



Kew Baptist
CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORTS

2012



The emerging vision from the leaders at KBC:

- More significant connection and mission engagement with the wider community
- Small groups as the significant place where learning, pastoral care, and nurturing members takes place
- Discipleship and training across the whole church in response to Jesus' command to make disciples. A disciple is simply a maturing and increasingly devoted follower of Jesus Christ.
- Leadership to guide the church moving forward and in helping bring clarity and coherence of vision and direction to the three congregations and other ministries currently operating.
- Imagining creative ways of using our facilities for ministry and mission

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LEADERSHIP, WORSHIP AND CHURCH LIFE

PASTOR'S REFLECTION

Jesus was once asked for a report on his ministry. This is what he said: "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." (Mt 11) Another time Jesus sent out his disciples with the "power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick." They returned and "reported to Jesus what they had done." (Lk 9) And when the early church gathered for one of their first 'AGMs' in Acts 15, Paul and Barnabus "reported everything God had done through them." So in effect, my report and those that follow in this book are to God. We are saying to Jesus, the Lord of the Church, "In response to your sending this is what we have done". I have no doubt that as good and gracious as our God is, we are accountable for our stewardship of the mission and ministry of Christ.

When you follow the content and nature of the reporting above, a few things stand out. Firstly, God and the centrality of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ is at the centre of their ministry. Secondly, the ministry and mission are served by a community of faith, not individuals. Thirdly, human transformation through the Gospel is the fruit and focus of their ministry. Finally, the mission and ministry, and the results, belong exclusively to God. And exist to bring glory to him.

Foundations for Ministry

For me, the simple vision I work from with regards to local church ministry is: **Loving God. Loving One Another. Loving the World.** This is an alignment of the Great Commandment (Mt 22:37-40) with the Great Commission. (Mt 28:16-20) It looks like this—with the KBC Covenant aims in the brackets:



Some key questions for us are:

- To what extent is God at the centre of our church and does Jesus Christ have supremacy among us?
- How fruitful is our ministry and service to one another, and how are our lives being transformed by the Grace of God?
- Where are we seeing those outside the church transformed through sharing the good news of Jesus in word and deed?

Some Details of the Year

It was a great relief and sense of accomplishment to have had my Master of Philosophy thesis accepted. I look forward to developing the theme of mission and hospitality into a series for the church next year. With regards to the Professional Development requirements of the BUV, I did an MA unit in the form of a 4 day live-in retreat conference on Ministry and Leadership with Ridley College. I am committed to ongoing learning and see biblical, theological and wider study as an essential part of being a disciple.

Looking over my diary for the last year, I have visited with or had meals/coffee with around 200 people from KBC. There has been around 90 Meetings with: Student Residence Committee, Global Mission Team (MAD), Deacons, Leadership Community Nights, Discernment Group, Monday Team, Ministry Facilities Group, and other miscellaneous meetings. Other groups I connect with regularly are the Baptist Eastern Pastors Network, and have taken on leadership and co-ordination of this. I am also a part of the Kew Minister Network and Kew Inter Church council.

Some other things by way of the five priorities of my role here:

Preaching and Teaching:

- Preached 50 sermons in our Sunday services
- Study guides and reflections for Easter week
- Teaching and studies on 'Praying with Jesus' for Church camp
- Teaching and guides on Nehemiah for our leaders' retreat
- Input at Leadership Community Nights

Nurturing Fellowship:

- Sadly we said goodbye to a number of members and attenders through death: Basil Brown, Kingsley Smith, Audrey Lowe, Charlotte Budge, Analeen (Anne) Kelly, Joy Griffin, Diem Thi Huynh and Robin Madden.
- It has been a challenge to catch up with the several hundred people who are a part of the church, but it has been a blessing to visit with many. I am thankful for a group of around 8-10 people who work together in making sure our Seniors, those who are sick, and those who are unable to attend worship, are cared for and supported.
- Smallgroups are creeping ahead with a few new ones starting, and we look forward to the appointment of an Associate Pastor for this area—hopefully soon!
- A new multi-function database of church membership details is now up and running. Thanks Lauren!
- Redesigned our website over many hours and this was hacked and destroyed by criminals. We have since changed our hosting and put in place some safeguards—as well as redoing the whole site again!

Evangelism:

- Christianity Explored was a wonderful 7 weeks with a delightful set of helpers and leaders. We had a number participate in the course and will run it again next year in term 2.
- We can celebrate God's goodness with nine of our young adults being baptised. God is at work among us.

Young Adults and Laity Development:

- Preaching Class over 4 weeks
- Exploring Baptism Course over 4 weeks
- Marriage Preparation with two couples
- Christianity Explored Training Day
- One to one mentoring and spiritual direction of young adults

Equipping and Sending:

- It is a joy to have a vital Global Missions Team and a new policy at hand. I look forward to continuing in our support and development of this central area of our church. We have a number of people we support in mission around the world and this is a great extension of our work.
- A number of our NightChurch people have gone on effective short term trips.
- Sarah Trebilcock has served as a Global Interaction Intern.
- In January I will be part of a team put together by Tony Cupit to travel to India and work with Leena Levanya and Serve Trust ministries in training pastors and leaders. I will also use this trip to visit the Barclay's in Ooty.

Some Challenges Facing us

One concern for us is the small population of 30-60 age group we have at KBC. It seems that there has emerged a cycle of our young adults being around for 2-5 years and then moving out to more affordable housing after that. The transitory nature of NightChurch adds to the freshness and excitement, but it creates challenges. I recently looked over the roll for NC from 2007 and found that only around 20% of the people listed were still connected to KBC. The truth is that Kew and its surrounds is a very expensive suburb to buy a house. 50% of our church is under 30, 20% are between 30-60, and 30% are +60.

Another sobering truth is that despite the brilliant and faithful work of Miriam Schmidt and others through our Possums Playgroup over 23 years, we have not seen any families or individuals come to faith in Christ and become active members of the church. I have heard from a number of people, including Miriam herself, that this is an ongoing concern.

These things have great implications for our future plans and vision, as the 30-60 group is generally where the next generation of leaders tend to come from. And yet, the 30-60 demographic is over-represented statistically in our area and there are a high percentage of families with children.

As a church we have to face the reality of the situation as it is, not as it was and nor as we would like it to be.

Key Issues for us as a Church:

- to celebrate the past, but not be controlled or limited by it
- to be faithful and patient in the present in the face of inevitable change
- to develop a coherent and compelling vision and strategy for the future

Final Thoughts

I am hesitant to name people in the report as I am sure I might forget some. However, the people I have worked closest with are those on staff and in leadership. They have been a great support and have served this church exceptionally well: Liz Taylor, Grace Munro, Andy Mitchell, Laura Holey, Corey Leslie, Lauren Morgan, Stephen and Michelle Duke, Khoi and Karen Doan, Miriam Schmidt, and our Deacons—Ray Leigh, Andy Hunter, Geoff Trevaskis, Deidre Willis, Steve Taylor and Amy Repse. There are also Possums helpers, Sunday school teachers, worship and service leaders, smallgroup leaders/hosts, Boost Youth leaders, music team, Tech Team, choir, Ladies Evening Fellowship, Carrical helpers, Global Mission Team, Ministry Facilities Group, Catering Team, plus a host of others involved and serving God together. We have a group of caring and gifted leaders serving in the church community and I am very grateful for them and to them.

I am also thankful for the depth, quality and variety of preaching assistance we have at KBC with Ken Manley, Andy Mitchell, Paul Pallot, Jono Newmarch, Amanda Tuohy, Susan Campbell, Frank Rees, Em Fox and Taryn Atkinson all preaching throughout the year. And, can I say to all the leaders and people of KBC who love God and serve Christ faithfully week in and week out: Thank You! I have grown to love and appreciate the people here at KBC and look forward to serving God with you in the days ahead.

And I am very, very grateful to share the life of faith and ministry with Amanda. She is the love of my life and her life of faith is an inspiration to me.

Please pray. Please let Jesus be the centre of your own life and our lives together. And please use the one life God has given you for his glory and purposes.

In Christ,

Nicholas Tuohy



At Nicholas' induction,

11 November 2011:

Ken Manley, Kevin Forbes, Grace Munro, Janine de Paiva, Khoi Doan, Laura Holley, Ken Lyall, Helen Mclean, praying for Nicholas and Amanda.

