



# NEWSLETTER

13 June 2021

*Revive*  
*Restore*  
*Reach Out*

## NRCC News and Notices

### ▪ Sustainability Team

A group of people have volunteered to look for opportunities for our sustainable financial future. We would like to thank Ian H, Russell, Bill, Dennis, and Steve T for taking up this important role. We would appreciate your prayers for wisdom and guidance for the team.

### ▪ Intergen Team

This team is working to build and nurture relationships between different generations of our community here at NRCC. We are starting by updating our church directory. The team will be taking your photos if you are willing and ready. Also, we will be checking we have everyone's birthdays so no one is left out of our monthly birthday celebrations.

### ▪ Church Library

Looking for some good Christian books or bible study resources? Please make use of our church library in the office. We have a small but useful collection of quality books.

### ▪ My Song My Story

If you have a particular song/hymn which you want to share with our church family, please feel free to contact Jenny or Steve so we can organize a date for you to have an opportunity to share your song & story. Why is the song meaningful and special to you? and how does the song help you to reflect on God's love for you? or to overcome challenges in your life? Our small but wonderful music team will help us sing your song for us. Your story, our story and God's story.

Please visit our church website if you want to listen to the previous stories.

<https://northrocks.uca.org.au/>

### ▪ The Kids' Box

Our kids have a question box on the table as you enter the church. You are invited to take a page from the notebook and write a question for them to answer so you can find out more about them.

# Callisters Chronicling

June 2021



The committee travelling to, and meeting at, Kuwanak, to check the book of 2 Kings.



## Translation ... In March we asked for prayer:

- For the **Misima Language Committee** who met as planned on Kuwanak Island. They checked more of the book of **2 Kings**. Praise that a boat was available to transport them. Pray for the next meeting planned for July on Misima Island, when they will finish the check of 2 Kings.
- For the **Saisai translators**: because of an upsurge in COVID they did not travel to the mainland where there are the advantages of electricity and Internet. They have however been working on the second draft of the book of John on their own island, and had some communication with Bill by phone. So the translation of John is proceeding, even if slowly.
- Praise that the **two Misima teams** have been working steadily through notes Bill has provided on the OT books of Numbers and Isaiah. Pray for wisdom in making the translation clear, accurate and natural.

## Family ...

- How blessed to have visits from all three of our children who live in northern QLD and PNG, during the first three months of the year. (Our son Stephen lives 5 minutes away by car with his family, so that is easy!)
- And we will have the extra blessing of seeing our son Peter and his wife at the end of June as well, as they are coming again from PNG for holidays.
- Our son Geoff has a new job working for a new gold mine at Misima—so he is in his element, knowing the language and the people.



Daughter, Julie, and her 2 younger children, northern QLD

## Our activities ...

- Bill continues to work all day most days on translation.
- I (Sandra) on the other hand, have a variety of activities: book club, waitressing at our church café, caring for Wycliffe retirees in NSW/ACT, attending a weekly Know Your Bible study, entertaining both old and new friends, etc.
- We continue to be so thankful for the house, family, community and church God has given us here in northern NSW.

### Personal contact

Bill & Sandra Callister

14 Rancher Court

Wollongbar, NSW 2477

[bill-sandra\\_callister@wycliffe.org.au](mailto:bill-sandra_callister@wycliffe.org.au)

0466 979 911 (Bill), 0411 461 515 (Sandra)



### Home organisation

Wycliffe Australia

70 Graham Rd

Kangaroo Ground, VIC

Australia 3097

[www.wycliffe.org.au](http://www.wycliffe.org.au)

## Dates for your Diary

### • EQUIP 21 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

<https://www.equip.org.au/>

Please join for a livestreaming of EQUIP 21. We will be watching the conference live at our church.

**Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> June, 10 am – 3 pm.** \$20 per person. Teens (girls in years 7-11) are able to view for free.

For a group booking, pay at church office or put in an envelope on Sunday. Please note that the conference sessions are not interactive. We will be making a group booking early next week.

Contact: [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au)

# Community News and Notices

## • Intensive Journal workshop

**Is it time to pause and take a look at where /who you are?**

**Weekend Saturday and Sunday 24-25 July 2021**

**8:45 am -1pm, 2 pm – 5 pm each day with breaks**

To register and for more details: [Online Life Context Weekend 24-25 July](#)

Early bird closes 20 June

### For both workshops:

Participants attend the workshop from their own location using Zoom. Workshop materials will be posted to participants ahead of the workshop so please register promptly.

