

Partners

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ABM Anglican Board of Mission - Australia
Working for Love, Hope & Justice

ABM is selling off all its Christmas Card stock to make way for next Christmas – get in early for 2007 with a great deal and support the work of our Partners!

A quilted Christmas card with a tan background and a wide tan border. The card is divided into four square panels by thin tan lines. Each panel contains a different Christmas-themed illustration: top-left shows a white dove in flight; top-right shows a green Christmas tree with yellow ornaments and a yellow star; bottom-left shows a green angel with white wings; bottom-right shows a lit white candle. The words 'Season's Greetings' are written in a cursive script along the top and bottom edges of the card. Small red stars are visible in the corners of the border.

A detail from a medieval manuscript, likely the Lindisfarne Gospels, showing the Virgin Mary in a blue mantle holding the Christ Child. The style is characterized by intricate interlaced knotwork and a rich, textured background.

This detail from a medieval manuscript depicts a scene with figures in a room and a landscape above. The figures are dressed in medieval attire, and the background shows a landscape with mountains and a sky with clouds.

Three Kings

Rejoice in the Blessings of Christmas

The size of a CD ROM box, this calendar will fit anywhere. Each month has a beautiful photo front and back. 140 x 124mm

ONLY
\$6.00
WHILE
STOCKS
LAST!



Calendar shows the dates in liturgical colours and notes the table of Sundays as well as Principal and Lesser Festivals.

I would like to order the following items:

CREDIT CARD ORDERS WELCOME BY MAIL, FAX OR PHONE

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Diners (Min. credit card order \$10)

CARD NUMBER:

CCV NO:

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(The last 3 digits on the back of your credit card – 4 digits on the front of Amex cards)

Name on Card _____

Signature _____ Exp. Date ____/____/____

Ph Home _____ Ph Business _____

Email

Customer Address Details:

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

POSTAGE AND COSTS (Please do not mail cash)	For orders up to:	\$7	\$7.05 to \$14	\$14.05 to \$21	\$22 to \$120
	Your postage and packaging is:	\$2	\$3	\$6	\$8
	For orders over \$120 please contact Carole Russell in the ABM office to be advised of cost.				

Fruits of Love and Hope

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last." (John 15:16) These words which Jesus spoke to his disciples are particularly appropriate for us 2000 years later, as we begin to reflect on our Christian journey in the season of Lent. Lent is a time for considering what God is calling us to do in our lives and for ABM, it is a particularly appropriate time to share stories of faith-bearing-fruit within our own Anglican Church of Australia and in our Partner churches overseas.

During the season of Lent, ABM provides resources to parishes and groups to tell more stories of the exciting work of the Anglican Church as it seeks to bear fruit: fruit of love and hope, fruit of improved health and greater educational opportunities, fruit of strengthened communities and greater advocacy for justice. Inside this edition of *Partners* you'll find information about our Lent resources (see pages 6 and 7), and

From the Executive Director **Linda Kurti**



also some of the ways in which your generous donations help to bear fruit around the world.

Lent is also, traditionally, a time of fasting. When I was growing up, I understood the concept of fasting as a strict penitence and denial, something like the poor character in the film *Chocolat* who longs for jam on his croissant. It was only later that I began to see fasting as a positive way of offering up something small to God, to say – 'I don't really need this little thing because I affirm that God provides all things'. ABM's **Fast Food Fast** is an opportunity to offer up those extra coffees, salad wraps or muffins to God, and to donate the money saved to the work of our Partners

as they seek to bear fruit that will last. This year, the staff of ABM have taken on the challenge ourselves. Will I stare longingly at the coffee cart on my morning walk to work? Perhaps, but the \$3 I save each day will add up to an amount which could provide something much more meaningful for the Melanesian Brothers in PNG, or villagers in the Philippines. Will you join us? (See pages 6 and 7 for more details.)

Linda Kurti

Linda Kurti, Executive Director

We apologise: In the last edition of *Partners*, ABM incorrectly stated that the Rt. Rev. Ted Mosby was the first bishop of the Torres Strait Island. We offer our apologies to the family of the late Rt. Rev. Kiwami Dai, and acknowledge his significant contribution to the life and ministry of the Anglican Church in the Torres Strait and throughout Australia.

Pictured on front cover: Salwa who lives in Madinet El Salaam – one of the poorest areas of Cairo – regularly attends the programs run for young people in the local Anglican Community Centre, sponsored by one of ABM's Partners, the Diocese of Egypt. Photo: Don Brice 2005.

POSITIONS VACANT – IS GOD CALLING YOU?

