

Australia District News



Edition 33/2 - Winter 2018

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From the Desk of District

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With Easter and the Pentecost celebrations for 2018 now part of the past, we look forward to many events that are before us. Already during the month of April, District Apostle Helper Peter Schulte had his first introduction to some of the countries that will be added to the responsibilities of our district later this year. The visit gave him the opportunity to get to know the ministers and members in the congregations. The transfer of full responsibility for the work of God in these countries will certainly be a historic event in our district. The visit of our Chief Apostle to Brisbane on 30 September this year will bring further changes. As has already been advised, I will enter retirement and District Apostle Helper Schulte will be appointed District Apostle for the Australia District.

On Sunday 1 July the Service for the Departed will again take place in all New Apostolic congregations throughout the world. This provides us with an opportunity to offer an invitation to our "neighbour" to attend our local congregation and to further his or her understanding of life and God's offer of salvation. The understanding of so-called "life after death" is a much sought-after matter

by many people from all walks of life irrespective of many other considerations and circumstances that they may have. Please do not waste the opportunity to invite others to this occasion.

In the Pentecost service our Chief Apostle conducted in Washington DC, USA he referred to the guarantee of God's grace and love that all children of God have. This guarantee is valid for as long as the individual soul remains in a close and active relationship with God. My great concern as a parent, a grandparent, a child of God and as a responsible minister is that the younger generations of today understand this guarantee and value it. Such understanding is not brought about by giving enticements and creating pleasant environments for them but rather by providing good examples and visible direction to guide and support them through the challenges of life. It is obvious that each individual has to navigate their own way through life and take responsibility for their own decisions but no-one has to do this by themselves; guidance and strength is always available for every child of God from the Holy Spirit.



Apostle Andersen

On another note, the Australia District News has now been published, in various formats, for over 40 years. In the early years, bundles of photos with captions describing various activities within our district were sent to each household to circulate information. Later the publication of the magazine "from the desk of....." became the medium through which we learned of and recorded events within our district. The Australia District News then evolved into its current format in the later years still bringing news and events to us in the form of a printed magazine. Recently the English version of the international New Apostolic magazine Our Family was discontinued and was replaced by the printed magazine Community. Additionally, electronic media platforms (nac, today, nacnews etc) have been added to the availability of New Apostolic information from around the world. Huge advances in technology and its availability to individuals have been made in recent years. Smart phones and a myriad of other devices are now in common use and these support a distribution network far faster and far more economical than any former means made available. In turn, postal systems have become very expensive and

much slower than in previous times. For these reasons it has been decided that beginning with the December 2018 edition, the Australia District News will be published online only and will not be printed in a paper version. The same will apply to the Community magazine. These publications are already available online and since this was done, the majority of readers avail themselves of the electronic version rather than the printed version as the latter has a far more restricted circulation due to difficulties in distribution. We must "keep up with the times". I ask for your understanding and support in this and trust that you will continue to enjoy the information these publications provide.

I wish you a blessed season of joy.

With loving greetings,

Andrew H. Andersen

Youth Convention Reunion: Easter 2018

50 years ago District Apostle Gerke, after discussions with District Apostle Kraus of Canada, made plans to commence youth conventions in Australia. The first one was held in 1968 over the Easter long weekend in Brisbane. This was followed by a second convention in Melbourne in January 1969.

Youth from Australia and New Zealand were invited to the first youth convention and made plans to travel to Brisbane for this inaugural event. One group of youth travelled from the north Queensland congregations of Wallaville, Riverleigh, Bundaberg and Maryborough on a hired coach driven by one of the local ministers. Many also travelled by car, train or aeroplane from Sydney and Melbourne.

To commemorate this wonderful milestone District Apostle Andersen, together with the Australian Apostles, then put the plan in place for a reunion weekend. All past and present youth were invited to this special event, which commenced on Good Friday with an outdoor welcome dinner, giving everyone the opportunity to catch up, reminisce and share their experiences and memories from youth conventions past. The dinner had an Italian theme and was provided by the local members and, like the loaves and the fishes, there was plenty for everyone.

Saturday provided another opportunity for fellowship and included a rehearsal and sing-a-long for all that wanted to sing and play for the Easter service.





The members were invited to return in the evening for dinner and a historic slide show which was well received and brought up many happy memories. District Apostle Andersen was interviewed by two youth and he spoke of his role models and his experiences at youth conventions, both as a youth member and as a minister. With the closing prayer the scene was set for the Easter Sunday service.

On Sunday morning the Easter service commenced with the music program and then District Apostle Andersen took his place and the divine service began. He was accompanied by District Apostle Helper Schulte and Apostles Lodewick and Williams. The service was also streamed to all of our remote and special circumstance members so that they too were involved in the event. At the conclusion of the service, Apostle Williams made mention of the fact that District Apostle Andersen had been in the Apostle ministry for 30 years, 17 of those as District Apostle.

After lunch there was an open invitation to perform in the Youth Convention Reunion Concert. There were performances from both past and current youth. Every performance was well received and applauded, and from the many comments it was evident that the concert was enjoyed by all.

