

# **“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”**

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

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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 **March 2021** .

## **HOSPITAL STAY ( 1 )**

This month Jackie and I drove two hours plus to our capital city (Hobart) for me to see a Rheumatic and Pain Specialist and spend Tuesday to Friday in hospital having tests re my chronic back pain .

The diagnosis was that my right hip is in bad shape , and the Specialist thinks most of my back pain is coming from my hip . He has recommended to my General Practitioner Doctor that I be referred to an Orthopedic Surgeon in order to have a hip replacement operation . I am booked to see this surgeon in the first week in June .

## **HOSPITAL STAY ( 2 )**

During the few days I was in hospital I was able to discuss New Testament Christianity with a man in the bed beside me ,

when he saw me studying the Bible and working on my laptop. He asked me what church I belonged to, and I replied, "*The original church of Christ, the one Christ established before the Roman Catholic church and all of today's human denominations and sects began*".

When he said, "*I have never heard of that one*", I discussed with him the concept of New Testament Christianity.

He was discharged from hospital the day before me and before he departed the hospital ward I gave him one of my "Welcome" packs which contains four short DVD's and leaflets re the New Testament church.

### **HOSPITAL STAY (3)**

The next day after the man above was discharged, I had a visit from the hospital's woman "chaplain" who asked me the same question, and when I gave the same reply, her answer was, "*I have never heard of that one*".

The chaplain stayed discussing New Testament Christianity with me for over an hour, and I gave her a "Welcome" pack also.

### **PREACHED AT LINDISFARNE.**

When the brethren in the Lindisfarne congregation heard I was being discharged from hospital on Friday afternoon, they suggested that instead of driving straight back to my home in Launceston, that I stay in Hobart another two nights and preach for them on the Sunday morning.

As I was already "rostered" to preach for them in two weeks time after my hospital stay, I agreed to their request and eliminated another trip to Hobart a fortnight later.

## **BOOKLETS ( 1 )**

A woman in the church in Sydney , New South Wales ( Esther Sherwood ) emailed me requesting six copies of my Lesson Booklet , *"The Bible and scientific foreknowledge"* , and four copies of , *"Is One Church as good as another"* .

I have attached her comments for your perusal .

## **BOOKLETS ( 2 )**

Gordon Johnson , a member of the church in Rockhampton , Queensland , phoned me and requested six copies of , *"In the world , but not of the world"* and six copies of , *"Do not love the world"* .

Gordon is a semi - retired farmer , and like a number of men in small congregations around Australia , he uses my lessons as "his" sermons on Sundays and / or "his" Bible classes , as well as handing out multiple copies to contacts .

## **ANDREW McKERIHAN .**

Andrew is the brother in Christ from Western Australia ( about 55 years of age ) who has been living in our "brethren's apartment" since last October . Last month I reported that Andrew placed membership at Eastside , and this month he offered to join the roster of presenting a Lord's Supper talk .

## **LETTERBOXING .**

The above mentioned Andrew McKerihan has agreed to team up with me in delivering leaflets to 400 houses per week . Surveys originating in the U . S . indicate , and have been proven to be correct by Australian congregations is that "one off" letterboxing very seldom results in positive outcomes .

These surveys show that a "different leaflet each week for at least five weeks" to the same houses" plan has much more chance of success .

I have statistics from Australian congregations who letterboxed a minimum of 30,000 houses ( five times over five weeks ) and this resulted in 50 to 90 people asking to complete the John Hurts Correspondence Course .

One church had to employ one of its men for two days each week to mark and return the segments of this course .

Andrew and I plan to letterbox 400 houses five times and then choose another 400 houses and repeat the five week process as an ongoing project with the aim of letterboxing every house in my city five times ( about 150,000 houses ) .

Jackie and I have tried to do this over the years , but our personal commitments in so many areas has prevented us from continuing it without intermittent periods of being unable to continue .

Hopefully Andrew and I can make it an integral part of our weekly duties without ceasing for any period of time .

## **GUEST SPEAKER .**

This month , David Underwood from the Eastern Shore congregation in Hobart preached for us at Eastside , and as always presented a fine lesson .

Eastern Shore is a wonderful local church and several of their men make the two hour plus drive to preach for us .

## CORONA VIRUS .

In my home state of Tasmania we have been virus free for a number of months, with everyday life back to normal. Mainland states continue to experience ebbs and flows, with small pockets of Corona - virus erupting from time to time. Whenever there are cases discovered on the mainland, our state Government closes our borders until the outbreak is eliminated.

Jackie and I are booked to have our first vaccine injection tomorrow.

## LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN MARCH .

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 .

March 7 - I preached at **Lindisfarne** .

14 - *"Calvinist's proof texts examined"* .

21 - *"Calvinist's proof texts examined"* .

28 - *"Calvinist's proof texts examined"* .

## SUNDAY SERMONS .

- March 7 - I preached at **Lindisfarne** .
- 14 - *"Choices and consequences"* .
- 21 - Guest Speaker - **David Underwood** .
- 28 - *"The assurance of salvation"* .

## MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

- March 2 - Viktor taught **Matthew 22** .
- 9 - Viktor taught **Matthew 23** .
- 16 - Viktor taught **Matthew 24** .
- 23 - Viktor taught **Matthew 25** .
- 30 - Viktor taught **Matthew 26** .

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 .