The following are URGENTLY required by the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea:

- **MANAGER – FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION** (Vacant – needed urgently), Anglican National Office – Lae, Morobe Province – to work and train local level staff, assist in bringing various MYOB & Excel accounts up to date, and provide support to the current national office.
- **POPONDOTA DIOCESAN SECRETARY** (Vacant – needed urgently), Town of Popondetta – Oro Province
The Diocese continues to search for an able administrator (Word/Excel) – preferably also with some financial background to support the new Bishop – Joe Kopapa. To take up this important position within the largest of our Anglican Diocese in PNG. Bishop Joe has indicated that he would also be open to suggestions (at this time) of short-term mission people to 'get things on track' should they be capable.
- **NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER** (Vacant – needed urgently) – location flexible/TBA
Following on from the contribution of John & Della Rae who have returned to England – this position will be heavily involved with the Church Partnerships Program (CPP), working closely with the Health & Education sectors to refine current processes/reporting and build capacity across ACPNG.
- **QUALIFIED WATER ENGINEER** (Vacant – needed urgently) – to help install reliable water supplies for the benefit of Anglican health and education services, and the communities they serve, in remote rural and island areas.
- **DOCTORS** – Anglican Health Services (Vacant – needed urgently) to work in our 3 Anglican Health Centres, to contribute to the training of staff, and undertake periodic health 'patrols' to the surrounding rural communities.

The Church of Melanesia is looking for:

- **HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AT SELWYN COLLEGE** – Senior classes in Maths, English, Geography and Science.

Further information please contact: Wendy Suma, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director
ABM, Locked Bag Q4005, Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230. Phone (02) 9264 1021 or email wrs@abm.asn.au

Bringing The Gospel Home and Empowering Women in Egypt

ABM's National Auxiliary... Supporting the Work of our Partners

Tricia Graham National Auxiliary President

PROJECT

Last year's Auxiliary project 'Bringing The Gospel Home' supporting Indigenous Ministry in Australia raised \$43,003.37. The Auxiliary also donated \$29,416.85 to ABM's general funds.

This is a truly wonderful result and we say thank you to all who supported the Auxiliary in achieving it.

The exciting Auxiliary Project for 2007 is "Empowering Egyptian Women". This project promotes the welfare of women, who face discrimination at many levels in their society.

The Auxiliary has not had a project in Egypt before, so it will be most interesting to learn how our Partner Church works in this country and how the Auxiliary's support will enable them to continue to extend their ministry. We are confident that we can raise \$45,000 in 2007 and so help the Diocese of Egypt as it seeks to break the cycle



The town of Madinet El Salaam provides an easy entry point for drug barons bringing illegal substances into the country. Sadly, children as young as eight (8) years old are currently being used in the town as drug runners, as they are often not easily detected. Salwa (above) and many of her friends attend a drug awareness program run by the Diocese which teaches children not to become involved with drugs. Photo: Don Brice. ABM 2005.



Magda Hanna with her family. Magda first came into contact with the Anglican Church in Egypt when she came to church with a friend. Later she attended marriage guidance with her husband and also participated in literacy classes – both run by the Anglican Diocese of Egypt – a church committed to holistic ministry for all people. Photo: Don Brice. ABM 2005.

of discrimination for women in the country.

To learn more about this new and exciting project, please contact your local Auxiliary representative, see the project information on ABM's website www.abmission.org and follow the path to the project, or contact the Auxiliary's National Secretary, Carole Russell by phone on 1300 302 663 (Sydney 9264 1021) or e-mail cmr@abm.asn.au

A Blooming miracle strikes
for the second time...
don't miss it!



If you have admired it in a friend's garden, or forgot to order one last year, now is the time to order your Auxiliary Rose "A Blooming Miracle". If you have not seen one,

be assured it is a very beautiful, sweet-smelling rose.

This Rose was especially grown for the Auxiliary and the name was chosen from 810 entries in a competition held last year.

Delivery of the Rose will be early in July, so use the order form and get in quick. We have 310 orders already and there will be only 1,000 roses grown this year. And remember a percentage of the cost of the rose goes to ABM for ministry with our Partners. Don't miss out.

YES, I would like to order _____ of the brand new ABM Auxiliary Rose, 'A Blooming Miracle' at only \$20 per rose.

Delivery is free for orders of 10 or more to your address. So why not get a group of your friends together or hand out order forms in your parish/group, nominate a central collection point(for pick up) and place your order for 10 or more.

Only want one? Just want to have one delivered to you? Please add an additional delivery charge of \$3 per rose (and provide us with your address).

I would also like to make a donation of \$_____ to the work of the Anglican Board of Mission (optional).

My details:

Name _____

Address

Phone _____ Email _____

Enclosed is my cheque/money order (made out to ABM) for \$_____ *or*

☐ Please debit my credit card \$ _____ ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Diners ☐ Amex

Name on card _____

Card No.

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CCV No. (The last 3 digits on the back of your credit card – 4 digits on the front of Amex cards)

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Card Expiry____/____ Signature_____ Date_____

Please send to: ABM Auxiliary Rose Orders, Locked Bag Q4005, QVB NSW 1230 or Fax to: 02 9261 3560

I/we will pick up my/our rose/s from _____

On / Contact

(Please nominate a date after 1 July 2007) Phone number if different from above

Or ☐ I have enclosed an additional \$3 per rose, to the total for delivery to my home.

