

### Christmas 2013



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(Love it if you could put words in <u>Word doc</u>, and photos just as <u>jpegs</u> – thanks.

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Well 2013 has all but disappeared - not sure where most of it went but it must have been a good year if we all made it out the other side! At this time of year much of the focus, naturally, is on Christmas and the message of hope that springs from Christ Himself. What a remarkable difference the birth of a solitary figure has had on this world! A gift too glorious to define, a hope beyond all hopes, our Saviour. I have noticed that a couple of the major department stores this year are focussing more on the giving message of Christmas than the fulfilment of selfish desires and greed. Sure they are not spreading that message for the same reason as you & I, but it does give you a good conversation starter that is easy to steer!

When I look back at the year and CMA events I am heartened by several events and occurrences.

- Taree and Nowra Fellowship Weekends both went extremely well with good turn outs and great fellowship. Thanks again to the organisers, helpers and attendees for making it so! Also the Prayer Service onboard HMAS Melbourne gave us a chance to witness like never before.
- Australian Logo and Banners well no one can complain about visibility anymore! We have our badges that somehow grew between what I specified to the maker and delivery, but what the heck be bold and stick a big cross in people's faces so they know who and what you are! The banners arrived and have flown at several events and there are still some of the mini ones left if you want one for yourself (see Kimbo or I).
- Cooperation and ownership of CMA. Yep I saved the best til last. Something has occurred this year with more people stepping forward and saying CMA is mine and I can do this for you, I can help here, call me if you need this done and people asking for CMA to pray for them. With NSW hosting the National Run in less than a year we need all the help we can get to make it a great occasion for our visitors from interstate and overseas (USA, NZ, Peru).

One of the areas that has continued to plague us though is the selection of merchandise. Thankfully Glenn Hartley stepped up to the plate and is working with a supplier to develop a few samples that will be on display at the AGM in March. Glenn & Cheryl have gone one step further than most would however, and as an interim solution have commissioned 100 t-shirts in blue with the new logo on the front right chest area and Psalm45:4 printed on the back - the Hartley's are donating these to CMA members and it has been suggested that if you want one that a small contribution (gift) to CMA would be appreciated - Glenn suggested a fiver. We are yet to work out how we will distribute these - either through events or area coordinators.

Did I mention AGM somewhere there - and you are saying when is that.... The AGM will be on the first weekend in March until such time as ... well let's say for the next 10 or so years for starters! Molong Baptist have agreed to let us use their facility again and we will be kicking off the teachings and events by lunchtime on Sat 1<sup>st</sup> March 2014 (hopefully people won't be as chronologically challenged as last year).

Now before I get into some more in-depth stuff don't forget that memberships need to be renewed on the 1<sup>st</sup> January – you can do this via our website using PayPal / credit card, by bank transfer, cheque or postal order. Please don't make me send Kimbo after you – it won't be pretty.

This year I undertook a Cert IV in Pastoral Care (Chaplaincy) - throughout the course of the studies I found that my first client was myself. Working through the texts, responding to assignments caused me to look inwardly, so that I could look outward. Sometimes what I saw did not impress me,

other times I marvelled at where I had got to despite my past, in me I could see the issues and problems that others have faced and I realised that God formed me and shaped my life for a purpose. No I am not saying I was born to be a Chaplain - rather that God has allowed me to experience things that I could survive and use those experiences to help others, God has shielded me from issues that I do not cope well with, He has saved me from certain disaster. My God - Your God is awesome!

More and more I find that Christians and popular media are not mixing well - I have had friends at church and another pastor down south embarrassed as they fell for stories from satirical news-sites and reposted them on face book, I have seen Christian friendships broken or soured because emails and the like do not convey emotion and words are misconstrued, and even I got suckered in turning my back on Pastor Rick Warren because I fell for the stories that he supported the view that God & Allah were one and the same. So why am I telling you all of this? As Christians we have a responsibility to focus on the truth, not to go off half-cocked or relying on rumour and innuendo *(Exodus 23:1 - You must not pass along false rumours)*. We are responsible to God to reflect the truth, we are responsible to our fellow Christians to not bring them into disrepute and we are responsible to ourselves to be all that we can be and not let ourselves be ridiculed - if Joe Public is laughing at you how effectively can you minister or witness?

So what should you do? Matthew 6:33 has the ultimate answer -seek first his kingdom and his righteousness.... That's right - pray before you type, pray before you speak - seek God first and the wisdom that comes from Him, then if you have not received direction (I usually get told to delete that post / rewrite that email) go and validate the facts and then respond (planned action based on wisdom) not react (unplanned action based on emotion).

## Matt 6:33 But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right)

Well Christmas and 2014 are just that bit closer since I started typing so I want to wish you and you families a happy, holy, blessed Christmas and I, for one, am excited at what lays in store for CMA NSW in 2014 - there is a buzz in the air, a sense of urgency and an expectation of growth.

