dismisses the other non-romantic forms of love that can be found in the human experience, like brotherly love, friendships, fatherly love or sisterly love.

So what does it look like to love one another as Christ loved us? It looks like putting material matters on hold, to serve a purpose that is higher than your own current wants and desires.



Shamina's drawing of 'Theophilis', meaning friend of God or loved by God.
The illustration is 1 of 200 in an Encyclopaedia of bible characters

In our world today it can be extremely difficult for people to focus their minds on pure forms of love, or self-sacrificial pursuits that are not done for recognition. But this is often where real love can be found; in places where most people probably wouldn't even think to look.

Our God is also an eternal being; He values long term methods and perspectives. Many people in the 21st century may attempt to show love in the short term but may destroy things in the long term with our so-called 'loving methods.' A temporary nod of the head, in conversation may seem like the loving thing to do, until you realise that your 'tolerance' is in fact costing neighbour their eternal life with Jesus.

Love therefore, is not always about placating conflict in the moment through agreement, but resolving conflict with discussions concerning the truth. Love may not always be cooking your neighbour their favourite meal, but one that is actually healthy for them. Love may not always be putting up complacently with a society that is destroying what God values, in front of you.

Love tells the truth. It brings people right in line with God's law. It may even be painful to show real love at times! But if we win souls in the long term, this is by far the better outcome. Our lives go by in the blink of an eye, but God remains forever. Therefore when we love our neighbours, we must do it with that end goal in sight, and be prepared to make personal sacrifices, to ensure the truth is upheld, God's law is followed, and His kingdom is expanded, even if Hollywood, or the culture around us calls us 'hateful' 'harmful' or 'offensive' as we do it.

As we go about showing 'love' in the world, this verse may help guide our steps:

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13

Andrew McLauchlan (QLD)



Andrew W, Catherine, Steph and Andrew M (right) doing outreach

Callum was highly engaged and even laughed a few times during our conversation. I explained to him that we all deserve God's judgment and shared the gospel with him. He mentioned that he had read the Bible but couldn't accept it because of the miracles in it. I talked through this issue with him. However, even after doing so, he said he still couldn't accept the Bible. I suggested that often when what we want to be true conflicts with what we are intellectually convinced is true, we as humans tend to believe what we want to be true. Our head conforms to our heart. I asked him if he thought he was doing this, and he acknowledged that was what he was doing. I then challenged him to seek out what actually happens in reality, as it affects him regardless of what he chooses to believe. I also explained why he should want Christianity to be true, as there are some beautiful truths about reality that are true if Christianity is true. I also mentioned that if he becomes a Christian, there is some sacrifice involved. Callum said he has two Bibles at home and asked which books in the Bible he should read first. I recommended that he read the Gospel of John and Romans. At the end of the conversation, he said to me, 'You haven't wasted your time.'

Rob and Gayle George (SA)

In our schools' ministry we sometimes speak to large groups and sometimes small. On one occasion in Singapore some years back, Rob spoke to a whole primary school assembly of 1,800 kids, plus all their teachers on top of that! Just recently, in Stansbury on SA's Yorke Peninsula, some absences that day meant that the whole school was just 13 kids!

We have a range of topics and themes, but the reason we are there, for both large groups and small, is because of God's love for every individual! In large city schools and small country schools, every kid counts in God's eyes. Our efforts are never a waste of time!

You may have heard some funny definitions from kids of what love is:

- Chrissy, age 6: "Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs."
- Terri, age 4: "Love is what makes you smile when you are tired."
- Rebecca, age 9: "When my grandmother got arthritis she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis, too. That's love!"
- Mary Ann, age 4: "Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day."
- Bob, age 12: "Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening your presents and listen."

- Billy, age 4: "When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You know that your name is safe in their mouth."
- Elaine, age 5: "Love is when mummy gives daddy the best piece of chicken."
- Cindy, age 10: "During my piano recital, I was on the stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore."
- Danny, age 7: "Love is when my mum makes coffee for my dad and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK."
- Nikka, age 6: "If you want to learn love better, you should start with a friend you hate."

