

Getting to Know You:

Shirley Prosser:



“Shirl the Pearl” as she is affectionately known, is pictured here at her 80th birthday celebrated recently, when 120 friends and family came from near and far to pay tribute to this amazing woman of God.

Her spiritual journey began going forward at a Billy Graham Crusade in Sydney 50 years ago, closely followed by Baptism in the Spirit and speaking in tongues, a fairly rare phenomenon in those days.

She took the Word of God literally, sold all she had and gave it away and went off to Bible College to train for ministry, expecting to do missionary work. While there, the death of a

young mother and the possibility of her four children being split up, brought back memories of Shirley's own childhood where she was raised by an aunt. To keep the family together, she married the father! This proved not a good motive for marriage and she was soon left to raise the four young girls on her own.

When these duties were complete, she joined the Bundeena Christian Community who reached out to the unwanted, troubled, brokenhearted of this world whom the Churches in the area frowned upon. It was a live-in Disciple Training School. In her role as Minister of the Community (which numbered up to 140) Shirley was known to preach up a storm on many occasions and stood for no nonsense: “God's Way or the highway!”, a loving discipline which is so needed today.

She lived in one room for the 19 years she was there. That room was also used for counselling and whatever else she needed it for. Hundreds of people are living useful lives today because of Shirley. Even a Bishop is among them! On many occasions she was seen at Kings Cross seeking out the lost and needy, bringing them back to the Community. Here you really had to live out what you preached.

It was at the Community that her “Ruth and Naomi” friendship began with her precious friend Christene over 30 years ago, where they felt God gave them to each other. When it was time to move on from the Community, Shirley trained as a Pastoral Care worker and volunteered at St. Vincent's Wesley Mission in Sydney where Christene was, by then, Director of Nursing. Christene has recently become Shirley's carer and at BTLM we all admire her devotion to the call.

A few years ago, the Lord spoke to Shirley with a call to move out of the land she was familiar with, but she didn't know where to. The answer came through a dedicated Christian man who expressed his desire to honour Shirley for her faithful, committed ministry at Bundeena and wished to provide accommodation at The Entrance. As a result, we at BTLM are so blessed to have them as part of our church family here.

On a lighter side, Shirley loves opera, Country & Western music and traditional Jazz. She enjoyed bushwalking up to 30 Km per day, and has travelled overseas, including twice to Israel. And she spoils “Abigail” the friendliest long haired miniature dachshund ever, but beware of the lick!

Shirley loves listening to people, another great ministry. Get to know her. She is an inspiration!

Pastors:

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The Bridge



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There's an old chorus that goes. Hasn't the Lord been a good friend, Hasn't the Lord been good, Hasn't the Lord been good to me. He blessed me in the morning, He blessed me in the night, He blessed me the whole day through, He blessed my rising up and my lying down, You know I'm blessed in everything I do.

Both Belinda and I want to encourage you church. Just look at what the Lord has done in you and your brother & sister this past year. Whether you realise it or not you have changed, and for the better. This is very exciting, because it's the power of God working in you and through you.

Colossians 1 encourages us. v4 ...we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints. v6 All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. v10 And we pray that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, v11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience and joy...

We want to thank everyone of you, you are special and mean a lot to us. Bless you and your family this Christmas season.

Love Ps Anthony & Ps Belinda XXX

What BTLM is all about

- Proclaiming the Good News of Eternal Life
- Demonstrating the healing power of Jesus Christ
- Training an army to do the same works as He did
- We are His arms and legs, His mouthpiece
- We are a Church without walls

In this issue:

A word from Ps Anthony & Ps Belinda

December Calendar

Getting to Know You

~ Bridge to Life Calendar — December 2009 ~

☐ School Holidays

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>What's new:</p> <p>Bus service is now available - for pick up and drop off times see Charles 0423 201 408</p> <p>Working Bee at the church to paint the auditorium see Brad 0404 545 019</p>		<p>1 7:15pm Prayer at The Church Rob 0403 582 650</p>	<p>2 7pm-9pm Home Group Brad & Jannie Exley 4/19 Bay Rd The Entrance 4334 1088</p>	<p>3 2:30pm Street Reach Meet at KFC The Entrance VB 0437 381 713 Anthony 0419 55 44 84</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 8:00am Working Bee at The Church Brad 0404 545 019 Painting Auditorium</p>
<p>6 10am Church Service</p> <p>7pm Healing Service</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 7:15pm Prayer at The Church Rob 0403 582 650</p>	<p>9 7pm-9pm Making Disciplers at Billy & Margie Rampono 4/21-23 Oceanview Rd Gorokan</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Birthday today Brad Exley</p> 	<p>12</p>
<p>13 10am Church Service + Kids' Christmas Play</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 7:15pm Prayer at The Church Rob 0403 582 650</p>	<p>16 7pm-9pm Home Group Jim & Floranie Picot 33 Currawong St Blue Bay 4332 9374</p>	<p>17 2:30pm Street Reach Meet at KFC The Entrance VB 0437 381 713 Anthony 0419 55 44 84</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 7:30am Men's Breakfast End of Year at The Church Anthony 0419 55 44 84</p>
<p>20 10am Church Christmas Service</p> <p>Birthday today Ana Ryan</p> 	<p>21</p>	<p>22 7:15pm Prayer at The Church Rob 0403 582 650</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day</p> 	<p>26</p>
<p>27 10am Church Service</p> <p>"Build The Bridge" Offering</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 7:15pm Prayer at The Church Rob 0403 582 650</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>You are created in the image of God, You are filled with comfort and exceedingly joyful You are filled with the Holy Ghost and power You are not weak because you are strong You are appointed to preach the gospel You may be persecuted but not in despair You are not conformed to this world cause you are transformed by the renewing of your mind</p>	