

From the Treasurer

Thanks to the support of member churches and the generosity of a number of our loyal supporters we have covered our costs for the month of November.

As we approach the festive season we ask that you continue to pray for our teachers and their outreach in our local high schools

and that we can continue to cover our costs during the months of December and January which tend to challenge us financially. Please consider giving a gift that will have eternal value, bringing the gospel into the hearts and lives of hundreds of teenagers.

- David Green

Board Members

Austi/Thirroul Anglican

John Armour & David Green

Bulli Anglican

Greg Shipp & Helen Clunas

Bulli Uniting

Jennifer Tibben

Corrimal Anglican

Dave Esdale & Nathan Zorn

Corrimal Community Church

Graeme Hush

Corrimal Uniting

To be appointed

C3 Thirroul

Brendan Elliot & Lindsay Sharp

Woonona Baptist

Karen Bate

Woonona Presbyterian

Anthony Cook

Wollongong Christian Reformed

Heather Grant

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Secretary	Jennifer Tibben	jenti@internode.on.net.au
Treasurer	David Green	deejaygee.dg@gmail.com

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, please email our chairman, John Armour.



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Donate at: <https://www.givenow.com.au/bwcbsspecialreligiouseducation>

Northern Illawarra Combined Churches

Scripture Board Newsletter



Message from the Chairman

The last few months has been an exciting but challenging time for High School Scripture. As always the end of another year brings with it changes and new beginnings. There are a number of scripture teachers who are moving on, leaving positions vacant at their current schools.

We too are in this position as Tanja and family are leaving us to be involved in other ministry opportunities. We praise God for Tanja's faithful service at Bulli High School and for the team she has been managing during her time there. We pray for Tanja and

family as they plan to serve God overseas. May God bless you in your service of Him Tanja!

Please continue to pray for the teachers for the rest of the year and for Tanja's replacement for 2018. Also please pray for our Schools and Principals and staff who are always trying to juggle so many competing events to ensure Scripture continues without too many interruptions from other activities.

- John Armour

From Dal at Woonona

2017 has been a great year of Scripture at Woonona High School. I am thankful for your prayers and support of this ministry throughout the year. This year has been an exciting year and is finishing with a bang.

In the lunch time group we have been reading Revelation and, recently, we discussed the importance of not just being lukewarm for God, but being hot for God. One student yelled out, "Sir, I want to be hot for God!".

That was his first time at lunch time group. Since then he has requested, along with 2 other boys, if they can do work experience with me at school teaching scripture and helping in church. This is really quite amazing as two out of the three the boys have never been to church, one of them had never ever been to youth until the week before work experience starts. They are all really excited about helping out and I am working to create an interesting week for them.

Give thanks such a great opportunity. I also had one student comment to me the other

From Tanja at Bulli

Term 4 at Bulli High is not a Scripture teaching term so we are very glad that the lunchtime group is up and running well now as it is an opportunity for the Christian students to get together and to invite their friends.

I have been able to be involved with primary Scripture through visiting Yr 6 classes feeding into Bulli High and observing some primary Scripture teachers which has been lovely. When needed I am helping Dal at Woonona High and I am preparing for the Scripture seminars in Term 1. We also had a seminar for classroom management,

week, "Sir, I think I really would believe it more if my family was into it." We had a great discussion about investigating faith and how that is a personal journey, he was positive about finding out more. I always find finishing my teaching time with year 10 a bit sad as I have taught many of them for four years, but I am also greatly encouraged at great steps of faith and a willingness to keep on investigating it for themselves. It is always particularly great because we are concluding the gospel of John and seeking to understand the implications of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Please pray for the Year 11 and 12 students. Please pray for good conversations this Christmas season. Thanks so much for your ongoing prayers and support, we couldn't do this vital ministry without you and many students wouldn't have the opportunity to engage with truth about God if Scripture were not available.

God bless,

- Dal Proudfoot

especially related to Scripture in high schools which was very helpful.

This is my last term as Bulli High coordinator so I would really like to show my appreciation to you all for your support and prayers over the last three years and encourage you to bless the next person taking my role as much as you have blessed me! Thank you so much! My family and I are preparing for missionary work in Spain now so I will say Adios (God with you!).

- Tanja French

From Leanne at Corrimal

I am conscious that each time I teach a class at Corrimal High, I do it as part of a team. I may be the one standing in front of the students, seeking to teach them about Jesus, but I couldn't do it without your generous support.

I am very appreciative of your prayerful support as well as the financial and practical support offered by so many of you. So thank you from the bottom of my heart. And as I recently shared with the Principal, I couldn't do this job if I didn't believe that I had our great God's support which I am constantly aware of in the midst of my own weakness.

With the support of our Board I put on a free sausage sizzle for a different year group at Corrimal High each term. This term I was up to Years 8 & 10, although in reality once they'd all had their fill many students from other year groups were also able to enjoy a sausage. Ex-board member Robin Nance (who along with his wife Carol sliced about 15 loaves of bread that they'd picked up from Baker's Delight the night before) and Nathan Zorn helped cook the sausages to free me up to serve and chat with the students. I heard afterwards that two of my more challenging Year 8 students asked the other Christian teacher at school why I would do this for them and she replied "Grace." What a fantastic practical way to

demonstrate one of the great truths of the Bible, especially as we've just celebrated 500 years since the Reformation where the wonderful 5 Solas were rediscovered:

After 5 1/2 years I have finally finished my theological study at Mary Andrews College. What a relief to hand in that last essay! But what a privilege it has been to spend that time studying God's Word so that I can faithfully and truthfully teach it to the students. They are always surprised when I say I've been studying at Bible college and I think it's fantastic that I can tell them that the Bible is such an amazing book that I never stop learning from it.

I would appreciate your prayers as we have another "Toasties and tough questions" at our lunch group. Please pray that the small number of Christian students will have the courage to invite their friends along and that other students will also want to come along - not just for the physical food on offer but also for the spiritual food.

If you don't know what to get your fellow Christians for Christmas may I suggest a gift that may actually last forever - a one off or regular donation to BWCB on their behalf so that the name of Jesus may continue to be proclaimed in our local high schools.

- Leanne Begg

