

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

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Barry Hume
P . O . Box 177
Launceston 7250
Tasmania , Australia

North Beach church of Christ

Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated . Following is my report for **April 2017** .

PREACHED AT ULVERSTONE .

This month Jackie and I drove 110 kms to Ulverstone for me to preach for the church there . Because the man who does all the preaching and teaching was away on the mainland , I was required to lead the Lord's Supper and lead public prayers as well as preach .

SAD SHOCKING DEVELOPMENT .

The members at Eastside were profoundly shocked this month when Kane Keleher asked to address the church at the close of worship . He read a written statement announcing he no longer wanted to attend Florida College .

Nobody saw this coming , and we had no hint that he had changed his mind about Florida College , as he had not confided his thoughts to anyone . When he finished speaking he broke down crying and was in no state to discuss with us why he had made this decision .

Several days later I received an email from the man in the U.S. who was organising sponsorship for Kane to attend Florida College, and attached to this email was a letter Kane had written to him, explaining his reasons for "opting out" of Florida College.

Again, nobody at Eastside had seen, or even was aware that Kane had sent this letter to all the people in the U.S. who had anything to do with facilitating his enrolment at Florida College. This letter shed a lot of light as to how Kane was thinking when he made this decision.

I then had opportunity to have a private chat with Kane, and I commended him on the composition of his letter, but expressed that I wish he had confided in us at Eastside about his reservations before dropping the "bombshell".

Discussions with Kane are ongoing, and the picture that is emerging is that it was too daunting and even terrifying a prospect for this 16 year old to fly 14,000 away from home to a strange land, be among people he does not know, and lay in bed at night knowing he could not get on a Metro bus and visit his mum whenever he wanted to.

MY FEAR RE KANE.

Several months ago Kane started work after school and Saturdays and Sunday afternoons at a fast-food restaurant, and for the first time in his life he has his own money (considerable amount), and is mixing with people other than his school classmates, people who have no interest whatsoever in spiritual matters.

Almost every weekend Kane used to go bushwalking and cycling with Viktor Koskovic and Brett Anderson (two fanatically faithful members at Eastside, 50 and 60 year olds), but this month he has opted out several times of going with Viktor and Brett, instead preferring to work or engage in activities with young people his own age from the fast food outlet.

This month for the first time ever he did not attend the Camp Barnabas

Lectures because "he had to work" at the fast food outlet . One Sunday this month he even phoned Jackie on Sunday morning to say he would not be at worship because his boss had phoned him and said that he was desperately short of staff and needed Kane to help him out .

Several of the Eastside members (including me) had very serious discussions with Kane about missing worship for this reason , pointing out to Kane that if Kane did not exist his boss would be able to find someone else .

We also stressed that when you give up your principles re worship just once , people will expect you to do it all the time . Kane was very remorseful and promised he would tell his boss that he would no longer be available to work on Sunday mornings .

MY FEAR .

My fear is that Kane is dazzled by the lure of earning "big" money , is flattered by the popularity he enjoys from his peers at the fast food outlet (he has made an amazing impression on his boss and all the staff) and will be drawn away from spirituality and succumb to worldliness .

The problem is compounded by the fact that Kane has absolutely nobody at Eastside anywhere near his age , the next oldest person is in his late forties , and the rest are 60's and 70 year olds .

Please pray for Kane , but also for Jackie and I as we struggle with deep frustration and discouragement right now .

CAMP BARNABAS LECTURES .

On the weekend of 14th - 17th April Jackie and I , along with other Eastside members attended the "Barnabas" Lectures and a wonderful four days of association with brethren from all over Tasmania was enjoyed by all who attended .

This year was the smallest attendance figure ever, since we began "Barnabas" in 1997. This was due to the fact that no mainland brethren came this year (they come every second year) and a large family of eight who always bring another seven or eight people from their community, they moved to Brisbane early this year.

REQUEST FOR BULK BOOKLETS .

I received an email this month from a preacher in South Africa, requesting ten (10) copies of my Lesson Booklet, "*We must be a separate people*", and ten (10) copies of, "*Three things that God will never do*".

The Eastside church has volunteered to pay the postage (about \$80.00) as part of the church's foreign evangelism program. I am starting to put more of my lessons onto Eastside's Web Page, but brethren around the world do not want just the printed page. They say that my bound coloured booklets with accompanying illustrations are far more effective to hand out to others.