VIETNAMESE CONGREGATION

Khoi Doan, the Pastor and Secretary of the Vietnamese Congregation has been overseas, and hasn't had time to submit a written report yet—we will publish it separately.

It is encouraging to see some of the results of the congregation's hard work in evangelism and discipling as young people are baptised. We have had some great shared services as we have celebrated these together.



On 8 April 2012, we celebrated the baptism of Khoi-Nguyen Doan, Blanche Do, Quinh Anh Hoang, Ngoc Chi Nguyen, and Thao Nguyen Lam, seen here with Khoi Doan.

NIGHTCHURCH

Over the past year the NightChurch (NC) community has experienced God's hand at work in real and exciting ways! God has been bringing a lot of new people along and many are staying and becoming regular attendees. The growth in number to approximately 120 people attending the 7pm service each week is exciting and new for NightChurch! We are thankful for the growth in number as it indicates people are feeling welcomed and 'at home' here, being challenged in their faith and growing spiritually and in fellowship with one another.

We are thankful for the way God has been moving in peoples' lives, shown through the many people we send out in mission contexts, the stories and testimonies we hear on a Sunday night from up the front and the four Baptisms that have taken place this year.

We are thankful for the teaching and guiding of Nicholas Tuohy and the new perspective he brings, especially as the congregation becomes bigger and new challenges arise. We are thankful for the presence of a full time pastor in guiding the services and topics explored in sermons, overview of pastoral care matters, encouragement in the many ministries connected to the NC community and a spiritual guiding as a whole. (And much more)!

We are thankful for the ongoing vulnerability and 'realness' that is evident in our services and community. We are thankful also for the real relationships that are developed within and outside of the four walls we meet in each week. We have seen a growth in people coming along to check out this whole 'God thing' and continuing to come back after being shown love without judgement! Week after week we hear stories of people having meaningful and eternal conversations with people outside of the NC community who do not know Jesus as their Saviour and often people make their way through the doors of the Church curious and searching for answers.

We are thankful for God's faithfulness in that only 10 years ago a faithful group of people started NightChurch and God has blessed, challenged and grown us into what we are today.

With the growth in number of attendees at NightChurch come many challenges in that most of the systems and ways we do things have been developed for a small congregation and we are now considered a medium size congregation. The systems and processes for things such as service planning, pastoral care, small groups, introducing new opportunities to serve and so on are in need of rejuvenation. This is very challenging as although NightChurch is still a very new church we have developed some traditions and an identity that is difficult to maintain in some cases on a larger scale. Nicholas has been a great advocate and encourager of change where change is due and has helped to establish some new ways of doing things more effectively and efficiently. Currently our biggest challenge is linking new people in and pastoral care. We feel the way forward with a bigger congregation is to make sure people are in a small group which meets regularly and can take on some of that pastoral care role. Small groups are not the culture at NightChurch yet and we are excited for what God will do in the next year in regards to this.



There are many activities associated with the NightChurch community! The choirs which presented at the Kew Inter Church Carols' Service in December were appreciated!

NightChurch has always been a fairly transient community of people, with a lot of the congregation made up of young people in their 20s and University students, many of whom come to be at Kew Baptist Church through the Student Residence. This has meant that NightChurch has generally been made up of people who attend for an average of two or so years. This presents challenges in itself but it also presents an opportunity for NightChurch to be a place of equipping and sending, and also a place where young people can come and be nurtured in their faith before moving on to new things.

NightChurch is currently doing a series on the Holy Spirit and we are excited and expectant for what God is going to do in our midst. As a community we long to be close to God and to be hearing clearly from him and being obedient to His word. We are also encouraged weekly by testimonies of how God is working in our lives in real and exciting ways!

One text that has encouraged me and others in the last year, I almost like to think it is written to NightChurch, is that from Ephesians 3:14-21

"For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

We in the NightChurch leadership team feel challenged to be responsible with the growing number of people in attendance at our 7pm services and we feel as though an Associate Pastor will help to develop some new ways of managing pastoral care on a larger scale and help to implement small group structures.

Prayer is appreciated for the pastoral team of NightChurch as we seek to be led by God in all we do and meet the challenges before us with grace and reliance on a God who is able to do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine!"

Laura Holley on behalf of the NC pastoral team

MORNING CONGREGATION

Morning worship at KBC continues to be a time of spiritual growth and challenge for our members. We are thankful for the ways in which God has provided for us, most especially in Nick and Amanda. There is always a sense of renewal when a new person takes up the reigns and Nick's approach to preaching in the morning marries a fun relaxed manner with serious, challenging Biblical concepts. It has been a blessing to have a number of others take up the opportunity to preach as well, including Amanda Tuohy and Ken Manley. The range of different styles has definitely helped to challenge me to hear God's voice in new ways and for that I am thankful.



Morning services celebrate diversity—regular communion services, a special dance by the Vietnamese young people, and the Children's Christmas service

It has been really pleasing to see a continued growth in the number of young people, families and children attending the morning services. They bring a vibrancy and life to the church, challenging many of us with the energy they bring! I also feel very blessed by the older members of our congregation; their willingness to share their wisdom, time and resources with other members of the church, whether it is in a children's talk or a pastoral prayer, reminds us all of the wealth we have in those around us. We all face challenges in our lives, and the strength and wisdom that I have been able to draw upon has certainly helped me through some difficult times this year.

The music in the mornings is always a source of great joy and we thank those who are involved in organising and playing. It is not always easy to find willing workers for a Sunday morning, but the service is always better for their passion and worship. I thank God that we are blessed with many talented musicians and I am confident that He will continue to lift up people to lead us in worship in this manner.

I am thankful for the opportunity I have to worship with my brothers and sisters in Christ at KBC and my prayer is always that God continues to build this community for His own purposes.

Geoff Trevaskis

DEACONS

The significant change in Deacons during the September 2011-August 2012 year has been that **Nicholas Tuohy** has joined the team, and has fitted in very well. Not surprisingly, to get a handle on all that happens in a church such as Kew in 12 months means a very steep learning curve, and we commend Nicholas for all of his effort and for the way he has grasped numerous major issues which need to be addressed. His leadership of the church and within the Diaconate is appreciated, especially his strong emphasis on the Bible and prayer, and his 'big picture' thinking and visioning for the future.

A key focus of our November 2011 Church Gathering was discussion of what the Church's commitment to Nicholas would be, and his commitment to us. It would be good for all of us to re-read the document which emerged from that discussion and ask if we are fulfilling our part. We encourage your ongoing prayer and practical, emotional and spiritual support for Nicholas, and also Amanda, as he continues to give direction to the church's life and ministry and strengthens the leadership team. We are grateful to him.

At present we have several **deacons** who have served for a long time (Ray Leigh, Deidre Willis, Steve Taylor, Grace Munro), and two others from the morning congregation (Geoff Trevaskis and Amy Repse), both of whom are very busy in their working life and are unable to commit as much time as they may like to Church leadership. We have relatively few people in the 30-60 age group in the church, the natural pool where we would normally be looking for deacons.

We currently have no-one from **NightChurch** as a Deacon, though some have attended as observers and have added well to the conversation. We are thrilled with the God-given life, growth and spirituality of the NightChurch congregation. A few NightChurch people stay at KBC for several years, but many are here for only one or two years. We have the challenge of how to develop a strong leadership structure in the NightChurch community, without losing something of the spontaneous and energetic spirituality which now marks it. We also need NightChurch members participating in the wider leadership of the Church, so we can all benefit from the insights and wisdom they offer. This may mean adding NightChurch representatives to the current structure through the Diaconate, or it may mean changing the way our leadership operates. We would value prayer about this.

The addition of quarterly **Community Leadership Nights**, as well as the expansion of the annual Deacon's retreat into a **Leadership Retreat**, has been beneficial, as the Deacons and other ministry leaders in the church join to pray, discuss and discern what God may be wanting for the church and for us as leaders wanting to serve.

For some years we have been changing the emphasis of **Quarterly Church Gatherings** away from the old "business meeting model" of some decades ago, to be a time where together the church prays, worships and discerns what God wants for us as a church. The increased focus on prayer together at these meetings has been very positive this year, initiated by Nicholas. We have had one meeting in the late afternoon to encourage greater participation by the NightChurch congregation.

