

# On Track



Pictured: Attendees at the historic railway bridge in Bombala

## Celebrating Easter in the High Country

Noah and Nerroli Vasiliades started PIM's Snowy Mountains Patrol in January this year. Since then, they have wasted no time in engaging people with the Gospel.

With a God given gift to shape conversations to Kingdom issues, Noah and Nerroli have already met many people in the Snowy Mountains area. From Buldah in the south to Bombala in the north, they are sowing the seed of God's word.

Over the Easter long weekend, Noah and Nerroli sought to make the most of the Easter celebrations, welcoming supporters and friends to a housewarming at their home and the historic Presbyterian church.

The group enjoyed encouraging conversations around a bonfire each night, including many captivating stories from Noah about the opening months of patrol work. On the Saturday there was a walk down to the river, followed by a tag-a-long tour of the district.



On Resurrection Sunday, Bombala Presbyterian Church was opened for the first time since 2015. Along with those who had come for the weekend, the service was also attended by several town locals.

One of the highlights of the weekend for Noah and Nerroli was the opportunity to meet another Christian in Bombala. After having seen a poster in the local supermarket advertising the Easter Sunday Service, Steve\* found the church on Sunday morning by following the ringing bells. In the providence of God he was able to attend the Easter Sunday service, hear the Gospel sermon, meet Noah, and make plans to catch up with him again. Since then, the two men have met every week to read the Bible together, with Steve eager to learn how to live out his faith. Praise God that those church bells brought Steve to the service so that this discipling friendship could begin!

Please be in prayer for Steve that he might continue to meet regularly with Noah and be encouraged in Gospel truth. Continue also to pray for the patrol work of Noah and Nerroli as they travel throughout the remote areas of Gippsland and the Snowy Mountains.

If you would like to support the Vasiliades or stay up to date on their work, contact Noah directly on [noahvasiliades@pim.org.au](mailto:noahvasiliades@pim.org.au) or call 0492 960 223.

\*Name has been changed to maintain confidentiality.

## Bushlife



By Kim Jaeger, Tasmania Patrol

**I have been visiting Phil\* for 5 years. Phil is a Christian believer living in the bush, who has been through ups and downs like most of us.**

For many months Phil was unable to drive and experienced the difficulties of isolation. Phil lives a couple of kilometres up a bush track, which comes off a remote gravel road. There is no bus service and certainly no taxis nearby, so getting into shops and services is difficult.

On several occasions I was able to pick up Phil and take him to the closest township to access services and to enjoy lunch and fellowship together. The travel in the car, 45 minutes each way, was filled with Christian discussion and prayer.

Phil has kindly commented:

*"Kim coming to visit has been like sunshine on a cloudy day, not just him visiting but the warmth of his character. The strength I get from talking about our Lord and Heavenly Father, and His work in our lives is such a lifeline. Through Kim's visits God displays love, friendship and kindness. I am always so reminded that Jesus went out amongst the people and ministered to their needs. Kim does this and is a real brother and such a blessing in Christ".*

Pictured: Phil outside his home in the Tasmanian bush.

\*real name used by permission.

**Kim Jaeger is bringing support and care to the bush trails of remote Tasmania. If you would like to support Kim and stay up to date on his work, contact him directly by emailing [kjaeger@pim.org.au](mailto:kjaeger@pim.org.au) or call 0417 303 446.**

## ANZAC Day in Beltana

By Colin and Alison Morrow, Mungo Patrol

**What a privilege it was to travel to Beltana, South Australia to conduct their ANZAC Day dawn service on behalf of the Presbyterian Inland Mission.**

The outback town of Beltana is where John Flynn was ministering at the Smith of Dunesk Mission in 1911-1912 when he wrote his report to the Presbyterian Church of Australia regarding the need for outback ministry. His report was presented in 1912 and resulted in the formation of Australian Inland Mission, which continues today as the Presbyterian Inland Mission.

The ANZAC Day service began as the sun was making an appearance over the horizon, and was attended by over 50 people - not bad for a town with a population of 26!

We were able to read from Scripture, sing hymns, pray and present a short Gospel message. Members of the community laid a wreath and raised the flags from half-mast. The traditional Last Post and Reveille were played and the Ode of Remembrance recited. The service finished as all present joined in singing the Australian National Anthem.

Following the service, the Beltana Progress Association put on a breakfast in Beltana's Assembly Hall, where we were able to meet and talk with people from the local area, as well as those who had travelled from Adelaide, interstate and even overseas! There were many stories to be shared and PIM were made very welcome.

Although it is a long time since John Flynn was in Beltana, it is a joy to know that there are still opportunities to share the Gospel. Let us pray that the Lord will work in the hearts of those present on ANZAC Day and with the people with whom we shared.



## Meet Graham and Fran



Graham and Fran are members of the PIM Nomads Network, which trains and supports those spending time on the road to use their gifts and abilities for serving Christ and his church. At the March training event at New Dunesk we took some time to ask them a few questions:

**Graham – Tell us about what you do in retirement.**

From 2014 we have been supporting small country churches that are struggling. Many cannot afford ministry, so Fran and I like to go and support them and give some encouragement. Many lay leaders get tired, so we seek to give them some relief from carrying the burden. As a retired Pastor, I'm happy to preach and lead them in worship.