Some make us laugh, some are poignant, but we know what real love is - John 3:16; John 15:13; 1 John 4:16 - and we want to share that love with everyone!



At a primary school in Singapore

Catherine Walkington (QLD)

In late June, 53 high school students and 40+ adults descended upon the Mt Tamborine Conference Centre in Queensland for the second Worldview Queensland camp.

Worldview is a week-long camp for late high schoolers (years 9 – 12), with all the typical youth camp trappings, such as a wide games competition, but with the distinctive of 20+ hours of teaching sessions over the week. Speakers from various organisations tackle topics such as evidence for Jesus' resurrection, what Christians (and those with other worldviews) believe, and how being a Christian impacts real-life issues such as technology use. It's both loads of fun and intensely challenging, so it's no wonder many of our campers say that it's been one of the best weeks of their lives.

Our speakers this year were gathered from within and without OAC. We were privileged to hear from Matt Cliff from Cherish Life, Dan Flynn from AiG, Rob Norman from the ACL, Stu Millar from Train to Proclaim and Matthew Andersen from Grace Bible Church Logan, alongside OAC's Andrew Walkington, Sean Marsh, Jason Potter and myself. The teens engaged really well with the content (despite assertions from some prior to camp that they knew all this stuff already!) and it was a great encouragement to hear of many 'penny-drop' moments during camp. One of the cultural distinctives of the Worldview camp is that of servant leadership, and this was exemplified by our team of volunteers this year who went above and beyond to serve the campers. Many of them took a week off work to attend and there were also several who had attended as campers the year before.

Some of the most encouraging testimonies about the impact of the week have been from parents, who have seen heart change in their teens, continuing long after camp concluded.

The teens are looking at the world and people with a different perspective, and in some cases are strongly motivated to share the Gospel with those around them. They are making difficult changes in their lives as a result of the conviction of the Spirit on particular issues, and maintaining disciplines of regular Bible reading and prayer.

We are already preparing for Worldview Queensland 2025! The venue at Mount Tamborine is booked, feedback from 2024 has been collected, and we are in the process of putting together our 2025 speaking team. Thank you to those who were in prayer for this event, please continue to pray as we prepare for 2025!



Catherine doing outreach with a girl near a park

More from Catherine:

As I've walked with the Lord for over 20 years now, I'm still often in awe of his masterful hand in designing the circumstances of our lives. He has graciously allowed me glimpses of this mastery from time to time. Here are 2 recent examples:

At our recent Worldview camp, we had several 'last-minute lads and lasses' who registered late in the week before camp was due to start. One of these lasses (I'll call her 'A') was at the Mt Tamborine Easter convention this year, attended the youth program that we ran, and was in the discussion group that I was leading. 'A' had some questions that revealed extremely deep thinking about the issues of life and faith, and she and I had some wonderful discussions. During the Easter convention, the Lord changed her heart and she realised that she needed to take Jesus, and her faith, more seriously.

Just 3 days before camp, Andrew received a phone call from a mother asking if it was too late to register her daughter. This late, we could only accept campers who didn't have any complex dietary or medical needs as the camp was already organised. Thankfully, this camper met all the criteria, and you can imagine my joy to discover that this 'last minute lass' registration was 'A'!

We assigned her to a discipleship group that had space, not realising that 'A' and one of her leaders had known each other for years and already had a good relationship. I'm looking forward to hearing from 'A' as to how the week impacted her, and how the Lord has used this time in her life.

Another glimpse of God's providence was shown to me at an outreach when I stopped a girl (we'll call her 'I') and asked her "What do you think happens when we die?" She shared that she'd been raised in a Christian home, but had really begun questioning in the last couple of weeks.

'I' shared that she had prayed to God that morning to "show her something, anything!"... and then I'd stopped her to ask that question and speak about matters of faith. She asked me why I'd stopped her in particular, and I responded honestly, "you weren't wearing earbuds." She then shared that the reason she hadn't been wearing earbuds that morning (when she usually would) is because she was thinking about God and matters of faith. I was able to pray with her after our conversation, and the Lord knows how she was impacted.



