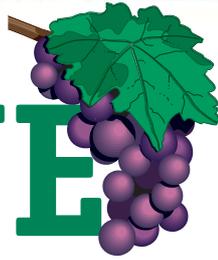




Kairos Prison
Ministry
AUSTRALIA

September 2005



THE GRAPEVINE

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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	Margaret Fuller
Canberra/Goulburn	Ross Monk
Cessnock	Bob Miggins
Dillwynia	Yvonne Kinch
Emu Plains	Jan Corbett-Jones
Fulham (Sale Vic)	Arthur McPherson
Grafton	Pat Benefield
Junee	Des Littlewood
Lithgow (Ad Hoc)	Corinne Ogg
Long Bay	Jeff Herbert
Mid N. Coast (NSW)	John Layton
Mannus	Barry Kell
Mobilong (S.A.)	Scott Hutchinson
Mulawa	Jackie Stoneman
New England (Ad Hoc)	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 (NSW)	Catherine Ryan
Hunter	Carol Johnson
Melbourne	Lorenz Stork
Queensland	Lesley Bryant
Sydney	Gill Begbie

HAS IT BEEN A YEAR ALREADY?

Wow! How time flies when you're having fun.

I commenced as Executive Director of KPMA on 1 July 2004 and here we are in August 2005 and I'm still on a steep learning curve – but loving it!

The Board of Directors kicked off a project called First Transitions in July 2004 and I was one of the first changes. Prior to my coming on board, KPMA has had three ED's (Peter Barker, Stuart Kerry and Edwin Galea) and they were all part-time volunteers. I am now dedicated full time to Kairos, at a national level.

Other changes incorporated in First Transitions have been an extension of the opening hours of the National Office to 9am-5pm, 5 days a week (but we're often here outside of those hours, too!) and an upgrade to our computer network and data capabilities. In conjunction with our newly formed KairosCare team (you previously knew them as the Fundraising and Promotions committee), we are working on refining our approach to the way that we handle information, both about our volunteers & donors and regarding the material provided to our Kairos presenters (those who speak to the outside communities about Kairos).

A number of Board members have recently completed their second 3 year term and have stepped down, leaving a number of vacancies on the Board of Directors. These vacancies are being filled by people with different skill sets to those who had the vision to commence the ministry 10 years ago. Today's Board members have to have a modicum of professional training, as they are Directors of a registered company, monitored by ASIC and accountable to its members, the same way as other companies are. This can sometimes create extra workload for

the Directors and draw them away from doing the work that they love in the prisons, but they realise that an organisation the size of Kairos (over 2,500 volunteers) requires this sort of structure and formality to ensure its survival.

As the Chief Executive Officer (yes, my title changed in June from ED to CEO) I am privileged to work with all of you and I am just sorry that I haven't been able to get out and meet more of you. I intend to put more emphasis on that in 2005/6, as I have found that a closer working relationship exists between the Office and those groups that I have been able to visit. Robyn would also like to meet more of you, so that she can put a face to the voice on the end of the phone or the fingers typing the email, but if we let her loose, how would anything get done around here? Yes, we also have a small, loyal band of volunteers who assist us regularly in the office, but it seems that it's never enough for the work that has to be done. If any of you have a few hours to spare on a semi-regular basis, we'd love to make you welcome at Parramatta.

We have a challenging year ahead of us all and I pray that God will be with us all as we go about His work in this great area of ministry.

Vaya con Dios!

*Rick Johnson,
Chief
Executive
Officer*



Celebrating 10 years of Kairos in Australia

The Kairos 10th Anniversary conference was a great success: attendees heard how Kairos had been established in Australia; what is happening in the system at present including new prisons; the way Kairos Outside is blessing many women who are impacted by someone being in prison; the great work being done with juveniles in the torch program and what is planned for the future. We were greatly blessed as we fellowshiped with our American and Canadian visitors and learnt about the work of Kairos overseas. The food, the fellowship, the workshops, the banquet and the bush dance all combined to make this a memorable experience for those who attended.

Next Conference: July 6-8, 2007

Plan to join us now and share in the fun and the fellowship.
Make a note in your diaries.



