



Kew Baptist
CHURCH

Celebrating the Faithfulness of God



10am 156th Anniversary



Vietnamese Christmas



NightChurch 10th Anniversary

2013 Annual Report

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KBC Life and Ministries

Senior Pastor Reflection

"One would have to say this has been a fairly tough year for me as Pastor within this community. I must admit that there have been more mornings than I would like when I have woken with some troubling issue of the church's life running around in my head before my eyes are open."

The above extract is from the KBC Senior Pastor's report of 1992. The whole report makes for sad reading with a discouraged, frustrated, sad and hurt leader of this community, expressing this in his report to the church. I don't bring this to the surface to open old wounds or to recall painful times. I raise it as a caution; through ignorance of the past, history has a way of repeating. We handled change and transition unwisely 20 years ago as a church. Though over 80% of our current church was not here in 1992, culture can be a tricky thing. We have a fresh chance now to handle it well and wisely.

By the grace of God alone, I'm so thankful and glad that as I write my report on the year, I do so with such a heart full of thanks and praise for all God has done and is doing among us. I'm excited at what God has for us in the future. I thank God that I sleep well at nights and wake up looking forward to spending time with the Lord and serving him and his people at KBC. And I'd really like to think that's what all of you would like for me as your pastor. Can you pray with me and for me that I can remain healthy and strong in life and faith? Can you continue to encourage me and affirm me as I serve the Lord with you? For this is what I long for with regards to you: strong and healthy followers of Jesus, encouraged and serving him in love and faith. So let's look at the year.



Some Sad points first- Farewelling the Duke family, Tom & Laura Holley, Andy Mitchell (now youth pastor at Beaumaris Baptist), Corey & Grace Leslie, the loss of 40 years of experienced church leadership with the resignations of Steve Taylor (Treasurer) and Grace Munro (Secretary) from the Diaconate. Some members of our church losing loved ones was, and is, a source of sadness.

Preaching & Teaching- We finished our 12 months through the *Gospel of John* at 10am and followed it with a *mission focus* in May with NightChurch, Mini-series on *Nehemiah*, *Church with a Mission* by Rev David Devine, and now, with NightChurch into the *Seven Letters* series. At NightChurch we had series on the *Holy Spirit*, *Sexuality*, the *Letter of James*, *Learning to Pray*, and *Life with Jesus*. A lot of time, energy and prayer go into preaching but it is for good reason: a church without Christ-centred and biblical preaching and teaching is actually not a church at all. I am thankful to the preaching gifts and ministry of those in our church who have shared in this ministry: Ken Manley, Frank Rees, Paul Pallot, Susan Campbell, Amanda Tuohy, and Wendy Henry. (As an aside, I have been trying to keep up to date with uploading sermons to our website, and over the past year over 2000 sermons have been downloaded).



Old City, Jerusalem



Sea of Galilee

Was a joy to welcome the **Chatelier Family** in the Res. Their swiftness and skill in picking things up, and doing a wonderful job with the dedicated Res Committee, sees KBC strengthened by their gifts and leadership.

The House- It has been a joy to have Dan, Mel, Kristy, Katie and Will making such an impact through their hospitality and serving of Res & NightChurch. They, and all our young adults, really are delightful young people.

The Celebration of 10 years of NightChurch- A wonderful evening put together by Kez Pell, Michelle Edwards and Luke Gibbons. Praise God that this ministry has continued to grow and strengthen.

Global Mission Team- It is wonderful to be part of a church with an eye on our call and responsibility to take the



MasterChef with Vietnamese Church

Good News of Jesus to the ends of the earth. This team is working well in keeping us as a church focussed and accountable for the Great Commission.

New Ministry Centre and Hall refurbishment- How grateful I am for this new and beneficial space we have created. The new Ministry Centre is regularly used for meetings and administration purposes. With talk about the inadequacy of the old church offices going back a decade or so, it is a blessing to have finally acted and we are reaping the benefit. Thankyou to those who personally gave financially to see this through and for those who worked to make it happen:

Stephen McLean, Tom Holley and Phil Prior, as well as many volunteers.

Vietnamese Congregation- I am grateful to see the partnership growing and deepening with our Vietnamese church. The Ordination Service of Khoi and Tai a couple of weeks back was a special event to be a part of. This congregation has a life and community depth about it which is admirable, and Khoi and Karen Doan and their family are excessively generous in their service and leadership. I am excited to be working together on a joint mission trip to Vietnam in January 2014.

India Mission Trip— A physically, emotionally and spiritually gruelling two weeks, but one of the most significant experiences of my life and walk with God. I thank the church for releasing me to do this.

Biblical Lands Study Tour- A special and wonderful gift of spiritual renewal and biblical learning. Followed by two weeks annual leave in Italy and Israel in which Amanda and I celebrated 20 years of marriage.

Easter Week Celebrations- A full and meaningful time of reflection and worship. With a Passover dinner, prayer vigils, Maundy Thursday service, combined Good Friday service and Easter Sunday, it was a rich and powerful week of worship and devotion for many.

Family Ministry- I am grateful for the faithful leadership and service of Liz Pell and Jennie Taylor, and the other teachers, in their care and nurture of our children in Kids@Kew (Sunday School). James and Coby and their team have faithfully continued to lead our Boost Youth Ministry this year.

Ministry Team

Paul Pallot and Laura Baker stepped up this year as our NightChurch Team. I have been impressed and pleased with the way they have both served God and this community. They have been a blessing to us and continued and built on the good work of previous interns. They have shown initiative, servant hearts and dedication and I couldn't be happier with the way they have gone about their roles.

Lauren Morgan has continued to mold and shape the Administration role with skill, sensitivity and commitment. The church has been served well by her attention to detail, reliability, diligence and maturity to the Admin role. Moreover, Lauren's musical giftedness has been a strength and blessing to our gathered worship.



Luke & Romona Boswell Wedding

Pieter Keuneman came to us from the Anglican Church to discern whether God was leading him into Baptist ministry. As it turns out, this is not where Pieter believes God is leading him. I appreciated the devotion and skill Pieter offered in our worship ministry as well as his weekly visits to Possums to lead the children in song. The Palm Sunday service was a highlight for many. I wish Pieter and Sarah well for their future ministry.

Welcoming Wendy and David Henry into our fellowship. Wendy has brought a wealth of experience and pastoral skill to KBC which I know many are grateful for. Our Small Group ministry is growing in purpose and health. Pastoral care is being broadened to the biblical model of nurturing and facilitating mutual care and support across the church. Wendy has an evangelistic and discipleship emphasis to her oversight of pastoral care and small groups which I think has been timely for us as a church.

Deacons- KBC is a complex, and at times demanding church, with regards to property, finance, policies, insurance, ministry, people, programs and events. I wish to commend the faithful and sacrificial work of our Deacons: Ray Leigh (Chair), Steve Taylor (Treasurer), Felicia Prior (Interim Secretary) Deirdre Willis, Amy Repse, Phil Prior, and Geoff Trevaskis. I particularly want to thank Felicia for jumping into the deep end with the Secretary role and learning quickly and serving the church well.

Other Reflections- Some great things have started this year that are worth mentioning. The Mentoring program has been introduced to try and disciple and support our many young adults at NightChurch. Love Abbotsford has been a great initiative to embody the love of Jesus in real and practical ways to the community of residents in the public housing. The monthly visits to Carrical Rooming House are such a worthwhile ministry.

Our NightChurch continues to remain a strength and has had high attendances again this year. The challenge is continuing to train, mobilise and equip this generation for service and mission into the world. NightChurch is not a destination, but a season of preparation and discipleship for a lifetime of service and ministry for the kingdom of God. At the other end of the age spectrum we are honoured and blessed to have wise and Godly seniors who provide so much to us through their wisdom and experience.

The 10am congregation has continued its plateau since 2009. The church as a whole saw growth in attending from 2004-2009, predominantly through NightChurch. This was not reflected in our actual membership which has been pretty much the same for the past 15 years. But the active non-membership grew in the 2004-09 period. This was heartening as the church had been in decline for some years. However, things peaked in 2009 and started to show gradual decline from there. This has largely been in the 10am service as NightChurch has continued to show signs of growth. This is an area of concern for us. We have been carrying a gap in the 30-60 age group for some years. This means that we are just not seeing the natural successors coming up behind our current and recent Deacons: Ray, Steve, Grace, and Deirdre..