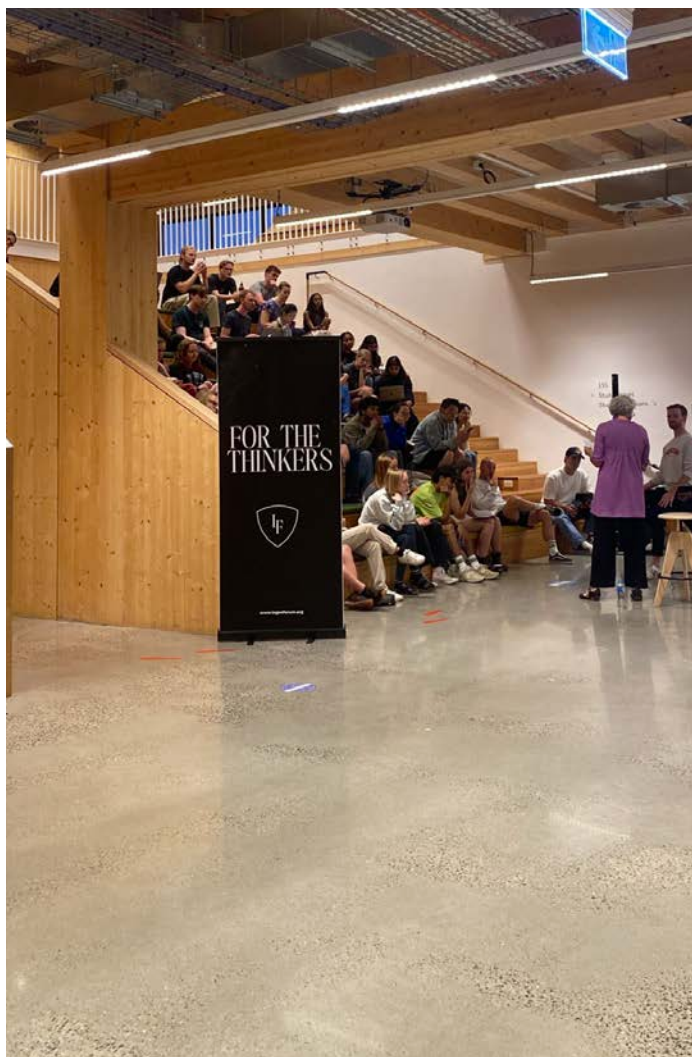
Snapshot of Worldview QLD



girls worshipping together at Worldview QLD

I personally believe that bringing the "good news in good ways" means that as a follower of Jesus, I am to love and to live like He did. I am called to both demonstrate and declare God's heart in all of my relationships. This incarnational paradigm shapes the work I do with OAC in Canberra. At present there are two main demographics that OAC support me in working with; young/new dads and university students.

I am a registered Chaplain at the Australian National University. Whilst on campus at university, I work collaboratively with Red Frogs, Logos Forum, Young Life ANU, and other endorsed Chaplains. Working with these groups at ANU provides me with countless opportunities to connect, serve, bless, love, listen, pray, and share.



Mike Peereboom (ACT)

More from Mike:

Dads Group is a national not-for-profit who are all about changing the culture of fatherhood for the better. They promote positive parenting and create peer-to-peer support networks for new dads. I am a registered volunteer with Dads Group and presently head up their activities in the ACT.

Myself and other dads who love Jesus seek to be salt and light whilst helping to run the Dads of North Canberra social events. We hope to earn the right to be heard and are always ready to provide an answer for the hope we have. Additionally, in the future I plan to develop some OAC branded parenting events in the hope of helping dads to discover that loving like Jesus helps to build better families.

In addition to being on mission in these spaces I also am working with the Canberra staff team on planning Worldview Canberra 2025 and have started making plans for a new initiative that is all about inspiring, challenge and equipping young believers for outreach and evangelism.



