

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER MAY 2025



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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

You are a part of this mission with us. In an important time for Australia, with seeds of hope being reported about young men particularly becoming more interested in Jesus, we hope you find this update on the work of OAC inspiring. We love to share the news of what the Lord is doing through our work in a variety of ways to different groups of people. We use Proclaim Magazine to promote OAC to new people, as well as share some news and articles to inspire and encourage you in your own walk with the Lord. The e-mails you receive from the individual evangelists you support give you a closer and more detailed look at their ministry and personal updates. This National Newsletter is a broader picture of what OAC is doing around Australia, and how we are seeing the Lord advance His kingdom.

Sean & Gina Marsh have arrived and begun work in WA, and Mike Peereboom has arrived in Port Macquarie. We have a new evangelist starting in QLD, Jason Allott is taking on the good work that Sean Marsh began in the Lockyer Valley and it is wonderful to have him on team. God has continued to do his good work through our teams over the Easter Celebration at Belgrave Heights, Mount Tambourine, Halls Gap, in schools work, and street teams.

Please continue to partner with us through your prayers, and if you are able to partner with us financially we would greatly appreciate your support. Thank you for serving with us.



Jason Potter
National Director

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Contact Us:
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www.oac.org.au

Be Inspired



MTCC Easter Convention Youth Program (QLD)

OAC once again had the privilege of conducting the youth program at the Mount Tamborine Easter Convention. Easter convention brings in close to 1000 people for 4 days of Bible teaching, fellowship, and fun.

Three of our local staff and 9 volunteers worked together to bring a Bible based program to 60-70 high schoolers over three mornings. The major theme of the conference was "Transformed by His Truth", and so in the youth program, we worked through the book of Ephesians and looked at the truth and the way that it transforms us as Christians. The first session focussed on the truths that relate to our conversion and what it means to be "in Christ". The session ended with a clear gospel challenge to those who might be attending but not yet converted. The following two sessions focussed on how that truth should shape our lives, both in terms of our personal holiness, and also in terms of the relationships that we have. The teens were challenged to consider where they stood with Jesus and ultimately whether he was shaping their lives and transforming them.

Following the Bible talks, the teens were broken up into small groups led by our young adult volunteers. We had an amazing team again this year and they did a great job at working with the teens to help them think through how this can apply to their own lives. Our volunteers were also on hand to support the bigger conference team by being available to pray with people after the main evening sessions. Please pray that the content that was covered over the Easter weekend would bear fruit in the lives of the teens.

The Easter convention is always a lot of fun, and it was wonderful for the team to be able to also sit and listen to many of the keynote Bible talks over the weekend. We're very grateful that MTCC invites us to be a part of this program. We're now looking forward to the Worldview program which will be running in the same venue in the middle of this year. Please pray for our Brisbane team as we work to put this program together.



Andrew Walkington (QLD/National)

What do you do with an apathetic agnostic?

I spoke to Aiden, who's 19 years old and had some Christian schooling. He didn't particularly believe that the afterlife question was important to wrestle with, or even that it could be answered. This apathy often serves as a roadblock to evangelistic conversations, but I have learned an approach which has regularly caused the conversation to open up.

I challenged him that he really needs to wrestle with these questions because he will die (and he doesn't know when), and because his incredibly valuable soul may be in jeopardy if there is an afterlife. He considered this for a moment and they ultimately agreed that this made the topic worthy of consideration.

We then hit the second roadblock of knowability of the afterlife. I agreed that human experience was far too limited but then argued that ultimately, only God can reveal what will happen after we die and that we need to get access to that revelation. He shared that he held some belief in God, but it wasn't based on much more than a feeling, and so I made an argument based on design and shared why we must believe that there is a God. I then shared why this God must be the God of the Bible, because divine revelation is proven through prophetic fulfilment.



I asked him about the core message of Christianity and got a bunch of Christian cliches which he clearly didn't understand and couldn't string together coherently. This gave me a good opportunity to walk through the gospel in great depth, first explaining how our rebellion against God's commands makes us guilty before a holy God, and then explaining how Jesus' death on the cross pays for sins. Through his Christian schooling, he had misunderstood the scope of God's forgiveness and thought that God's forgiveness was already applied to everybody, and therefore the whole message of Christianity is pointless. I explained that this was called universalism and explained that the gift must be received before it is applied to our lives. I challenged him to examine these things more carefully. I gave him a tract to read and thanked him for chatting.