FUNERAL SERVICE REQUEST .

This month the husband of my female cousin died suddenly as he walked out of the holiday home they had been staying at. The family asked me to conduct the funeral service.

This cousin deliberately "matched me up" with my wife Jackie on a blind date about 55 years ago, and we have been close friends for all that time.

HILLWOOD CANTEEN .

Our Australian Rules Football season has begun, meaning every second Saturday (home game days), Jackie and I work in the Hillwood Football Club's canteen from 7 am.

In addition, every Thursday night we help the ladies committee to prepare a cooked dinner for the players of three teams (about 60 plus) after they finish their training session.

Our association with this football club has resulted in many life-long friendships being established, and our "chaplaincy" roles (without the title) has given us many opportunities to teach Bible principles to members of the club who are having difficulties and are hurting.

During our association with this club, I have been asked to conduct four wedding ceremonies of members of this club.

SCHOOL READING .

The Literacy Program at the school where Eastside meets, has started well for 2017. Jackie has children from the same class she had last year, but I have been allocated a different class than 2016.

Every Tuesday for one hour we teach young children to read, but the teachers have stressed that building a relationship with the pupils is equally as important.

EASTSIDE WEB PAGE .

I am periodically adding lessons to our Eastside website, though I struggle because I am just a novice when it comes to computers. Feel free to download, print, and use my lessons however you wish, even teach/preach them as they are if you are satisfied they are scriptural.

The url to access our web page is www.eastsidechurchofchristtas.com, if you wish to check it out.

VIKTOR'S OVERSEAS TRIP .

Viktor Koskovic, is the Eastside member who has taught our midweek class for the last ten years, and teaches our Sunday Bible class every sixth week when I am preaching elsewhere around Tasmania.

Viktor has just booked his flights for a four month trip to the U.S. to visit his daughter and then to go on to Croatia where his parent's families live (Viktor was born in Australia).

Viktor has disciplined himself over the past few years to learn the Croatian language, and this trip will be the first time he will be able to have a conversation with someone in Croatian.

He will be badly missed from Eastside, and Steve Schiller who joined us from another Launceston church has offered to teach our midweek class during Viktor's absence, and call on me to take over if it becomes too much for him.

PHIL DOW PREACHED FOR US.

On April 23rd Phil Dow from the Eastern Shore congregation in Hobart drove the 200 plus klms to Eastside and preached a fine sermon for us.

Jackie and I have been associated with Phil since he was a young unmarried man attending annual mainland lectureships. He and his wife Lindy moved to Hobart to live and make regular visits to Eastside.

Phil's father Alf Dow, was a preacher in Australia for many years.

LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN APRIL.

Most of my Bible class and sermon subjects take several weeks to cover due to the nature of the Eastside members who need constant repetition, detailed explanations, and mutual discussions among brethren re personal applications of Biblical principles in their lives.

Also, I encourage members to ask questions re anything they do not understand or even something that is a side issue to what we are actually studying at the time. Thus it is very rare for me to ever complete a lesson in one Bible class.

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS .

- April 2 - *"Local church membership"* .
9 - *"Partakers of the Divine nature"* .
16 - Attended the "Camp Barnabas" Lectures .
23 - Diligance .
30 - I preached at Ulverstone .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

- April 2 - *"Lessons from Jesus the Carpenter"* .
9 - *"Renewing our commitment to God"* .
16 - Attended the "Camp Barnabas" Lectures .
23 - **Phil Dow** preached (from Eastern Shore in Hobart) .
30 - I preached at Ulverstone .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

- April 4 - Viktor taught **1 Sam 22 - 23 - 24** .
11 - Viktor taught **1 Sam 25 - 26** .
18 - Viktor taught **1 Sam 27 - 28** .
25 - Viktor taught **1 Sam 29 - 30 - 31** .

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

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .

Set up school on 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 or third Sunday in the month .

Midweek Bible Class : Continues to be at 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 : Jackie and I make every effort to continue this project on a weekly basis , but often a lack of time does not allow this to happen .

Thank you once again for your wonderful support , please visit us if you ever get the opportunity to do so .

Yours in Christ ,

Barry Hume .

P . S . "SECRET OF THE EASY YOKE"

I have attached another one of my sermons
for you to see how and what I preach