A Rich Legacy: Building on Strong Foundations
He was Vice Principal of Moore College for thirteen years, and the originator of the approach to biblical theology which still shapes the entire College curriculum. Don Robbie’s contribution was extraordinary. The Lord gifted him with a biblically disciplined yet creative mind and the capacity to grip the imagination of those who heard him. We can look back at a 162-year history of many faithful and gifted men and women, who in serving Christ have left their mark on the College. For every name, there are at least another ten that could be mentioned whose contribution is equally valued (and I have deliberately omitted those still active in the College in one way or another).

We ought to be particularly grateful for those who have given freely of their time and expertise in a variety of volunteer roles. The women who ran the Women’s Auxiliary in the 1940s and 50s, those who have gathered for over 50 years as what is now known as the Prayer Support Group, and the men who gathered for working bees in Newtown or at But-Har-Gra. Just as important are those who have faithfully prayed for the College and gave generously to its work.

The legacy of Moore College
162 years of training and equipping God’s people
Mark Thompson
contributions were made by Kim Robinson, Doug Marr, and Alan Höhne in bringing the College academic and administrative structures into the late twentieth and then twenty-first centuries.

The Faculty of the College has always been central to the College’s life. Without a skilled, learned and godly group of pastor-teachers, the rest of what we do would have little impact. A long list of outstanding teachers would most definitely include Donald Robinson, Alan Cole, Noel Pollard, Bruce Smith, Bill Dumbrell, Graeme Goldsworthy, Dudley Foord, Peter O’Brien, Paul Barnett, Graham Cole, Michael Hill and John Woodhouse. Others have contributed as visitors, including Bill Anderson, Alan Craddock and Ken Cable.

The task of the moment is to build on this legacy as we equip a new generation to take the gospel of Christ to the world. Our current prayer partners are a remarkable group, who faithfully support the College in the most important way possible. As well, our Governing Board is an extraordinary collection of men and women committed to the College and its mission. Staff too are dedicated and diligent in advancing the work of the College. Our Faculty is as strong as it has ever been—20 highly gifted men and women augmented by a number of Emeritus members and visitors.

We have a great deal for which to give thanks to our generous heavenly Father. We remain as dependent upon him as ever for the future of the College and its ministry. Buildings, people, resources and precise strategies may change, but the mission remains the same as ever. We want to make Christ known, see the churches grow in faithfulness and effectiveness, and build a humble, gifted, godly and thoroughly equipped generation of gospel workers.

*Mark D Thompson*
*Principal*

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**Introducing Mark Earngey**

*Michael Sadler*

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**Can you tell us a little about yourself?**

My wife Tanya and I have been married for almost 8 years, and we have 3 kids who are 6, 4 and 2 years old.

**What did you do before decidi­ning on full-time ministry?**

I studied for a computer science degree, then worked in the industry for a couple of years. I then did an MTS apprenticeship at St Thomas’ North Sydney before coming to Moore.

**What have you been up to before coming to teach back here at Moore?**

I worked as an assistant minister at Toongabbie for two and a half years, where I looked after the evening service. I also ran a regular evangelistic course, trained some MTS apprentices, and was used by God in many other ways. Then I took my family to Oxford for 4 years, where I completed an MPhil and DPhil under the supervision of Diarmaid MacCulloch on the history and theology of the English reformation.

**What are you going to be doing here at Moore?**

I’m going to be teaching Church History, Doctrine, and Ministry. I love parish ministry (and really miss it, to be honest!) and feel quite strongly about teaching theology for the benefit of Christian ministry. My prayer (and I would certainly appreciate yours to the same end) is that the Lord would help me get alongside the students here at Moore and help prepare them for their respective ministries.

**What do you love about Moore College and who would you encourage to study here?**

I’ve come to appreciate Moore as an extraordinary place: the structure of the courses; the fact that students and faculty live in community together; and the deep Biblical convictions of the College are not to be taken for granted but should be greatly appreciated. I’d recommend Moore College to anyone who’s convinced of the gospel and is serious about Christian ministry.

*Michael Sadler*
*Alumni Officer*
Being equipped for Gospel-centred ministry  

**Trevor Cairney**

**GOD HAS BEEN SENDING MEN AND WOMEN ‘CAPTURED’ BY THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST TO THE COLLEGE FOR 162 YEARS. WHILE AT MOORE, THEY ARE TAUGHT AND EQUIPPED FOR LIVES OF MINISTRY FOUNDED ON THE TRUTH OF THE BIBLE. THEY ARE CHALLENGED AND GROW IN A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AS THEY CONTEMPLATE WHERE GOD MIGHT SEND THEM.**

For some it will be ministry in an Australian church, or perhaps pastoral ministry in other lands. Others might seek teaching ministry overseas, in schools and universities. For some it will be missionary work, church planting and ‘tent making’ wherever God might send them. Our students come with diverse backgrounds, skills, experience and faith journeys, and our God shapes them at College for the work he has prepared in advance for them. The stories below are a sample, and demonstrate how God is working in and through our students and their churches.

