

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER NOV 2024



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Stay up-to-date with OAC ministries and find out what has been happening recently, and what projects are coming.



2025
**NATIONAL
CONFERENCE**
OCT 21-24
BELGRAVE HEIGHTS
CONVENTION CENTRE

Welcome to OAC's National Newsletter

This is a new initiative to gather the news from all over Australia into one place to share with you. In previous years as a supporter, volunteer or partner with OAC, you may have received several newsletters, one from an Evangelist, one from a state or multiple states, and Proclaim Magazine, along with other forms of communication. At OAC, we have decided to gather all the state-based newsletters into one national edition that will be produced four times a year to keep you in the loop on what is happening in our ministry and ensure you have plenty of people and events to pray for and support. Similar to the new OAC website, we are gathering this information into relevant topics, inspirational stories, opportunities to join in the work OAC is doing, upcoming events, giving opportunities, and training.

If you have feedback or ideas about this newsletter please let me know via email - jason.potter@oac.org.au.

Please make sure you put our National Conference in 2025 at the Belgrave Heights Convention Centre in Victoria in your diary. We have a special guest Brian Harmon the Field Director for OAC USA and his wife Kimberlee who will bring their experiences and expertise to National Conference as our guests. Brian is an excellent biblical teacher and key person in OAC Internationally, this is an opportunity you don't want to miss. If you are a volunteer, supporter or partner of OAC, we would love to see you there!



Jason Potter
National Director

In the newsletter

- Be inspired
- Join In
- Prayer
- Give

Contact Us:
national@oac.org.au



www.oac.org.au

Be Inspired

Rob and Gayle George (SA/NAT)

Recently, Rob and Gayle George were the camp speakers at a Western-themed kids' camp at the El Shaddai campsite in Wellington. Many of these 9 to 12-year-olds come to this camp from very difficult backgrounds; quite a few of them are wards of the State. It has been great to see the campers' response at various levels over the week and over the years. One lad, who had been attending this camp for several years and had decided to follow Christ, was baptised soon after this camp. The input that we have into the lives of the young leaders and the campers makes for a two-edged sword during this camp.

Both Rob and Gayle, along with a team, have been taking primary school Christmas and Easter programs for 30 years in the Western suburbs of Adelaide. This year, in the final week of November and the first week of December, we have 11 programs in 8 schools. Unfortunately, the number of schools involved has gradually reduced over the years. In addition, Rob and Gayle, without the team, will take a slightly modified program into several country schools.

This year we are doing a Lego Christmas theme using computer projection, "magic" tricks, and real Lego scenes along with some large home-made bricks, to creatively present the real reason for the season. We thank God that the schools are still open to us in S.A



Lego Nativity Scene



Sean Marsh (QLD/WA)

God can and often does allow us to share the Gospel anywhere, anytime. Yesterday was one of those times. While I was doing some glazing work, I rang a customer with his quote for a few security screens. We chatted, and I felt led by the Lord to ask a couple of questions and created an opening. He told me he grew up in Catholic and Anglican schools and felt like the Bible had been rammed down his throat, and he never felt any love from the priests and nuns. Using the approach I have been teaching at our home church, "Conversational Apologetics-Making A Case For Christ", We discussed his objections to Christianity, God's existence and the gospel. There were emotional moments during our conversation, God was working on him, and he asked me if we could it discuss further later.

I recently hit a milestone, I feel humbled by and proud of. I just clicked over ten years as a Prison Chaplain. So many amazing stories, challenges and prayers answered over this time. I have journeyed with so many inmates, responded to their deep questions, seen many come to faith in Christ, and been used by an extraordinary God in an often dark place, it has been one of my greatest and most enjoyable ministry experiences.

We're relocating to WA and plans are ticking along nicely! Both Gina and I are super excited as we are trusting God this is going to be an amazing adventure and opportunity. We would appreciate your prayers for our preparation prior to leaving, safe travels and open doors for us to grow the OAC team!

Catherine Walkington (QLD)

I have been blessed to be involved in a range of ministry projects and activities this year. Weekly outreaches near a local university campus have yielded some wonderful Gospel conversations with students in whose lives the Lord was already working before they spoke to me. Worldview Camp in late June was a highlight this year, with testimonies from many campers and leaders as to how the Lord used camp to bring them closer to him, or to repentance and faith for the first time.

