

NEWSLETTER

20 June – 26 June 2022

Revive
Restore
Reach Out

NRCC News and Notices

▪ **Baptism & Confirmation**

If you have not been baptised into the Body of Christ in your faith journey or want to have a personal reaffirmation of your previous baptism, please contact Steve.



On 22 June, we celebrate 45 years of the faith, life and witness of the Uniting Church in Australia.

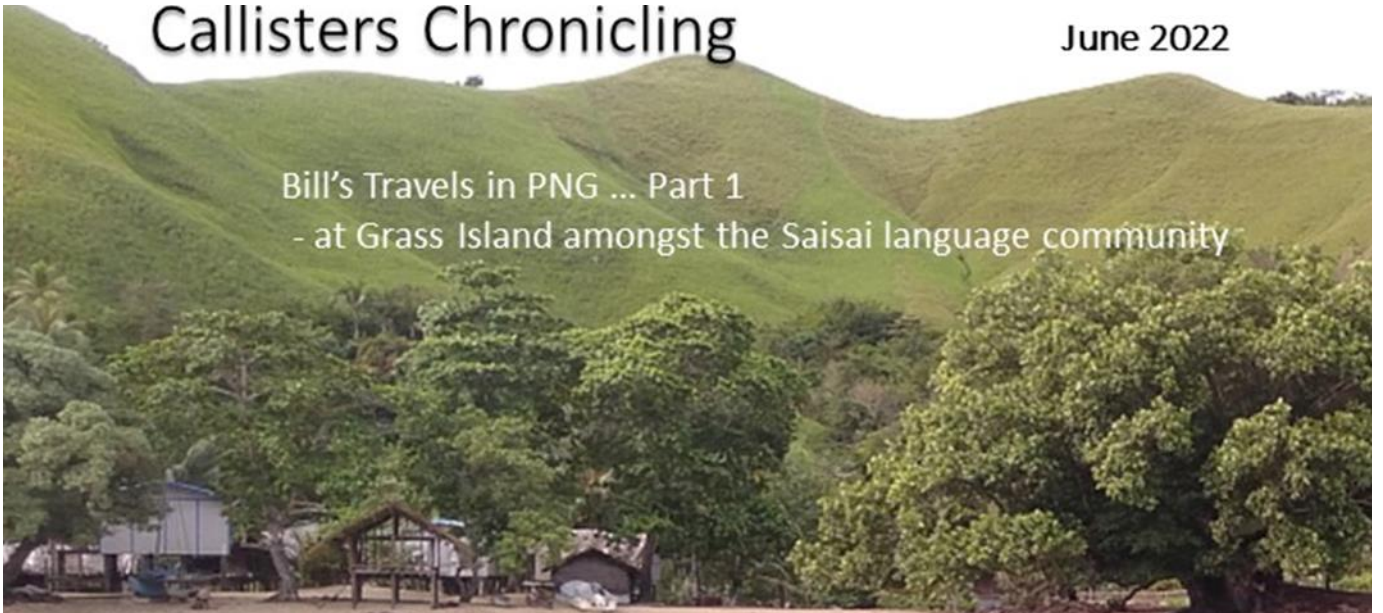
▪ **News from Bill & Sandra**

Callisters Chronicling

June 2022

Bill's Travels in PNG ... Part 1

- at Grass Island amongst the Saisai language community



Bill set up new computers for the Saisai translators, and trained new young people to join the team.



The Language Committee was reactivated, and new office bearers elected to guide the translation process.

Bill started the second draft of Acts with the translators. John's Gospel is now ready for community testing.



At the end of his ten days at Grass Island, Bill returned by boat to Misima.
(To be continued ...)

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Wycliffe
Bible Translators

Community News and Notices

▪ Out of the Box Mission Conference 2022 29-30 July.

The Mission Enablement Team would love to **extend an invitation** to attend Out of the Box Missional Conference 2022 "Equipping disciples for a growing, contemporary, and courageous church", coming this July 29th-30th.

Our Speakers...

This year we are thrilled to welcome Rev. Tim Costello AO and Rev. Ellie Elia as our Keynote Speakers. What's more, be a part of Missional Masterclasses: bespoke electives focussing on a range of subjects such as: intercultural ministry, music, digital, storytelling, pioneering, and more, lead by Rev Dr Grace Ji-sun Kim, Dr Byron Smith, Natasha Holmes, Rev Dr Karina Kreminski and Dr Armen Gakavian, and Josh Wyatt.

For more information: <https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/calendar/out-of-the-box-missional-conference/>

▪ **Uniting Church Assembly and Synod News Links**

Uniting Church Assembly: <https://uniting.church/news/>

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

▪ **Moderator's Flood Appeal to help devastated communities**

The Uniting Church NSW/ACT has launched a special appeal to help those communities devastated by record-breaking floods.

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/communications/newsroom/media-release-moderator-s-flood-appeal-to-help-devastated-communities/>

Reflection of the Week

Have you ever felt as if you were wandering alone in the dark, not knowing what disasters were waiting for you in the shadows or when light would ever shine again? The disciples encountered a similar experience with the treacherous sea storm in Mark 4:35-41. Even though they had Jesus at their side, they let their circumstances drive them to fear.

The storm set in suddenly. Not only did the disciples face the dangers of the rough waters, but they were surrounded by darkness as well. There were no life jackets. There were no lifeboats. They felt they were at the mercy of the great storm.

In a panic, they called for Jesus, crying, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" (Mark 4:38). Jesus got up and silenced the storm with a simple rebuke: "Quiet! Be still!" (v. 39). Then He asked the disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" (v. 40). Through this traumatic event, the disciples plainly encountered the divinity of Jesus, which led them to place their fear and awe rightly in the one who is sovereign even over the wind and waves.

Many times, we want God to fix our problems instantly. We want the raging waters around us to cease immediately. Yet, sometimes God has a word for us. He wants us to deepen our faith and to grow in Him—to see Him with fresh eyes. He wants us to follow in faith—no matter how dark our circumstances seem.

Once Jesus stilled the storm, He informed the disciples that their fears were great and their faith was little. The relationship between faith and fear is like a seesaw. When one is up, the other is down. So when we allow fear to rise, our faith will decline. But the opposite is true as well. When we increase our faith, fears will fail, and we will soar in reverent awe of the majestic, omnipotent Creator, who loves us.

Prayer: God, in the midst of this storm, help me to grasp what You want to teach me. Help my faith to grow. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?'" (Hebrews 13:6).

E - give (Direct Electronic Giving)

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

Prayers

If you have any prayer requests or would like to know of those with particular pastoral needs to pray for, please contact Robyn, Steve or Pastoral Care Team.
Robyn: 0424791916

Ministry Leaders

Minister: Rev. Steve Lee / minister@northrocks.org.au / 0433 698 690

Church Council

Chairperson: Cathy Nelson Secretary: Jenny Keyte Treasurer: Anne Crabb

Team Leaders

Worship: Steve Lee Discipleship: Alex Chow Pastoral Care: Robyn Pike Fellowship: Sue Vasilevska
Intergen: Fiona & Cathy Mission: Steve Turner

North Rocks Community Church

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

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

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