The area of families has been a concern for the church over the past two decades, with the 30-60yo demographic being one we have not been able to see flourish. There are no easy answers or quick fixes. We have had 80-100 families on our doorstep for 25 years in Possums but have not seen any fruit in them becoming followers of Jesus and integrated members in our church. We keep hoping and praying... We thank Miriam for her dedicated and high quality work with the children, and affirm that as a Playgroup and early childhood program, Possums has been outstanding for years, and is highly valued by those who attend.

It has been almost 4 years since Rod Pell concluded his ministry at KBC, but here are some of his thoughts in one of the last reports he wrote about potential areas of weakness and threat: "Irregular Sunday attendance making linking and connecting people difficult...Membership/ownership by the "middle order" limited...Danger of plateauing – staying where/as we are, or fragmenting due to diversity...Becoming comfortable/complacent rather than outward looking e.g. young families." Some sobering things to consider.

We are in a rapid time of social and international change that we can't ignore. The idea of folks attending a local church on Sundays has decreased and is decreasing. This is as exciting as it is concerning. Concerning because the familiar old structures and systems of how we did church are gone and going. Exciting because the Spirit of God is breathing new and innovative models and structures for the body of Christ. Our challenge will be not to hold tightly onto what will inevitably die, but to let the wind of the Spirit not only fill our sails, but provide us new boats. What is important is not to build monuments to the past, but plant seeds for the future. I hope and pray God will lavish grace and wisdom on us to navigate the course forward. It is no cliché: Fix our eyes on Jesus.

It really is a joy and privilege to serve among such an interesting and diverse community that Kew Baptist is. Heading into my 3rd year, I feel I have only just begun to get a handle on all the complexity and diversity. Amanda and I are seeking with all our heart to serve and love this community with everything he has given us. We can't be all things to all people, but I want you to know that we passionately love God and have given our lives to his service. Jesus is everything to us.

As we listen to the Spirit of God speaking to us through the letters of Jesus to the churches, we can be assured that God knows the concrete circumstances of this church. He knows where we are weak, strong, sinful, humble, obedient, stiff-necked, proud, gracious and loving. He sees our whole history. Nothing is hidden before him.

As Jesus counsels us in the seven letters: "Let those who have ears listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches." Lord, we are listening. Amen. In our Blessed Lord Jesus,

Nicholas Tuohy

Vietnamese Congregation

It has been a year of significant changes for the Vietnamese congregation, while we celebrate the blessings that we have received; we also acknowledge some of the ongoing challenges.

Recently, we held the 32nd Anniversary of the congregation. Some of you will still remember the early days in 1981, when this ministry began with a number of people from this congregation and through Rev Tin Nguyen. Over the last 32 years, we have seen many come to Christ through this ministry. Many of them are now leaders in various Vietnamese-speaking as well as English-speaking churches throughout Australia, including Cambodia. The people that we minister have changed over the years as early arrivals are no longer the dominant group. We now minister to well established Vietnamese Australians, the second generation, and many single parents, including a large number of Vietnamese overseas students.



Khoi & Karen

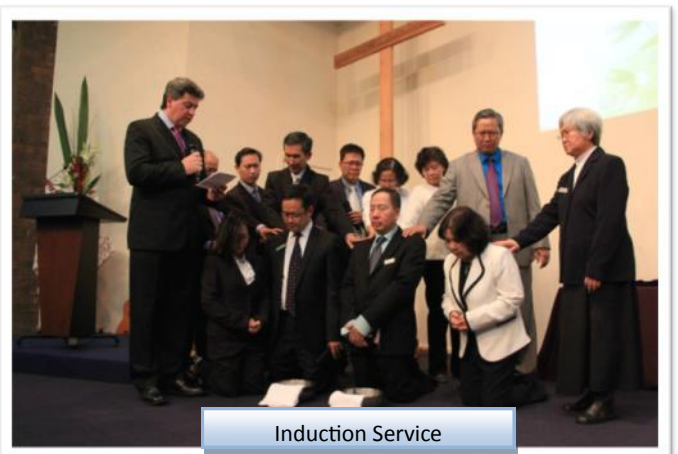
We have yet to see significant growth in active membership, but we do see a large growth of friends to the church. The potential is therefore great and this of course also demands greater amount of time and effort to be devoted to pastoral care and outreach ministries. So this year, God has presented us with a wonderful opportunity to have Pastor Tai Huynh and his wife, Ngu Tran. Both are completing their theological training, coming to join our congregation after a significant period of discernment for both the deacons and the couple. They will be assisting the congregation with the pastoral care and outreach ministries as well as other teaching ministries within the congregation. We praise God for this wonderful opportunity and we look forward to push into areas of ministry that we have yet been able to do well previously.

As a result of the above, I have also accepted the recommendation from both the congregation and the Vietnamese Baptist Association in Australia to officially take on the role of Senior Pastor to the Vietnamese congregation. This is an exciting challenge for both Karen and I. We have begged to be excused from this offer several times due to a number of reasons, but recently, we sense that it is the right time, especially with Pastor Tai Huynh joining us. I am still completing my MDiv's last subject (Greek B), while still working full time with Ericsson. So please do remember us and the congregation in your prayers. If you missed it, both Pastor Tai and I, together with our wives, were inducted by Nick last Sunday (see pic below).

This year we also look forward to a closer partnership with the English congregations. Both Nick and I have spent much time together discussing the hope and dream, including getting our congregations to join forces in missions. We think this is wonderful as mission is a fantastic common ground where we can work together to fulfill God's calling. You will see a number of things that we will start in this half of the year and the mission we are planning for early next year.

On a sad note, we had the funeral of Mrs. Lam last year, she was one of the earliest members of this congregation. She was much loved, and it is in some way wonderful to see her becoming even closer to the congregation and more active than ever before she passed away. The funeral at our church was a great testimony of her faith to God and her love to the church.

Some of our core members also left the congregation due to various reasons; sadly, one of them was due to the conflict with other members. But we remain prayerfully and hopefully that God will touch the



Induction Service



Induction Service

hearts of the people involved and great testimonies of God's love and grace will emerge from any trials.

The renovation of the hall gives us a sense of a proper worship place and where real fellowship can be strengthened, it is exciting and we sense with this change, it signifies a new, fresh start for not just the Vietnamese congregation but for all of us.

Each time I take time to write the annual report, I am still doing it with a heart of deep appreciation for the love and support that we have received over the years

from the English congregation towards us. Before our Lord and on behalf of our congregation, please accept our love and thanks, especially those whose encouraging words and gestures are never far away. May God be glorified and that the next generation of both our congregations can carry on such wonderful testimonies of God's love.

In the days ahead, I pray that God will use us to become a beacon where brokenness, hurts and hang-ups are restored, renewed and emerged from this church will be stories of changed lives, touched by the power of Jesus, our Lord.

Khoi Doan

NightChurch

Laura Baker:

This year has been a fantastic time of learning, growing and change. I have been fortunate enough to be on staff at Kew Baptist Church, where I have learnt much about God. This has been through my study of Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology as well as by God teaching more about Him and his direction for the NightChurch congregation, through His grace.



Grace Loh & Lauren Morgan

Kewmunity of Women has been happening fortnightly this year where we have explored a range of topics together. A few nights have included prayer and chai, devotionals, topical evenings, guest speakers and picnics in the park. It has been fantastic to get together as women and discuss topics as well as pray for each other and encourage each other.

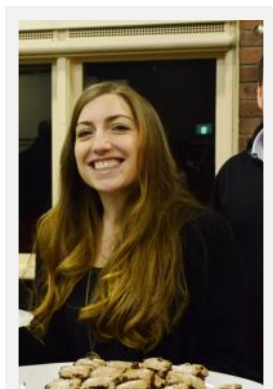
A Catalyst group at Kew Baptist Church has recently started. The focus is on social justice with a particular focal point of ethical consumption and promoting ethical practice within large corporations. The group has been to the Loving Mercy, Doing Justice conference by Baptist World Aid together as well as hosting an international guest speaker at Kew Baptist Church. The aim is to later in the year host a community market to involve the great community at Kew, Balwyn etc as well as provide education on how to make ethical consumption choices when shopping.



