

I'LL BE THERE!

The following Christian leaders have all committed themselves to be there in Canberra. Will you join them?



Archbishop Penman



Senator Michael Tate



Bill Newman

A call to the whole Australian church!

Supplement to 'New Life'

It's time for Australian Christians to decide whether we will be victims of change or participants with God in positive change in Australia.

We live in changing times. For example, there are now more active Moslems in Australia than Baptists and that situation is now being seized upon by some to attempt to change the way we see the world.

We have on good authority that in the guise of multiculturalism, for the first time, the name of the Lord Jesus and the Judeo-Christian God will not be mentioned at the official opening of new Parliament House — a symbol of our nation's future. We live at a time when the God of the Christian Scriptures could well be written out of our national institutions! *It's time to be counted!*

1988 is an important opportunity to celebrate the fact — whether we Australians are conscious of it or not — that there has been a Divine hand at work in our country's history, shaping the nation out of an ancient people, the dregs of the Industrial Revolution and people from the northern hemisphere seeking a better life.

We have been richly blessed in spite of our many failings and poor beginnings. It's time to show our thankfulness by taking action. This may be the last chance to answer the question raised in the text of the first Christian sermon preached on Australian shores, "What shall we render to the Lord for all His benefits towards us?" (Psalm 116).

It's time for the Christian Church to come together in fellowship to work with God to see the fulfillment of the words of the ancient maps which called this country "The Great South Land of the Holy Spirit". God is calling together an army of concerned and praying Christians to take a stand on May 7th and 8th in Canberra.

Don't be A.W.O.L!



Join Those Who Are Preparing To Come From All Over Oz

A convoy of cars from Hobart will be transhipped by boat across Bass Strait before continuing to Canberra. Plans are afoot for 3 special carriages to be added to a train to take people to the national capital from Brisbane and 10 buses have already been booked by churches in that city.

From Melbourne a group of elderly people are proving adventurous. They're flying in a 6-seater plane to and from Canberra while a group of younger (and maybe fitter) young people are planning to ride push-bikes north to the Gathering.

Lea Walters, a 73 year-old lady from Morley in Perth was the first registration from W.A. and she is an inspiration to everyone from Sandgroper Country! She is travelling across the Nullabor in a bus and says she doesn't mind how much she has to "rough it" on the way because it will be all worth it to be in Canberra! She also has a friend who is in Palestine at present, but is particularly coming back to be at the Gathering.

The group travelling from Perth in buses will be relying on the hospitality of churches along the way for meals and somewhere to sleep.

Another group from Garden City Christian Church in Brisbane has booked a 7-day tour which includes the Gathering events, motel accommodation and sightseeing in both Can-

berra and Sydney. Five buses are already coming from Adelaide, 4 from Bendigo, 1000 people are expected from Yass, 3 buses have been booked already from Orange, 5 from the Gippsland area as well as others from Molong, Dubbo and Griffith. Each day now more and more churches are committing themselves to participate.

Many church groups are hiring small mini buses so they can enjoy one another's fellowship for the whole trip. In some cases, whole churches are deciding to come, bringing their aged, their children — everyone together to Canberra. It'll undoubtedly build their relationships in a way 5 years of

pew-sitting is unlikely to! What an exciting and challenging idea!

So why not prayerfully consider it? Leave the Egypt of normality and security behind, and as a group come out and help us seek the Promised Land under God together!

Other groups, particularly those from farthest towns from Canberra, have decided to send representatives of their fellowships to the Gathering and they are clubbing together to pay the transport costs.

Whatever way you decide, make sure your town or your fellowship is represented at the march by carrying a large banner with the church and/or the town name on it. Then the march will be clearly representative of Christians from all over Australia. What a great witness to our unity in Christ!

A Nation Astir!

From all corners of our nation stories are flooding in of Christians praying and fasting with a fresh enthusiasm, taking to the streets in their hundreds and in some cases their thousands and working together to see a national spiritual awakening come to

our land during this Bicentennial year.

Tens of thousands from churches all over Australia have participated in Cooee marches, have collected more than 50,000 prayers and petitions from young people, the aged and isolated people, and are preparing to gather together in the giant climax of prayer in Canberra on the weekend of May 7-8.



Cooee march gains huge response across nation . . . p2.

