



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM®

Western Sydney Community Newsletter



SYDNEY REGIONAL
Chrysalis

**Boys and girls
flights 11–14 July
2013
Merroo Centre 3**

Transformation is a journey. The road is rough, filled with many potholes. Help kids arrive safely at their destination by sponsoring them on a Chrysalis flight today! They will thank you when they are Flying with Christ!

From the Word of God:

Luke 11:13

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Acts 2:39

The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

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Have you sponsored yet?

I couldn't sleep the other night, all I could think about was the continual attacks on our young people and the 'status of their relationship with God'.

They're being distracted, threatened and told lies about what faith is.

They are being told that they: are too thin; too fat; too loud; cannot speak about their relationship with God; must conform to the group; speak softly or just go away; believe in lies; are believers of fantasy.

So why are we not doing something about it? Why is it that we are not speaking out and showing them the 'Truth'? Why are we not inviting them to see the Body of Christ in action, being Jesus' 'hands and feet'? They are busy just coping with life and all those worldly distractions. Are we so busy that we cannot sponsor them for Chrysalis? Are our distractions to be added to their distractions?

Why not Chrysalis? I must ask you "why have they not already experienced Chrysalis?" Why have you not already sponsored some young person for the next Chrysalis Flight?

July will be here very soon, you need to download the forms from the website, pray with God about who and how you will sponsor, invite them and explain to them why they should attend, confirm this with their parents, prepare and submit the paperwork and finally, arrange for the payment of fees and get them to their weekend with God. That's right, July 11 is not that far away and there is some work to be done.

<http://www.westernsydney.emmaus.org.au/sydney-regional-chrysalis>

Pete Smith (Chrysalis Director)

REPORT TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The following article will be presented to the 2013 Emmaus National Conference:

"At the 2012 Emmaus National Conference I shared a series of incidents which had our Community feeling very much under attack. However we Christians are very fortunate in having a great God who always has the victory and the huge amount of prayer engendered by these incidents as well as the support given to and received by our brothers and sisters really brought our Community together. We have since had a great year, still with the usual ups and downs but filled with the joy of sharing God's love through Emmaus and Chrysalis.

In May 2012 we held another very successful Going Fourth which buoyed the Community and was a day of fun, praise and worship. I believe that Going Fourth is a great way to uplift and refresh Community members and is an excellent tool to encourage people who have not attended an event for some time to renew their enthusiasm for Emmaus.

This renewal of enthusiasm was reflected in the number of people who stood for election to the Board, resulting in our need to hold a ballot for the first time in several years. The Board members have taken to their tasks with gusto and I greatly appreciate the contributions they make in wisdom, energy and ability. Also, the general Community has demonstrated a willingness to use their gifts and talents in support of the Board and Emmaus.

Our Walks in October 2012 were well supported and attended. We have taken the decision to reduce the number that we book for to a number that has always been attainable so that there is no doubt as to whether or not Walks will proceed. We staff 4 tables, with the option to increase that number. In 2014 we will return to two sets of Walks as we have found that one set makes it difficult to provide continuity of training (i.e. retention of information from one Walk to the next) and makes a very slow progression for team members.

In 2013 our Community is being kept busy with hosting the simultaneous National Conferences

of Chrysalis and Emmaus in May, conducting simultaneous Chrysalis Flights in July and our usual Emmaus Walks in October. There has been a concerted effort to vary the content and location of Gatherings and to introduce Community and Board training.

Our struggles are with "specialised" positions – musos and spiros. The pool of both appears to be getting smaller but we are hopeful that "intentional" sponsorship – to be addressed in the Community training mentioned above – will start to make inroads on these. We are very fortunate in that the smaller numbers that we do have are very willing to serve; nevertheless we hope to be able to spread the load rather than burn people out.

Western Sydney is looking forward to an exciting future where we can bless many more Pilgrims and Caterpillars through the wonderful experience of Emmaus Walks and Chrysalis Flights."

Thank you to everyone for your support and contribution to Western Sydney Emmaus.

De Colores
Pat Kinnear
CLD

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

HIRING NOW! If you can play, we'll double your pay.....

Seriously though, if you play an instrument, and are willing to volunteer, Please contact Liz Bates asap.

We also need kids at heart to play "Bunky", and the occasional I.D.I.O.T.

If this sounds like you, again, please contact Liz Bates.

