

## Staff Update

*Delighted to announce Sally Mitchell is joining the team here at Wongabri, as our new Hostess (domestic manager) in mid February.*



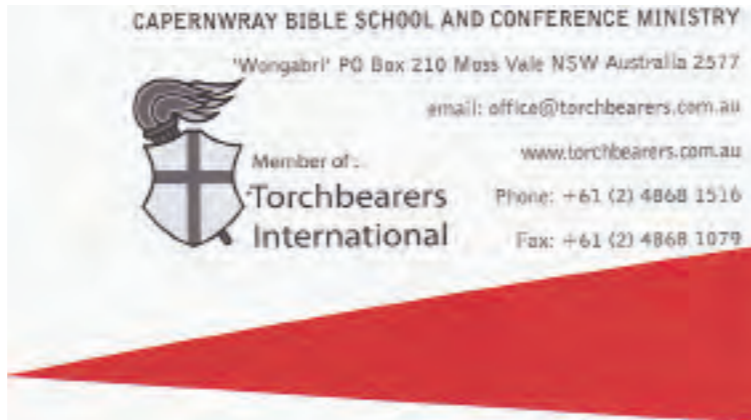
It has been a joy to spend time sharing our journeys as we have been obedient to the Lord Jesus. We first met Sally when Thelma and I were at Bowral Baptist and I was the Pastor. Sally was a student at Capernwray in 2001-2002, with her daughter Rebecca aged 12 who then returned as a student in 2007.

Sally comes to us from Barrabool Hills Baptist Church, Geelong where she worked in the role of pastoral care worker and for the past 3 years as Church Office Secretary. She comes with the qualifications of Dip of Community Services (welfare studies).

Sally enjoys getting out into the country side with her car Flora to God's beautiful creation. She enjoys her dog Amos, her feathered friends the chickens and watching her precious daughter Rebecca, grow into a Godly woman, but above all not ashamed to call Jesus, Saviour, She has a passion to watch others come to the same realization. Sally enjoys being creative, whether that is knitting, baking, taking photos, painting and little tea parties... or simply just thinking about it.....

Rebecca is currently undertaking her Masters in Agricultural Science at Melbourne Uni, and has been thriving on being Vice Pres of The Christian Union at Melbourne Uni, on the worship team at her Church and being involved in youth group.

So be praying for Sally as she settles into her new role and for the team too, as we continue to adjust in all our new roles. All praise to the LORD for the team He is building at Wongabri.



## Prayer and Praise....

### PRAISE THE LORD

- For the very fine group of students for the 1st semester 2011.
- For the way the new staff are settling into their new responsibilities.
- For the latest team members;
- For the many volunteers involved here at the Centre.
- For the blessing of finances coming in for the property upgrade.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

- The new group of students, in their studies, SN@C, their ministries in the churches.
- The last semester students; as they have returned home to family, friends, and churches as new people in Christ.
- A clear vision for the future of the Ministry here in Australia.
- The team; that everyday Christ will be first in our lives.
- For the financial viability of the Centre, as we upgrade the facilities on the property.
- For Prac Week as we go to Toowoomba.. May 9th-13th to be involved in various ministries with children, youth, adults and seniors.

## Upcoming Events.....

- \* **Creation Science Conference April 1st -3rd** Details will be announced shortly. This will be a great chance to challenge your heart and mind.
- \* **Charles Price Conference Fri 1st - Sun 3rd April 2011** The event will be at St Peters Lutheran College Indooroopilly, Brisbane. All are welcome and this will be a free event. Please look at the inside page for details or go to the website [www.ctq.co](http://www.ctq.co)
- \* **Womens Refresh 2011 Sept 23-25th** Speaker to be announced soon. This will be a great opportunity for a refreshing weekend in the Word and with other women.
- \* **Summer Refresh 2012 Dec 31st - 7th Jan.** Mark it in your diary. More details later.