**Angus Martin**

Angus will be joining Moore College in 2019 with his wife Olivia and their son Edward. They both love the family God gives us in Christ Jesus, because their extended genetic family live outside Sydney. Angus grew up in Tamworth and Olivia in Dubbo, before both moved to Sydney to study at UNSW. Even though Angus grew up in a strong bible believing church, he saw the richness of the gospel ministry that Sydney has, and the need for this to be shared with the world.

In his early life, Christian community was foundational. At an early age, he grasped from the Bible that Jesus is King, but didn’t accept him as king of his life until he was a teenager. When his family moved overseas for a year, he lost the strong Christian community that was familiar. As a “normal hot-headed male teenager” he was fighting with his parents. He began to see that he was trying to rule his life, and that this reflected that he was a sinner who one day would face God’s judgment if he did it alone. He grasped the need to accept Jesus as his King, and has been seeking to live for him ever since.

After completing a Social Research and Management degree, Angus worked for a couple of years, but has been a Ministry Trainee at Campus Bible Study (UNSW) for the last two years. The privilege of being a trainee has further emphasised the need for those in Sydney to generously share gospel ministry with the nations.

Both Angus and Olivia have a strong desire to take the gospel to people who don’t know that Jesus is Lord. While they aren’t certain yet where they will serve God, they hope to train others to know Christ and share the gospel to the very ends of the earth.

**Carol Gilbert**

Carol is in 2nd year at College and has known God since she was very young. As a child, she had a post viral syndrome and was in a wheelchair for a number of years. She had to learn to do everything again, and still currently walks with a rollator frame. In her late teens, she faced a significant turning point, having to “decide whether she would continue to trust and follow the Lord Jesus or go her own way?” God enabled her to realise more of her sinfulness over that time and “how precious our Lord Jesus really is”. With a renewed understanding of how His death and resurrection in our place saves us, she wanted to share the news with others.
Carol was encouraged by a ministry apprentice to think about studying one of the Moore College PTC subjects by distance. She did, and loved it! Her vision of God and His great plan of salvation were enlarged. Over dinner one night, a friend told her about volunteering through Anglicare. Volunteers were needed to read the Bible and pray with people; particularly those who could no longer physically pick up their Bibles and read for themselves. Carol saw this as an opportunity to use what she had been through for God’s glory. She volunteered for a few years with Aged Care Chaplaincy while also ministering at Jamnali Anglican. Carol had some of her “greatest joys ministering to the elderly”. She was greatly impacted as she saw God at work by His Spirit and through His life-giving word. At the same time, she was also studying Business Administration. She reassessed her plans and, through prayer and advice from others, adjusted her life goals and applied to Moore. In her words, “it was a costly decision, but so worth it”.

She sees being part of Moore College as “being shaped by the gospel. College has been stretching and challenging, but also strengthening and supportive. I am deeply thankful to God for the way He has spurred me on through my brothers and sisters across the College community.”

While at College she also ministers at the Healing Service at St Andrew’s Cathedral. She is one of a team of people seeking to have intentional conversations about the Lord Jesus. She loves opening up God’s word with women, introducing them to our Lord Jesus, and helping them grow in relationship with God. Carol isn’t sure yet where God will lead her. Please pray for her as she considers “chaplaincy, evangelism amongst women, or ministry to those with disabilities and their families”.

William Quach
William grew up in Cabramatta in South West Sydney. His parents were refugees to Australia from Vietnam. A friend of his mother convinced her that she should go to church, and that taking her children was a good idea “to avoid them going down the wrong path”. So that’s how he ended up going to Cabramatta Anglican church from age 6 years. He has considered himself a Christian “since going to church at a young age, because that’s what you do as a kid”. But at a youth camp when aged about 12 years, it dawned on him that the Bible wasn’t just a bunch of stories with a moral teaching point. Jesus’ death and resurrection had a bearing on his life! He needed forgiveness of his sin and made a commitment to Christ. Gradually God worked in his life through Christian and even non-Christian(!) friends, to show him that he was living for himself and his own reputation, rather than for his Lord and Saviour.