Bless each and every one of you

Doddles

Chairman CMA NSW

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## PS: Yes it is true I dropped my bike at the nationals depositing my beloved Wendy into a ditch full of water....

For more thoughts, views and writings make sure you visit our website and read the online blog <u>http://cmaaus.org/nsw/chairmans-chat/</u>

Proverbs 3:5-6: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight'

Are you trusting Him today? Or perhaps relying on your abilities, your knowledge, your ideas, 'I did it my way'? Are you acknowledging Him in all parts of your life? Are you looking for the Lord's direction, or trusting in your own? Are your paths straight? Or perhaps a little crooked? Maybe it is time to do some adjusting? Time for a service? Maybe re-balancing? Stop doing it on your own!



## 2013 has been and gone.....

## BUT....a BIG whopping BUT....

### 2014 National is on in NSW

### <u> Yep – we are hosting‼</u>

Put it in the diary now

Living on the Edge National Run October 30- November 1

And Doddles has negotiated with the Moto GP people, and they have scheduled the Australian Moto GP on the weekend before our meeting, so that people can do the trip and incorporate both events – great for overseas visitors, interstate folks in particular.

Moto GP dates are 24-26 October, so Doddles suggests a leisurely ride to Sydney up the coast or through the mountains 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October (Make your own arrangements), and arrive at Stanwell Tops on October 30!!

Well done Doddles.





Jesus said, If your eyes cause you to sin., PLUCK EM OUT!, but I say to you, ir you are driving, pull over before you commence PLUCKING! Mt 5:29, Mt 18:9

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



You can check your walker, wheelchair, cane, bifocals, prescription meds, and/or bulk container of slim-fast, at the Pearly Gates, because Heaven is NOT,... HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE! Rev 21:4

## Are things not going well and life is a trial?

Remember these four facts;

1. God brought me here. It is by His will that I am in this place. In that fact I will rest.

2. He will keep me here in His love and give me grace to behave as His child.

3. He will make the trial a blessing, teaching me the lessons He intends for me to learn and working in me the grace He means to bestow.

4. In His good time, He can bring me out again. How and when, He knows.

So let me say I am here.

Andrew Murray

## Kimbo meets Jesus Christ

Hello, my name is Richard and I'd like to share with you how I became a Christian.

I've always been a loner, a self-supporting man, I relied on no one but myself for the things I needed. I needed no help from anyone. I certainly didn't need this thing called God, which I always felt was a state of mind, *not* a being.

During 1995 my life hit it's lowest point. Marriage problems, fatigue, physical illness and business worries saw me in depression for the next 4 - 5 years. Suicide, and murdering the man who stole my wife was constantly on my mind as the only way out.

However I did find my way up out of that black hole and with the walls I built up around me no-one could touch me and hurt me ever again. I was safe inside my walls.

After I had lived alone for about five years I met this strange yet wonderful woman who decided that I could be trusted, she said I made her feel secure & safe. I *tried* to tell her I was an axe murderer. She wouldn't listen. Somehow she loosened a few bricks in my wall.

I learned to care for her a lot; after all, she thought I was pretty good so how could I not think she was at least *smart*.

One day she asked me to come to church with her, she went every Sunday and needed some help doing something or other. So being the loving fool that I am I went. I've been on the morning tea roster ever since. (she seemed to have made a small hole in my wall now!)

The people at the little church for some strange reason also seemed to like me, I still don't understand why, and they started to pray for me.

This was very dangerous, there was a bigger hole appearing in my wall ! I needed to do something about this ! I needed more bricks.

Now I have to admit that I always felt God was lurking around the corner someplace and I would occasionally think about Him, but then I'd think no ! he couldn't be real as it just doesn't make logical sense ! Unfortunately for me ( the OLD me ) I could sense Him banging on my wall, banging rather hard and my wall was in danger !!

What if He made a big hole in my wall ! what if He could get in ! what if others could get in !!?? I was in real trouble now ! .....and yet, maybe I could let Him in, just Him, and we could chat, then I could tell him He was not needed but we could be friends, and I'd send him on his way.

Yes, .....OK...., that's what I'll do !! ..... then I can patch my wall up again.

Mind you, as some here can testify I didn't open that hole in the wall straight away, oh no, not until I asked a million questions and argued for hours. I wanted to see his ID card. And I even checked that to see if it was a fraud. I wanted to know if He was for real!

In 2001 I was asked if I would like to go to a Cursillo weekend.

I had no idea what that was and again like a blind fool I said OK ! After all my wall was nice and secure again so it couldn't hurt me.

As I was driving to the camp I suddenly realised that I was about to spend a weekend in a room with a lot of old men talking about God !!

What had I let myself in for ?

