

### **BMi Wedding Bells**

#### Young hearts unite in the Southern Highlands

On a hot afternoon on the first day of February, Damien Silm and Emily Drescher got married. These two young people are both involved in youth and music ministries at His House Church in Picton, and they celebrated their marriage in Moss Vale. Dressed to the nines and equipped with pocket watches, they partied with their family and friends with a ceremony that celebrated their commitment to each other and to God. Their pastor Hanna Fakhouri led the ceremony, with close family and friends providing beautiful live music. The reception saw eating, dancing, and hilariously outrageous speeches from members of the families and the bridal party.

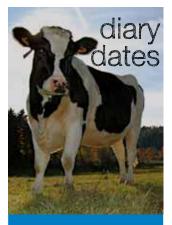
We wish Damien and Emily a lifetime of growing together in the blessing of God.





#### Joy and restoration in Coffs Harbour

After losing his wife to cancer several years ago, Andrew Jarman has been given someone new to share his life, family and faith with. Andrew tied the knot with Sheree Purpose on 8 August surrounded by family and friends. Russell Jones officiated the ceremony at the beautiful decorated Abundant Life Church. Sheree moved to Coffs after the couple met online and, after attending this year's NLG, she already feels like part of our BMi family. We wish Andrew, Sheree and their children every blessing as they enjoy their new life together.



**20 Sept 2014** SA State Gathering

**18 Oct 2014** NSW State Gathering

**1 Nov 2014** Vic State Gathering

**19–23 Jan 2015** 'The Church' Summer School, Gisborne Vic

**1–5 June 2015** National Leaders Gathering, Grindelwald Tas



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## **An NLG First Timer**

Kate Ashley from Open Door Christian Church in Melbourne attended the National Leaders Gathering at Coffs Harbour in June for the first time. This is her report.

FOR THOSE OF YOU who have seen the movie *Forrest Gump*, you may recall the scene in which his mother says, 'Life's a box of chocolates Forrest, you never know what you are going to get!' This wisdom certainly hit home for me as, for the first time, I joined in the BMi NLG in Coffs Harbour. It was a joy to see our leaders mixing and merging in the grace of God and the joy of the Lord. Maybe I would be letting the cat out of the bag if I mentioned the ocean views, beach access, amazing tropical gardens, spa, pool and sunshine... So I won't, and I will say only that the accommodation was entirely adequate!



Shepherd Takayidza preached it, brother!

BMi welcomed international ministers from Berlin and Africa, each bringing a touch to the group and hopefully taking away a blessing as they return to their nations. How marvellous for us all to be a part of God's plan to touch 'The Nations'. Personally, my eyes have been opened to the outstanding outreach of BMI, and the understanding that we belong to a 'smaller' movement with a 'larger' impact than I ever envisaged.

Our worship times were awesome — talented worship leaders with a heart for the Lord. Thankyou! Amazing teaching which extended us, challenged us and fed us both in the word and in faith was a highlight for me. The teaching was weighty, stimulating and real food for growth. God's grace also blessed us with great times of ministry. Clearly the Holy Spirit was moving in tangible and quiet ways within the group throughout the week, much to our delight.

The AGM was held during the week and while listening to Q&A during

that time I realised the calibre of these men who shoulder the responsibility of this movement. No decision was taken lightly, each keeping us 'safe' with a desire to be good stewards of God's provisions.

I will never cease to be amazed that despite the differences in our individual leaders and churches with regard to their 'flavour' of worship and outreach, there was a place for everyone. When a group of Christians come together there is a sense of

love, respect and peace in relationships as the Holy Spirit reveals himself in us. The fellowship was truly fantastic.

My past church experiences have been in the Presbyterian and Anglican churches and now I find myself also experiencing the joy of Pentecostalism!

Personally, I am delighted to be part of a body which sees the complete word of God preached with integrity AND the liberty and power of the Holy Spirit celebrated and honoured. With this mix and diversity to the Glory of God, life really is a box



BMi's new catalogue model Paul Karic attended



Great fellowship was had over delicious meals...



