# QUEENSLAND BAPTISTS REPORT 2019

REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JAN 2018 – 31 DEC 2018

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Introduction

Welcome to the 142nd Annual Report for The Baptist Union of Queensland (Queensland Baptists – QB). Our reports tell the stories behind the ongoing growth and development of our ministries across Queensland – and it makes for a great story.

These reports focus on the events and activities of QB’s ministries throughout 2018. After the dates being out a little last year due to our Annual Meeting being held in July in Cairns, we are back to reporting in our usual first quarter of the year. These reports will be considered for approval at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on 12th April 2019 in Kirkwood Hall, Mapleton. We look forward to this important meeting, and hope to see many of you there.

There is little doubt that this date will be a significant one in the history of Queensland Baptists. As mentioned in several of the reports contained in these pages, the 2018 year has been dominated by the work being done at a Board level on the QB Review – the first major review undertaken since 2001. The AGM this year will feature the presentation, consideration and voting on the draft recommendations put forward by the Board, and this will be a decision-making time for us. You are urged to be in prayer regarding this process, that the outcomes truly reflect all that God has in mind for us.

As I write each year, I remind you that the report format we have adopted in recent years is indicative of the fact that QB is not a public company. Thus, its focus is not about financial growth and other metrics, but it is designed to tell the story of what has happened in our ministries in the last 12 months. The Financial Reports for QB are also available, and will be distributed for approval at that same meeting on 12th April. You can also view historical financial reports as they are available on our website, through the ACNC Portal, or directly upon application to us. We celebrate the fact that this book is instead a celebration of all God is doing through our joint ministries in Queensland. Contributions have been made by all the Ministry Leaders, and I thank them on your behalf for their efforts to capture the details of what they have been doing on our behalf. Copies of these reports will be sent to all churches and ministry groups, and will also be made available to all members of Assembly attending the Business Day program. Additional copies are available electronically or in paper form by contacting the QB offices.

Thank you for your ongoing support of QB and its ministries, and I hope you will be suitably encouraged as you read through these reports. If you are able to join us in Mapleton on 12th April, I look forward to seeing you on this occasion.

*Phillip McCallum*

*Union Secretary*
Acting General Superintendent

It has been an extraordinary year of transition for Queensland Baptists. While we are as a movement progressing through the various stages of review and transition it is good for us to be reminded that regardless of our circumstances our calling to following in the Steps of Jesus and make disciples remains a constant priority. The scripture that highlighted this truth for us in 2018 was 1 Peter 2:21: “To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.” I believe that we as a movement will see the good news about Jesus having a greater impact in our communities when we as the body of Christ follow in the steps of Jesus in three key ways: Stepping up – walking in love (John 13:34-35); Stepping in – walking in unity (John 17:21b-23); Stepping out – walking in good works (Matthew 5:16).

AGS Role and Functioning

It has been my privilege to serve Queensland Baptists in the capacity of Acting General Superintendent over the course of the year. The QB Board initially appointed me as Acting General Superintendent until the end of 2018 and then extended my appointment until June 30th 2019. I have enjoyed working closely with the Board in this transitional season and have sought to maintain stability and continuity in leading the QB Ministry Team as we anticipate changes for the future.

As the Regional Consultancy Team has been 2 fulltime positions short of a full complement, I have had to also take on Regional Consultancy responsibilities for the 9 churches of the Brisbane Bayside area.

I have appreciated working closely with Phillip McCallum in his capacity as Director of Administrative services and commend him for his hard work and commitment to serving the churches with the increased demands of this transitional period. I also want to acknowledge the work and support of my Personal Assistant, Ann Armour who has gone above and beyond in helping me settle into the Acting GS role.

While it has been a physically demanding season, I have been keenly aware of the prayers of the saints and the Lord has been gracious in providing all that I and the Ministry Team have needed to continue to maintain the support of churches and ministries of Queensland Baptists.

RC Team Functioning

Anticipated changes to QB structures and functioning meant that no new appointments were made to the RC team. As mentioned previously, the RC Team has functioned with a two-person deficit this year. The Team have demonstrated faith filled confidence in God as well as resilience, patience and have gone above and beyond in the service with the increased demands of the transitional season and short staffing.

Interim measures were implemented to seek to address the shortage of staff on the RC team so that support for pastors and churches could continue. As there is currently no dedicated Regional Consultant residing in the Northern areas of Queensland, the Area Coordinators for Central QLD (Chris Ganter), North QLD (Steve Ballin), and Far North QLD (John Whyte), were given extra resources and have done a great job supporting churches and pastors in their respective areas. Added
to the pressure on human resources in the RC team was the fact that some of the team took previously approved and planned long service leave. Col Peaker graciously returned from retirement to cover in this period of time and made a very significant contribution to the work.

**Ministry Team**

The QB Ministry Team continue to serve the Lord Jesus and Queensland Baptists in an exceptional manner. In 2017 Peter Francis was appointed as Principal of Malyon College and has done an excellent job of leading the college over the course of the year. Brent Van Mourik was also appointed in 2017 to represent Baptist World Aid and has also excelled in this role. The team for 2018 is listed in the following table -

| 1. Acting General Superintendent       | Stewart Pieper |
| 2. Regional Consultant                | Stephen Ball   |
| 3. Regional Consultant                | Pieter Henning |
| 4. Regional Consultant                | Emil Rahimov   |
| 5. Director ASG                       | Phillip McCallum|
| 6. CEO Carinity                       | Jon Campbell   |
| 7. Principal Malyon College           | Peter Francis  |
| 8. Principal The Training Collaborative | Andrew McCafferty |
| 9. QB Youth Coordinator               | Aaron Fozzard  |
| 10. MTQ Leader                        | Colin Stoodley |
| 11. Global Missions Coordinator       | Bob Rogers     |
| 12. BWAID Australia                   | Brent Van Mourik|
| 13. QB Kids and their families        | Sally Contessi |
| 14. QBW Coordinator                   | Cathy Knechtli |
| 15. QCCC Coordinator                  | Andrew Grant   |
| 16. Manager Baplink                   | Robert Chapman |
| 17. Defence Chaplain                  | Kerry Larwill  |
| 18. Defence Chaplain                  | Stephen Thomas |
| 19. Defence Chaplain                  | Troy Urlichs   |
| 20. Defence Chaplain                  | Wayne Ross     |
| 21. Defence Chaplain                  | Andrew Rutley  |
| 22. Defence Chaplain                  | Karen Haynes   |
| 23. Defence Chaplain                  | Ken Schulz     |

**National Redress Scheme**

In May 2018 the Australian Baptist Ministries National Council resolved to recommend that all affiliated Baptist State Associations and Ministries take steps to opt into the National Redress Scheme. The QB Board agreed with this proposal and set up a subcommittee to begin the process. After an extensive process of communication, a Special Assembly was held on the 3rd of December 2018 where resolutions were passed for Queensland Baptists to opt into the National Redress Scheme as a participating group. Churches were given until March 2019 to confirm their participation in the scheme. Participation in the National Redress Scheme represents an acknowledgement of the wrongs committed to the vulnerable while in the care of church and denominational ministries and is intended to aid survivors of institutional child sexual abuse in the healing process.

**QB Convention**

Due to the timing of the Commonwealth Games, which were held on the Gold Coast, the Queensland Baptists Annual Convention was held in Far North Queensland city of Cairns in the first week of July.
The Convention was well supported with just under 300 in attendance. We were very blessed to receive excellent teaching from Edmund and Ann Chan who are no strangers to Queensland Baptists! The hard work and hospitality of the good folks at Cairns Baptists was also highly appreciated.

**QB Ministers**

Our count of QB ministers as of 1\textsuperscript{st} January 2019 is shown below with corresponding counts for recent years. You will note that we have created a new category of Ministers Unordained, Special Services as well as removed some of the other categories that are no longer current (eg. Ministers Ordained, Missionary).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Minister Ordained</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Minister Unordained</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Minister Provisional</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Minister Supervised</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Ministers (Ordained)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired Ministers (Unordained)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministers Ordained, Special Services</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministers Unordained, Special Services</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>393</strong></td>
<td><strong>433</strong></td>
<td><strong>445</strong></td>
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As we contemplate the future let us keep looking to Jesus and make Him our focus and may the Holy Spirit continue to guide us into God’s preferred future for us so that together we can be all that the Lord God intended us to be!

*Stewart Pieper*

*Acting General Superintendent*
In 2018, a young woman in my home church shared some of her story before being baptised. “When I got back from Schoolies, I messaged my friend and told her I was ready to come to church. She, and her husband, showed me such kindness – they’d drive half an hour out of their way to bring me to church, and half an hour back to drive me home, for weeks. I came along to Christmas Day and I genuinely loved every moment. But it hadn’t all clicked, and I fell off the wagon. I realised eventually that there HAD to be more to life than this. And so, I came back to church. Through the faithfulness of the people in this community, I found connect groups. I was led to these two wonderful women beside me. Together they, and the whole connect group, listened with patience as I asked question after question... after question. They answered with honesty and with such a wisdom that one night, after a couple of months, something just clicked. So, the next week, sitting at Chermside and eating Gelato, with the help of my group I made my salvation prayer. I’m so grateful to God for my journey so far. I can see His hand at work in my life through these long years that it took for me to truly know Him. And because it happened in His perfect timing, once I’d made the decision to follow Him, I knew that there was no worldly item or person on this earth that could keep me from my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.”

We give thanks for the countless acts of loving kindness, invitations extended, questions answered, prayers prayed which God has used to bring his salvation, healing and hope to thousands of people in our state and nation during the past year. We also give thanks for those in our churches who have and are continuing to pour out their lives in missional settings throughout the world. As we look back over the past hundred years, we see nations in which Queensland Baptists have served, where there are now Jesus followers numbered in their tens and hundreds of thousands. Praise God! Again, we thank our heavenly Father for the amazing privilege of being part of his mighty Kingdom and seeing how the good news of Jesus is continuing to change lives and communities here in Queensland and throughout the world.

As a Board entrusted with the governance responsibilities of Queensland Baptists, I want to again thank those who prayed for us through 2018. It was a year of transition, reflection and review and the Board has been very conscious of the Spirit’s leading as we prayerfully sought to discern Jesus’s will for our family of churches and the ministries of Queensland Baptists. Let me report on some of the significant issues.

During 2018, the Rev Dr David Loder concluded eighteen years of meritorious service as the General Superintendent of Queensland Baptists. In this lengthy season of sacrificial ministry, David had overseen many significant milestones in our denomination’s growth and development: the relocation of the QB head office from The Valley to Gaythorne, restructures of QCCC, Carinity, Baplink, Ministerial Services and Training and the development of our partnership with the South Seas Evangelical Church in the Solomon Islands, to name just a few. Recorded in the minute of appreciation at the annual assembly were the following words:

“God has generously given Pastor David the ability to do all this while being a leader, mentor, and brother to the pastors and leaders of Queensland Baptists and always encouraging everyone in our movement to grow in their faith as a disciple of Christ. David has given sacrificially of himself in long hours of service and bearing the burdens of his concern for all the churches. He has during this lengthy season of ministry
faithfully held to the truth of God’s word and proclaimed it boldly throughout our churches in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Assembly also records its deep appreciation to Ann, David’s wife, who has supported David so effectively during the past 18 years”.

As Queensland Baptists we give thanks to God for David and Ann’s very committed service and pray the Lord will continue to bless their ministry among us.

We are thankful to God in the changes 2018 brought, for the provision of our interim Associate General Superintendent, Rev Stewart Pieper, who was appointed as Acting General Superintendent. Stewart has made a tremendous contribution, along with the Regional Consultants, Rev Stephen Ball, Rev Pieter Henning, Rev Emil Rahimov, our Director of Administration, Mr Phillip McCallum, our Area Coordinators and all the QB staff who have worked very conscientiously and effectively during a year where we have been seeking God’s guidance concerning the future of our denomination. We thank Stewart for his godly leadership and all the staff team who have given so much. We also give thanks for Rev Col Peaker, Rev Chris Ganter, Pastor Steve Ballin and Rev John Whyte who graciously made themselves available to share some of the work load of caring for pastors and churches throughout our state during 2018.