By lunch time on the second day I was having a lot of trouble, I just could not get into it, I felt like a pork chop in a synagogue, I didn't fit in.

I called one of the spiritual advisers and we had a talk, he pointed out that most of the other guys there were in the same position as me. I was free to go home if I wanted, and I really did want to. I wanted to shut the door and hide behind my wall so no-one could get in !

After about ten seconds of thought I decided, what the heck ! why not try it? My life could not get worse than when I was in depression and I had survived that!

So I closed my eyes, gritted my teeth, took a huge deep breath, my heart was pounding and I made that HUGE big kick and kicked the door off my wall !! and asked Jesus to come into my life.

You know it's very funny now, as I look back, how scary it all seemed to me if I was to open my door or push my wall down. Not just scary ! but a petrifying fear of the unknown !! it's almost like you are saying " here's my life, take it !! kill me", or at least, "kill the ME that I am. And make a new me."

I've heard it said that God is telling us, Life is this way, down this road, not the road over there, if you want to live and enjoy what I have for you, life is this way. But, when we look that way there is this huge ravine, with rocks and sharp hurty things at the bottom, you think, I'll fall down there, and I'll land on those sharp hurty things and I'll perish !! So we don't go that way, We can stand on the edge for years, just wanting to go that way but never finding the courage to trust God and just step off the edge ! However, once you are on the Godly side of the ravine it's amazing how narrow it looks, because when you are on the sinful side it looks about ten miles wide, it's impossible to cross ! no way known can you step across it ! not even if you had a rope could you swing across it ! Yet, if you take Jesus' hand a deep breath and just step off, you will be absolutely amazed at just how narrow that ravine is !

Anyway I went back into the conference room and finished one of the best weekends I have ever had anywhere.

When I returned home everyone almost immediately said, " what happened to you ? you've changed ! "

Now I can't tell you that my life has been transformed *completely*, I don't feel that much different, I do know my outlook has changed, I'm more relaxed, at ease with myself and I try very hard to be more patient with people. My principals have changed, for instance, money is not that important to me anymore.

I'm learning to be more Christ like, which is what being a Christian is all about.

Sometimes I'm not sure if I'm succeeding, and at first I had a great deal of difficulty trying to work out how I could become a follower of Christ when I was so, so far from being perfect! Then, on that day, the Holy spirit hit me in the face with the light! I don't *need* to be **perfect** to <u>become</u> a Christian! I just need to ask for God's forgiveness and let him love me. It was that easy !!

I soon learned to love him in return.

I know there will be lots of times when I will stuff up and sin, it's not an easy ride down a smooth path from here, BUT, I know that with the grace of God and the help and support from my church family I will finish this race I have started.



We have been away for almost two weeks and arrived home to an email from Doddles reminding all NSW CMAers that it is almost Christmas *time*, that it is *time* to chip in an article for the Newsletter and that there isn't much *time* left so I ought to get moving.

For me the hardest part of producing an article is deciding what to write about. As I pondered the task Doddles had delivered to me via the digital mail service I realised *time* was short and if I didn't start right now I wouldn't have *time* to make the deadline.

With all these facets of *time* jingling around in my head it was inevitable that I would make a connection with a Christian ministry, I'm involved in, that takes the Gospel to the inmates in our gaols. It is called <u>Kairos</u>.

*Kairos* is a Greek word meaning "time" and more particularly *the time appointed by God and the opportunities given by him*. There are other Greek words which are also translated into English by the word "time", for example *"chronos"* from which we get chronometer (another name for a clock) and "chronology" (the science of computing dates) and "*hora"* from which we get "hour".

The name *Kairos* was chosen for this Christian ministry in gaols because people in gaol are *"doing time"*, and because when inmates hear the Gospel message it can be a *"special, God given time"* or opportunity for them to begin getting their lives back on track by putting their lives right with God.

In most areas of life timing is vitally important. During my years in the Army I read many "Instructions" for various activities - military exercises, parades, Anzac Day ceremonies - and timing was always spelled out. To the minute! When everyone involved did their bit at the *appointed time* the activity always went very well.

I have noticed, as I've read the Bible, that God is concerned with timing and that his plan is unfolding *on time*. St Mark notes in his Gospel that Jesus began his ministry preaching, *"The right time has come, and the Kingdom of God is near!"* (Mark 1.15). When I reflect on the time Jesus was born and exercised his ministry I can identify a number of reasons why that time was right.

1. **Roman Peace**. Rome was the world power at the time of Jesus' birth and would continue to be so for many centuries. During this period the Romans maintained unprecedented world peace and prosperity. The Empire encompassed most of the known world and so early Christians were able to move around freely and as they did they took Christianity with them.

2. **Roman Roads**. The Romans built roads to all parts of their empire, making travel faster and easier, thus enabling Christian "missionaries" to travel far and wide.

