## **A.I.C.F.** Newsletter

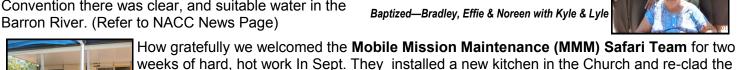
Aboriginal & Islander
Christian Fellowship
Churches of Christ in Queensland

December, 2013

## Normanton: Exciting Happenings:

Lyle Morris (state coordinator) has had several trips to N'ton. He had 9 funerals in the region in 9 weeks. These are sad and hard times for the families but when 300+ people gather it is an opportunity with listening people to share the 'words of Life' from God.

In Aug-Sept he had a 6 weeks stay. This was a time of real joy and blessing. So many people called in to the Centre to 'talk' of the deep things on their heart. During that time 3 Christians with very different life journeys asked for baptism. (Problem— after much searching no place could be found because of drought, crocodiles and that Effie George being in her mid 80's needed a safe place! God had the answer! At the venue for Northern Aboriginal Christian Convention there was clear, and suitable water in the



son and enjoy better facilities for the Kids Programmes. One of the MMM group was a gifted 'magician' who used this to connect with people and very skillfully bring God's Word and challenge. He shared in the meetings and did many small group informal sessions in be-

building and built a deck on the Sunday School House. Now we can welcome a big wet sea-

tween his work jobs. Young and old were intrigued and sure had much to think about. Remember God doesn't do tricks!

As the days cooled (from 38degrees! The **music** fellas came down each evening for 'jam' sessions. The town was blessed by their singing and music. It good to hear the guys **singing their own songs of their experience with God.** 

**Many requested Bibles**. Many of the group now attending have not a knowledge or experience of God's Word! The supply of the 'Good News Bible' (especially with large print)

has been depleted. There is a real searching to know the truth. Do pray with the people for a pastor/ shepherd to walk with this mob who want to follow God's way..



## Mareeba:

<u>The Northern Aboriginal Christian Convention</u> was hosted by Mareeba 25-29<sup>th</sup> September at the Cotton Family's Farm on the Barron River. Much hard work but the blessing was great! 250 attended (Read NACC News page)

Vincent Mathieson and Jack Brumby continue their Studies in Theology at Wontulp College based in Cairns. The women are establishing a women's group.

Mareeba has also committed to (and made several visits) to assist in the preparation of the **Townsville**Ministry Centre. There has been lots of hard work and we see the pleasing results. (see Townsville News)



**Morning Devotions** 

Gladstone to Mareeba – For over 10 years this 'sister church 'relationship has given fellowship, caring, assistance and nurturing.



**Logan City:** The recent high light has been the annual Logan Country Gospel Weekend. People came from all over to enjoy the fellowship, singing and sharing their experiences of their Christian walk. A kids programme kept them happy. Aboriginal speakers spoke for their God and from His Word through out the weekend.

In December Logan Centre will host the 12th group of grade 8 students from the Vanuatu Child Care Centre for an Educational/Vocational Exposure Tour. What a busy week!

Mt Isa, Lake Nash N.T. There is a great movement of the Spirit of God among the Ampilatwatja people of the N.T. Time

is showing the real impact of this spiritual awakening. Read about the Jackie Mahoney in the Northern Aboriginal Christian Convention News page. Many still request Bibles and Bible Studies. Hazel Lauridsen (Mobile Christian Bookshop) is focusing on this ministry prior to the 'wet season' when hopefully this year a 'big wet' will close roads for many weeks. In Nov-Dec she with small groups of the Christian Bookshop) is focusing on this ministry prior to the 'wet season' when hopefully this year a 'big wet' will close roads for many weeks. In Nov-Dec she with small groups of the Christian Bookshop) is focusing on this ministry prior to the 'wet season' when hopefully this year a 'big wet' will close roads for many weeks. In Nov-Dec she with small groups of the Christian Bookshop) is focusing on this ministry prior to the 'wet season' when hopefully this year a 'big wet' will close roads for many weeks. In Nov-Dec she with small groups of the Christian Bookshop is focusing on this ministry prior to the 'wet season' when hopefully this year a 'big wet' will close roads for many weeks. In Nov-Dec she with small groups of the Christian Bookshop is focusing the control of the Christian Bookshop is focusing the christian Bookshop is f