Comments On the Conference



"I enjoyed every part of the weekend. The venue was perfect, the programme was well planned without having too much pressure and there was plenty of time for fellowship." Rosemary

"Found the conference very valuable. Thanks." Mal

"We loved the conference and we came away rejoicing with our cup full and running over" Donna

"I enjoyed the Conference—apart from climbing up and down steps and slopes!!! - and I am sure that everyone who attended and took part in the Workshops also enjoyed the learning and instruction and the fellowship which took place over the weekend... the evening banquet and Bush Dance were excellent."

David



As we fellowshiped together ...



... we learnt from each other about different aspects of the ministry and met ...

... other volunteers serving God in their area of Kairos.



Post Conference Tours

Tours after conference for our visitors and anyone who wanted to take part included a day's tour to the Blue Mountains, Featherdale Wildlife Park and Northern Beaches, Tobruk Sheep Station and a two day tour to Canberra.

All who took part had a great time both enjoying the sights Sydney and Canberra have to offer and fellowshiping with each other

Below : Waiting for the damper and billy tea at Tobruk Station before the sheep shearing demonstration, boomerang throwing and whip cracking lessons— an Aussie experience.



Above : Bill and Cheryl Rushing at Featherdale Wildlife Park—this was a real highlight of the Post Conference tours



*Below (l-r) : We have had fun taking in your beautiful country.
Bonnie & Keith Vrieswyk
Monroe Fuchs
Inez Thompson
Debbie Vandeven
Janice & Wayne
Lovercheck
Diane Criss
Bill And Cheryl Rushing
Ken Thompson*



Chairman Reports On The Summer Conference In Seattle

I had the great pleasure to represent Kairos Prison Ministry Australia at the International Conference held at the Seattle Pacific University campus on August 3^d – 7th.

The U.S. is currently running 'weekends' (we call them Short Courses) in 300+ prisons with the goal of ultimately reaching into the 900 prisons in the United States, plus several hundred Kairos Outside programs. This compares to the 21 programs we are currently conducting in Australia.

I therefore went there with the expectation that we could learn heaps from our brothers and sisters in the U.S. – and I was not disappointed. A great sense of excitement and expectation permeates the ministry in the U.S. as the level of public awareness increases through planned media releases, TV and Radio promotions. Jack Kapanka who appears on page three of this edition (he's the one with the guitar) has the ear of senior Government personnel right up to White House level and is recruiting the highest level of support for the ministry.

There are several excellent software programs being finalised that will greatly improve the way we recruit, do team training and run our Short Courses, including –

Ezra a 'Kairos Team Directors Assistant' developed by Mike Springer over the last 3+ years. This is a powerful tool for Short Course Directors with a vast number of features to assist them, some of which are:-

- Team selection – including denomination, vacancies, past roles, tracking of communications, letter writing etc.

- The ability to assign functions previously the responsibility of Directors to others without relinquishing any of the control.

- Automatically calculate and produce daily activity schedules of Short Course and Team training based on input of days/times, with rescheduling capabilities to compensate for unscheduled lockdowns etc.

Once the initial registration of a Short Course with dates, times and venue are entered the program is fully customized to the specified Short Course.

Every document, letter etc is identified with that Short Course

We will work with Mike to produce an "international" version.

Donor, another Mike Springer creation being rolled out early 2006 will offer a program for the book keeping and financial management and reporting of monies received by Regional Committees, with data export and import features, receipt issuing amongst it's many features.

Additionally the program includes excellent letter writing capabilities and response tracking for fundraising activities. This will additionally offer considerable benefits in conformity and reporting to our Financial Controller.

'Agape' is a CD to be sent in response to the 'Interest Card' being received (usually after a talk by Kairos volunteers). The video theme is that of an inmate talking to God on why would people care enough to send letters, banners, posters, cookies etc to one who is incarcerated. The CD includes a feature whereby each agape can be expanded in detail. The CD is able to be customized with contact details of the sender (eg Regional Committee addresses).



Doug Orr (left) in Seattle

These developments are but a sample of the input and vision of many gifted people working to grow Kairos to it's full potential to reach inmates and their partners not only in the U.S. but as a Global ministry. We are excited at the opportunities God is putting before us in Australia, to be able to reach the 60 or so Prisons, a dozen or so Kairos Outside programs and 5 or 6 Juvenile institutions. A great challenge - beyond our capabilities, but not beyond God's.

