

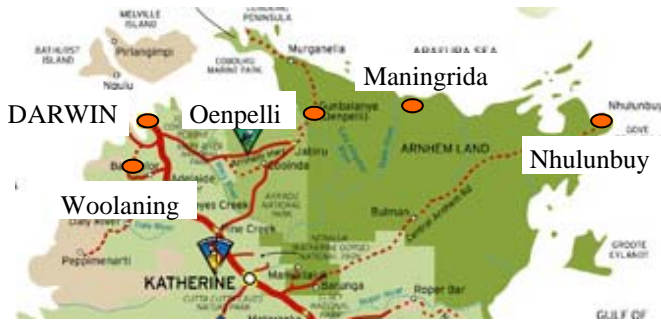
Choice News

Positive perspectives on Life Events

Number 15 Spring 2010

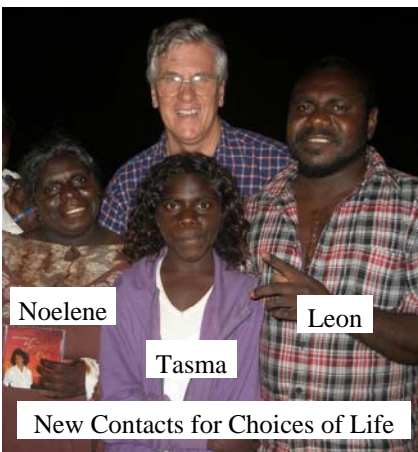


Doors opening into the Top End Bruce's visit — 1-17 September 2010



Sitting in the sand with some of the Aboriginal leaders of the Gumbalanya (Oenpelli) indigenous community (300 kms from Darwin in East Arnhem) made it very clear that they are very concerned about the **next generation of aboriginal young people**. As Bruce shared the *Choices of Life* program, the baby models and the ultrasound pictures they responded enthusiastically. He has already been invited by aboriginal leaders to **return in 2011 for a week of teaching and activities in the community**.

Leon, one of the aboriginal leaders, has asked me to accompany him to **many of the remote communities to take this message to Maningrida and many of the remote communities in Arnhem Land**. Leon, and his wife Noelene, have agreed to become the contacts for



Noelene

Tasma

Leon

New Contacts for Choices of Life

Choices of Life in East Arnhem and are excited about what can be achieved in their community.

Contacts are also being made into Yirrakala and Nhulunbuy on the Gove Peninsula. **All these communities have schools with children and young people that need to hear and understand the truth about the sanctity of life.**

Woolaning Homeland Christian College (180

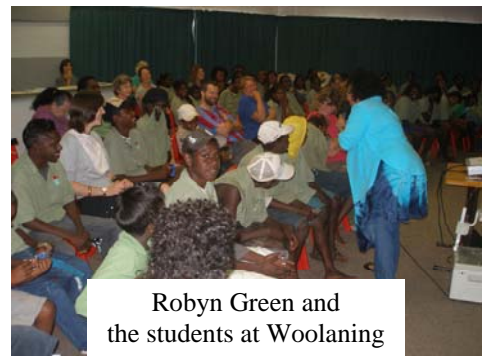
kms from Darwin via Batchelor) is a boarding school for aboriginal students from across the Top End.

Again, the message of the value of

life was welcomed and Bruce has been invited for 3 days of teaching in 2011.

An important part of my preparation will be to simplify the English text on the posters as well as translate them into Kriol and other major aboriginal languages.

While in Darwin Bruce established contacts with many people interested in an expanded pregnancy support service, especially for indigenous young people. It seems as if Catholic Care is the only agency currently providing a limited service. However other groups—church leaders, Mission Australia, and the Chaplain at Royal Darwin Hospital—have also expressed some interest. We trust this interest becomes a reality.



Robyn Green and the students at Woolaning

Young Australians deserve to know the scientific facts, ethics and attitudes surrounding the commencement of human life.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA — NEW CONTACTS

Bruce's visit July-August 2010

There were many highlights during Bruce's first time visit to South Australia. The most significant was meeting **two young ladies passionate about pro-life issues.**



Hannah Phillips

Hannah is a final-year nursing student who is enthusiastic about taking the value of life message to schools across the state. She has already experienced serious opposition when she stood up for life at school.

She is prepared for the battle for the truth! Kristy tells her own story in the attached article. She organised for Bruce to speak to a group of young adults at Hawthorn Church of Christ. They are the first two official contacts for *Choices of Life* in South Australia.