During the year we have seen the appointment of the **Ministry Facilities Group**, as we recognise the urgent need to upgrade our properties to meet the needs of our current and future ministries, and to ensure we have sufficient funds to adequately maintain our buildings.

Another major issue affecting the leadership of the church has been **staff changes**. We express our appreciation for Liz Taylor who concluded in her role at the beginning of 2012, Lindsay and Meryl Smith who have moved to Kilsyth South Baptist Church, Kingsley Smith who died on 2 November 2011, and Bev Smith who has had health difficulties during the year. All of these have made an excellent contribution in pastoral care and we miss their input.



A **Discernment Group** is currently meeting with a view to recommending the appointment of an Associate Pastor to focus on Pastoral Care, Discipleship and Small Groups. Please pray for Nicholas Tuohy, Margaret Manley, Andy Mitchell and Amy Repse in this significant responsibility.

Consideration is also being given to the role and format of **Internships** for 2013, and the appointment of a long-term **Administrator**. We are grateful for the involvement of Lauren Morgan from July as Interim Administrator. It is important to pray regarding these appointments, as well as for the wider leadership team.

KBC continues to have links with the **wider Christian community**, with Nicholas involved with the regional Baptist ministers' gatherings and lunches with other ministers in the Kew area. He and Grace Munro attend the Kew Inter Church Council meetings. The Baptist Union of Victoria provides assistance to us in a number of ways, and it is an advantage having Steve Taylor as a member of the BUV team.

Baptism and Membership

We are grateful for the number of people from the Vietnamese and English-speaking congregations who have been baptised during the year and for those who have become members of the church: Quynh Anh Hoang, Khoi-Nguyen Doan, Blanche Do, Thao Nguyen Lam, Ngoc Chi Nguyen, Caroline James, Reuben Langerak, Nicholas Barclay and Cail Rayment. Vijay Thalathoty was baptised but chose not to become a member.

As mentioned in previous Annual Reports, KBC follows the trend evident in many churches that increasing numbers of people do not apply for membership. So we have numerous people who are believers active in the church but who are unable to participate in the major decisions of the church. The Diaconate has begun to consider some potential changes to our constitution which may help to address this issue.

With the growth and constant changeover of people in NightChurch, it is becoming harder to keep an accurate record of people attending on a reasonably regular basis.

Changes in membership and participation levels are evident in these numbers:

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AS AT SEPTEMBER 2012

<i>ACTIVE MEMBERS 2011</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>121</i>
Accepted into membership	11	5	16
Transferred into membership	5		5
Transferred from Absentee Roll	4	0	
Moved to Absentee Roll	-5		-5
Died	-4	-1	-5
(Basil Brown, Joy Griffin, Anne Kelly, Kingsley Smith, Diem Thi Huynh)			
Transferred away	-4		-4
No longer attending	-5	-9	-14
MEMBERS 2012	92	26	114
<i>ABSENTEE MEMBERS 2011</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>21</i>
Transfer from active members	5		5
Transfer to Active members	-4	0	
Death (Jean Charlotte Budge)	-1		-1
Roll revision	-6		-6
ABSENTEE MEMBERS 2012	13	2	19
<i>ACTIVE NON-MEMBERS 2011</i>	<i>181</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>183</i>
Deduct people moved away	-46		-46
Died (Audrey Lowe, Robin Madden)	-2		-2
Deduct - became members	-11	-1	-12
Add new active non-members	56	3	57
ACTIVE NON-MEMBERS 2012	178	4	180

MUSIC MINISTRY



On reflection, one of the most overwhelming aspects of our music ministry at Kew is simply how blessed we are here to have such an abundance of musically gifted people to lead us in it. While many of our musicians have moved on from Kew, I am thankful to God for the many others that have eagerly joined. For me, it remains such a pleasure to be able to serve God and our community in this way, but also to be able to encourage others to use their gifts in this way.

I have learnt that God is not interested in seeing us put on a grand show for him each Sunday, but he desires that our lives be an act of worship. When we come together at our Sunday services, singing to God as a body of followers becomes a natural outpouring of our desire to worship God with our lives. When I look at the way many of the Psalms were written, and also some of the instructions that Paul gave to churches, this seems to me to be our primary purpose in worshipping through song. But there is also to be gained a sense of unity and of building up, as well as the opportunity to draw nearer to or focus deeper on God in these times – and I believe from my own experience that music provides a powerful and intimate platform for this.

Psalm 100:1-2 - "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!"

1 Corinthians 14:26 – "When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up."

My hope and prayer for the coming period in our church is that we can continue to grow in our understanding of what God can reveal to us through time spent actively singing in worship to him, but also that our focus will remain on giving God the praise and glory he deserves! I also hope that in the coming year we will start to hear music in our services that has been written by our own musicians at Kew, which is an exciting prospect for me and I hope serves to build an even greater sense of unity and ownership about the songs we sing together!

The choir, which sings on the third Sunday morning of the month, is small but appreciated, especially by the older members of the congregation. We thank Ian Lowe for his leadership.

Corey Leslie

AUDIO AND TECH TEAM 2012

So far this year has seen the purchase of some badly needed equipment to replace and improve existing equipment that was at the end of its life span. We are thankful to God and the church for the ability to do this. We have also welcomed some new team members which is exciting and rewarding to see them integrate into the team. We are thankful for this but would also ask for prayer for more people to join. Currently we need more team members in the morning services for data and audio. It would be great to see more people get involved in this vital ministry.

We see the core aim and vision of our ministry as a hugely important part of services each week. Our role is to work with the worship team to create an environment to bring people into worship with God and facilitate the clear spoken word of God.

The next 6 months will be very challenging as we move to a new software platform for displaying words and sermons during services. As well as introducing new people and some new equipment to further improve our team and ability to serve Christ and the church through this ministry.

We look forward to the challenges the next year will present and continue to pray for guidance from God and that we are acting within his will.

Phil Prior

CHURCH CAMP

The March Labour day weekend saw just under 100 people from Kew Baps descending on Anglesea for our annual camp. As in 2011, there were both pros and cons associated with the timing of the camp with a number being unable to attend due to other commitments. However, it was good to see a few people attend who'd only been at the church a week or two!

We enjoyed Nicholas' leadership of sessions on the theme 'Praying with Jesus', as well as plenty of free time to make connections and enjoy each other's company.

Thank you to everyone who came and made the weekend a success. Special thanks to Janine De Paiva and Bronwyn Hogan who coordinated activities for the children, and Corey Leslie who made sure the music and technology all happened without a hitch, as well as many others who picked up various jobs over the weekend. A big thank you too, to those who contributed financially so that others could attend.

Kerryn Pell

FINANCES

1. Treasurer's report:

The results for the year ended 30 June 2012 are very pleasing. The overall result was that a net surplus of \$26,387 was made compared to the budgeted surplus for the year of \$4,215.

It was encouraging that the actual income received of \$295,760 was in line with the budget of \$297,440. The offerings received of \$247,907 were just below the budget of \$250,000 which was a great result since at different times during the year the offerings were considerably lower than budget. Donations received of \$19,050 for capital works (as shown in Note 6 under the Property Reserve Fund) were very much appreciated.

The expenses for the year were also \$23,852 less than budget.

Details of the main variances between actual and budget are listed below.

Variance – Favourable (Unfavourable)	Income/Expense Item	Comments
4,215	Budgeted surplus for the year	
(1,680)	Income	Offerings and sundry income .were \$2,516 less than budget; Loan interest from the Student Res was \$1,525 higher than budget as less drawdowns on the loan to the Res were needed than forecast.
8,488	Salary Costs	These were less than budget due to less staff being employed than was budgeted.
2,292	Outreach & Ministry Allocations	Overall these were less than budgeted due to gifts being received to assist with support allocations made to missionaries (refer Note 8) and less speakers fees paid than was forecast.
5,825	Administration & Other Expenses	These were less than budget due to savings re the Baptist Witness (this is now only available online) and other expenses were overall less than budget.
7,247	Property Expenses	These were overall less than budget mainly due to savings in cleaning and property maintenance. Other major items of property maintenance have been charged to the Property Reserve Fund (refer Note 6).
\$26,387	Surplus as per Income & Expenditure statement	

It is pleasing that the income received has been sufficient to cover operating expenses. The church faces a challenge to work through the best way to fund the maintenance and upkeep of our properties. It is good attention is being given to this by the Ministry Facilities Group.