This House We are Building on Rock!

How do you relay a message to a parish that is 300km from the nearest road and nine (9) days walk from the nearest telephone? To Doris Gideon in Aipo Rongo Diocesan Office at Mount Hagen, it's all in a days work.

How about controlling income and expenses for 39 parishes, dozens of Diocesan workers, and donors from all over the world? Evangeline Begin at the Anglican Diocesan office in Popondetta can take a shoebox full of scrappy receipts and make it sing.

Across the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (ACPNG), people like Doris and Evangeline labour tirelessly to keep the church operational. Their titles are unglamorous (like Accounts Clerk or Bookkeeper) and their work is unglorified, but without them, the Anglican Church across the country would come to a grinding and messy halt. These are the people who ensure there's enough diesel to keep the Diocesan utility running and enough money set aside in case a priest's child faces a medical emergency. There is no room for extravagance; these people know what shoe-string budgets are all about. They make a tiny amount of money go a very long way.

Good co-ordination and administration is the lynchpin of a well functioning church. Accurate accounting records and forward planning aren't just fluffy niceties that give number crunchers warm tingles. Good administration gives Dioceses the confidence to forge ahead with bold new initiatives. It harnesses the God-given creative potential of people that might lie dormant without leadership and direction.

Poor administration on the other hand, can be devastating. Imagine the tangled mess of a diocese that has no idea of their ministry finances, or the state of their



This photo was taken at the Martyrs School Chapel where Evangeline Begin presented a report on Diocesan finances and answered questions from Synod participants. Photo: Henry Kopapa – used with permission.

There is no room for extravagance; these people know what shoe-string budgets are all about. They make a tiny amount of money go a very long way.



Doris Gideon

parishes. Valuable leadership time is exhausted in an endless web of administrative quagmire. Suspicion and distrust characterise people's relationships; and new growth is suffocated.

ABM recognises that the story of Doris undertaking an accounting course, or Evangeline doing specialised management training, might not sound like the cutting edge of mission to most Anglicans in Australia. But the truth is that ABM's role in facilitating professional development for the people who make the church in PNG function, is achieving splendid results both now and into the future.

The responsibilities that people like Doris and Evangeline take on in the church are often grossly disproportionate to their own training and



Evangeline Begin

experience. They perform these jobs for next to no money, and far less than what they could earn in the private sector. They often work with the same dedication and self-sacrifice as an evangelist living among mountain tribes. By working with the church in PNG to assist the growth and development of their own leaders, ABM is helping to build strong foundations that grow a healthy and vibrant church. In the words of Archbishop James Ayong: "It is very important that the present Account Clerks and Diocesan Secretaries be offered opportunities to be up-skilled. The part that ABM plays in this particular growth is very important, because it is helping ACPNG to become more self sufficient."

Brad Chapman
ABM's Evangelism Program Manager

Resources for Lent 2007

ABM Lent packages have been sent to all parishes that ordered them. In it you will find:

- 1 An ABM DVD which contains stories from our Partners
 - 1 **The Grain Mill.** Agriculture in the Philippines.
 - 2 **Miracle at Nablus.** The Anglican Church in the West Bank.
 - 3 **School Days.** Education in PNG.
 - 4 **Faith and Culture.** Wontulp-Bi-Buya College, North Queensland.
 - 5 **The Walls Came Down.** The Church in Ethiopia.
 - 6 **Breaking Taboos.** HIV and AIDS in PNG.



- 2 An ABM CD containing resources for use during Lent (and other times of the year) to explore mission and the journey of faith. You will find the following on the disc:
 - **Weekly Bulletin** inserts containing a story and photos from our Partners, a prayer, an affirmation and an action component for Ash Wednesday, each Sunday during Lent, Good Friday and Easter Day. These are in A5 format and designed to be copied and inserted into your church bulletin and used during worship.
 - **Sermon Notes** for the Gospel passage for each Sunday during Lent. Designed to offer resources for sermon preparation and to bring the Gospel passages alive in a different way.
 - **ABM Sunday Resources** – Why not designate a particular Sunday as an ABM Sunday – either during Lent or at some other time of year. There is a liturgy for your use.
 - **Images** – PowerPoint photos which accompany the focus of the weekly bulletin material, for use in reflections or as a focus for worship and prayers during Lent.
- 3 Envelopes for Lent and Good Friday if you ordered them. (There are still some of these available. If you require more please contact ABM.)
- 4 Poster for Lent and Good Friday if you ordered them. (There are still some of these available. If you require more please contact ABM.)