Thousands Take To The Streets in Cooee Marches

The original Cooee marches in 1915 rallied people for God, King and Country to meet the enemy head on. In our Bicentennial year Aussies all over Australia have been taking to the streets to call our nation to prayer and to take a stand for justice, mercy and compassion.

Thousands of people from Geraldton to Ternterfield, from the Kimberleys to Griffith, from Albury and Wodonga to Mildura — from towns all over Australia, have taken part in their own local Cooee marches. Around 1500 marches or Cooee events have taken place

across the nation. Two million "My prayer for Australia" sheets have been distributed and well in excess of 50,000 signatures are expected on the petition that was circulated.

Youth With A Mission, who took a primary organising role, report the response has been "fantastic"! There is a rising

sense of anticipation and excitement in the hearts of Christians across the nation as all denominations joined together to make a positive statement to their local communities and to voice their concerns, hopes and dreams for Australia through a petition and prayers written by a whole range of people in their community.

January 23rd saw approximately 1,000 people gather in the town of Mildura for the first Victorian cooee march event. A river front concert was held and the local MP addressed the crowd commending the marchers and saying it was important that people let governments know their feelings on important issues.

Since then hundreds of towns in a network covering the whole nation have had similar gatherings with activities ranging from community barbecues to a procession of vintage cars and floats made by local churches and community groups.

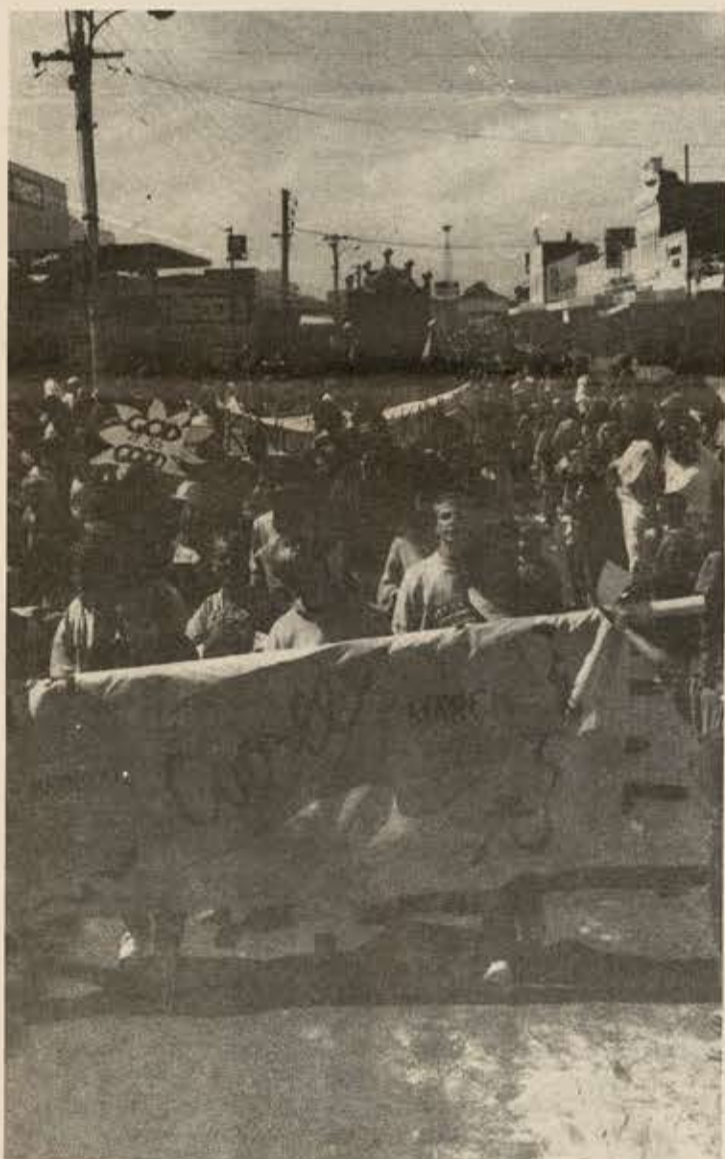
In Woodridge (Qld) 500 green and gold balloons prin-



ted with the words "justice", "mercy" and "compassion" were given away by the crowd of marchers from most local churches who marched through the main shopping centre to their Civic Centre for a rally on one Saturday morning recently.

After the march from Albury to Wodonga, marchers were entertained by Christian artists performing drama and puppetry and depicting the history of Australia.