Simon Pickering

'Now Showing' is a series for new Christians or people thinking about Christianity or just people who want to learn a bit more about what they believe. Mat Hunter and I have written the content and hosted the evenings, and local film students have shot some movies. It is aimed to help people feel more confident with the fundamentals of Christianity and learn more about our Saviour.

There has also been the focus on bridging the gap between Morning Church and NightChurch congregations. 'Borrow a Grandchild' is an initiative that promotes this link by matching NightChurch 'grandchildren' with Morning Church 'grandparents'.



Sarah Vosti



Andrew Spence

Some have enjoyed meals together, watched the football together, imparting of wisdom to the grandchildren as well as having the grandchildren do a few odd jobs around the home! Mentoring has also been a way to create stronger links between the two congregations.

I am very thankful for God, that He been my source of strength. I am very grateful that I can be in a position of leadership at NightChurch and promote to the congregation different activities including prayer, volunteering and social justice events. These activities have the purpose of looking beyond self and engaging in the sort of servant focus that Jesus exercised. Our lives should be centred on Jesus, so these activities are just a way to express this.

My vision, through God's grace, is for a congregation who is centred on Christ, who uses Christ as their strength and looks to Christ for their identity. My vision is that Kew will not just be known for its community, but rather a deeper, richer relationship with God and each other. I would love to see people challenge each other on their consumption habits, time management, desire for God and love for each other.



Mary-Anne Philip

Philippians 2:1-15 has been my inspiration for ministry because it includes being united with Christ and uses this union to be a changed being. The Church has the beautiful capacity to be completely changed with Christ. 'Our attitude should be the same as Christ' which should promote a countercultural way of operating, loving our enemies, liberating the poor, and being obedient to the call of God.

Also, Ephesians 3:17-18 says that '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...'



Dave Powys

This has helped me to see the power and importance of having strong roots and where these roots come from.

Paul Pallot:

Main responsibilities:

- NightChurch small groups
- Welcoming at NightChurch
- Preaching at NightChurch
- University connections



• Mentoring

I have seen God's grace at work particularly in the areas of small groups and welcoming. Near the start of the year, the number of NightChurch small groups increased from three to eight, which was very encouraging, and about seventy-five NightChurch members are in small groups. It has been even more encouraging to see how small group attendance has helped newcomers and others find close friends and a clearer sense of genuine connection to NightChurch. God's provision of leaders for some of these groups has been an answer to prayer that I have been very thankful for, and it is exciting to consider what God might do in small



Richy & Joshi

groups in the future.



Wendy & Katie Todd

I have also seen God's grace at work in the welcoming teams at NightChurch. It has been encouraging to have a large number of people put their names down to help with this important ministry, and I have been thankful for how this has grown in the first half of the year. God in his grace has continued to bring many newcomers to NightChurch each week, and many have been integrated into the life of our congregation and found a home there.

Establishing a mentoring structure for NightChurch has been challenging for a couple of reasons. The age demographics of NightChurch has meant that it hasn't always been easy to find mentors. In addition, the process has been fairly slow to establish, mainly due to the need to establish a common vision and understanding. Through this I have learnt the importance of patience in ministry, and the need for all involved to be on the same page. Particularly regarding something so delicate and important as mentoring, it is vital that all involved see eye-to-eye on what is happening.

While the "formal" side of welcoming at NightChurch has been operating fairly well, one ongoing challenge is to keep increasing the culture of welcoming generally amongst the congregation. While I have witnessed general growth in this area, again I have learned the need for patience and also grace, and the fact that church culture takes time to change.

My attempts to establish university connections with Swinburne University Christian Union have clarified the challenge of different groups attempting to organise things together. I had a very encouraging meeting with the head of Swinburne CU, but it was clear that since both CU and NightChurch are large, active bodies with busy programs, it would be unlikely to easily find many activities that we could do together. I have learned to be comfortable with this, and to be grateful that both CU and NightChurch are following Christ, even if basically doing this separately!

The core aim of welcoming and integrating people into small groups is to show God's love to people by our hospitality and provide them with opportunities to grow closer to God and accept his love for them in Jesus Christ. Welcome and acceptance is at



Coby Docking

the heart of the gospel in two ways. Firstly, throughout Jesus' life, he seeks the outcast and the isolated, such as Nicodemus, the woman caught in adultery, the despised tax collector and countless demoniacs and lepers. Secondly, through Jesus' death and resurrection, God's welcome extends to all people, who are invited into new life and fellowship with Jesus. It is encouraging to see the church grow more and more to be a place of radical welcome, as we attempt in some way to reflect God's great love to all.

I have been grateful for many opportunities to preach at church over the last year, and one of the core aims of preaching has been to proclaim the Word of God and marvel at how God changes people's lives through it. I have been encouraged to see church members accepting the challenges in the Bible, carefully considering what its words mean for their own lives, and being shaped in Christlikeness. May Kew NightChurch continue to proclaim the words of eternal life! (John 6:68)



Laura Holley

One big goal looming large for the end of 2013 is for NightChurch to partner with Swinburne CU in their end-of-year mission. Through preliminary conversation with the director of Swinburne CU, they are keen to be involved in this way, but there will be much to prepare to host a team of about ten Christian university students as they seek to aid Kew Baptist Church in its outreach into the local community. Prayer for this partnership would be appreciated!

One goal for the year ahead that would be great to see realised is a greater passion for and a stronger emphasis on personal evangelism among NightChurch. Wendy has sold the image of small groups as places where evangelism is launched, and through both these groups, personal interactions and welcoming those still investigating the claims of Jesus, there are great opportunities available. Please pray also for the new group starting up to investigate Christianity, both for those leading and those attending, that Jesus' claims will be clearly understood and that God's Spirit would work as he draws people to Jesus.

Small Groups and Pastoral Care

How great is our God and worthy of all our praise and devotion! I am grateful to him for his call to minister among his people here at Kew. This is my first Annual Report and it is exactly 6 months since I commenced ministry here. As with any new role and new place of service, it takes some time to get to know people and to know and understand the culture of the church. So as I am still getting to know everyone, it has been a learning time for me as well as a time of privilege in entering into the lives of those who make up the Body of Christ at Kew Baptist. As I reflect on my role as Associate Pastor for Small Groups and Pastoral Care I am encouraged by the partnership and co-operation of many people, without whom such ministry does not function.

Small Groups



The Small Groups are going well, meeting for the primary purposes of building one another up in faith and love, and obeying Jesus in making disciples. These purposes aim to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission of the Church – to love one another and to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

We have 12 Small Groups with 4 from the morning congregation and 8 from NightChurch and so there are over 120 people in Small Groups. Paul Pallot has helped tremendously with the formation of the NightChurch groups and a continual ‘finger on

the pulse’ with the young adults ministry. Thanks Paul!

The development of the Groups has meant that more people are being nurtured and discipled with an emphasis on spiritual formation and evangelism. It has also meant more pastoral care for more people. Small groups are also the ideal place for leadership development as members are encouraged to share and use their spiritual gifts in the context of a small group environment.

The Young Adults groups followed an integrated sermon/studies series on ‘*Sentness*’ during May Missions Month. The feedback was that people enjoyed the messages and were challenged to be people who are sent by God to go and make disciples.

In term 3 most of our groups are participating in the church-wide series on the *Seven Letters of Revelation* with the Study and Prayer Guides. The theme for the term is “Being Renewed as God’s People.” The series is also running in conjunction with our Vision and Strategic Planning Group as we seek to ‘hear what the Spirit says to the church.’

We were looking to start a new daytime Small Group, but as we could not find available leaders, we have had to put that on hold. We are still keen to start a daytime group, as it would mean that those who cannot get out at night might be able to be part of the Small Group network.

The **Small Group Leaders** are doing excellent Kingdom work among us and I value them very much for their faithful commitment to this ministry. We gather together each term for encouragement, team building, sharing, equipping, praying, resourcing and anything else that will assist in their ministry. We are developing our resource library with the great help of Lauren Morgan, our Administrator extraordinaire, who has been doing the cataloguing. Thanks Lauren! I am meeting with the leaders one-on-one, for encouragement, coaching and prayer and visiting each of the Small Groups.

Our first Leaders gathering was held in April where we looked at our goals - To connect with God, to connect with each other, and to connect with the community and the world around us. And to change the world by announcing and demonstrating the good news of the Kingdom of God, revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Our Groups are an essential part of our church life where we mutually support and encourage one another to do what God has called us to do. At our second gathering of leaders in June, we looked at what pastoral care looks like in the context of Small Groups. At our next gathering of leaders in September, we will be looking at the very exciting and challenging, privileged, necessary and important subject of evangelism through small groups.