3. The Greek Language. Greek became a lingua franca across the Eastern

<u>Mediterranean</u> and <u>Near East</u>. After the Hellenistic colonization of the known world, Koine (common) Greek was spoken from <u>Egypt</u> to the fringes of <u>India</u>. When the <u>Roman</u>s conquered Greece, an unofficial <u>bilingualism</u> of Greek and <u>Latin</u> was established in the city of <u>Rome</u> and Koine Greek became a first or second language in the <u>Roman Empire</u>. So when Jesus sent his disciples out with the words, "Go to all people everywhere, and make them my disciples..." (Matt 28.19) they went to a world that spoke and understood the Greek language. By the end of the first century the early Christians had taken the Christian Gospel to the known world. The time was right, God's plan came together. However God's plan is not yet finished, it is still being worked out and at the moment he has tasked *us* with the ongoing role of "making disciples of people everywhere."

Now, as you celebrate the Birth of Christ (in a few days *time*) remember that his birth was a timely part of a great plan that is still being worked out.

Desley joins me in wishing all CMAers a very happy and blessed Christmas.

Noel Boyce



Here are two!! Yes, two reports of the one event. The first from Kevin Kettlewell, the second from Sharron Gardener (and family). Thanks to both of you for being so keen to submit a story!!

#### Version 1.....

September 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> saw CMA Shoalhaven area host a fellowship weekend, incorporating a visit to a local youth group, a church raid and a committee meeting thrown in. The weather looked a bit dodgy but as we all know rain or bad weather will not deter the dedicated motorcyclist. During the weekend we saw over 30 riders participate, add their pillions or sidecar passengers plus a few driving tin tops and we have a goodly number attending.



Friday night, early arrivals had a bite to eat at the Kettlewells (headquarters for the weekend), then headed off Nowra City Church Youth who were joined by North Nowra Church of Christ youth, (great to see churches cooperating together), there we placed our bikes on display and had opportunity to chat with the young people about bikes and other things. This followed a praise and worship session and drama presentation. CMA then had an opportunity to share a testimony of something of their journey as a follower of Jesus. I think Kimbo's chaps consumed a fair bit of the question time that

followed each testimony. Overall I think it went down well with the young people, their leaders and us in CMA.

Following the night CMA people retired to the pre arranged accommodation or billets that were provided.

Saturday - the weather was not at all promising, so the ride over the mountains was cancelled and the committee meeting was held in the morning in lieu, by lunchtime the weather had cleared so a short ride to Bewong was organized followed by a scenic route back to Nowra via St Georges Basin. This followed another meeting session. Saturday evening we dined on a Chinese Banquet, talked a lot, we were also entertained with a talk and pictures of Michael and Karen's trip around Australia. This talk proved very informative and challenging.

Sunday - CMA plus a few other Bike riders gathered at the Callala Christian Community Church, where CMA took the service, it gladdened the hearts of this small fellowship to have the hall full, a very rare experience, the service was followed by a bar-B-Q before the riders began to disperse, some heading off for Communion on the cliff.

Reflection - I think we all had a pretty good time despite periods of inclement weather; the church was greatly encouraged, this is ministry! Unfortunately the Ural didn't quite make it home under its own power; thankfully it now has a new heart.



#### Version 2.....

Hi all, just thought I would share a few pics that I took and a little blurb about the weekend down at Callala Bay, unfortunately I could only attend on the Sunday but apparently from the feedback, I have heard the whole weekend was awesome.

Sunday morning my daughter Faith and I met Greg at McDonald's Albion Park to head down to Callala Bay, having no GPS myself and not knowing exactly how to get there it was decided that Greg with his trusty phone GPS would lead the way. Apart from the roadwork's it was a great ride down to Nowra. Greg's phone decided to take the scenic route from Nowra to Callala Bay which consisted of an off the beaten track dirt road, an old bridge that was made up of some wooden planks held together by a few more wooden planks and fields and fields of cows giving us death stares for us daring to disturb their nice quiet Sunday morning, eventually we did get there and all in all it was a fun and adventurous ride and we were even early - which for those of you who know me know that me being early for anything is a very uncommon event!



After catching up with some familiar faces and watching Lisa nearly get tackled to the ground in the middle of the church car park by someone I won't name - will I Terry, we went in for the morning service. A few people from CMA shared a few words, concluding with our own Mr Doddles giving the msg for the morning. After the service, over a BBQ lunch we had the opportunity to catch up with and chat with CMA friends and the opportunity to make a few new friends from Callala Bay.