Message from OAC's national team

This season's edition includes a snapshot from the archives. This poem written in 1925, is a great legacy for what OAC stands for, past, present and future. The theme of LOVE permeates the verses; line 3: **'What are you doing, Christian, to show your love for Him?'**

The Campaigner

PUBLISHED BY THE OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS
WHOSE WORK IS SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY OFFERINGS FROM LOVERS OF GOD AND THEIR FELLOWS!

Vol. 2.—No. 8.

SYDNEY, MARCH, 1925.

Price: Your Prayers.

QUESTIONS TO THE CHRISTIAN.

I. Cor. 3:13-15.

*What are you doing, Christian, to work the works of God?
To sow beside all waters, to follow where Christ trod.
What are you doing, Christian, to show your love for Him?
Who paid your soul's great ransom, and freed you from its sin.*

*What are you doing, Christian, with Bible and with prayer?
The power that lifts you upward, as eagles in the air.
Why faint ye in the battle? Why falter in the race?
When strength and grace await thee, within the secret place.*

*What are you doing, Christian, to comfort those you meet?
Who tramp the rocky roadway, with weary, trembling feet.
What words of consolation and courage do you speak?
What counsels of the Master, to pilgrims who are weak?*

*What are you doing, Christian, to quell the fires of strife?
To calm the waves of anger, the blemishes of life?
What scent of loving kindness, what radiancy of light,
Is shed by your devotion, to Jesus and the right?*

*What are you doing, Christian, to win the lost from sin?
To tell the world of Jesus, and bring the wanderers in?
To wing the glorious Gospel, and warn men of their loss?
To woo them by your witness, and point them to the Cross?*

*What are you doing, Christian, to meet the march of wrong?
To face the powers of darkness, and sing the victor's song?
What are you doing daily, at work, at home, at play,
To show to all around you, the Life, the Truth, the Way?*

*What are you doing, Christian, to build the tower complete?
And win the crown of glory, before Christ's judgment seat?
Awake! the day is dawning; the night is fleeting fast;
Behold, the Bridegroom cometh! Your work is tried at last.*

—J. G. Ridley.

For the past 130 years, OAC has reached out to the people of Australia with the life-changing message of salvation through Jesus Christ. By God's grace, we have seen lives changed for eternity, and we are grateful for the opportunity to share the good news in good ways. But there is much to do. Australia is now one of the largest mission fields in the world.



But we need people like you to be part of this too.

OAC Ministries is an accredited not-for-profit organisation that relies on the Lord to provide through the generosity and sacrificial giving of Christians and churches to support our team through prayer and finances. OAC missionaries rely on the consistent financial assistance of individuals who see the value in what we are doing to advance God's Kingdom here in Australia.



Would you prayerfully consider whether you might be able to partner with the work of OAC?

To learn more about joining our team of ministry partners, please visit our website:

oac.org.au

There you will find information about how you can join us in the work of preaching the gospel or how you can speak to a team member in your area about what it would look like to support the efforts of a local gospel worker.

Could you afford:

- \$15 per week (\$60 per month)
- \$30 per week (\$120 per month)
- \$45 per week (\$180 per month)
- \$60 per week (\$240 per month)
- Another amount?



