

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1st May 2020

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North Beach church of Christ

Greetings brethren ,

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

WHAT CAN I SAY ?

Because of the Government restrictions re the Corona Virus , April was a month like I have never experienced before in the forty years I have been a Christian . Not being able to physically *"come together as a local church"* has been emotionally and intellectually challenging .

"Social isolation" has not affected my daily work schedule much , as I have still been starting work in my office each day around 4 am and finishing about 10 pm . I have kept busy preparing new sermons , Bible Classes , and Bound Lesson Booklets . Also , I have been working on folding 10 , 000 leaflets and bundling them ready to distribute when self - isolation ends .

Each week my wife Jackie has been placing one of my Lesson Booklets on the door - step of some Eastside members and that becomes their "sermon" to be studied for that week .

I then phone them at the end of the week to give them opportunity to discuss the lesson and ask questions .

As we are allowed one visitor to our home , Viktor Koskovic has been coming each Sunday morning and hooking up to Skype so that we can communicate with Eastside brethren .

MY NEW COMPUTER .

This month I have finally succumbed to discarding my old computer with **Windows 7** and I have purchased a new computer direct from the DELL company complete with **Windows 10** .

My reason for doing this is so I can learn how to use SKYPE and ZOOM and be able to teach a lesson each Sunday and interact with the Eastside members (and during the week as well) .

At the moment I am really struggling to learn how to use the Windows 10 format , and repeatedly unplug my new computer and revert back to my old Windows 7 computer (as I have to type this report) .

My computer "Guru" has agreed to make regular visits to my home to teach me how to use the new format , so it is *"one step at a time"* at the moment .

TUITION BY SON .

My eldest son (Jason) lives in Melbourne and his occupation is to conduct "conferencing seminars" every day using SKYPE and ZOOM . He lectures to up to ten people at a time , who are all in their homes communicating with him on their computers .

Jason has offered to conduct regular "one on one" sessions with me, training me to become proficient at presenting lessons for the Eastside members while we are unable to, *"come together as a church"*.

NEWSPAPER ADVERT .

This month our city's newspaper emailed me with an offer of, *"quarter the normal price"* advertisements during the Corona crisis .

Given that people are confined to their homes and probably bored by looking at ways to fill in their day I thought that it might be an opportune time to advertise our Correspondence Course .

We have ordered four (4) adverts to be placed on the very back page (with all the sport), one advert every second Saturday over a period of eight weeks .

I have attached a photo of our advert for you to see .

BOOKLETS EMAILS .

This month I received an email from Carol Yourey, a woman in a Melbourne congregation who had one year ago been converted after being a devout Roman Catholic all her life .

This lady saw my bound lesson booklets in a Christian's home and asked him how she could get booklets for herself . He emailed me and asked me to put her on my monthly mailing list .

After she had been receiving them for a while she phoned me and requested that I include her nephew in India on my mailing

list. She then requested material on the book of Revelation for her nephew and herself, so I ordered two copies of **Robert Harkrider's** workbook on Revelation to send to them.

I am regularly receiving letters and emails from people all over the world, thanking me for the booklets and telling me how helpful they are as they study God's word.

I have until now made it a policy not to include these letters in my reports, but because I am restricted by the self-isolation situation from many activities that I would normally report to you about, I am desperately short of things to tell you.

So I am departing from normal procedure, and below is an earlier email from Carol Yourey and the nice email I received from her this month.

Dear Barry

Thanks so much for sending me the bound booklets on "Why the Bible was written" and "Joy in all Circumstances". It is very beneficial and uplifting to read your booklets. It is simple and easy to understand with all the relevant pictures.

It was wonderful talking to you and I am so pleased that you could help me by posting these booklets to my nephew in India as well. If you could send me and my nephew in India some booklets on "Revelations" we would be really grateful. My nephew's address in India is:

Orlando Hookens

TNT Platinum GA,
3rd Main, 2nd Cross,
Horamavu Main Road,
Banaswadi,
Bangalore 560 043,
SOUTH INDIA

Dear Barry

Thank you once again for all the booklets that you send me and my nephew Orlando on a regular basis. Your choice of words and corresponding pictures are simple and easy to understand. These booklets are very inspiring and beneficial to us.

Hope you and Jackie are keeping well especially at this time. My family are all well by the grace of God. Have a blessed, happy and holy Easter.

Love and God bless

CAROL

ANZAC DAY .

In Australia on the 25th April each year our nation stops for one minutes silence to commemorate the deaths of Australian and New Zealand soldiers at Gallipoli in the first world war . This day is called "ANZAC DAY" which stands for , "*Australian and New Zealand Army Corp*".

At dawn , moving services are conducted and veteran soldiers march through our city streets with thousands of spectators lining the route of the march . I believe that in the U . S . there is a similar commemoration called "Veterans Day " .

Because of Corona Virus self - isolating restrictions , the Government asked everyone to conduct their own private candle - lit commemorations outside their homes . Jackie and I had an article written about us in the newspaper ! Sorry about our expressions , the photographer told us to put on our mournful faces , but as you can see it did not work .

I have attached the picture and article for you to see .

This shows how desperate I am to find something to put in this report ! This piece of trivia is just another example how Jackie and I have always tried to interact with our community in whatever way we can without compromising our convictions as Christians - **1 Cor 9 : 19 - 23 .**

We are in no way "pro war", but we try to comfort people who have lost loved ones, and to display respect for our military personnel who gave their lives for our country.

PLEASE NOTE :

The following items re our church meetings are not relevant this month because of the Corona - virus self isolating laws. I will leave them in as part of this report for brethren who may not be aware of our "normal" activities.

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 5 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .

12 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .

19 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .

26 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

April 5 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .
12 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .
19 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .
26 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

April 7 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .
14 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .
21 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .
28 - Viktor conducted SKYPE session .

PLEASE NOTE :

The following items re my daily work schedule , are not relevant this month because of the Corona - virus self isolating laws . I will leave them in as part of this report for brethren who may not be aware of my "normal" activities .

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 .

Barry Hume .



PATRIOTIC AUSSIES: Jackie and Barry Hume outside their Newnham home on Anzac Day. Picture: Paul Scambler.

Grandparents show kindness in crisis

NEWNHAM resident Jackie Hume usually marks Anzac Day by attending a parade, but as was the case for all Australians, the coronavirus pandemic meant she was forced to find a new way to commemorate in 2020.

Ahead of the day, Mrs Hume baked Anzac biscuits

for her neighbours and on the day, she and her husband Barry held a candlelight vigil.

"We had the table set up by the front door with lots of candles and at 6.05am, through the phone we played *The Last Post* and had our minute's silence," Mrs Hume said.

"Most people have been touched in some way... I had an uncle who died and has never been brought back, he was from Beaconsfield."

During the morning, packets of Mrs Hume's Anzac biscuits remained on the table outside her home for neighbours who wanted them.

A lack of contact with her grandchildren was one of the hardest changes Mrs Hume said she had to adjust to on Anzac Day.

"We're shut in, normally I got to the 11am parade and for 20 years I've taken my grandchildren," she said.

— RYAN YOUNG