After lunch it was time to ride to Bald Hill Lookout, Stanwell Tops for our monthly Communion on the cliff meet. I had to make a quick pit stop at home to drop off Faith and pick up my other daughter Teihana so that she got to have a ride and some fellowship with people that she loves from CMA as well (or believe me I would not have heard the end of it) lol. This meet was awesome, it's always a special time when you're in God's county, with incredible views that seem like your overlooking the ocean from as high up as the clouds, having fellowship with your beloved brothers and sisters, taking communion, remembering what our Lord has done for us, then praying together for whatever needs or praise points are brought forward. After this we rode over the Coalcliff bridge together as a club and stopped for coffee and afternoon tea at Austinmere. I really wish a few more of you lived closer so I could see you more often, but at least we get to share great days like this together.





This is one of the most abused texts in the Bible. Typical use is when someone sees something not right and points it out and another responds "Judge not that you be not judged!"

Is this what Jesus is teaching here? Jesus is the one who called the Pharisees; hypocrites, son of hell, fools, blind guides, white washed tombs, serpents, brood of vipers, and murderers.

We are called to follow in His footsteps and are commanded: Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

How can we expose works of darkness unless we first judge that something is in fact a work of darkness? Like any other passage, we must examine the context to properly understand it. Matt. 5:1-16 Jesus teaches on true righteousness.

Matt. 5:20The contrast - the scribes and Pharisees had an external righteousness of their own creation. It was based on following certain rules and regulations rather than following God with love and a pure heart. Now Jesus is saying our righteousness must not be like that, but it must be a true inward righteousness.

Matt. 5:20-48 You have heard - But I say unto you... You must be different from the Pharisees!

In Matt. 6, Jesus continues to contrast true righteousness with the righteousness of the Pharisees. The actions may be good, but Jesus is concerned with the inward motive.

- 1. When we give alms what is the motive, to serve God or to be seen of men?
- 2. When we pray, is it to be seen of men or to be heard by God?
- 3. When we fast, is it to be seen by me or to draw close to God?

Matthew 6:19-34 Where are your true treasures?

All of the context is to contrast true righteousness with the righteousness of the Phari sees.

Chapter 7 is a continuation of the same theme. Jesus is not forbidding all judgment, He is forbidding the hypocritical judgment of the Pharisees. Here is one who is trying to help get a speck out of a brother's eye. Nothing wrong with this! Anyone who has had a speck of dirt in their eye knows how unpleasant this is and we don't mind if someone can help us get it out. Here is one trying to help, but he has a log sticking out of his own eye! This is the kind of judgment Jesus is condemning.

This is the judgment of the Pharisees. They were quick to point out the flaws in other people's lives, but refused to see how they stood condemned before God because of their pride and selfrighteousness. This is like a person rebuking someone for drinking a beer when they are drinking a bottle of vodka. First take out the log out of your own eye and then you can help your brother.

Jesus is not forbidding us to help our brother but is forbidding us to try to correct other people when we are worse off than they are. This is what the Pharisees were guilty of. They could see everybody else's sins but not their own. Jesus is teaching we do need to be careful of how we do judge - Matt. 7:2. Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. James 2:13 For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment. We Are Commanded To Judge John - 7:24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.

How do we judge "righteous judgment"? The standard we judge by cannot be our opinion or our feelings. Where do we find righteousness? Romans 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Psalm 119:172 Let my tongue sing of Thy word, for all Thy commandments are righteousness.

We are forbidden to be involved in hypocritical judgment, but we are commanded to make righteous judgment according to the Word of God. We Must Examine the Context! Matthew 7:13-14 How do you know which is the narrow gate and the broad gate? We have to make judgments concerning truth and error!

Matt. 7:15-20 How do we know who is a false prophet? We can't tell just by looking at their appearance. We are not to judge according to appearance. We are to examine their fruit, their teaching, and their manner of living. After we see their fruit, we must judge; is it good fruit or bad fruit?

Reason That Many Do Not Understand Hebrews 512-:14 'For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil. '

We Are Commanded By God To Judge! 1 Corinthians 5:9-13 'I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters; for then you would have to go out of the world. But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he should be an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler-- not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? But those who are outside, God judges. Remove the wicked man from among yourselves.'

Who Are the Evil Workers and False Circumcision? Judgment must be made. Philippians 3:2-3 'Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh.'

How Do We Know Who We Are To Avoid Without Judging? 2 Timothy 3:1-5 'But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; and avoid such men as these. '

Was Paul Judging Sinfully? (What does it take to be labelled lazy or a glutton?) Titus 1:12-13 'One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." This testimony is true. For this cause reprove them severely that they may be sound in the faith.'

How Do We Know Who We Are Not To Greet? (Where do you draw the line?) 2 John 9-11 'Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this

teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.'

The Ephesians Were Praised For Judging Properly Revelation 2:2 'I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars.'

The Bereans Went To The Right Source To Judge Paul's Teaching Acts 17:11 'Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so'.

How Can We "Prove What The Will Of God Is" Without Judging? Romans 12:2 'And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect'.

Paul Prayed That The Philippians Would Abound In Judgment Philippians 1:9-10 'And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.'