The weekend concluded with comments from District Apostle Andersen and District Apostle Helper Schulte, and after the closing prayer it was time to once again say goodbye.





Moveathon 2018

On Saturday 17 March, many congregations around Australia participated in a national day of fundraising for the NACare charity. In what has become known as the "Moveathon", members walked, ran, climbed and cycled their way towards their goal, all while enjoying some fun and fellowship together. Here is a selection of photos from the day.



NSW



Victoria



South Australia



NSW



Victoria



Gladstone, Qld



Victoria



Buranda, Qld



Redcliffe, Qld



Windsor, Qld

Confirmation Camp in NZ



On Friday 16th March confirmands gathered at the Auckland Ferry Terminal, excited and full of energy for their weekend camp ahead.

On arrival at Waiheke Island they had the opportunity to settle in at their accommodation, Punga Lodge. After some down time, everyone walked to the beach for dinner and an evening swim. This was followed by a short meeting with District Elder Graf about the weekend ahead and more time spent talking well into the night and getting to know each other.

On Saturday the confirmands enjoyed a morning swim or run, followed by a hearty breakfast at the bowling club. The group then headed to the Saturday markets and enjoyed perusing the art gallery and stores in town. After enjoying lunch and another swim, District Elder Graf surprised everyone by arriving with his boat and biscuit. Everyone had an opportunity to enjoy trailing off the back of the boat, especially when Kairo and Matthew fell off. The afternoon activities were followed by dinner and a discussion with a fellow youth who answered questions and put their anxieties at ease about joining the youth.

On Sunday everyone celebrated divine service, officiated by District Elder Graf, and assisted by District Evangelist Van Wyngaard and Priest Hendricks. It was overwhelming to see some members from North Shore Congregation and parents joining for the divine service and forming a choir and orchestra. This divine service was historic and reported as the first New Apostolic service held on Waiheke Island.

After service everyone enjoyed a fellowship lunch and a final opportunity to spend time together. Soon the activities of the weekend drew to a close and everyone parted ways with memories that would last them a lifetime.



Canberra Youth Convention

It was with a lot of excitement that the youth of New South Wales gathered at the Leumeah church. After a few moments of joy spent greeting each other, the youth jumped on board the mini bus for the 5 hour drive to Canberra. There was a lot of singing and playing of games on the trip.

On our arrival in Canberra, we met up with District Apostle Andersen and District Elder Kohler at Lake Burley Griffin. They had already started cooking the BBQ lunch, which was consumed by the youth with great delight. After lunch the youth played some exciting games

which required a lot of skill and energy. This made everyone extremely hot. Some of the young brothers decided to go for a swim in the lake, which cooled them down.

In the evening there was a choir practice followed by dinner at our Canberra church. After dinner the youth spent time with the District Apostle, asking him many questions. His answers really opened the eyes of our youth. They learned so many wonderful things from the District Apostle, much of which we did not previously know. It was an awesome evening together.

After breakfast on Sunday morning we returned to our church in Canberra for a divine service. The youth formed part of the choir and added to the congregation. What a beautiful moment together in divine fellowship.

After lunch it was time to say our goodbyes. On the journey home, there was a buzz in the bus. The young people were overjoyed by their experience. A lot of wonderful memories were made over the weekend and the youth are looking forward to the next opportunity to be together.





Albury Youth Camp

It was an early start for the youth who travelled from all parts of Victoria to get to Albury.

Upon arrival, the youth were greeted with a BBQ lunch and a surprise birthday celebration. The youth then participated in group activities, followed by a lively youth meeting. They then settled into their accommodation to enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, swimming and an enjoyable interactive bible study.

On Sunday the youth joined the Albury congregation for a divine service, which was conducted by District Evangelist Volkwyn. This was followed by lunch and a competitive game of ten pin bowling.

After saying their farewells, the youth then headed home with lots of smiles, joy and great memories to carry them over until the next youth camp.







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Around the Congregations:

1. Youth from Kingston (Qld) enjoyed an outing
2. Bishop Yasi with teachers and students in Nondugul (PNG)
3. District Apostle Helper Schulte spent time with the Sunday School children in Ascot Park (SA)
4. Members from Gladstone (Qld) congregation hold a regular community craft morning
5. Mother's Day in Kingston (Qld)
6. District Elder Kohler conducted a lesson for the confirmands in Sydney (NSW)
7. Kingston (Qld) had a congregational dinner
8. Howick (NZ) congregation Sunday School recorder ensemble
9. The newly formed congregation in Banz (PNG)
10. District Evangelist Thorne cooks the BBQ at a Sunday School teachers seminar
11. Mother's Day in Gosford (NSW)
12. Sunday School outing to the Cleland Wildlife Park in Adelaide (SA)
13. Leumeah (NSW) congregation had a morning tea to raise funds for NACare
14. Mother's Day in Seven Hills (NSW)
15. Mother's Day in Gladstone (Qld)
16. District Apostle Helper Schulte conducted a divine service in Beckenham (WA)
17. An outing to Bulli Beach for NSW high school students
18. Mother's Day in Croydon (Vic)
19. Auckland (NZ) youth had a day at the beach
20. Easter in Hallam (Vic)
21. Mother's Day in Hallam (Vic)
22. Apostle Hungito visited the Kabwum district in Morobe Province (PNG)
23. Croydon (Vic) congregation had morning tea after the divine service on Anzac Day
24. Apostle Wasimbai visited congregations in Kavieng (PNG)



