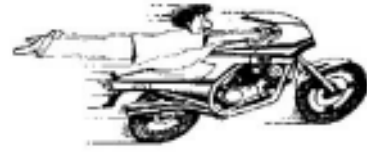


WHAT'S ON?



3rd March: Southern Cross Assoc Barry Sheene Memorial Ride Start 9am sharp Fernvale Park, Fernvale. Approx 350 Klm's through Bunya Mountains, a good ride!! Free Camping at finish at Kingsthorpe Hotel Contact Hoppy 0428766684 for Catering purposes.

11th March: Social ride through the Brisbane valley hinterland, stopping for coffee along the way and lunch at a cafe or counter meal at a pub. Taking in Mt Nebo, Samford, Mt Mee, Caboolture and home. **Depart Roscoe's at 10am. Counter Lunch at Samford.**

17th March 2007: Bush Ministry Poker Run Departs Goodna McDonalds 9am, ride to Plainlands Pub, Drayton Pub, Nobby Pub, then finish at Allora Showgrounds. Cost: \$25 1st Prize Set of new tyres - Merchandise for sale. Raffle: \$10 per ticket for Tailor made leather vest Free camping at the showgrounds with \$10 breakfast catered on Sunday morning. Proceeds to aid drought affected families of the outback. **I am Going - Leave Roscoe's at 7.30am Contact: Rev John Pattison 0427 148 068**

24-25th March: CMA Halfway meet Maryborough check with Roscoe for more details if wanted.

30 March, 1st April: Ulysses Valley Rally at Woodford show grounds \$15 entry includes badge, this is a great Rally.

5th to 8th April: Back to Bathurst races, an annual event now occurs in remembrance of the old Bathurst bike races from the 80's Roscoe has more info if you want it. Heaps of HQ Racing and bike racing.

14th April Willowbank Stall: CMA are manning a stall at the willowbank races, if anyone is interested in going and helping out contact Roscoe.

The Long Ride: A "Long Ride" From all over Australia has been organised for April 2007 \$50 entry goes to the Flying Doctor Service and the ride ends at Darwin, Bikers are hoping to raise \$1000 per rider through fund raising activities along the way, Anyone can join in at any point, I am hoping to join in at Brisbane to Roma or maybe Charleville leg, check out their web site at <http://www.freewebs.com/longride2007> Even if you would like to just donate \$50 all donations are tax deductible... Contact Roscoe, or check out their web site!



Navy Blue with Red and White Flames

BIKERS 4 CHRIST

CHRISTIAN MOTORCYCLISTS FELLOWSHIP

Po Box 120 ~ Kingston ~ QLD ~ 4114

Ephesians 4:1-6 One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism

Editor ~ Roscoe Crouch 0412 490 115 ~ b4christ@bikers4christ.org

GOODNEWS LETTER

Freely you have received, freely give Matthew 10:8

www.bikers4christ.org March 2007

FIVE CHANGES THAT COULD REVOLUTIONISE THE CHURCH

by Eric Swanson advisor to CitiReach International

For some, it may be a small prophetic cloud on the horizon, for others, it is the Holy Spirit's quiet working: all around the world, Christians are beginning to wonder whether God didn't really mean Church to be completely different from how we know it. It's no longer about success, size, seeker sensitivity, gifts of the Spirit or the number of small groups. It's about making a significant and sustainable difference in the lives of people around us - in our communities and in our cities.

There is an attitude change sweeping through the Church, headed up by leaders who feel at home in changing times and a changing Church. Here are just five points of significant change that are emerging in the Church across the world.

1. BUILD BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

If Christians are 'the salt of the Earth', how do we see ourselves as a church? Are we standing outside society, inviting people to 'come to us', or are we willing to leave our isolation, entering our communities and transforming them? Robert Lewis, pastor of the Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, was content with his 'successful, growing mega-church' until he realised how little influence it had on the city. He asked the mayor how the church could help the community. The answer was a list of challenges facing the city. The church then faced the question of what they could do "that would cause people to marvel and say, 'God is at work in a wonderful way for no one could do these things unless God were with them!'"? And so it came to be that over 100 churches and 5,000 volunteers help their communities in the Little Rock area in very practical ways. The relationship of Christians to the city has been revolutionised.