5 *FAST FOOD FAST*

This Lent, ABM is inviting you, your school or your church to take up a fast that will benefit you – and help to change the world! We're continuing our very own *FAST FOOD FAST*, a chance to give up what you don't need whilst making sure others get what they do need. It's as simple as this:

- i. You take it on over the 40 days of Lent. You contribute the money you would have spent on fast food to ABM. That pizza, fish and chips or cappuccino money that you would have spent goes into a tin, jar or chakao (see page 7) and you eat something cheaper, healthier and home-made.
- ii. After Easter you send us a donation for the total amount you haven't spent on fast food. You can donate money through your school or parish (make sure it's labelled for the *FAST FOOD FAST*) or directly to ABM by cheque, money order or credit card or on our website.
- iii. We'll make sure that your 'junk' food money is used to bring justice, joy and hope to people in need.

Files for printing material to promote the *FAST FOOD FAST* are on the CD or can be ordered in bulk – along with stickers, posters and silicon wrist bands. Resources are free and silicon wrist bands can be purchased for \$2 each. (Or for large Parish/group orders of 200 or more you can purchase the bands for the wholesale cost of \$1 each and sell them for \$2 – making more money for ABM's *FAST FOOD FAST*.)

Other Resources available from ABM

6 Crosses from Jerusalem – an Easter Gift for a different Easter Celebration

These Crosses are hand-made in Bethlehem from Olive Wood and have been supplied through our Partner Church. The Cross is a reminder of the Easter story: Crucifixion, Resurrection, and the ongoing call to mission in God's world.

Each Cross comes packaged with the story of the Jerusalem Cross and is threaded so that it can be worn around the neck.



COST:	3 x 3cm Crosses	= \$5.00 each
	Order 10–49 cost	= \$4.00 each
	Order 50 or more	= \$3.50 each
	6 x 7cm Crosses	= \$15.00 each
	Order 10 or more	= \$12.50 each

7 Peace Dove Brooches

Handmade from olive wood by Christian craftsmen in the Palestinian territories.
3.5 x 2 cm



COST:	Peace Dove Brooch	= \$5.00 each
	Order 10–49 cost	= \$4.00 each
	Order 50 or more	= \$3.50 each

8 On-line Reflections

Click on to the ABM website at www.abmission.org and subscribe to receive a reflection from ABM for each day of Lent. These reflections can be used for your own or family prayers. Some people forward them to friends and family for their use as well. Some parishes copy a week of reflections in advance and make them available for worship attendees to use during the week.

9 Gift Cards – also a great Easter Gift:



Want to give something different this Easter instead of a chocolate egg? Then why not support ABM's Partners and buy one of our Gift Cards.

For \$5 or more per card you can give a gift that counts and will make a difference – for example \$7.00 will provide a book for a village woman in PNG to participate in a two-year literary course.

10 Chakaos and Lent Purses

What is a chakao? A chakao is an exquisitely woven shoulder bag used in the Philippines to carry important possessions. They are produced by Easter Weaving – a program of our Partner, the Episcopal Church of the Philippines. We are selling colourful, authentic Chakaos for use as offering bags for your Lenten Gifts. They'll add a splash of vibrancy and focus people's attention on their Lent Gift. With the Chakaos you can purchase small woven purses for individuals to use during Lent. They can be distributed as people decide how they will undertake their Lent journey and the disciplines of sacrifice and giving. It can even be used as a part of the **FAST FOOD FAST**.



COST:	1 Chakao and 25 purses	= \$45
	1 Chakaos and 50 purses	= \$65
	2 Chakaos and 100 purses	= \$125
	Each additional bag	= \$20
	Each additional 25 purses	= \$25

ORDER FORM REPLY FAX

Fax to: Bev Hewlett on (02) 9261 3560

Mail to: Anglican Board of Mission, Locked Bag Q4005, Queen Victoria Building, NSW 1230

Parish/Agency/School _____

Name: Title _____ First name _____ Family Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Postcode _____

Ph BH () _____ Ph AH () _____

Fax () _____ Email _____

1. Chakaos and Purses Please send (insert number): Chakaos \$20 each: _____ Purses \$1 each: _____

2. FAST FOOD FAST

☐ Yes, we'd like to be part of the ABM 2007 **FAST FOOD FAST**
Fantastic! Please let us know how many people will be participating so that we can send the required materials:
(Number participating) _____

☐ Yes, we'd like to order _____ of the silicone wristbands at \$2.00 each.
(Note: For large orders [over 200] we supply these at a wholesale price of \$1 and you sell them at \$2 as an added fundraiser. They're very popular with young people and make great small gifts for young people who are doing the Fast.)

3. Jerusalem Crosses Please send (insert number): 3 x 3 Crosses: _____ 6 x 7 Crosses: _____

4. Peace Dove Brooches Please send (insert number): _____

5. Gift Cards Please send (number) _____ card/s.

☐ Please invoice me for \$ _____ (minimum \$5 per gift card) to support ABM's 2007 Lent Program **OR**

☐ Please send an ABM 2007 Project Book so I/we can choose to support an ABM project through my/our gift.

