



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM®

Emmaus Western Sydney Newsletter

June 2014

## Pilgrims Wanted

Sponsorship numbers for the October Walks are still below the minimum number and to avoid postponement of the men's and or women's walks we need your help.

As you know, both the Men's and Women's May Walks were postponed because of poor attendance numbers and we just cannot allow this to happen again.

In an effort to ensure this never happens again, the Board has decided to allow members of the community to participate in an online survey and to attend a half day planning meeting scheduled for the afternoon of July 5th (prior to our Gathering) at Richmond Uniting Church starting at 1:00 pm.

## Here are some Survey Points to Ponder

What can we do to encourage people to sponsor?

"Get the community to mentally revisit their own walk and the impact it had on them and their lives - read their letters again and get a fresh injection of wanting others to experience the same experience they had. Are we hiding our 'light under a bowl?'"

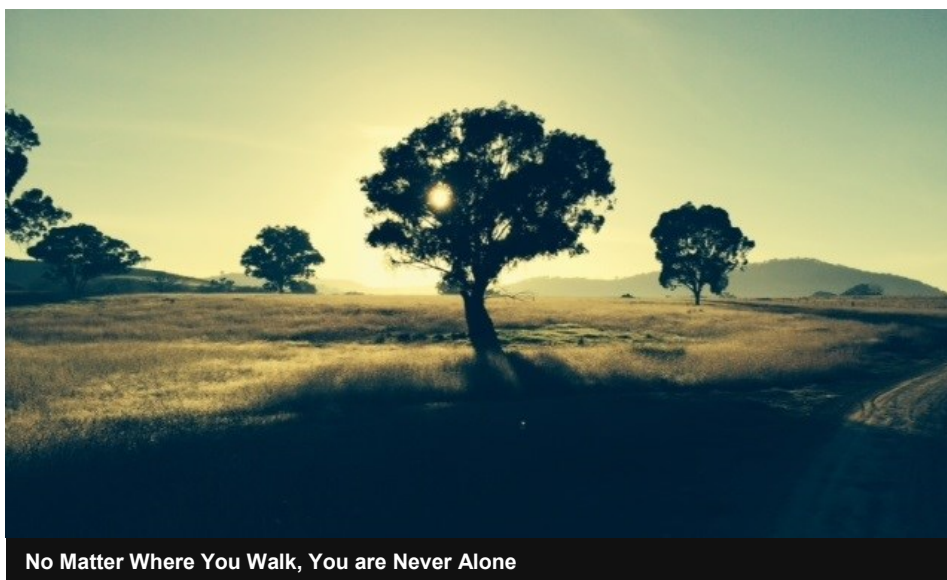
"Get them to believe in the value of the product ie Emmaus walks. I think this survey is a great idea and a (sic) depending on what is done with the data collected, it could be helpful in gauging why people are not sponsoring"

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*"We need to be able to approach non participating churches/parishes, explain to ministers and parishioners what Emmaus is about and the benefits. A brochure as a hand out to these churches needs to outline the principles and an application form"*

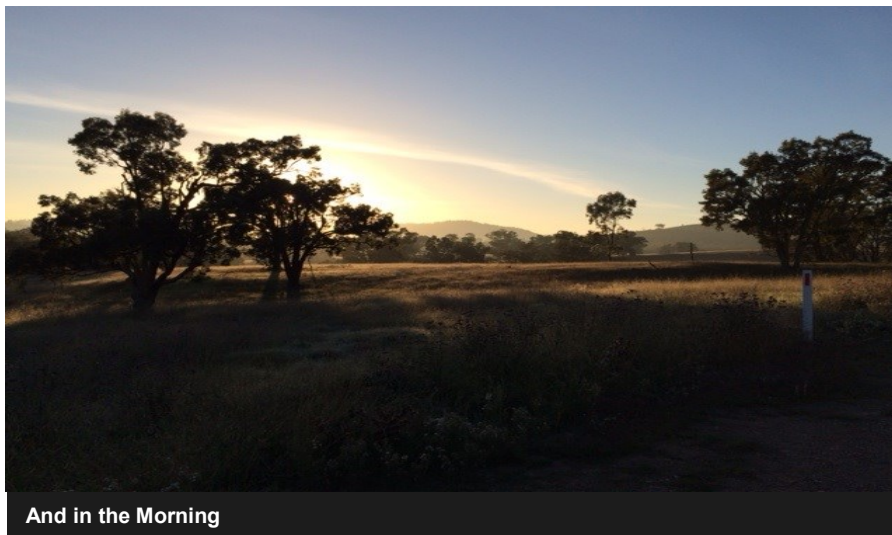
*- Survey Comment*

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## In This Issue

- Survey Comments
- Points to Ponder
- Planning Meeting
- Lay Director
- Prayer Director
- Social Media Update



And in the Morning

## Church Pastors

### You Can Make a Difference

I have been told that there was a directive from the (Anglican) Archbishop Peter Jensen instructing clergy not to be involved in any Fourth Day movement group. My pastor also blames Emmaus for one member of our congregation leaving the church and I can't convince him otherwise - even though I know the truth.

and

The answer to this question is neither yes or no, I have discussed Emmaus with out pastor.... he has pre-conceived ideas bout Emmaus, it is often difficult to discuss anything with him without feeling that one is "pushing the Emmaus barrow "

and

He believes the local parish provides similar opportunities. There is an aversion to any organisation that did not have it's origin within Sydney Diocese.

