

## Walkabout Ministries Report 2016

The Elders Outreach Group continued to meet every Tuesday during the school terms at Holy Trinity hall. They have continued to have guest speakers during the year as well as visits from health professionals and a massage therapist. Besides the fellowship they also enjoy craft and sewing. This year they travelled to Orange for the Elder's Olympics, a day trip to Goobang National Park with a BBQ lunch and to Tooraweenah to visit the Emu Logic Farm. They also held an open day at the Hall for people to come along and see what we have been doing through the year.

In April Eddie and myself travelled to Lightning Ridge to join up with the North-West NSW River Convention Circuit (Gospel Outreach) for a weekend and they then joined us the following weekend in Dubbo. While in Dubbo they entertained, and joined in the meal with the Community Kitchen on the Friday night. Saturday morning and lunch was a time of prayer and fellowship at Holy Trinity hall. On Saturday evening we held our first open air Gospel Sharing Evening/Singalong in Dubbo at Luna Park (near Apollo Estate). We also had a sausage sizzle for all who attended.

A Reconciliation Luncheon was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> September. Welcome to Country by Margaret Walker. The Aboriginal Girls Circle from Dubbo Delroy Campus helped with the preparation and serving of food and clean up. This was greatly appreciated by all and the girls were very ably supervised by Margaret Pickette. The Aboriginal dancers were very well received by all who attended. Bob Slockee from Australians Together was our guest speaker and his talk and question/answer time was thought provoking. The following is an excerpt from an email sent to me after the luncheon:

*I particularly like it when Bob said it's about God up there and then all us fellas down here. Love the idea of all being one, no colour or race, we are all equal. God loves us all. I also understood better about the hurt that indigenous people have gone through. And how it continues through the generations, and how we can all work together to make a difference for future generations. Learning how to let go of the hurt. The ideas he shared were very thought provoking, powerful and encouraging.*

*Thanks again Gloria, job well done, to you and all your helpers.*

*PS The Dancers were the best I have seen also food was great as well*

The Women's camp was held at the Lake Burrendong Holiday park in August. Saturday was spent with the ladies doing craft, relaxing and enjoying each other's company, renewing the spirit within. A pyjama party was held on the Saturday night with all the ladies having a lot of fun. Our church/healing service was held on Sunday morning.

A family fun day was held in November at Toongi. Games such as sack races, egg & spoon races and relays etc were played. A BBQ lunch was enjoyed by all who attended. At the end of the day medallions were handed out to participants and an overall trophy and medallion given to the child with the most points for the day.

A Women of the Bible afternoon was held in May. The format was along the same lines as previous years. The women looked at were: Sarah & Hagar, Lydia, The Shunammite Woman, Euodia & Syntche. The afternoon invoked a lot of sharing and personal stories amongst the ladies.


Our women's dinners were not held as frequently this year (they will be held more frequently in 2017). Dianne Phillis was a guest speaker at our first dinner and she gave a PowerPoint presentation on Tanzania. The Christmas dinner was well attended with the ladies singing a few Christmas carols, ably led by Narelle Lloyd. Each lady at the Christmas dinner received a Bible promise book for women. The dinners are attended by both church and non-church women and are a great opportunity for fellowship.

Chaplaincy services are still provided at the Orana Juvenile Justice Centre, I am working in the center 2 days a week as well as holding Sunday service out there once a month and significant days' services. Fay Jorgensen continues to come to the centre with me for the church services, she and the boys enjoy spending time with each other. The boys all enjoyed the Christmas service and were each given a gift.

I continue to take funeral services, weddings and baptisms when requested. NATSIAC continued to take a lot of mine and Jenni's time. The Gathering was held in Cairns in 2016, with all accommodation and flight bookings being done through my office. The National Aboriginal Bishop Chris McLeod will be in Dubbo from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017. He will be attending the Reconciliation Luncheon whilst he is here.

Eddie continues to be a great support to me. He always willing to lend a hand whenever I need him whether it be driving a bus, helping with transporting people/equipment for functions and leading the men's camps. Another support is Jenni continuing to come on Wednesday to help with the administration side of the ministry and also helping with set up for functions.

I continue to be thankful for all the support given to this ministry from ABM which enables these programs to continue.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria Shipp".

Rev Gloria Shipp

## Elders Outreach Group



### MEANING OF ELDERS OUTREACH GROUP LOGO

Boomerangs and women hands in centre greeting and welcome each other. The boomerang is thrown and circles and returns, footprints walkabout as women we go out meet new people and invite them to join us we greet them with handshakes for a meal, craft, company, cuppa and a yarn and like the boomerang their return. SYMBOLS: 'Half-moon' digging sticks and Coolamon women sitting and sharing meal, 'Half-moon' sitting around yarning, dots all women coming together for the occasion, footprints as the women walk to outreach and "gather" invite others to join us.

## Rally



## Family Fun Day



# Reconciliation Luncheon