In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit. Ephesians 2:21-22

Pastoral Carers

We have an excellent Pastoral Carers Team who do such loving work among our seniors, those who are sick, shut in or in hospital. Thanks to all of you who are involved in this valuable ministry.

Pastoral care is essentially about discipleship, and where we offer care to others in ways that help them in their relationship with God bringing comfort and restoration to their whole being. It takes many forms. Everyone is in need of pastoral care. And as loving and caring Christians, we should all keep aware of the need for pastoral care in one another. *Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7*

Welcoming/Integration

The morning church Welcoming Team has expanded with new people participating, the rosters are filled, and we gather together this month for a training/information session. We want visitors to feel warmly welcomed, taken to morning tea, meet others and especially members of our Small Groups, who in turn can invite them to their groups. Visitors can be integrated into the life of the church and Small Groups through this vital ministry.

Preaching

It is always a privilege as well as a responsibility to share God's Word with God's people. In preaching preparation I always feel challenged by God, through the Scriptures, to hear, to grow and to take seriously the things he calls us to do and to be the people he calls us to be.

Seminars

I was so blessed to attend the NT Wright Seminars in the city during July. These were an excellent opportunity to have some good theological teaching and reflection. I also attended the BUV *Safe Church Workshop*, which was well run, informative and helpful. I have encouraged all our leaders to attend one of these. It was a privilege to go as a delegate to the Crossover Australia Evangelists Conference this month, sponsored by the Baptist Union of Australia. Dennis Pethers from the UK (who also preached at our NightChurch recently) was the key speaker and facilitator. It was a great time of networking with others from around the nation and sharing thoughts, strategies and resources that are helpful in our postmodern age.

And finally, it is wonderful to work with such a dedicated Pastoral Team and Staff. Thanks Nick, Pieter, Lauren, Laura and Paul. And all the Deacons too! I am particularly blessed to be ministering with Nick, who is such a servant-hearted leader, co-worker and friend. Thanks to Amanda for her partnership and releasing Nick to work so hard among us! And thanks to my husband, David, my constant encourager, who quietly walks beside me in this often challenging work of ministry of the Gospel!

May God continue to use us all here at KBC to fulfill his purposes!

Wendy Henry

Worship and Family Ministry

This has been a half year of excitement in my ministry. Some of the ministerial activities I have participated in at KBC were...

- Worship Leading and Coordinating Sunday Music
- Preaching and Teaching in Service
- Participating in Discernment Group
- Pastoral Care and Counseling
- Weekly Possums Music
- Love Abbotsford Outreach
- Special Families Palm Sunday Service
- Heart of Worship Seminar
- Designing Ads, Logos and Flyers for the Church

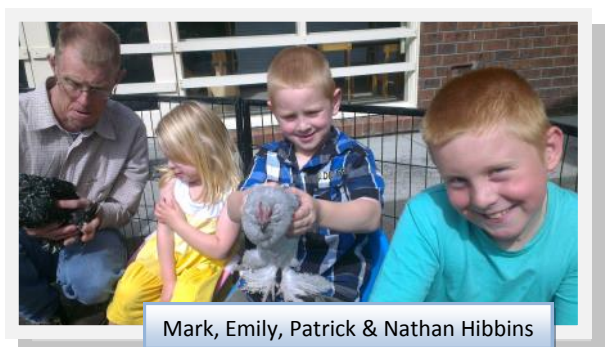
A Personal Address:

Dear friends, after long consideration, and much prayer and spiritual counsel, I have decided to return to the Evangelical Anglican Church this year. Prior to my moving to Kew Baptist Church I worked in the Evangelical Anglican setting for more than 4 years in various ministry roles. I have found that my greatest theological insights have come from this setting, as I am very closely aligned with the values and mission of the Evangelical arm of the Anglican Church, *with the exception* (as you know) of my position on believers baptism. I am currently studying to obtain a second theological degree at an Anglican theological college. I want to thank you for the opportunity to explore Baptist distinctives through a local Baptist Church. I have decided that ordination in the Baptist denomination is not my pathway in life. Thank you for all your prayers and encouragement in this process, I do value your support greatly. I am grateful for this opportunity.

My thoughts for your Future:

I would like to strongly encourage you all to pray and seek God's will in your Families and Children's Ministry. You are a church in a demographic surrounded by private schools and young children. I believe you have the potential to reach out and see God graciously save the lost like never before imagined or hoped for.

Pieter Keuneman



Palm Sunday Service



Administration

The last twelve months have seen a lot of changes in the life of the church office – Grace Munro finished up as administrator and handed the role over to me; Wendy, Pieter, Paul and Laura all commenced their respective ministry roles; and then perhaps the biggest change of all – moving out of the old offices and into the new Ministry Centre in the hall! This relocation was a *mammoth* job with a variety of challenges encountered along the way, but the end result has been fantastic. As the church office essentially acts as the central communication and connection point for the wider church community, it's wonderful to finally be centrally located! Thanks to Stephen McLean, Tom Holley, Phil Prior, and all those who volunteered their time and energy to assist with the move.

On a smaller scale of change – the weekly newsletter has been redesigned, we've launched a new monthly staff bulletin called 'Team Talk', we've shifted to a new software platform for managing the church database, we've upgraded to a new colour photocopier... and so the list goes on! In any administration job, it can be easy to get caught up in the little things – especially when you're as finicky about detail as I am! But when it comes to 'attention to detail', the most important detail to remember is Jesus – that He is our reason for being and should be at the centre of all we do.

I'm incredibly thankful for the ministry team – Nick, Wendy, Pieter, Laura and Paul. It is truly a blessing to be able to work alongside such passionate, godly people who serve the church so faithfully and bring so much joy into the day-to-day running of the office! Thanks also to Steve Taylor for his guidance, patience and support as I have navigated my way through the financial aspects of the role.

Looking to the year ahead, as we continue in this season of transition and change, pray that we continue to strive to be a Christ-centred community – and praise God for His constancy and faithfulness! "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

Lauren Morgan



Example of the 'joy' in the office this year!

Deacons

Reading last year's report that was written by Grace Munro, it commented on significant changes. Well same old same old. If you look through past reports they seem to always say the church is facing change. Well it still is and that is necessary and maybe not a bad thing.

The Diaconate has been made up of both long serving members, and new members, which provided a good balance, but we had more comings and goings than we would have liked. Wendy joined us early in this year and Felicia Prior joined to take on the Secretarial role, and we lost Grace Munro, Kerry Pell and Chris Pickering. The loss of Grace left a considerable amount of "How do we do this", or "who does that" questions and we managed to deal with most issues although some may have slipped through the cracks. You don't replace someone like Grace quickly and that is evidenced by this report being shorter and less comprehensive than in the past. Likewise Steve Taylor, who is not standing for re-election. Steve has served as Treasurer for 18 years and will be sadly missed. We thank him for his dedicated service. I will be stepping down as Chairperson, and will be happy to continue to serve as a Deacon (if Nominated).

One of the main issues we have faced is the ongoing financial situation of the church and we commissioned a group to look at that question. The findings were that we have very valuable properties that can be used in different ways to unlock finances for future use. The unanswered question is what might be that future use?

We are facing a very interesting future and the Vision and Strategic Planning Group have been tasked with seeking God's guidance to point us in the right direction. Have no fear, they will consult widely within our congregation and canvass as many views as possible.

I am sure God wants Kew Baptist to thrive and it is up to us to let that happen.

Ray Leigh (Chairperson)

Kids@Kew and Crèche



Grandma Barclay & Fynn

Sunday mornings in the Possums rooms are happy times for our children as they play in the crèche area or join in the Primary age K@K group.

There are many people, including some enthusiastic young adults who help on the crèche roster and our families are very appreciative of the loving care given to their children during the morning service.

During the past twelve months Jennie Taylor, Natalie Pell and Felicia Prior have taught the Primary group, with Ann Seeley, Helen Berger and Tom Tuena helping to provide singing at the beginning of the session. Grace Loh has looked after the Junior Secondary group and some of our older Secondary age young people have been attending NightChurch, with continuing encouragement from Kyle and Jane Horton.