Be Inspired

Mike P (NSW)

It has been about a month now since my family and I made the big move from Canberra to Port Macquarie. The last month has been full of unpacking, setting up house, my wife starting a new job, budgeting, school holidays, public holidays, enrolling kids in new schools, re-budgeting, and lots of sandcastles at the beach. At present I find myself in the early stages of meeting with local churches and other Christian not-for-profits to get a picture of what God is up to in Port Mac – and where I might fit into that picture.

OAC has not had a presence in Port Mac prior to my arrival, which means that I find myself in the fortunate position of being able to prayerfully imagine what it might look like to work alongside churches and other Christian not-for-profits to help inspire, encourage, and equip local believers to be disciples who make disciples.

There are approximately 50,000 people and about 20 churches in the Port Macquarie local government area. From my interaction with local church leaders thus far, it seems that there is genuine openness to working collaboratively towards helping local believers reimagine what it means to live on mission and to reignite their hearts for the great commission. I would greatly appreciate your prayers for wisdom and discernment in this season; it is my prayer that I may keep in step with the good shepherd and follow his leading as he seeks out his lost sheep.



Rob & Gayle George (SA/National)

As we arrived at a public primary school for our Easter presentation the Assistant Principal asked, smiling, if we wanted the good news or the bad news? The 'bad news' was that we needed a bigger hall! The good news was that we had 183 students who had returned their permission notes to attend the session that day. Not every school requires permission notes and this usually reduces the number who attend due to forgetfulness or apathy. At Christmas we had only 90 students attend.

After the session the deputy went on to say that many students ask what Easter is about and he wanted them to know why we have the holiday. He thought our Christmas and Easter programs should be compulsory for all students! That's an unusual view these days!

At another school a girl asked Rob, "Why did He have to die?" An excellent entry to explain the Gospel more clearly in the limited time before she had to leave with her class. Another asked, "Which came first, His birth or His death?" An easy one to answer! Perhaps the lad was confused because Christmas is later in the year than Easter. A Greek Orthodox boy told us that he enjoyed the program and was interested that we are celebrating Easter at the same time this year. He said he would go to their church at Easter time.

We run programs in fewer schools at Easter than Christmas but we still shared creatively through story, video, multi-cultural foods, and an interactive object lesson, to over 1,100 students and their staff.

P.S. The photo shows Gayle exercising a very serious responsibility in the program. She is the E.E.T. (*Easter Egg Taster*). A good job if you can get it!

Neil Clark (NSW)

Recently I was reading a book on a park bench overlooking Shoal Bay in NSW when Trent passed by and asked me what I was doing. I had seen Trent every morning of the week running past and on this occasion he stopped to talk. He was on holidays there and as he did regularly at home ran in the mornings. Trent was interested in the book I was reading and the conversation revealed his interests, work and family life. He was discouraged about the conflicts in the world and even those in our own country. He was interested in what I did as a minister and was receptive to the gospel message. As he left to continue his run he turned back to me and said, "We all need Jesus love don't we." It always amazes me at the daily opportunities we have to share our faith with others.

Be Inspired



Sean Marsh (WA)

After a long wait and much anticipation, the day for us to leave for Western Australia finally arrived, and we departed Minden Qld on Saturday the 29th of March. The only thing we were glad to say goodbye to was the weeks' worth of rain! Our first stop was Goondiwindi, where we needed to get our car serviced before getting stuck into some big days of travel. We set our van up to live off grid and made use of as many free camps as possible along the way to be good stewards of our resources. Our first destination was Adelaide, where we arranged to meet up with Rob & Gayle George and also John & Lorraine Walker. John was the "Inside Out Prison Chaplaincy Coordinator" who interviewed me initially prior to becoming a prison chaplain roughly twelve years ago. We have remained good friends ever since. It was great to share our adventures, future hopes and plans with John and Lorraine, and to also catch up with Rob and Gayle. We enjoyed sharing a couple of meals together with these fine folks. Leaving Adelaide, the next destination was the start of the "infamous Nullarbor Plain". We found it quite an enjoyable drive, with plenty of corners which is not what many had suggested previously. Quite frankly, I have no idea what all the fuss was about.