*Grace & Peace
Doug Orr, Chairman*

LEND-A-HAND!

**NSW State Council Working Bee at the National Office
on Sat 17th Sept (from 9am).**

**Lot's of jobs to do! Just turn up and a job will be allocated to you, equipment supplied, etc. Contact Rick on
9683-0286 for more information.**



First Kairos Held At Mid North Coast Correctional Centre, Kempsey, NSW

Director's Report.

When the announcement was made in late March, that Kairos #1 in Kempsey Correctional Centre would be held from the 4th to 8th July 2005, I remember thinking if this is going to happen God has got to do it as my initial reaction was mild panic. Panic is not a gift from God & I remember very early in piece surrendering the whole process to our Lord for Him to sort out. Our Lord drew together a wonderful group of people through whom He would be able to touch & impact the hearts of the residents of Kairos # 1.

God called team members from Casino & Yamba in the north, to Uralla in the west, Gloucester & Sydney in the south. From the 1st training day we had great praise & worship times where the team experienced the awesome presence of the Lord God Almighty & our Lord moulded His team in unity & love for the job He had placed before them.

On the Sunday night 3rd July as the whole team entered the Correctional centre to set up for the first day of Kairos, we were privileged by being escorted to the Visitors Centre by the General Manager Bruce Mercer who assisted during the setup & took part in the team prayer time after. During this time Bruce presented at wooden wall cross for use during this & future Kairos Courses.

From the outset of Kairos #1, the Holy Spirit guided & directed the course of events, the initial time of meeting the residents, the sharing times & willingness of the residents to get involved in their Kairos experience, the songs chosen for each praise session or critical moment, the agape gifts of food & the servant attitude adopted by the team made this Kairos #1 a very special Kairos time for each resident.

Being the first Kairos in the this Correctional Centre a few logistical nightmares were posed, however once again the Holy Spirit guided & directed the five days to produce what was an amazing & challenging experience for the 21 wonderful men of Kairos #1, that culminated for them with their entrance into the 100 strong enthusiastic throng of visitor assembled for the final gift of Agape to these men at the Closing Service.

All the men of Kairos#1 honestly shared their experiences at this Closing Service in regard to their spiritual condition before & during the Kairos experience & what they were taking away with them. At least four testified they had given their heart to Jesus, while many others indicated they had started on a journey - some for the first time!

The 4th day speaker shared his moving journey since his Kairos event, at the end of which Bruce Mercer presented him with a leather lanyard & neck cross.

The prayer of all the Kairos #1 team members is that what Jesus has planted in the hearts of Men of Kairos #1 is watered, nurtured & protected by the Holy Spirit & that choices they make in the future shall be directed by our Lord Jesus.

A few Statistics for Kairos # 1:

- Each resident received 99 personnel letters,
- there were over 1400 dozen (16800 biscuits) cooked, the whole Correctional Centre was a wash with biscuits.
- The 250 time slots of the Prayer Vigil for the five days was crowded with names, in some instances more than a dozen people were in prayer for the residents & the team.
- The posters and 12 specially made banners were a magnificent effort so we didn't need to use some from HO which we had borrowed.
- The book covers made by a reunion group were a part of the rare personal agape.

In conclusion I would take this opportunity to sincerely thank the Board of the Mid North Coast Board of Kairos for their organising & support prior & leading up to the 1st Kairos course at the Kempsey Correctional Centre, for without their faith & trust in our Lord Jesus, vision & perseverance despite the obstacles this event would not have eventuated.

All praise & honour belongs to our Lord Jesus.

Jim Slater.
Director

"Sharing in Kairos"

The 4th Day Talk from Kairos Mid North Coast #1, July 8 2005

I believe today that by not giving up on hope and faith I have developed a personal relationship with God of my understanding, who today helps me deal with the guilt of my past.

I'd like to think I have become a spiritual person, who asks God for strength to carry out His will.

I started this journey back in 2003 through the Legal system; I had just finished getting over my detox from Alcohol, Cocain and Heroin...leaving me with the thought that I was cured.

I thought all I had to do was to maintain my sobriety and stay sober and clean.

"But how do I maintain?" I kept asking myself.