In conclusion, I'd like to say a big thank you to Grace Munro for looking after the finances of the church and in giving me timely finance reports; also many thanks to everybody else who has assisted with the counting of offerings and banking.

As we look to the next year, may we each know God's leading as we consider our giving and what part God wants us to do in the ministry at Kew Baptist Church.

Steve Taylor

Treasurer

2. Balance Sheet

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2012

FUNDS	Notes	2012	2011
Accumulated surpluses	9	90,864	61,853
Bequests Fund	5	77,946	63,684
Property Reserve Fund	6	(40,608)	21,165
TOTAL FUNDS		128,202	146,701
REPRESENTED BY:			
CURRENT ASSETS			
NAB Cheque Account		15,338	5,640
NAB Cash Maximiser		36,534	21,166
Amounts Receivable		18,813	16,508
Exempt Benefit Bank Accounts	2	1,085	5,624
Australian Tax Office (net GST)		1,312	6,642
Loan - Kew Baptist Student Residence		62,500	102,500
		135,583	158,080
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Gifts Received not paid out	7	669	554
Exempt Benefits Owing	2	1,085	5,624
Provision for Study Leave		-	711
Superannuation Owing		2,375	1,356
PAYG Withholding Tax Owing		3,252	3,134
		7,381	11,379
NET ASSETS		128,202	146,701

3. Income and Expenditure Statement for year ended 30 June 2012

2011		ACTUAL 2012	BUDGET 2012	VARIANCE Favourable (Unfavourable)
OFFERINGS & OTHER INCOME				
236,577	General Offerings & Gifts	247,907	250,000	(2,093)
910	Sundry Income	378	800	(423)
237,487	TOTAL OFFERINGS & OTHER INCOME	248,284	250,800	(2,516)
RENTAL INCOME				
29,770	Student Residence (Hostel) Levy	30,660	30,660	-
1,694	Hall Rent	1,150	1,600	(450)
2,730	Possums Contribution	2,627	2,890	(263)
9,696	Vietnamese Congregation Contribution	9,696	9,990	(294)
43,890	TOTAL RENTAL INCOME	44,133	45,140	(1,007)
INVESTMENT INCOME				
4,112	Student Residence (Hostel) Loan Interest	2,975	1,450	1,525
772	Bank Interest	368	50	318
4,884	TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	3,343	1,500	1,843
286,260	TOTAL INCOME	295,760	297,440	(1,680)
LESS EXPENSES:				
SALARY COSTS				
143,076	Salaries & Associated Costs	173,698	182,186	8,488
143,076	TOTAL SALARY COSTS	173,698	182,186	8,488
OUTREACH & MINISTRY ALLOCATIONS				
329	Camp Subsidies	(310)	500	810
2,844	Church Ministry	5,685	5,000	(685)
	Contributions to Other Groups			
7,112	Baptist Union of Victoria - Ministry Contribution	7,787	7,890	103
31,200	Mission Aid & Development (see Note 8)	31,985	32,800	815
2,055	Visiting Speakers	1,250	2,500	1,250
43,541	TOTAL OUTREACH & MINISTRY EXPENSES	46,397	48,690	2,292
ADMINISTRATION & OTHER EXPENSES				
-	Advertising	-	500	500
1,680	Audit Fees	1,590	1,750	160
-	Bank Fees	-	100	100
1,050	Baptist Witness (monthly magazine)	-	1,100	1,100
848	Computer Expense	1,877	1,000	(877)
436	Internet Access	118	1,000	882
-	MYOB Consultant	-	200	200
2,997	Office Equipment Maintenance	1,480	2,000	520
1,669	Postage	884	1,800	916
2,130	Printing & Stationery	1,810	2,300	490
1,417	Sundry Expense	1,767	1,600	(167)
3,477	Telephone	3,498	5,500	2,002
15,704	TOTAL ADMINISTRATION & OTHER EXPENSES	13,025	18,850	5,825
PROPERTY EXPENSES				
7,430	Cleaning	6,480	9,000	2,520
1,280	Council Rates	1,082	1,300	218
4,193	Electricity	4,578	5,000	422
2,311	Gas	2,011	2,600	589
11,330	Insurance	13,101	12,000	(1,101)
1,425	Water Rates	1,723	1,600	(123)
12,588	General Property Maintenance	7,277	12,000	4,723
40,558	TOTAL PROPERTY EXPENSES	36,253	43,500	7,247
242,879	TOTAL EXPENSES	269,373	293,225	23,852
43,382	NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	26,387	4,215	22,172

4. Notes to the accounts

Note 1: Accounting Policies:

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by people attending Kew Baptist Church. It has been determined that the church is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the following policies. No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

a) Income

Income is recognised on a receipts basis only, apart from Student Residence (Hostel) levies and interest which are taken up as income when invoices are raised.

Gifts received by the church which are to be forwarded to other parties, and subsequent payments made to those outside parties, are not included in the income or expenses of the church.

b) Expenses

Expenses are recognised when paid, apart from:

Provisions made for study leave, unspent allocations made from the Mission Aid & Development budget and other minor expenses.

No provision is made for accrued employee entitlements.

c) Property and Equipment

The Statement of Financial Position does not reflect the values of property (land & buildings) or equipment owned by the church. Major expenses for equipment and maintenance are written off against the Property Reserve Fund (see also Note 7).

The Baptist Union of Victoria is the registered proprietor of the property and capital proceeds received from the sale of property must be used for future property purchases or building improvements.

d) Income Tax

The church being a charity is exempt from income tax. Accordingly no provision for income tax has been made in the accounts.

2) Ministers' Exempt Benefits Cheque Accounts.

Included in Current Assets are cheque accounts held by the church for the payment of the exempt benefits part of the stipend packages for pastoral staff. A corresponding liability is also shown in Current Liabilities for the amount owing to the staff.

3) Other Activities

Not reflected in the financial statements are the financial activities of the Vietnamese Congregation and the Possums Playgroup.

4) Barnabas Fund:

Funds held in trust for the Barnabas Fund of \$30,920 as at 1 December 2011 were repaid to Mission Enterprises on that date. Details of the Fund's operations from 1 July 2011 to 1 December 2011 are as follows:

	2012	2011
Balance at beginning of year	35,930	36,302
Add Receipts:		
Donations	2,800	18,000
Other Income	451	1,288
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,181	55,590
Less Payments:		
Repayment to Mission Enterprises	30,920	-
Support of various needs, missions & missionaries	7,460	18,860
Contributions to Kew Baptist Church	800	800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,181	19,660
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at end of year	-	35,930
Balance at the end of year is made up of:		
Barnabas Fund Cheque Account	-	15,930
Loan to Student Residence	-	20,000
Funds held at end of year	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	35,930.01

5) Bequests Fund

Balance at beginning of year	63,684	63,684
Add Receipts:		
Bequests received	15,839	-
Other Gifts	1,706	-
	<u>81,229</u>	<u>63,684</u>
Less: Payments		
Church signage	(3,283)	-
	<u>(3,283)</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>77,946</u>	<u>63,684</u>

6) Property Reserve Fund:

Balance at beginning of year	21,165	28,895
Add: Receipts		
Contributions received from tenants	-	13,400
Donations received for church lighting etc	2,900	-
Donations received for manse renovations	16,150	27,110
	<u>40,215</u>	<u>69,405</u>
Less: Payments		
Basketball Court - various repairs	(10,509)	-
Manse renovations	(60,233)	(45,909)
Computers	(2,543)	-
Hall Eaves	(2,438)	-
Audio Equipment	(5,099)	-
Outgoings re manse (when tenanted)	-	(1,616)
Foyer Mats	-	(215)
Sound equipment	-	(500)
	<u>(80,822)</u>	<u>(48,240)</u>
Overdrawn balance at end of year	<u>(40,608)</u>	<u>21,165</u>

7) Gifts Received & Paid

The following gifts were received and paid out as designated by the donors. These are not included in the Income & Expenditure Statement.