One afternoon is worth a mention though. We usually drove until we had had enough, or were too tired to continue safely. Reaching for our "second Bible" (easy people), we would look for a free camp in a comprehensive guidebook. Gina did her thing by finding us somewhere to stop for the night, but unbeknown to us, we had stopped right next to a beehive in a tree two metres away. I had no idea bees could drink so much water! They swarmed the car and van and drained the dog's water bowls of the best part of seven plus litres! I got stung three times, and Gina and the dogs nothing. I felt favoured, and we had contributed a little towards creation care at least!

Then things got interesting. We made our way to Myalup Beach Caravan Park for two nights before our final stop at a site in Perth, where we had planned to base ourselves for the next six months or so. At 5pm the night before we were to leave for Perth, we received a text saying our site had fallen through at the last minute. OK! We made attempts to find somewhere to stay, but as this was the Wednesday before Easter, school holidays, and with the Anzac Day holiday the following week, it was to no avail.

The caravan park owners graciously gave us until the following night to try and work out somewhere to stay but after that they were booked out for the Easter weekend. I found an RV stop about fifty minutes South-East of Perth and I also found a Church of Christ about ten minutes from where we were going to stay to visit and to celebrate Good Friday.

Walking through the door we were met by several friendly country folk who welcomed us in. At the beginning of the service, the Elder asked me to share about why we were travelling over here, as I had given a twenty second intro when we were welcomed initially. I shared about OAC, and why we were here in WA, and after the service, the lovely couple behind us tapped us on the shoulder and said that they felt led by the Lord to invite us to stay with them. Praise God!



Andy and Kati (see above photo) are former missionaries themselves, have two foster children and manage a local fifty-acre property, and offered for us to stay with them as long as we like. We are mindful not to overstay our welcome but are incredibly blessed to have a home base to begin the task of re-establishing OAC in WA.

I have already had several good conversations, made some new friends and contacts, and I'm looking forward to what God has in store for us into the future here in the West of Oz.



Be Inspired

Halls Gap Easter Program (Vic)

A very enthusiastic team this Easter ran programs in two caravan parks and the play ground in the main street in Halls Gap. It was encouraging to see more people attend the programs as the weekend progressed. The program was called The Game which used little games as object lessons to explain the Gospel and the story of Easter. I have never seen such a united, dedicated team with the more experienced members mentoring and helping the newer members.

One of the volunteers writes:

After the final program at Lake Fyans, a Mum came and spoke with me. She had listened to the program and was very excited because she had been brought up Catholic and had struggled to explain to her primary school aged son why Jesus died and rose again. Her children attended all the sessions and now she was happy to be able to explain what she and her children had learnt to Nonna and other family members. I had shared the Mr Brown story and application about how Jesus came to die for us so that we didn't have to suffer the consequence of our wrongdoing (sin) and then He rose again so we don't have to be separated from God. I then explained how we can be friends with Jesus and choose to follow Him.



Belgrave Heights Easter Convention (Vic)

A team of 14 volunteers took on the challenge of the Belgrave Heights Easter Convention Children's program for the primary school aged kids. With up to 150 kids in the program, they had their work cut out for them!



Melbourne Street Team (Vic)

Troy and Danny are volunteers leading the street team in Melbourne. Some weeks it's just the two of them, some weeks they have a couple of others. Every week, they have large numbers of conversations. Here is another excerpt from a single Saturday session:

It was a busy session in the city today. There seemed to be a lot of visitors to Melbourne. These are among those who we spoke to:

- I went through the Good Person Test (GPT) flipchart with four young Muslims, who were receptive.
- Daniel spent some time with a larger group, but comprised mainly of four guys -- Sam, Jeremiah, Joshua and another -- and a girl, who were inquisitive and sober; a few took part of whole Bibles.
- Daniel spent time chatting with Muskan, and took him through the GPT.
- Faith chatted with a girl, a self-proclaimed satanist, but not one believes in the person of Satan, but who holds to a rationalist philosophy.
- Daniel took a Hindu family through the GPT.
- I and Faith spent a brief time taking with a Muslim girl who was open to hearing the Christian position.
- Daniel spent some time taking two Saudi guys through the gospel via the GPT.
- Daniel shared the gospel with an avowed Hindu mum and her three children.
- We managed to provide a young Chinese man with a Mandarin and English tract.
- Daniel spent time sharing the gospel via the GPT with Nina, who was initially indifferent, but realized that there are implications.
- I shared with two out of five Muslim guys in a group the essence of the gospel – visitors from Sydney, but open to hearing the Christian position on salvation.