At the time I was 49 years old , in gaol, broken down marriage, with three beautiful children. So I started to talk to the Salvation Army and doing Narcotics and Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. I strengthened that by doing Kairos... to see good loving, caring people like our visitors today, giving their devotion and time to come and help people like us get our lives back on track.

I also could see that I was powerless over effects of my separation from God and my life had become unmanageable. I knew nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature; so then I had the desire to do what is good.

Again I can not carry this out on my own.

The character I'd been living from the age of 17 wasn't on life terms, leading to 32 years of defects like greed, pride, anger, lust and gluttony... all leading to self justification.

Today all that was useless.

Fellowships like Kairos and rooms filled like this has given me a spiritual experience that removes my desire to go back to old bad habits.

My conscience was getting through to me; so I committed myself to alter my attitude , beliefs and my approach to myself and the world around me.

For me that is the importance of a balanced relationship between my

emotional, intellectual, physical and spiritual nature.

Honesty, open-mindedness and willingness allowed me to focus on my defective character, my addictive personality and my ability to become a responsible and productive member of the community.

This is a message from my Higher Power and God of my understanding... who I know to be Jesus Christ.

I believe that if I regularly apply these tools and fellowship meetings like this one today into my life, I'm opening myself to God's healing, love and grace.

The healing process began when I looked honestly at myself.

And today I experience peace and serenity; thanks to the grace of God, Kairos and the Salvation Army.

Louis

Pilgrimage of Hope

In January 2006, the Chaplain from Grafton Correctional Centre (Rev. Ian Bailey) will be taking on a Chaplaincy of a different kind, when he accompanies a number of school children from across Australia on a three week working Pilgrimage to India.

The children will get to experience life in the poorest areas of India, as they work with the sisters at Mother Theresa's organisation and a number of other institutions across India. Ian will be the official Chaplain, but he has to raise the money for his fares, etc.

As he has been a great support to Kairos in Grafton over the years, we have decided to get behind Ian and see what we can do to assist his fundraising efforts.

Ian is a great pushbike rider and he is planning a trip from Tweed Head to Grafton (via a number of towns like Casino & Lismore), to raise funds, at the end of October. Kairos Grafton Regional Committee members will be organising speaking events in many towns along the way, where Ian will address the assembled multitudes.

As Ian is a generous man, he has pledged that 50% of the initial money raised (until he raises enough to cover his airfare) and then any excess funds, will be donated to Kairos.

If you can assist Ian in raising funds for his trip, or to advance the Kairos ministry, please contact the National Office.

Mega Link-up



All Kairos & Kairos Outside participants and team

Don't miss this special event!

Encouragement, support, and love in Christ!

Saturday 12th November, 4:00 to 6:30

Blacktown Anglican Church

Cnr Richmond Rd & Orallo Ave (entry Orallo Ave)

5 min walk from railway station

Ladies: please bring a plate of finger-food

Men: please bring soft drink or fruit juice

More info: Kairos Office, 9683 0286,

Rev Chris Gyllies, 9214 9477 (pager),

Chris Gerardis, 0425 210116, Rick & Janet Morris, 9672 3123,

Deanne Chapman, 9489 4874.

Update From Perth, W. Australia

Just a quick note to keep you all up to date with what is happening in the West.

It has been just on two years now, since God called some of us together to form the Kairos WA Ad-Hoc committee. The committee is made up from members of Anglican Cursillo, Catholic Cursillo and Emmaus. We have gone through some frustrating times, but through these times, God has been moulding us and we have learned that Kairos will happen in God's Time and by his doing. We have come to understand that when we get frustrated and impatient and it all gets too tough - that is when we are trying to do it all in our own strength and not submitting to His will.

I personally had not been on a Kairos team, so in July I had the privilege of being able to be part of the team that went into Goulburn prison. For me, it was a real blessing, and an awesome experience, to go in as an observer and witness the Short Course first hand.

On behalf of the WA Committee I would like to say a special "Thank You" to the whole Kairos Goulburn #12 team for making me feel so welcome. Each team member, from those who went inside to those who worked so diligently on the outside, all where only too happy to share with me the knowledge they had. They really were a beautiful bunch of people and a great example of the "Body of Christ". From the very minute that I arrived, they all made me feel so very welcome and a normal part of the team. I left Goulburn on Friday night with a wealth of information for Western Australia, but I also left with a heavy heart, knowing that I was leaving a beautiful bunch of brothers and sisters behind.