Paul Commanded the Thessalonians to Make Judgments 1 Thessalonians 5:21-22 'But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil'.

How Can We Test The Spirits Without Making Judgments? 1 John 4:1 'Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.'

Can The Words Of Jude Be Applied Today Without Judging? Jude 16-19 'These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.'

If the Modern Interpretation of Matt. 7 Is True:

- 1. We cannot decide who is a qualified elder or deacon.
- 2. We cannot decide who is an widow indeed.
- 3. We cannot decide with whom to have fellowship
- 4. The Church's ability to practice discipline is destroyed.
- 5. It is impossible to reprove, rebuke and exhort.
- 6......It eliminates all standards of right and wrong.

Example of Mary - She thought it was God's gift to her to confront people for their sins. Yet, her own life was a wreck. Her family had serious problems. She was often depressed and often looked like a wreck from worry.

This Is The Judgment Forbidden By Matthew 7! Romans 2:1-3 'Therefore you are without excuse, every man of you who passes judgment, for in that you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things. And do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment upon those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?' We need to be as merciful and forgiving as we can be. We are not to ignore what Matt. 7 is teaching us. Matthew 7:2 'For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you'. Matthew 5:7 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.'

We all should realize our need for mercy from God. It is a constant remembrance of our own forgiveness that should help us treat others with mercy. While we strive to be merciful, we cannot ignore that which is in complete contradiction of God's Word.

All children of God must be able to stand. We must be able to fight against all that is evil. Too many are wanting to compromise with what they are supposed to be opposed. they want to embrace the enemy, After all, you are not supposed to Judge! Ephesians 6:10-13 'Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.'

If you are not a faithful Christian, you stand before God condemned and are headed for hell when you die. This is not judging according to appearance but is righteous judgment. This is the judgment of the Word of God. We can only apply the judgments already made by God to the circumstances we find ourselves in.

Provided courtesy of Richard Kimball (I believe from Wayne Wells)



After the worry of the bush fires, which were not too far away from Bowral, a fine sunny day presented us for the ride to Bowral Crossroads. Crossroads is an christian organisation for people with disabilities & each year we take the bikes to show, take photos of the people on the bikes, try to do some activities & have a talk about God (TAG)



Eight bikers showed up to mix with around twelve Crossroaders plus their carers. Being a nice sunny day we stayed outdoors & formed a circle to "pass the parcel" with some instructions or actions for the person opening the parcel. A lot of laughs & fun followed with the last person opening the parcel to a small model motorbike.

Jenny shared about time to pray & talk with God even at times when we are quiet or doing some small task & we can turn our thoughts to God.

A great time was had by all & then we left & rode over Kangaloon to Robertson for coffee with some returning to Kiama via Jamberoo Pass, whilst others went across to Kangaroo Valley & home.

God Bless, Roy & Jenny Breyley



Some interesting Church signs.....





During a holiday on the Central Coast, I took the opportunity to visit Oz Trikes, which is located at Somersby, just a few kilometres along a narrow winding road from Gosford. Oz Trikes has built up an enviable reputation of being "the" manufacturer for top-class trikes in Australia, so it was great to call in and check them out, as well as have a chat to Johann, the owner.

OZ Trikes have been designing and manufacturing trikes in Australia since the mid 1990s. Johann says that he has spent most of his lifetime in perfecting what he believes to be the absolute best trike in Australia. His extensive years of experience is reflected in the pride that he puts into every one of the trikes that is manufactured and assembled at OZ Trikes.

OZ Trikes claim to be the first trike manufacturer in Australia to receive Australian Compliance Approval. They say that their trikes are designed, engineered and manufactured to provide superior handling, performance, and durability.

They also emphasise that they take great care in the design for style, as well as comfort, for what they term their "Threedom Machines."

All OZ Trikes are built in-house at Somersby; from the frame to fibre-glassing, painting, all the mechanical work and then to the assembly and delivery.

There are options in style, so the customer has a lot of control over the trike they buy.

The engines are from the venerable VW Beetle, and run carburettors, not fuel-injection; although most are modified beyond standard Beetle specification. But don't start thinking that the engines are 2nd-hand units pulled out of cars at a wreckers; these engines are all brand new! How do they get new Beetle engines? Well, Johann says that there is a company in Brazil that makes all the engine components as brand new spares. These components are then sent to another company in the U.S. who build-up the engines. OZ Trikes then imports the completed brand new engines for their trikes.

And if using engine technology that is a few decades old seems a bit dodgy, Johann points out that these VW engines are used in off-road buggies and ultra-light aircraft, so they have to be pretty good!

The trikes that are supplied for hire all run standard 1600cc engines, but custom-made trikes for customers are usually fitted with more up-spec units; most having been bored-out to just under 2,000cc and having some hot-up bits fitted.

