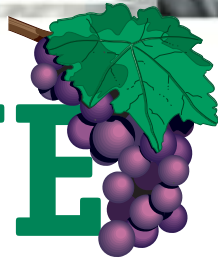


December 2006

THE GRAPEVINE



To Contact Kairos :

National Office :

P O Box 73, Northmead NSW 2152
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Chief Executive Officer :

Rick Johnson (02) 9683 6096
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State Councils :

New South Wales	Yvonne Kinch
Queensland	Col Stiller
South Australia	Mal Young
Victoria	Alf Baker
Tasmania (Ad Hoc)	Les Apted
West Aus(Ad Hoc)	Richard Verdouw

Regional Committees :

Bathurst	Chris Ryan
Berrima	Reuben Rattray
Canberra/Goulburn	Ian Pavletich
Cessnock	Bob Miggins
Dillwynia	Yvonne Kinch
Emu Plains	Jan Corbett-Jones
Fulham (Sale Vic)	Arthur McPherson
Grafton	Graeme Beaumont
Junee	Des Littlewood
Mid N. Coast (NSW)	Nick Preo
Mannus	David Thompson
Mobilong (S.A.)	Scott Hutchinson
New England	Des Stewart
Parklea	Glenn Holdsworth
Silverwater	Jon Hale

Torch :

Adelaide (Ad Hoc)	Belinda Uppill
Frank Baxter	Michael Guyer

Kairos Outside :

Adelaide	Fiona Cockington
Canberra/Monaro	Toni Clark
Central West (Ad Hoc)	Catherine Ryan
Hunter	Shirley Wells
Melbourne	Lorensz Stork
Queensland	Lesley Bryant
Riverina (Ad Hoc)	Helen Kemsley
St Heliers	Kerry Page
Sydney	Gill Begbie
WBC Qld (Ad Hoc)	Dee Holt

"Life wasn't meant to be easy..."

I think it was ex-Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser who said those words. He probably wasn't directing these thoughts to the Kairos Prison Ministry group in particular, but how true his comments can be at times as we grapple with the various problems (or should that be "opportunities and challenges"?) that we encounter in our daily work in this fantastic ministry.

Many times a new Kairos Ad Hoc group will toil for years to establish itself in a new state or prison, only to be put off time and time again with issues such as closure of a nearby prison causing overcrowding in the prison where we were scheduled to run a Short Course. Or a rebuilding program that disrupts the flow of traffic within the prison, or temporarily removes the only available room that we could use to hold the Short Course. I'm sure that you could all add extra challenges to that list.

Sometimes it is just a change in senior management, who are unfamiliar with Kairos and who aren't prepared to make the same concessions that the previous managers were in accommodating what, to them, must be a huge security problem. After all, 30 odd civilians (no, the Kairos volunteers aren't the odd ones!!) marching in and out of their secure environment for 3 to 5 days, and anywhere between 20 and 180 visitors to the Closing Ceremony, must surely strain their resources and patience.

We are privileged that they allow us to do this and must never, EVER, take it for granted. I believe it is put succinctly in the Kairos manual when it says "We are guests in the Governor's house" and we must never abuse their generosity – even by a thoughtless action – or we may not be invited back.

We are all ambassadors for the ministry and must be constantly on our best behaviour, not only with our hosts

the Corrective Services personnel, but also with our benefactors, the Chaplaincy team. Whenever I see a Kairos team that is functioning well, I can be assured that their relationship with the Chaplains is also in good shape. I'm sure that you may feel that some of them can be a bit exasperating at times, but put yourself in their shoes and try to imagine what it would be like to have a team of outside people, ready and rearing to do the Lord's work, marching into their workplace and trying to take over the running of their ministry. If I were a Chaplain, would find this a bit disruptive to my way of working, unless the Kairos team remembered that they were all servants and were in a foreign environment when inside the prison. If we have the right servant heart and are obedient to directions from the Chaplains and DCS officers, then we can have a positive influence on the overall running of the prison.