We thank God for our families and the opportunity to support them as they model a life lived under the guidance of God and nurture their children through a growing understanding of the Christian faith and a developing love for Jesus.

Liz Pell

Boost Youth



Thank you for your continued support of the youth and our leadership team. It is always an encouragement to know that the whole church body is behind us and we are grateful for all the resources that we have on hand. In particular it is a blessing to have the use of the hall and kitchen as well as the gym. We also receive financial support from the church which goes a long way to covering our costs for running our events and supplying supper.

We continue to meet on Friday nights from 7pm at the Hall and engage in many random but memorable activities including Laser Tag, Trivia Nights, Movie Making, Photo Challenges, Creative Nights

as well as organising guest speakers to share what God has done in their lives.

We also have a great opportunity to spend quality time with the youth at the ESA Winter Teen Camp at Anglesea. This is always a big highlight and this year involved 10 members of the youth team (leaders and campers included).

God continues to remind us to simply be faithful with what He has given us. Often our visions and dreams, although well intentioned, are not realised, however it is true that God continues to be faithful to us and in turn we need to continue to be faithful with what He has blessed us with.

Please pray for our youth that they will seek God with a new energy, that they will desire to know Him more and that all of us involved will be obedient to what He has called us to.

We have also been abundantly supplied with quality leaders in this ministry and would like to thank Jennie Taylor for many years of faithful service as well as Bec, Annie and Christy Makar whose involvement finished up this year.

Again, thank you for your prayerful, practical and financial support.

James and Coby Docking, along with Simon Pickering, Naomi Rock, Crispin Newmarch and Katie Cantwell.



Church Camp



Marion Todd, Susan & Lucy Campbell



Helen Berger, Amy & Jono Repse



Jennie Taylor, Ray Leigh & Deirdre Willis

The numbers have fallen each year since over 100 people attended church camp in 2009. And this year without people stepping up to replace previous years' coordinators, we thought it might not go ahead. In a stunningly serendipitous turn of events, we had around 45 people attend over the weekend and we had a wonderful time of fun, fellowship and just relaxing. It set a good model for next year: less programming and organised events and more free time. I have asked the Vietnamese congregation to consider joining us next year and we have booked the weekend in again. Special thanks to Deirdre Willis and Jadon Dutra in help with planning and preparation, and Laura Baker for the fun and creative Trivia Night on the Saturday.

Nicholas Tuohy

Ladies' Evening Fellowship

An average of 17 ladies meet monthly as the Ladies Evening Fellowship. We enjoy each other's company, prayer and encouragement and join together to contribute to some mission projects. Each person in the group has a special contribution to make and we thank God for each other.

Since this report was last written, Audrey Bennett is no longer able to join our regular gatherings due to increasing frailty. Now aged 95, she has attended KBC for over 80 years and had been coming regularly to LEF since it began.

We always look forward to our speaker who is usually someone with a connection to KBC, someone who is new to our community or one of our younger people who shares about the way they are serving God. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at different homes and ladies of any age are very welcome to join us.

Ministries to the Community and World

Kew Student Residence



The past year has been a testament to the nature of the Res: amidst fairly significant change, much has remained the same. This is something to celebrate. It has struck us that the core purpose of this ministry has wavered very little from its beginnings. During the final months of Michelle and Stephen Duke's time as managers, and during these first six months of our time in the role, the aim of providing affordable accommodation for country tertiary students in a warm and caring Christian environment has remained at the fore. This is, in large part, because the Committee over the years – and most certainly the current one – are unwilling to compromise this core purpose for our being. And yet, change continues to thrust itself upon us. This past year, the Res has continued to show what it means to respond to change positively,

creatively and with integrity.

Indeed, there have been a number of changes during the past twelve months. While maintenance and renovations always abound with a facility such as ours, the significant change of 2012 was the resignation of Stephen and Michelle Duke as managers. In September, the Dukes informed the Committee that they sensed that God was calling them to something new. It was not an easy decision, and the community was sad to hear that Michelle, Stephen, Zoe, Ambrie and Cademon would be leaving. But the news was accepted, with a degree of sorrow, but also with a sense of wanting to bless the Dukes in their decision to serve elsewhere. Early in 2013, Stephen began work as the Head of Secondary at Mountain District Christian School in Monbulk.

While this may have been the major 'event' of the final six months of 2012, it was most certainly not the only event. As Michelle and Stephen wrote:

The end of 2012 ended as it started – with a great bunch of students, in whom we saw much growth during the year. It is always encouraging to see the way people mix and interact with each other. Highlights of second semester were: the weekly 3-on-3 basketball competition organised by Graeme Younger and including past and current students as well as night churchers; the '50s swing/jazz formal was also a blast, and; we again enjoyed playing croquet at our end of year function.

The staff (Ash Moore and Graeme Younger) and House (Mel Hill, Dan Lansdown, Hamish Lindsay, Steph Millar and Steph Pittard) again contributed fantastically to the students' lives, and were instrumental in linking them in to the wider Kew Baptist community.

We left encouraged from our time here as Managers and are very thankful for the opportunity we've had to be part of such an incredible ministry.

These final months of 2012 also saw the re-development of the website, an overhaul of the Internet set-up, and many hours of work to put together a Manager's Handbook. Over 50 first-year students applied to stay here in 2013 which also meant there were a lot of interviews. The Dukes did a fantastic job of helping us to transition into the role. We came to the Res in December to conduct interviews with Dukey, which was an invaluable experience for us in terms of understanding the culture of the place. Dukey also spent about three days with us in early January showing us the accounting software, maintenance issues etc. We would like to express our gratitude to the Dukes for what they have done over four-and-a-half years and, for us personally, their support during the early days and months of our time as managers.

Over the summer break, while we as a family were settling into our new home, in an endeavour to meet the

health and safety requirements of the Boroondara Council, the kitchen at the Res had a complete renovation. It came at a significant cost, but has been a forced blessing – especially for our cook, Linda.

From our perspective, 2013 began with a great sense of anticipation as to how the year would unfold. As has been the case for some time, we went away for a staff retreat with our support staff (Graeme Younger and Katie Adams) and the House (Will Baird, Katie Cantwell, Kristy Chapman, Mel Hill and Dan Lansdown). The weekend at Phillip Island was replete with lovely weather and plenty of activity. There was a good balance of ‘hanging out’ and getting to know each other and focused time around the theme of ‘Being a Christian Community’. We reflected on, and discussed, how self-awareness frees us to interact with others more effectively (Emotional Intelligence) and completed a short survey to assist us in understanding this for ourselves. We also reflected on the notion of inclusiveness within Paul’s letter to the church at Corinth – particularly chapter 13. On top of that, we looked at a section of Bonhoeffer’s “Life Together”, prayed, sung, recorded the ideals and practices we want for the Res, and the House planned O-Week.

We were very grateful to the many people who came and participated in our working bee – the last major event before all the students arrived. It would be very difficult for us to have the property ready without the help of those in the broader community.

The arrival of the students was very exciting! For the first year students (and for us) it meant getting to know a lot of new people in a short space of time. We were so encouraged by the way in which the second year students took the initiative to help us welcome the new students. Whether it was helping people unpack their cars, show them to their rooms or simply being available to answer questions, our large team of helpers were magnificent. Those from the House organised a fun and useful O-Week which was enjoyed by all.

On the whole, the students seem to have adjusted well to life at Res. We are privileged to lead and serve a bunch of young people who are caring, supportive, helpful, cheerful, understanding, tolerant, interesting and fun.

Despite the significance of the change in managers, we have continued to do many of the things that have been part of Res life for a long time. We join together for dinner each night. We have had many of our residents participate in Relay for Life, State Youth Games and small groups. We hosted a Family Weekend with over 120 people involved. We have celebrated Easter together and Christmas in July...in August. Graeme Younger has organised a weekly netball competition and we have students regularly using the gym at the House. A number of the residents attend NightChurch and have found a spiritual home there. Those in the House have shown genuine hospitality, frequently hosting dinners for people from both Res and church. While not all of these specific events will always occur, the motivating principles of community, service and life in and with God will manifest in different forms and continue to birth new initiatives.

Our committee has been of immense support. They are passionate about the enduring qualities of this ministry and yet have supported us as we’ve wondered about new ways to see these qualities emerge and be practised. Their prayer, wisdom, guidance and time have been hugely valuable. The dedicated service of Nic Barclay, Ryan Harper, Leonie Hibbins (Chair), Tim Jones (Treasurer), Sheila King (Secretary), Kate Steel and Nicholas Tuohy is much appreciated.