De Colores

SPONSORSHIP - The most important job of all Bill Harper (Training Director)

Sponsorship begins with discernment!

Sponsors need to seek God's guidance on whom to invite to attend an Emmaus Walk or Chrysalis Flight. Once The WHO is clear, sponsorship involves an ongoing commitment on your behalf that lasts well beyond the invitation and the weekend, but includes long and continued spiritual guidance, friendship and support.

Through you, the sponsor, God personally calls each pilgrim/caterpillar into a deeper relationship with Him. And, since the aim of sponsorship is to revitalize the church, it is important to recruit strong church/youth group leaders, who are in leadership now. And please!, don't forget to invite and bless the "behind the scenes people"; those people who are the 'doers' at church but like to keep in the background. Where would the church/Emmaus be without these saints.

If sponsors are:

- * committed,
- * form and maintain strong spiritual friendships beyond the weekend,
- * discern strong church leadership and/or potential ...

then sponsors will have contributed to the formation and continuation of a healthy local Emmaus/Chrysalis community and a world-changing movement, not to mention, strengthening the local church leadership.

Responsibilities of the sponsor

The sponsor has a long list of responsibilities that extend over a long period of time – from several weeks before the walk, intensively during the walk, to several months after the walk.

Remember, *sponsorship is the first act of Agape.*

Emmaus affirms the sanctity of marriage and commitment of spouses to each other. Therefore presenting Emmaus to both partners may preclude any misunderstanding. When a sponsor meets with a youth and their parents to explain the weekend and issue an invitation; if the parents object to

their child attending, **do not invite the youth to attend.**

Neither Emmaus nor Chrysalis is meant to create a division in households.

Give your prospect an application form and help them fill it out. Answer any questions honestly and check that the application form has been completed correctly.

Once Your pilgrim has been accepted by the board then you can send out your letters. Templates for this correspondence is available from the registrar.

There are a few pastors out there who are anti-Emmaus and I believe, that this is partly because we have not included them in the process. Ask your pilgrim if it is OK to contact their pastor. Meet with the pastor if possible and give them as much information as possible and answer all questions honestly. There is a booklet available for \$10 which would help you do this.

A few days before the walk contact your pilgrim, get them ready; tell them what to pack, encourage and reassure them. Ask them to leave their mobile phones and other electronic gadgets at home. Don't tell them they are going on a hike. Tell them the truth; they are trusting you.

Accompany your pilgrim to and from the walk. Never let them find their own way! This is irresponsible; you are responsible for your pilgrim!

Attend sponsors' hour. This is open to every member of the community whether sponsoring or not. If you can't make it ensure you have asked someone to pray for your pilgrim, especially if you are on team.

It's always a nice surprise when your pilgrim sees your name on the 72 hour prayer vigil, so make sure your name is on it.

Check on your pilgrim's family to see if they need any help. If it's the ladies' candle–

(Continued on page 4)

SPONSORSHIP (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 3)

lighting you may need to baby sit so their partner can attend. Remember! It's a sacrifice! If your pilgrim is single they may have a pet that needs feeding.

The absence of the sponsor during the walk gives the pilgrims the space they need for their own special interaction with and experience of God during the 72 hour walk. Serving on tables can distract them. I have, on many occasions, seen the sponsor go out of their way to give their pilgrim a hug and then talk to them for some time. This can and does distract and upset the pilgrim so I suggest that rather than wait on tables, you could serve in the kitchen. Give your pilgrim space! Especially if you are on team. All pilgrims and team members are to be treated the same. There are no exceptions.

Attend the closing and take your pilgrim home.

Take your pilgrim to gatherings. Not just the first one after the walk, but several. Help your pilgrim join a reunion group and go with them. You become their shepherd, mentor and coach and in that capacity, teach your pilgrim how to sponsor correctly

Many sponsors think they have to pay their pilgrim's fees. You can if you want. However, if the pilgrim pays a non-refundable deposit to you, it makes it harder for them to pull out for no reason.

Sponsor as a reunion group, it will minimise the cost per person. This is good if one of your group members is on team and sponsoring. The group can take over the responsibilities of the sponsor and allow the team member to focus on the walk. If you don't want to sponsor; help someone who does. Do you own a business? You can get involved by gifting.

Think about how you can help.

Sponsorship is the most important job of all.