The major focus of the Board during the past year was to advance the work of the Queensland Baptist Review. During 2017, the Review focussed on gathering information through a survey of Queensland Baptist Pastors (176 responses) and an interview process of key QB ministry staff and leaders by an external consultant. The third phase of the information gathering was completed in the first half of 2018. This involved analysing QB statistical data, interviewing other state Baptist leaders, gaining further input through pastors’ focus groups, conducting in-depth interviews with nine churches selected for their diversity and impact, inviting submissions from ministry groups and other research. More than thirty reports and submissions were received. At the three-day Board retreat in August a summary of all the data collected was discussed and the Board began to frame key concepts and ideas in response to matters raised in the Review. During the latter part of 2018, the Board sought to develop a set of specific recommendations centred on the vision, priorities and structure of Queensland Baptists. These recommendations are continuing to be developed through extensive consultation with ministry leaders, pastors and churches. The intention of the Board is to have these recommendations ready for discussion at the Annual Assembly in 2019.

Another major Board focus in 2018 was working with Australian Baptists and QB churches in response to the recommendation from the Royal Commission into Child Safety, that institutions participate in a National Redress Scheme. A working group was established consisting of our Acting General Superintendent Rev Stewart Pieper, Rev Ken Conwell our Professional Standards Officer, Board member Mr Mark Hodgson, Administrator of Riverlife and our Board Vice Chair, Mr Alistair Macpherson, law firm director. The expertise and hard work of this group assisted church delegates in seeking to discern God’s will on this significant issue. At a special Assembly in December, the decision was made that Queensland Baptists would become a participating group in the National Redress scheme.

There were many other matters the Board prayerfully considered during 2018: appointments to Councils, Committees, Area Coordinators (including the first appointment of coordinators for our growing number of ethnic churches), further development of our position statement on Sexuality, the closer connection of our two training arms now known as Malyon Theological College and Malyon Vocational Training (formerly The Training Collaborative), working through a number of financial matters with the assistance of Mr Phillip McCallum, Director of Administrative services and the Administration Services Group, and a wide variety of other issues and responsibilities entrusted to the Board. We want to again express our thanks this year to all those who are leading and serving so faithfully and energetically in the ministries of Queensland Baptists.
We also want to express our thanks to Rev Brian Robertson and Mr David Unwin who concluded their ministry on the Board this year. Brian has made a very valuable contribution during his time on the Board and brought special expertise in the areas of Christian schooling and social issues. David’s contribution was also deeply appreciated and as a Chartered Accountant CPA his advice and direction on financial decisions was of enormous value. We thank God for the provision of two new members for the Board, Rev Phil Greenbury, the Senior Pastor of Lifepointe Baptist Church on the Sunshine Coast and Mr Mark Hodgson, the Administrator of Riverlife Baptist Church and the Chief Financial Officer of a financial advising company. Both these men have already made a tremendous contribution in assisting us to discern God’s will as a Board.

The Board members for 2018 were:

Rev Matt Anstey  Senior Pastor Kruger Parade Baptist Church
Mrs Pam Condie  South Pine Community Church, former State Commissioner Girls Brigade
Rev Phillip Greenbury  Senior Pastor Lifepointe Baptist Church
Mr Mark Hodgson  Administrator Riverlife Baptist Church, Chief Financial Officer of a financial advising company
Dr Anne Klose  Gateway Baptist Church, part-time lecturer Malyon Theological College
Mr Alistair Macpherson  The Grove Baptist Community Church, Director of law firm
Dr Neil Parker  Associate Pastor Toowoomba Community Baptist Church, former Hospital Superintendent
Pastor Ben Pearson  Northreach Baptist Church
Rev Peter Sweetman  Founding Pastor Bridgeman Baptist Community Church
Rev Dr Andrew Teo  Pastor Toowong Baptist
Rev Stewart Pieper  Acting General Superintendent
Mr Phillip McCallum  Director Administrative Services

As a movement of Baptist Churches here in Queensland, we give thanks for God’s loving care for us during 2018, for the lives and communities that have and are being transformed through the gospel of Jesus Christ and for our enormous privilege to serve in the Kingdom of God. As a Board we look with great expectation to the future of Queensland Baptists. We are thankful for the contribution of so many to the Review process over the past eighteen months and we are filled with great faith that as we hold fast to God’s Word, continue to pray and listen to the Holy Spirit, that Jesus will keep revealing his plans for us as his people. We also believe that as we remain in Christ, loving one another and courageously and sacrificially obeying every holy calling, we will see much fruit being borne in our State and beyond for God’s glory. (John15:8)

*Peter Sweetman*

*Board Chair*
I reflect on 2018 – which has been perhaps the most complex year of my time in this role in my eleventh annual report as the Director of Administrative Services. We can be thankful for the many blessings from God that sustain us through the challenges and the good times.

Three matters have dominated the year and I wish to take a short time to talk about each.

Firstly, the resignation of David Loder at the start of the year was a shock to many including myself. I have worked closely with David over the last ten years including a regular weekly catch-up meeting to discuss key issues, and being able to closely observe his contribution to QB over those years has left me in awe. I am sure there are many who thank God for his contribution in the 18 years he served as General Superintendent, and we pray his new role at Caboolture will lead to similar blessing.

Secondly, the QB Review being undertaken by the Board has been a significant matter. This has been an extensive and extended process, with the final report being delivered to Assembly this coming April after around 20 months of work. My impression of the Review Committee and the Research Coordinator is that they have worked very diligently, earnestly seeking to find ways to make a positive difference to the manner in which QB functions. The recommendations, if adopted, will result in a significant restructure and lots of work that is likely to dominate the year ahead, and I am praying that it will be a significant time for our denomination.

Thirdly, the holding of Convention in Cairns turned out to be an immense task, but for all involved I think we can acknowledge that it was a very positive one. Thank you firstly to the people of our northern Churches who welcomed us and engaged so well with the event. For everyone who made the journey north, it would have been a very positive experience with some great worship, wonderful teaching, and memorable times of fellowship through the week. I confess from a logistics perspective, we missed being with our good friends at Mapleton who do such a wonderful job, but I suspect the outcome was well worth the effort for the year.

In a year of much change - one aspect of the role has been extremely stable. My fantastic staff have remained unchanged throughout the year and have all been invaluable in serving QB well. I sincerely appreciate my PA Jos Woollett, Receptionist Sharon Humphry, Admin Assistant Trish Emmerson and Groundsman Denis De Maria who continue to apply themselves diligently to the tasks we face. Well done team! As mentioned last year our accounting services are now handled through Baplink, and we have been blessed to gain Megan Kercher in that team. I am sure Baplink’s own report will talk more about those issues.

The QB Centre continued to perform well for us, as both a “headquarters”, an event venue and a campus of ministry work. We really are blessed to have it in our family. The good news (and you can be sure you will hear more about this from me next year) is that the debt associated with the QB Centre which has been sitting over our heads since the original fit-out, will be cleared in July of this year. Thank God for his blessings in this regard!

Financially it has been a complicated year for the QBSG budget. One of our important income sources has been through the Baptist Insurance Scheme, but legal advice mid-way through 2018 forced BIS to restructure with a significant impact on their support for the state Unions. But God is good – in the middle of a difficult time, He blessed us with the opportunity to refund some money back to the
churches and ask them to support the shortfall from the insurance scheme. The request to churches (and other insured entities) was more than 50% oversubscribed, which has meant that our finances are in very good shape for this year. This is helpful as there is great uncertainty about what to expect next year, and we will need to carry forward our good position to address the issues that lay ahead. To the churches who responded so positively, I thank you – it has made a huge difference to an otherwise difficult situation.

We again collected the nine key statistical indicators from our churches, and with around 85% of our churches supplying figures we are able to get a very good sense of what is happening across the state. As with the last few years, our stats show small growth in most areas. Membership of QB Churches is up by 1.78% to 17,683. Our Church Community continues to increase, up 4.28% to 53,600, and 15,045 of these are under 18, which is an increase of 5.16%. The indicator that is down slightly (-0.57%) is the average number of people in our services, which was reported at 29,198. Our churches have regular contact with almost 62,000 people through their ministries and run events which attract around 175,000 over the course of the year. We can be very thankful for the positives in these numbers in this era.

It is going to be an odd set of financial reports that we present to be accepted to Assembly in that the bottom line shows a significant deficit in excess of $28 million. However, this can entirely be put down to the revaluation of bed licenses within Carinity, without which the outcome would in fact be a surplus of around $1.2 million. The revaluation was required by Carinity’s auditors, and does not affect the cash position of QB, even though it looks dramatic on the balance sheet. Underlying this was a good year financially for most parts of the denomination, with only a small deficit appearing for The Training Collaborative and the deficit at SPEC involved with the regeneration of the school probably the last of its type. Allow me again to thank all those who work so hard in our Charter Groups and Departments to produce these results – we are blessed with a great team across all of these areas.

I would also like to thank those who serve in a voluntary capacity on the Board and all of the committees around the place. I gain something of a unique perspective of this as I move among these groups and recognise that there are many who bring significant talent to these tasks and serve us through their considerable efforts.

Finally, and sincerely, thank you to my family. The bunch of little kids we brought up to Queensland ten years ago are now upstanding young adults and I am proud of them all. Thank you to them for enabling me to function as I do, and in particular to my wife Shelley who supports me in so many ways.

I am blessed to be able to use my skills and talents to serve in this role, and I thank the people of our churches for their support and I thank God for his daily enabling.

God bless!

*Phillip McCallum*

*Director – Administrative Services*
Baplink continues to serve the ministries across Queensland. Xero, the online accounting system, is now operating in our 135 churches throughout Queensland. Lending remains strong with total loan approval standing at $108.389 million.

**BAPLINK LENDING**

Robert Chapman and Liz McFarland are the Baplink Lending Team who facilitate the processing of loans to Queensland Baptist Churches, Affiliated Ministries of Queensland Baptist Churches and Registered Pastors.

**BAPLINK ACCOUNTS AND XERO**

Colin Chandler, Chelsea Evans and Megan Kercher make up the Accounting Team for Baplink. They currently support 135 of our Queensland Baptist Churches and Affiliated Ministries with the Xero accounting package – a user friendly program that saves hours of administration time, helping Churches to be more efficient with their use of resources.

**BAPLINK OPERATIONS**

The Operations Team manage the daily financial transactions for Queensland Baptist Churches, Pastors, and Affiliated Ministries. The Operations Team also administer over 700 fixed term investments from retail clients who place their funds with Baplink to support the growth of the Kingdom of Jesus here in Queensland.

*Robert Chapman*
*Manager*
Dear Baplink,

We want to say a huge thank you to the team at Baplink. We recently moved all our accounting from a 3rd party across to Baplink. The team at Baplink helped us set up Xero and even came and trained a staff member who had no prior experience in accounting. The experience and advice provided by the team was really helpful and the ongoing support has been great. We’re happy we made the decision to work with Baplink and we’re grateful this whole process has gone so smoothly.
Baptist Heritage Queensland

What we have heard and learned, that which our ancestors have told us, we will not hide from their descendants. We will tell the next generation about the LORD’s praiseworthy acts, about his strength and the amazing things he has done.

Psalm 78: 3 & 4

Preserve, Protect, Publish our Heritage

Baptist Heritage Queensland was established in 1984 as the Baptist Historical Society of Queensland to promote interest in the heritage of Baptists in Queensland. Since that time it has conducted public meetings featuring families, people, organisations, buildings and movements that have contributed to Baptist work in this state.

The Society aims to encourage churches and their members to preserve their heritage through the care of records and memorabilia at local church and denominational levels. Several guide sheets offering help on the process of archival work and church record management are available for free distribution. See www.dparker.net.au/gde.htm

The Society met three times in 2018 – 3 March, 9 June and 27 October – at the Baptist Archives. At the AGM in October 2017 the following appointments were made for 2018: Eric Kopittke (President), Bill Hughes (Secretary), Hope Colegrove (Treasurer) and Rosemary Kopittke (Publications Officer).

The Plaques Project

Further work on BHQ’s ‘Heritage Plaque Project’ is continuing. For some time now, Baptist Heritage Queensland has been exploring the possibility of marking places of historical importance to the Baptist cause in Queensland with appropriate markers. We had previously marked five places – in William Street (where in 1851 the first Baptists in Queensland met with other Christians to worship), in the country at Vernor near Lowood (where the first German Baptists in Queensland erected a church to the glory of God), Toowong Baptist Church (the oldest Baptist Church still in use), the City Tabernacle, and Windsor Road Baptist Church. It is anticipated that the next plaque to be unveiled will be at the North East Baptist Church at Nundah and negotiations surrounding this are currently under way.