After finishing school, William studied Business and Law at UTS, and after graduating in 2009 worked at the Australian Tax Office. In his words, he was “a tax collector, a public servant, and a lawyer!” In 2013, he joined St Paul’s Carlingford for a ministry apprenticeship with MTS, before coming to Moore in 2015.

During college, William spent two years at MBM Rooty Hill under Ray Galea. In the second year at MBM, they announced that they were going to plant a church in Smithfield in South West Sydney, so he joined. As an Australian born Chinese/Vietnamese, he loved Smithfield and its congregation of Maltese, Lebanese, Assyrian, Armenian, Islander, and Australian Christians. In his words, “I learned the value of hugs and lots of food, among other things of course”.

In 2019, he’ll be serving at Cabramatta Anglican as one of the assistant pastors for the English congregation. This is his home church, with Chinese and English speaking congregations. In the short term, he hopes to equip parents, especially those who haven’t been raised in a Christian household, to raise their children to know and love Jesus Christ. This will mean helping the Chinese speaking parents and second generation English speaking parents. In the long term, he hopes to work on speaking Mandarin and Cantonese, in order to reach out to Mandarin and Cantonese speakers coming to Sydney.

Do you know someone who might join us at Moore?

What I love about these stories is that they are all so different, and yet all these lives have been transformed by the Lord Jesus, and filled with a desire to make Him known to others. Please continue to pray for the men and women you know, who God might well challenge to consider Bible college. Please also pray for our students as they learn and grow as God prepares them for mission. Would you also consider whether you might be able to support other people to attend Moore College? On the back page of this edition you will hear more about the varied ways you might support us as we send out more gospel workers for the Lord.

Trevor Cairney
Head of Foundation
In 1959, Moore College Library held around 10,000 volumes. Twelve years later, it was five times bigger. The person partly responsible for this growth was lecturer and Vice-Principal Donald Robinson, along with Librarian Rev Noel Pollard and other members of the library committee. At every committee meeting, Donald Robinson suggested new books and periodicals, as well as making regular donations. He also facilitated one of the Library’s largest single donations, the Margaretta Mary Woodriff collection of Australiana, bequeathed to the College by Douglas Tilghman in 1971. Donald and Douglas corresponded frequently, and after Douglas’ death, Donald told his widow Margarita that the Australiana collection would be very suitable for a theological library. This collection has greatly enhanced the study of Australian church history. In 2017, Donald’s books and personal papers were transferred to the Library, with the papers being housed in the Samuel Marsden Archives. His archives include sermon notes, correspondence and articles on a wide variety of topical issues. The books in his personal collection are currently being catalogued, and reveal quite a lot about their former owner. Many titles contain a copy of his review of that book, others feature his annotations.

Donald Robinson was also fond of music. A facetious biographical article in Societas 1955 describes him mastering the concertina overnight at the age of five. He conducted the weekly rehearsal of the College’s choir and served as chairman of the Southern NSW branch of the Royal School of Church Music. In 1970 he arranged for the purchase of the organ from St Luke’s Liverpool for the Cash Chapel. Although a rumour that the organ was the original instrument in the Broughton Memorial Chapel in Liverpool turned out to be incorrect, its purchase was considered to be a worthy addition to the services held in the Cash Chapel.

Donald Robinson is best known as a theologian and exegete, but he did some historical research too. His article ‘Thomas Moore and the early life of Sydney’ was published in the Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society in 1970 and reprinted as a stand-alone pamphlet. He researched the history of Moore College’s Newtown campus, including the house in Carillon Ave where he and other Vice-Principals have resided. It was the parsonage of St Stephen’s Newtown, and is one of the oldest buildings in the suburb (Moore College News Bulletin, September 1980).

Donald Robinson had a significant impact on the College through his teaching, theology and interpretation of the Bible. Rev Dr David Peterson illustrates this when he recalls: “Donald Robinson had more of an impact on me when I was a student than any other lecturer. He taught me how to carefully exegete the Greek New Testament and bring the insights of Biblical Theology into the process of interpretation. In fourth year I did two extra New Testament classes with him, because I wanted to benefit as much as possible from his wisdom and skill. His biblical and liturgical insights had a profound influence on my own teaching and writing in these areas.”

Erin Mollenhauer
Archivist and Special Collections Librarian
Donald Robinson’s impact and legacy on Christianity in Sydney and beyond was profound. Throughout his life he had a wide range of interests and pioneered several endeavours that many people continue to benefit from. It is well worth reflecting on the influence Robinson had in Sydney, Australia and the wider world.

