

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1st February 2020

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated . Following is my report for **January 2020** .

HOUSE AT BEACH .

The daughter of one of Jackie's former Hairdressing clients kindly offers us the use of her Beach House for three weeks each year . It is situated in the fishing village of **Bridport** on the North East coast of Tasmania , about 50 minutes from our home , and brethren from all over Tasmania and the mainland stay with us for varying periods of time .

So far , during our time here , our Tasmanian grandchildren have stayed a week with us , and of our Eastside members , Brett Anderson and his wife stayed four nights , and our newest member at Eastside (Shelly Petersen) has stayed for three days .

Next week , Viktor Koskovic and his daughter Emma arrive for a three day period , with other Eastside members "booked in" during the next two weeks . We return to our home in Launceston on the 21st January .

BEACH "OFFICE" .

Please be assured that I do not spend these three weeks "laying on the beach", but instead I transport and set up my "office" in part of the beach house and every morning at 5am I begin working on researching, typing, and printing Bible classes and sermons, as well as compiling new lesson booklets (typing, photocopying, stapling, and binding).

My laptop with its large external monitor, my printer, photocopier, and scanner all come to the beach with me, and I work from **4am** until **12 noon**, then spend the rest of the day with brethren and family. Often I will "sneak" another hour or so on the computer in the evenings.

WORK COMPLETED .

This year at the beach house I researched, typed and printed **four (4) Bible classes** for my Sunday morning, "*Bible Basics For Believers*" at Eastside :

"Bible beginnings" .

"The Old and New Covenants" .

"Were two laws given on Sinai" ?

"The Ten Commandments have been abolished" .

VISITORS THIS YEAR .

As usual, we had an assortment of brethren and non - Christians stay at the beach house with us .

PREACHED AT ULVERSTONE .

On the 5th January Jackie and I drove from the above mentioned Bridport to Ulverstone (2 hours plus) on the North West coast of Tasmania, for me to preach for the congregation there .

We received the usual warm welcome, with my bound Lesson Booklets of the sermon required by the members .

WEDDING CEREMONY .

The son of members of the Lindisfarne congregation in Hobart (2 hours plus from our home) phoned early this month asking if I would conduct his wedding ceremony on the 15th February .

I am rostered to preach for that congregation on the 23rd February, so the Lindisfarne church agreed for me to preach for them on the 16th (the day after the wedding) .

This means I can do the wedding on the Saturday, and preach for Lindisfarne on the Sunday, on the same weekend, thus not having to make two trips to Hobart on consecutive weekends .

AUSTRALIAN MARRIAGE LAWS .

Marriage laws in Australia are highly regulated, with only authorised, registered Marriage Celebrants able to perform wedding ceremonies . It costs me \$ 240 .00 every year to be a Marriage Celebrant, another \$ 135 .00 each year to attend a compulsory seminar (failure to attend results in loss of one's licence) .

Regulations are so strict that specific wording must be used in the ceremony, in order for the Marriage to be legal .

I have often considered resigning my licence as the regulations make me wonder if all the Governmental hassles one has to endure is worth retaining my Licence .

The only reason I have remained a Religious Marriage Celebrant is to give members of the church an opportunity to have a personal ceremony with references to scripture .

Civil Marriage Celebrants are not allowed to include religious content in their ceremonies .

SHORT REPORT .

This report is shorter than usual due to our being at the beach for three weeks of January where my time was devoted to preparing new Bible Classes and Sermons .

Hopefully I will have more news to report next month .

LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN JANUARY .

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 .

- January 5 - Preached at **Ulverstone** .
- 12 - *"Bible beginnings"* .
- 19 - *"The Old and New Covenants"* .
- 26 - *"The Old and New Covenants"* .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

- January 5 - Preached at **Ulverstone** .
- 12 - *"The faith of Abraham"* .
- 19 - *"Hindrances to conversion"* .
- 26 - *"Hindrances to conversion"* .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

- January 7 - Hymn singing night .
- 14 - *"Amazing animals that defy evolution"* .
- 21 - *"Amazing animals that defy evolution"* .
- 28 - *"Amazing animals that defy evolution"* .

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 .