	Received	Paid
BWAA	495	495
Crossover	50	50
Global Interaction (re May Mission appeal - proceeds were used to pay for Buton car project in Indonesia & GiA internship fees)	33,301	33,185
Theological College of Central Africa	100	100
Pallege Litana, Zambia	700	700
Carrical	80	80
Prison Network Ministries	200	200
Butterfly Hospice	304	304
Celebrate Messiah	561	561
Various	150	150
General mission giving (received 2010/11)	554	-
	<u>36,494</u>	<u>35,825</u>

Balance of gifts not paid out (to be paid out in year ended 30 June 2013)	<u>669</u>
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8) Mission Aid & Development Allocations

Details of support paid are as follows:

John & Janine Barclay (Interserve, India)	5,055
David & Erryl Edwards (GiA, Indonesia)	5,550
Mark & Val Holt (GiA, Indonesia)	2,775
Mat Hunter (World Horizons, Niger)	700
Natalie Smith (Leprosy Mission, East Timor)	2,800
Pastor & Mrs Tin Phan (Christian and Missionary Alliance, Cambodia)	2,800
Lisa Detlefson (MAF, Northern Australia)	700
Warwick & Natalie Short (SIM, Niger)	3,383
People in need	1,960
Prison Network Fellowship (Kew Pell)	550
Kew High School Chaplaincy	1,225
	<hr/> 27,498
Less Gifts received to assist with support	(1,750)
Net Payments	<hr/> 25,748 <hr/>

9) Accumulated Funds

Balance at beginning of year	61,853	18,471
Add		
Adjustments relating to prior year	2,624	-
	<hr/> 64,476	<hr/> 18,471
Add		
Surplus for the year	26,387	43,382
Balance at end of year	<hr/> 90,864	<hr/> 61,853 <hr/>



*Rosemary Carter,
Chaplain,
Kew High
School*



*John and Janine
Barclay and
Aidan

Hebron School,
India*



*Tin van Pham
and Anh Lam*

*Christian and
Missionary
Alliance,
Cambodia*



*Tim Hunter,
Broad Horizons
Niger*



*Sarah Trebilcock
Intern,
Global
Interaction*



*Warwick and
Natalie Short,
Hudson, Sahara,
Japheth
SIM, Niger*

Giving our gifts to the church is an act of worship to God, and they are used both within the church to help achieve what God wants for us and the community in Kew, but also to aid evangelistic and development work overseas.

KEW BAPTIST CHURCH
ABN 89 863 505 849
Independent Audit Report

To: The members of the Kew Baptist Church

Scope:

We have audited the financial statements, being a special purpose financial report comprising the Income and Expenditure statement and Statement of Financial Position, of the Kew Baptist Church for the period ended 30 June 2012. The committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain and they have determined that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion to the members of the Kew Baptist Church.

The financial statements have been prepared for distribution to the members for the purposes of the requirements of the members. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility, for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements prepared as a special purpose financial report to which it relates, to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with the application of accounting standards and the basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

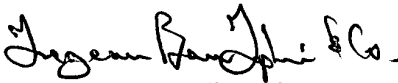
The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.


Qualification

- (a) It is not practical to establish audit control over the various offerings, gifts and other income and donations, cash disbursements etc until their initial entry in the accounting records. Our audit relating to such income and disbursements was therefore limited to the amounts recorded.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, subject to the above qualification, the financial statements present fairly in accordance with the accounting policies the financial position of The Kew Baptist church as at 30 June 2012 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.


Firm: Tregear Bain Taplin & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Suite 3 43 Railway Road
Blackburn Vic 3130


Partner: David J Taplin FCA

Date: 17/8/2012

MAINTENANCE

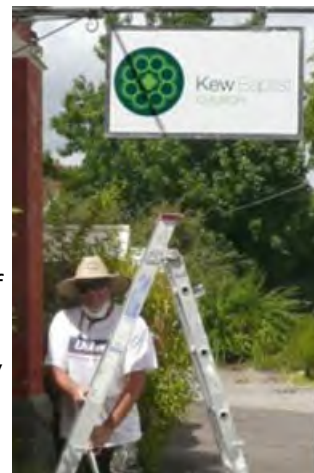
During the 2011-2012 year, we completed the manse upgrading, and refurbished the basketball court. Apart from that, much of the work has been relatively minor, such as electrical, plumbing and the like, the eaves to the rear of the hall had to be replaced due to damage caused by blocked underground drainage not allowing down pipes to function.

We are grateful to our regular maintenance people such as Trevor Pell, our electrician and Graeme Seeley, our plumber, both of whom do excellent work.

Because the Ministries Facilities Group is looking at possible plans for future development of the property, we are holding off on other needed repairs.

We are grateful that Mark Hibbins has volunteered to do some of the grounds maintenance, such as mowing the lawns, trimming hedges and the like.

Stephen McLean



At last, the signs are up!

MINISTRY FACILITIES' GROUP

The Ministry Facility Group (MFG) has been set up to address some immediate needs for church facilities and to dream big on how our buildings and land can best serve us in to the future. Discussing possibilities and finding the best solution for the different needs of our diverse community has proved to be a challenging exercise. We've had a lot of discussion to this point regarding ideas and what the needs are for the present and future of the church. To help us, we have now spoken with three architects, one of whom may help come up with a rough master plan.

The MFG has aimed to be transparent and inclusive of all the different groups in the church involving members from the Student Residence committee, Student Residence, morning church, NightChurch and Vietnamese congregations. We have been working hard to come up with an action plan to bring to the church on what to do and how to go forward. Shortly we will decide which architect we feel most comfortable to go forward with and then we'll put our recommendation to the church. A huge thanks must go to all who have been giving up their time and efforts for the long term future benefit of the church. These things don't happen quickly, or easily. Thanks also must go to God for his involvement in the meetings and the process thus far. We are believing for his vision and purpose to come in to reality as we go forward.

If you have further questions or some input, please contact me on 0423762672 or email the.holley.ghost@gmail.com. Thank you

Tom Holley, Chairperson

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS' MINISTRY

KEW STUDENT RESIDENCE

It doesn't quite feel right focusing this report on half of last year and half of this year. The Res year really does feel complete at the end of a calendar year – each year bringing a new set of people, personalities, dynamics, difficulties, joys and celebrations. And the past 12 months has been no exception.

Semester two of 2011 continued much the same as the first. Students studied, they also did a lot of playing and socialising. The 1920s themed formal in September was enjoyed by all who attended. Our end of year BBQ involved an afternoon at the Kew Croquet Club, whose members kindly taught us the game. Surprisingly croquet is more fun than it sounds!

During 2011 we had a number of students suffer from different psychological crises and illnesses. In some instances, the fact that those students were here rather than living in a share house proved to be of huge significance in the way they were cared for. Helping people in situations such as this was new for the staff, and consequently we undertook a mental health first aid course. We share about this because it reinforces the need for a place such as the Res. In this world where so much pressure is put on young people and those who have just moved away from home may be struggling with identity and self-esteem, to have the opportunity to live somewhere where they are supported in a safe environment is paramount. As you know, the Res has been a place of significant growth and connection for many over the past 50 years.

And so 2012 marked 50 years since the Res was established, and a weekend of celebrations was held on February 11th and 12th. The Main Event was held on the Saturday night and about 140 people (including some residents from 1962) gathered to catch up, meet, share memories and celebrate. John Sampson's book *The Rev. Arthur Wilkins and the Kew Student Residence* was officially launched at this event. The book provides a fantastic overview and history of the vision for the Res and the way it has played out. It also highlights the contributions of each of the managers. A

celebratory church service was held on the Sunday morning and Sam Farmilo (her parents were managers here in the early 90's) spoke excellently on community. More than 100 people looked through the Res during the Saturday and Sunday afternoons and during the weekend there were many comments about the positive impact the Res has had on people's lives. This weekend confirmed what we already know – there is no doubt that God has been working in this place and the people who have lived here since its foundation 50 years ago. Many people contributed to making this weekend a success – too numerous to name, but nonetheless greatly appreciated.

