

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1st November 2021

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated . Following is my report for **October 2021** .

MY MEDICAL UPDATE .

I am almost "back to normal" , with no pain whatsoever from my hip replacement , the operation wound just aches sometimes when I turn over in bed .

My surgeon has still restricted me from bending down to put on shoes and socks . He said that , until the titanium hip has integrated itself fully into my muscles and joints etc , it can pop out of place .

Just last week a good friend of ours bent down to pick something up and her artificial hip dislocated and an ambulance took her to hospital to have it put back in .

As the hip heals , some pain has returned from my back injury ,

but the surgeon anticipates that the new hip will improve my posture, eliminating a lot of my back pain.

CATCHING UP - OFFICE WORK.

While I was in hospital and initially recuperating at home, Jackie each day would place letters and other mail, emails, and regular weekly accounts on my office desk.

When I was finally able to negotiate the thirteen steps down to my office on the ground floor of our home, the scene that was before me was like looking at a "war zone".

You could not see the top of my desk because of piles of paper items. There were emails from all over the world from brethren seeking teaching material on certain subjects, requests for certain subjects re my bound booklets, about forty emails from brethren enquiring about my welfare, and about a dozen bills to be paid.

These past two weeks I have been "chipping away" at this backlog of items, and my office is almost back to its neat and tidy self.

QUEENSLAND VISITOR.

We had a lovely surprise this month when a lady named Cindy worshipped at Eastside, it being her first time ever in Tasmania. She is a member of the **Bundaberg** church of Christ and was taught and baptised thirty years ago by a preacher named **Rolly McDowell** (he has passed away).

Cindy told us that when Rolly was alive he would always tell her, *"If you ever go to Tasmania, you must worship with Barry and Jackie"*.

She came to our home on Tuesday evening for Jackie's weekly roast dinner, then she sat in on our "midweek" Bible Class. After the class she thanked everybody for making her feel so welcome.

Cindy is a Agricultural Journalist, and came to Tasmania for five days to attend a Seminar on farm practices in my state.

BENEVOLENCE BASKETS .

It is time to begin compiling a new pair of benevolence baskets. Each Tuesday evening when brethren come to our home for dinner before the 7pm - 8 pm Bible Class, they bring items of groceries and place them in two washing baskets.

When these baskets are overflowing, Jackie covers them with colorful see-through paper, each with a card that says, "*From the members of the Eastside church" (not from the Eastside church), and we deliver them to the Principle of the school where we conduct our worship services.*

The Principle chooses two needy families in his school community and gives each family a washing basket of groceries. This program has no connection with the work of the Eastside church or the treasury of the congregation, but rather is an initiative of our individual members.

NEW WEB PAGES .

The members at Eastside instructed me to contact a professional company in my city who designs and installs web pages, and commission them to create two new web sites. This company also provides complete professional training re how to manage and maintain our sites.

When this company has created a web site for the Eastside church and a personal site for me, they will then train an Eastside member (**Andrew McKerihan**) as to how he can add to and delete from the church's site. Andrew will also be in charge of ensuring that the annual registration fees are paid.

At the same time I will be trained re how to manage and maintain my personal web page. Hopefully, with the both of us knowing how to operate these sites, they will become valuable tools in teaching God's word.

When these sites are "up and running" I will let you know how to access them.

GOSPEL MEETING .

This month we began making preparations for a Gospel Meeting in February / March 2022. **Graham Wall** (mainland preacher) has agreed to be the speaker and the Eastside church has asked Graeme to suggest themes and lesson subjects that he is comfortable teaching.

Advertising will consist of large professionally painted billboards being placed at the side of all major roads into and out of our city, daily radio advertisements, quarter page adverts on the back page of our daily newspaper, and hundreds of letterboxing leaflets.

BRAZILLIAN SISTER IN CHRIST .

Renee Alves, a lovely lady about 40 years of age, has been a member of a church of Christ in Brazil for many years. She came to Tasmania and placed membership with a wonderful congregation in our capital city Hobart (**Eastern Shore church of Christ**).

Her reason for coming to Australia on a Student Visa passport was to study English and Information Technology, but upon arriving in Tasmania she discovered the only two places where her desired courses were available were Launceston (my home city) and Melbourne (Capital of Victoria on the Australian mainland).

Renee told the Eastern Shore members, *"I cannot go to Launceston, because there is no church of Christ there, and I will not live where there is no church to support me spiritually"*.

A wonderful brother in Christ at Eastern shore who Jackie and I love dearly (**Greg McPherson**) told Renee, *"There is a church of Christ in Launceston, you need to contact Barry and Jackie Hume"*. Greg arranged for Renee to catch a bus to my city for her to spend a week with us.

Since that one week with us, Renee has placed membership at Eastside and lived in our "brethren's apartment" for six months now, and it has been an absolute delight to have her with us.

She is so dedicated to Christ, and several times she has publicly addressed the Eastside members and thanked us all for embracing her as a much loved sister in Christ. Numerous times she has said, *"I know that God wanted me to come to Launceston, I love this church, and I love you all"*.

She is now endeavoring to have her Visa extended and to obtain permanent Australian citizenship.

Being aware that our "brethren's apartment" on the ground floor of our home is intended to be for short term occupancy re the many visiting Christians to our home, Renee is now seeking her own accommodation in our city. It is only because of the Covid pandemic stopping the tide of visitors that we have been able to allow Renee to live in it for six months.

LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN OCTOBER .

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 .

- October 3 - *"Moral excellence"* (add to your faith) .
- 10 - *"Moral excellence"* (add to your faith) .
- 17 - *"Moral excellence"* (add to your faith) .
- 24 - *"Moral excellence"* (add to your faith) .
- 31 - *"Moral excellence"* (add to your faith) .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

- October 3 - *"We must be a separate people"* .
- 10 - *"We must be a separate people"* .
- 17 - *"What a blind man saw"* (Paul) .
- 24 - *"Surprised people"* .
- 31 - *"Five states of man"* .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

October 5 - Viktor taught **Luke 5 - 6 .**

12 - Viktor taught **Luke 7 - 8 .**

19 - Viktor taught **Luke 9 - 10 .**

26 - Viktor taught **Luke 11 - 12 .**

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 .