☐ YES I/we have completed my/our address details above.

I understand I need send no money now – ABM will send me an invoice with my order.

POSTAGE AND PACKING: Orders under \$10 = \$3; Orders over \$10 = \$6



Six Stories for Lent

1 National Youth Ministry in Papua New Guinea – Planning for the Future



Whether you are in Kimbe, or Manua, or Madang, people are talking about the impact that Diocesan Youth Coordinators are having, thanks to a little bit of money from ABM that allows them to travel around, building connections and passing on skills.

The National Youth Ministry initiative seeks to take the benefits of increased cooperation in youth ministry to a whole new level. This project will unite the youth within the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea, helping them to gather and share expertise and resources. ABM is working alongside the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea to help sow the seeds of a future where young people are encouraged and alive through the words and actions of the Gospel.

2 Fishery Support Program – The Philippines

'Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day; teach him how to fish and he'll eat for a lifetime,' so goes the popular saying. This may have been true 20, maybe even 10 years ago, but these days small stock fishermen in coastal areas in the Philippines spend most of their days and their nights at sea and still catch barely enough to put food on the table. Competition from commercial fishing, depleted fish stocks, typhoons (an average of 20 per year) which make it impossibly dangerous to go to sea, the lack of capital to buy fishing and processing equipment and just the simple cycle of the moon which can result in no fish to catch, all contribute to worsen the plight of these workers of the sea.

ABM in partnership with the Episcopal Church in the Philippines (ECP), is supporting a new program which provides much needed aid to households in fishing communities, so that they can improve their livelihood. Fishing nets, drying implements, crates for storing fish and money to buy ice to refrigerate the catch for market are just some of the basic items the ECP will provide with help from Australian Anglicans through ABM.

3 ABM's Education Program in PNG

A little girl in Australia, as a right, can expect to attend a kindergarten, primary and secondary school, with the option of some Tertiary education as well.

What can Florence, a little girl in rural Papua New Guinea expect?

In some areas there are no accessible schools so she would grow up in the village with no formal education at all. If she lived in another location there may be a four classroom school, built by the village people with church support, but only one teacher, and so miss out again. Teachers prefer to work in the towns with access to services for themselves and their families.

Fortunately, the Anglican Education Department, funded by ABM and AusAID under the Church Partnership Program, is addressing this problem.

The Rural Teachers Support Program aims to assist with the relocation costs and provides a yearly bonus to teachers who stay in rural and remote areas for one, two and three years. This will act as an incentive to attract teachers and graduates to where the majority of people live, and enable little girls such as Florence to receive at least a basic primary education.

4 Yarrabah and Wontulp-Bi-Buya



ABM's work in North Queensland is about supporting Indigenous Anglicans as they respond to God's call upon their lives. In Yarrabah and at Wontulp-Bi-Buya College evidence of God's reconciling call is all around.

Activity and excitement characterise these communities as a new generation of Indigenous Christian leadership is trained and put to work. At Wontulp-Bi-Buya College, Indigenous theological lecturers open the eyes of eager students to the lessons and truths of the Gospel, at the intersection of Christianity and culture. Theology and the Bible itself come to life as they are interpreted through cultures familiar to the diverse communities from which the students come.

In one of those communities, Yarrabah, current and former Wontulp students are proving that their training was much more than head knowledge. The church is once again at the centre of the community; acknowledged by all as a beacon of light. Anglicans in Yarrabah are also active in running youth programs, crime prevention work, health services and community leadership. There is also the exciting ministry of the Yarrabah dancers who, with ABM, have travelled throughout Australia, sharing their testimonies and dance with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities alike.

5 Refugees in Ethiopia, on the border of Sudan

These people are housed in hundreds of huts on land that has been appropriated from a different tribal group, causing much friction. Intertribal conflicts have caused hundreds of deaths over the last couple of years. However God is at work and from a small beginning of one expatriate congregation there are now 32 parishes on or near this dangerous border area.

At Gambella on the border the church has two distinct congregations separated on tribal lines, but by a miracle of God's grace they are able to welcome visitors as one combined group. This would have been unthinkable in the past and any coming together would have resulted in bloodshed.

"These Christians are heroes" says the Bishop of the Diocese of Egypt. "They love the Lord with all their hearts and thoughts and with what they give to the Lord. They have a great sense of reliance on God in all parts of their lives."

6 Vanuatu Inclusive Communities



In the Solomon Islands the civil society and good governance have been seriously compromised especially since the violent conflicts and lawlessness in the immediate past. Eighty five

percent of the people live in rural villages where the economy is depressed, since the smallholders are now unable to access export markets for their produce and services such as health, education and infrastructure development are lacking or of a poor quality.