So, we think that our sisters at Kairos Outside have it pretty easy, compared to the Kairos Inside teams. Not so. Granted, they have limited involvement with Corrective Services (apart from getting the special letter for their guests), but they have huge logistical problems in organising a suitable Conference Centre where they can hold the KO Weekend, paying for each one of the guests to stay at the centre (Corrective Services do that for Kairos Inside guests!!), making arrangements to pick up the guests and return them home after the Weekend, etc. They need to raise significantly more money to present a KO Weekend, than a Kairos Inside team will have to do for a Short Course.

And what of our third arm, the Kairos Torch teams?

Whilst they function more like a Kairos Inside team, they are generally dealing with some pretty angry young

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Women's Ministry Update

Women's Correctional Centres across Australia are undergoing transformation. At a recent Conference in Adelaide, Women's Correction Centre Administrators emphasized three factors that make a difference to female inmate outcomes and successful return to the community :

1. The attitudes and relational skills of the staff.
2. The involvement of community volunteers in programs allowed entrance into the prisons.
3. The provision of opportunities for women to receive support for the matters that are closest to their hearts – relationships, communication, healing and family life.

My thought as I listened was that our Kairos Inside and Outside programs more than meet these criteria. Added to these is the opportunity we give women to experience the love and forgiveness of God through Christ and the hope for a new start this brings.

Correctional Departments across Australia are looking at the very issues we are good at! We need to be in there as all the changes take place and by God's grace and in God's time, we will be.

Kairos Outside is expanding at a great rate, into regional areas and across the continent. Kairos Outside Riverina was born on November 4th with a wonderful awareness afternoon at

June Baptist Church. Forty one keen people attended the meeting planned so prayerfully and thoughtfully by Helen & Alf Kemsley and their friends. The enthusiasm and commitment was infectious as Robyn Morris and I joined them for the day. They already have wonderful ground support from churches, Kairos Junee and the Street movements and will be very busy throughout 2007.

Wide Bay Capricorn (Bundaberg area and operates between Maryborough and Gladstone) is at the same stage, Dee and David Holt organized their Awareness afternoon August 19 and Rick, Lesley Bryant (chairperson KO Qld) and Deanne Chapman shared with them on this day. Kairos Outside Queensland committee are supporting WBC as they plan their first KO weekend in 2007. Western Australia and Grafton are also looking into the possibility of establishing Kairos Outside.

Kairos Outside Committees across Australia are working with each other to train, advise and encourage one another. As we grow, and listen to those of you who are out in the regions, we are seeking God's guidance on where He would have new Kairos Outside Communities be established

*Margaret Fuller,
Director of Women's Ministry
in Australia.*

continued from page 1

people, who are not inclined to follow directions and are not keen to stay focussed on a structured program, such as a Kairos Torch, for 2 1/2 days. And then there is the concept of mentoring, where a team member will link up with one of the Torch graduates for a period of at least 6 months and meet with them on a regular basis. This is extremely difficult in today's high stress working world. Committing yourself to meet with them every week or every fortnight can be very difficult and it takes a special person to be able to do it effectively.

Despite all of these issues, I believe that we have a wonderful bunch of volunteers, who take all of this in their stride and provide a wonderful Christian ministry to our guests.

But it's not all doom and gloom. Remember that the glass can be half full, instead of half empty, if you look at it positively. We are in a period of unprecedented growth of the Kairos ministry and it is a privilege to be a part of that expansion.

I trust that you all share my enthusiasm and work together "as we grow".

*Rick Johnson,
Chief
Executive
Officer*



S. Australian Kairos Report 2006

Gaining DCS approval for Kairos in SA

The South Australian Kairos State Council is engaged in a process with the Program Standards Group (PSG) of the SA Department for Correctional Services which is intended to lead to endorsement of Kairos for operation in SA. This process has been under way for over a year now, but has a long way to go.

After an interruption to Short Courses at Mobilong Prison for 3 1/2 years, we were given approval earlier this year to conduct a pilot program of 3 Short Courses. The first of these, Kairos Mobilong #4, has just been completed (October 13-17). The second, KM#5, is scheduled for April next year. It will be evaluated by the Program Standards Group. If the outcome of the evaluation is positive, we hope that the PSG will endorse Kairos for all SA prisons.