2. EMPHASIS IMPACT, NOT ATTENDANCE

Two helpful questions are "would the city cry, if your church ceased to exist?" and "would anyone notice if you moved away?" Today, it is deeds, not words, which are the greatest testimony to the reality of Jesus Christ. Effective Christian ministry has always been holistic, connecting good works with the Good News.

Tillie Burgin, for example, founded 'Mission Arlington' to reach people in her city who were not going to church, to be "a church which goes to the people, not the other way around." Today, Mission Arlington is a movement of around 250 house churches totalling around 4,000 people, who help some 10,000 people every week, changing their lives in some practical way. "The question is no longer 'how large is your church?' but 'how much impact do you have in your region?'"

3. ENCOURAGE SERVICE, NOT ATTENDING THE SERVICE

God appointed ministries to 'equip the saints to works of ministry' (Eph. 4:11), not to 'bring the saints to the Sunday service'. Ministry is often misunderstood as being something purely church-oriented. The opportunities to minister are often limited to leading Sunday School, a Bible study group, singing in the choir or membership in a church committee. It is not surprising that pastors complain that only 20% of the members are active. Maybe the opportunities inside the church are simply too limited! We need to communicate and implement 'every-member ministry', the message that every Christian is an ambassador of Christ and has a ministry of some form, whether inside or outside the Church, perhaps to the region's poor and needy, perhaps in some other form.

4. FROM "SERVE US" TO "SERVICE" - FROM INWARD TO OUTWARD FOCUS

"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give..." (Mark 10:45) When the Communists took over Russia in 1917, Lenin did not ban the Church, but forbade it to do any good works. Central elements of Christian ministry such as feeding the hungry, teaching and caring for the sick and orphaned were taboo for the Church. Seventy years later, the Church was completely irrelevant. Today, without Lenin, many churches still do exactly that, concentrating only on preaching, with identical results. Take service out of the church, and it becomes irrelevant and weak.

Mary Francis Boley, leader of women's ministry in the First Baptist Church in Peachtree City, Georgia, called on women in the church to keep their eyes open for women in the community who nobody else was reaching: cashiers, hairdressers, single mothers, homeless women, strippers and prostitutes. Her aim is to 'save the women of Atlanta' - starting with the women in the church, because "people cannot become mature Christians without giving themselves in service to others!"

Steve Sjogren of the Vineyard Community Church of Cincinnati has engraved the words "small things done with great love will change the world" in stone above the entrance to the church.

5. PARTNERSHIP INSTEAD OF DUPLICATED SOCIAL MINISTRY

Almost every city or community has social services and morally positive and spiritually neutral groups which are doing their best to care for the needy, such as giving shelter to the homeless and providing safe houses for abused women. There are also church and para-church ministries concentrating on particular groups such as students, youth or businesspeople. Instead of starting duplicate ministries, why not help existing ministries and services, saving resources and creating synergy?

In Boulder the group Big Brothers Big Sisters of America has a list of two hundred youths waiting for an elder mentor. That is a great opportunity for Christians to become partners. How about listing not only the Bible Study times, but also twenty or more partner ministries in the church newsletter? Many social service agencies need exactly that which churches generally have: willing volunteers, financial support and meeting places. That way, partnerships form around shared care and love for the city or region instead of theology, and Christians have more opportunity to 'love their neighbour' through existing organisations. That way, we all very quickly become the letter 'known and read by everyone' (2. Cor. 3:2)"

Source: Australian Prayer Network

What's Been Happening?

Well, I have returned to work after 2 years of sitting around bored silly. I am working with Sharon on the School bus so a bit of my time has really been disadvantaged as I need to be home morning and afternoon. But it is good to have an income again! I joined up with Dave Woolf on a BUACA (Bikers Against Child Abuse) ride where they took a heap of kids for a ride down to Cunungra and back, it was a great day with about 40 bikes (mostly Harleys) and the weather was humid and drizzling but the kids loved it!

I have heard that Tina up in Hervey Bay is totally run off her feet with her Prison work, kids and study. Wayne in Mackay has been ringing or emailing on a regular basis, he is doing well up there, tripping around on his new MT01 Yamaha, he has a great relationship up there with many clubs and enjoys visiting them on a regular basis. Keith up in Cairns has moved South to Innisfail and has a collection of bikes now, old Honda fours as well as his CX 500. Jungle down in Sydney has become good mates with the USA Bikers for Christ and found a home with them as they ride harleys, although Jungles Harley is a 42 model WLA..... please keep Jungle in your prayers for family issues he has.