SOMETHING SPECIAL

Gatherings

A poem by Christina Post ©2006

It's hard to weave without the threads,
There's gaps and holes galore;
And when the threads are old saints dear,
It stands out even more.

Gatherings have been hit hard
The tapestry's worn thin,
It really needs your threads of love
To thicken it again.

We have a task to do for God,
To bring His Kingdom in;
God is counting on us friends,
Some lives for Him to win.

We'd love to see you when we meet;
To share our love for God,
For he has made our life complete,
By His Spirit, through His Word.

Please join us for the gatherings
For a great Emmaus 'meet'
It's held at Blacktown every month
And you'd make it a treat.



A Message from an Old Friend

"Joab is doing well with year 1. He misses his friends. Jess has settled a lot. Give my regards to all our Emmaus friends. I was rung up to be on the Central West team in Sept., so am looking forward to that too especially as John will hopefully get to do his walk the week before. Say hello to all our Emmaus friends who I miss greatly. All my love. Jane Joyce"

.....We miss you too Jane!

PUPPY PARABLES

"I enjoy walking. Most days it's a lap around the block with Angus, my nearly 6 year old Golden Retriever.



Angus, as is typical of his breed, is a master of the leisurely stroll. The only time he 'rushes' – and that's a comparative term – is if he smells some food that he might clean up out of the park (civic duty and all that).

When I say I enjoy walking, I'm glad I don't have to walk too far, and I am grateful for modern transport. But my morning constitutional is a reminder that I am on a pilgrimage. As the old gospel song expressed it: 'This world is not my home, I'm just passing through...' and as members of the Emmaus Community, we have an awareness that our life, in all its forms, relationships and contexts is intended to be a walk with Jesus, sharing fellowship with Him, and introducing Him to others.

My daily walk, with Angus, is also a time when I'm conscious of God speaking to me in different ways, usually drawing my thoughts to parallels between my walk with Angus and my walk with Him. Sometimes there's a contrast, other times there are similarities which I'm able to think about. So don't be surprised if you read a 'puppy parable' in this column occasionally/regularly.

But let's not be afraid to slow down and be alert to the ways God is speaking to us – and what He's bringing to our attention – as we walk with Him each day."

De Colores,

Phil Grebert.
Community Spiritual Director

THE POWER OF PRAYER

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled" (2 Corinthians 10:4)

Have you ever thought of yourself as a weapon? What about a sword? Recently, I saw the movie, 'The Hobbit' and there was one scene that almost caused me to leap out of my seat – not because it shocked me or scared me, but because I believe the Lord gave me a vision. For those unfamiliar with the story, Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who lives in the peaceful shire but is swept into a quest to reclaim the dwarf kingdom of Erebor from a fearsome dragon. Bilbo finds himself on a journey with a (good) wizard, Gandalf the Grey and 13 dwarfs led by Thorin, heir to the throne of Erebor. In a particular part of the movie, Thorin is given a named-sword that will defeat any goblin; and as expected, the travellers find themselves captured and in the company of hundreds of goblins. The travellers are about to be executed and one of the goblins decides to use Thorin's sword and as he takes it out of the sheath, all the goblins cower away from it knowing its power to defeat them.

And that's the image I want to share about: I almost leapt from my seat and said "I want to be like that sword to the enemy!" I felt the Lord say "You can and you will". Just like the verse above – we have weapons that are not literal swords but the Word of God, Praise, Prayer, Intercession, a relationship with our heavenly Father are all examples of the weapons of our warfare.

What about you? What will you use? Are there strongholds that need to be torn down? Are there arguments or other obstacles blocking our obedience to Christ and His call on our lives? Is there a promise that God has given you for yourself or a family member? Can I encourage you all, the Community to pray for one another, pray what the Lord lays on your heart (for example: healing, encouragement, strength, blessing, growth, prosperity, peace etc).

I pray that as we all intercede for one another at a deeper level in God that the enemy will realise that "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4)

AMEN! Be blessed Community as you pray.