Essay Competition

The BHQ Essay Competition on Baptist history and principles is run in conjunction with Malyon College and awarded every second year. The 2018 winner was Greg Beaumont from the City North church. The President, Eric Kopittke, presented the prize – a cheque for $100, a selection of books published by BHQ and one year’s honorary membership of BHQ – at the meeting in October. Congratulations Greg!

Publishing

In accord with the Society motto of Preserve, Protect, Publish our Heritage, a large number of publications have been produced over the years. For details see www.dparker.net.au/bhsq.htm#Recent

Forum

Queensland Baptist Forum, the Journal of Baptist Heritage Queensland, is published three times per year and sent to BHQ members, as either a digital or a paper copy. It contains a variety of interesting articles, mainly on historical subjects, but also covers other matters such as Baptist principles. Digital copies of Forum are available.
A milestone was reached in August with the release of issue 100! It is interesting that in our culture we especially celebrate hundreds, whether it be the hundredth anniversary of one of our churches, the hundredth birthday of a beloved family member, or a century (or even a double century) in cricket. Leviticus chapter 25 described the jubilee, a holy year, to occur every fiftieth year when slaves were to be freed and land returned to its owners. With 100 being two lots of fifty, issue 100 of the *Forum* was a double blessing!

Over the years the Rev. Dr David Parker has done a sterling work not only in editing *Forum*, but also in writing many of the articles as well. So, with the one-hundredth issue, we extend our thanks to David for his work over the years.

**Digitisation of materials**

The digitisation of the Archives extensive photographic collection, which includes a comprehensive index, continues with more than 1400 photographs digitised. Thanks Bill! The project to produce searchable digitised copies of the *Queensland Baptist*, the *Australian Baptist*, Year Books and Annual Reports is approaching completion. The results of the project proved to be of immense value, unlocking so much historical material that would otherwise require tedious searching.

**All the Way Project**

*All the Way* is a project meant to be autobiographical (although biographical if necessary), to be written by (or about) senior or retired pastors and lay leaders reflecting on their spiritual development, ministry experiences, and events and movements that have influenced their ministries and personal experiences (with enough biographical and family information to give context). These are published in *Forum* and also held in the Baptist Archives for future reference. The length for publication is determined by the limits of *Forum* and can be 2500, 5000 or 7500 words, with a few photographs to illustrate. Can YOU contribute?

**The Future**

Is there a role for BHQ in the future? After all, there are those who say we must ignore the past and look only to the future. However, the Bible has so many instances where God calls on His people to remember His great goodness to them. Looking forward and recalling the past – both are important. We forget the past at our peril! BHQ has an ongoing role as we remember God’s work in the past and look forward to the future.

An invitation to join the society is extended to anyone who has an interest in the maintenance and development of our Baptist heritage here in Queensland. Members have a wide variety of backgrounds – do not be put off joining just because you are not an historian! Meetings in 2019 are scheduled for 23 February, 22 June and 26 October at 2:00pm at the Queensland Baptist Archives. See [www.dparker.net.au/bhsq.htm](http://www.dparker.net.au/bhsq.htm)

_Mr Eric Kopittke_

_President_

*(Ably assisted by Bill Hughes and David Parker)*
Baptist World Aid Australia

I want to begin this report with a huge ‘thank you’ to all the churches in the QB movement who support our work at Baptist World Aid Australia. Your support means so much to us! We could not exist, nor impact those in poverty around our world without you, our valued supporters. It has been another wonderful year of working together to empower local Christians overseas to live out the gospel mandate to love their neighbours.

About Baptist World Aid Australia

Our vision at Baptist World Aid is of a world where poverty has ended, and all people enjoy the fullness of life that God intends. We seek to see this vision realised through two, equally important partnerships:

- We partner with local, Christian agencies overseas to empower communities to lift themselves out of poverty, challenge injustice and build resilience.
- And we partner with Christians and churches in Australia, particularly those from the Baptist movement, in generous giving, ethical consumption, courageous advocacy and faithful prayer in order to achieve justice for people living in poverty.

International Programs, Disaster Action, and Child Sponsorship

It may surprise you to know that Baptist World Aid Australia is the largest of the global Baptist aid agencies. As such, we are uniquely positioned to be able to have an amazing impact in the poorest communities around the world. In FY2018 we were able to reach 112,378 households, directly impacting 332,391 people in poverty! (For more info on these stats, head to: http://baptistworldaid.org.au/impact)

In FY2018, we implemented international aid and development programs through 42 local Christian partners overseas in 18 countries. Through 82 projects, we are providing long term change in the lives of children, families, and communities in some of the world’s poorest nations. This includes 30 Disaster Management projects which in FY2018 provided lifesaving assistance to 84,033 people.

In FY2018, we began to roll out our new child-focussed program, Child, Youth, and Communities for Change (CYCC). Like its predecessor, Child-Centred Community Development (CCCD), CYCC programming will be linked to our Child Sponsorship program. However, several important improvements have been made in consideration of the experience we have gained through 8 years of CCCD programming.

Instead of classifying all children who are under 18 in one homogenous group, CYCC programming will consider specific needs of children at various stages of life ensuring that programming is particularly relevant to those it impacts. CYCC will be more flexible in the types of programming possible, allowing the strengths of communities to better define the work carried out. Children will have greater participation in the new programming, as participation is a key feature of the new approach. These changes won’t impact how child sponsorship is experienced for Australian sponsors, but it improves the effectiveness of our programming on the ground, which we can thank God for!

Advocacy

In 2018 we were so excited to see Australia introduce a Modern Slavery Act! This is something we have been advocating for over many years and will have a hugely positive impact for people trapped in slavery all around the world – there are still approximately 25 million forced labourers in the world today.
The new act requires entities based, or operating, in Australia, which have an annual consolidated revenue of more than $100 million, to report annually on the risks of modern slavery in their operations and supply chains, and actions to address these risks. With this new legislation in place, our prayer is that fewer people will suffer in slave-like conditions to make the goods we buy.

In Queensland, during FY2018, we had 7 grassroots catalyst groups in our churches standing up and speaking out for those who cannot speak for themselves (Proverbs 31:8-9). Catalyst groups have raised awareness of, and spoken out on, the issue of domestic violence in Australia. They’ve campaigned for a traffik free Easter, asking major stockists to boycott those companies not doing enough to mitigate the risk of slavery in the cocoa used to make Easter eggs. They advocated for the Modern Slavery Act, and have continued to speak out on the issue of slavery in the fashion supply chain.

In FY2018, we released the 5th edition of our Ethical Fashion Guide. This year, it graded 407 brands, providing an overall grade (from A to F) on the strength of their labour rights management systems to mitigate the risk of modern slavery, child labour, and exploitation in their supply chains. Higher grades correspond to systems which, when implemented well, should reduce that risk.

Stats for Queensland

In FY2018 (so far) we have had 57 people in Queensland sign up to sponsor a child through Baptist World Aid.

In FY2018 I had around 100 meetings with pastors and church leaders. I have also been granted the opportunity to preach in over 30 Queensland Baptist churches in FY2018, and talk about the work of Baptist World Aid... thank you!

In FY2018 one Queensland church has become a Baptist World Aid Church Partnership church. In doing so, they have chosen a country to partner with, seeking to raise an agreed amount for our work in that country (for more info on church partnerships visit: https://baptistworldaid.org.au/faith-in-action/in-your-church/church-partnerships/ or talk to me!)

We have achieved a lot together this year, but there is always more to do (which shouldn’t surprise us given what Jesus says in Matthew 26:11 – when He quotes Deuteronomy 15:11a – “The poor you will always have with you.”) However, our response to this ongoing need ought not to one of indifference or stinginess, rather, it should be one of open-handedness to those in need around us, as God commands in Deuteronomy 15:11b. Together, we can respond to God’s call to give generously to the poor and the needy, showing all who are watching on that there is a better world to be had under the headship of Christ. Thanks for partnering with us in this Mission!

In the fellowship of Christ,

[Signatures]

Pastor Brent Van Mourik
Queensland State Representative

Gabriel Lacoba
Director of Community Engagement
Baptist World Aid Australia
Reaching our Community

The 2018 calendar year saw Carinity’s vision and hard work realised in many ways. Major infrastructure projects in Brisbane and Townsville were commenced, completed or opened and we expanded our education, home care, retirement and chaplaincy services.

It was a year of celebrating major anniversaries for several services and reflecting on what God has done through the efforts of our people and supporters across so many Queensland local communities.

We also celebrated the immense contribution of two key people who served Carinity with great dedication over many years: Jacinta Geraghty our Executive Manager of Aged Care retired after nine years’ service and Gavin Hulcombe the Chair of our Council retired in December after serving on the Board for 13 years, 10 as Chairman. They will both be greatly missed.

Aged Care and Retirement Living

Work was completed on Carinity’s new residential aged care development, Brookfield Green in Brisbane, with residents moving into the new three-storey building in September. The state-of-the-art 96-suite community set on land donated to Carinity by the Dart family, is part of our vision for integrated communities of retirement living and aged care across the State.

Carinity Colthup Manor, which at that time was the first aged care home in Ipswich for both men and women, celebrated 60 years of operation in September. An historic 19th Century residence, the original building was purchased by the Baptist Church in 1958 for the purpose of being a Christian home for the aged.

Carinity Karinya Place at Laidley turned 50 in November. An initiative of the Laidley Baptist Church, the aged care community was built in 1968. One-third of funding for the village was raised by church members over four years.

There were more reasons for Carinity’s employees and our aged care staff to celebrate. The outstanding contribution of two long-serving aged care nurses – Esther Arulogun and Gwen Billings – were officially recognised. Esther was presented the Aged and Community Services Australia Lifetime of Achievement Award while Gwen’s 45-year nursing career was acknowledged at the Queensland Community Achievement Awards.
We commenced the refurbishment of aged care buildings at Wishart Gardens, Colthup Manor and Karinya Place to ensure our residents continue to receive high quality, professional and comfortable care in modern facilities.

Construction of The Avenues at Fairfield Grange, a new boutique retirement village in Townsville, began with the commencement of civil works on the site following the opening of a display villa. The retirement community is co-located with Carinity’s existing The Residences at Fairfield Grange at Idalia. The construction of a community pavilion in 2019 will lead to the introduction of Carinity Home Care services in Townsville, ensuring we bring our customer-focused approach to those in need within the comfort of their own homes.

Carinity’s Home Care service, which enables seniors to stay living in their homes longer with help from lifestyle carers, expanded into the Fraser Coast and Sunshine Coast markets with a view to opening in Toowoomba and Townsville in 2019. We are already operating in Bundaberg, the Gold Coast, Rockhampton, Brisbane, Ipswich, Caboolture and Bribie Island regions. We now help more Queensland seniors than ever before with a 50-fold increase in customers since Carinity Home Care started in 2011.

Carinity is embracing the use of technology to enhance the lives of our customers. In May the first Carinity Home Care customers took delivery of their “Mobi” tablet devices, designed specifically for seniors to help them stay connected with family, friends and the community and to reduce social isolation. Mobi was rolled out across the Fraser Coast, Wide Bay, Ipswich and Brisbane regions and in 2019 we expect to make them available to our care and retirement residents.

Chaplaincy

Carinity’s chaplains provide spiritual care and support to thousands of people in hospitals, correctional centres and aged care communities between Cairns and the Gold Coast. The longevity of service of some of Carinity’s volunteer chaplains is inspiring, including prison chaplain George Stubbs who reached a milestone of 25 years of ministry in 2018. As well, we were ecstatic to see former Carinity hospital chaplain Gordon Dobbin recognised in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List for his 25 years of service.

Our vision is to place a chaplain in every major regional Queensland hospital and boost the number of chaplains working in correctional centres. Carinity began this process of expansion in 2018 by welcoming the first 11 graduates of our Certificate IV in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care.