Robinson was a son of Sydney Diocese. His father was an arch-deacon, a key player in diocesan life, and a trusted counsellor to Archbishop Mowll. Donald grew up in various rectories and when his father became Secretary of the Home Mission Society, the family moved to the Vice-Principal’s house at Moore College. The College was to be Donald’s place of residence for most of the next thirty-five years, including moving back into the Vice-Principal’s house in 1959 when he took up that position. Robinson’s two decades as a fulltime lecturer and Vice-Principal at Moore College enabled him to directly influence a generation of clergy. His connection to the College remained long after he took up his episcopal duties as Bishop in Paramatta in 1973. As Bishop and then Archbishop, Robinson exercised considerable influence over the expanding ministry of Sydney Diocese. This included championing the Vision for Growth policy of funding and establishing new churches in burgeoning suburbs. He defended biblical principles in his public ministry in the diocese, the Anglican Church of Australia and the public square. On the international Anglican scene, Robinson bravely supported the evangelical Church of England in South Africa and consecrated a bishop to serve there.

One of Robinson’s more enduring international legacies was his involvement in the establishment of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES). He had been president of the Sydney University Evangelical Union in 1946-7 and Chairman of the Council and Executive of the Inter-Varsity Fellowship (now AFES). He was the natural choice to represent Australian students at the inaugural IFES conference in Boston in 1947. The conference had delegates from just nine countries, but has since grown to be a fellowship including more than 160 countries. Robinson went to Boston en route to postgraduate study in Cambridge, and he was elected to the IFES executive on which he served for the next three years. Another enduring legacy of Robinson’s ministry in Australia was his work on liturgical revision. He made a very significant contribution to An Australian Prayer Book which was the first official modernisation of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer in Australia. The book’s acceptance across every diocese in the country is a testimony to the achievement and has not been repeated.

Robinson also served the wider church through various speaking and writing engagements. Some of his written work was anonymous, such as his numerous articles in The Australian Church Record. These had a wide readership and influence, even though it was rarely acknowledged that it was Robinson’s contribution.

Robinson shaped ministry in Sydney, Australia and around the world. The ongoing impact of Robinson’s initiatives and efforts is still being felt in a wide range of contexts. There is much to give thanks to God for in the way he used Donald Robinson and the benefits we continue to receive from his ministry.

Ed Loane
Lecturer in Doctrine and Church History

These books would be helpful if you’d like to know more about the life and ministry of Donald Robinson. Volumes 1, 2 and the Appreciation are available. Volumes 3 and 4 will be published in early 2019.
Over the nearly four years I’ve been at the Centre for Christian Living, we’ve explored many different facets of what it means to live as Christians in our crazy, complex, captivating world: Islam, same-sex marriage, guilt, conscience, work, singleness, and more.

In all of it, we’ve done our best to think our way from the Bible and its theology to the various issues we face day by day; to shine the light of God’s word on the path that lies before us (Ps 119:105); and to think our way to the good and right thing that is given for us to do. This is what it means to bring biblical ethics to everyday issues (our CCL tagline).

Sometimes, there’s something big and unavoidable lying ahead in the path—issues like same-sex marriage or the challenge of Islam are like this. But sometimes the light of God’s Word reveals something important about our path that we wouldn’t otherwise have noticed.

Our last event for 2018 was like this, in which Paul Williamson spoke powerfully about how the grim reality of hell brings a bracing clarity to our daily lives.

In 2019, we’re looking forward to doing more of the same, and exploring a wide range of Christian living topics. However, we’re also planning something different next year.

We thought it was time not only to bring biblical ethics to more everyday issues, but to help Christians know how to bring biblical ethics to any and every issue; to give Christians some training in how to shine the torch of God’s word for themselves on the issues we confront day by day.

So on top of our regular public events and podcasts, we’re going to run ‘A Very Short Course in Christian Ethics’ on Saturday 25 May, from 9am–1pm, with Moore College Ethics lecturer Chase Kuhn and me. We’re planning a packed morning of instruction and training in how to bring the Bible’s ethical framework to the issues that confront us in the Christian life every day.

To be notified when registration opens for ‘A Very Short Course in Christian Ethics’, head over to the CCL website (ccl.moore.edu.au) and sign up for our monthly email newsletter.

Tony Payne
Director, Centre for Christian Living

ccl.moore.edu.au
fellow rectors and then nutting out the practicalities in our own church contexts alongside our DRP mentors.

A strength of the program is found in the mentoring. Each first-time rector is paired with a ministry mentor who generally has 20 years of experience in the role. The opportunity to seek advice by tapping into a wealth of ministry experience is key to making the group seminars useful to the local parish.

Finally, we bring together groups of nine rectors in very similar circumstances in order to support and help build skills. We bring them together and connect them so that they can support and strengthen one another for many more years of parish ministry.