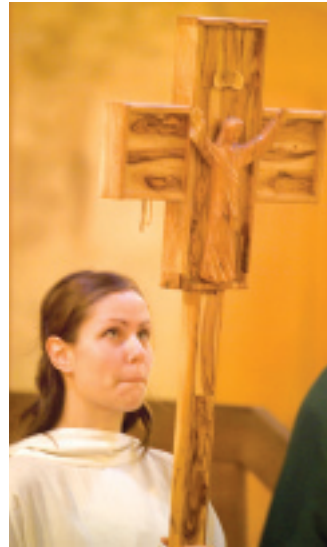
One notable strength in the Solomon Islands is the church. ABM, together with AusAID are working closely with the Church of Melanesia in providing workshops targeting seven thousand local people.

It is proposed that this very successful program will be introduced into Vanuatu in 2007. The aim of the Inclusive Community Project is to bring all the community members together, empower them to share responsibilities equally, listen to each other and make decisions together in order to build a better, stronger and united community.

The program includes:

- Participatory Community Management workshops
- Community Capacity Strengthening Activities – such as Women's Literacy Programs, Youth Life skills and peace conferencing; and
- Institutional Capacity Strengthening – Conducting workshops for bursars, treasurers and diocesan staff.

...And one for Good Friday. The Anglican Church in Nablus, Palestinian Territories



Imagine that your parish is in the centre of a city of 200,000 people, 199,000 of them Muslim. Imagine that your parish is in a city that has been surrounded by military checkpoints for the last six or seven years and that to enter or leave your city involved waits of hours or days... or months... or years.

Imagine that the streets you walk each day are the haunt of angry young men with access to guns.

Imagine that, many nights, you wake to the sound of tanks and jeeps rumbling past your house – or even worse the sound of gunfire.

Imagine that you live in Nablus and are part of the remnant Christian Arab Population. You as an Anglican are a minority within a minority within a minority.

What do you do?

If you are the Anglican Church in Nablus, you build. You say to the population-through action rather than words – that you are here to stay. You keep your hospital open to serve the poor. You open a new church building to proclaim that God is faithful and that this is your home. The Reverend Hosam Naoum led the church in Nablus right through the terrors of the second Intifada. "Building a church in Rafida and in Nablus," says Hosam "is a symbol that we as a church give our utmost to keep our community alive and to preserve it. The church is a sign of newness. A new church means new life. And it means new hope for the people that we are here as living stones of the Holy Land. The church gives us self confidence."

Across the Middle East Christians face extreme conditions and situations every day, year after year. This is just one story of hope in the face of despair. How do they survive? They trust God.

ABM – Working with Australian Anglicans and our Partners, in Australia and overseas!

Am I my brother's keeper?

In PNG the stigma and discrimination attached to HIV and AIDS is so severe that it takes away family, friends and sometimes it even accompanies someone to death.

From Faith Masila, ABM's Pacific Project Officer

In a small village in Papua New Guinea that I visited recently I met a man called Mark who recounted the death of Leah, a lady who was his wife's relative.

Leah was previously married and conceived a child before the death of her first husband. Neither Leah nor her community knew the cause of her husband's death, and some-time after Leah went on to marry again to a man named Peter and they raised her child – a little girl called Mary.

Sadly not long after, Leah started getting sick on and off and visited the hospital on several occasions, her relatives became suspicious... but unfortunately Leah died before her illness was diagnosed.

After the burial, family and community members suspected her second husband Peter was infected with HIV/AIDS and started to distance themselves. People started pointing fingers and whispering and Peter was socially isolated from the extended family, neighbours and the larger community. He was pretty much alone with only the comfort of the little girl Mary.

Fortunately Mark's son (Leah's relatives by marriage), had attended a Peer Education Training run by the Anglican Health Service in the village. He was able to educate his family on HIV/AIDS awareness, and Mark's involvement in the HIV/AIDS school curriculum program also helped to increase the family's understanding and knowledge.

Mark's family are now very aware of HIV and AIDS and its many facets, they don't treat Peter as a social outcast, but instead provide care and support to him and Mary. This includes emotional and physical support by all members of the family – even the children help out

by cutting his grass and generally keeping an eye on both of them.

Mark told me that the stigma and discrimination attached to HIV/AIDS is so severe that it takes away family, friends and sometimes it even accompanies someone to death. People are also unlikely to go for treatment due to the prevailing stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV/AIDS.

(Names have been changed to protect the family's identity and also the location is purposely not mentioned.)



Ongoing training about HIV and AIDS is paramount for those who teach others about the virus. Photo: Lisa McMurray.



Peer Training helps to dispel superstition and myth about the HIV and AIDS virus – especially amongst young people who will educate future generations. Photo: Faith Masila.

With the help of the Anglican Health Service of PNG (AHS) the rural dioceses are now gaining the experience and skills to coordinate complex HIV & AIDS programs. The Training of Peer Education Trainers (TOPET) has built the capacity of three (New Guinea Islands, Aipo Rongo and Popondota) rural dioceses to have their own Peer Education (PE) trainers organising and carrying out the PE training in their local communities.