Youth, Disability and Community Services

Carinity provides care to children and young people, the homeless and those with disability in Brisbane and rural communities such as Toogoolawah, Boonah, Beaudesert, Rockhampton and Yeppoon. Our service initiatives include creating opportunities to better the futures of marginalised and at-risk people in local communities. As well, our specialised counsellors support children who have experienced major trauma especially through family and domestic violence. In June we launched the world-first ReNew initiative – a two-year early-intervention pilot program seeking to stop domestic violence when it first appears … in boyhood. We discovered children as young as 11 were committing abuse and violence against their mothers as a learned behaviour from their fathers. Steering a boy away from a life of violence can save families from the trauma of abuse and prevent its perpetuation in children. We are hopeful that research by Griffith University will show long-term benefits from the ReNew program.
Carinity Fassifern Community Centre supports at-risk youth and people with a disability through education and community engagement. Initiatives include the “Get Set for Work” and “Dreams Achieved” programs which assist teenagers seeking work or accessing further education or training. The Community Café 11 teaches people with a disability and youth at risk of unemployment and homelessness important retail and hospitality skills necessary for employment.

A highlight was the inaugural Let’s Celebrate Ability Expo held at the Centre on the International Day of People with a Disability, showcasing the talents of people from the Boonah and Beaudesert districts who have a disability.

Carinity Bunderra in Boonah and Carinity Our House in Toogoolawah continue to provide respite and support for people with a disability including furnishing rental accommodation for a man who, following a long stay in hospital, owned nothing but the clothes on his back.

Education

The number of Carinity Education schools across Queensland increased from four to five after we acquired Shalom Christian College in Townsville from The Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod. The school would have been closed and sold to property developers, however, we believe God cleared the way for the school to continue through us. In 2019, the school which caters for indigenous children will offer classes for students from Prep to Year 7.

Carinity Education Glendyne celebrated 20 years of education on the Fraser Coast and in May, hosted the inaugural Jake’s Memory Ride and Drive – a fundraising event to purchase a high-tech driving simulator to teach Fraser Coast youth safe driving skills. Statistics show the Wide Bay-Burnett region has the highest number of road deaths in Queensland.

The first cohort of Year 12 students graduated from Carinity Education Rockhampton in November including three of the 10 students who had enrolled at the school when it opened in January 2016. Major building projects will see the expansion of the school’s science, arts and vocational training programs, thanks to significant grants from the Federal Government.

Carinity Education Southside, the only all-girls special-assistance school in Queensland, continues to deliver positive scholastic results.

Opening in mid-2017 with 25 enrolments, Carinity Education Gladstone’s student population more than doubled by the start of the 2018 academic year. The success of our schools has been overwhelming with around 350 students in 2018 and more than 80 on the waiting list. The only barrier to Carinity helping more students is our ability to employ suitably qualified staff in the regions.

Carinity Innovation Grants

We greatly value our relationships with our Baptist Churches and are encouraged by their support as we work together to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. Carinity is simply an extension of the church serving local communities and we are pleased to support Baptist churches and their local communities across Queensland through our annual Innovation Grants. This year, nine Queensland Baptist churches in Rockhampton, Sunshine Coast, Boonah, Hervey Bay, Brisbane and Ipswich shared in almost $36,000 in funding to start new community outreach projects or expand existing ministries. Over the past 12 years, Carinity has helped kick-start more than 130 church initiatives through grants exceeding $400,000.
Looking Forward

The purpose and culture of Carinity is driven by our desire to follow the example of our Lord Jesus who cared for the disadvantaged and marginalised in our society. As Carinity celebrates its 70th anniversary of serving Queenslanders in 2019, we will continue to strive to make a positive difference to people in need across the state – and create communities of care where people are accepted, loved and supported.

Carinity could not achieve its Mission and Vision without its dedicated people. I thank our staff and volunteers for their commitment to serving others, sometimes in difficult circumstances and I look forward to working with the Carinity Council under the new leadership of Alan Millis as we navigate a momentous year for aged care with the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

Jon Campbell
Chief Executive Officer
2018 was an exciting year as we joined with three Queensland churches to farewell family units to cross-cultural work. Jean-Claude and Joyce (All Nations Revival), together with their four children commenced service in Malawi, Africa. “Daz and Bee” (Beacon), with their three children moved across to South East Asia and Tristan and Megan (Gateway Ormeau), with their two boys, headed over to Cambodia. All three families are undertaking culture and language studies as they settle in to their respective locations.

Please be in prayer for these families during this often-difficult initial time in country. Frustrations can arise with the desire to learn language quickly (not often possible); high expectations that are rarely met; and new sights, sounds, smells and flavours which quickly lose their newness. Homesickness sets in and the freshness of first arrival diminishes. Ask our Father that He will enable everyone to settle in well over the coming months – that houses will become homes, that school friends will be found, that language and culture will be picked up quickly. In all of this is the strong desire to enter into meaningful relationships where each may share their faith in the LORD Jesus.

Currently Global Interaction has the following cross-cultural staff from Queensland overseas –

- **Scott & Janelle Windus** (Reedy Creek) – Cambodia
- **Muana & Villy** (Mizoram, India; Bracken Ridge) – Thailand
- **Luke & Belle Harland** (Bracken Ridge) – Thailand
- **Dema & Caroline** (Mizoram, India/ North Pine) - Thailand
- **Maz & Es** (Mizoram, India; City Tabernacle) – South East Asia
- **Ben & Petra** (Bracken Ridge) – the Silk Road
- **Morris & Ros** (Gateway) – South Asia
- **Graeme & Coral** (Sunnybank Hills) – South Asia
- **Bill & Pauline Morrison** (Victoria) – Central Australia
- **Tim & Mel Downes** (Northreach/Mulgrave/Rockhampton) – Malawi, Africa

During 2018 we saw God working in marvellous ways –

- Presentation of a new Bible translation for South Asia
- Rapid progress on a revision of the Bible for the Enga people of Papua New Guinea
- More than 300 young people baptised in PNG
- New believers on the Silk Road, in South Asia, Cambodia, Thailand, Malawi and South East Asia
- In Thailand we have seen several communities of believers getting to the point where they are self-sufficient, meaning our cross-cultural workers can move to new locations

**Global Exposure**

Global Exposure trips are more than a “missions trip”. Each are specifically tailored to the group travelling. The emphasis on these trips is to gain a greater understanding of both the culture of the people we serve among and the unique way in which Global Interaction serves, as we “empower communities to develop their own distinctive ways of following Jesus”.
In July, my wife, Leanne, and I led a team of students from Malyon College to Kalkarindgi and Lajamanu, Northern Territory. Bill and Pauline Morrison serve among the Gurindji and Warlpuri peoples. We were truly blessed by the warm acceptance of the team as we sat and listened to many stories, shared in several church services and cultural activities. It was an honour to meet so many fellow believers and see what God is doing within communities.

In August I accompanied four pastors to South East Asia and saw the work God has established among the S.I. and B.I. peoples. We were welcomed into local homes, visited the English schools, café and Reading Garden established by Global Interaction. A highlight was sitting and listening to a testimony from Mrs R as she told her story of how she met Jesus. We were overjoyed to hear, only a few months later, of Mrs R’s husband also deciding to follow Jesus.

**General Resonate**

Regular presentations through General Resonate meetings saw each of the teams on home Assignment (see below) tell their stories. Likewise, candidate families were able to bring their situation before our supporters.

**Lisa West-Newman**

It has been an exceptional year with the addition of Lisa West-Newman to the Queensland team as the Young Adults Consultant. Lisa came to the position with great experience in missions, having served in Cambodia with her husband, Steve. Lisa mobilises youth and young adults, resources Youth Pastors and has regular contact with Malyon students. We were delighted to hear her one-year contract has been extended till at least the end of 2019.

**Candidates**

We thank God for the acceptance of “Michael”, as a candidate, from Gateway Logan. Michael is preparing for service in South East Asia. In 2018 he graduated from Bible College and is about to begin a Masters in TESOL. He plans to depart early in 2021. Michael is available to visit your church to tell his story and share how you may invest in the work God is leading him to.

**Home Assignment teams**

Tim & Mel Downes, together with their boys, Jarred and Clayton, returned from Malawi. They had a full program the length of the state, sharing with churches all that God is doing through Global Interaction in Malawi and Mozambique.

Muana and Villy, with their three daughters, are also seconded to Global Interaction from Mizoram, India. Muana is the Team Leader of our Thailand team. The family spent several months in Australia, including time in South East Queensland.

Bill and Pauline Morrison are based in Victoria but represent the work among Indigenous Australians. Several Queensland churches have adopted Bill and Pauline as representatives of the work.

“Maz and Es”, with their children, hail from the Indian state of Mizoram and serve in South East Asia. They spent four months in Queensland, sharing their story in churches.
During 2019 we expect Home Assignments for Luke and Belle Harland (Thailand) Feb – July; Scott and Janelle Windus (Cambodia) Aug – Jan; and “Ben and Pep” (Silk Road) Sept - Feb.

Short-term assistance and Discernment

Roslyn, from our North Pine church, together with “Michael” from Gateway Logan, travelled to South East Asia to conduct a children’s program at our team’s annual conference.

Isaiah, from Bridgeman BC, travelled to Malawi to visit Tim and Mel Downes. Isaiah is a student teacher and used his time there teaching Jarrod and Clayton, a welcome relief to Home Schooling with Mel.

Crystal, from Beacon Community BC, travelled to Central Asia, spending time with “Pete & Nomes” and the team leaders.

We thank God for the dynamic support Global Interaction receives from so many churches across Queensland. It is a privilege for me to visit many churches across the state, mobilising pastors, missions’ committees and potential candidates.

Rev Bob Rogers
State Director

GLOBAL INTERACTION
2018 was a good year in the life of Malyon College as we pressed into a new era. While I assumed my role as the seventh Principal of Malyon College on Monday 27 November 2017, this has been my first full year as Principal. At the outset, I want to say how extremely grateful I have been to both the members of staff and faculty and the Malyon Council for their incredible encouragement and support throughout this past year. There has been a fabulous sense of striving together in the task to which God has called us as a college team.

We also thank God for the continuing support and encouragement of the Board of Queensland Baptists and our Queensland Baptist family of churches who recognise the enormous value of the ministry which is undertaken by Malyon College.

**Leadership Team**

As we moved into 2018 it was decided that we would not look to the appointment of a traditional vice-principal, but rather establish a leadership team consisting of the principal, the academic dean and the college manager. Essentially, with an elevated role for the academic dean and an elevated role given to the college manager, we have sought to establish a structure where the principal has the general oversight of the whole of the college’s ministry while the academic dean has, as the title suggests, the oversight of all academic matters and the college manager has oversight of all administrative matters. As you would understand, the good management of both of these aspects of the college’s ministry is essential to the overall effectiveness of the college. Throughout 2018 I have been delighted to have worked closely with both Rev Dr Charles de Jongh and Rev Russell Matthews who have so very capably fulfilled these roles. Both are extremely gifted and faithful servants and have proven to be valuable colleagues as we have processed so many matters that pertain to the overall good running of the college.

**Enrolments and Students**

As a college we are continually looking to God to bring the students he wants studying with us. Semester one of 2018 saw a very encouraging increase in enrolments from the previous year, with around 510 units being undertaken by students. This was in part due to a good number of students joining us through the Malyon Learning Hub associated with the Gateway Ministry School and the fairly extensive Facebook and radio advertising with Family Radio and Vision Radio. Second semester enrolments were not quite as strong. This is a fairly common occurrence each year as there are always a number of students who complete their course in the middle of the year. However, the average across the two semesters was around 458 units per semester which equates to approximately 114 full-time equivalent students.

One of the interesting trends we are observing in Christian higher education is that a growing number of students are enrolling in the shorter, one-year diploma and graduate diploma courses. While there are always a number who will graduate and conclude their studies at this point, a significant number are also choosing then to continue on their study journey towards the completion of either their undergraduate degree in ministry or a master’s award. Throughout 2018 we continued to offer courses in the streams of theology, ministry and Christian studies ranging from undergraduate diplomas and degrees to post-graduate and doctoral awards. In 2018 we had five candidates enrolled in either the Doctor of Ministry or Doctor of Philosophy programs.
Once again, throughout 2018 our units were offered in a variety of formats including “in-class,” “online,” “intensive,” and “hybrid” (part intensive and part online). Added to this mix were the trial Malyon Learning Hubs which were operating at the Gateway Ministry School, CrossLife on the Gold Coast and the Bridgeman Baptist Community Church.

Graduation

Each year we have the mixed blessing of farewelling our graduating students. Like many parents whose children finally grow up and leave home, we are often left hoping and trusting that we have made the most of their time with us, and that we have invested wisely and well into their lives, as we watch them move on to the next phase of the journey that God has prepared for them.