## Why send your son or daughter to Capernwray?

*"I have personally been on all sides of the Torchbearer Bible Schools.*

*Firstly as a student my life was irrevocably impacted by a year at Capernwray Bible School. Secondly, as a teacher and Principal of the School in England, I have seen countless student's lives changed and set on a firm foundation for life. Thirdly, as a parent I have seen our three children attend, on their own initiative, the year-long school at Capernwray Harbour on Thetis Island to their immense benefit and enrichment. I can think of no better investment of time or resources than a year at one of the Torchbearer Bible Schools".*

**Charles Price**  
Pastor, Peoples Church, Author

ISSUE

05 Feb 2011



# CAPERS

## principal's perspective



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## Summer Refresh 2011 Report

*Refresh 2011 was an exciting week of renewing friendships, making new ones, listening to inspiring Bible teaching, singing our hearts out, enjoying great food, visiting the local area and as the name of the Conference seeks to do 'being refreshed in every way'.*

Ken Legg was the Main Speaker and he took 10 sessions on 'The New Covenant'. Through his clear exposition of passages and themes he explained how different we are knowing that we now live under grace, not the law. Ken also shared many stories applying the truth to practical Christian living.

Many responded in discussion wanting answers to questions and appreciating his clear delivery style. Haldane Rowan, our National Director, took two sessions on 'The Will of God.' Not what anyone was expecting, Haldane emphasised that we are first and primarily called to Christ. It is on the basis of this relationship, which should affect all our thoughts and behaviour, that we each

know God's will for our lives. I shared on 'Christ in Hebrews', part of a series which I teach at the Bible School. It was amazing (though it shouldn't have been) to see how the teaching of all three of us blended in, when none of us had spoken before-hand and we did not know what the other two were speaking on. The week was a return to Wongabri for those who are making Refresh the conference to start their year, as well there were a number who were 'first-timers'.

Apart from the teaching sessions (all of which are available on CD, MP3 and DVD), our guests enjoyed visiting the local craft shops, a visit to Shellharbour beach, playing games late into the night and enjoying the beautiful property on which the Bible School is situated. If you have not yet been to one of our Refresh Conferences, make it your aim to come soon. Women's Refresh is Sept. 23 – 25 and Summer Refresh will be on in the first week of 2012. Happy New Year to you and may you know the presence and blessings of the Lord in a special way this year.

*Neil Bernard*



## Toowoomba

## Queensland Floods

As I flew into the Brisbane Airport at 6:30pm (Queensland Time) on the 8th January 2011 after a week in Moss Vale, NSW attending Capernwray Summer Refresh 2011, I had no idea that within 48 hours I would be staring in stunned disbelief at the devastation left behind by what was termed an 'Inland Tsunami'.

For me, the day started out like any other work day. It was my first day back after 2 weeks of holidays and I always find the first day the hardest as I slip back into what I call 'My Work Routine'. It had been raining for most of Sunday and it was still raining as I dashed from my car and into work. The rain continued to be relentless throughout the day and around 2:30pm, we noticed some funny things happening. My place of work is located on the corner of Little and Victoria Streets. Victoria Street is a one way street running South to North and just behind it on the Western side, runs one of Toowoomba's two major creeks/waterways. Busy with work I didn't suspect that anything until one of my co-workers came rushing into my room at 2:30pm exclaiming "Look at that strange person driving down the street the wrong way. Can't they read?" And as we watched from my office window more and more people began to follow suit. Going outside we discovered the reason why. The Victoria and Margaret Street intersection was under water, and the water was creeping steadily towards us. There was chaos everywhere. People were driving crazily as they tried to avoid the water and the creek/waterway behind Victoria Street could be seen as it rushed by on its way. That's when the thoughts started to occur - "Are my family ok? Are my friends ok? Is my house ok? Will I be able to get home?" These thoughts were then followed by a phone call from my mum who was worried about me and my 3 sisters.

