

ON TRACK

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

MORE WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST FIELD Mungo Patrol (Vic/NSW) filled

The PIM Committee has appointed Colin Morrow to the Mungo Patrol. Colin and his wife Alison will be based in Mildura, to allow Colin to combine PIM ministry with home mission work in the Sunraysia Parish.

Originally from NSW, Colin from the Newcastle region and Alison from Armidale then Penrith, they moved to Melbourne with their six week old baby daughter, Sarah in 1989. Two other children soon followed, Emily and Lachlan.

Colin has been a Certified Practising Accountant for over 30 years in various companies, both large and small. He is currently a member of the Session of the Donvale (Vic) congregation, has had wide ranging experience as a Sunday School teacher and has been involved at every level of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. He began preaching, when at the invitation of the Rev. Dr Paul Logan (Alison's uncle), Colin was asked to conduct a church service at Maitland (NSW). Over the years Colin has developed a love for meeting people and hearing their life stories.

Alison has worked in raising their family of now 3 adult children. As the home based support for Colin, she has also been able to develop her own gifts in kid's, women's and seniors ministry. She has served in a voluntary capacity at playgroup, kinder and school and worked part-time as an



Colin and Alison Morrow

integration aid for children who experience learning difficulties. As Alison's late father, the Rev. Bruce Logan had a great appreciation for the work of the Rev. Dr John Flynn and the Australian Inland Mission, she is looking greatly forward to being involved in the PIM and the visitation which forms the heart of patrol work.

Colin and Alison are a team - they are looking forward to travelling around their patrol area together, caring and sharing God's love and word to those scattered throughout the Mungo Patrol.

MUNGO PATROL AREA



INTRODUCING COLIN AND ALISON

From the suburbs to the outback

ON TRACK spoke to the Morrow's shortly after their appointment

OT: Colin and Alison, congratulations on your appointment. Why do you want to be part of PIM?

CAM: Thanks, We want to try to continue the work commenced by John Flynn over 100 years ago, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ one homestead and station property at a time. We want to share God's love with people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to know about it.



JESUS DOETH ALL THINGS WELL

Roger and Margaret Report In

We have had much on which to ponder as the year has progressed but let me say right at the outset, (and you will appreciate this more as you read on), I just love the words of Fanny Crosby, as we sang at Stephen's funeral ten years ago, "For I know, what'er befall me, **Jesus doeth all things well!**"

Our time in Mt Isa in January was rewarding in many ways. It was indeed a privilege to take services on the four Sundays. What we really enjoyed was the hospitality of the people and the chance to share time getting to know many individual families. How many times have we heard of "too many chiefs ...etc." Not in Mt Isa! The church has lots of good Indians. What they need is a good chief to lead and encourage them!

Immediately after our return from Mt Isa we flew to Sydney to meet with the PIM board and to attend the annual PIM Rally. It was a great opportunity to meet in person with many Board members and PIM supporters and to share with them some of the realities of life on the track. The Board also confirmed our appointment with PIM for a further four year term.

Our first big surprise for the year came shortly after our return from Mt Isa. A new weigh bridge had been installed in town so when the cruiser was fully kitted out for patrol, with the two of us on board I satisfied my curiosity and put it over the aforesaid bridge...overweight! After checking it was found that the same was true of the South Australian patrol vehicle. Several options were considered by PIM and it was decided eventually that a 6.5tn Isuzu 4WD truck was the best way to go. After much negotiation one was purchased in Townsville and one in Whyalla (SA). PIM owes a debt of gratitude to David McDonald for his skills as a mechanic which contributed to us getting the best "bang for our buck" in the overall deal. It was not until late May that we picked up the truck and some time again after

OT: Tell us a bit about your Patrol area

CAM: We have been appointed to the Mungo Patrol. It covers an area of around 44 000 square kilometres. It is the only PIM Patrol which includes part of Victoria within its boundaries. The majority of the patrol is in far south-western NSW. We will be based with and out of the Sunraysia congregation in Mildura. We are very excited about the opportunities patrol work offers

OT: How can people stand with you?

CAM: The work of the PIM has always been dependent on the prayers and financial support of God's people. We are looking to build a team of supporters who can become an essential part of our mission in the Mungo Patrol without leaving home! We would ask for prayer for those we are visiting and for us as we try to do this. Every dollar counts. We are looking for individuals, groups and churches to help support the work of the Mungo Patrol.

MUNGO PATROL

Your Support Needed

The PIM is very thankful to the Lord for our latest Padre Colin Morrow and for ministry of the Mungo Patrol.