On 25 February 2019, the Malyon Graduation Service, held at the Ashgrove Baptist Church, witnessed 59 of our students graduating with awards which ranged from diplomas to bachelor’s and master’s degrees. This was a wonderful service of celebration, as we rejoiced together in not only the students’ achievements, but also in the goodness and grace of God in sustaining each one of them through their years of study. As I watched each one come up to the stage to receive their awards I was filled with gratitude as I reflected on, not only their academic and ministry growth, but the very real and evident personal and spiritual development which has occurred in the lives of so many during their time with us at Malyon. Each, we are trusting, has been further shaped into the image of Christ during their time of study. Each, we trust, has been better equipped to be sharers in the great mission of God in this world, whether that be in pastoral ministry, cross-cultural overseas ministry or in the market-place ministry of life.

Once again, we have been indebted to our Queensland Baptist churches and pastors who enable our students to gain practical experience through their involvement in the field education program of the college. We remain committed to the valuable contribution that the field education program provides in the development of effective pastors and ministry leaders.

Council

The start of 2018 saw a new-look Malyon Council coming together to help process a range of challenges which were set out in a five-year strategic plan which was endorsed by the council at the end of 2017. The new council consisted of Peter Francis (Principal), AJ Culp (faculty representative), Stewart Pieper (QB Acting General Superintendent), Phillip McCallum (QB Director of Admin Services), Matt Hunt (Chairperson), Mark Hodgson, Phil Nickerson, Mark Mackay, Jodi Traves, and Kate Morris (student representative). During the year, Mark Hodgson concluded his second term of service and moved on to serve as a member of the Board of Queensland Baptists. We are incredibly grateful to Mark for his many years of faithful service and the enormous contribution he brought to the good governance of our college. His sharp mind and God-focused business acumen will be greatly missed. We were also particularly blessed in 2018 to have Dr Lindsay Farrell (former associate professor with the Australian Catholic University) join our ranks. He brings with him a deep personal walk with God, together with a vast array of higher education experience and understanding.

New Directions

Among the many challenges to be worked through were matters pertaining to the college name, logo, tagline, vision and purpose statements. After extensive consultation and a healthy processing of these matters between the Council and the members of faculty and staff, the following changes were endorsed by the Board of Queensland Baptists. The rationale behind these changes has also been widely publicised in both the QB Magazine and the Malyon Monthly Updates throughout the year.
Tag Line: More than knowledge

Vision: To form faithful image-bearers of Christ who love God, listen to His Word, serve the church, engage their culture, and are committed to the mission of God in this world.

Purpose: To provide high-quality theological education, forming faithful image-bearers of Christ who love God, know, understand and listen to His Word, faithfully and capably serve the Church, engage with their culture, and are committed to the mission of God in this world; fulfilling the training requirements of Queensland Baptists.

These changes are now reflected in the range of publications through which we seek to promote the ministry of Malyon Theological College.

Faculty and Staff

Throughout 2018 our full-time faculty comprised of Peter Francis (Principal; Old Testament Survey and Missions), Charles de Jongh (Academic Dean; Bible, Youth), D Morcom (Church History, Greek Exegesis, Baptist Studies), Ian Hussey (Online Developer, Postgraduate Studies Director; Practical and Pastoral Studies, New Testament), Andrew Dunstan (Theology and Launch Program Director), and AJ Culp (Languages, Old Testament).

Part-time lecturers continue to provide an invaluable contribution in the teaching ministry of the college. In 2018 these included Dave Benson (Practical Theology, Apologetics, Evangelism), Anne Klose (Spiritual Formation, Baptist History), Sue Prince (Pastoral Skills and Methods), Bob Rogers (Field Education), and Steve Forward (Chaplaincy in Educational Settings, Field Ed). Our tutor, Denise Powell, also completed her PhD in 2018 and has begun to take up some teaching responsibilities in the area of New Testament Greek and New Testament studies. We congratulate Dr Denise Powell on her splendid achievement.

AJ Culp, D Morcom and Anne Klose all contributed to the teaching of some of our Master of Arts (MA) units. In semester one, Rev Dr Marc Rader, senior pastor of the Gymea Baptist Church and homiletics lecturer at Morling College, joined us to provide an MA Intensive on the subject of “Preaching Romans.” In semester two, Rev Dr John Sweetman also returned to teach an MA Intensive on “Contemporary Pastoral Relationships.” The MA Intensive with Dr Tremper Longman on “Interpreting the Wisdom Literature” was very well received with quite a number of pastors choosing to audit the unit. The public lecture by Dr Longman was also very well received with visitors filling the chapel for the presentation.

Our students once again derived enormous benefit from the guidance and assistance of Denise Powell who served as our on-campus student tutor, and Don McLellan who provided feedback and support to online students.

Russell Matthews continues to provide outstanding service to the college in overseeing the day-to-day operations and leading the support staff. In 2018 this highly effective team consisted of Jonathan Lamprecht (Student Support Officer), Krystal Lopez-Barahona (Communications and Promotions Officer), Paula Tobin (Bursar), and Jackie Morcom (Office Assistant).
Jill Walker has continued to provide an invaluable service in maintaining our library and answering the plethora of questions that come from faculty and students alike. Throughout the year she was regularly assisted by volunteers Margaret deMaria, Sue Kingsford and Michael Simmill. After many years of faithful service, we said farewell to Michael Simmill who felt that he was due to ‘shelve his last book.’ The Lord bless you Michael for your faithful service to us. In March 2018 Cornel Visagie joined our team of library volunteers and Maree Colledge also gave valuable assistance throughout the middle part of 2018.

Taking Malyon to the People

In keeping with our five-year strategic plan, and the commitments made towards the establishment of Malyon Learning Hubs, three hubs were trialled over the course of 2018. The take-up from the Gateway Ministry School was strong and served to support their already extensive internship program. Having said that, we soon discovered that some of the government regulations surrounding the funding of such programs was not as straightforward as we had hoped. The end result was that, while we continued with Gateway throughout the whole year, we have not been able to sustain this program into 2019.

Hubs were also run at the CrossLife Church on the Gold Coast and at Bridgeman Baptist Community Church on the northside. Each of these trial locations have taught us much and have helped to clarify what can and can’t be done in providing an economically and practically sustainable model for the hubs.

At the moment we are continuing to explore ways of establishing a more viable long-term approach to learning hubs which may serve our growing online community of students.

In 2018, Dave Benson continued to develop the use of Zoom technology in connecting with his online students. This has allowed the live-streaming of lectures for online students and even given them the opportunity of participation in classroom discussions. While in 2018 we had one lecture room set up with the technology to facilitate this, in 2019 we will have two classrooms set up in this fashion, making it possible for more members of faculty to trial this approach.

The Malyon Centres - Malyon Leadership, Malyon Traverse, Malyon Workplace, Malyon Preaching

In 2018 Dave Benson took on a significant amount of the responsibility for the oversight of the Malyon Leadership, Malyon Traverse and Malyon Workplace Centres. Andrew Sercombe, at Gateway Baptist Church, and a team of capable young adults provided some great leadership for the NeoLeader aspect of the Leadership Centre. This leadership included the running of the NeoLeader Conference at Riverlife Baptist Church together with a series of NeoLeader nights in more regional centres. These night gatherings brought together over 350 young leaders over the course of the year as they gathered at Gateway, Bridgeman Downs, Riverlife and Toowoomba Community Churches. All of this has been supported by the reinvigoration of the NeoLeader website and the posting of regular blogs by developing leaders.

Dave Benson has continued to provide the leadership for Traverse, the Malyon Centre for Bridging Church and Culture. In this capacity Dave has been invited to speak in a wider variety of settings as well as maintaining his commitment to the provision of a range of valuable resources for those who are seeking to intentionally make the connect between their Christian faith and the rapidly changing culture in which we find ourselves.

Unfortunately, in 2018 the funding for the “Workplace Centre” finally ran out after a number of years of very successful operation. We are deeply indebted to Chris Gribble who so capably took up the leadership of this centre following on from the excellent leadership provided by Murray Wright.
Ian Hussey has enthusiastically taken on the leadership of the Malyon Preaching Centre and in February 2018 ran a successful Preaching Conference with Rev Dr Marc Rader providing some extremely helpful insights into the preaching of the Old Testament book of Numbers.

**Thanks and Praise**

2018 was a very full, exciting and challenging year. It seemed at times that every day brought with it new and fresh challenges. Yet, I am pleased to report that at every step in the journey, God has wonderfully guided and provided. As previously indicated, I have been greatly encouraged by the level of commitment and support shown by all of the staff and faculty as well as the Malyon Council and QB Board. As I have continued having opportunities to minister in local churches of a Sunday, I have been greatly encouraged by the desire of many to grow in both their personal walk with Christ and their commitment to sharing in the great mission of God in this world. If you are one of those people, then Malyon Theological College might just be the place to further your knowledge and understanding of God’s Word and his greater purpose for your life.

*Rev Dr Peter Francis  
Malyon Theological College Principal*
Like most ministries, the Mission to Queensland (MTQ) team has faced its share of challenges in the past year. The review of our life and work has been an opportunity to reflect deeply together upon what Jesus is saying to us and to measure our determination to be obedient. The way in which we seek to fulfil the Lord’s Commission is right at the forefront of our considerations and MTQ has sought to play its part in all that.

It has been especially helpful from July to December 2018 to have Jon Thorne join the MTQ team alongside myself and Kirsten Bungey. His presence on the team has been strategic, working with me to develop specific projects for furthering the effective influence of the life and work of leaders, members and churches within our family. I pay tribute to him and Kirsten for all their hard work over this last year.

One of the planting couples who worked with MTQ over recent years have now entered retirement on the grounds of ill-health. Graham and Ros Ballin began a simple church work at Forest Beach (near Ingham) and developed by their gracious lives, a network of people some of whom began a walk of faith with them in community. Graham and Ros have had to let that work go as the demands on Graham’s health have become more and more difficult. Yet, in all of this, the faith of our friends has been solid and true. I pay tribute to them as people with mission on their hearts and minds. Pray for the presence of the Father to be multiplied to them both in these days.

There have been some exciting things to report too. Here’s a few summaries:

- Peter and Christine Coates have begun a work at Boulia alongside their Scripture Union work. Their passion for the Queensland remote outback is truly amazing;
- Beenleigh Baptist (Steve Twible) have begun a work called Restore to create a pathway of faith and integration back into life for men coming out of prison. John Petrak and Gerald Ross provide energetic leadership;
- Forest Lake have released Geoff and Hayley Eggins for a new work to serve a nearby community with a real open-handed grace;
- We have welcomed an existing church called Willowburn into our family. This work is in Toowoomba. A great leadership team includes Adrian Park and Ben McIntyre;
- Hosanna Townsville commenced in July. This church belongs to a prolific network of new works known under the Hosanna network led by Joshua Avia.

It has also been great to see Enoggera Baptist Church wrestling with their own sense of call to the inner city and a great core-group has been forming in order to do what Jesus is saying. In fact, the inner-city focus is also evident in the planning of Gateway for a new campus on the south side of the river (Southbank) to be led by Andrew Sercombe and a work in New Farm by New Heart church with a team forming now for that project. It has also been great to hear from James Baker and his call to plant a work among the surfing community of the top end of the Sunshine Coast.

Key opportunities at Ripley and Aura remain before us and I would ask for your prayers that God will open the doors for us and appoint the leaders we need, in order to bring the good news of the kingdom into these massive new developments.
You may not be aware of everything on the website. If you go to www.qb.com.au you will find the QB site and under “Ministries” you will find the MTQ page. There is a lot here for you to use if you are considering planting or are already on the journey. You will find the way to apply for LAUNCH status as a new church; you will find information on the role of a Support Church; a basic constitution that you can use to begin the process; help to find the right people when you are thinking about banking, insurance and child safe policies and strategies. Plus, there are lots of resources including excerpts from the 2018 Inspire conference. This is open and I encourage you to take the time to visit the site.