There have been a few spare of the moment rides again this past month which have been good, some are utilising the list to ring or visit each other, I would like to encourage this more, even if you just drop in for a coffee for 30 mins can make someones day! I have heard a rumour that Rod and Deb are returning around June some time for good!!?? Gee, the time fly's, hope they had fun anyway. Sadly, I have had a couple of phone calls from some really good friends in Southern Cross Assoc leaving town and heading North, what is it with these people it is too hot up there, Grunt and Wendy were the last couple to migrate north, it was great to get a goodbye telephone call from them.

I have bought myself a trailer to tow behind the GTR, hopefully it will help me stay upright? Financially Bikers 4 Christ were able to help out a few people last month which was great, it has been a while since we have been able to help anyone. This was from some of you sending in extra money with your subscriptions, thank you, it was appreciated and helped a couple of people, one in particular who has been very ill over the last few months. Don't forget to keep Viv from the Z Owners in your prayers as he fights with Cancer, I have visited him and he is very positive and doing OK. Don't forget the rides on the back page, I will attend a lot of them, if you are interested in going ring me, we can go together.

Steve on the Gold Coast has been busy as ever with the Salvo's, we were planning on a stall for the 2007 Bike Week, but I have received a "maybe not" reply from the organisers, I have yet to hear from them again. Otherwise, Motorcycle Riders Spectacular is also on in September on the Gold Coast and we have been given an open invitation by them to set up something for free for the weekend, if anyone is interested in helping out, contact me. **We need a small marquee, can anyone help??**

**You only get out of something...
what you put into it!**

New Biker 4 Christ and First Rider for Victoria:

Giddy mate, thanks for sponsoring me, I appreciate it. Many years ago, I was down town parked outside the only pizza shop in town, friday night humming with the buzz of humanity communing when out walks a tall blonde leather clad young lady, she asks me to join her and her friends, well was I going to turn her down, no way. So began my journey with the lord, Viv and her mates were born again peoples and whats more they rode bikes, must have been my lucky day as I grew to trust them and began the learning curve in the ways of God.

As the pastor laid hands upon me I could feel the strength and love of the Holy Spirit moving me, I still remember the peace I felt to this very day. I was reborn to join in Christ's community. Many roads have I travelled since that day, I have been bogged down a number of times, slipped into ruts and have known despair as if its my closest friend, but always there was the reaching hand of God, all he asked was for me to lift my hands a little higher. I did and he did as promised, praise God.

I'm always searching for the Lords people, to fellowship, to trust, to care for, and I believe that God will reveal them to me when the time is ripe, meanwhile the road keeps going on and I travel it happily. Bless you Roscoe, I believe I've found a friend, sincerely, John

Welcome John, ride for Jesus mate and enjoy that nice cool weather down there at Nhill, by the way anyone know how to pronounce that?? (Roscoe)

Also: Ron Stiles from Mullumbimby in NSW has joined us welcome mate! I think that is down there near Byron Bay somewhere, we will have to get down your way this year mate for a BBQ. Let us know Ron of any rides or Rallies in your area or events that you think we could help out in. Nothing like a decent ride to Byron!!

Don't forget everyone, you are all welcome to submit something the Lord has shown you or your testimony to the Newsletter. I am always looking for things from others as it makes it easier on me, and people won't get tired of my dribble all the time! Bless ya's John and Ron!!

Bikers 4 Christ Bank Account

Heritage Building Society BSB: 638080 – Account: 00 9012338
Name of - Bikers 4 Christ

Bikers 4 Christ Finances

Incoming

Donations \$95
Subscriptions \$30

Starting Balance: \$605.07

Outgoing

Postage and Stationary \$32
Help a brother pay Bill \$173.52
Tank of fuel for Brother \$17.56
Help an ill Bro multi trips to Hospital \$50

Final Balance: \$456.99

STOP PRESS!!!!

I now have our new Bikers 4 Christ caps available for \$20. See the picture of Levi on the back page with it on, colour is Navy Blue with Red and White Flames. A Very nice looking cap and it is adjustable to fit all, it even fits my egg shaped head! T'Shirts also available, for the month of March only \$20 which is below cost, we have an over abundance of them and they are taking up my sons wardrobe so get one now. Childrens sizes also available.

