

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1st April 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 **March 2017** . But prior to that I have included an explanation re the fiasco surrounding my report for **February 2017** .

FEBRUARY REPORT FIASCO

On the 28th February Jackie and I departed Tasmania for our three week trip to mainland Australia and New Zealand , during which I was booked to preach on all three Sundays I was away from my home congregation (Eastside) .

Prior to leaving home I transferred (so I thought) all my addresses from my Email address book onto to my new travel laptop (purchased for use on such preaching trips as this one) . As a backup I printed a copy of all my Email addresses from my home computer . My plan was to send you my February report while I was in Melbourne and prior to departing Australia for New Zealand .

When I arrived in Melbourne I discovered there were no Email addresses on my new travel laptop , and the printed list was unreadable after page one , with all the printing jammed together and words missing letters .

Thus some of you may have received a partial report for February (I typed what I did from memory) and others did not receive a report for February at all.

I sincerely apologise for the mess - up, I am not a computer expert and thought when I left home that I had all my Email addresses with me.

Having said that, my following March report is very short because I was away from home for three Sundays in March, but am very pleased that I had the opportunity to preach on each of those Sundays. I preached twice in the city of **Melbourne**, and on the third Sunday I preached for the first time ever in **New Zealand**.

BRIEF MARCH REPORT

PREACHED AT WEST HEIDELBURG (5th March).

On March 5th I preached for the West Heidelberg congregation in the city of Melbourne. About forty years ago, this church was the first one outside my home congregation that I preached for, and since that time I have preached for them at least once each year and sometimes twice.

Jackie and I received the usual welcoming hugs and kisses from these brethren, my sermon was enthusiastically received with many brethren wanting to let me know how much they appreciated it.

Many brethren requested multiple copies of my lesson (bound booklets) with one visitor approaching me with the news that she has seen my lesson booklets in the home of her friend, and that she reads them every time she visits this person's home.

She asked me to include her on my free monthly mailing list that goes to every state in Australia and to New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and India.

This congregation has a number of deaf brethren , thus an interpreter is present to do the sign language . After my sermon , the interpreter ran after me to the car park to get some booklets , and informed me that of all the guest speakers at West Heidelberg over the years , I am the one that is always easiest to "sign language" for . I think that was a compliment , but thinking about it later , I am not sure .

PREACHED AT WELLINGTON - NEW ZEALAND (12th March) .

For the first time ever I was invited to preach in Wellington , New Zealand , some of the members having heard of me , but Jackie and I had only ever met the preacher for this church when he stayed in our home and worshipped with us during an overland trek he walked in Tasmania .

As it turned out , this preacher was suddenly called away to the U.S . the week before our arrival in Wellington , due to a family illness , so I arrived to preach to a congregation of total strangers .

We had a lovely visit with them , my sermon was enthusiastically received with lots of nice compliments after . Because of travel restrictions I only took six sample lesson booklets with me to New Zealand , one of them being the sermon I preached .

After the worship , while we were talking to the brethren , somebody photocopied about fifty copies of my sermon and handed them out to every member of that church .

As brethren looked at the other sample booklets on display , I received requests from people wanting to be added to the monthly mailing list . The requests for these booklets are such that I could quit preaching and easily devote eight hours of each day to typing , photocopying , stapling , binding , and mailing these booklets around the world .

PREACHED AT SOUTH EAST .

South East is a congregation in the city of Melbourne , I preach there

once or twice each year. We always receive a warm welcome from the brethren and my lesson booklets are always in demand. They also have some deaf members with an interpreter, and after worship Jackie and I had lunch with the brethren.

UPDATED PHOTOS .

Because I was away from home for nearly four weeks of March and there is not much to report re my work in Tasmania, I have attached some latest photos of Jackie and myself. I figured they might be useful to those churches who keep a photo record of preachers they support.

LETTERBOXING CAMPAIGN .

Upon returning home from mainland Australia and New Zealand, Jackie and I had a discussion with the husband and wife who recently joined Eastside from another church in our city of Launceston.

The four of us have agreed to meet together each Saturday morning and distribute leaflets to four hundred houses. Our strategy is to deliver five different leaflets to these homes, one each week to these same homes over a five week period, the fifth leaflet being an invitation to complete the John Hurtz correspondence course.

After five weeks we will move on to a different four hundred houses and repeat the five leaflet system, then to another four hundred houses etc.

Our goal is to letterbox every home in our city of 140,000 people.

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 5 - Preached at **West Heidelberg** (Victoria) .
12 - Preached at **Wellington** (New Zealand) .
19 - Preached at **South East** (Victoria) .
26 - *"Local church membership"* .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

March 5 - Preached at **West Heidelberg** (Victoria) .
12 - Preached at **Wellington** (New Zealand) .
19 - Preached at **South East** (Victoria) .
26 - *"Local church membership"* .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

March 7 - Viktor taught **Judges 14 - 15** .
14 - Viktor taught **Judges 16 - 17** .
21 - Viktor taught **Judges 18 - 19** .
28 - Viktor taught **Judges 20 - 21** .

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 .