The 2012 year has begun much like any other. Again, O week was lots of fun and students began getting to know each other. Thankfully we had another full intake, despite lower applications than normal. The first semester has held all the usual events – Relay for Life, Easter Meal, Family Weekend (ex-Res team were victorious in the footy and the Res in the netball) and State Youth Games. Three mixed netball teams played in a competition in Clifton Hill, meaning about 30 students were taking part. One of these teams even managed to win their grandfinal. Two indoor cricket teams (one boys and one girls) also played in a T20 competition each week. We are thankful for the way this year's students blend together and accept each other. There is a significant group of students who regularly attend NightChurch and are involved in the music team, leading services and helping at crèche.



Relay for life

During 2011 the wooden floor of the managers' residence was replaced under insurance due to a dishwasher leak. We purchased and installed a Combi-oven, which has made a big difference to the quality of food and the ease and safety in which it is prepared. Many smaller maintenance tasks were carried out. Over the summer significant maintenance was undertaken in the Res and the Highbury Grove House. The original electrical wiring in the Rangeview property was replaced. This was a huge task as carpets and floorboards were lifted and all external conduit removed and wiring placed into the walls. Newspapers from 1924 were found in the floor of some bedrooms. The finished project means electrical work is now much safer and easier to track. Consequently new carpets were laid upstairs on the old side. The Highbury Grove House kitchen and laundry were fully gutted and replaced with a new kitchen and dining area.

We are thankful for the many people who give huge parts of their lives to get to know the Res students and be involved in their lives. The 2011 Highbury Grove House group were fantastic to work with and they developed some strong and significant relationships with students. We thank Dan Follent, Kate Steel, Jono Davenport, Mat Hunter and Jane Watson for the commitment they showed. It's not easy to live in The House – from the outside it may look like a really fun, cheap and rosy place to live – but behind all of that, these people persevere through many challenges, living out their commitment to serve the Res community. We are incredibly grateful the God has given such people his compassion and love to share with others here at the Res. We acknowledge the contributions The House of 2012 have made and are eager to see the way God uses them in the rest of this year. So thanks to Dan Lansdown, Mel Hill, Hamish Lindsay, Steph Pittard and Steph Millar. Already they have given so much and we know God will be faithful in not just working through them, but in growing them through the experiences they have this year and leading them to serve him further in the future.

Tim Hunter finished his two years as support staff at the end of 2011. Known for his questions, and colloquial terms of 'flip', and 'what the heck', Tim's contributions to relationships and the genuine care for and interest he shows in others, have been incredibly valuable. We are glad that Tim still visits the Res from time to time. A very capable Ash Moore (who not only organises lots of big events, but has lots of energy, is fun, is generous in the time she gives others and earnestly seeks to know God more) was joined this year by Graeme Younger in the support staff role. As mentioned in previous reports, without the leadership structure of support staff and the Highbury Grove House, the effectiveness of the Res ministry would diminish hugely. These people have prioritised weekly prayer meetings, and we are certain that this has opened avenues for God to work in greater ways in the Res.

Our senior students (Andrew Bowden and Sarah Trebilcock in 2011, and Marny Croot and Jadon Dutra in 2012) take up a tough task. It can be difficult to be a friend to students, while also having a greater sense of responsibility to lead and where necessary challenge their peers. We are thankful for their courage in taking on such a role.

The support of the Res committee and the thinking and praying they give is greatly valued. Leonie Hibbins, Tim Jones, Sheila King, Amy Hunter, Nic Barclay, Ryan Harper and Nic Tuohy have all made valuable contributions as committee members and keep us accountable and on track. We not only appreciate their role in the oversight of the Res, but their care for our wellbeing. And of course the church's prayer and support of the Res is acknowledged and appreciated.

In the year ahead we hope to strengthen the ministry of the house, continue to develop a community that supports and loves each other well, including sharing God's love with those who don't know him and equipping the members of his family. We also hope to work with the Church to develop shared goals and ministry opportunities. Each day we set out to serve God and love well. Every now and then we get this right, and often we don't, but we are thankful for God's grace covering our shortcomings.

It truly is a privilege to serve in this ministry. We feel incredibly blessed to have this opportunity. Reflecting on the year and the many good things that have happened, the memories that have been created and the lives that have been changed, encourages us to look ahead with anticipation to what God will continue to do through the Res.

Stephen and Michelle Duke



Memories from the past – 50 Year Celebration Main Event, February 11th, 2012

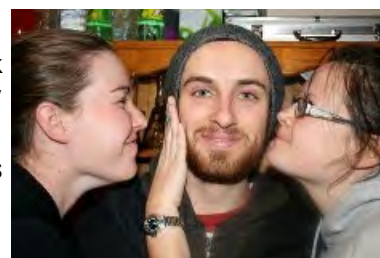
THE HOUSE

2012, what a year it has been so far! 50 new people is daunting and coming in being new to Kew was a challenge, but what an incredible blessing and privilege it has been.

We started the year as is tradition by heading down to Nagambie with the Dukes, Ash Moore, Graeme Younger and The House (Hamish Lindsay, Steph Millar, Daniel Lansdown, Steph Pittard and Melanie Hill) to retreat, get to know each other and soak up all that God had for us! It included a whole lot of fun filled times with some sneaky little adventures!

Most of the house team moved in after this retreat into a newly renovated house! It is beautiful and if you haven't had a chance to check it out, please do!!

We really want to thank all of you for your prayers for us as a house, the Res and the growth of God's kingdom this year. We have been incredibly blessed and can see that God has done and is doing such insanely amazing things! I encourage you to keep praying for the Res students and for all those involved in it!



Dan and the Stephs



O-week kicked off as the Res students began to settle into uni life and the big city all without family close by. Monday night we enjoyed adventures including an amazing race style activity around Kew and into the city which saw some interesting and creative outfits! Tuesday we played some monstrous messy games in the Hall. Wednesday included a well needed relaxing music, cafe and games night. Thursday we headed down to St Kilda beach for some Frisbee, cubbadee and some 'fresh' swimming, ending the week with the traditional and very entertaining house warming party!



Another tradition was carried on this year with the res entering a team for Relay for Life. This was a fun evening with loads of incredible dedication (Thanks to Jacob Taylor and Reuben Langerak just to name a few), lack of sleep and encouraging chats.

We've had so many adventures. The Dandenongs. Easter Roast. Spontaneous Queensland trip. Climbing. Lots of birthdays, parties and dancing. Lots of movies, pool and food (including many Res Students cooking for us! So good!). Anzac day dawn service. Hospitality lunch. Family weekend which included footy, netball and some hard core bush dancing. State Youth Games. Sticky Date cook off and so much more.

We have also been able to host the new girls' gathering. This is a fun and exciting new event held every few months to unite the young women on Kew. A relaxed time of sharing stories, coffee and prayer.

During the uni holidays Dan Lansdown and Steph Millar along with some other thrill seekers journeyed all across Victoria (literally) visiting all the res students families. Some very entertaining stories resulted!!

As fun as living in the house is and going on countless adventures, it is much more. We have loved the opportunities that we have been blessed with to invest in the lives of those living at Res and also having them teach and encourage us. Please take the



time to get to know them as they are such an incredible bunch of young people. We have had lots of really good conversations filled with tears, laughter, lots of questions and lots of opportunities to pray for and encourage. God is crazy good and he has been at work throughout this year. What an incredible blessing it has been to watch this unfold. There has been a tonne of growing and lots of challenges but God has been faithful and gracious!

Please continue to pray for us as a house, for the hearts and lives of the students at the Res, Ash and Graeme and the Dukes!

Melanie Hill, on behalf of Daniel Lansdown, Steph Pittard, Hamish Lindsay and Steph Millar.



POSSUMS' LITTLE LEARNERS

There's a pre-school song that says; Changes, Changes everywhere, But if you sit and stare you stay the same. Just sit and stare, stay the same, sit and stare; **CHANGE!**

We all know about Change. Sometimes I think we wish we could just sit and stare, even for a little while.

While the playgroup ministry has essentially held onto many of its founding values, it too has over the years faced many changes. Some changes have proved more challenging than others. Most have caused us to have to take some sort of action. Right at this moment we are exploring the issue of sustainability of the playgroup ministry into the future. We, like everyone else, face rising costs, and we're not quite clear on where the extra funds needed will come from.

Meanwhile, in the past 12 months we have successfully applied for and received two generous grants that allowed us to purchase a set of large wooden blocks for outdoor play (thank you city of Boroondara) and also some fabulous new climbing equipment (thank you Bendigo bank). We purchased some new indoor toys from the proceeds of our annual toy catalogue fundraiser.