Please pray that the Lord will have mercy on those who heard the gospel (including those who received tracts) and that He will grant them repentance and saving faith.



Be Inspired



Matt Andersen (Volunteer - Qld)

Matt is one of our regular Worldview speakers and a very experienced street evangelist (pictured above, right).

James and I met Remi and Ferris, two men dressed as women. Knowing the potential tensions from past encounters, the first 30min was mostly just asking questions and listening, clarifying when needed. Each had one theme that stood out to be connected to, Ferris shared that they had moved away from their Christian upbringing and had begun to realise their happiness was not worth sacrificing for the good of others. This came up a few times. In essence, "I am much happier now that I put myself first and live by my own morals".

We asked some personal questions and Remi gingerly articulated that over the past 5 years of his "self-discovery" and "self-expression" he's slowly realised that no one really supports him but rather has been offended by his actions. He's alienated all those who love him. How do we sensitively preach Christ in light of that revelation? I prayed and decided to look at "identity". We mourned the way our culture tells us to find our identity within and the cost when those around us don't affirm that.

My apologetic was to look at the beauty that comes from God as creator (both were sceptical of God but not closed to the idea). So we proposed that there is incredible comfort and confrontation that comes from the universe (us included) being created by God. We started with the comfort.

If we are created by God, that means we have a purpose, we exist for a reason. God tells us who we are and therefore no one can take that away from us. This means we aren't an afterthought and God doesn't make junk. They both shared the comfort that brings. (At this stage they still understood this as God affirming the identity they were presenting, rather than giving them a better one).

So we looked at the second aspect, with privilege comes expectation, responsibility and accountability. If we exist as a part of God's universe, to reflect who He is and in doing so bring Him glory, we are accountable to Him.

The question was dropped, "If someone was to observe your whole life, actions, thoughts, desires, motives and tried to work out who God is from that, how have you gone in reflecting

God?" This question landed with weight. Both seemed to begin to grasp the situation - they had lived in opposition to their kind creator. So we asked, if God didn't make us to fail, what happened?

As we began looking at God's character, considering our actions and delving into our motives, bladders began to call and the conversation came to an end. To my surprise, both gladly took a gospel of John and headed on their way. There were many pieces in my mind that would have been great to navigate but for last night, that was all God provided.

I am hopeful that as they meet Jesus in the beginning of John's gospel that they will find Him to be ever satisfying, worth following and ultimately the Saviour of their souls!



Martin Park (Volunteer - Qld)

Martin (above right) was a leader in Melbourne's street team before relocating back to Brisbane last year. He now leads the Friday night street team.

On a Saturday in Brisbane, the OAC team had been conducting a training course in evangelism. Martin was unable to join the course that day due to a wedding, but when some of the team headed into the city to practice what they had learned, he decided to pop out from the church after the service to see how they were going. He sat himself on a bench nearby as some of the team spoke to a group of young teenage guys. Plucking up courage, one of the trainees broke away from the group to speak to the "stranger" who had just sat down on a bench nearby. Tony, the trainee, had no idea that Martin was one of our regular team members... so Martin decided to pretend to be an atheist.

Bravely, Tony started asking Martin questions about what he believed, and Martin made up some answers about what why he didn't believe in God and why he didn't believe in religion. He was careful not to be particularly difficult but gave Tony an opportunity to put into practise what he learned all day at the course. He even allowed Tony to "convince" him of some of the truths of Christianity. Tony did a great job for a beginner. After allowing Tony to witness to him for quite some time, Martin confessed that he is actually an evangelist with the team! He took the opportunity to compliment Tony on his efforts and provided some positive feedback about the way he had shared the gospel. It was a wonderful learning experience for Tony as a brand new street evangelist.

Be Inspired

Andrew Walkington (Qld/National)

How does a possum lead to evangelism? This furry creature boldly decided to explore the footpath in the early afternoon near us on campus. When I stopped to snap this photo, Zane & Daniel also stopped to have a look. The guys didn't know each other but recognised that they were in some of the same classes. Within a few minutes, the topic swung from possums to the abortion issue, and then ultimately over the next hour it moved to God's existence and the gospel!



Daniel is a professing Christian and seemed to quickly take a back seat when he realised I was there to evangelise! Zane is a pro-choice agnostic, and though he pushed back on a range of things throughout the conversation, little by little he adopted a pro-life position, then a theistic position (i.e. there is a "god") and then started to grasp why this god must be the God of the Bible!