Other feedback has included: “With a cohort of peers all on the same learning curve, the DRP has really challenged me not just to do ministry well, but to make my focus equipping and enabling others to do so more and more. I feel like the next few years will be spent fruitfully embedding into my thinking and practice the systems and tools I’m being taught.” Dave Doran, Rector, Kingsford.

“On DRP training days, I regularly discover that we are covering issues that I have recently been wrestling with in my ‘overseer’ role, and I leave with greater clarity and concrete plans that I have since implemented with my staff team. Oh, and for all the strategising, the DRP team always bring us back to the main game of the Word, prayer, and helping people to trust and obey Jesus.” Stephen Shead, Acting Senior Minister, Fairfield & Bossley Park.

Rick Smith
Consultant, Centre for Ministry Development
cmd.moore.edu.au

Priscilla & Aquila Centre (P&A) continues to focus on benefitting women and their ministries in partnership with men. We continue to hear how the work encourages others. At our annual conference, one delegate commented: “Peter Tong’s plenary talks skilfully and helpfully focused on the role of women in Luke’s Gospel. It was a great encouragement to read the whole account and come to a deeper understanding of how Luke presents women in such a positive way.” Another example of God’s kindness is as we have heard how people have used the resources on the website. One woman commented: “I’ve loved listening my way through the audio section of the P&A resources. From the great range of good bible teaching on passages I’ve found tricky, through to the encouraging stories of how God is bringing about his kingdom.”

As we approach Summer, P&A plans to begin adding a new type of resource to its website: training papers. These training papers will be written by a variety of people, and will seek to help women and men think through things such as biblical teaching, ministry life and practice, marriage, parenthood, and work outside the home. There are already 1,400 existing resources on the P&A website, some of which are original talks and papers from P&A, whilst the vast majority are from Christian brothers and sisters around the world. We hope the addition of these training papers will help serve people such as yourself as you continue to seek to train people in a variety of situations such as one-to-one, leaders training, ministry staff meetings, and larger contexts. As this current edition of Moore Matters focuses on Bishop Donald Robinson’s legacy, please pray that he, we will be faithful in seeking what God’s word actually says, more than other ‘voices’.

A highlight in the middle of each summer is our annual conference, and we are thankful that Graham Beynon, pastor of Grace Church (FIEC & Acts 29) Cambridge, and a faculty member of Oak Hill College in London, has agreed to give the main talks. Graham comments: “I’m delighted to be speaking at the annual P&A conference in February. We will be looking at the ‘Complementarian Jigsaw’, seeing how the different elements of gender, ministry and church life can all fit together. I’ve found this a challenging and stimulating area to look at for myself, and trust it will be helpful for those attending. My hope is that we don’t simply defend complementarianism but can embrace what it looks like in practice.” There are also 9 electives to choose from with a range of male and female speakers.

In 2019, P&A will once again be teaching the women’s ministry stream of the Advanced Diploma. This stream of study is an exciting new development at Moore. Please be praying for me as I keep developing the material. Also in 2019, I hope to have an evening seminar on the topic of widows, with 2 more seminars yet to be confirmed.

We very much appreciate your prayers and partnership in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jane Tooher
Director, Priscilla & Aquila Centre
paa.moore.edu.au

Priscilla & Aquila Centre
Jane Tooher

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Priscilla & Aquila Centre
Jane Tooher
The Centre for Global Mission is the College’s main channel for helping to resource the training of Christian leaders around the world. After the overwhelming response to our demonstrations at GAFCON, we are working hard to provide access to the Moore College PTC content to Theological and Bible Colleges and Dioceses around the world who’ve asked for help. We have dozens of partner institutions who use this material in varied ways. We look forward to developing these partnerships as we refine our new systems and respond to needs.

Two of our significant partners have been working together in Africa in a bold and exciting initiative. African Enterprise is an organisation that continues to have an enormous impact throughout the continent. Last year they saw 98,000 people make professions of faith in the Lord Jesus at different evangelistic rallies. These rallies target areas of cities, matching approaches to different socio-economic settings. Last month a team of 350 took the gospel to Uganda’s capital, Kampala, and for 10 days were engaged in:

- Evangelism, care and social advocacy amongst those in desperate circumstances, including extreme poverty;
- Evangelism amongst children in schools and after school programs;
- Workplace evangelistic events in different communities and industries;
- Evangelistic meetings with political and community leaders;
- Large public meetings; and
- Door to door witnessing and one to one follow-up.

The team made contact with over 60,000 people and more than 8,100 made professions of faith!

But the work of African Enterprise goes on, and this is where we can play a small part. All of the people who have professed faith need to be integrated into local churches, and the churches need leaders who handle the word of God faithfully. African Enterprise is committed to training these leaders and, for this, they make use of our PTC material.