## Comments About Marketing Materials

"Having been involved in professional marketing for the last 20 years I see several major flaws which in my opinion is the cause of low numbers of pilgrims"

"Yes, we need to have faith in Gods (sic) leading of pilgrims to us but we also need to do more to work with God using the skills we have. On the last walk for example I had 6 prospective pilgrims in mind for the walk but the absence of any promotional material made it very difficult to leave anything with them"

"When I attempted to get promo flyers I was told they were not available and that maybe a couple would be forthcoming on special request. Not having a promo flyer limits promotion to personal friends and I think most of our personal friends have already done the walk"

## Alternative Point of View

"I am a bit concerned about a "marketing" approach.

"I believe that Emmaus should be a movement that is motivated and actioned by FAITH, not a marketing strategy. Our faith should direct Emmaus, not marketing directing Emmaus."

"I also believe that it is vital in order to maintain an impetus, Board positions should not be filled for more than 2 terms by a community member.

This brings about a continuum in Christian leadership development (which is one of the purposes of Emmaus) and ensures that the Community "owns" the program, not individuals. (one of the reasons the founding fathers of the USA enshrined a 2 term maximum in the American constitution)"

## Billet Required

Do you live close to a train station or in Parramatta. If so and you are willing to billet a husband and wife while Jen is studying at AlphaCrucis Bible College.

Dates required 6/7-11/7 (5 nights) 21/7-1/8 (5 nights) 21/9-3/10 (13 nights)

If you can help please contact Jen Kolver mob: 0417 184 030 or [jen.kolver@gmail.com](mailto:jen.kolver@gmail.com)

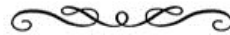
## I Need Your Help!

There are a thousand stories to be told, life changing experiences to be shared and each of you know someone just like David (our pilgrim in focus in our last issue) who can help us change the world, one life at a time!

## What Did Emmaus Do for YOU?

### Comments From the Survey

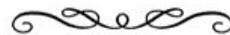
"It opened my eyes to the love of God through the people who ran the weekend. Because of the weekend I realised that Jesus had been walking with me all the time, the realisation of this was quite humbling. In my weakness he is my strength"



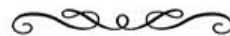
"It affected me much later after my Walk and even though I had a relationship with Jesus, Emmaus paved the way for me to fully understand and immerse myself in that relationship, allowing me to view Jesus as my best friend, and comfortably coming boldly to the throne of God, standing confidently before Him knowing He (sic) got it all under control - Emmaus also encouraged me to let go of my own control, giving it all to God"



"Showed me God's love. Showed me that I have something to offer the world. Showed me that I can overcome my spiritual problems with God's help and support. strengthened me to face my inevitable future as a single parent"



"Got me in front of a microphone - took on leading Bible Study group  
Have a lot more confidence and grown in my walk with Jesus"



"When I did my walk I was in a low point in my life. After my walk I realised that God still loved me and had a purpose for my life"



"Cannot adequately describe in a few words - it has been so much of a transformation and I am acutely aware that God loves me and I am a work in progress"



"It gave me greater desire to be active in serving God, both at church and in Emmaus"



"I encountered Christ and He showed me how to love unconditionally"

## From the Community Prayer Director

It was great to see our Community Prayer Vigils so full; all but 13 spots on each Vigil were taken. I know that our Community has benefited by the faithful prayers of each one of you and I urge you to continue to pray for Western Sydney Emmaus and Sydney Regional Chrysalis on a regular basis.

Some of the points that you might like to include in your prayers are:

- Praise for the large number of people who attended the June Gathering, despite it being a long (and cold) weekend and for the blessing we all received through those who helped in various ways to make it a great night.
- Pray for the upcoming "Way Forward" meeting on 5th July, that we will get lots of great suggestions of ways to reinvigorate our Community and fill our Walks. Pray for Bob and Jacqui McAnderson who will be facilitating the meeting.
- Pray for yourself and other Community members that we will be led to sponsor Pilgrims for the next set of Walks so that the minimum numbers are achieved prior to the go/no-go date of 2<sup>nd</sup> August.
- Pray for the teams for Walks 90 and 91 as they await the "go ahead" for October.
- Pray for James LeFranc as he recruits team members and for Jenine Mendezona as she continues to bind her team together.
- Pray for Phil Dobson and his team members who have decided to wait until May 2015.
- Pray that those who are organising the next set of Chrysalis Flights will have wisdom in decision making, especially regarding venue and dates, and will receive support from other NSW Communities to form a viable committee to run the Flights and to provide team members.
- Pray that suitable people will be raised up to fill the vacancies on the Emmaus Board in 2015.
- Pray for our Community members who are ill and for their carers; pray for those who are caring for others; and pray for those who are grieving.

