



Alumni News

Bringing together friends and former staff, for mutual support and encouragement.



Scott's Update

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the good

news about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.

- Philippians 1:3-6

Across the world today we see God's Spirit at work forging new Gospel partnerships.

In July I was in Norway, at the Baptist World Alliance annual gathering, for the launch of the Global Baptist Mission Network (GBMN). The network will bring together leaders from Baptist mission agencies and Baptist Union mission departments from across the world, with the aims of encouraging, networking and fostering new mission partnerships.

As we celebrate this launch at a global level, we're excited to be joining with old and new friends in sharing the love of Jesus together.

'Old friends' include the Baptist Union of PNG, with whom we have signed a new partnership agreement. This includes our support in the formation of a BUPNG mission sending arm. In November, a vocational training centre opened in Zambia, named the Roger Kemp Training Institute. The Central Baptist Association of Zambia chose to honour Roger in this way after 46 years of serving alongside Baptists in Zambia.

Across the locations we serve, we're excited to see new partnerships being established, like one in Malawi with a Yawo-led entity. This partnership represents Yawo disciple making from one generation to the next and the desire of Yawo leaders and our Australian team members to see the whole Gospel bringing transformation to local communities.

Here in Australia, it's exciting to see new partnerships being developed with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) churches and leaders, including Chin, Karen and Nepali. CALD churches continue to rapidly grow in Australia and Baptist Mission Australia is privileged to come alongside these faith communities, as together we seek to share the hope of Jesus across the street, as well as across the world.

Across the globe – in the midst of so much brokenness and need – we see the Holy Spirit at work encouraging and urging followers of Jesus to come together in new missional collaborations. We're excited to share in this journey, as partnership has always been part of our DNA.

As alumni of Baptist Mission Australia, you play a special role in our partnership story and we're very thankful for your past and present contribution to our shared ministry.

Grace and peace,

Scott Pilgrim

Executive Director

Forever changed in the Enga highlands

Geoff Waugh and his wife Meg served in Papua New Guinea between 1965 - 1971.



*Above image: Geoff and Enga toddler
Left image: Geoff in Enga highlands*



The first village service I attended in Papua New Guinea in 1965 changed me for good.

As the eldest son of Baptist Minister Jim Waugh, I was familiar with Australian church life, and liked it.

PNG changed me. I went to teach in schools there and commence Bible Schools, but I had much to learn about the culture and church life there. I vividly remember my first church service in a grass roofed bamboo walled hut and dirt floor with dry grass to sit on. We had climbed on tracks 1,000 feet from the Baiyer Valley floor to the ridge-top village.

They sang their own songs in Enga, and the long announcements covered all their community activities for the week, including spending a day building local roads with smashed rocks.

Later, when revival came from 1973, the mission staff asked them to stop returning axes, shovels, and other tools that they had 'borrowed' years before, because there were so many. These became gifts to the villages.

I began learning more about communal life. They had all things in common, literally (Acts 4:32). I'd never seen that before. They respected chiefs and pastors, but made decisions together as a community, so there were no personal calls for salvation.

They talked about this new life until they agreed to be baptised, and to cut off their ingrown hair wigs which hosted innumerable lice or more. Each Monday morning at school included hair washing and delousing the students after their weekend in their village!

I admired the sensitive, culturally-aware work of the mission pioneers among the Enga highlanders from their beginnings in 1949.

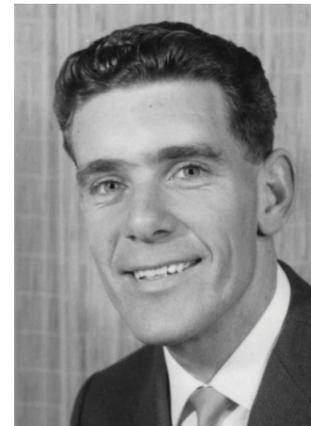
I arrived almost 20 years later when there were four mission stations or centres, schools, pastor schools, trade schools, trade stores, the Tinsley Hospital (where our first child was born), extensive village schools and aid posts, and a thriving Enga church of new Christians learning from a growing number of Bible-book translations. They read and discussed it with Enga eyes, not European eyes.

After I married Meg on home assignment, we taught in Bible Schools, including starting Kwinkia Bible College. The students often challenged me to live more like the Bible communities. They were ripe for revival in the 1970s, because revival was just like the Book of Acts.