I have had ongoing health issues since July this year, which has made planning for the future of my ministry a little difficult! At the moment, my future plan is to be faithful in the opportunities that the Lord gives me both time and capability to be a part of. I'm continuing to work on national policy projects, and the processing and management of our QLD volunteers. I plan to be as involved as possible in Worldview QLD 2025 and continue to invest in Steph and Andrew M as they complete their internships.

"R" is my eldest daughter's best friend and attended our Worldview Camp this year for the first time. R was raised in a Christian home, with dedicated and Godly parents who continue to disciple her Biblically and invest heavily in her walk with the Lord. When R came to camp, she admits she was not a Christian. During the Gospel session at camp, the Lord convicted R and she repented and put her trust in Jesus. I have been privileged to be able to witness the difference that Jesus is making in R's life.. She has been such an encouragement, to hear about the issues she's now wrestling with that are so common to our experience: why do we keep sinning even though we hate it? What place does the law now have in our lives? How do we witness with both truth and sensitivity? R is also having an impact on my daughter, and it is a joy to see the influence of a dear and Godly friend in her life. They frequently pray for each other and their families, and often their e-mails back and forth now talk about theology as well! I'm grateful to the Lord for allowing me to witness his work in R's life.

Be Inspired

Andrew Walkington (QLD/NAT)

I really don't like when the university semester finishes! While I understand the sense of relief for the students as they finish assessment, the sadness for me is the temporary loss of one of the most fruitful public evangelism locations. University is one of the best places to reach people with the gospel.

I spoke to Reef, who is 19 years old and called himself a Christian. When I asked him about his answers to the eternal life question, he gave me some vaguely Christian answers, but my instinct was that there were some significant gaps. As we walked through the gospel, it became clear that while he knew many of the core ideas, he'd never put the pieces together. I was able to step through some things fairly quickly because of his knowledge, but ultimately it became apparent that he was not genuinely born again, and he even admitted as much. I challenged him to consider his eternity and to make today the day where he repented and trusted in Jesus. He was very grateful for the challenge and gratefully accepted a tract.

Julius is Danish and a self-proclaimed atheist. We chatted for ages about God's existence and were able to work through a pretty good argument for God's existence, which he could see made a lot of sense. Despite this, he was clinging to the non-existence of God and he even admitted that he didn't really have a good reason to reject my line of reasoning. We talked about biases and how they affect our ability to reason on these things. He could see that this had a significant impact on his views. He had been raised a little bit religious, and so we talked about what the Christian Bible says and what it says about the afterlife question that we started with. I was able to walk him through the gospel clearly and challenged him pretty hard about how important this is to get right. There was a certain determined stubbornness in his answers, and yet at the same time, his body language made me suspect that he was being impacted by what I said.

Now that semester is over, we're still doing some outreach each week, but we're also investing in other projects. I am helping OAC set up a variety of systems that improve our ability to grow long term and also planning ahead to Worldview Queensland next year. It's such a mammoth project that it takes many months of work to run. I'll also take some time off over the summer to spend some much-needed time with my family.

Neil Clark (NSW)

I am active in 4 scripture lessons over 120 children and 4 teachers are taught the scriptures by me weekly in the Morisset area of NSW. Children are eagerly participating in each lesson through drama, singing, mime and story-telling. The children are challenged by the claims of Christ through the lessons and allowed to decide for themselves their relationship with Him.

I preach regularly, as part of the pastoral team, at Campsie Congregational church to the English congregation of a Chinese church. I have shared this responsibility for a number of years and have enjoyed watching our young people grow up and take an active part in the church and their local communities.

Steve Stokes (VIC)

Steve Stokes has been involved in the Unley Chapel Family Camp along with his wife and children. He has taught on the life of Moses to about 40 children, and was commended for his good communication skills.

Lauren Palmer (VIC/NAT)

Lauren Palmer has been involved in providing kids ministry training to people in Victoria and is continuing her evangelism efforts with young people and children, which is her passion.