As we look to the future, we are encouraged by what we have come to know about the past and the present. We hope to be able to build on the good work that has been done. We are never short of maintenance and repair jobs and, as the ‘new’ building transitions to being well-and-truly ‘old’, we will need to be strategic in our approach to preparing for further upgrades. Our commitment to providing affordable accommodation contributes to making this a challenging task, but we have faith in the expertise and creativity of our committee to lead us well in this regard. We are particularly interested in the coming months and year to explore ways to strengthen our ties with NightChurch in particular. A large part of this will be seeking ways to bring a real sense of clarity of purpose to the ministry of the House. It is such a wonderful ministry because of the individuals within it who have a heart for serving God. We would like to find ways to better serve and equip these faithful young servants.

It seems to us that ‘looking after the stranger’, ‘doing unto others’, ‘seeking shalom’, ‘being salt and light’ are the kinds of things (amongst others) that we do as part of our task of, and calling to, ‘imaging God’. There are clearly many ways to do this. It is our hope and prayer that, as we enter the future, those of us guiding and grounding the ministry of the Residence will continue to discover and practise appropriate ways of witnessing to our gracious leader; God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Steve & Anouchka Chatelier

The House

What an incredible year it has been. We in the house are so thankful to everyone for your continued prayer, support and encouragement. We are so thankful and blessed to be given the opportunity to live in this house and have learnt and grown and seen God work in amazing ways. We are thankful for each other and for God (through the Dukes) for choosing us to live here. We are thankful for the Chateliers; for their incredible encouragement and support of us. We are thankful for the up and downs, for the times where we have grown and been challenged. And we are most thankful to God, for all the incredible blessings that He has poured over us throughout the year.



Like in any family there have been challenges that we faced as individuals and others we faced together. We have learnt of the importance of grace, selflessness and communication and the incredible power of prayer and unity. Most of all we have learnt that it's not about us at all, but about God's mission and vision for His people and the world.

Our vision as The House is to share God's love with the Res community by living as examples of Jesus' disciples, knowing that we will not always get it right, but resting in the fact that we are covered by grace and that we are trying. We endeavour to have an open and inclusive house, where people are welcome to come eat, chat and feel at home. We

endeavour to unite the Res community, the church community and the wider community. We have been greatly encouraged and challenged by Roman 12 and John 17 this year. Specifically how we are to lay our lives down before God, through putting others before ourselves, through loving our enemies and through uniting as individuals, as a family and as a community with God.

Prayer Points

- selecting The House for 2014
- consolidating the role of The House and its core values and goals
- for God's kingdom to come alive in people
- for us to be united with each other and with God
- for us to hear God, listen to God and do what he says

Mel Hill, Dan Lansdown, Katie Cantwell, Kristy Chapman and Will Baird.

Possums' Playgroup

One of Possums' reasons for being is to engage with young families within the church and the wider community. There have been considerable changes to both these communities in recent years and this year we have spent much time and energy evaluating where we find ourselves in the current climate. We have met with the Kew Baptist Church leadership and brainstormed at our committee meetings. 74 families, including two from Kew Baptist Church are currently attending Possums. The majority of these families are part of our playgroups, whilst the numbers who attend our 3 year old Little Learners program have declined sharply. The factors leading to lower numbers in Little Learners are not things we are able to control, and looking at the enrolments for this program for 2014 has led us to sadly realise that there is no longer a need for Little Learners in our local community, so it will not continue.

We expect our playgroups will continue next year though, and we are also exploring the idea of offering specialised music groups where the focus is on music activities rather than on craft activities. After the 30-40 minute music time, there is "cup of tea" time, followed by play time for the children whilst the mums/carers and



church helpers chat together. If this new venture is something you'd be interested in being involved with, do let us know.

Lower numbers in our Little Learners program has meant that, financially, we are experiencing a more difficult year. We are very grateful to Kew Baptist Church for continuing to allow us the use of the property, even though we are currently unable to contribute back financially as we'd like to. We are endeavouring to keep things in good order by holding working bees and continuing to pay for the regular cleaning of the rooms. We are also working hard at fundraising events

this year. We thank you for your support in these.

Possums has now ventured further into the digital age with much of our information now accessed over the internet, and we now have our own Facebook page. However, no matter how wonderful technology is, it can't replace actual personal relationships. When it comes to sharing our stories and news, it is so much nicer to do it in person. Once again this year, Possums has been very privileged to have wonderful personal support from our special Kew Baptist Church volunteers. Carol Warner, Natalie Pell, Helen McLean, Deirdre Willis and Jenny Clark are there each week to support the community. Their contribution helps to make Possums such a special place. This year we have also loved having Pieter Keuneman contribute with his guitar and fun music. Anastasia Panagiotidis has continued as part of the Little Learners staff and is loved by the children and adults alike. She is such a blessing to all she meets and I am particularly grateful for all she contributes to us, which is far more than duty calls for.

I have already made mention of our Committee, but do want to acknowledge what a wonderful support they are to Possums. Kathryn Barclay as President leads the team, David Benwell is our Treasurer, and Deirdre Willis keeps on top of all the practical details, especially with regards to fundraising. Rose Oppy looks after the enrolments, and Meghan Butcher is our Secretary. Erin Blackman manages our Facebook page and we have other members who organise social activities for their particular groups. Everyone makes a valued contribution to Possums, as we all believe in the importance of playgroups in the early years of every child's life. I am most grateful to everyone for their work and for their passionate support of Possums, to see it continue into the future.

This year we are celebrating the 25th year of Possums. The Committee want to make it a special occasion for us all and warmly invite you to be part of the celebration. We are glad that the Kew Baptist Church has continued to support and keep in touch with its playgroup ministry. You have blessed hundreds of families over the past 25 years. Thanks!



Miriam Schmidt

Karana

Karana is a well-serviced and high quality Baptcare Aged Care Home in Kew. It has around 90 residents in both independent living and high care nursing home facilities. The Chaplains, Ruth Prentice and John McLerie provide wonderful spiritual and pastoral care for residents. Once a month Wendy or myself lead the mid-week chapel service and Ken Manley leads and speaks at the Sunday service each month. Laura Baker has been coordinating some of our young adults to be available on Sundays to help residents to the service. On a sad note, Alan Day died this year and he was involved with KBC for a number of years before going to Karana.

Chat n Chew- This ministry to the older men at Karana is a monthly lunch with a guest speaker. Numbers have been a little down this year and some of the Kew men have not been able to attend as often. Last year and this year I have stepped in to help oversee and coordinate things, as we had no one at KBC who could do so after Kingsley Smith died late 2011. I would not like to see this ministry fade out, so I hope that there will people to lead and coordinate in 2014.

Nicholas Tuohy

Christian Religious Education

I have continued to teach Christian Religious Instruction at Kew Primary this year. There is a group of six that teach at the school and several of us meet before class at the local coffee shop to talk over things, pray, and encourage each other. For those of us (three) who are not trained teachers, it can be a daunting task to be like a visiting teacher, but the rewards are well worth it.

The curriculum is such that you can really tell the Gospel story and witness to how God works in people's lives, and when the lesson goes well, it is very uplifting. This may be one of the few times these children hear the Christian message. Access Ministries that run the program seem to be continually under financial pressure, so if you are looking to support something, I believe this is a good cause.

At Kew Primary, the management are not very supporting of the program, which means that we have to fit in with whatever the school wants.

The program is always looking for new people to teach, so if you can spare half an hour teaching time plus preparation time, please talk to me about it.

Ray Leigh

Carrical Rooming House



Steve Taylor and some of the Carrical pool sharks!

Carrical is a rooming house in Hawthorn, which is run by a not-for-profit organisation called Servants Community Housing which aims to provide affordable and safe housing to people on low incomes. Its motto so to speak is "respect, dignity and hope". Kew Baptist is involved by providing a free BBQ meal to the residents monthly on a Saturday. We come in with snags to cook, salads to share and cookies to munch on. More importantly perhaps, we come with a desire to develop friendships with the residents, to bond over good food, good conversations, and multiple games of pool/yelling at the footy/card games or whatever we all feel like at the time. It's been wonderful to develop these friendships over multiple visits and to hear some of the guys open up about their fears, their beliefs, their past, mental illness, their hopes and

their progress in life and for us to do the same. It's also been lovely to be invited to come back to celebrate residents' birthdays and other events as friends.