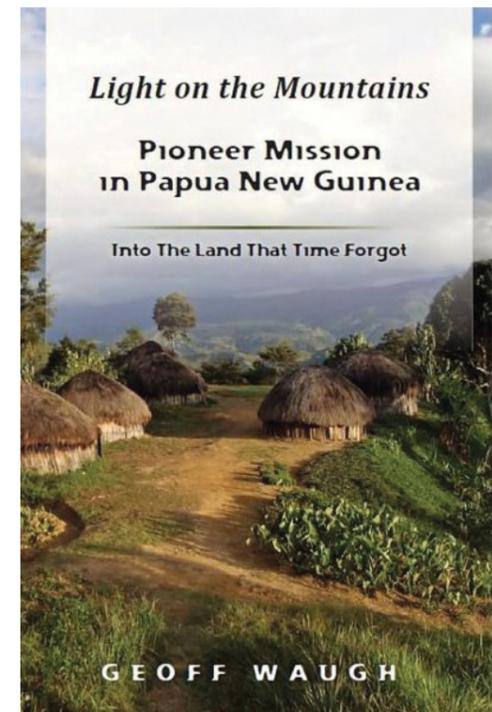
I'm grateful for those early pioneering years among tribal people who believed that the church can and should be just like it was in the New Testament.

After I returned to Australia the way opened for me as a Baptist minister to encourage renewal and revival in colleges here too.

I began the Renewal Journal, now free on www.renewaljournal.com including ebooks like *Light on the Mountains*, the story of Baptist mission beginnings in PNG.



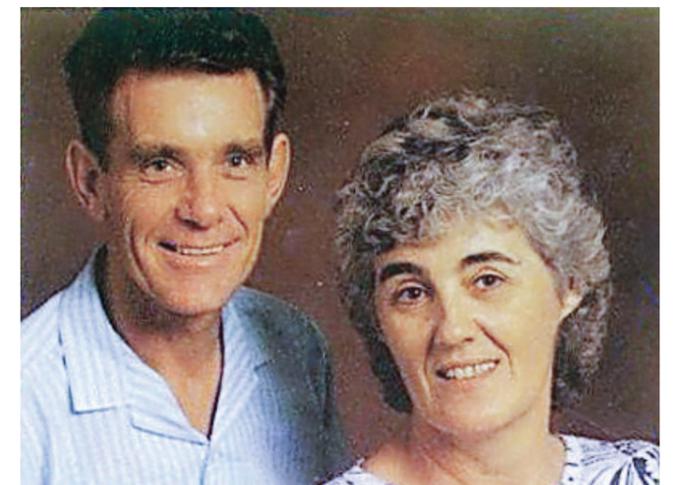
Geoff served in PNG between 1965-1971 and Meg served in PNG between 1968-1971



Read Geoff's book online here: <https://renewaljournal.com/2010/12/26/light-on-the-mountains/>



Geoff with school pupils in PNG



Geoff and Meg in Australia in 1980

Gone to Glory

This is a list of team members who passed away in recent years. If anyone has been missed, or details are incorrect, please contact us at info@baptistmissionaustralia.org

First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Spouse (D denotes if confirmed deceased)	Service Area	Year of Service
Pledge	Litana		08/03/2022		Zambia	1969-1998
Ian	Flatters	20/01/1940	22/04/2022	Jill Flatters	PNG	1966-1980
Frank	Cleary		27/05/2022	Gladys Cleary (D 24/02/2019)	South Asia, PNG, Zimbabwe, & Philippines	1973-1977, 1978-1982, 1983-1989, 1991-1993
Gerald	Ball	18/02/1932	12/07/2022	Denise Ball (D 23/12/2020)	East Pakistan	1957-1962
Lorraine	Boyd	24/01/1942	19/07/2022	Thomas Boyd	PNG	1980-1982
Jean	Moss	25/02/1948	26/7/2022		Zambia	1975-1986
Donald	Moore	22/07/1930	10/08/2022	Joyce Moore (D 16/12/2022)	PNG	1964-1967
Ernest	Macready	16/04/1928	5/10/2022	May Macready (D 15/12/1998)	PNG	1984-1985
Valdene	Parish	13/10/1934	7/10/2022	William Parish (D 22/01/2018)	Outback Australia	1987-1991
David	Groves	9/03/1939	14/10/2022	Alison Groves	PNG & Papua	1960, 1974-1987
Joyce	Moore	4/07/1928	16/12/2022	Donald Moore (D 10/08/2022)	PNG	1964-1967
Win	Thomson		16/12/2022	Robin Thomson	PNG	1960-1984
Ray	Sprigg	10/06/1931	20/12/2022	Mona Sprigg	Zimbabwe	1989-1996
Ruth	Marks	4/09/1929	6/01/2023		PNG	1957-1968
Keith	Bricknell	30/03/1936	30/03/2023	Valerie Bricknell (D 11/09/2020)	PNG	1961-1972
Kenneth	Chenery	20/04/1951	15/04/2023	Joy Chenery	Thailand	1979-1981
Doug	Hudson	3/01/1937	20/06/2023	Judith Hudson	PNG	1991-1993
Donald	Doull	28/03/1928	22/06/2023	Elaine Doull	PNG	1949-1967
Gail	Patterson	15/10/1952	5/08/2023	Don Patterson (D 5/08/2023)	Central Asia	2009-2012
Don	Patterson	18/08/1952	5/08/2023	Gail Patterson (D 5/08/2023)	Central Asia	2009-2012
Ruth	Charles	31/10/1933	17/08/2023	Noel Charles (D 4/06/1997)	Papua	1957-1962
Joyce	Murdoch	18/12/1927	30/08/2023	Malcolm Murdoch (D 28/06/2011)	Outback Australia	1981-1988
John	Bridges	1932	13/09/2023	Jocelyn Bridges (D 13/12/2014)	Outback Australia	1957-1976
Joyce	McQuillan	28/02/1933	22/10/2023	James McQuillan (D 22/03/2016)	PNG	1988-1990