Richard Gilfillan
Community Prayer Director

FINANCE

GENERAL ACCOUNT

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Balance brought forward | \$ 3,148.25 |
|-------------------------|-------------|

INCOME

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| National Conference fees | \$ 1,845.00 |
| March Gathering offering | \$ 475.00 |
| March Interest | \$ 15.12 |
| Sale of Emmaus books | \$ 30.00 |
| | <u>\$ 2,365.12</u> |

EXPENDITURE

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Chrysalis Manuals from MediaCom | \$ 85.85 |
| Hand Crosses/Walk Manuals | \$ 221.00 |
| Post Office box | \$ 99.00 |
| Secretariat Travel Levy (Unpresented Cheque) | <u>\$ 700.00</u> |
| | \$ 1,105.85 |
| Balance of General Account | \$ 4,407.52 |
| Plus Unpresented Cheque | <u>\$ 700.00</u> |
| <i>Balance as at 31st March 2013</i> | <u>\$ 5,107.52</u> |

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Balance as at 31st March 2013:</i> | <u>\$ 3,382.17</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|

CHRYSALIS ACCOUNT

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Balance as at 31st March 2014:</i> | <u>\$ 2,086.10</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|

At the Board Meeting held on April 4th, a letter to the Board from J K Sutherland (Auditor) was tabled, in which he stated that "in his opinion the statement of assets and liabilities dated 31st December 2012 and the income and expenditure account for year ending 31st December 2012, prepared by the treasurer, truly reflects the financial transactions of the community".

Also at this meeting, the Community Lay Director requested that the Board read and sign the Emmaus Covenant for 2013 from The Upper Room International Emmaus/Chrysalis. Pat highlighted Point 10 which states that *Each Emmaus Community will support the work that goes on through the Emmaus Secretariat to resource, guide and network the expanding Emmaus Movement in Australia and the surrounding region with a per capita payment following Emmaus weekends. The amount of this payment will be set by the Secretariat from time to time. Each Emmaus Community will also actively participate in "The Gift" program to support International Development by remitting the offering from one monthly*

Gathering each year to the EANB, who will on-forward it to the Emmaus Office.

As we do not normally take up an offering at the December gathering, it was moved, seconded and agreed to by the Board that we would take up a December offering from this year onward and forward that amount to the EANB as "The Gift" from Western Sydney.

"God has a purpose in this..." Lynne LeFranc

We've all heard it from well-meaning people, only to think: "Yeah, well what is it???" Sometimes we don't know, 'cos we don't ask (God) ~ other times it stares you straight in the face. My Mother's diagnosis of dementia has brought my estranged sister and I together simply in caring for Mum. At first it was because of necessity that we were talking after years of non communication, but more recently I can honestly see where "God has a purpose in this"...My sister and I now converse in person, via text messages, and through e-mail, and have discussed many things we each have stored up in our memory bank; the good, the bad, and yes, even the ugly ~ much of our memory is the same, however, it is interesting how we view our own memories so very differently. My sister remembers more of the negatives, while I remember more of the positives. We both had the same spiritual teachings, as children however she has turned her back on God, which is probably why she views things so negatively. She told me that some of her friends have told her to see a counsellor, and while unwilling to do that, she did share with me that she thought her and I could counsel each other, seeing we both understand what the other has been through and perhaps "God's purpose in this" is to use me to lead her back to Him, where she can be healed from past hurts by the greatest Counsellor of all!!! This has taught me to always look to find "God's purpose" in every situation... Be blessed to be a blessing.....

Gatherings' Roster **Group Leaders**

Have you checked the Roster?

[Click](#) Here:

- ✓ Can attend?
 - ⇒ Please bring milk.
- ✓ Can't attend?
 - ⇒ swap with another group
 - ⇒ advise Director
- ✓ Details incorrect?
 - ⇒ advise Director

Your Reunion Group Director for 2013 is
Lynne LeFranc

DATES TO REMEMBER

Gatherings

| | | |
|----------|---------------------|---------|
| Feb 2nd | Mar 2nd, | Apr 6th |
| May 4th, | Jun 1st, | Jul 6th |
| Aug 3rd, | Sep 7th | Oct 6th |
| Nov 2nd, | Dec 7th (Christmas) | |

