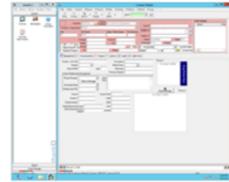


OUR NEW KAIROS DATABASE - Oracle or Ogre?? ... Experiences from the first Training Weekend in QLD

Oracle



OR

Ogre



In February, two representatives from each of the Kairos RC's in Queensland attended the first Training Weekend for the new Kairos Database, known as the Volunteer Management System or VMS. We were the "guinea-pigs" – the lucky ones, they told us!!?? - to try it out first.

We were a fair mix of talent. Most of us had very little knowledge of databases at all - we had been used to calling spreadsheets databases for far too long!! Our presenters were Terry Clancy, John Hale & two interlopers from Western Australia, Ben & Jen Bothma. We were presented with a very

detailed manual that covered all aspects of VMS and over the two days, we learnt the basics of entering and retrieving data. We also became more aware of what a great help the database will be to us as we go about planning & implementing KO & KI events. At the end of the weekend, a few of us were ready to fly ... but most of us still had the training wheels on.

Then came a very pleasant surprise – the amount of ongoing support we were going to receive as we tried to manage VMS into the future. We set up our Qld VMS support group at the end of training. Since then, we have met fortnightly 4 times online on "Go To Meeting" (something like Skype for those who don't know it) to discuss any problems we might be facing. Terry & Jon have been most supportive in facilitating this. However, I think the biggest support for us will be that we now know the other Qld volunteers personally & will feel comfortable ringing them if we are stuck.

Overall, setting up the database is a daunting task. So what have we learnt out of our weekend that might help you during yours–

Don't be too concerned if you know nothing about databases before the weekend;

The training is well structured and allows you to move at your own pace;

The manual will remind you of everything you forget;

The ongoing support is great & will ensure that you succeed.

And ...

Make sure Terry & Jon arrange decent COFFEE at the venue.

Terry, Jon, Ben & Jen are to be congratulated on the time and energy they have put into this project. Thanks also to Redeemer Lutheran College, who supplied all the facilities for our training weekend.

Bob Joyce (Kairos Qld)

Kairos Prison Ministry Australia is an interdenominational Christian ministry reaching out to incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them; to bring sustainable meaning and hope in the place of loneliness, isolation and despair. Building Christian Community.

Course	Program	Contact Address	Leader
Kairos Inside			
7-11 July	Wolston 5	P O Box 652 Lutwyche Qld 4030	John Agnew
23-26 Sep	MNC Women 1	P O Box 2604 Port Macquarie NSW 2444	Rae Layton
23-26 Sep	Mobilong 20	P O Box 242 Highgate SA 5063	Ian Saunders
13-16 Oct	Cessnock 21	P O Box 478 Charlestown NSW 2290	Bill Nicolle
20-24 Oct	Arthur Gorrie 8	P O Box 652 Lutwyche Qld 4030	TBA
Torch			
7-9 Jul	Adelaide 1	PO Box 242 Highgate SA 5063	Andrew Battersby & Brian Sampson
Kairos Outside for Women			
20-22 Jun	Canberra Monaro 15P	O Box 3961 Weston Creek ACT 2611	Julianne Cox
04-06 Jul	North Queensland 3	22 Boonbaree Close Mt Sheridan QLD 4868	Lorraine Cross
22-24 Aug	North Coast 7	P O Box 814 Woolgoolga NSW 2456	Heather Wilson
5-7 Sep	Perth 7	P O Box 1359 Joondalup WA 6919	Angela Bazley
12-14 Sep	Hunter 18	P O Box 221 Kotara 2289	Teresa Probert
26-28 Sep	Wide Bay Capricorn 9	16 Bayrise Drive Urangan Hervey Bay 4655	Annette Lawson
26-28 Sep	South East Qld 28	10 Deakin Place Forest Lake 4078	Rhonda Healy
17-19 Oct	Melbourne 10	P O Box 1010 Mitcham North VIC 3132	Ineke De Graaf
14-16 Nov	Riverina 8	P O Box 189 Junee NSW 2663	Jeni Bedding
21-23 Nov	Sydney 32	P O Box 2178 Normanhurst NSW 2076	TBA
Essentials Kairos Outside for Women Training			
28-29 Jun 2014	Hunter	P O Box 221 Kotara 2289	Lesley Rawlings
9-10 Aug 2014	Wide Bay Capricorn	16 Bayrise Drive Urangan Hervey Bay 4655	Lesley Rawlings