**Cost:** \$170 or \$150 for Eremos members; **Early bird** \$20 less.

Plus \$20 discount for **previous participants** who have the Intensive Journal workbook.

**If the cost is a barrier** to your participation, contact Kate to discuss a reduced fee. We would love to work something out so you can join us.

### Previous participants talk about the workshop's impact:

- *It's helped me to recommence some in-depth looking at myself which had been on hold for a number of years.*
- *I entered this workshop having no real idea about what to expect. I have found a most stimulating approach to journaling that is most helpful and comprehensive – way beyond my earlier efforts at self-absorbed unhappiness.*
- *Through the intensive writing process I was able to reflect on my life journey from different angles and through imaginative lenses.*
- *It was wonderful to learn how to connect to my deeper being; it made sense and encourages me to continue with this process.*

Read more about the workshops on Facebook and the Eremos website

<https://www.facebook.com/intensivejournalworkshopsaustralia>

<https://www.eremos.org.au/intensive-journal--workshops>

Please contact me with any questions or to discuss participation. I look forward to seeing you at a workshop soon.

Kate Scholl

0425 211 065

[events@eremos.org.au](mailto:events@eremos.org.au)

## • Lay Ministry Training Opportunities from UME (Uniting Mission and Education)

### Leading Worship in the UCA

3 July, 9am-4pm

Centre for Ministry

Info and registration: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/living-our-faith-leading-worship-july/>

### **Proclaiming Jesus Christ**

Saturdays 9:30–11:30am, 10 July – 21 August  
Zoom

### **Sacraments Training**

9:00am-4:30pm

July 17–18 (Tuggeranong Uniting) and Sept 11–12 (Goulburn Uniting)

### **Leading Worship in the UCA**

9:00am-4:30pm, Saturday Sept 25

Canberra (Venue TBC)

- UCA Assembly Resource on **Domestic and Family Violence** can be found [here](#).

## **Reflection of the Week**

In Matthew 13:45-46, Jesus said, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it."

In this parable, Jesus shares that the Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. There are two things you must know about pearls to understand this illustration. First of all, back then, pearls were the most precious commodity; not one of, but the most precious commodity, more highly valued than diamonds are today.

Pearls were greatly valued because diving for the oysters that contained the pearls was an extremely hazardous exercise. There were many people who lost their lives diving for these oysters. Both the beauty and the scarcity of the pearl made it extremely valuable, and people often gave all of their money and belongings to possess just one priceless pearl.

Pearls are also the only gems that are produced within living organisms. A pearl is precious because of the suffering and injury that take place inside the oyster. First, a grain of sand gets inside the oyster, and then that grain of sand grinds within the oyster until the pearl is formed.

In this illustration, the pearl of great worth represents none other than the Lord Jesus Christ.

It was on the cruel Roman cross that the only perfect God-man suffered, bled, and died. It is only through His suffering and death on the cross and then His ultimate resurrection from the dead that the priceless pearl of salvation is available.

Nothing can be compared with this pearl. Only through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ can we be assured of heaven. Only through Him can we find forgiveness of sins. He is the only one who provides true peace of mind, security, identity, and rest for our souls.

*Prayer: Father, thank You for Jesus Christ, the pearl of great price. May my life be a reflection of Christ to this world. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

**"How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings" (Psalm 36:7).**

## **e-give** (Direct Electronic Giving)

**Account Name:** North Rocks Community Church  
**(BSB):** 634634 **Account Number:** 100025906

## **Prayer Chain**

Our church has a “chain” of people committed & ready to pray & bound to confidentiality. Please contact Steve or Church office.

## **Ministry Leaders**

Minister: Rev. Steve Lee / [minister@northrocks.org.au](mailto:minister@northrocks.org.au) / 0433 698 690

Church Council:

Chairperson: Craig Marshall      Secretary: Jenny Keyte      Treasurer: Anne Crabb

## **North Rocks Community Church**

132-136 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks. NSW 2151

<https://northrocks.uca.org.au>

Facebook: North Rocks Community Church

Email: [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au)

Phone: (02) 9683 2586

Uniting Church in Australia <https://uniting.church/>

NSW & ACT Synod <https://nswact.uca.org.au/>

Parramatta Nepean Presbytery <https://parramattanepean.uca.org.au/>