Maintenance of the grounds, playrooms and hall was addressed at the working bees held during the year when we look forward to meeting up with others from Kew Baptist who also use the facilities.

The welcome BBQ, dad's day and traffic school outing provided great opportunities for our families to meet together, and the Christmas children's church service have us another opportunity for our families to meet yours!

When our Tuesday 11.30 playgroup failed to meet the required number of enrolments we disbanded it and allocated those enrolled to our other groups. This created a space that has now been filled with a group of first time mums and their bubs. A new learning experience for us all. **CHANGES, CHANGES!**

This year we said goodbye and thank you to Jennifer Bede who at 78 years of age felt she needed to retire from active duty as one of our little learners assistants. Jennifer was a valued member of staff much loved by the children, parents and me. With Anastasia Panagiotidis adding Jennifer's sessions to her own, this change was managed relatively smoothly.

The church voluntary helpers and the committee made up of parent representatives and church representatives continue to be a source of great encouragement and support to the playgroup ministry, and bring much enthusiasm to the tasks it undertakes on behalf of our Possums community. Each year there are changes to this group as we farewell and welcome and then bond as we work towards a common goal – the health and wellbeing of the community.

We look forward with anticipation to what lies ahead. Already ideas are being sought on how we can celebrate our 25th anniversary next year. We know there will be **CHANGES, CHANGES,**

Oh, to just sit and stare? Not likely.

BUT, we face the future confidently because there is one underpinning stabilising factor, and that is that Jesus is the same, yesterday, today, forever. **PRAISE GOD!**

Miriam Schmidt, Possums co-ordinator.

CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

I have the pleasure of teaching grade fives at Kew Primary School each Tuesday. Before class I meet with my team leader Andrew Price and two others in a High Street coffee shop and we encourage each other and pray before "going in to battle".

In prior years my classes have been much smaller, but thanks to some good work that Andrew did I now have 21, of which one or two attend Kew Baptist (and they give the best answers).

It is a challenge for me as I am not a trained teacher and I try to be a friend to them, so from time to time the discipline suffers.

However, I give them a test at the end of each term and am encouraged that they have remembered so much.

CRE is good because if you follow the curriculum, you have freedom to explain what Christians believe and what it is to have a relationship with God. It may be the only time they hear that.

You may have read in the news that some people are trying to mount a court case to remove CRE from schools. It would be a great pity if they succeed.

Ray Leigh

BOOST YOUTH

What we are thankful for:

- We are really thankful to have such an amazing team of leaders to be working with in the youth ministry. Each of them gives generously of their time, energy and money to invest in the youth which brings us to our next point. We are really thankful for what God has been doing in the lives of the youth.
- We have been sharing the gospel with them in as many ways as possible and it is always a highlight to see them share what they have learned.
- Over the last year we have also really enjoyed having the extra support and leadership from the Makar girls. Their input has been really valuable and greatly appreciated.

Some things we have learned over the last year:

- The importance of being prepared for our Friday night events and have a good balance of familiarity and freshness.
- The value of being united through prayer before and after each week's Boost Youth meeting.
- God's faithfulness every week despite us.
- God's creativeness coming out through the leadership team.
- The value of having a united wider community who are choosing to invest in the youth, whether prayerfully, financially or for the few invited guests who have used the gifts in teaching.

The vision for the future:

- To evangelize and disciple the youth so that God would grow this ministry wider and deeper. Wider so that more youth would hear of Jesus and deeper so that more would choose to follow Him daily and grow in their relationship with Him.

Changes in the future:

- We are working towards closer ties with the other Baptist churches in our area to share resources, ideas and energy.

Please pray for the youth and the leadership team:

Please continue to pray for the youth ministry at Kew which has seen signs of new growth emerging. Pray that the youth will know God's love for them and will respond to His sacrifice in their lives.

Finally: ESA Camp at Anglesea was an exciting extension of our work with the youth. Especially because we had James Worboyes, Sunny and Julie Choi as well as Ash Moore's younger sisters Kirsten and Kaitlyn with us.

Again we would really like to thank our outstanding team of leaders who make this ministry an enormous success. Their constant hard work and dedication pays off every week. We really enjoy working with each one of them so thank you again to Laura Holley, Jennie Taylor, Beth Strange, Tim Gray and Simon Pickering.

James and Coby Docking

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CRECHE

Another year in Sunday School!

Again, we have been up and down in a few areas (student attendance still being inconsistent, though improving!) but the teaching team have not lost their passion for sharing the love and word of God with the children of KBC.

In the last 12 months we have seen three SS led/focussed services which is a great joy! It is so important to hear and share our kids' ideas about faith and God and these services are a great way to encourage and nurture their individual relationships with Jesus - it's a really exciting thing.

For the future, it would be good to pray about:

- A new person to led/coordinate the SS and crèche programs. Liz Pell is in the role temporarily (thank you Liz).
- Continued strength and enthusiasm for the teachers and crèche volunteers
- Greater family engagement and attendance (I *COMPLETELY* understand that this is really challenging as all families are busy)
- And perhaps most importantly, that our children come to know and love God and choose to enter into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Personally I need to thank the teachers over the last few years, but especially those teaching in 2012: Jennie Taylor, Natalie Pell, Ann Seeley, Helen Berger, Veronique Schocroft, Kyle Horton and Andy Mitchell. I have been somewhat distracted and hard to contact for much for this year – these folks have pressed on and not complained, delivering lessons for our kids each week. I also extend a heartfelt thank you to Ronnie Coffey and her troupe of fabulous crèche volunteers. Things have been organised well and the kids are always happy to go – a sign that things are running smoothly! Well done to you all and thank you. I am also very grateful to these people for their support and understanding of me and my family in a stressful time.

There is a large part of me that is sad to step away from the coordinator's role. I don't necessarily *want* to stop, but I feel it is the right time and that God will provide the right person to step in. I thank God for the opportunity to serve in the KBC community and pray that he is pleased with what we have accomplished. Thank you to the wider congregation who have prayed for and supported me and the team over the last few years.

Jenn Trevaskis

ADULT AND SENIORS MINISTRY

CHAT AND CHEW, KARANA

The death of Kingsley Smith in November 2011 meant new beginnings for the monthly Chat and Chew gatherings at Karana, which Kingsley initiated and has led very ably for several years. After a short break, John McLerie (one of the Chaplains at Karana), Nicholas Tuohy and other KBC people have re-established the regular lunch meetings, and these continue to be much appreciated by the men who attend. We thank the staff from Karana for providing the meal, and also others who help with the program.

KEW GARDENS

At the request of Keith Matthies, I agreed to run a monthly "service" at the facility where he and his wife Betty live with 100 or so older aged people.

They like to sing hymns and, when it is possible, David Mynard provides the music, which makes it so much better. I speak for about ten minutes on Bible based subjects with the aim of gently challenging them to remain strong in their faith and for those who are not Christians to think about it.

On my first day two people walked out before I had even started when they found out I wasn't a proper Pastor, but one of those has been a regular attendee since. About 20 attend, with only three men in the group. Some are in wheel chairs and many have walking frames and they require assistance to get too and from the Chapel which is within the facility. We have met four times and so far so good.

They are a nice group of people and I hope we are achieving something.

Ray Leigh

KARANA COMMUNITY

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases".

As I reflect on the last year at Karana this is the verse that comes to mind as it has been a heavy year with the deaths of many dear folk and especially several who supported the ministry here.

God's love and provision has been amazing as the gaps on the Chapel roster have been filled and two mid-week services and special Sunday morning services continue to nurture the faith of those who attend. During the week attendances are 12-18 people and on Sundays approximately thirty residents are able to come to the service. These times are a very real blessing.

We are very thankful for Ken Manley's and Ian Paxton's willingness to lead the monthly communion services following the deaths of Rev Dr Basil Brown and Rev Kingsley Smith. The Sunday services are also wonderfully supported by our regular volunteers Gil and Margaret Robinson and Kevin and Jean Trevarthen. The support and care they offer enriches the lives of many people including those who lead the services so we give thanks for the ongoing ministry started by Miss Phil Taylor 16 years ago. This time of monthly fellowship around the Lord's table with Bible readings and the singing of long remembered hymns offers soul food in a form familiar to most residents.