Our awesome God will be delighted to hear from you and to answer those prayers in the way that He knows is best for us.

*"He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them."* (Hebrews 7:25)

De Colores

Pat Kinnear

Community Prayer Director

## From the Community Lay Director

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles <sup>[a]</sup> from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.

Luke 24:13-16

Hello Everyone.

Oh dear half way through the year already it seems to go faster every year.

The W.S board has decided to make the cut-off date for the number of pilgrims 2 months and 1 week out from any set of walks. The cut-off date for the October walks is 2nd August.

The minimum number of pilgrims will be 9 men and 9 ladies, the teams will be picked prior to the cut-off date but training will not commence until we know we have the numbers.

James Le Franc is the men's WLD for October and his SD is Peter Frances.

Jenine Mendezona is still the WLD for the ladies and Helen Drew is her SD.

We need you! Yes you to sponsor for the up-coming walks remember the cut-off date is 2<sup>nd</sup> August and if we don't get the number the walks will not go ahead.

W.S has had some difficult time and we need healing and I believe the healing needs to start at the top and as your leader that's where God has started. Of course we need to do our part and take responsibility for our community, start praying. Where are our prayer warriors? We need you, are you taking your hurts and wounds to God to be healed ? Are you praying for our community and for the sick and wounded?

Have you filled in the survey we sent out? We need your feedback so the Board can make informed decisions on behalf of the community but we need your help! So please fill them out and send them in, let's rebuild our wonderful community and stop the enemy from trying to destroy us.

They now call me William.

De Colores  
William Harper  
Community  
Lay Director

## I Need Your Help!

We all do from time to time, so please don't be afraid to let us know how as a community we can be praying for you.

### NOMINATIONS for WSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2015

Nominations for the 2015 Western Sydney Emmaus Board of Directors open at the Gathering on the 5<sup>th</sup> July. A number of current Board members have indicated that they will not be standing for re-election for next year's Board. It is therefore vital that every member of the Western Sydney Community consider whether God may be calling them to serve on the Board.

#### What is required of a Board member?

Attend the monthly Board meetings held on the Thursday before each Gathering.

(February to November). Undertake the duties of a portfolio to be agreed between the Board member and the Community Lay Director. Support the activities of the Western Sydney Emmaus Community as much as logistically possible. Serve a 3-year term.

#### What Portfolios Are There?

- Lay Director
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Agape
- Facilities
- Gatherings
- IT
- Kitchen
- Music
- Newsletter (Bi-Monthly)
- Reunion Groups
- Prayer
- Registrar
- Training
- Chrysalis

For further information, please talk to Bill Harper Community Lay Director, or any member of the current Board. The Board can only operate effectively with enthusiastic people using their God-given gifts. Please prayerfully consider whether God is calling you, or someone you know, to serve Him at Emmaus for the next three years then fill out the Nomination Form included with this.



## Social Media Update

If you have not yet visited our page on Facebook I encourage you to take the time to like our page and any of the posts we post on this site. While our newsletter has a communication purpose so does our Facebook page.

Starting from next month there will be regular snippets posted on this site aimed at keeping you informed as to what is happening in our community including photographs (without tags) from our gatherings, Board meetings and special training days.

So, if you have something you think will be of value then please send it to me at robertmcanderson@onthemark.com.au and I will ensure all appropriate content is posted on the site.

Comments are welcomed but we ask they be focused on the purpose behind the Walk to Emmaus.

## Links

[Reunion Groups](#)

[Forms](#)

[Kitchen Corner](#)

[Agape](#)

[Rosters](#)

[Gatherings](#)

[Facebook](#)

### Isaiah 2: 3



*Many peoples will come and say, "Come let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths."*

### Board of Directors

Community Lay Director	Bill Harper
Community Spiritual Director	Phil Grebert
Secretary	Laraine Monaghan
Treasurer	Mark Creighton
Registrar/Sponsorship	Peter Smith
Agape coordinator	Jenine Mendezona
Overseas Agape	Rosemary King
Training	Bill Harper
Newsletter	Robert McAnderson
Prayer	Pat Kinnear
Music (Entertainment)	Gary Bates
Supplies/Facilities	Ian Post
Kitchen	Chris Post
Gatherings/Candlelightings	Gary Morris
Reunion groups	Lynne Le Franc
IT/Website/Database	Steve McGrath
Chrysalis	Malcolm Schmid