The team and I have been working on a number of things over these last months. Here are some summaries:

- we’ve reviewed the vision for MTQ. I believe that if we plant churches, we MAY get disciples; but if we focus on making disciples, we WILL get churches - lots of them! As the review process continues, I hope that this re-visioning of MTQ will provide support for the new opportunities before us;
- we’ve begun a process to prepare a series of short films on some of the works going on in Queensland to help tell the story of our call to mission more helpfully. A couple of these will be in circulation in 2019;
- we are surveying all the MTQ churches on the question of support - not just for planters but also their spouses. Getting this right is so important in terms of ensuring the long-term health of our key leaders in this important aspect of our mission. More on this later;
- In February a team of five QB leaders will be trained by MTQ through The Christian Coaching Institute to become the first Coaching Team for MTQ planters. This will mean that a process of discernment; a training pathway and quality coaching support will now be in place;
- And in May (just next month) the annual Inspire Conference will be held - In Townsville, Brisbane and Toowoomba. The leaders coming are Hugh Halter, author of “The Tangible Kingdom” based in the US and Craig Ogden an Anglican minister involved in Missional Community in Melbourne. You will find a copy of the flyer for the event at the end of this report.

There is a burden on my heart for whole state. I dream of our work to extend the kingdom in a way that means small towns and villages in remote parts of the state will burst into life every bit as much as it would in a town, or city suburb. It won’t require buildings, but it will require leaders. It will need disciples of Jesus, when they move from place to place, sensing the call of Jesus to start a work that will give witness to the resurrection and the offer of life to us from Jesus. It will mean that if Queensland Baptists are a movement, it will be a network of people all working at the same thing - disciples making disciples making disciples.

Blessings

Colin Stoodley
Mission to Queensland Leader
QB Kids and their Families

(The QB Kids & their Families team: Ps Bruce Eckersley, Ps Tracy Valentine, Ps Julie Terry and Mrs Leeana McCullough)

The QB Kids team again celebrates a blessed year of growing relationships & seeing churches invest in their support of families. We have seen teams of children’s ministry leaders assess their culture, consider their approaches, and learn how to love and disciple children in fresh, innovative ways. We have loved walking the journey with these teams and believe God is at work doing new things throughout our QB children’s & family ministry family. All glory to Him for an incredible year.

Networking Visits

The primary (and my personal favourite) focus of the QB Kids & their Families team is to meet with and support individual people & teams of children’s ministry leaders in their local church efforts. We have travelled, once again, far and wide to hear what God is doing and how disciples are being made across QLD. We consider it a privilege to be invited to these local churches and truly love equipping leaders & teams to do what God has called them to. It looks different in each place, and yet, there are trends and similarities that unify us as a movement.

This past year we visited Cairns, Mt Isa, Townsville, Rockhampton and many south-east QLD & Brisbane locations to lead training, workshops, be part of family Sunday services and more. In many of these places we have met with parents, pastors and leaders alike to discuss the topic of ‘the Theology of Family’ and ‘How to Develop Life-Long Faith in Today’s Kids’. The response from churches has been earnest and encouraging as we see teams looking for new ways to go beyond teaching faith ‘informationally’ to truly seeking how to develop & nurture true and real faith in our young people. It has been the most encouraging year yet to hear discussions around the tables at these workshops and to hear church teams & parents wanting to invest time and work into this important space.

QCMN/IGNITE Conference

Our partnership with the inter-denominational Queensland Children’s Ministry Network has continued, as has our consequential involvement in the corresponding IGNITE Children’s Ministry Conference and Expo. Annually, it is the largest children’s ministry conference in the state (over 800 Christian leaders & team members gather) and QB delegates were once again the biggest cohort of the conference – over 200 of us travel in to be a part of the day. There are over 70 electives designed to equip us for ministry, and we worship together, hear from informative key note speakers and develop our skills for this work together. It is always a highlight for the year!

In addition to the Saturday conference, our very own Ps Tracy Valentine runs a ‘leader of leaders’ retreat on the Friday beforehand at Gateway Baptist. Many of our key leaders enjoy a refreshing day of input at this Ignite Summit retreat. Thank you, Tracy, for your continued efforts in this conference – we look forward to it every year.

August Event

Another highlight this year was our annual August event and this year we celebrated with an Appreciation Dinner for our many local Brisbane & south-east QLD team leaders and we enjoyed
evening spurring one another on over great food and praising God for His goodness to us as we look towards the future.

**Partnerships with QB Ministry Team**

This year we were blessed to have partnerships with the wider QB ministry team and beyond. We were able to attend and be involved in the ReView Summit Conference, (focusing on evangelism for our QB churches), the Anew QB Women’s conferences, Malyon events such as Collaborate, and the QB Youth camp. Aaron Fozzard and I were also able to join leaders for youth and children’s ministry from around Australia at the annual Australian Baptist Ministries gathering in November to talk about what is happening nationally in Baptist churches. These partnerships bring strength to our strategy and unify God’s mission to make disciples of young people in our churches. A big thank you to the leaders who have included us in their events.

**New Website**

2018 brought a fresh start for our online ‘home’ – a brand-new website, (kids.qb.org.au). This has enabled us to keep events, news, articles and resources all up to date and has been vital in our connection with more leaders across the state. Of particular interest has been our ‘Resources’ page. This is arranged by category and is made available for churches and leaders to find the best children’s & family ministry resources available.

**National Permanency Conference & ARK event**

In November of 2018 I attended the Adopt Change: National Permanency Conference on behalf of QB. It is the largest conference in the nation discussing permanent homes for children living in out-of-home care. This year, in Australia alone, there are around 50,000 children living away from their natural families in both foster and kinship care. The Christian church at large has not had a loud voice into this space in recent years so it was such a blessing to be part of the day and to ‘come to the table’ on this issue representing Queensland Baptist churches. The response was encouraging and welcoming and we look forward to building more relationships and growing our impact in this area, that the churches may be known for their efforts in providing loving homes & families for the many hurting children in our state.

Additionally, in April this year we hosted leaders from a church organisation called ARK (Australians Rescuing Kids) who spoke at two Brisbane events. The events were for parents, carers, church members and leaders. They provided helpful insight, information and support for those looking to foster care as a ministry, or for those who wish to support foster carers in their work. We intend to partner further with ARK in their support of foster carers in our churches.

**You Parties**

To this end, QB Kids & their Families has been working on a project to develop a resource for churches to help care for children in foster care. ‘You Parties’ is a resource to help local church teams partner with foster families and help them celebrate their foster children – many of whom have not ever had a birthday party, or understand that they are worth celebrating. We are hopeful this resource will help the local church reach out to foster families, and bless them as they care for these children, and raise the profile of the incredible work of foster families.

We intend to roll out this resource and make it available in 2019, so we thank Baplink for their sponsorship and support as we launch it this year. If you or your church team is interested in this
ministry and resource, you can visit youparties.org.au or email myself at youparties@qb.org.au and we would love to help you get started.

CRI

As we do each year, we extend a special thank you to our CRI point person of QB – Ps Julie Terry. Each year Julie spends considerable amounts of time travelling, corresponding with and training many CRI instructors across our state that we may be equipped to be in schools and share the hope of Jesus. We also thank the many volunteers of this ministry in their local churches who spend their time each week preparing lessons, instructing in class and building relationships with their local school to create gospel sharing opportunities. While we share our hope, we should make the most of the opportunities, so we thank and encourage those who invest in CRI in local state schools.

We look forward to the new year in 2019 with hope and assurance that God will continue to do His work in and through our QB churches, teams and ministry leaders, that many more families and young people will come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Thank you to all the leaders, church teams and especially to the QB Kids and their Families team, for their efforts and sharing their gifts with us and for investing in the faith of this generation.

Sally Contessi
Team Leader
2018 was a big year for the Qld Baptist Women’s ministry. This was our first year running our conferences under the Anew Conference Banner, with the focus on being ‘Women with a heart for change’, which includes:

- Change within – to know we are deeply loved by our Heavenly Father. Isaiah 43:4
- Change in those around us – to deeply love those around us and to share God’s love with them.
- To work towards changing the world for those in poverty by prayer, giving and going. Proverbs 31:8-9, Psalm 82: 3-4

This moves the focus from ourselves to others, and with God’s leading we can change the lives of others in our world, and those in the world living in poverty; to share the love of Jesus in whatever ways we are able.

In 2018 Anew Conferences ran four conferences and two weekend retreats across the state. This year was the beginning of the transition to our new branding and as such numbers were slightly lower than the previous year.

Our theme for the year was ‘Reflect God’s Love’, 2 Corinthians 3:18.

We started our year off in May in Longreach with women coming from Emerald, Blackall and surrounding areas to meet together at Longreach Baptist Church. We were welcomed with open arms and spent some wonderful time with the women over the two days of the conference worshipping, praying and sharing. Bronwen Healy was the speaker and the women really appreciated her words from God, her vulnerability and openness to share. Longreach is a really special place and we look forward to heading back out there in future years to share with the women.

Our second conference for the year was at Innisfail Baptist Church. This conference draws women from all over Far North Qld, Atherton, Mareeba, Cairns, Tully and everywhere in between. Again, Bronwen Healy spoke at this conference on reflecting God’s love and we had beautiful worship and prayer ministry. We are loving having Shannon Perrett from Mareeba on the Anew conference team and she did a great job hosting this conference.

Our first weekend retreat for the year was at Mt Tamborine. Such an awesome venue and a great place to get away and spend time with God. This camp is always a small group of women, but with that comes a beautiful intimacy together as we share our lives, pray for each other, worship together and share meals together. On the Friday night we spent time in the onsite chapel in worship and sharing together. Charissa Steffens was our speaker for this event and Shauna Gallagher shared around communion. The women went home on Sunday ready to share God’s love.

Mapleton was again our largest event. Mapleton is such a stunning venue and draws women from across Queensland to attend. Friday night this year we changed from a fun night to a night with music and a speaker. We were very blessed to hear from Katisa Adelaide as she played her special kind of violin, looping and sharing songs that she’d written with us. This was followed by a message from ex-Channel Nine newsreader Heather Foord, sharing God’s Word with us around her own
experiences. This was a great night and we received some good feedback from the women. Our main speaker for the weekend was Karen Wilson (Australian Baptist Women National Director), and Shauna Gallagher again shared around communion. We were privileged to have Gershon Nimbalker (Advocacy Manager from Baptist World Aid) come and share with us about his work. He also ran a workshop on advocacy and what we can do to make changes in the world. We also had our own Sally Contessi from QB Kids and Families come and share about kid’s ministry in a workshop on the Saturday afternoon. Add in beautiful worship, prayer ministry, time spent with friends sharing around meals and it was a wonderful weekend, enjoyed by all who attended.

This year we headed off to Biloela late in the year, and due to some other events on in the area we had smaller numbers this year, however this didn’t stop it from being another wonderful weekend with women coming from all over Central Queensland and even up into North Queensland. Charissa Steffens was the speaker and shared around the theme ‘Reflect God’s Love’. We felt very welcomed by Biloela Baptist Church and are privileged to have Nat Stanley from Biloela Baptist on our Anew Conference team and heading up our Prayer Network. This weekend was an intimate time of prayer, sharing, worship and the Word.

Dalby was our final conference for the year. Bronwen Healy was the speaker and we were blessed by prayer ministry, worship and spending time sharing over a meal. We were welcomed warmly by the Dalby Baptist Church and are very thankful to them for hosting our event and our team.

At most of the events this year we also watched a documentary called ‘The True Cost’, which is about fast fashion, ethical fashion and we learnt about what we can do to make a difference to those in the supply chain by how we purchase our clothing. It’s another way we can help to make changes in the world.

We were again privileged and thankful to have some of the Baplink staff with us at all our events, helping us out in many ways from setting up, playing in the worship team, to keeping flies off the food in Innisfail! At each event they shared with us, not only about what Baplink do, but also shared some of their stories which really resonated with us as women.

It was great to have Brent Van Mourik from Baptist World Aid with us again this year for most of our conferences. Brent shared the work of Baptist World Aid and his trip to Bangladesh in early 2018.

At each event we have a time of giving towards the work of Baptist World Aid’s Vulnerable Children Fund and opportunities for Child Sponsorship, and in 2018 we raised a massive $29,850. One of the great things is that out of this amount we have 19 new child sponsorships, which are ongoing and lifechanging for children, families and whole communities! We are thankful for the incredible hearts of the women in Queensland to give out of what they’ve been blessed with to help those in poverty and great need throughout our world.

We are thankful to each and every church that hosted us in 2018, and for all the families that billeted us in the local areas. We couldn’t do what we do without you! We are also thankful to QCCC Mapleton and Mt Tamborine for looking after us so well at our weekend retreats and for all the work they put in to make our weekends so great.