tians have travelled to Lake Nash, Amplutwitj (10 hours drive into the N.T. from Mt Isa), and down to Boulia and Djarra many hours south from Mt. Isa. How good to sit 'any time' with a family group in their yard and talk, question, discuss & learn God's message to us in His Word.

After the NACC the group of 35 from Lake Nash travelled to 'Hazel's Country', met her family, her home church, and saw the mountains, sea, rain forests, sugar cane, farms and city life! In all of the travelling God protection and provision was claimed - with a few amazing stories to tell!! (e.g. unknown to Hazel a second smaller bus travelled the whole trip with no spare - but a believing prayer that God would get them there and back! And He did!)



Lake Nash Convention group.

Hazel Lauridsen comment "The Bible Dramas produced by Lake Nash Christians are having an amazing impact, with more invitations to 'come our way' This ministry has not only had a real impact on the audiences and people being saved, but interestingly those organizing and taking part are growing in the Lord. Getting such an in-depth knowledge of God's Word is having an in-depth impact on the presenters and writers - real growth in faith & commitment" "(PS Sorry, no chance of a N/L before 2014)"

We've also had requests for more used clothing and curtains. Thanks everyone for the supplies received. 37 boxes just dispatched.

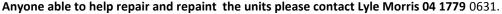


## Eidsvold: Memories!

Here we are (Hazel & Lyle Morris) singing our Sunday School songs some 45 years later with the 'kids' from Eidsvold!! (Many now grandparents) Guess what! They knew all the words of so many songs! The message of God's word is also stored in those memories too! We praise God for those whose lives have been impacted by the Word of God. Pray that they will all *remember God's Word* and find LIFE)

Lyle has had a few visits for funerals and assistance to the Kids programme. Some maintenance projects have been completed—more to finish.

In Oct. Toowoomba North Church made another of their hands-on support visits to Eidsvold and left their mark! We could never list the investment this church has made to the Eidsvold Christian Centre and to this community since 1969! Again many needed maintenance projects were done but a white ant invasion stopped a major project on the Emergency accommodation units. Now treated the damage has yet to be repaired so the units can be use again. Thank you Toowoomba.





**Townsville:** Vincent Mathieson (Mareeba) and Lyle Morris (Brisbane) were able to attend the official opening of the Churches of Christ complex at Townsville. Changes are happening. George Radford (Christian builder from Mareeba) came with his workers and removed walls and did renovations to create a good sized meeting area. How we appreciate George's help. This has now been painted. What a difference. The cleaning and upgrading of the building and grounds had allowed some use of the property. However, all is on hold for the Emergency Accommodation for remote medical patients/families as a re-classification has to be approved by Council and Authorities. this may take some time.



An Islander Group are using the facility for Sunday Morning. Another group has asked to meet there .



Aboriginal elder, Uncle Alfred Smallwood uses the facility weekdays for a Men's Group. For years he has been supporting men who have 'lost their way' in their life journey. His own journey, the re-claiming of his life to now walk with pride and dignity, gives him a place of honoured respect with the men. His positive likeable character, wisdom & desire to spend time, with guys & give them a place to come for support, learning, art, expression & company.



Mark Naden "His Tools" NSW. (see enclosed NewsSheet) Cross Flow Ministries: Kyle Slabb NACC speaker see P1.

Kevin Slabb has been studying & lecturing at Wontulp Christian Leaders Training College in Cairns. He has Just graduated in Drug and Alcohol Counselling. Congratulations!