Sadly, we have seen some well-known and loved members leave. At times it's because they've moved on to another home, other times it's been due to issues with the law or disruptive behaviour, and sadly at times it's due to residents passing away. Some of us attended the funeral of Carlos, a much loved resident for 6 years.

Afterwards, one of the residents commented to one of our church members, that though he was not a church going man, he would always go to Carlos when he needed a spiritual chat. Though we miss Carlos, it was beautiful to see how important his faith in Jesus is to him and how that impacted the other residents at Carrical.

Thank you to the Kew Baptist family for all the support and donations in money and items around Christmas time which was used to provide presents for the residents at Carrical. We hope to continue this for many years to come!

Continued prayer for the residents at Carrical is appreciated. Whether it's a temporary bridging home for some, or more of a long term one for others, we pray that God will cover the residents with his love and hope. We pray that our visits will be able to demonstrate the love of Christ in a practical way. Prayer is also appreciated for the managers of Carrical and those on the Servants board, many of which put in a lot of voluntary time to help the place run. It can be an ongoing struggle to balance the need to give multiple second chances to residents who break the rules, and also to acknowledge the impact this can have on the other quieter residents, who can be intimidated by regular disturbances in Carrical. Prayer for discernment and wisdom for the managers in decisions such as this is appreciated.

If you are interested in coming along to one of our monthly BBQs or would just like more information, feel free to contact me or anyone who comes along to our BBQs. We would love to have you along.

Grace Loh

Global Mission Team



Sarah Trebilcock in India

The past year has been one of consolidation for the Global Mission Team, implementing the new direction outlined in the "Beyond Kew" Global Mission Policy, which was developed in the previous financial year. As the year progressed, there were opportunities to see how the new policy fitted with various demands and activities.

These are some highlights of the year:

- Monthly cross-cultural spots during church services, with a focus on the various cross-cultural workers we support.
- Sat 6 October: Fundraiser to support Leena Lavanya and Serve Trust, held at KBC, in conjunction with Ashburton BC. Around \$6,500 was raised.
- Sarah Trebilcock completed her Global Interaction/KBC internship at the end of 2012, including a Global Xposure trip to South East Asia in January 2013. Sarah has discerned that her pathway for the next few years will be to complete studies and gain work experience in education here in Australia.
- The Global Mission Team have been developing Memorandum of Understandings with each of the KBC-supported cross-cultural workers. These documents will help to clarify our relationship with each of our workers.
- Michelle Stancliffe attended the April meeting of the Global Mission Team, with members of the Pioneers organisation, with whom she is partnering, to outline her call to work with marginalised and at-risk youth in Tanzania.
- Our May Mission Month project raised around \$2,238 for the Global Interaction Education Foundation in South East Asia, a project that two of our cross-cultural families are involved in.
- May Mission Month saw a number of speakers preach at KBC, including:
 - Pieter Keuneman on the Great Commission;
 - Darren Cronshaw in a three-part series at NightChurch on missional communities and "sentness";
 - Ken Manley on the history of Baptists and world mission;
 - Jon Coombs on partnering with God in mission;
 - Mat Hunter and Andrew Crawford reflected on their recent experiences of cross-cultural mission;

- Brendan Short on serving in mission.

- Excerpts from newsletters from cross-cultural workers have consistently been shared in our weekly Kew News, with prayer needs included in the Prayer Focus section. Sincere thanks to Lauren Morgan for providing these.

Grace Munro has been a member of both the Global Mission Team and the Mission Aid and Development Group which preceded it. She has now moved on, but we want to acknowledge the wealth of experience and valuable input that she has provided over many years, that has been greatly appreciated. She is very much missed as a member of the team.

We wish also to express sincere thanks to Jennie and Steve Taylor for their significant contributions as Secretary and Chairperson and to Susan Campbell for sharing her wisdom and experience of cross-cultural mission.

This group welcomes all those interested in cross-cultural ministry, beyond our local area of Kew, to attend our meetings and join any activity.

Global Mission Team



Village ministry in India

Ministry Support



Tech Team

This last year has been challenging and hectic.

We have welcomed some new team members and I am now getting more of a break at NightChurch having been on almost every week for the last 2 years. Now with our new team members I am on only every month and can focus on other matters. Praise God for this. My wife is also thankful too.

I would ask you to pray that more people would be prepared to come on board in the mornings as well.

The mammoth effort of installing the new sound system in the church has been well worth it. While there are still some technical issues we are working through the system is working much better than what we had before. Above is a photo of the install.

A huge thanks to all the people that helped there are too many to remember. From 4 day efforts to people who came to help clean at the end.

We have moved to a new words projection software which is proving to be smoother and more user friendly.

It has been a big year and I'm looking forward the next 12 months.

Phil Prior

Maintenance

Because we at Kew have expended considerable funds on our buildings in recent years, the maintenance requirements have been minimal. Works completed at the manse and also the office relocation to Newnham Hall has meant little maintenance has been necessary. The area at the back of the Church would have required costly remedial work had the offices remained at that location.

The heating units at Newnham Hall which service Possums, the offices and hall area are the original units. They were not designed for our current uses, this will have to be addressed at some time in the future..

We are so blessed to have such facilities at Kew, they are well positioned to be utilised for any future requirements.

Membership

| MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AS AT AUGUST 2013 | | Viet | Totals |
|---|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| <i>ACTIVE MEMBERS 2012</i> | <i>92</i> | <i>26</i> | <i>118</i> |
| Accepted into membership | 2 | | 2 |
| Transferred into membership | 2 | | 2 |
| Transferred from Absentee Roll | | | |
| Moved to Absentee Roll | -8 | | -8 |
| Died | -1 | | -1 |
| Transferred away | | | |
| No longer attending | -2 | | -2 |
| MEMBERS 2013 | 85 | 26 | 111 |
| <i>ABSENTEE MEMBERS 2012</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>15</i> |
| Transfer from active members | 8 | | 8 |
| Transfer to Active members | | | |
| Death | | | |
| Roll revision | -9 | | -9 |
| ABSENTEE MEMBERS 2013 | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| <i>ACTIVE NON-MEMBERS 2012</i> | <i>178</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>182</i> |
| Deduct people moved away | 30 | | 30 |
| Died | | | |
| Deduct - became members | 2 | | 2 |
| Add new active non-members | 20 | | 20 |
| ACTIVE NON-MEMBERS 2013 | 170 | | 174 |

Finance

1. Treasurer's Report

The results for the year ended 30 June 2013 were reasonably encouraging. The overall result was that a net surplus of \$21,266 was made compared to the budgeted surplus for the year of \$2,740.

The actual income received of \$306,796 was \$18,363 below the budget of \$327,200. The main reason for this was that offerings were \$23,258 below budget. This was disappointing as the offerings had been in line with budget up to March but then dropped off considerably from April to June.

On a positive note, it was encouraging to receive donations of \$19,041 for capital works (as shown in Note 5 under the Property Reserve Fund). These donations included \$5,000 towards the hall renovations from our Vietnamese congregation.

The expenses for the year were also \$38,930 less than budget. The main reasons for this were that salaries were \$30,517 below budget (due to some staff not being employed for a full year); property maintenance was also \$5,597 below budget.

Overall, it was pleasing that the income received was sufficient to cover operating expenses. Meeting the costs of major renovations does however create a big challenge.

I've been greatly helped in my work as treasurer in having Grace Munro (up to her retirement) and then Lauren Morgan looking after the day to day finances of the church and in giving me timely finance reports. I also appreciate the work of everybody else who has assisted with the counting of offerings and banking.