The Cooee marchers have received huge publicity in most regions and YWAM are seeing the exciting climax in Canberra as tens of thousands of prayers and petitions are brought to the capital for the Gathering. The petitions are to be presented to government representatives and the prayers prayed by participants in the Gathering during the weekend.



Cyclists to Ride for Bibles Again in '88

The Bible Society's "Bike for Bibles" campaign for 1988 will commence officially on May 7th during the National Gathering. This authorised Bicentennial event aims to raise \$500,000 and to involve 500 participants.

It will be a spectacular sight at the Gathering as hundreds of cyclists in their green and gold uniforms sweep down the ramp from Parliament House and up Northbourne Avenue to ride off around Australia! The 10,000 Praying Men's Fellowship will line the street to pray for the cyclists as they leave for their trip around the country.

"Bike for Bibles is not just about training on a lonely road for months on end and then completing the required distance," says Adele Anderson, spokesperson for the Society. "It's about humbling yourself and pulling together to prepare not for a race, but for a ride that has proven not only to change the lives of those receiving the sponsorship money, but to change the lives of participants."

"As Christians we are to be always ready to be used by the Lord," Adele continues. "The



Lord doesn't ask for superfit athletes — what would be the challenge? He wants ordinary

people to give Him the glory through their faith, trust and commitment to Him."



I'LL BE THERE!



Neville Bonner A.O.

Rev. Neil Adcock

"They were all gathered in one place, of one accord . . ."

Program Outline

Saturday 7th May

11am

Arrive from all over Australia.

11.30

Briefing at 3 marshalling points.

11.45

Marshalling for the march.

12.00

Commence march from 3 marshalling points.

1.30 p.m.

Encircling of new Parliament House (around State Circle). Prayer commences (Bring FM radios for prayer broadcast).

2.00

Move to land bridge for afternoon program of celebration.

2.45

Main program commences

Distribution of Granny Smith apples

Bike for Bibles procession leaves with prayer from 10,000 Men

Events on stage continue throughout afternoon.

5.30

Welcoming of the torch from Washington.

Large candles lit and torch light procession.

50,000+ prayers for Australia.

7.45

Concert at land bridge including celebration and pageant by IICM.

10.30

Move to 4 candles for nightlong prayer vigil.

A broad spectrum of Christian leaders and communicators will lead us and help us focus our prayer for the nation.

Sunday 8th May

1.00 a.m.

Youth celebration at Natex with regular transport to the vigil.