For some, our PTC material is too complex, and therefore a lower level training is also needed. This is where another of our great partners, George Whitefield College (GWC), comes in. GWC has developed a simplified and Africanised version of the PTC material called Explore. Having developed the material, they are now trying to keep pace with the demand for it. But their administrative and marking systems have made rapid expansion of the program impossible. The Centre for Global Mission is now working with them to share our systems, online platforms, mobile app and expertise in automated marking to enable the growth that is needed.
It is a great joy to have partners like these in the work of the gospel. They have personnel, expertise, local knowledge and access that enable them to reach people with the gospel of the Lord Jesus that we never could. We can, however, be good stewards of the riches that God has given us, and be generous in sharing those things with others. That’s what the Centre for Global Mission helps Moore College to do.

Another of our great international partners is the Alexandria School of Theology (AST) in Egypt. Moore College has been in partnership with AST from its very beginning. Moore graduates have served on the faculty of AST and Moore lecturers have travelled to Egypt to provide a Master’s level training to potential AST faculty. For the last three years, we have enjoyed the company of George Bishai, a faculty member of AST, who is completing doctoral studies with us at Moore. AST is also helping us to complete an Arabic translation of the PTC material. Our partnership is multi-faceted, of great mutual benefit and built around relationships with brothers and sisters who know and love one another.

In October I travelled to visit AST to join in a Mission Roundtable discussion with some of their faculty. What a humbling privilege to be with brothers and sisters who will literally risk life and limb to share the good news of our risen saviour!

The work of the Centre for Global Mission, Moore College’s partnership with brothers and sisters around the world, truly cuts both ways. We have much to give, and it’s exciting that we are developing better ways to share resources and support. But we also have so much to learn and gain. In a context where it seems we in Australia are increasingly timid about sharing the gospel, their example is humbling. While we often fear loss and risk little, the example and encouragement of our brothers and sisters around the world is energising. Their boldness helps me to keep things in their right perspective, and also be bold about risking a friendship to speak of Jesus. When I think of what the same gospel is convincing others to do in Jesus’ name in Africa, how can I not respond?

Simon Gillham
Director, Centre for Global Mission
cgm.moore.edu.au

Last year they saw 98,000 people make professions of faith in the Lord Jesus at different evangelistic rallies.
THROUGHOUT ITS LIFE, MOORE COLLEGE HAS BEEN SURROUNDED AND UPHeld BY THE FAITHFUL PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE. AT EVERY POINT, ALL THAT WE DO HAS BEEN DEPENDENT UPON GOD’S GOODNESS AND ENABLING.

He has provided for the needs of the College, and he has preserved its character as an evangelical college deeply anchored in the teaching of the Bible and thoroughly committed to the mission of Christ. He has also sent us generation after generation of godly and gifted students to prepare for that work. It has all been of God and it has all been as an answer to the prayers of his people.

We are grateful for the opportunities for prayer in the everyday life of the College and the legacy of prayerfulness that has been passed on to us. It is a privilege for us to bring our world, the churches, and the gospel mission before the throne of grace. Prayer is first and foremost an act of faith, a recognition that we are completely dependent upon God for all that we need and all that we do. In the busyness of life and ministry, it is easy for prayer to be squeezed out or become perfunctory, but prayer is no mere adjunct to some more important thing. We are given the example of Jesus who prayed often (e.g. Matt 14:26; 26:36), of the early church who ‘devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship to the breaking of bread and the prayers’ (Acts 2:42). The apostles themselves, following Jesus’ example, devoted themselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word’ (Acts 6:4). We want prayer to be a natural reflex for all of us at Moore College—because nothing good and lasting can be done apart from God and his enabling work.

For over 50 years, a group of women have met regularly at Moore College to pray for the College, its students and graduates, its ministry and its needs. They have met in the Principal’s Garden or lounge room and they have embodied this commitment to asking God to use this College for his glory here in Sydney and across the world. This remarkable group of faithful women have seen many answers to prayers over the years—prayers for members of the College community in distress, for resources to extend or improve the campus, for needed faculty and much more besides.

Over the last couple of years, we have begun gathering a group of men who will do the same thing. This year we started a Men’s Prayer Breakfast, one in May and one in September. Our hope is that men from all over the Diocese will come to College for an early Saturday morning prayer gathering. We would love to see prayer for the College extended throughout the Diocese simply because the spiritual battle is fiercer than ever, and the need in this metropolis of cities is greater than ever.

Will you join us in prayer, either by joining one of these groups or subscribing to our prayer bulletin?