This HIV awareness program relies on people at the village level to continue discussing issues relating to HIV & AIDS, in the hope that HIV transmission will slow down and the stigma associated with being HIV positive or having AIDS, will decrease.

Lent 2007 Give a Gift Today!

ABM's Indigenous Program*

- ☐ I would like to give a non tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM's Indigenous Leadership Program (Nungalinga and Wontulp-Bi-Buya Colleges).
- ☐ I would like to give a non tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM's Indigenous Ministry Program supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

ABM's Evangelism Program*

- ☐ I would like to give a non tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM for the work of the Evangelism Program in Papua New Guinea, Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, Solomon Islands and Egypt.
- ☐ I would like to give a non tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM to support the Administration Program of the Anglican Church in PNG. *(See page 5 for story)*
- ☐ I would like to give a non tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM to support the Good Friday Program. *(See page 9 for story)*

ABM's Community Development Program*

- ☐ I would like to give a tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM for Community Development Programs in the Philippines, PNG, Solomon Islands, Vietnam and Myanmar through the Anglican Trust Fund for Development.
- ☐ I would like to give a tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM's 2007 HIV and AIDS Program. *(See page 10 for story)*

ABM's General Funds

- ☐ I would like to give a non tax-deductible gift of \$ _____ to ABM's General Funds.

For Direct Debit Giving

- ☐ I would like to arrange to give to my above nominated program through regular giving by **joining ABM's Direct Giving (Direct Debit Program)**. Please send me the form, as per my address below.

Deferred Gift

- ☐ I am interested/wish to include ABM in my Will – please send me ABM's Bequest information.

Associates and the Auxiliary of ABM

- ☐ I am interested in knowing about the ABM Associates Program please send me more information.
- ☐ Please send me information about the ABM Auxiliary.

Please find my details below:

Name _____
Title First Name Surname

Address _____
 _____ P/code _____

Tel: (BH) _____

Tel: (AH) _____

Email: _____

- ☐ I am happy to have my name acknowledged publicly as a donor to the work of ABM (we will not include amounts given).

Please accept my gift of \$ _____

- ☐ Cheque/money order enclosed (made out to ABM – Australia)

OR

- ☐ Please debit my credit card \$ _____

- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Diners

Name on card _____
(Minimum card gift \$10)

Card No.

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Expiry ____/____ CCV No.

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(The last 3 digits on the back of your credit card – 4 digits on the front of Amex cards).

Signature _____ Date _____

Please send this form to

ABM at Locked Bag Q4005, Queen Victoria Building, NSW 1230 or fax (02) 9261 3560.
 Donations can also be made by calling: 1300 302 663 or Sydney 9264 1021.
 Or, you can give an on-line secure donation at www.abmission.org

***GIFTS:** Gifts to ABM will be applied to the support of programs that include, but are not restricted to the ones described in this mailing.

PRIVACY: We collect personal information to send you a receipt, provide our newsletter and invite you to donate to ABM's work. You may have access to your personal information which we hold. ABM does not sell, rent or exchange personal information with any other organisation. Once you have given to ABM you will be entered onto our database and receive regular updates and information about ABM's work. Please let us know if you do not wish to receive any further material. A full privacy policy is available on request.

JOIN THE ABM STAFF IN THE **FAST FOOD FAST** CHALLENGE

Did you know, that if for example over the 40 days of Lent you don't buy three pizza meals (approx \$45), 10 cappuccinos (approx \$30), eight soft-drinks (approx \$16), five chocolate bars (approx \$7.50) and seven take-away lunches (approx \$50) you'll have nearly \$150 to donate to ABM projects.

\$150 will do ALL these things:

- Run a youth centre for marginalised and abused youth in Korea for a day – \$30
- Buy a week's food for a Melanesian Brother working in the settlements of Pt Moresby – \$16
- Employ the STOPAIDS National HIV/AIDS Coordinator in PNG for a day – \$28
- Give guitar lessons to a young Filipino so they can introduce new music at church – \$9
- Buy books to allow a village woman in PNG to participate in a two year literacy course – \$7
- Send a clergy child to school for a year in PNG – \$45
- Purchase a High School text book that will be used by hundreds of students in PNG – \$15

Sign up today – see pages 6 and 7 for details and the **FAST FOOD FAST pack order form.**

PEOPLE TALK

Wedding News

We are delighted to advise that Bp Roger Jupp – previously Bishop of Popondota Diocese PNG is to marry Sue Cheetham, one of the Churchwardens at Christ Church, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, where he has been Rector since May 2005. The ceremony will take place on 14 April 2007.