I managed to leave work around 3:45pm and I was able to get home using my usual route. The water had receded as quickly as it had risen but I didn't know the full extent of the damage until I saw the news that night. Once I got home I spent my time making sure all my friends and family were ok and that my house was ok. God was very good to me - all my loved ones were safe. My mum and maternal grandmother spent the night at my sister's place and my two remaining sisters spent the night at my place because none of them could get home to Meringandan and Goombungee due to swollen creeks. My dad was cut off from us at Meringandan, but he was ok and that's all that mattered.

Watching the drama unfold on the news that night was sobering. I would have never expected anything like this to happen in Toowoomba and down the range. It just didn't seem possible. Was it all a dream? Unfortunately it wasn't - it was all too real. And made all the more real by the text messages and phones call that started coming. I

was overwhelmed by the realisation of just how many people cared for me and my family, and just how many people were praying.

We made it safely through the night and Tuesday saw us just coping with all that had happened. My mum, grandmother and one sister were able to make it safely home to Meringandan, but my sister who lived at Goombungee stayed another night with me and finally made it home on Wednesday.

I returned to work on Wednesday and spent the first couple of hours preparing signage etc, for a proposed evacuation centre. After that it was business as usual for the rest of the week, but it was extremely hard to concentrate. On Friday I had the task of helping to arrange the volunteers' paperwork that had been flooding into the Disaster Management Branch. It was one of the most encouraging tasks I've done in a long time. There were approximately 800 people from different towns/cities, that were willing to donate food, clothing, accommodation, labour, materials, etc to help out Toowoomba, Murphy's Creek and any other flooded areas within the Toowoomba Region. I was amazed at people's compassion and willingness to serve others. It was really inspiring.

Clean-up has well and truly commenced in Toowoomba and the surrounding areas and the creeks/waterways have returned to their normal size. Many people are pitching in where ever they can to sweep out mud, toss out furniture and help rebuild. Slowly, over time, the community will return to normal, but there are so many who's lives will not. The first victims of the flood were laid to rest on Wednesday and more will soon follow. My heart goes out to those who lost homes, livelihoods and family/friends. It must be so devastating.

I am so blessed, for my family and friends came through the disaster pretty much unaffected. It is hard not to feel a little guilty at times because I still have everything and others have lost it all, but I do know that God has a plan and that He will use this disaster for His glory. Sometimes in life we have to endure nature's storms and other times we have to endure character storms. But whatever storms we go through, if we allow God to use them, they will shape us to be more like Him. It's just hard to thank Him for the storms when we're in them.

As I bring this narrative to a close, I just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to the many people who've been praying for me, my family and the people in the flood-affected areas all the way down the eastern coast of Australia. Each and every prayer brings comfort and gives strength to those who need it to press on.

Before I go, I just want to leave you with two sayings by Barbara Johnson that are stuck on my office wall, above my desk. "Out of our heartache comes something beautiful that God has used, is using, or will use." "In the darkest pit of despair, when God gives us the light to take only one step at a time, His message to us is still simply: Trust Me." *Emma*

Capernwray Torchbearers Queensland invites you to...

# Charles Price 2011 Conference



**International Guest Speaker:**  
**Charles Price (UK/Canada)**

**Fri 01 - Sun 03 April 2011**

**@ St Peters Lutheran College Indooroopilly, Brisbane**

**Entry is FREE! All welcome!**

Capernwray Torchbearers Queensland is delighted to announce that everyone's favourite English/Canadian communicator is returning to Brisbane for 3 days in April 2011.

Charles Price has been the Senior Pastor of The Peoples Church in Toronto, Ontario, Canada since September 2001, with a congregation of 4000+ people.



**GAP Jump**

Capernwray, GAP Jumping for 40 Years!

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Website: www.torchbearers.com.au

NEXT GAP JUMP: JAN 29TH-DEC 9TH 2011

HAVE YOU BEEN ASKING THE QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE?