The Opportunities God has Given me

Carol Stewart is the Director of Friends of Baptist Mission Australia NSW/ACT



I am continually amazed at how our Father uses our weaknesses and disabilities to further His work in His world.

Hoa 'Peter', a man who was orphaned during a war as a boy and suffered from polio, became a drug addict and dealer. God brought Hoa to Himself, and he became a servant of God who was led to establish the an NGO in Indochina, providing rehabilitation and education to orphans and disadvantaged children.

God used my infant speech impediment, to chart the course of my life in ministry and passion for His work through Baptist Mission Australia. My journey started when my mother found a wonderful Christian woman to help with my speech impediment. My parents were not believers. A friend invited me to Sunday School and Girls' Brigade at a Baptist church. Billy Graham came to town and my parents and I were saved. Dad immediately embraced supporting mission.

About ten years ago, I met the lady and her husband who taught me to speak properly. She told me they had prayed for our family for eight years before we came to faith. I'm so thankful that God allowed me that knowledge. My life was on God's chartered course.

25 years ago, I responded to an ad in Vision magazine. Since then, God has given me the unique privilege and insight to experience what He is doing, and how and who He is doing it through.

I have sat in the sand in **Lajamanu** and listened to Jerry Jangala share, and one of the Lajamanu ladies told me, "It's not our land, it's God's land. We are just looking after it for Him." I have spent time at **Yuendumu** with Natalie and Norm, after having driven a 4WD and trailer there, which was loaded with clothing for their op shop – and I sat and sewed. I have experienced **Ali Curung** with Norm and Natalie, Bill and Pauleen.

In **Kalkarindji**, I heard the praises from Barry D, who shared about how well our organisation looks after our people. I have journeyed with Mat and Shannon through the highs and lows of ministry and raising children.

I have led a team to **South East Asia**, had a language lesson from a local person and eaten at the café our team set up. I have seen a perfect picture of redemption outside a Buddhist wat in **Cambodia**. I have spent many weeks in **Indochina**, cleaning, teaching English, cooking and attending weddings. I have hung out with young people with disabilities and have many wonderful memories of time spent with Hoa, Hien, Mark and Ngoc. I have sat on the floor, with my legs tucked under, for a very long funeral in **Thailand**. I experienced the hospitality of Jan and Jit, which included an unexpected first ride as a pillion passenger on a motorbike. And I have taught English in **South Asia**.

God has given us His best people – amazing, highly intelligent, educated, skilled, humble servants who could be making a headline in the business world of today, but have given their lives to share His love with those who don't know Him. Unique servants, each one a perfect fit for the task to which God has called them.

These opportunities have given me the privilege of sharing these experiences and joys to so many people including our Friends of Baptist Mission Australia NSW/ACT groups. Ten years ago, Glad Cleary asked me to prayerfully consider if I might take up the leadership of this amazing supportive network. I accepted and am still there today.

Do you know of a few faithful supporters of our Baptist Mission Australia ministry? Perhaps you can gather some people from your church or networks. If so, we can provide resources and speakers for you to learn and hear more of what our Father is doing in His world through our front-line intercultural team members.

We are constantly living out Luke 8:1-3, where Jesus shared the good news and many followed, generously supporting Him out of their own pockets.

If you have questions about the Friends of Baptist Mission Australia ministry and network, please send an email to info@baptistmissionaustralia.org We would love to hear from you.

Merry Christmas

រីករាយចុងប្រៃណុយណូអ៊ែល

Cisangalalo cakupagwa jwa Issa Messia

สุขสันต์วันคริสต์มาส



MERRY CHRISTMAS TEXT

Khmer: រីករាយចុងប្រៃណុយណូអ៊ែល

Pronunciation: Rikreay thngai bony nauel

Ciyawo

(spoken in Mozambique and Malawi):

Cisangalalo cakupagwa jwa Issa Messia

Thai: สุขสันต์วันคริสต์มาส

Pronunciation: Sūkhṣānt wān khriṣṭmās

Alumni Connect

We know people may want to be in contact with other alumni. Would you be able to help? We would love to have a contact person for each state. If this resonates with you please get in contact with us at info@baptistmissionaustralia.org

Share Your Story

If you would like to contribute a story, devotional thought, or Where Are They Now section, please contact us at info@baptistmissionaustralia.org

If you have feedback, questions or do not want to receive this newsletter you can also contact us.