Mark & Kathryn Thompson
moore.edu.au/support
Moore College has continued in its initiative to train ministers in preaching skills. For the past two years, the John Chapman Preaching Clinics have deliberately focused on training preaching coaches. Participants have ranged from Moore College students preparing to serve in training roles, to ministers in churches, faculty at Moore, and senior clergy. Below is a testimonial from Simon Manchester (Rector of St Thomas’ North Sydney), who recently attended the September 2018 Preaching Clinic that was led by David Cook:

It was my privilege to join the three-day September 2018 John Chapman Preaching Clinic—I was just a learner in the back row—and I have 5 reasons (in increasing value) to thank God for this initiative.

First, it was a retreat with excellent conditions for being refreshed and stimulated in the work. The place we stayed (near Shoalhaven) was not lavish but it was comfortable and kind to us guests. I guess it’s possible to go away to somewhere that is a good Spartan box to survive in, but someone had worked out a way for us to be blessed in body and soul. We had many good sessions for work but small pockets (not packets) of free time to explore the south coast, which was a joy. Rooms and meals were a pleasure not a pain. The jacuzzi in my room was a treat (small joke).

Second, the group of twenty-four was just the right mix for lectures with interaction. This was not the huge convention listening to one man on a stage, but a place where we could listen and contribute. In fact, the group was the best mix of men and women in all sorts of situations, injecting ideas and questions. There were a handful of lecturers from Moore to keep us humble, but there were plenty of us in church contexts to keep them attentive too. (I don’t remember everything that was said, but my own comments were excellent I thought.)

Third, the structure of the three days was extremely wise and thoughtful. The right combination of hearing a sermon together and thinking through its strengths (and maybe weaknesses), then being trained by David Cook on how to respond to a sermon and how to prepare and structure and illustrate and apply was all terrific. David was a great choice to teach us, as he combines the best of long years in the pulpit and the seminary.

Fourth, we broke into smaller groups of 3 or 4 and had the best opportunity to hear each other preach and give more personal feedback. The four guys I joined were very able indeed and I was deeply grateful for their feedback to me and their willingness to take thoughts as well. Out of my small group has come ongoing interaction which is stretching me hugely.

Fifth, we were doing the work which can never be underestimated. (Who was it who said, “If God calls you to be a preacher don’t stoop to be a king”?). Everyone present recognised the value and the privilege of the task: to glorify Christ by preaching His Word to believers and unbelievers.

We all had “L” plates on and were in it together. No-one had come away feeling like an expert and yet no-one went home feeling like a failure. This initiative is the pointy end of the spear of Moore College and the team did a wonderful job of planning the content and context. If you can get to the next clinic or conference, I urge you to do so. And I’ve just read a quote to hearten you from GK Chesterton (not a preacher) who said that Christianity is “preaching sanity to a planet of lunatics”. Indeed.

In February 2019, Moore College will host the John Chapman Preaching Conference:

9 FEBRUARY:
1 Day Conference on “Preaching and the Affections”
SPEAKERS:
David Cook & Graham Beynon
DETAILS & REGISTRATION:
www.trybooking.com/WARP

We pray that many more will take part in this work as we seek to be workers “rightly handling the Word of truth” (2 Tim 2:15).

Chase Kuhn
Coordinator, John Chapman Preaching Clinics & Conferences
As some of our readers would already know, our Marketing Manager Mark Fairfull died on 2nd September 2018.

Mark’s sudden death was a great shock to family, friends and colleagues. This young man of just 41 years died suddenly from natural causes with little warning. Mark had overseen the marketing and communications program for the College, and as such had a major role in the production of Moore Matters. Mark was a committed follower of Jesus, who was confident of his salvation in Christ and had great trust in God. Hence, those who worked with him and loved him are also comforted by the sure and certain hope of salvation for those who commit their lives to Jesus. Mark was certain of his future and had confidence in the assurance of the Scriptures that reinforce this hope. Passages like Paul’s words to the church in Rome:

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom 8:38-39)

Passages of Scripture like this one are a great comfort when our brothers and sisters are taken from us seemingly far too early. We know that Mark is in the presence of God and that death is not the end. As a College, we extend our condolences and prayers to Mark’s family and friends.

Mark is survived by his parents David and Joy Fairfull, his sister Jo and his brother Andy. Mark’s memorial service was held at Church by the Bridge on 12th September. This was led by Rev Dr Paul Dale, the Rector. Many participated in the service and gave thanks for Mark’s strong faith, his devotion to his family and friends, his joy in life, and his sense of fun. We also acknowledged his love of the College, the central place that Jesus had in his life, and his commitment to gospel ministry.