This means that once again PIM will be able to offer to in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ the comfort and encouragement of God's presence in this remote part of our country. Colin and Alison represent the answer to many prayers for more gospel work and more gospel workers.

We invite you to be in prayer partnership with Colin and Alison (colinmorrow@pim.org.au; alisonmorrow@pim.org.au)

We also look for financial partnership with the Lord's people, as PIM seeks \$30 000 pa from the church at large to support this ministry. Can you give a one off or a regular gift?

Donations can be made by credit card (Visa or Mastercard via RESPONSE FORM), direct debit (PIM Bank is Westpac, BSB 033 397Account# 21 3311 - Tag Mungo Patrol), PayPal go to PIM web page, Mungo Patrol and click PayPal button "http://www.pim.org.au/nsw_mungo_patrol.htm" or by cheque made out to Presbyterian Inland Mission.

By our prayers and giving let's move forward together in gospel partnership

Sincerely
Stuart Bonnington – PIM Superintendent

NT PRESBYTERIANS

*The desert shall rejoice
and blossom*

ALICE SPRINGS:

Sunday 10 am

20 Parke Crescent, The Gap
Keith Bell 08 8953 7748

DARWIN:

Sunday 10 am

Kormilda College, Berrimah

Sunday 5 pm

Palmerston Library

Rob Duncanson 08 8945 7878

www.pim.org.au

PIM THE FIRST HUNDRED YEARS AND BEYOND

Please contact Robert Benn if your congregation, presbytery or church group in NSW would like an interesting and informative PIM presentation. **02 4757 4144 • 0431 062 853**

that that the camper cab was fitted to the back and all the radios etc were successfully installed. One big plus with the new vehicle has been the added space on the back for two very large storage cupboards that allow us to carry much more gear with us as we travel. Several patrols gave us the opportunity to iron out any minor issues with the new rig. While the changeover was being organised there were various church and Distance Education activities, both in Charters Towers and Townsville to be attended and I even took time out to have my hearing tested, and yes, I now have hearing aids.

Margaret, in the meantime, was into the annual round of CWCI and KYB responsibilities. Three safaris were organised this year in the north of the state. Margaret was the leader on one of these safaris and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

From the contacts made during these safaris, one new KYB group is being established. Please pray that more such groups may be set up over time. For Margaret, another three year term as Safari Administrator is, Lord willing, about to begin.

Margaret also spent some time back in Pittsworth to celebrate her brother's birthday and to spend some time visiting the family farm before it was sold. I was in Brisbane in June for the Queensland Assembly. This is always a great opportunity to catch up with church leaders and to publicise the work of PIM.

We looked forward to our time in Townsville when the churches, as they have done for some years now, would come together to supply us with all sorts of things to take with us on our Christmas patrols. Again their generosity humbled us and it was with a sense of excitement that we headed off for our far northwest area in early November.

I had been feeling unwell for some time and a phone conversation from Croydon with our GP in Charters Towers saw us heading home immediately. Tests since then, culminating in a fortnight in hospital in Townsville have confirmed a diagnosis of "Diffuse large B-Cell lymphoma."



Clearly this has turned out lives somewhat upside down. Our GP said, and I would agree, that your initial reaction is one of shock and it is something to which you will need time to adjust. It is for this reason that we have taken this time to go public on the situation. Half truths and bits of information could be blown out of all proportion in no time. I am happy to admit that I am curious, concerned, querulous etc et al, but I am not scared. Since the diagnosis the medical fraternity have been marshalling their troops and getting all their weaponry in position. In taking a tablet the first shot was fired in my defence. These tablets will continue till the chemo infusions begin. Each session is over two days with a two or three week break in between. Many and varied are the potential side affects of chemo but from my standpoint, bring it on!!

Margaret and I both see this as an interruption to, rather than a cessation of, our time with PIM. Knowing the needs in our patrol area it would be easy to let our anger and frustration come to the surface but at such times we need to remember that God is sovereign and His plans for us are good and He will provide. As an example of this, Bill and Robyn Ray, friends from our early days in Toowoomba, have made the cottage, at the rear of their home, available to us for as long as may be required. We can be contacted by email, or mobile on 0439 515 163. Mail can still be sent to PO Box 1691 Charters Towers. We would welcome visitors and if you call us first we will give you directions. Bill is now the Anglican Bishop of North Queensland and he shared with me a profound question that I would like to leave with you. "What is God wanting me to learn in all this?"

May you know the wonder and the blessing of "Immanuel" – God with us!

With our love,

Roger and Margaret.
North Patrol, Queensland