Shamina Rozario (ACT)

Shamina joined our team as an Evangelist in October 2024. She has a passion for reaching young people and people involved in politics with the gospel. Shamina is also a talented artist and is currently producing an Encyclopedia of Biblical Characters to introduce people to the scriptures.

Mike Peereboom (ACT)

I work two days a week for OAC Ministries. I spend the majority of my work hours in four key areas (not including the time I spend engaged in Church Engagement and ministry partner development)



1. 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.
2. Dads Group is a national not-for-profit who are all about changing the culture of fatherhood for the better. I am a registered volunteer with Dads Group and presently head up their activities in the ACT.
3. Jason, Shamina and I are working hard at developing an excellent Worldview camp. At present we are; developing curriculum, workbooks, recruiting speakers, small group leaders, and campers.
4. SALT is a new initiative that I hope to launch in 2025. This quarterly outreach & evangelism forum is all about inspiring, challenge and equipping believers for outreach and evangelism.

Join In

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. You can learn more about being involved in these events on our website.

VIC

- Weekly street outreach in Melbourne CBD
- Belgrave Heights Summer Convention Kids Program (27th Dec 2024 - 1st Jan 2025)
- Torquay Beach Mission (28th Dec 2024 - 1st Jan 2025)
- Rosebud Beach Mission (6th - 10th Jan 2025)
- Bright Beach Mission (13th - 17th January 2025)
- Belgrave Heights Easter Convention (18th - 21st April 2025)

QLD

- Weekly Street outreach in Brisbane CBD
- Mount Tamborine Easter Convention Youth Program (17th - 21st April 2025)
- Worldview Queensland (29th June - 4th July 2025)

ACT

- Worldview ACT (21st – 25th April 2025)

WA

- Meet with the National Director: Monday the 18th November 7:00pm North Coast Church, 154 Balcatta Rd, Balcatta
- Meet with the National Director: Wednesday the 20th of November, 7:00pm at Fremantle Church, 217 High St Fremantle

Give

OAC Ministries relies on our partners for prayer and financial support. Partners are people like you who pray for and financially support an evangelist, our national services team or a special project.

You can give to the work of OAC online, by visiting:

oac.org.au/give

All the funds given are carefully stewarded to to maximise gospel impact. Your partnership creates real world gospel impact in the lives of those who we reach.

To those who have given recently:

Thank You!



Prayer Points

- Praise God for a wonderful time together at the National staff conference in October. Please pray for us as we implement many of the decisions that were made during our time together.
- Please pray for our street evangelism teams in Brisbane and Melbourne that new members would join both groups. Please pray for God's provision of gospel opportunities each time they head out together.
- Please pray for sufficient volunteers to run the various programs over summer in Victoria (see left). Please pray also for the leaders of these teams as they coordinate the programs and all the details that need to be managed.
- Praise God for the ongoing financial provision our team has experienced in the past months. Please pray that God would continue to provide and also for those on our team who need to raise more support.
- Please pray for the team heading up Worldview camps in both Canberra and Queensland. Please pray especially for the ACT team who are running this for the first time.
- Please pray for our staff, some of whom will take a well earned slower time over Christmas with their families.
- Please pray for Sean Marsh as he and Gina continue to plan to relocate from Qld to WA.
- Please pray for God to use our regular witness to the lost to bring people to himself.
- Please pray for Carene, our main administrator as she carries much of the admin on her own at this stage.
- Praise God for the growing team of volunteers in some of our programs around the country. Please pray that God would raise up more enthusiastic team members.
- Please pray for team members who are experiencing health challenges at the moment that God would provide healing to their bodies and wisdom to the doctors.
- Please pray for the Beyond Belief Program which Jason is presenting, with the help of videography by Grace Darby
- Please pray for the upcoming planning of COVE, which is a 3 month evangelism and theology training course to be held in ACT
- Please pray for the development of "Chappy Chat" (WA), as Sean and his wife prepare to launch the initiative in 2025
- Please pray for Rob and Gayle George handling Christmas programs in North Adelaide
- Please pray for the health and safety of all our evangelists, staff and volunteers
- Please pray for good weather when running ministry programs, especially outdoors in Caravan Parks