

“HUME'S HAPPENINGS”

1st February 2017

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 **January 2017** .

I am sorry it is late , I have been overwhelmed with work commitments re the Eastside church and demands on my time from other congregations , and the last week in January and the first week in February just flew by , without me having an opportunity to type this report .

PREACHED AT ULVERSTONE .

This month Jackie and I drove 90 minutes to North West Tasmania for me to preach for the Ulverstone church . We received the usual "hugs and kisses" welcome , with the members being very attentive to my sermon re "*The power of God's word*" , and my Lesson booklets were in demand , with one man asking for three copies to hand out to his contacts .

Two days later , an elderly female "long time member" of this church phoned me with the request that I mail one of these booklets to her married grand - daughter in Victoria , and also mail one to her best friend who lived in the next town along the Tasmanian coast .

Brethren , I have never personally thought these booklets to be that special , but the requests for them is so great , that I could literally

work eight hours of every day, seven days a week, doing nothing else but compiling and mailing these booklets all around the world.

NEW KENYAN CONGREGATION - BOOKLETS .

For the past few months I have been sending booklets each month to three full time preachers in three different locations in Kenya. This month I received an email from one of them, telling me he had successfully established a new congregation in yet another area of Kenya, with the first ten members being baptised the previous weekend.

He requested that I send **ten** (10) copies of every one of my booklets to this new congregation, and because I have several hundred booklet titles in stock, we are looking at thousands of booklets, though I only plan to send ten copies of one booklet to them each month.

My wife Jackie is especially excited about this request, because she thinks that if we can get sound, scriptural teaching to these people, this new church will be founded upon Biblical truth, rather than the doctrines of men, or the traditional teaching of Denominationalism.

A number of brethren around Australia rely on these booklets as their material for Bible classes and sermons. One church displays them on a table as a "tract rack" and as resource material and study aids.

My nephew (member at Eastside) is self - employed as a carpet layer and bathroom renovator, and when his clients pay their account he gives them a receipt along with one of my booklets. He is forever coming to me with, *"Uncle Barry, I have run out of booklet number such and such, can you please print me some more"*.

Because requests for these booklets continue to pour in from every state in Australia and around the world, the men at Eastside had a meeting and informed me that the church wishes to assist me with the postage costs.

UPCOMING TRIP .

This month I have spent considerable time preparing lessons and booklets for our approaching trip to **mainland Australia** and **New Zealand** . I will be away from Eastside for three consecutive Sundays and during my absence Viktor Koskovic will teach my Bible Class and Steve Schiller will preach the three sermons . My schedule while I am away involves preaching at the following churches "

APRIL 5th - **West Heidelberg** church of Christ in Melbourne .

APRIL 12th - **Wellington** church of Christ in New Zealand .

APRIL 19th - **South East** church of Christ in Melbourne .

Members of the two Melbourne churches will be expecting to get a booklet each of my sermon , but because of the difficulty of transporting booklets to New Zealand (the church there has about 100 attend on Sunday morning) I plan to take about six sample booklets to New Zealand , and if brethren want copies I can mail them when I return home to Tasmania .

There are brethren in other parts of New Zealand who have been getting my booklets each month for several years now . One family who have been receiving these booklets are members of another congregation in Wellington (I have never met them) , and the preacher of the church where I will be preaching has invited them to worship at "his" church on March 12th so that they can meet Jackie and I .

BEACH HOUSE .

For the first three weeks of January Jackie and I spent living in a house at a beach just one hour from our home (we drive back and forth to Eastside's meetings) . Every year one of Jackie's former hairdressing clients lets us use their beach house for three weeks , and we take the advantage of providing accommodation and a "meeting place" for brethren from all over Australia .

This year , Gordon Johnson and his wife from the Rockhampton church in far north Queensland stayed with us for several days , an every member at

Eastside stays several nights or visits us on day - trips . Every day is spent engaged in Bible classes or discussions about spiritual matters . When the Johnsons returned home to Queensland , Gordon phoned with a request for lesson booklets re matters we had discussed at the beach house , so I mailed them to him (he has been receiving my booklets each month for several years now) .

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 it's large external monitor , my printer , photocopier , and scanner all come to the beach with me , and I work from **5am** 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 .

To verify that I do work at the beach , I have attached two photos of some of my "office" at the beach house .

GREG McPHERSON PREACHES .

This month we were privileged to have a guest preacher from a Hobart church present the sermon for us at Eastside . Three other churches in Tasmania combine each year to conduct a "church camp" near my city , and Greg McPherson drives from Hobart to attend this camp , which begins on a Monday .

It has become a tradition for several years now for Greg and his wife to worship at Eastside the Sunday before their camp begins . Each year Greg preaches the sermon for us , and this month he did his usual fine job of teaching the Eastside members .

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 1 - *"Distinction between church and individual action"* .
- 8 - *"The importance of context"* .
- 15 - **I preached at Ulverstone .**
- 22 - *"Anti - scriptural , Scriptural , Un - scriptural"* .
- 29 - *"The New Testament pattern"* .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

- January 1 - *"The Magic seed"* .
- 8 - Guest speaker - Greg McPherson (Hobart) .
- 15 - **I preached at Ulverstone .**
- 22 - *"Turning water into wine"* .
- 29 - *"The power of God's word"* .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

January 3 - Viktor taught **Joshua 21** .
10 - Viktor taught **Joshua 22** .
17 - Viktor taught **Joshua 23** .
24 - Viktor taught **Joshua 24** .
31 - Viktor summed up book of **Joshua** .

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 .