SCHOOL LEAVERS FACE MORE CHALLENGES TODAY THAN EVER BEFORE...



### Director's report and Devotion....

We have just had a wonderful 'Refresh' Conference with every bed slept in. Even had to move the guest speaker, Ken Legg, to the house I live in!!!! It was a real joy to have

confirmed this past week that this is the place where God wants Capernwray Torchbearers to have as its centre for the ministry in Australia.

We have received a further gift of \$30 000 for the work: \$15 000 for general expenses and the balance for the building programme. Also a wonderful offer from a guest during Refresh Conference to assess all the furniture on the property.

On Thursday, January 6, I took a group of about 30 people for an hour's walk around the property and shared with them all the facilities we need to build for the future

ministry and for which we have verbal agreement with the Local Authorities. Sharing the vision for the future and seeing their response was a real joy.

This is going to be a year with many surprises and challenges but a year of celebration as we see lives come to a vibrant robust faith in a Living Christ.

Would you pray for students for the Bible School; we need to double the number of students. When was the last time you recommended the School? Having been involved in Torchbearing for over 40 years, and now here a year, I say with confidence, this is one of the best Schools anywhere.

Have a wonderful year and spread the word about what God is doing!

*Haldane*

## THE WILL OF GOD Part A

**How many books have been written on the subject? How many people have struggled with knowing God's will in their spiritual journey? COUNTLESS on both questions!! What is God's will for each of us?**

The BIBLE is very clear and gives a simple answer. The Apostle Paul, writing to Titus, in ch 2, reminds him to be sound in his doctrine and then we have this wonderful gem in v14. "...Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works."

**WOW!!!!!! WHAT LIFE CHANGING TRUTH!!**

(A verse in 1 Samuel ch 16, that we will consider in the next newsletter, illustrates this same truth.)

**Titus 2:14 "Who gave Himself for us..."** What a wonderful generous God that HE Himself came in the person of Christ for the ultimate reason - to die on a Roman cross. Jesus foretold this time in John 10 v11 and vs 14-15 and vs17-18.

"...to REDEEM us..." having paid IN FULL, the total price to free us from the 'old life': no longer slaves to that defeated life.

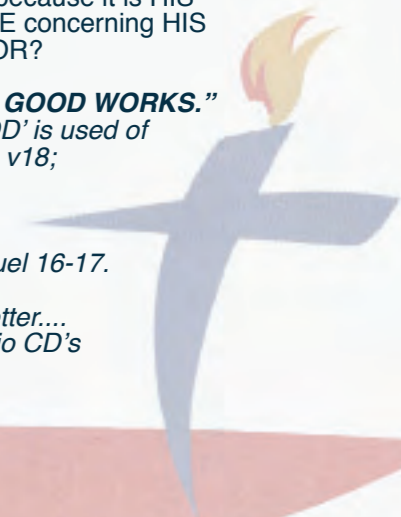
"...from all lawlessness..." In some translations, the word used is 'iniquity' (wilfulness of the MIND, THE OLD LIFE!!!)

**WHAT IS GOD'S PURPOSE?** "...to PURIFY for HIMSELF a people..." What a delightful place to be !!!!

"...for HIS own POSSESSION..." THAT is GOD'S WILL. God does not call us to missions! Call us to the pastorate! Call us to serve!!! His priority is CALLING us to HIMSELF, and from that place HE will take us, because it is HIS PREROGATIVE to INITIATE concerning HIS POSSESSIONS. WHAT FOR?

"...who are ZEALOUS for GOOD WORKS." In the Bible the word 'GOOD' is used of GOD'S ACTIVITY. Luke 18 v18; Acts 10 v38. In the next newsletter we will see what this kind of 'lifestyle' looks like. 1 Samuel 16-17.

Part two in the next newsletter... or ring for the Refresh Audio CD's



Emma Finlayson