Moore Matters was seen by Mark as one of his most important tasks as Marketing Manager. We have missed him as we’ve prepared this edition. As we have considered the theme of ‘legacy’ it is appropriate that we acknowledge the work that Mark did in his 6 years at Moore College and in many other Christian organisations before he joined us. Prior to Moore College Mark had roles in marketing, communication and public relations at Hope 103.2 Radio, New College and Anglican Media. We are grateful for the time he spent with us and while we miss his presence, we are comforted by the knowledge that he is with his Saviour.

Trevor Cairney
Head of Foundation
The legacy of God’s servants

As you have seen in this issue, God is at work in the people and the ministry of the College. We have highlighted the legacy of people who have been part of God’s provision for the work of Moore College. We’ve acknowledged the work of great leaders like Bishop Donald Robinson, the current faculty and staff, and God’s provision of so many wonderful students from around the globe. We are grateful for devoted faculty inspired by the Gospel of Christ, who teach, mentor, encourage, challenge and equip the students who God entrusts to us. The work of God is both evident and fruitful. Many have been equipped to teach and lead ministries around the world. We have much for which we should be grateful. Praise God!

Further evidence of the grace of God can be seen in the many hundreds of supporters who continue to pray for the College, and give sacrificially to this vital work. I have commented previously on how your generosity and commitment to the College have been humbling and encouraging for me personally. I have the privilege of seeing every gift received, and have observed the generosity and sacrifice of many to support the College. Some have given faithfully every month for many decades. Others have given substantial gifts for specific projects such as development, the work of our Centres, and faculty support.

When we speak about generosity, we will frequently use the passage in Luke’s gospel (Luke 21:1-4) as an encouragement. Jesus commended the widow who gave two copper coins (mites).

Jesus spoke of the widow’s great generosity because, as he observed, some people “gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on”. We are grateful for God’s provision, whether as small gifts or large, whether from the wealthy or from those with little to give. I’ve been particularly humbled by the many who give sacrificially in their senior years.

I am also grateful for your prayers for the College and our students, faculty and staff. I hope that you have read the short article on prayer written by Mark and Kathryn Thompson. Please consider the challenge and continue to pray for the work of the College. Please pray for our students, faculty and staff. Would you call upon God to challenge many to study with us? Would you also seek God’s provision of support for student scholarships and the ongoing need for the redevelopment of College facilities, particularly student housing? Please pray that God would provide pathways for our graduates to take the gospel to the very ends of the earth. If you would like additional information on specific and regular prayer requests for the College and its people, or specific areas where support is needed, please contact me directly by phone (02 9577 9900) or email [trevor.cairney@moore.edu.au].

Trevor Cairney
Head of Foundation
My Moore Gift

We ask YOU to please actively support Moore to ensure that together we can continue this vital gospel work under God, for His eternal glory.

Your gift will be a personal investment in future generations of gospel workers.

N.B. All donations to Moore College are fully tax deductible.

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   BSB 032 016
   Account 293828

4 Call Leanne Veitch on 02 9577 9865
Moore Matters is the newsletter publication of Moore Theological College

Principal of Moore College » Rev Dr Mark Thompson
Editor » Trevor Cairney
Assistant Editor » Michael Sadler
Art and Design » Lankshear Design

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1 King Street, Newtown NSW 2042 AUSTRALIA
moore.edu.au » info@moore.edu.au » +61 2 9577 9999
CRICOS #00682B » ABN 47 46 452183

About Moore College
Moore College prepares men and women for a lifetime of ministry and mission through in-depth theological training. Today 600 students are enrolled in courses at Moore. Currently around 5,000 people in over 50 countries are studying by distance education. The College has trained thousands of men and women for a great variety of Christian ministries locally, nationally and around the globe. Moore is world renowned for its faithfulness to the word of God, the excellence of the education it provides and the effectiveness of its graduates.

Cover:
Donald Robinson
## Dates for your diary 2019

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<td><em>The Complementarian Jigsaw: Gender, Ministry and the Local Church</em></td>
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**THE COMPLEMENTARIAN JIGSAW**

**GENDER, MINISTRY AND THE LOCAL CHURCH**

**MAIN SPEAKER: GRAHAM BEYNON**

Grace Church, Cambridge & Oak Hill College, London

“We will consider a positive vision of ministry for both genders and rather than focusing on the role of women in isolation, we will consider how our ecclesiology shapes ministry and relationships for everyone.”

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**2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE | 4 FEBRUARY | MOORE COLLEGE**

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**HI, I’M: Joseph**

I went from a career in physiotherapy to a lifetime of ministry. It was worth the investment!

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