

TERRITORY MATTERS

11th August 2009



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In May, St Mark's Anglican Church Harbord in Sydney generously donated 300 Colin Buchanan DVDs for kids in the Northern Territory. This is an update on the distribution of those DVDs.



The Colin Buchanan DVDs were specially made for Sydney Anglican's Connect '09 mission. They feature Colin and puppet 'Nudge' telling the story of God's good news in Jesus. The DVDs are

Bruce with Mandy at Numbulwar

being distributed by Mark Dickens through the Northern Territory Council of Churches (NTCC), and assisting scripture in schools through the Council for Christian Education in Schools. Glen Simpkins is the director of Scripture Union Northern Territory (SUNT). We have asked Glen to consider how he might use and distribute the DVDs. The Flying BibleMan, Phil Zamagias, is currently flying across the Top End distributing the DVDs in remote places like Groote Eylandt, Elcho Island and Nhulunbhu.

Roper Highway Indigenous Communities

In June, I visited Groote Eylandt, Numbulwar, Ngukurr, Urapunga, Kelyuwi, and Minyerri with Steve Etherington. We were able to distribute the DVDs to indigenous church leaders and families. On a number of occasions Steve was able to share his story of coming to know Christ whilst at St Mark's Harbord.

Please pray particularly for indigenous leaders working with children in these communities.

- Mandy in Numbulwar
- Hannah in Urapunga
- Milly in Umbakumba (Groote Eylandt)
- Marlene in Ngukurr
- Michael & Julie in Minyerri



Outside Ngukurr Church with DVDs

God's Story for the Outback

A major focus of Bible Society NT and The Flying BibleMan is the distribution of 'God's Story for the Outback' (GSFTO) throughout outback Australia in 2009. So far, more than 5,000 packs are in use in three languages. 'God's Story for the Outback' is a collection of Bible stories in a colouring-in book format. Also included



Bruce giving DVDs to Michael & Julie at Minyerri

in the pack is a specially recorded CD of Colin Buchanan songs tracing the message of the Bible. We were also fortunate to have Colin perform in Darwin and then in Ngukurr for their 100th anniversary celebrations in August 2008. Phil is excited to be able to follow up the great reception of the GSFTO packs with the Colin DVDs.

For more information on Phil's ministry and GSFTO packs please visit:

<http://www.flyingbibleman.com/>

<http://www.bible.com.au/outback/gsindex.html>

Wherever we have distributed the DVDs we have let people know a church in Sydney was keen for them to hear about the Good News about Jesus. Everyone has been extremely grateful and we pray the DVD will be shown over and over again as it has been with my own kids so that people will understand our deepest need of forgiveness from sin and the wonderful rescue plan God has put in place through the life, death and resurrection of his only Son Jesus Christ.

As we pray for Connect '09 and your mission to your own community please pray for the continued work in the Northern Territory. Pray for:

- Glen Simpkins and SU as they co-ordinate chaplaincy in schools and try to increase the number of chaplains in the NT.
- Phil Zamagias and continued distribution of GSFTO
- We will have access to more primary schools for Religious Education and teachers for all classes.
- We will be able to have some sort of Christian input in NT high schools.
- Mark Dickens as the NTCC meets with the NT government – that they may have a unified Christian voice. Bruce Chapman as he seeks to encourage the training and development of youth ministry throughout the NT.



Steve giving DVD to Hannah at Urapunga