Kairos Prison Ministry Australia ABN 55 081 496 175
Office: 5/30 Leighton Place Hornsby 2077 Mailbox PO Box 169 Hornsby 1630
Tel: (61 02) 9987 2016 Fax: (61 02) 9476 6258 Email: operations@kairos.org.au www.kairos.org.au

A letter from our Executive Director KPMI Evelyn Lemly

Hello Australia,

Greetings from Kairos in the U.S.

In 2014, our U.S. theme is 'Inspiring Ministry Excellence'. We are focusing on doing the ministry with excellence with all we do. We know this is God's ministry and as we serve to share the love, hope and truth of Jesus Christ, we are striving to give God our best. In this, we are also focusing on our own spiritual health, realizing we need to be walking closely with the Lord personally, and as a Kairos community, before we can demonstrate God's love in action to the incarcerated men, women, youth and their families.



Prayer is a vital part of our ministry daily. In the U.S., each Tuesday, we share the worldwide list of upcoming Weekends and pray for each by name and for the leader, team and those about to attend Kairos. The staff gathers to pray and we share the list to the Board of Directors, the State Chairs, and the International Council. Please join us in being a body of Christ, as Kairos, praying for each other and for the ministry.

In 2014, Kairos Prison Ministry in the U.S. has grown to 35 states as we added Kentucky as an operational state this year. Their first Weekend will be this fall. Last year we had two new states, Oregon and Wisconsin, officially do their first Weekends. So we continue to grow outward to more states and opportunities.

Some of our most significant growth is expanding within the current states. The direct impact of Kairos has become well known in the Department of Corrections (DOC) in many states. Here are a few examples of the expansion within current states:

- Indiana, after this year, will have Kairos Inside in every men and women's state prison in the state, along with Kairos Torch in every youth facility, and Kairos Outside communities fully operating across the state.
- Ohio, requested by the then governor and DOC leaders, has asked Kairos to be in every state facility, of which we are in about one-half today. The Kairos communities are rallying to meet the challenge and recruit volunteers. Kairos Torch and Kairos Outside are also growing.
- Texas has the largest number of prisons of any state in the U.S. We are currently in 42 prisons and the state prison chaplain leaders have asked, "Could Kairos serve in 80 facilities in the next 5 years?" Wow - to double in 5 years! Is that possible? The Kairos leaders are working to meet this opportunity.
- Delaware, a small state in the U.S., has 4 prisons. We just began to minister in one a couple of years ago and the state is looking to be in 100% of the facilities in the next 3 to 4 years.

And the list could go on...

In all cases of growth and in order to inspire ministry excellence, we are looking to ensure our foundation is healthy first. As mentioned, are we spiritually healthy and are we financially and operationally healthy? Are we doing the programs with excellence so that we are building on health with each new opportunity? Are we holding the continuing ministry and helping build that local Christian community? We realize we have to build on strength and health to have a stable growing Kairos community.

God is at work in Kairos Prison Ministry! We are honored to serve our Lord and sharing the love, hope, and truth of Jesus Christ to those impacted by incarceration. If we stay focused on Him and serving Him with excellence, we know he will continue to have his hand on Kairos.

Blessings and thank you, Australia, for all you are doing as Kairos. May we all hear, 'Well done good and faithful servant'.