Personally, I am thankful for the team God has placed around me and for the women from across the state who faithfully pray for our team and that God will lead and guide us as we seek His leading. This year I have felt God’s leading to move our conferences around in 2019 and I am excited to be doing this.
In 2019 we have a few ‘firsts’; Mt Isa, Crosslife Helensvale, and Gladstone, as well as revisiting Atherton for a weekend retreat, Mapleton (with a date change), and Mackay. We are looking forward to breaking new ground and to be sharing God’s love and salvation across these new places in Qld in 2019.

*Cathy Knechtli*

*State Director*
This last 12 months has been huge and exciting for QB Youth and Young Adults. QBY&YA have successfully completed a second State Youth Camp, grown the annual Youth & Young Adults Pastors/leaders/teams Retreat, re-visioned the 3Dm project, and had openings across the State to meet more Youth and Young Adult Pastors and leaders.

KEY FOCUS AREAS

Our Second State Youth Camp

The State youth camp was a success with 222 attending from 17 churches. The churches represented the east coast, from Gold Coast to Townsville. As QCCC and QBY&YA value collaboration, we again partnered to see this event come together, and both were blessings to the other. This event was met with great feedback and demand for future camps, and longer ones. God was glorified and the attenders were sent back with the challenge to be disciples that are discipled and disciple others.

January 20th – 22nd in 2020 will see our third SYC. During the next 6 months the team will be recruiting new team members, setting the direction for the camp, and gathering buy-in from more churches.

QBY&YA Pastors/Leaders/Teams Retreat

At the time of writing, Retreat 2019 is in the midst of last-minute preparations. The retreat will see multiple speakers who all contribute to the wider vision of Missional Discipleship. This retreat will see ChildSafe training, interfaith training, sexuality/identity training, personal pastoral care training, and adolescent phases training. All this training is to help our Next Generations’ leaders lead better in the age they live.

3Dm Re-Visioned: Missional Discipleship

“‘Missional Discipleship’ is a term that refers to people who are disciples of Jesus who intentionally and organically make disciples where they are, as they are convicted by Holy Spirit. This term also emphasises the training for mission, discipleship, and leadership.”

Over the last three years the Queensland Emerging Leaders Huddle has become the oversight team for QB Youth & Young Adults. Together we have created rhythms that are helpful for the growth and development of the huddle, and each member has put in place rhythms that are helpful for them, their families, and ministries to create a discipling culture. With this focus and God’s direction we have made missional discipleship one of our key areas for QB Youth & Young Adults. One of the landmarks of this was our taster day last October at Connect Church Deagon. This event was small, yet very well received. As this year goes on, we will be looking to expand the huddle into more huddles, having two learning communities, and having more missional discipleship conversations with leaders.

Neoleader

As the Neoleader Board considers how we can run events outside the South East, I look forward to the opportunities these events will create. My role will primarily be to connect, develop, and facilitate possible conferences for the regions.
S.E.N.S.E (Support, Encourage, Network, Strategize, Engage)

Sense is going well, and more doors are opening across the State. I am meeting with more pastors and leaders more frequently. The conversations are engaging and my knowledge of the spiritual, theological and socio-economic climate of Queensland is increasing.

WHAT IS NEXT?

These are a list of projects in the pipeline:

- Neoleader Regional
- Website and Social Media
- Resourcing and training

PRAYER POINTS:

- Retreat 2019

Pray that all who attended have the right conversations with their seniors and uplines. Pray for them as they dig into Jesus for their character and courage to help their teams focus on Godly character while developing competencies in ministry.

- Website and Social Media

Praise Jesus, He is speaking into the online presence space. Pray for the right team to come together with effective and creative ideas for this potentially massive resource tool.

- Missional Discipleship

Praise Jesus for the opportunity to grow and be trained in this effective discipleship/leadership tool. Pray that, missional discipleship will not be a buzz phrase, but a discipling culture will arise across our state, nation, and world.

- S.E.N.S.E.

Praise Jesus, He has opened doors across Queensland for more conversations, pastoral care, strategizing, and engaging in the mission of creating a discipleship culture. Pray that He will continue this growth, and more doors will open.

- FINANCIAL

Praise Jesus, He has opened funds to allow me to minister in the capacity I have. Pray that more funds are placed into this ministry area so that more can be done for a longer time.

Aaron Fozzard

QBY&YA Ministry Team Leader
CAMPFIRE Internship: In response to the Board initiative for pro-active discipleship QCCC invested significantly in the CAMPFIRE Internship program. The program commenced in 2017 and we were delighted to graduate two of them at the end of 2018. Over the two years it would be fair to suggest they had transitioned from boys to men, experiencing spiritual growth and receiving their qualifications in Outdoor Recreation, setting them up for a career in our industry. They were able to participate in ministry camps and will take part in a mission trip in 2019. One has remained in employment with QCCC and the other has returned to his home-town St George but has been told the door is always open to his return to QCCC. One of the interns married his bride early last year and this couple appreciated spending their first year of marriage surrounded by mature Christian couples willing to invest in their future. It has been gratifying to graduate the first interns and see the growth and change in their lives. We believe discipleship is caught, not taught, and our plans for this discipleship internship is for it to be the pipeline for committed and foundationally trained missional staff into our programs and operations.

Entering 2019 we have three second years in the internship and have accepted a further two young men as first years. We have also had preliminary discussions with Crosslife Church (Upper Coomera) about a plan to extend the internship program to QCCC Tamborine. We are deeply grateful for the involvement of Billy Williams in the internship program, working with the interns to give them their “transcendent experiences” and Doug Ensbey who meets with them weekly to discuss the foundational orthodoxies of Christianity.

QB State Youth Camp: Technically the second event of the Youth Camp (QBSYC) was held in 2019 but all the preparation was done in 2018. The 2019 version attracted 222 campers from as far away as Dalby and Whitsundays. We are very glad to partner with QB Youth in the event, subsidizing the camp as much as we are able. NCLS data tells us nearly 50% of conversions happen in a camp context and the QBSYC (and several other youth camps held at all venues over the summer) saw many people decide to follow Christ or elect to be baptized. We particularly commend the approach taken by QB Youth with this camp, avoiding the shallow bells and whistles we see from some other denominations, instead putting the emphasis on a deep and relational discipleship. Each teaching session is followed by a small group discussion with church youth leaders which gives us great confidence the good work done on camp will be well followed up when they return to their home churches.

Triballink Cultural Activities Centre: In the first half of 2018 the Triballink Cultural Activity Centre was built into the rainforest at QCCC Mapleton. Offering six daytime activities, and night time meals and corroboree shows, the first stage of the Triballink Centre allows Mapleton to offer a comprehensive and experiential Aboriginal & Cultural Awareness activities. This is all part of a strategic decision to create a reconciliation focus at Mapleton, using the national focus on reconciliation to point towards God’s reconciliation focus for humanity and His Creation.

Triballink was visited by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Hon Nigel Scullion MP who described it as a “nation changing project” before delivering $454,000 in funding. This will be used to enhance the experience at the Triballink Centre, taking it from functional to remarkable. It will also pay for a mobile classroom, mobile kitchen and an eco-dining deck at QCCC Mapleton for night-time events. The recent purchase of the neighbouring Kidcaff Farm, a property identified in 1983 as critical to Mapleton’s long-term future, will be integral to the success and growth of Triballink. Not only will it be
used for outdoor education activities and farm experiences, it will also be planted out to commercial quantities of indigenous bush food for experiential activities and paddock-to-plate opportunities at Triballink. One of the greatest challenges we faced with Triballink in 2018 was curbing enthusiasm from all levels of government, and commercial operators, who would have us expand it quickly and significantly. We have plans for future stages of Triballink but wish to develop them in a way that is consistent with the gospel foundations of the venture.

**Northern venue:** QCCC’s Director inspected a remarkable property in the Atherton Tablelands in July 2018 at the urging of local churches. It would make strategic sense for QCCC to have venues in Cairns and/or Townsville to prepare for the expected exponential growth of international school programming from Asia in Queensland’s winter months. However, until the QB Review process is complete it seems prudent for QB’s ministries to curtail significant long-term strategic decisions and expenditure.

**QCCC Brookfield (Capacity 150):** Brookfield remains the steady achiever of QCCC’s stable of venues. Its Brisbane location means it is still highly sought after for weekend groups and attracts schools looking for Brisbane-based programs and camps, though site income has levelled off as it has reached full capacity in most of the peak months. We have been able to expand the dining area with a much-requested outdoor dining area to enhance the exceptional Christian hospitality the site has established a reputation for. To take Brookfield to the next level of ministry delivery the concept plans for its Leadership Studio will need to be realized. This venue would be a remarkable leadership training venue using the timeline of Australian history and its Judeo-Christian heritage to provide leadership training to senior schools and corporates.

**QCCC Mapleton (Capacity 300):** Triballink will keep Mapleton at the forefront of consciousness of school demand, and a minor refurbishment of all Mapleton’s accommodation was completed in 2018. Kidcaff Farm provides an opportunity to re-orient and renew Mapleton’s Outdoor Education focus away from activities which have become commercially popular in the recreation industry (especially ziplines and high ropes) towards group-oriented, team-building options which create greater opportunity for relational and spiritual growth. For decades Mapleton has been Queensland’s pre-eminent Christian campsite and Outdoor Education Centre. We are constantly challenged by the foresight and vision shown by the site’s founders and propelled by the opportunity to realize the fullness of their vision.

**QCCC Tamborine: (Capacity 287):** 2018 will be a seminal year for QCCC Tamborine courtesy of a large and lucrative contract to house the security personnel for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. The site experienced firsthand the media reports of lack of organization from Games organizers (GOLDOC) and obnoxious behaviour of a minority of the security staff. Some other venues evicted their security staff whilst QCCC Tamborine became GOLDOC’s go-to venue for the malcontents because of our success winning them over (with copious amounts of good food). This did not stop the venue from unfairly becoming the media target for poor living conditions for security staff, with one sacked contractor suggesting the accommodation options for security staff meant they were being “treated like prisoners in a work camp”. It is an example of how far community expectation for accommodation has come, given the accommodation at Tamborine, for the most part, is better than what was provided the professional athletes at the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

The silver lining from the back-breaking work of the Games fortnight in April was an operating surplus which has been put to good use to create a new site reception and administrative space. Staff had been crowded into a space originally built for the 70-bed Tamborine Lodge facility which was wholly unsuitable for a modern 300-bed campsite, and an unprofessional first impression for site visits. Tamborine’s occupancy is growing steadily, doubling over the last decade. One of the reasons for this is the opportunity to provide Outdoor Education activities through our partnership with Vertec Adventure, an excellent Christian Outdoor Education provider.
**QCCC Expeditions:** The focus of QCCC Expeditions has shifted to a more intimate approach, providing expeditions for smaller groups which gives time for more interaction and spiritual input with participants. We are concentrating efforts on the wonderful assets nearby to Mapleton, particularly the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Great Walk and Moreton Bay/Pumicestone Passage.

**QCCC Outback:** QCCC had to let some staff go to balance budgets and an internal review concluded the campsite at St George is excess to requirements. While the site had potential for collaborative ministry with other QB ministry expressions and QB schools, this could still be some way off, and there may be better options closer to the Coast. QCCC therefore reluctantly relinquished the lease back to Sunwater.

Through January 2019 our estimate is more than 200 people came to Christ across QCCC’s three venues at multiple events, most of them young people. Many more young people decided to be obedient to the call of Baptism, another of the Bible’s great, transcendent acts of Outdoor Education. QCCC’s has 130 staff, the majority Christians, and hosts more than 50,000 guests annually. Please join with us in prayer and celebration as we minister to so many lives in Queensland and beyond.

*Andrew Grant*
*Director*
*Queensland Conference and Camping Centres*

[QCCC Logo]

[www.qccc.com.au]
For the Regional Consultancy Team, 2018 has been a year of change, reviewing and reflecting and a year of determination to keep serving the Lord through his Queensland Baptist churches to the best of our ability.

Early in 2018, with the exit of our previous General Superintendent and the QB review in full swing, it was decided not to continue with the replacement of a Regional Consultant in North Queensland. With Stewart Pieper stepping up to be the Acting General Superintendent, the Regional Consultancy Team comprised of Stephen Ball and Pieter Henning full time and Emil Rahimov 3 days a week.

To share the load of serving the churches Stewart Pieper has, in addition to his Acting General Superintendent role, continued to act as the Regional Consultant for the Brisbane Bayside area. The rest of the churches have been shared between the other 3 regional consultants.