The monthly Bible studies continue and have covered the parables and teachings of Jesus in Luke's Gospel and recently we have begun studying the letter to the Philippians. There are 4-6 residents who attend this time of sharing, study and prayer.

Karana is going through a time of transition. Ruth Searle is still the longest term resident who has been here over twenty years. She played the organ for services until the last few years however she recently played a few hymns for her own pleasure on the new digital piano which has been kindly donated. Ruth was thrilled to know she could still play the familiar hymns without looking at the music and with the piano set to sound like an organ. Basil Swanton also provides amazing musical support in leading the singing when we do not have a pianist on Thursdays as well as handing out the hymn books.

Both Ruth and Basil and many others here at Karana pray faithfully for the staff and other residents which enhances the life of the community. The faith and living example of many is an encouragement to John McLerie and I as we seek to serve and strengthen the faith of others.

The goal for the year ahead is to continue to provide meaningful pastoral support to the 93 residents through one to one contact, prayer support and chapel services. We aim to spiritually nurture all residents regardless of their faith tradition or no faith traditions.

This report would not be complete without acknowledging the wonderful support provided by Felicity Rentos and her group of amazing women in the Lifestyle team. Baptcare recently received a Better Practice Award for the significant teamwork that occurs between Pastoral Care and Lifestyle staff.

Ruth Prentice, Chaplain

LADIES' EVENING FELLOWSHIP

What is the Ladies Evening Fellowship?

- It's an enjoyable night out once a month.
- It's listening to an interesting variety of speakers (most evenings we have a speaker, often someone from our own church here at KBC who has been involved in a mission or work experience in another culture).
- It's a connection with young people in the church who come to speak.
- It's the chance to contribute as a team to mission projects like our own sponsor child in Uganda.
- It's fellowship over supper.
- It's encouraging each other in our faith journeys.
- It embodies a sense of community and caring.



Elva Dyer, Anastasia Panagiotidis, Edith Lyall, Judith Backholer, Elizabeth Dodgshun, Liz Pell, Shirley Tape, Natalie Pell, Janelle Benwell, Amanda Tuohy, Deirdre Willis, Audrey Bennett

Each of the ladies who regularly attends makes a valuable contribution to the LEF, some taking on specific leadership roles. This year Elva Dyer switched from the Co-ordinators role to a less time consuming contribution. We are thankful to God for her years of wise, gracious and committed service.

Liz Pell

CARRICAL BOARDING HOUSE

Over the last two years, I have had the pleasure of being part of a small team that visits Carrical to provide a delicious monthly BBQ dinner. Carrical is a Rooming house in Hawthorn which aims to provide safe, low rent housing. The residents are mostly men, and have a variety of backgrounds. Many have been homeless at different points in their life and a large proportion has been misunderstood by society due to living with a mental illness. It was out of curiosity that I started going along and it is because of the great friendships with the residents that I keep going.

Just as Jesus used meals to build relationships, sharing a meal with these guys has opened up the door for great conversations. We discuss topics that vary from faith, politics, philosophy and personal experiences to the footy. Often they are surprisingly frank about sharing their experiences of living with a mental illness and often they share fatherly advice with me that comes from a place of living a tough life which has seen a great deal more than me. I am reminded each time that every human being deserves dignity, love and respect and that God's grace is extended to us all. After dinner we sometimes play a game of cards or some pool and have a great time. I can honestly say that for the team, the Carrical dinners are one of the highlights for our month.

We appreciate your continued prayer for the wonderful residents at Carrical and also for the team, that God would continue to develop friendships between Kew Baptist and Carrical and nurture the conversations that take place there. Also pray that God will open more doors and give us opportunities to build relationships with other Rooming houses in our local community. Finally, if you are at all interested in joining the team and coming to Carrical we would love to have you on board!

Grace Loh



Carrical resident with Steve Taylor

MISSION AND EVANGELISM

GLOBAL MISSION TEAM (previously known as the Mission, Aid and Development (MAD) Group)

It has been great to meet during the year with the aim of exploring how our church can be more effective in making a difference in the world, particularly in the sphere of cross-cultural mission.

A significant activity of the group in 2012 was the preparation of the '**Beyond Kew' Global Mission Policy**. The policy sets a course for the church in its ministry beyond the local area, with a focus on cross-cultural ministry. It ensures activities are strategic, coordinated and effective, creating transparency in decision-making and providing clear understanding of roles and responsibilities.

Our hope is that the policy will help our church to:

- Play a part in introducing those in least-reached people groups to Jesus
- Identify potential cross-cultural workers and encourage all church participants to participate in cross-cultural mission
- Financially, prayerfully and practically support identified cross-cultural workers and organisations

Anticipating endorsement at the church gathering, an implementation plan has been prepared that will establish procedures over a twelve-month period.

An outcome of our preparation of the Global Mission Policy was to realise that by more thoroughly addressing the cross-cultural aspects of the Group's aims, other aspects, namely areas of local ministry and mission, would be more appropriately addressed by the church as a whole. The change of name from MAD Group to Global Mission Team reflects the more specific focus on cross-cultural ministry beyond the local area.

In 2012 KBC facilitated a Global Interaction **internship** for Sarah Trebilcock, a NightChurch attendee and former Res student. Sarah has been an active member of the Global Mission Team, has participated in mission-related events and has been the 'go-to' person for young adults interested in global mission.



Steve Taylor, Susan Campbell, Sarah Trebilcock working on the polict document

The internship involves study at Whitley and Syndal Baptist, a Global Xposure trip, mentoring and regular meetings with interns from other churches. We are thankful for the opportunity to see God move in Sarah's life.

Interest and enthusiasm for God's movement among **indigenous Australians** was evident at a Global Mission Team event in April. Tanya Pell and Stuart Jamieson shared stories, photos and thoughts about life in Amata, (South Australia) and many morning and NightChurch attendees enjoyed an inspiring evening. It was also great to connect with workers for whom KBC provides financial support: **Mark Holt** via Skype and **Lisa Detlefson, John and Janine Barclay, David and Eryl Edwards** during services.



During May Mission Month, the Global Mission Team supported **Moved**, a whole church series produced by Global Interaction. In services and small groups, people used the multimedia resources to learn, discuss and be challenged in increase involvement in global mission.

We are thankful for the generosity of the church in giving financially to the **May Mission Month appeal** that raised funds for a car for Global Interaction workers in South East Asia and for the Kew internship. (Details of the giving received are shown in Note 7 in the Finance Report).

It was also good that the church supported various missionaries and gave help to people in need; details of this are shown in Note 8 in the Finance Report.

As a team, we are learning to work with various challenges, including:

- Maintaining awareness and interest for KBC-supported workers with a highly transient church community
- Being strategic and effective while addressing various interests of many people
- Using multiple and varied communication methods to convey information to the church

During the year ahead, we will focus our energies on implementing the Global Mission Policy, which will see an increase in the engagement of the church in global mission, improved supportive relationships with our cross-cultural workers and hopefully evidence of more people coming to know Jesus. It is our desire that KBC become a sending community, identifying, supporting and sending out people from within our walls to places beyond Kew.

Global Mission Team

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Christianity Explored was an 8 week course which ran during May and June. The course was an opportunity for people to learn more about Jesus by going through the book of Mark and watching mini DVD presentations. With a core group of regulars that returned each week we got to explore Jesus, why He came, why He died, and grace.

It was so exciting to have both believers and non-believers alike to question what we really believe and why. I loved seeing people be challenged, to see God stir hearts, to hear how much people felt comfortable and loved when they came to the night, to enjoy being in that environment. Christianity Explored served as a place where we could pose the difficult questions freely, where we could be encouraged to seek God, and where we could be challenged to take a hold of this faith for ourselves. I say we because I got so much out of it too!

God blessed us with people who served up delicious meals and cleaned up so that we could spend time with participants—that was an incredible help and I feel like I saw more clearly and dearly how much of a spiritual act of service that was.

The course was short but it is so good to be able to have and continue new friendships and explore the Bible together (albeit less often than we'd all like!). Please pray that those who came would continue to desire to learn more about God and experience Him as Lord in their lives. There is more to come.

Amy Willams