**Fran – How do you support the churches you are working with?**

Graham does the preaching, but we are always there as a team. I support him however I can, but especially with the pastoral visiting. We are always a compassionate ear and where appropriate, we offer needed guidance and encouragement from God's word. I was a former community nurse, so I can offer practical suggestion to help them with life and we find that often people will initiate gospel conversations on life and eternity.

**Fran and Graham – what advice would you give to people who are on holidays or traveling in their retirement years?**

Use the skills and abilities that God has given you. For some it may be hospitality, for others it may be engaging in conversation. Also, visit the local country churches and be an encouragement to them. Wherever you are, invest in people, talk to the locals, pray for opportunities to share your faith. We have always looked for mission opportunities, we would encourage others to have this mindset too.

If you are approaching retirement or are already spending time on the road, consider joining the PIM Nomads Network where you can meet others like Graham and Fran. Plans are underway for a second training event this year in August. To stay updated as information becomes available, email [ceo@pim.org.au](mailto:ceo@pim.org.au) or visit [pim.org.au/nomads-network](http://pim.org.au/nomads-network).

---

## Can you help - on site van needed

Do you have or know of a caravan that could be donated to New Dunesk for use as short term or overnight accommodation? The van does not need to be registered (or registrable), just of sound enough condition to be converted for on-site use. If you can help, please contact Paul directly on 0479 034 445 or email [newdunesk@pim.org.au](mailto:newdunesk@pim.org.au).

## Preaching Workshops

Are you a lay-preacher, elder or minister looking to improve your preaching skills? Consider attending one of the preaching workshops being held at New Dunesk in 2023.

**Country Preachers Workshop**  
29th June - 2nd July 2023

Building on what was learnt in the 2022 workshop, this year participants will continue developing preaching skills, with a focus on the New Testament. Presented by Stephen Williams from Langham Partnership. (Attendance at the 2022 workshop is not a prerequisite.)

**Ministers Preaching Workshop**  
21st - 24th August 2023

An intensive workshop where participants will develop their skills in expository preaching that is both faithful to the text and engaging for the listener. Presented by David Cook from the Expository Preaching Trust.

**To book your place for either of these workshops:**

**Email:** [ceo@pim.org.au](mailto:ceo@pim.org.au)  
**Call** 0438 868 964

**Or visit** [pim.org.au/new-dunesk](http://pim.org.au/new-dunesk) for a full program and more information about each event.

## Interested in donating to the work of the Presbyterian Inland Mission?

Please fill in and mail back to us the separate donation slip included with this issue, or visit [www.pim.org.au](http://www.pim.org.au) to donate electronically.

## Get On Track delivered straight to your inbox

Subscribe to our mailing list to receive your next edition of On Track, plus other news, stories and prayer points, straight to your email inbox.

Visit [pim.org.au/subscribe](http://pim.org.au/subscribe)

## Thank you for your support

### Current events

## Plan ahead with PIM

So many of the things we do in life require a good plan, whether that's ministry and service in Christ's church, or a relaxing holiday. So here are four things to consider in your plans for 2023 that will combine the two – Christian service and a holiday with a difference.



### **New Dunesk Gap Year - 6 or 12 months**

A totally unique country experience for young people that will see you living on a rural property, upskilling in practical farm knowledge, being disciplined and trained for Christian ministry, and getting involved in the local church. For more information visit [pim.org.au/gap-year](http://pim.org.au/gap-year) or email [gapyear@pim.org.au](mailto:gapyear@pim.org.au).

### **A visit to Mount Magnet Presbyterian Church**

For those planning a trip through Western Australia, put a visit to Mount Magnet on your to-do list. Located four and a half hours drive east of Geraldton, the town boasts a 37km tourist trail through old and new goldmine sites, a traditional outdoor cinema, and a Mining and Pastoral Museum.

But the place to be every Sunday morning is at the Mount Magnet Presbyterian Church. Under God's hand, Alvin and Narelle Chai have built a strong church community in the town, and are always encouraged by the fellowship with other Christians that pass through (as are the local church family).



### **New Dunesk Father Son Weekend 14-16 July 2023**

Fathers and sons are invited to attend this adventure filled camping weekend at New Dunesk, which includes spectating at the Ardlethan Can Shoot, talks on gun safety, an extreme 4WD demonstration, bonfire devotions and Sunday worship. For more information or to register email [mdepyle@hotmail.com](mailto:mdepyle@hotmail.com), call 0458 182 889 or visit [pim.org.au/father-son-weekend-2023](http://pim.org.au/father-son-weekend-2023).

### **A Newell Highway stopover**

Whether you're a grey nomad, a family with a camper trailer or simply passing through outback NSW, make it your plan to stopover at New Dunesk. Located on the Newell Highway just 70km south of West Wyalong, New Dunesk is the perfect place to stop and rest. For more information and to plan your trip, contact Paul on 0479 034 445 or email [newdunesk@pim.org.au](mailto:newdunesk@pim.org.au).

PRIVACY: PIM values the privacy of the people we work with, therefore, we may at times change the names of people in stories, substitute photos or obscure some geographic details that might identify them. However, all the stories we tell are true and accurately convey what we see God doing in people's lives.

PO Box 9, Ardlethan NSW 2665  
☎ 02 6100 3510 ✉ [admin@pim.org.au](mailto:admin@pim.org.au)  
📱 @PresbyterianInlandMission  
[www.pim.org.au](http://www.pim.org.au)



— worth driving for —