Roscoe - 3388 3980.

Tech Tips Revisited:

Got a flat? If you are touring it is a good idea to always carry a can of ssshhhhh or Finileak. Purchased at Super Cheap for a round \$20. If you are around town, you can place all your weight to the opposite end of the bike and ride very slowly to the nearest garage and get a can (although this may cause tyre or wheel damage if travelled too far). Don't leave the product in the tyre, head ASAP to a bike shop and have it cleaned out and repaired as the product also places your wheel out of balance. Don't feel up to any of that then you can ring Gary's motorcycle towing on 0412 738 473. I have used him and he is reasonably priced and careful too, also have him pick up your bike if you come unstuck in an accident, he is much better than your normal tow truck operator believe me.



Blown a fuse in the middle of nowhere without a spare? Take a walk and find some silver paper, inside of cigarette packet or anything similar to alfoil, wrap it round the old fuse and replace, this is only very temporary (find nearest garage and replace), check the temperature of the fuses and wiring with motor running that surrounding wires do not become hot as this may cause burn out, if you have no silver paper, utilize another fuse maybe from indicators or break light, if your main fuse is blown it is the only 30 amp fuse and you will need silver paper, you may try a smaller fuse but I don't like your chances. Best idea is to check your bike today that you do have a couple of spare fuses in your fuse box, you can always use a larger amp fuse but be careful doing this and check that the wiring does not become extremely hot and start a fire as it may have been caused by a "short circuit". You can try using smaller ones it may just blow straight away. Ensure that you always replace the blown fuse shortly afterward with the correct size if you have made use of a different fuse.

New bikes these days don't have the oblong fuses much any more, they have a rectangular twin pin fuse, if one of these blow, again, you can use foil, wrapped round the pin back along the fuse and across to the other side and down the pin again. But always check that the wiring is NOT becoming hot! If it does, call the towing mob!

A New Commandment?

How often do we here or think or maybe even talk about the Ten Commandments? They have made movies of it, plays, some churches use it as their number one doctrine as well. Who knows them? Ok, no cheating here, I am going to try and remember them but they won't be in order lets see how I go; Love God, no Idols, no lying, no covetousness, no stealing, no adultery, no murder, honour ya mum and dad..... I think, ok, lets open a bible and get them and see how I done! Problem! I forgot where they are, anyone know?? Ok, it only took me half an hour to find the original writing of the commandments, check it all out in **Exodus Ch20**. Here they are lets see how I done..... Do not worship any other gods; No idols; don't take God's name in vain; Remember the Sabbath; honour ya mum and dad; Don't murder, Don't steal, no Adultery; don't lie; don't covet. Oh well, I didn't do too bad I suppose!! Now read **Mark 12v30-31**.

When Jesus came he said to the disciples I give to you a NEW COMMANDMENT! **Joh 13:34**. Now why did Jesus do this? Truthfully, I got no idea! But, let's look at it, go and read **John 13v33-35** and have a little think about it. There are many arguments out there of people saying the Old Commandments were done away with, and you could probably find fifty thousand different opinions of it all. Personally I don't believe the old was done away with but rather as Jesus said, he fulfilled it, Jesus was the only one who lived and **NEVER** broke the commandments, and he made it easier for us so we wouldn't get all legalistic by giving us only 2 Commandments, 2 New Ones! Oh and of course we can't forget God's Grace too!

1. Love God 2. Love ya neighbour. Mark 12v30-31; Luke 10v27; Matt 22v37; Mark 12v30 all make mention of it. Now if you do these two, it is impossible to break any of the other Ten! Think about it, "don't lie", if you were to Lie, would you be loving your neighbour or God - No! If you were to "murder".....the same, "steal"..... The same....."worship an idol or a false god", you break one of the two you break one of the ten as well. So if we follow the two, we also obey the ten by doing so, this even includes the Sabbath, God said set aside one day for me, personally I reckon he should have said set aside every day for me! If we Love God in this way, we obey the Sabbath too. Now don't get all legalistic on me and say but it should have been the Saturday.... Quite frankly it WASN'T! The culture of the time was for the Sabbath was from Sunset Friday to Sunset Saturday, so those who argue, what are they doing in Winter at about 4.30pm or 5pm, still at work, they are working on the Sabbath too. Enough of that anyway, I don't want to start an argument here.