3.30

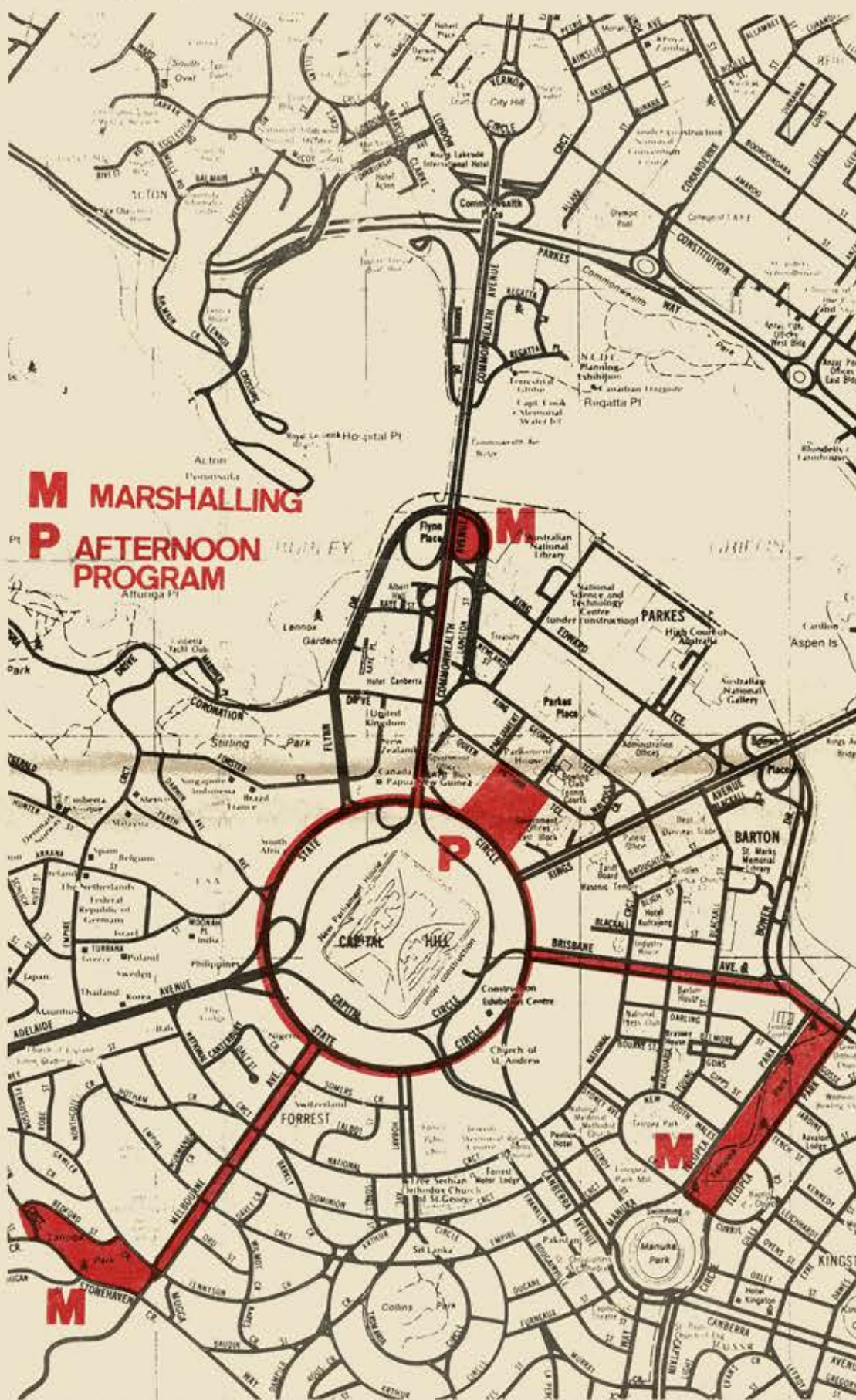
Youth celebration ends. All return to prayer vigil.

7.00 a.m.

The climaxing event of worship, celebration and commitment.

9.30 a.m.

Return home to work together to see the Kingdom come.



I'LL BE THERE!



Dr. Reg Klimionok



Mal Garvin



Bishop Owen Dowling

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM

EVERY PERSON COMING MUST FILL OUT THIS FORM.

LAST NAME:		TITLE:	FIRST NAME:
SPOUSE: _____		TITLE: _____	
CHILDREN COMING: Male: _____ Female: _____		TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS	
ADDRESS: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> (a) I am coming in a private vehicle (number of people): _____	
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ P-CODE: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> (b) I can assist with transport of others (number of people): _____	
Phone: (Area Code) _____ (hm) _____ (wk) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> (c) I will be organising a bus for our group (number): _____	
Denomination: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> (d) I would like to come on a bus organised by others: _____	
I am coming as part of a group: Yes No		<input type="checkbox"/> (e) I would like to come on a train organised by others: _____	
If yes, the name of the group: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> (f) Other means (please specify): _____	
The group leader's name: _____			
Please indicate preferences ACCOMMODATION			
<input type="checkbox"/> Own arranged - Suburb: _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Own tent (site provided)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Tent City			
<input type="checkbox"/> Church/school/community halls			
<input type="checkbox"/> Billeting with family/ies			
Nights required: May 6: _____ May 7: _____			
Other nights will be up to you to arrange.			
YOUR PAYMENT			
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me an 'action pack' including video for \$20.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Full payment must accompany this registration form. Please find enclosed: \$ _____			
DONATION			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am enclosing a donation of: \$ _____			

What's more important that you should be doing on May 7-8?

The call is for every Christian to come to Canberra. You need to work out before God if there are more important things you should be doing. Some Christian leaders have cancelled overseas trips and other speaking engagements so they can come. This is a once-off event that is crucial to your country's future.

Take action now. Register immediately so we can get further organisational details out to you. Begin praying now. Pray for others to join you and bring a group. Whatever you do don't miss your moment to take a stand because you failed to make a decision.

Where do I stay?

Own Arranged Accommodation
Own tent (site provided)
Tent City
Church/School/community halls
Billeting with family/ies
The Group can make its own accommodation arrangements.
The National Gathering office can arrange accommodation.

What must I bring?