- **Rob George** is the South Australian Director of OAC Ministries. Both Rob and his wife, Gayle, have been involved in evangelism ministry for decades in Australia and overseas. Before joining OAC, the Georges were high school Physical Education teachers.
- **Lauren Palmer** recently joined the OAC Evangelist team in Vic to share the gospel with young people. Lauren is also completing her Masters Degree in Theology while she fulfils her mission calling with OAC
- **Steve Stokes**, Abby and the family live an hour north of Melbourne. Steve coordinates teams for summer missions and leads teams to the Philippines. He shares the gospel with groups of all ages.
- **Mike Peereboom** is based in Canberra. Mike is an experienced pastor, chaplain, youth worker and outdoor professional. Mike started Bible College and stepped into paid ministry at the age of 22. He is planting a new work for OAC in the north side of Canberra.
- **Stephanie Jordan** is an intern evangelist with OAC Ministries. Stephanie is currently studying a Bachelor of Ministry at BST while interning with the Queensland team.
- **Andrew McLauchlan** is a part-time intern evangelist with OAC, whose ministry centres around street evangelism. He currently studies and resides on campus at the Brisbane School of Theology.
- **Catherine Walkington** served as a missionary from 2007 to late 2009 before an extended season of being a full-time mum. She joined the Queensland team part-time in October 2021, with the kids now all at school. Catherine does street evangelism, looks after volunteers, and helps train interns.
- **Andrew Walkington** has been on staff with OAC in Queensland since April 2018. Having been saved out of an atheistic upbringing, he has a deep passion for evangelism and for training others to share their faith effectively. He has served in vocational ministry since 2007 in both missions and pastoral work. Andrew is married to Catherine, and together they have four children.
- **Sean Marsh** joined the OAC Queensland team in October 2022. Sean is currently serving as a Chaplain at Borallon Correctional Centre. "I love going to jail and sharing my faith and listening to the concerns of those who have made some poor life choices". Sean has been married to his wonderful wife Gina for over twenty-five years and has two adult daughters and two Rottweilers.
- **Neil Clark** is our worker in NSW. He has over 40 years of experience in ministry to the whole family. His work for OAC focuses primarily on religious instruction in schools. Neil is married, has 3 sons, and lives in Bonnells Bay NSW. He is also a pastor of a Congregational church in Sydney.
- **Shamina Rozario** is based in ACT where she is project co-ordinator and EA at OAC ministries. She joined OAC's team after graduating from her juris doctor degree in 2023. She also works in politics to evangelise where she can and support the persecuted church worldwide.

One person preaching the gospel might reach hundreds.
One person in a team preaching the gospel might reach thousands.

What might it look like to have 2000 volunteers serving together to take the gospel to the nation?

OAC is looking to build a big team of volunteers who want to become confident and competent in sharing their faith, and who are committed to investing what they have learned in other followers of Jesus.

Our volunteers aren't superheroes!

- They're everyday Christians just like you who see a need and are willing to have a go.
- You may not see yourself as an on-stage evangelist or preacher, but if you are willing to be trained, you can confidently speak to people who need to hear about Jesus.
- Our volunteer teams go to the streets, schools, caravan parks, conventions, retirement homes, and anywhere else where they can find non-Christians to share with.
- They share one-to-one, they share with small groups, and sometimes they even share with small crowds.
- All they need to do is faithfully speak to people about Jesus, and then God does the work in people's hearts when they hear the good news.

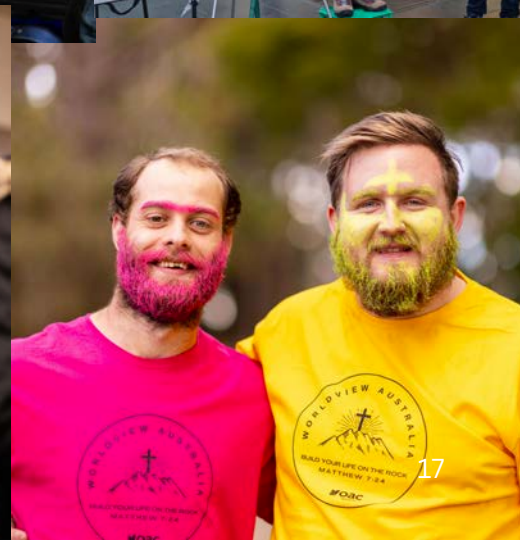
Our volunteer teams aren't special because of their gifts or skills.

They're special because they love the lost.
They're special because they are willing to go.

Will you Join In?

To learn more about volunteering with OAC, please visit:

oac.org.au





WORLDVIEW CAMP 2025 ACT



REGISTER NOW!



<https://oac.org.au/event/worldview-act-2025/>

CONTACT US

NATIONAL@OAC.ORG.AU

BEYOND BELIEF.

A brand new resource is coming soon!

Beyond Belief is a 60-day learning experience that helps equip you and your friends to love people from God's perspective and share your faith with others.

The program is based on the conviction that sharing our faith with others belongs at the centre of discipleship.

It includes a 9-week small-group video Bible study, leadership training, promotional materials and 60 daily devotions.



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