Nat. Secretariat: 3 — 5 May
Incl. Mega Gathering 4 May

Chrysalis Flights: 11—14 July

Emmaus Walks:
Men's Walk 88 10—13 Oct
Ladies' Walk 89 17— 20 Oct

Because Life is Better in Community

REUNION GROUPS

| GROUP NAME | CONTACT | PHONE/ EMAIL |
|---|--|---|
| Blue Mountain Mistrals 7.30pm last Monday every other month | Helen Drew 30 Sunland Cres, Mt Riverview | 02 4739-3224 mailto:helen@helendrew.com.au |
| Currency Creekers Meets 1st Saturday of Month 3pm | Suzanne McKane, 42 Mitchell Drive, Glossodia | 4576 6848. mailto:rsmckane@optusnet.com.au |
| Emu Eagles Meet 2nd Tuesday of Month 7.30pm | Keith Stubbs | mailto:k.c.stubbs@optusnet.com.au |
| Glenhaven Ravens Agape only | Helen McGrath 15 Batavia Pl, Baulkham Hills | 02 9674-5659 mailto:helen@jigsaw.com.au |
| Kurrajong Bellbirds Agape only | Jo Prunty 20 Dabage Pl Kurrajong Heights | 02 4767 7152 mailto:pruntyfamily@hotmail.com |
| Macarthur Razorbacks Monthly 2nd Saturday pm | Peter & Gerie Watson 9 Old Hume Highway, Camden | 02 4655-6135 mailto:geriewatson@gmail.com |
| Rainbow Rivers Monthly 3rd Saturday | Kathryn Smith 27 Livingston Ave. Dharruk | 0409 368891 mailto:kathryn.smith1960@yahoo.com.au |
| Western Wildflowers Meet 2nd Saturday of the Month for Breakfast 8am Venue changes | Allan Farrey 39 Fleurs St, Minchinbury | 02 9675-3590 mailto:afarrey@bigpond.net.au |
| Western Wombats Meet last Wednesday of the Month 7.30pm | Jenine Mendezona 68 Richmond Rd, Cambridge Park | 02 4721-1393 mailto:jeninemendezona@optusnet.com.au |
| Chrysalis' Glad Rap Meet 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm | Adrian & Rose Harriott 90 Lennox street, Richmond 2753 | 0401 347 078 mailto:arharriott@gmail.com |

*Please remember when making agape, that you include the Bible reference.
Please contact our Agape Director, Rosemary King, if you need assistance, ideas, etc.*



THE PURPOSE OF EMMAUS

The purpose of Emmaus is the renewal of the Church as the body of the risen Christ in the world, through the renewal of church members as faithful and committed disciples of Jesus Christ.

Emmaus expands participants' spiritual lives, deepens their discipleship, and rekindles their gifts as Christian leaders in their churches and communities. These aims are accomplished not only during the three-day Emmaus Walk, but also through participation in group reunions and community Gatherings, sponsorship and support of Walks, and service on teams.

Persons whose spiritual lives are renewed and strengthened through Emmaus are called to share the grace they receive in their community and to be leavening influences in their local churches. The purpose of Emmaus is not fully realised during the three days of the event itself, but, rather, in the Fourth Day.

The above extract was taken from the Australian Emmaus primary site. For full details, visit www.emmaus.org.au

We're on the web:

National Emmaus:

www.emmaus.org.au

Western Sydney Emmaus:

www.westernsydney.emmaus.org.au

We are also on Facebook.

Sydney Regional Chrysalis

www.facebook.com/sydneyregionalchrysalis

International Emmaus:

www.upperroom.org

**GOD
DOES NOT CALL
THE QUALIFIED,
HE QUALIFIES THE
CALLED.**

2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Com. Lay Director | Pat Kinnear |
| Spiritual Director: | Phil Grebert |
| Secretary: | Laraine Monaghan |
| Treasurer: | Mark Creighton |
| Prayer : | Richard Gilfillan |
| Gatherings: | Gary Morris |
| IT: | Steve McGrath |
| Music: | Liz Bates |
| Reunion Groups: | Lynne Le Franc |
| Newsletter: | Sandra Smith |
| Agape: | Rosemary King |
| Facilities: | Terry Boddy |
| Kitchen: | Jenine Mendezona |
| Registrar: | Russell McKane |
| Training: | Bill Harper |
| Chrysalis Director | Peter Smith |

From the Editor

If you would like to see something in particular addressed in this publication, or if you have an article you would like to submit, please contact the Editor via our web address. All articles are thankfully received, but the Editor reserves the right to discard any item submitted if not deemed suitable, or edit any article printed in this publication.

Please address ALL correspondence to:

**The Secretary,
Western Sydney Emmaus,
PO Box 423,
St Marys NSW 1790**