Many readers of *Partners* may remember meeting **Daisy Wesley** and **Newton Ekoda** who visited Australia about 5 years ago – Daisy and Newton married each other on Saturday, 25 November 2006, after eleven years of courting. Parishioners and friends witnessed the colourful wedding held in the Anglican Church in Mt. Hagen in the Western Highlands Province PNG.



Births

ABM's friend Hosam Naoum wrote recently: "Greetings to you all from Jerusalem. God was so gracious to us and blessed us



with a new baby girl, whom we called Laurice. She was born on the 9th of October 2006, Weighing 3520 kg, and 52 cm in length. Again thank you so

much for all your prayers and support. With Love Canon Hosam, Rafa and Wadi' Naoum." (Some of you may remember that Wadi featured on our Good Friday Card with his Father Hosam – previously the Rector of Nablus and now a Canon of the Cathedral.)

Appointments

The Rev'd Peter Ramsden, currently Vicar of St. Bartholomew, Long Benton in Newcastle Diocese, UK, and Commissary of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (ACPNG) was elected Bishop of Port Moresby, on 5 December 2006 at a meeting of the House of Bishops and Bishop Appointment Committee. He succeeds Bishop Peter Fox, who returned to UK last July. The consecration date has been set for 25th March, 2007. Peter served with his wife Sue in PNG for ten years from 1983, ministering in Koinambe, Lae and Goroka before returning to the UK.

Charles Dalton was appointed to the role of National Secretary for the Anglican Church in PNG (ACPNG) in late 2006. Charles, a one-time teacher at Holy Name Secondary School and Newton Theological College, comes with recent experience at Transparency International and an Eco-Forestry project in Lae. We wish him well as he picks up the ropes in this very significant role in the ACPNG.



(L-R): Eunice (14 yrs), Charles, Olive (Charles' wife) and Jenny (19 yrs). Their older son currently lives in England.

Vale

Barry Luxton. Chris Luxton – General Secretary of PNG Church Partnership UK – will be known to many *Partners'* readers and returned missionaries from PNG. Sadly Chris' husband Barry died on 21 December 2006. He died peacefully following a stroke on the 18th, after nearly 10 years in residential care. His funeral was held on 12 January 2007. Chris writes that his funeral was a great celebration with no sadness at all. We send our blessings, thoughts and prayers to Chris (herself a regular reader of *Partners*).

The Rev'd Betty Slader, MBE (1966) passed away on 15 April 2006 and was laid to rest at the Extension Cemetery in Suva (Fiji) on Friday 21 April. She was 93 years of age. Sister Betty Slader, as she was affectionately known, came to Fiji in 1957 as a midwifery nurse at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital. In 1961 she became a nurse evangelist for Polynesia and worked in the greater Suva area. Her work took her to many parts of Suva attending to the sick, the poor and the hungry. Sister Betty stood out as a witness to Christ's all encompassing love that transcends the boundaries of ethnicity, gender, creed and class. From *Spotlight*: The magazine of Diocese of Polynesia.

Br. Justus van Houten SSF, Principal of Newton Theological College in PNG, died suddenly from respiratory and cardiac failure while travelling in the highlands on December 13th, 2006 he was Aged 58 and in the 31st year of his Religious Profession. Charles Dalton, the general secretary for ACPNG advised that Br. Justus was traveling with some of the Newton students when he was taken ill in a remote village and died before medical help could arrive. He will be sadly

missed by his community, the students, staff and families at Newton College and of course his own family at home in the USA – he is survived by his mother – Jean Barbara Ritter.

We are also sad to advise of the passing of **Br Timothy SSF**, who was working at the parish of Agenehambo in Popondota, but he was holidaying in his home village of Sakarina when he took ill and died over the weekend of 16 December 2006.

We give thanks for the life of each one and their ministry amongst all whom they came to meet.

Welcome to new staff members



Bev Hewlett has been appointed to the role of Appeals Officer for ABM. Bev is a long-time ABM supporter and was on the Board and Standing Committee. She has

spent her career as a teacher, most recently as Head of the Junior School at Firbank Grammar School in Melbourne. She brings to the position her knowledge and experience of Anglican schools as well as great organisational and communication skills. Bev works in the Sydney office for three days a week (commuting from Melbourne at her own expense) as part of the Communications team. Her main focus is ABM's Annual Lent Appeal.



Kirsty Robertson has accepted the position of Pacific Program Manager with ABM. Kirsty has worked with the National Council of Churches, and has

academic qualifications in economics and development (her master's thesis was on HIV and breastfeeding). Most recently she spent 18 months travelling and working on development projects in Asia, Africa, and South America. Kirsty joins ABM's Overseas Program for Community Development.



Faith Masila was appointed as ABM's Pacific Project Officer for the Community Development Program in September 2006. Faith is from Kenya and has lived in Australia

for four years. She completed her Master's Degree in International Social Development at the University of New South Wales in 2003, and before joining ABM, worked for Mission Australia as a Community Service Worker with young people who are, or are at risk of, being homeless.