Prison Development in SA

In the state budget, brought down in September, the government announced plans to close both the adult prisons in metropolitan Adelaide (Yatala and Adelaide Women's) and replace them with new men's and women's prisons to be built on green-fields sites at Murray Bridge, 80 km from Adelaide, over the next 5 years.

This announcement presents both challenges and opportunities for the State Council. It makes it very unlikely that we will be able to commence programs at either Yatala or Adelaide Women's Prisons, even given a favourable outcome from the PSG process. However we are hopeful that the facilities to be built at the new sites will be more suitable for Short Courses than the present inadequate facilities, which are used as an argument against commencing Kairos at either prison. On the downside, all future Short Courses and Journey Programs will require substantial travel from Adelaide.

We are Looking for Volunteers To Assist With Our 2007 National Conference

As the date draws closer for the 2007 national Conference in June/July 2007, the Conference Committee will have a number of tasks that can be handled by volunteers, either at the National Office in North Parramatta, or in your homes.

If the Conference is not your scene, we have many other tasks that you can assist with, which will keep the wheels of this great ministry oiled and turning.

Please ring Robyn on (02) 9683-6096 if you believe that you will be able to assist us.



The Kairos National Office

Many of you will have heard of, or even been lucky enough to have visited, the Kairos National Office in lovely, downtown North Parramatta, in the western suburbs of Sydney.

We thought it was time that the rest of you caught up with this well kept secret.

The building (see photo) is hidden behind the Parramatta Correctional Centre, down an unnamed laneway (it really confuses the heck out of the couriers!!) and is called Mirinda House. It was used, up until about 4 or 5 years ago, as the Periodic Detention Centre for Parramatta Prison. That is, until the termites were making so much noise that they kept the inmates and officers awake at night.

Kairos was given permission to use the building, but for a long while had to share it with some of the officers, who still used it as a base when they didn't want to go home between shifts.

The termites have (hopefully) been quietened now, but you have to be careful how much weight you put on some parts of the floor, as the carpet is the only thing holding you off the ground. It is also wise not to lean too heavily on the wooden beams, as they aren't very strong.

Despite all this, we are grateful to DCS for allowing us to lease the building. One day they might even ask us to pay the \$1 per year peppercorn rent! *Shush!*

Apart from using the building as offices for the staff, we also have a large meeting room that houses National Board and NSW State Council meetings, training for some Sydney based teams and the odd Kairos event. There

is also a commercial kitchen, showers (most are disconnected) and toilets. We also have a number of rooms that are utilised as storage areas by the Sydney based Kairos teams. These teams are free to add shelving, etc, to make the 2m x 3m boxes, sorry, rooms, a bit more user friendly.

We also store the Kairos merchandise (shirts, mugs, cookbooks, etc.) and stores that teams require for their Inside Short Courses, Torches and KO Weekends (bibles, lanyards, crosses, etc).

Although the National Office is located in Sydney, we pride ourselves on being a resource for **ALL** Kairos teams around Australia. We like to think of ourselves as a communication hub, where information flows in (sometimes spasmodically) from various sources and we redirect it, or amalgamate it and distribute it to where it is required. We maintain the Kairos web site (www.kairos.org.au) and prepare various flyers, leaflets and notices that tell people about Kairos and its events.

We also field calls from people wishing to know more about Kairos, or those who wish to become involved with the ministry.

Kairos only has the equivalent of 2.5 staff at the moment, one full time CEO (Rick) and two lovely part time office ladies (Robyn & Pat). We are supported at various times by volunteers who drop in for a few hours or a few days at a time, to assist with the many

DISCOVERING JESUS (At Berrima)

By the Family of Esther, Kairos #8

Tune: 'Jesus Loves Me'

*We are lost and it's the pits,
Been surviving on our wits,
Someone come and help us please,
Put our heart and mind at ease.*

*Who is this Jesus? X 3
Who came and died for me!*

*Kairos came to Berrima Jail,
Told us Jesus paid our bail,
Opened up the gates of love,
Lots of food and lots of hugs.
Yes Jesus loves us X 3
The ladies told us so.*

*We are sure of Jesus' love,
Comes to us from heaven above,
We will share love in this prison,
For we know we are forgiven.
Yes Jesus loves us X3
The Bible tells us so.*

tasks that are required to keep the good ship Kairos afloat.