During this time of additional responsibilities, we thank Susan Harris who has provided excellent support as the personal assistant to the Regional Consultancy team. Col Peaker also came out of retirement to provide support to the team when several members of the team had periods of extended leave.

Whilst the Board has provided leadership in seeking the future direction and structure for Queensland Baptists, the Regional Consultancy team has continued to seek to maintain a sense of stability and service in the operational areas of Queensland Baptists.

**Personal Reflections from each of the Regional Consultants**

**Pieter Henning says**

The past year has certainly been one of significant impact with the RC team having to operate with a significantly reduced team compliment. This resulted in a “responsive approach” being adapted by the team rather than any significant proactive new initiatives being launched. Local pastors and churches were informed of this reality and they responded positively assuring the RC team of their support and assistance where needed. Area Coordinators have been especially helpful during this
time and those supporting Central Queensland, Far North Queensland and North Queensland were seconded to taking on additional functions because of no resident RC living in the northern regions, and they have been a tremendous help during this time. Our sincere thanks to them all. There were a minimal number of conflicted church situations in rural and remote regions which were settled around mid-year. I wish to thank and compliment our QB pastors and churches for staying the course in maximising their effectiveness for the sake of the Gospel within their community contexts. Our thanks to Col Peaker for making himself available to assist the team during times of staff long-service leave. Opportunities to preach and visit churches have been cherished and appreciated with pastoral registration process interviews affording good connection times. Mediation in conflicted situations, involvement with pastoral search teams and pastors in transition have kept us very busy as well as ongoing liaison with pastors and churches regarding the QB review outcomes and restructuring processes. I have certainly appreciated and wish to express my thanks to the RC team and QB staff for their leadership and support during the past year.

Emil Rahimov says

I would like to thank God for the help and support during these transitional times, when we as a team have shared more responsibility in looking after churches and pastors. In my role I continued to support pastors and churches in my area of Ethnic and Multicultural ministries as well as the Gold Coast and Brisbane East areas. Some of our Ethnic churches have just been formed and their needs are somewhat different to the ones that are already settled in Queensland. Other Ethnic churches have been around for more than a generation and face different issues with the generation already born and grown in Australia. In every case, whether the church has just recently been formed or been here for a few years or for more than a generation, it is a ‘tailor-made’ approach that needs to be applied. I see myself as a Regional Consultant not just to Ethnic churches but to wider QB constituency where often I spend time with different QB ministries and non-ethnic churches in helping them to understand and support migrants who the Lord is bringing to our communities.

Part of my role is to help pastors, to encourage and share some tools and strategies for their ministry. I want to thank Qld Baptists once again for putting in the budget a special appreciation lunch for Ethnic Pastors and Spouses. They feel honoured and appreciated. I am glad to see that Ethnic churches continue to become more involved with Qld Baptists and their participation in our shared events such as convention and prayer week is growing. In my role I encourage our Ethnic churches to implement the QB vision and work together as a movement to reach our communities for Christ.

This year we also had a Multiethnic Christmas Carols night service to reach the community. Hundreds of people attended. It was a great demonstration of unity in Christ. My role was to lead the organisation of this event that took place on 1 December at Hosanna Church Logan.

Throughout the year I have had lots of opportunities to preach in churches, to meet with church leaderships and provide guidance and support, to spend time with pastors and their spouses to hear their concerns and to see how Qld Baptists can help them. In all of this and for our QB team I want to thank our Lord Jesus for the past year.

Stephen Ball says

As I write this report I have been a Regional Consultant for Queensland Baptists for 11 years. I have had the privilege of being a small part in what God has been doing in and through Queensland Baptists. A large part of my energy this year has been to seek to maintain some stability and assistance to churches and pastors during this time of review and anticipation of change.

My role this year can be described in three main areas.
The first is in the area of support and encouragement of the pastors and churches in my region. The year started with me serving Sunshine Coast, Brisbane City, Brisbane West and South West Brisbane. In February the Brisbane South and Ipswich West Moreton areas came into my region. I have been blessed with great Area Coordinators in each area who have stepped up even further this year in supporting and encouraging the churches in each of their areas. I have also appreciated the invitations to preach and minister in many of the churches in my region and get to meet the congregations of the churches. We have good churches and dedicated leaders who will stand us in good stead as we move into the future together.

The second area is Pastoral Services and in particular the Formation and Supervision of New Ministers. I have continued to provide ongoing support and energy into our new registration system and continue to monitor and encourage the supervision of our newly registered pastors. In November 2018 we had our second New Pastors Conference with 13 registered ministers supervised participating from all around the state. This was a great time of equipping and encouragement. Thanks to all who presented and to the churches for releasing their pastors for this three-day conference. We continue to have a steady flow of applications to become registered pastors. At the end of 2018 we had 23 new ministers being supervised and this number will continue to grow significantly in 2019.

The third area is in assisting and supporting our Acting General Superintendent in his role. In a time of such change we have been blessed by Stewart Pieper stepping up to the role of Acting General Superintendent. I have particularly sought to be available to help him with relationships with pastors and churches.

Conclusion

If as we expect the review recommendations are accepted by assembly at the April Convention this may well be the last annual report from the Regional Consultancy team. The Regional Consultancy team began in 2002. During that time many have served and made significant contributions to the health and well-being of our movement and made a difference in the lives of many of our pastors and churches. It has always operated collaboratively as a team rather than a group of individuals. In this possibly final report it is appropriate to acknowledge all those who have served in this team over the years (Geoff Cramb, Col Peaker, Peter Francis, David Chatelier, James Baker, Stephen Ball, Steve Twible, Emil Rahimov, Pieter Henning, Stewart Pieper and Warren Crank) and pray that God will continue to bless the part they have played in the growth and development of Queensland Baptists. On behalf of the Regional Consultants both past and present thank you to Queensland Baptists for giving us the opportunity to serve you in this way.

Stephen Ball, Emil Rahimov, Pieter Henning, Stewart Pieper

Regional Consultancy Team
The Training Collaborative

We thank God for his continued grace and leading for the Training Collaborative in 2018. I am pleased to report on the developments and outcomes of the training delivered through QB’s Vocational Training and Education arm.

Together as one

This will be the last report I deliver to you under the banner of The Training Collaborative. From 2019 we will be operating as Malyon Vocational Training. It has been a goal and desire for some time to bring the two accredited training divisions of Queensland Baptist into a closer association and working relationship, and the work done in 2018 towards this end will see this change take place from 2019. We are grateful for the co-operation which has taken place between the two Councils of The Training Collaborative and Malyon College, as well as between the leadership of the two colleges to bring this about. The fruit of this new venture will be the subject matter for the 2019 report, so for now we give thanks for the spirit of cooperation that has gone in to establishing the partnership, and for Rev Peter Francis' leadership in this endeavour.

Ministry Training in 2018

2018 saw the continued expansion of our Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology program which is designed to equip and train people for pastoral ministry in Queensland Baptist churches and new church ventures. There are now 12 pastors, or pastors in training, who are accessing this stream as part of their developmental path to grow in their understanding and practice of ministry. Each semester we add new subjects to the curriculum based on feedback around what pastors identify as their training needs.

You may recall from previous reports that we also have a stream of training in the Diploma directed towards leaders in our Ethnic churches. In 2018 there were 5 more graduates from this program. We ended the year with 20 active students in this stream who are continuing to be trained through this program. It is a diverse group consisting of African and Asian refugees and migrants. In our current cohort there are 8 language groups represented, so you can appreciate the cultural diversity and educational challenges that are associated with this sort of diversity. We are grateful therefore to the leadership provided by our Co-ordinators Greg and Ruth Peckman and our trainers, Neil Bernard and John Peterson who have been working alongside them. The ever-present need for this group of students is for financial assistance as personal funds for their training is limited due to their circumstances. Any support our QB churches and friends can provide is greatly appreciated!

2018 also saw us commence a relationship with the Hosanna network of churches, a group of Baptist churches who operate under the leadership of Pastor Joshua Avia. This growing network of churches will be accessing training for their leaders through a new intensive mode of delivery in 2019.

Our partnership with other QB agencies has continued to grow and deepen throughout 2018. The association with QCCC in the training of their Outdoor Recreation interns is bearing fruit with the first group graduating from this program in 2018. Our combined hope is that we will continue to see a pipeline of people trained to
minister to young people through adventure-based programs and activities. We are also keen to see the expansion of the focus on engaging young people with our indigenous culture and training indigenous leaders. We compliment Andrew Grant and his team on this initiative and are pleased to be associated with this ministry.

Our Certificate IV in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care also continues to provide a strong platform for the equipping of chaplains engaged through Carinity, in our hospitals and prisons, as well as pastoral care workers in our churches. In 2018 we saw 25 graduates from this program, ably assisted through the leadership of our co-ordinator Janelle Tidey. In addition to the accredited training, Janelle also facilitated non-accredited workshops at 5 QB churches to equip people in their understanding and practice of pastoral care. With the rise of awareness around mental health and the desire of our churches to reach out, there is a growing need for well-equipped pastoral care practitioners, and our goal is to be able to facilitate this training, through both an accredited and informal workshop approach. We already have more of these workshops happening in churches in the first few months of 2019 and look forward to serving the churches further through this avenue of training.

How and why we serve

As you can see in what I have reported, our approach to training intentionally looks to serve the needs of the various ministry expressions of Queensland Baptists – local churches, our care division, our camping ministries and our pastoral leaders. It is a privilege to be able to partner alongside these groups and we would invite your feedback into how we can do this better. The end game for us is not about the number of people we train, the production of training resources or building the name of Malyon Vocational Training. Our vision is that through our endeavours, people are more effectively ministering through the Spirit of God to people around them, bringing the life and love of Jesus and seeing His Kingdom realised in people’s lives. This is why we do what we do. So on behalf of our team, thanks very much for the continued support for our ministry within the QB movement.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of those central to our operation – our Manager Christine Thomas, and Administrators Paula Brandon, Paula Tobin and Caryle Frost. Ours is a complex and heavily regulated operation, and without the expertise and hard work of these team members we wouldn’t function.

We look forward to joining with God and partnering with you in 2019 to follow his path for us in serving the QB movement. In this period of change we look forward to the new things that God is going to do and ask for your prayer that we would embrace the opportunities that he opens up for us in the new season ahead.

Andrew McCafferty
Principal The Training Collaborative/Malyon Vocational Training
Queensland Baptists Celebrate!

Newly Constituted Church
Hope Community Baptist Church

Churches Planted
New Covenant Hosanna International Church (Phase 1)
Willowburn Church (Phase 1)
Australian Burmese Christian Fellowship Inc [Brisbane] (Phase 1)

Campus Churches Planted
Gateway Baptist Church – Redlands Campus
Gateway Baptist Church – Logan Campus

Simple Churches Planted
Sandstone Community Church
Boulia Outback Chapel
  Restore
  Hope Tree
  Mt Refuge

Church Mergers and Name Changes
The Hills Christian Family (amalgamated with Keperra Baptist Church)
Faith Christian Church (previously Faith Christian Fellowship)
Mapleton Baptist Church (previously a campus of Lifepointe)

Churches Withdrawn/Closed
Gold Coast Peace Church

Ministers Ordained
Dony Johnson (KawanaLife)  Garry Toms (The Gap)
Garth Nilsen (Toogoolawah)  James Komakech (Logan Grace)
Kennedy Kenyi (Logan Grace)

Newly Registered Ministers
Chris Dobbin (Lifepointe)  Colin Christian (Boonah)
Andrew Stoff (Wynnum)  Dan Sercombe (Birkdale)
Jeff Lawson (Atherton)  Morgan Slykerman (Cooktown)
Jo Leutton (Riverlife)  Lee Nichols (Connect – Deagon)
Christine Neale (Taringa)  Dion Sternberg (Minden)
Susan Elsmore (Gateway)  Daniel Roberts (Clontarf Beach)
Robbie Townsend (Reedy Creek)  Josh Lean (Eastside)

Ministers Transferring Credentials
Wonsoon (David) Jang  
(Korean Evangelical Holiness Church)  
Peter Graham (Mosaic)  
Greg Murphy (Carinity Chaplaincy)  
Steve Stevenson (Lighthouse Logan City)

Mang Bik Cung  
(Qld Chin Christian Church)  
Dan Harding (Meridan Plains)  
Ben Dainton (Gateway)  
Chris Downes (Murgon)