Controls are a cross between bike and car. The throttle is a twist-grip, just like a bike, and there are switch-blocks on each end of the handlebar, just like a bike, but from there on, it's very much carlike. The brakes are operated by a pedal on the right-side of the machine, and a similar pedal on the left operates the clutch. The gear-lever is a stubby car-type lever located down on the left beside the seat.

There is something very cool about sitting on these things! You sit back in the seat with your legs stretched out, arms reaching forwards and up to the high bars. You look out over the chrome instrument pod to the long forks stretching out ahead of you. Just sitting there and operating the controls it's easy to imagine you're out on the road, carving up the traffic and looking cool, feeling great!

The standard of workmanship is very good indeed. Even looking very closely at the frame, everything is very neat and well-constructed, with no messy welds etc. And when you consider that every machine is hand built and individually custom-made to your preference, you start to realise that in buying one of these machines you'd be getting something very special.

OZ Trikes are also now the sole agent in Australia for Boom Trikes, which are manufactured in Germany. The model they import is the Mustang ST1, although other models will be available.

Johann said that there is a technique to riding ("driving"?) these trikes. He said you have to think "car", not "bike". That applies to using the car-type controls, but also to the way you steer it, and even how you position it on the road. You have to keep to the centre of the road, as you would in a car. Most bike riders like to position themselves to the left or right of centre of the lane, but that doesn't work on a trike. If you put the front wheel on the left side of the road the left back wheel will run off the side. Put the front wheel towards the right of your lane and the right back wheel will be across the centre-line.

The throttle is like a bike, but the clutch and gears are like a sporty car: in that sense it feels very car-like, not bike-like.

When you corner you don't lean as you do on a bike of course, and counter-steering doesn't work: you have to steer this like a car.

So there are things to remember, but you'd get used to them fairly quickly I would think.

Okay, so how much do these cost? Well, cost depends on specification and what accessories are ordered, of course, but in general most sell for the mid to high \$30,000 - \$40,000 range.

But as well as manufacturing trikes, they also hire them. Hire charges, when I was there earlier this year, were \$240 for one day during the week, and \$290 for one day on the weekend. Two day hire costs \$530. You can also go for a chauffeured tour, with costs ranging from \$45 per person for 30 minutes up to \$120 per person for 2 hours. They offer half-day and full-day tours as well.

Test-rides are available only on the Mustang ST1, and only for customers who are seriously considering purchasing one.

A trike is probably not for everyone. If you just want to blend in with the crowd, and not attract any attention, then a trike is definitely not for you! But if you don't mind standing-out in the crowd, and want to look super-cool, these machines would do the trick. And of course there is the practical side of not having to worry about them falling over. For many older riders the weight of a big bike becomes a problem, especially at slow speed or when parking etc. Not so with these!

In NSW you don't need a motorcycle licence to ride them, they can be ridden (or "driven") with a normal car licence. But NSW is the only state where that is the case; in all other states you need a motorcycle licence.

For me, if I won the lottery tomorrow I think I'd be paying them another visit! I definitely wouldn't sell my two-wheeler, but I'd like to have one of these to drive. Of course I'd have to get a bigger shed!

For more information, and to contact them, visit their web-site at <u>www.oztrikes.com.au</u> or phone them on 02 4372 1100.

#### Elwyn Jordan

I (Mark Bevan) have taken the liberty of including a couple of photos from oztrikes web site - a picture is worth a thousand words.





"....Seek that which was lost, bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick"

- Ezekiel 34:16



JESUS IS LORD Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. Hsalm 133:1 Heaven's Saints Motorcycle Miniatry

# Going to the Show

The Australian Motorcycle Expo was on in Sydney recently. I've been going to motor shows like this – both car and bike – since I was about 20. For a long time I went every year, but not as much in recent years. With a million traffic-lights, traffic-jams and idiot drivers, driving there can be a hassle. And parking costs a fortune!

I've gone by train, but that's a drag too: NSW trains are hardly state-of-the-art transport, and it takes hours to get there! You don't realise how many suburbs Sydney has until you go there by train; and there's a station at each one of them!

I've never ridden to a show. Firstly there's the problem of what to do with your riding-gear once you get there: and even if you can store it somewhere, that still leaves you clomping around the show in riding boots. And – my apologies to Sydney residents – but I've never liked riding in Sydney; I always feel it's a bit like riding into a war-zone!

I've been to motor shows with a variety of people. In the early days it was with various mates, then for many years it was with my wife. She had no interest in cars or bikes, but she would dutifully follow me around carrying all the brochures I'd collect. Having kids gave her a good excuse not to come with me, and she's never been to one since.

I've gone on my own a few times, and did so again this year; and that's good because you can look at what you want for as long as you want. But it's also good to have someone to talk to.