...and desserts that required much repentance



Lynden Russell took out the annual NLG go-kart trophy from an 'old' and 'injured' Marty Woodward in second place. John Garrard came a distant and disgruntled third place

of chocolates and everyone gets to sample their favourite, acknowledging that God made it all!

Kate Ashley Open Door Christian Church, Cheltenham, Vic

## **Celebrating City Harves**

TY HARVEST CHURCH

In May many months of hard work and faithful prayer were rewarded when City Harvest Church in Bacolod, Philippines, opened their new building.

On Saturday 3 May 2014 we had the privilege to be in Bacolod and attend the opening of the new City Harvest Church building. The opening was attended by many Pastors from the city of Bacolod who came and stood with Pastors Joe and Primrose and their leadership team. Peter Frogley and his grandson Ben had come from Australia especially to be present. Pastor Kevin Donohue, Pastor James and Christine

Cloudsdale, Ken Morey, Caitlin Lewis, Wayne and Pat Blazely along with Pastor Lyndon and I all witnessed the cutting of the ribbon in the official opening.

God's word was heard and blessings were given, then a feast was set before us. Spit roast pigs and other delicacies were served and a great time of fellowship was had.

City Harvest Church is beautiful, it is built on the block of land alongside the old church, and it is spacious and open and very welcoming. It has great toilets. There is a down stairs area that is yet to be developed into rooms in the near future.

This was a very special time for us, as we have prayed a long time for a new church building for our brothers and sisters which was in great need to accommodate a growing church body. Praise God for

His faithfulness and we thank God for everyone who has contributed. On the last Sunday our team was in Bacolod we saw the church filled to capacity! I know the new building is a witness to their community of God's mighty hand moving amongst them. Praise the Lord.

> Maureen Shepherd Tamar Valley Christian Church, Exeter, Tas









# Who is Luc Malimbalimba?

At June's National Leaders Gathering we were introduced to another Doctor Luc. Not the one who wrote the book of Luke, but a young man who is making a difference in The Democratic Republic of Congo.

The DRC is the country formerly known as Zaire, and Dr Luc has a ministry in his hometown of Uvira, which is close to the border of Rwanda and Burundi.

The ministry is called 'Mission in Health Care and Development' which includes a general hospital, a maternity clinic, a counselling centre and a nutritional centre.

Luc and his family moved from a life of relative comfort in the city to run this ministry to the people of Uvira and its surrounds — bringing hope to people who are displaced, diseased, disabled and malnourished in an area ravaged by war.

In addition to the health ministry, Luc has a network of churches and a radio station called 'Impact Radio', which he is using to impact people's lives with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

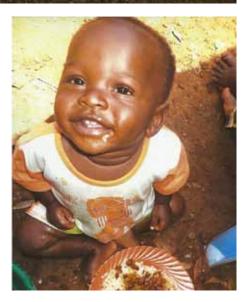
His positive influence in the Uvira community is evidenced by the fact that the local people have asked him to run for parliament — and he is now



Top: Dr Luc visits a woman and her baby Right: the child and maternity clinics in Uvira Bottom: a child receives a meal of porridge

their representative in the Federal Parliament of DR Congo.

Dr Luc is keen to partner with BMi in Australia, and in September BMi National Leader Peter Frogley will be travelling to DR Congo to visit with Luc, see the ministry firsthand, meet the staff and welcome churches and ministries to BMi. Peter will bring a full report in the next issue of *HeartBeat*.



## Fish for breakfast

King George Whiting may not have been on the menu, but as an alternative, Pastor Chris Whiting from Open Door Christian Church in Melbourne was. Chris warmed the masses on a crisp morning in Canberra at the inaugural men's breakfast at Ginninderra Christian Church. An outstanding menu created by a talented hospitality team provided the vehicle needed to generate godly, manly fellowship. The coffee machine sharpened our interest as Chris shared inspirational snippets of where God has led him over the years. It was an encouraging reminder that our whole lives should be an expression of ministry and worship unto our glorious God and Saviour. Bring on the bacon for next time!

Phil Oster, Ginninderra Christian Church, Canberra



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