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19



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Celebrations:

1. Holy Baptism of Grier Schaefer-Godfrey in Ascot Park (SA)
2. Sis Celeste & Br Craig Jones received wedding blessings in Hallam (Vic)
3. Sis Jannie & Ev Graham MacKrill received Ruby wedding blessings in Redcliffe (Qld)
4. Holy Baptism of 19 members in Kunabau (PNG)
5. Sis Shirly Nieuwoudt of Toowoomba (Qld) celebrated her 80th birthday
6. Baptism of Miller Hall, Ashmore (Qld)
7. Sis Jenny Heynes celebrated her 75th birthday in Hallam (Vic)
8. Holy Sealing of Olivia Murray in Ascot Park (SA)
9. Adoption of Sis Jelena Borota in New Lynn (NZ)
10. Holy Sealing in Perth (WA)
11. Holy Baptism of Emilia O'Connor in Windsor (Qld)
12. Sis Rose & Br Lionel Hildebrandt of Kingston (Qld) received Golden wedding blessings
13. Sis Debbie & Dcn Scott Andrews received Silver wedding blessings in Redcliffe (Qld)
14. Sis Avril & Br Chadwick Groenewald of New Lynn (NZ) received Silver wedding blessings
15. Sis Simonette Wallace & Br Simon Glatz received engagement blessings in North Ipswich (Qld)
16. Holy Baptism of Tyler Bagus in Beckenham (WA)
17. Sis Isle Kreinbihl of Rockingham (WA) celebrated her 97th birthday
18. Holy Sealing of Charlotte Gray in New Plymouth (NZ)

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For your Information

Chief Apostle Schneider's schedule:

Jul 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018
1: Detmold, Germany	12: Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania	16: Merlebach, France
8: Moscow, Russia	19: Riga, Latvia	30: Brisbane, Australia
22: Kisangani, DR Congo		
29: Kinshasa, DR Congo		

District Apostle Andersen's schedule:

Jul 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018
1: Redcliffe, Qld	5: Auckland, NZ	2: Caloundra, Qld
8: Hackham West, SA	12: Kingston, Qld	9: Hallam, Vic
15: Papua New Guinea	19: Townsville, Qld	16: Redcliffe, Qld
22: Ashmore, Qld	26: Christchurch, NZ	23: Hong Kong
29: Samoa / AM Samoa		30: Brisbane, Australia

Upcoming Events:

Jul 2018	Aug 2018	Sept 2018
1: Service for Departed		2: Father's Day
6-8: NACYAC		18: Chief Apostle Schneider's birthday
		21: International Day of Prayer for Peace
		30: Chief Apostle Service - Brisbane

In Memoriam:

Br Ivan Prygoda of Riverleigh (Qld)	† 10/3/18
Br William (Billy) Nagel of Silkstone (Qld)	† 22/3/18
Br Reginald Thompson of Hope Valley (SA)	† 24/3/18
Sis Yvonne (Peggy) Schulte of Bundaberg (Qld)	† 6/4/18
Pr (ir) Heinz Lechnitz of Geelong (Vic)	† 14/4/18
DE Jiona Bale of Natalau (Fiji)	† 18/4/18
Br Frank Krause of Newcastle (NSW)	† 29/4/18
Sis Marianne Zurek of Albury (NSW)	† 24/5/18
Dcn (ir) George Broadhurst of Coffs Harbour (NSW)	† 30/5/18

Ordinations / Retirements:

Name	Ordination Commission	Ministry	Congregation
DEv Stephen Stellenberg	Commission	Rector	Beckenham, WA
Pr Brian Hearn	Commission	Rector	Maidstone, Vic
Dcn Deon Marcus	Confirmation	Priest	Geraldton, WA
Ev Ronald Schmal	Commission	Rector	Hackham West, SA
DEv Ralph Gosewinkel	Commission	Rector	Hope Valley, SA
Pr Michael Williams	Confirmation	Priest	Invercargill, NZ
Pr Allan Smith	Commission	Rector	Hamilton, NZ
Dcn Fabian Hendricks	Ordination	Priest	Henderson, NZ
Pr Stephen Solomons	Commission	Rector	Howick, NZ
Br Adriaan Adonis	Ordination	Deacon	Orewa, NZ
Br Michael Harris	Ordination	Deacon	Drury, NZ
Pr Albert Backhouse	Commission	Rector	Taupo / Hastings, NZ
Pr William Schubach	Confirmation	Priest	New Lynn, NZ
Pr Stephen Berney	Commission	Rector	Hallam, Vic
DEv Craig Bosshart	Commission	Rector	Cairns, Qld
Dcn Monre De Wet	Confirmation	Deacon	Christchurch, NZ



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