Next time you are near Parramatta and you have some spare time, drop in and see us – we'll offer you some hospitality and maybe even allow you to help us with some of the tasks. We also have a time of prayer for the ministry every morning at 10:30, so you're also welcome to join us for that. Just head towards the top (north) end of O'Connell St and turn into Dunlop St. Follow it past the main gate into the laneway that meanders along the western side of the prison. About half way down, opposite Tower 6, you'll see a sign (thanks, Dave, for making that for us) pointing to a lowset grey building, behind the wire fence, under the spreading fig tree. Come well rugged in winter and bring lots of cool drinks in summer. Creature comforts never were part of life in a Periodic Detention Centre.



Frank Baxter Juvenile Justice Centre Kariong

The year 2006 has been a very challenging, yet interesting year for our youth Ministry. It is the first year since we started in 2001 that we have not run a program. We have had difficulty in identifying and developing new Leaders for Torch. Also Juvenile Justice took back the Chapel wing for their expanding needs. We have had the use of this wonderful facility for several years, which enabled us to run our programs and Journey nights effectively.

Many of our volunteers and supporters wrote to the Minister for Juvenile Justice about a replacement building. I am pleased to report that a temporary facility is currently being arranged as a chapel. Chaplain Ramsay Nuthall and Alan Sharpe from our committee attended a meeting at Parliament House to discuss our requirements. This resulted in a very good outcome with funds to be allocated and plans to be prepared for a permanent Chapel.

We look forward to Torch 10 next April with many new volunteers anxious to join the team. We intend to introduce the new Mentoring program following Torch 10. However this will need some modification which our Administration in USA said they are happy to consider.

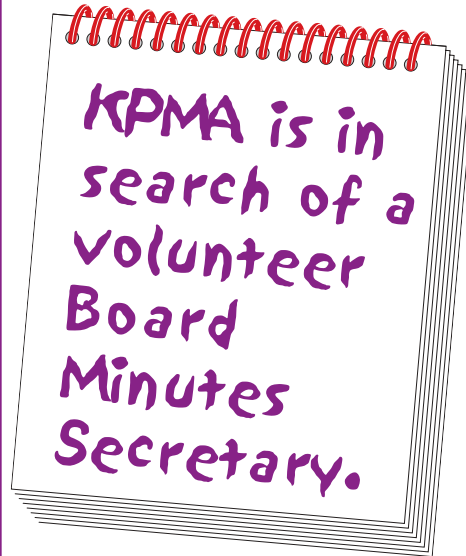
We are anxious and encouraged about growing our youth Ministry into Victoria, South Australia and the John Morony complex. One thing we have learnt in this Ministry is to be patient (but it's not easy).

The Torch Ministry is blessed with a wonderful family of volunteers who work very well together to give our incarcerated young men the best possible Christian experience.

Your continued prayer support for the Torch Ministry would be appreciated.

Paul Napier

POSITIONS VACANT



Our Board secretary has had to stand down for health reasons and we are looking for some new enthusiasm to liven up our Board Meetings.

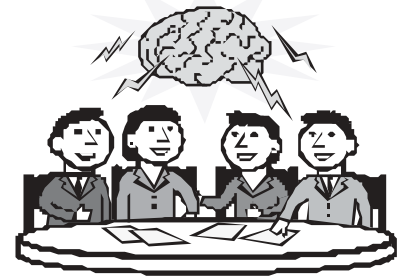
Your mission (should you choose to accept it), is to attend the Board and Executive Committee Meetings and take minutes, which will then be distributed to Board Members. The Board meets at 9:30am on the second Saturday of each month at the National Office in Parramatta.

The Exec meets in the evening (also at Parramatta), mid way between monthly Board meetings (we're flexible on day/time and will fit in with what the Exec members think is best).

You will also be the focal point for Board papers and will distribute them to the Board members approximately 2 weeks prior to the Board Meeting. Access to a computer and the internet is a prerequisite, as well as experience with Microsoft Word.

Further enquiries may be made to the Chairman, Doug Orr at dougkpm@optusnet.com.au

"As We Grow"



This is the theme for our 2007 Kairos Conference at Ravenswood School for Girls.