Evelyn Lemly
Executive Director

'I was in prison and you came to visit me' Matthew 25:36

FULHAM #15

The word "Kairos" was again true to its meaning of "God's special time" for the 15th Short Course held inside Fulham Prison in Victoria. We started off with 13 guests and ended up with 16, with about 35 people from the outside Christian community attending the Closing Ceremony on Friday night. The enthusiasm and participation from everyone was fantastic with lots of singing and plenty of laughs. It was great to have our brothers Ken and Charles from Sydney and Queensland come down to observe and become a part of the Fulham Kairos family.

Full credit to all the team for pulling together and adapting to whatever challenges were thrown at us, and I'm sure no one will ever forget the praise and cheers as we flushed our forgiveness lists down the toilet. It's always hard to pick only a few highlights from any short course and this year was no different. We often caught glimpses of prison staff singing along with the boys in the background and listening intently to the talks, with one guard stating he has never seen any other program have such a positive impact in all his years working at the prison. Another blessed moment was during the "open mike" when one of the guys in green got up in front of everyone and apologised to another inmate for something that he had said resulting in forgiveness and the end to a long running feud.

We also had a young Koori guy attend the course who stayed up for nine hours overnight to do a painting representing our Kairos journey with the symbols meaning "family" underneath.

I could go on and on but want to finish by giving all the honour and glory to Jesus Christ and praying for the guys in green.

Bless you heaps.

Luke McCord

Victorian State Council.

CEO UPDATE

The Board CEO committee continues to meet via Skype each week. Advertisements were placed in the Anglican and Catholic press and some resumes received. We have set a cut off date and intend to arrange interviews.

Going forth encouragement from KOW Hunter 17

As you go home from this weekend, I am sure that you are going with mixed emotions, you have experienced the highs of a KOW weekend but the same situation that you left still awaits you when you go home.

How do I know this?

I, too, back in May 2002 was a guest on a Kairos Outside weekend just like this one that you experienced. Mine was in Sydney KOW #7.

You see, our son has been in prison on several occasions over the years before and since then and I can tell you that the road has been rough and the journey long, but I am here to tell you that the presence of my forever Friend, Jesus in my life and the support of my Kairos family have kept me from sinking into a depressed state over the years.

As you leave here today, you have a decision to make, will I walk away from this weekend and say, that was a great experience which I will always remember, or will I choose to send an email, or make a phone call, not just when I am in need but also to check how my sisters in KO are going? Will I make the effort to attend Kairos Outside reunions and meet up with my KO family? I made the decision in 2002 to keep in contact with my KO family, this involved phone calls and attending reunions. I have drawn strength from my KO family over the years as well as being a listening ear to others. I have had the privilege of serving on teams on weekends like this both in Sydney and in the Hunter and I can tell you it is worth the effort involved to stay in touch.

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Train the Trainers—Kevin Resnover in Adelaide

Kevin Resnover, International Coordinator for Youth Ministries from Kairos in US visited Adelaide and Sydney during May.

Kevin has visited Kairos in Australia previously and observed a 2012 Kairos Outside for Men with the view of taking this Australian initiative to the US.

This visit, it was Kevin's expertise working with young people on the margins that shone through. Kairos Torch in Australia was blessed

to have Kevin conduct two training weekends: the first with Torch leaders from Sydney, Perth and Adelaide as part of the foundational strategy for the resumption of Torch in South Australia and for the expansion of Torch to other Juvenile Justice Centres throughout Australia.

The following weekend a group of 23 Kairos volunteers from Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra had the opportunity to attend an Essentials for Kairos Torch weekend, lead by Kevin, who re-wrote the Torch manual and wrote the Torch Mentor's Guide. A wonderful blessing for a deep and comprehensive understanding of this ministry direct from the author.

Kevin is a native of Indiana, USA he is an ordained minister and has served as a Youth Pastor and Pastor of Worship. Kevin has sat on several different non-profit boards and is the Youth Program Coordinator (Torch) for Kairos.