At the time of writing, we are expecting confirmation from one of the Program Managers in regards to running a Short Course commencing on or after April 2006.

*Richard Verdouw
on behalf of the Kairos WA
Ad-Hoc Committee.*



You'll Look Great In THE NEW LOOK KAIROS Logo Shirt !

The National Office now has stocks of a new soft knit, polo-style, short sleeved shirt with the official KPMA logo embroidered on them. They are a smart way to introduce Kairos prison ministry to your friends and acquaintances.

Available in sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL and 5XL at the low price of \$20 each (inc. GST, P&P \$5 per parcel, within Australia)

To purchase one, or more, shirts please email Rick or Robyn at the National Office (kairospm@optusnet.com.au) or call (02) 9683-0286.



Spare Time ...?

We would love to hear from you, if you have some spare time and would like to use it serving in the Kairos National Office. The office is in need of volunteers who can give time working alongside Rick and Robyn, covering the many tasks that are required to keep Kairos operational. We can guarantee warm fellowship and nice coffee or tea and lots of work to keep you going. We especially need people who are comfortable with computers!

At the moment we need a "Grapevine Co-Ordinator" who, on a quarterly basis, would ferret around for articles, photos, etc for Grapevine. Is this **YOU**?

Communicating what's going on in Kairos is crucial as we seek to expand our activities. We must keep everyone up to date with developments.

The job would involve liaising with the National Office and co-ordinating production and distribution. Computer skills and email would be a decided asset. If necessary, most of the job could be done from home, with occasional visits to the office.

Contact Robyn in the Office on 9683 0286 and she will give you more details.

Kairos Short Course & KO Weekend Dates

Date	Where	Type	Address	Director
September				
5-9	Kairos Cessnock #16	Men	PO Box 371 Cessnock NSW 2325	Kerry Page
27-30	Kairos Junee #13	Men	PO Box 189 Junee NSW 2663	Peter Barrett
October				
4-7	Kairos Torch #9	Juvenile	11 Wisdom St Currans Hill 2567	David Hailes & Fay Blanch
4-7	Kairos Grafton #15	Men	PO Box 1816 Grafton NSW 2460	Bill Upton
4-7	Kairos Berrima #7	Women	PO Box 185 Bowral NSW 2576	Suzy Taylor
11-14	Kairos Emu Plains #13	Women	PO Box 60 Emu Plains NSW 2750	Linda Simpson
14-16	KO Hunter #3	Women	PO Box 200 Medowie NSW 2318	Shirley Wells
17-20	Kairos NewEngland#1	Men	16 Ray Carter Dr Quirindi NSW 2343	Bill Johns
23-28	Kairos Bathurst #9	Men	PO Box 192 Orange NSW 2800	Mark Thompson
25-28	Kairos Silverwater #15	Men	PO Box 73 Northmead NSW 2152	Michael Tonks
November				
4-6	KO Q'ld #10	Women	PO Box 88 Morningside QLD 4170	Ellen Smith
8-11	Kairos Dillwynia #2	Women	28 Noble Way Rouse Hill NSW 2155	Janet Morris
18-20	KO Sydney #14	Women	PO Box 2178 Normanhurst 2076	Clair Wright
December				
2-4	KO Adelaide #4	Women	PO Box 242, Highgate SA 5063	TBA
April 2006				
	Kairos MNC #2	Men	586 Fernbank Rd Port Macq. 2777	Bruce Beaumont
	KO Melbourne #1	Women	PO 1010 Mitcham Nth Vic 3132	Wendy King
18-21	Kairos Fulham #7	Men	C/- 9 Gordon St Heyfield VIC 3858	Michael Schroader
May 2006				
5-7	KO Q'ld #11	Women	PO Box 88 Morningside QLD 4170	Sue Greenall
26-28	KO Sydney #15	Women	PO Box 2178 Normanhurst 2076	
Nov 2006				
3-5	KO Q'ld #12	Women	PO Box 88 Morningside QLD 4170	Toni-Sue Rutland
Feb, 2006	Kairos		Sydney NSW	

Advanced Kairos Training Weekends 2006

*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.*