**Friday June 29
to
Sunday July 1**

Make a date to be there. Your application form is enclosed and bookings can now be registered at the Kairos National Office.

If you have ideas on what you would like to see or do at the Conference, please email them to kairospm@optusnet.com.au or write to us at the National Office.

The Kairos Conference committee are well into the planning stages and are excited about bringing to you a conference of fun, connection and challenge. We look forward to seeing you there!

Personal Support Program for Ex-inmates

Max Fyfe, one of our Kairos volunteers, is currently working at Mission Australia and has alerted us to a government program called the Personal Support Program (PSP).

It is funded by the Australian Government and assists people in difficult circumstances to overcome some of these issues and to bridge the gap into

the community and the workforce.

Through Mission Australia, Centrelink will assess the applicant and, if selected, they will support the applicant for up to 2 years.

There is obviously a lot more that can be said about the program, but I would ask that, as Kairos volunteers, if you are aware of people who are in difficult circumstances, that you direct them to Mission Australia and get them to ask about the PSP.

We have a limited number of brochures at the National Office and will be happy to assist anyone with their initial enquiries.

Ken Tillman, Junee Correctional Centre, has given permission for the following poem to be reproduced in The Grapevine. Margaret Milvain read it out at the meeting held recently at Junee Baptist Church.

A Koori Came To Kairos

*I came to Kairos hesitant
Of what it was all about
Due to my betrayal as a child
My mind was full of doubt*

*Too many painful memories
Or innocence that was lost
Left me feeling vulnerable
Afraid, confused and lost*

*I've never known a family
Like the one that I found here
A family kind and caring
and none of you I fear*

*You made me feel so welcome
And accepted me as I am
A child so lost and lonely
Who was hidden inside a man*

*I could see it in your eyes
That you understood my fear
I felt love and understanding
From the family I met here*

*I thank you for your sharing
Kairos, 'God's special time,'
A time of self-discovery
And the opening of my eyes*

*To the family of Kairos I thank you
For all you've said and done
For showing me God's forgiveness
And the love of his only son*

Ken Riley Tillman

Queensland State Council 2006 Report

The KAIROS programme is now supported by the Queensland Department of Corrective Services. The Programme is also supported by the State Chaplaincy Board. It is fantastic that this level of support now exists. A number of frustrating years were spent attempting to have another KAIROS event conducted in Queensland (following the One at Borralon in 1999).

The Qld State Council is now waiting on approval from the General Manager of an institution. The closure of a major prison as part of a rebuilding programme has resulted in heavy demands being placed on the remaining prisons, and a consequent reticence to introduce a new programme.

KAIROS Outside has continued to move from strength to strength with 12 programmes having now been conducted. Recently an ad hoc committee was established in the Wide Bay/Capricorn region for KAIROS Outside.

Representatives from the Queensland State Council will be attending an "External Services Review Project Roundtable Discussion" with the Department of Corrective Services on 16 November. This round table discussion will be followed by a meeting of stakeholders with the Director General. We welcome your prayers for the Queensland State Council to continue to make headway, and for approval of a KAIROS programme in the near future.

Col Stiller

"OUR Shed" Community Project

In my experience of working with people with life controlling problems such as addiction, the road to recovery cannot be undertaken alone. The same is true of people who have been in prison, especially those who have spent considerable time 'inside'; they need to have 'someone' to help them along in their journey to the recovery process.

Whatever the opinion held by others about our prison system, or the Probation & Parole Service, is irrelevant. They are doing what they can under the system by which they operate. From my own experience working with Probation & Parole, I know they provide an exemplary service, but are stretched to the limit.

The answer to this problem I feel lies within the community itself.

The 'Our Shed' project involves the setting up of a shed in which ex inmates/addicts, who reside in the Parramatta Local Government Area, can come to learn working and handyman skills, as well as operating various basic equipment, communication and relationship skills, in a safe, alcohol and drug free environment.

Case management and group work will also be provided. The Shed will open initially on 3 afternoons per week, but plan to expand on this as finances allow.

There will be opportunity for participation from volunteers from the local community and if appropriate, some volunteers will act as mentors for participants of the program. (Obviously, some safeguards have to be put in place for this to occur).