I trust we will all sense 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

2. Balance Sheet

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

| FUNDS | Notes | 2013 | 2012 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Accumulated surpluses | 6 | 112,130 | 90,864 |
| Bequests Fund | 4 | - | 77,946 |
| Property Reserve Fund | 5 | (24,487) | (40,608) |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | 87,643 | 128,202 |
| REPRESENTED BY: | | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| NAB Cheque Account | | 1,427 | 15,339 |
| NAB Cash Maximiser | | 21,196 | 36,534 |
| Amounts Receivable | | 8,949 | 18,813 |
| Exempt Benefit Bank Accounts | 2 | 4,546 | 1,085 |
| Australian Tax Office (net GST) | | 3,842 | 1,312 |
| Loan - Kew Baptist Student Residence | | 62,500 | 62,500 |
| | | 102,460 | 135,583 |
| LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Gifts Received not paid out | 7 | - | 669 |
| Amount held for local needs | | 5,500 | - |
| Camp Fees Received (to be paid out) | | 53 | - |
| Exempt Benefits Owing | 2 | 4,546 | 1,085 |
| Superannuation Owing | | 1,729 | 2,375 |
| PAYG Withholding Tax Owing | | 2,989 | 3,252 |
| | | 14,816 | 7,381 |
| NET ASSETS | | 87,643 | 128,202 |

3. Income and Expenditure Statement for year ended 30 June 2013

KEW BAPTIST CHURCH

INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

| 2012 | | ACTUAL 2013 | BUDGET 2013 | VARIANCE Favourable (Unfavourable) |
|----------------|---|----------------|----------------|--|
| | OFFERINGS & OTHER INCOME | | | |
| 247,907 | General Offerings & Gifts | 255,401 | 270,000 | (14,599) |
| - | Fundraising | - | 3,500 | (3,500) |
| - | Government Grants | - | 6,000 | (6,000) |
| 378 | Sundry Income | 1,045 | 204 | 841 |
| 248,285 | TOTAL OFFERINGS & OTHER INCOME | 256,446 | 279,704 | (23,258) |
| | RENTAL INCOME | | | |
| 30,660 | Student Residence (Hostel) Levy | 31,900 | 31,900 | - |
| 1,150 | Hall Rent | 2,280 | 1,000 | (1,280) |
| 2,627 | Possums Contribution | 1,800 | 4,300 | 2,500 |
| 9,696 | Vietnamese Congregation Contribution | 9,896 | 9,696 | (200) |
| 44,133 | TOTAL RENTAL INCOME | 45,876 | 46,896 | 1,020 |
| | INVESTMENT INCOME | | | |
| 2,975 | Student Residence (Hostel) Loan Interest | 2,812 | 500 | 2,312 |
| 368 | Bank Interest | 1,662 | 100 | 1,562 |
| 3,343 | TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME | 4,474 | 600 | 3,874 |
| 295,761 | TOTAL INCOME | 306,796 | 327,200 | (18,363) |
| | LESS EXPENSES: | | | |
| | SALARY COSTS | | | |
| 173,698 | Salaries & Associated Costs | 177,843 | 208,360 | 30,517 |
| 173,698 | TOTAL SALARY COSTS | 177,843 | 208,360 | 30,517 |
| | OUTREACH & MINISTRY ALLOCATIONS | | | |
| (310) | Camp Subsidies | - | 500 | 500 |
| 5,685 | Church Ministry | 3,909 | 5,800 | 1,891 |
| | Contributions to Other Groups | | | |
| 7,787 | Baptist Union of Victoria - Ministry Contribution | 8,635 | 8,200 | (435) |
| 31,985 | Global Mission Team & Local Needs | 36,576 | 37,800 | 1,224 |
| 1,250 | Visiting Speakers | 1,285 | 1,300 | 15 |
| 46,397 | TOTAL OUTREACH & MINISTRY EXPENSES | 50,405 | 53,600 | 3,195 |
| | ADMINISTRATION & OTHER EXPENSES | | | |
| 1,590 | Audit Fees | 1,630 | 1,700 | 70 |
| - | Bank Fees | 4 | - | (4) |
| 1,877 | Computer Expense | 4,040 | 1,000 | (3,040) |
| - | MYOB Consultant | - | 300 | 300 |
| 1,480 | Office Equipment Maintenance | 2,253 | 2,000 | (253) |
| 884 | Postage | 556 | 1,000 | 444 |
| 1,810 | Printing & Stationery | 892 | 2,001 | 1,109 |
| 1,767 | Sundry Expense | 2,527 | 3,600 | 1,073 |
| 3,616 | Telephone, Internet & Website hosting | 4,152 | 6,299 | 2,147 |
| 13,025 | TOTAL ADMINISTRATION & OTHER EXPENSES | 16,054 | 17,900 | 1,846 |
| | PROPERTY EXPENSES | | | |
| 6,480 | Cleaning | 8,852 | 7,000 | (1,852) |
| 1,082 | Council Rates | 1,175 | 1,200 | 25 |
| 4,578 | Electricity | 6,819 | 6,000 | (819) |
| 2,011 | Gas | 2,341 | 3,000 | 659 |
| 13,101 | Insurance | 13,771 | 13,800 | 29 |
| 1,723 | Water Rates | 1,868 | 1,600 | (268) |
| 7,277 | General Property Maintenance | 6,403 | 12,000 | 5,597 |
| 36,253 | TOTAL PROPERTY EXPENSES | 41,228 | 44,600 | 3,372 |
| 269,373 | TOTAL EXPENSES | 285,530 | 324,460 | 38,930 |
| 26,388 | NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | 21,266 | 2,740 | 18,526 |

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 Global Mission Team 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.

KEW BAPTIST CHURCH

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

| | 2013 | 2012 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 4) Bequests Fund | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | 77,946 | 63,684 |
| Add Receipts: | | |
| Bequests received (from Mrs Audrey Lowe) | 500 | 15,839 |
| Other Gifts | - | 1,706 |
| | <u>78,446</u> | <u>81,229</u> |
| Less: Payments & Transfers | | |
| Church bibles | (736) | - |
| Church signage | - | (3,283) |
| Transfer to Property Reserve Fund | <u>(77,710)</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | <u>(78,446)</u> | <u>(3,283)</u> |
| Balance at end of year | <u>-</u> | <u>77,946</u> |
| 5) Property Reserve Fund: | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | (40,608) | 21,165 |
| Add: Receipts & Transfers | | |
| Donations received for church lighting etc | - | 2,900 |
| Donations received for manse renovations | - | 16,150 |
| Donations received for hall renovations | 10,700 | - |
| Donations received for audio upgrade | 5,750 | - |
| Sale of church pews | 2,591 | - |
| Transfer from Bequests Fund | <u>77,710</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | <u>56,143</u> | <u>40,215</u> |
| Less: Payments | | |
| Hall renovations | (64,461) | - |
| Audio upgrade & equipment | <u>(16,169)</u> | <u>(5,099)</u> |
| Basketball Court - various repairs | - | (10,509) |
| Manse renovations | - | (60,233) |
| Computers | - | (2,543) |
| Hall Eaves | - | (2,438) |
| | <u>(80,631)</u> | <u>(80,822)</u> |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Overdrawn balance at end of year | (24,487) | (40,608) |
| 6) Accumulated Funds | | |
| Balance at beginning of year | 90,864 | 61,853 |
| Add | | |
| Adjustments relating to prior year | - | 2,624 |
| | 90,864 | 64,477 |
| Add | | |
| Surplus for the year | 21,266 | 26,387 |
| Balance at end of year | 112,130 | 90,864 |
| 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. | | |
| BWAA | Received | Paid |
| | 845 | 845 |
| Global Interaction (for May Mission appeal - payments include \$115 received in 2011/12 year) | 2,238 | 2,353 |
| Various | 1,540 | 1,540 |
| | 4,623 | 4,738 |
| 8) Global Mission Team Allocations | | |
| Details of support paid are as follows: | | |
| John & Janine Barclay (Interserve, India) | 7,500 | |
| David & Eryl Edwards (GiA, Indonesia) | 4,500 | |
| Mark & Val Holt (GiA, Indonesia) | 4,500 | |
| Natalie Smith (Leprosy Mission, East Timor) | 2,250 | |
| Pastor & Mrs Tin Phan (Christian and Missionary Alliance, Cambodia) | 4,500 | |
| Warwick & Natalie Short (SIM, Niger) | 4,500 | |
| People in need | 1,427 | |
| Senior pastor's mission exposure trip | 2,452 | |
| Amount set aside for local needs (to be paid in 2013/14) | 5,500 | |
| | 37,129 | |
| Less Gifts received to assist with support | (554) | |
| Net Payments | 36,576 | |

5. Audit Report

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 2013. 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.

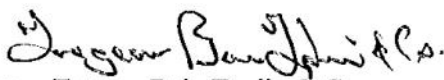
The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.


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 2013 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: 31st July 2013