- Bring a **TORCH** to participate in the torchlight procession.
- Bring an **FM RADIO** to participate in celebration around Parliament House. We will coordinate the action with an FM transmitter.
- Bring a **BLANKET**. Canberra could be very cold at night!
- Bring **WARM CLOTHES**. Canberra could be very cold during the day!



Bring **MONEY**. A freewill offering will be taken. Although there are deliberately no registration fees, we are hoping you will share with us the significant expenses in running this event. Bring a **BANNER** announcing the town or suburb you are from and if you like the fellowship/church you are from (especially for groups).

How do I get there?

The options are many. You can come any way from hitchhiking to jet aircraft! But you need to organise your transport and transport costs will be your own responsibility (unless your church has sent you as a representative).

In most areas of Australia you will find others are coming and many are hiring buses to cut down on the traffic problems in Canberra. Even churches that have booked buses haven't necessarily filled them. You would be wise to make contact with local coordinators. If these are not known, the nearest contact point below will be able to help you.

We would like to know how you are coming so we can get you to the most convenient marshalling point!

Plan now, allowing sufficient time for travel to enable you to arrive in time for the briefing sessions on Saturday morning at 11.30 a.m.

If you are coming as a group, a church bus will be the cheapest form of transport, a self-drive hire bus the next cheapest, then a coach, train or plane.



Many churches and groups are seeing this as the climax of their Bicentennial activities. The growing list of participating organisations include:

Parliamentary Christian Fellowship
World Vision Australia
Fusion Australia
Youth With A Mission
The Bible Society
Ministries of 10,000 Men
Intercessors for Australia
Lyons Australia
National Alliance of Christian Leaders
World Literature Crusade
Logos Foundation
Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International
Catholic Communications - Archdiocese of Canberra/Goulburn
Anglican Youth Department (Sydney Diocese)
Christian Youth Travel Association
International Institute of Creative Ministries
Christian Television Association
Life Ministries
Student Life
Youth Ministries
Uniting Church Board of Missions (N.S.W.)

The Joint Commission for Church Development, Canberra, which represents all the mainline churches in the city, have appointed their Bicentenary Committee to be the local Board of Reference for the Gathering.

I Want to Help Promote the Gathering

This year Australian people are reflecting in a new way. This presents opportunities for them to hear and respond to God's nature. But we urgently need more people spreading the word. Can you help?

Would you consider being an area co-ordinator? Encourage the people around you to come to Canberra. There are "action packs" available to help you do this which include a 15 min., inspiring VHS video, literature and instructions on how to effectively present the Gathering. You can buy a video for \$20 or borrow one. Organise a bus load to come from your Church. Arrange for a deputation at your church/youth group/home group. Contact all the Christians in your own network and call them to come to Canberra.

For any more information or promotional materials contact the National Gathering Office at P.O. Box 622, Kingston, ACT, 2604. PH: (062) 959 532.

Major Contact Points for the Gathering: Please send all registration forms to:

The National Gathering
P.O. Box 622 Kingston ACT
(062) 95 9532

Other information by states:
P.O. Box 105
Hornsby NSW 2077
(02) 477 1590

P.O. Box 6 Carnegie Vic 3163
(03) 568 2427

P.O. Box 492
Woolloongabba Qld 4102
(07) 891 5529

P.O. Box 81
North Hobart Tas 7002
(002) 34 9127

P.O. Box 614
Elizabeth S.A. 5112
(08) 252 3953

P.O. Box 24
Vic Park W.A. 6100
(09) 361 1336

GROUP LEADERS' REGISTRATION FORM

Group leaders must also fill in the Individual Registration Form please.

GROUP NAME:		Group leader:	
CONTACT ADDRESS: _____ City _____ State _____ Postcode _____ PHONE NUMBER: (Area code)(____) _____ CHURCH: _____ NUMBER IN GROUP: _____ Male _____ Female _____		TRANSPORT What type of transport will your group be using (please specify): _____ _____ _____ Arrival time: _____ Departure time: _____	
ACCOMMODATION <input type="checkbox"/> The group is making its own accommodation arrangements: If Yes, what type? _____ Where? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> The group wants the National Gathering office to arrange accommodation please. Type of accommodation and how many for each type: _____ _____ _____		OFFICE USE ONLY Phoned in: _____ Taken by: _____ Date: _____ Office: _____ Date received Rect. No. _____	