The 'mens' shed' model has already proven its therapeutic value in this and other areas by the example of the Mary MacKillop Outreach's Men's Shed. Other successful examples are the Lane Cove and North Sydney Sheds.

In order for the long term solution to be viable, we (the greater community) need to get rid of the stigma attached to ex offenders. The community needs to understand the importance of 'forgiving' these guys, and giving them a fair go, and then allow them the opportunity of earning trust and respect from their peers. The social exclusion of any marginalised persons can only be to the detriment of any society. I feel that this project can possibly contribute to this process of acceptance.

Paul Leary, ChainBreakers Recovery, paul@asoft.com.au

Kairos Stock Order Form

Item	Cost Each	Quantity	Total*
Kairos Mug Green	\$ 7.00		
Kairos Cookbooks			
Biscuits	\$2.50		
Menus for Mobs	\$2.50		
Aussie Tucker	\$2.50		
Kairos Badges	\$5.00		
Kairos Polo Shirts	\$25.00		
Sizes S M L XL XXL 3XL 5XL			
Kairos Mens Long/Short Sleeved Shirts	\$30.00		
Sizes S M L XL XXL 3XL 5XL			
Kairos Womens Long/Short Sleeved Shirts	\$30.00		
Sizes 8 10 12 14 16 18 20			
Kairos DVD	\$5.00		

Total (incl. GST) \$

* **Please Note** : Prices include GST, but postage is extra \$5.00

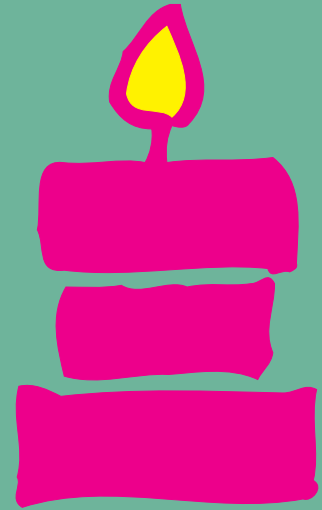
Order from the National Office either by –

faxing (02) 968 0296, phone: 96836096 email kairospm@optusnet.com.au

or mail PO Box 73 Northmead 2152

The staff at the National Office,
Pat, Rick & Robyn,
wish you all a Merry Christmas
and pray that you will have a
blessed 2007.

We thank you for your support of
the Kairos ministry in 2006
and look forward to meeting you in
person, when it is the right
"Kairos" time.



Kairos Short Course & KO Weekend Dates

Date	Where	Type	Address	Director
March				
23 – 25	KO Melbourne #2	Women	PO Box 1010, MITCHAM NTH 3132	Robyn Hoekstra
April				
17 – 20	Mobilong #5	Men	PO Box 242 HIGHGATE 5063	David Beck
17 – 20	Silverwater #18	Men	PO Box 73 NORTHMEAD 2152	John Jenkins
tba	Frank Baxter (Torch) #10	Juvenile	11 Wisdom St CURRANS HILL 2567	Al Clifton & Eileen Gordon
tba	Grafton Main #1	Men	PO Box 1816 GRAFTON 2460	tba
tba	St Heliers #3	Men	36 Shearman Ave RAYMOND TERRACE 2324	Jeff Leggett
May				
18 – 20	KO Queensland #13	Women	PO Box 88, MORNINGSIDE 4170	Cathy Easte
tba	MNC #3	Men	PO Box 14, GLOUCESTER 2422	Kevin Hill
tba	Mannus #7	Men	PO Box 182, TUMUT 2720	Daniel Milliken
September				
4 – 7	Emu Plains #15	Women	PO Box 60, EMU PLAINS 2750	Anne Willott
14 – 16	KO Hunter #5	Women	PO Box 221 KOTARA 2289	Margaret
October				
8 – 12	Grafton #18	Men	PO Box 1816 GRAFTON 2460	Andrew Sommerville

Kairos Advanced Training Weekend Dates

February				
2 – 3	June	AKOT		
16 – 18	Carcoar	AKT & AKOT	House of Prayer, Carcoar NSW	

*If you are asked to speak somewhere about Kairos, PLEASE let the office know.
We'd like to help by sending you an Information Pack and current literature.*