He had little understanding of the gospel at all and like many, believed that going to heaven was a matter of being good. By walking through the commandments he realised that no one is good and then this gave me the opportunity to share about Jesus and the cross with him.

I challenged him hard about his need to carefully examine the truth of these claims and to determine where he stands with God. I was very aware that I had dumped a lot of information on him in a relatively short period of time, but also that he now had a new connection with Daniel. They looked at a possum as relative strangers, but walked off as mates and I was confident that Daniel would keep chatting with him... especially as they had both just skipped class to keep talking with me! Both took tracts and shook my hand multiple times before leaving.

Team Changes

Jason Allott (Qld)

Jason has joined our staff team in Queensland! Living in much the same region as Sean had been, he will pick up some of the areas of ministry that Sean has been doing in the past. Initially working 1 day per week while he raises some support, he will focus on street ministry and also having a stall at country markets in the region.

Let's meet Jason:

Despite growing up in a lovely Christian home I was not born again to a new life in Christ until the age of 28 in 2013. The wonder of the salvation of God I have received, knowing I do not deserve it, still blows my mind. It is this wonder of the Gospel and love for Christ that drives me to share this good news with those who do not know Him.



I have a trade background as a carpenter and I was also a professional firefighter in Melbourne for almost 10 years. It sounds corny (and probably is) but the 2 careers I have had combine in a spiritual sense; my mission is to rescue people from the eternal flame and build them up in Christ. Yep, corny, but I kind of like it.

I have a beautiful wife of 18 years, Mim, and we have two lovely teenage girls, and a Kelpie who is very much part of the family.

I lived most of my life in Melbourne before moving up to Queensland with my family in 2021. I still have many close ties to people in Melbourne.

I have volunteered with OAC for almost 3 years and I am looking forward to the new staff role so I may be able to commit more time to this work God has given me a passion for.

Jason is looking for ministry partners who can help support his work. If you would like to help, please visit oac.org.au/give/.

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 (Saturdays)

QLD

- Weekly Street outreaches in Brisbane CBD (Fridays) & QUT Uni campus (Tuesdays & Thursdays).
- Worldview Queensland (29th June - 4th July 2025)

ACT

- Worldview Canberra (6th - 10th October 2025)

WA

- Sean will be establishing regular outreaches.

NSW

- ROAM kid's school holiday events begin in July.



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 are essential to the mission.

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

Calendar Prayer Points:

- Please pray for all the events listed to the left!
- Neil teaches SRE at Dora Creek (Thursday), Bonnells Bay, Manning Park and Wyee Public Schools (Friday)
- Rob George has ministry in Malaysia, June 19-30.
 - Training and outreach with Youth For Christ in 3 centres: Johor Bahru, Malacca, Kuala Lumpur.
 - Evangelism training camp with two churches at the Malaysia Bible Seminary in KL.
- International President, David Proaño, and his wife, Monica, will be visiting our OACI South East Asia Pacific (SEAP) Zone soon.
 - New Zealand: June 14-27
 - Australia: June 27-July 9
 - Fiji: July 9-19
- Rob George takes a week of children's ministry training and outreach (with David and Monica Proaño) in Lautoka, Fiji, July 13-19. This is part of the annual OAC Fiji School Of Evangelism.

Praise Points:

- Praise God for the ongoing street ministry in both Brisbane and Melbourne that causes many dozens of unchurched people to hear the gospel each week.
- Praise God for the ongoing provision of funds for our team members so that they can serve in gospel work.
- Praise God for the feedback we continue to receive of people impacted by the various programs we have run over the past couple of years.
- Praise God for the ongoing growth of the team, both new staff and many new volunteers.

General Prayer Points:

- Please pray for our weekly street outreaches in Melbourne and Brisbane that God would use them to reach the lost. Please also pray for new volunteers to join the team.
- Please praise God for his ongoing financial provision for our team. Please pray for those who need to raise additional funds to be fully supported or increase their days per week.
- Please pray for the planning and execution of the various events being run around the country and for the people and resources to see these run well.
- Please pray for the extended preparation that is needed for programs such as Worldview in Queensland and ACT.
- Please pray for Sean & Gina as they settle in to WA, and Mike as he establishes new work in Port Macquarie.
- Please pray for the ongoing health of our team and for those experiencing health challenges to be restored to full health.
- Please pray that God would continue to raise up more volunteers and staff for the work around Australia.