A few years ago a mate from Newcastle, Steve, arranged to meet me at the Motorcycle Show. After a long drive, the first place to visit has to be the toilet. In these toilets the hand-basins were fitted with taps where you pull the handle up and water spurts out with all the force of a burst water-main. And the hand-basin was cleverly designed to direct this water straight over your pants, just below waist-level. Steve came in and found me leaning backwards holding my pants out underneath the handdryer. He shook his head, mumbled something about "Can't take him anywhere!" and walked away.

Having dried off sufficiently that I didn't look like a walking incontinence disaster, we started our look around the show.

I sat on nearly everything I looked at. For me, that's part of the process; you look, and you sit. I get annoyed when they have those little signs that say, "Do not sit on this motorcycle without asking for assistance". BMW did that. I felt like going up and asking, "Why not? You're putting your bike on display, so why do I have to ask to sit on it?" But then I thought they might have seen me coming out of the toilet and been worried I'd pee all over it!

I also take photos - lots of them! One time when I was there with my daughter, I gave her the camera and asked her to take a photo of me sitting on a bike. As she lined up the shot, a big burly-looking bikie-type guy walked up to her. "Go and sit on it with him and I'll take the photo" he offered. So my daughter unquestioningly handed over my expensive camera and climbed on the bike behind me. I smiled at the camera, expecting that at any moment Burly Bikie would do a runner into the crowd! But he didn't. In fact he turned out to be a really nice guy and we had an enjoyable chat.

That can be another interesting thing at these shows: having conversations with people. Although it's probably wise not to be too opinionated in what you say. Steve took exception to the stacked exhausts on what was an otherwise beautiful looking Ducati Sports 1000. He turned to a guy beside him and began jokingly to describe, in blood-chilling detail, what he thought Ducati management

should do to the designer who came up with this styling aberration. "Actually", the guy replied, "I like it!" But that didn't stop Steve. He continued to describe various forms of torture and dismemberment that should be inflicted upon its designer, while the guy was looking as if he was about to say he'd just bought one. I thought it might get ugly, so I wandered off and pretended to be looking at something else. (Yes, I know, great mate I am!).

After a couple of hours it was time to rest the old bones and have lunch. Steve had brought his with him: a good idea, because food at these shows is expensive. I've sometimes taken lunch, but that hasn't always gone well. I recall one time when my other daughter came with me. My wife had made sandwiches for us: cheese sandwiches. It was a hot day and by the time we opened the lunch-bags the cheese was warm and the bread was like rubber. I put mine in the bin, but my daughter tried one sandwich – and almost threw up!

After lunch it was off to look at the rest of the show. Of course you inevitably each have your favourite stands. That's okay if you have similar tastes, but I remember going to one car-show where the mate I went with looked at the Holden stand, and perhaps one other, then was ready to go home. He wouldn't go near the Ford stand and couldn't understand why I'd want to look at Alfas, Jags and even Toyotas!

A couple of hours later Steve had to catch the train home. I did a quick circuit through the stands again and bought a mug and a T-shirt.

Steve's former job with the public-service got him free train travel, so all he spent was the admission fee of \$15 and \$4 for a coffee. Meanwhile I reckon that with the cost of fuel, parking, lunch, the T-shirt and mug, I wouldn't have had much change out of \$100. This year, having a Senior's card, I took the (much!) cheaper option of going by train. And I also took my lunch.

So there are many different ways of going to these shows, some being better - and cheaper - than others! But it's always good to be there!

Elwyn Jordan



Communion on the Cliff on Veterans MC Australia Day Ride for Cash on Communion on the cliff on Bathurst Street & Custom Motorcycle Show on The Chapel Run on Communion on the Cliff on 15/12/2013 14:00 25/01/2014 10:00 19/1/2014 13:00 01/02/2014 09:00 15/02/2014 09:00 16/02/2014 14:00

<u>State AGM & Fellowship Weekend</u> – Molong Baptist Church 1-2 March 2014 – mark it in your diaries NOW! Check the net - <u>http://cmaaus.org/nsw/events2/</u> or talk with your ride coordinator for more details of these rides.

And......Don't forget to keep an eye on the Calendar (and for Coordinators to populate it)





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#### CMA Member Statement of Belief

- 1. I believe God to be the true creator of all things.
- 2. Jesus Christ is the only answer to everyone's spiritual needs.
- 3. Jesus Christ's death for our sins and his resurrection are the basis of all Christian Life.
- 4. The Holy Spirit is the source of power for Christian living.
- 5. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three persons, yet one God.
- 6. The Bible is the authoritative Word of God in all circumstances of life.
- 7. I have repented (turned) away from the sins of my past life, confessed them to God and asked Him to forgive me for them.
- 8. I have committed my life to Jesus Christ and now acknowledge Him as my Lord and Saviour.
- 9. I will endeavour to remain faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed in the Bible and to the Aims of the Christian Motorcyclist's Association.

I am interested in learning more about CMA, please send me more information:

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