Ok, I want to take a look at the word "*Love*" here in the New Commandment from **John 13v34**. I just learned something new, this particular word Love is rarely used in it's Greek form, it is both a verb and a noun at the same time. I have just spent the last hour studying this word and **noone** has a clear explanation for it, they are all assuming its meaning, noone can comprehend this particular word, they guess but they also tell you they are guessing, this particular word is also used in **Lev 19v18; Deut 6v5; John 3v16; Rom 5v8; John 14v21; 1Thess 3v12; 1Cor 16v14 (charity); 2Pet 1v7 (charity) and 1John 4v8**. The best way any scholar can define this one word is God's Characteristics. Have a read of the above verses and have a good think about them, sit and think about people you do know, people you see every day at work maybe, even the ones you don't know, God's Love, this Love we are talking about, goes out of its way to help all. Not just our brothers, or people we know, the old lady trying to walk home on a hot day with the groceries, someone on the side of the road with a flat tyre.

Love, that God has given us **MUST** be working in us, here is a summary..... Where you see a need, meet it! If you don't see someone with a need, go and look for someone with one! Automatically people think of financial help..... Wrong, very wrong! Like I said before help that little old lady across the street, pick up that dummy from the ground that was dropped as the mum tried to hold her baby and get something from a shop shelf, get that item for her. I always check if a lady is by herself when she is broken down on the road, if so I stop and help, guess what. I should also be stopping for that bloke too that is by himself, maybe he hasn't got a mobile and just broke down. How many times do we see people walking to the emergency phone on the freeway when they have broken down, we think poor bloke, stinking hot day to be walking, hope he gets his car going! We just missed the "love" of God!

"For God so **LOVED** us"..... The way we Love God back, is to share his Love with others, tell them about how He loved us, how he loves them. There are a lot of people out there who are just looking to fill a hole in their life and that hole is a love shaped hole, but only the love of God will fill it. To what extent do we love you may ask? OK, look at God, to what extent did he Love? He gave all he had, himself, he gave his only son, he gave his life up for you and for me, to what extent do we "love" others? Love is not a matter of getting along, or being walked all over, agreeing on doctrine, it is a matter of our attitude.

Yes, there are people out there even Christian brothers that will take advantage of you and I, but there is also a scripture for them too..... **Mat5v44; Luke 6v28**. We don't have to be a door mat! There are many who would try to take advantage of us being a Christian, - pray for them, don't be spitefully used. If we want to fulfil the ten commandments or if you like the two commandments, **we must love!** Our attitude has to change, I will have nothing to do with anyone who causes strife, or gossips, or tries to take people for a ride or just plain dumb uses them for what they got, but, I will pray for them that God will change their heart. I will not associate with people who call themselves a Christian but blatantly live a different life to what they should and they know it too, there is scripture to cover that **2Thess 3v6; 1Cor5v11**.

Think about Jesus, who did he eat with and sit with, tax collectors and sinners! So don't put them in the same category, don't say you can't hang around sinners, they are the ones we are to love and show the love of God and share God's love with, they don't know any better! Recently I went to a rally by myself as a last minute spare of the moment idea. I didn't really intend on camping over but a Ulysses member grabbed me and asked me to camp with them, there was about 5 or 6 of them camped together, a nice spot, so I camped. I had the best time I have ever had at a rally in years and I was not even upset that there was no Gymkhana, usually I love that part of the rally. I camped for 2 nights with them and we all had the best time and conversation, I didn't think it was possible to camp with "Sinners" and have a good time.

Each night I also got to share God with them and from now on, I will be hanging out with "sinners", so watch out for the gossip going around. I think sometimes, we tend to try and separate ourselves from the world in the wrong way, Jesus said we are part of it, but not to partake in it.... We think that it means go and set up "our" group, our church, our bible study and all hang out together and stay away from "sinners", they might rub off on us. Shouldn't we rub off on them? The funny thing was, the guys I camped with tried to tone down their language, I just laughed and said to them, hey I am a biker, it don't bother me mate, they treated me really well all weekend, and at the end of the weekend, the comment was "come camp with us at the next rally, we like you". I doubt it was me they liked, it was God in me.. Loving them!