Scott Hutchinson reports that the three week visit was packed with training, speaking at a church young adult service, attending a Journey Program, meeting with the Kairos community in SA, and the State Director of Youth Justice and the inspection of the new Adelaide Youth Training Centre where they met management and staff.

Wow – as we know when God opens doors, he opens them wide.

What a blessing it has been to have Kevin come work with us.



A VISION FOR KPMA HEADQUARTERS

Kairos has identified a newish development at Newington, near Silverwater Gaol in Sydney, in which a number of office units are for sale. Any of these would be suitable as a permanent home for the Kairos Support Office. To purchase one of these properties we would need approximately \$500,000.00. The bank would loan Kairos this amount on a first mortgage if we had a deposit of approximately \$175,000. We currently have about \$40,000 towards this project and are hopeful that the balance needed for the deposit would be forthcoming from our supporters who also grasp the vision of the need for a permanent home for the Kairos Support Office.

Alternatively, following the article about our search for a property in the last newsletter we were contacted by the Uniting Church. We have submitted to them our property requirements and hope to be advised if they have any suitable accommodation which is surplus to their requirements.

Please continue to pray for guidance for the Board in this major matter.

If you are in a position to contribute to our building fund please do so, all contributions over \$2.00 are tax deductible and a gift receipt would be issued. Electronic funds transfer or through the Kairos website or by direct debit would be suitable ways to donate, please contact the office for more details.

BSB:032075 Account: 147046 Account Name: Kairos Prison Ministry Australia or www.kairos.org.au

An abridged feedback from a guest—KOW Wide Bay Capricorn

The week end opened my eyes to a lot of things; I didn't know there was so much LOVE out there! Having lived on my own for many years it was strange to me as I don't trust people very much. People who had never met me before were so kind and didn't judge me. The stories of the other Kairos ladies were very emotional and it became overwhelming to me. The evening programme on the Saturday night was unbelievable and felt like I was in Heaven. At the end of the week end I felt so spoilt and loved, I thought I would never see the ladies again BUT there are reunions every so often to go to, coffee get together and they are only a phone call or mouse click away. They are God's angels! If you are thinking of going to KOW week end don't put it off any longer just do it!! NO NO NO becomes YES YES YES. I went to support someone else but I ended up needing the support too!

Your Kairos Outside sister Joan

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How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news!

Isaiah 52:7

ESSENTIALS OF KAIROS OUTSIDE FOR WOMEN TRAINING (EKOWT)

The purpose of EKOWTs is both to develop future team leaders and to provide deeper knowledge of the Kairos Outside ministry for Regional Committee members and any others who may be interested. Last month, Lesley Rawlings and I had the privilege of leading an EKOWT weekend in Melbourne for 20 enthusiastic participants, with Sandra and Lorenz Stork transforming their home into a mini conference centre for the occasion. Four Kairos Outside communities were represented, bringing fresh perspectives and new connections.

In their evaluation of the effectiveness of the Melbourne weekend, participants commented on the joy of shared learning in a supportive environment, and the assistance they received in understanding the manual better and dealing with challenges that so often arise. The next EKOWT on June 28th and 29th will be held at Wye NSW and hosted by the Hunter community.

Enquiries to Sharn O'Har on 0407563511 or 02 49973215.

Gill Begbie - Kairos Outside National Training Coordinator

Former Spiritual Director's book hot off the press!

Those who have been involved with Kairos for some time, would remember Peter Francis. Peter's book 'God Talk extracts from a journal' is now available and can be ordered and prepaid for through the KSO. \$20.00 + postage



Peter will kindly donate a percentage of the sales made through KSO to the building fund.

Peter's treks in Spain have given him more time to meditate on God's word and go deeper into the understanding of Scripture which he shares with the reader. It is a book that you dip into and not necessarily read from cover to cover.

Our chairman Jeff highly recommends the book 'as a good read'.