Over the two weeks in the Adelaide area Bruce spoke at 4 churches, 2 youth groups and 1 school (3 classes). Links have been established with 4 other schools in anticipation of a return visit. Bruce also met with contacts in Lutherans for Life. It was a privilege to be part of a group at the home of Dr Harrold Steward.

Bruce was also encouraged by the report of the positive pro-life display at the Royal Adelaide Show each year, billed as "Great Expectations". Dr Toni Turnbull and a number of workers promote the value of life using ultrasound images, colouring competitions for the children, foetal model displays (see the back page of this newsletter) and 'show bags' of important information.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE LIGHT COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAPUNDA

"Bruce has a great passion for the cause of life of unborn children and great concern for young mums faced with difficult decisions.

The content and presentation of the material was excellent, with informative point by point power point slides, information, statistics, diagrams and wonderful visuals. The context of this presentation was firmly Biblically based and well suited for church service presentation. The presentation was in no way condemning of anyone who may have had an abortion but did present with clarity the facts regarding this issue. I understand that the presentation material varies depending on the audience, school, community or church.

I would have no hesitation in having the Choices of Life Ministry back to Kapunda or recommending the ministry for a school, community or church meeting because the content of the presentation is very important."

MY PASSION FOR LIFE

by Kristy Adams

I grew up in a remote country area, Eyre Peninsula, SA. It was pretty obvious that we weren't a normal family. I'm the sixth child of nine, and my mother was a stay at home mum who also took all nine of us through our schooling at home. The message my parents conveyed (and still do) is that children are a blessing from the Lord. A passage from Psalm 127 comes to mind, "*Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him. Children born to a young man are like sharp arrows in a warrior's hands. How happy is the man whose quiver is full of them! He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.*" And also Mark 9:36-37, "*Then he put a little child among them. Taking the child into his arms, he said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes my Father who sent me.'*"

We live in a world that considers children are a problem. Adults are concerned about their own conveniences, and the 'easy way'.

I work now with 'at risk' students in government schools in Adelaide's southern suburbs. Most of these youth have 'everything' in our society's sense of the word – mobile phones, ipods, coloured hair, fake tans, brand clothing, all the materialistic things our culture says will bring happiness, solve all our problems. And yet most are insecure, go home to an empty house after school, rarely share a meal with other family members around the table and live with their mother one week and father another. These youth are crying out for love, acceptance and a sense of belonging to a community. These are the 'problem youth' of our society. Society often writes them off, speaking over them words of hopelessness, words of death.

I mention all this because I want to see the end of abortion as much as my heart weeps for these young people who have been told the lie that they lack value and worth as human beings.

Life, each life, is precious and is created in the image of our God. Each individual is unique, mysterious, fearfully and wonderfully made. Lowering the value of life at one end has serious implications throughout all generations. Life is worth fighting for. People matter.



Kristy Adams

TASMANIA ON THE MOVE

SUPPORT GROUP—KINGSTON

On August 12 Sherrin Drew hosted the first quarterly support meeting for *Choices of Life*, and for the pro-life work in Tasmania in general.

Attracted by servings of chocolate pudding [and a pro-life concern], the meeting discussed some of the work being done, the gifts and contributions various people could make, and the needs of *Choices of Life* in the schools. They then took some **time to pray** for Choices of Life, other pro-life ministries in Tasmania, and any other important current issues. The meeting concluded with a short "education slot" where someone shared a resource that is beneficial in pro-life work.



BRENDA SMITH has begun training, in preparation for taking classes in schools across Tasmania. She is working with Brenda Awde-Cooper, the *Choices of Life* contact in Hobart.



ABOVE RUBIES CAMP
Choices of Life gained the attention of over 100 women attending an Above Rubies retreat in Hobart from 3 - 5 September. **Brenda Awde-**

Cooper set up a Choices of Life stall. The banners, little feet, brochures, and foetal models were used to enhance the display. Newsletters were distributed and women could sign up to receive further updates. **Prior to one of the talks Sherrin Drew presented the goals of Choices of Life and the message of valuing human life .** Soft-touch foetal models were handed through the room and some ladies were given a pair of little feet, raising awareness of these valuable resources. Above Rubies is an international ministry that aims to encourage and strengthen women in their roles as mothers and homemakers. Women have a unique role in valuing life and helping other women to welcome children. Those attending the Above Rubies camp were strengthened and equipped through the work of Choices of Life.

Choices of Life 3rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND FAMILY CAMP at Toukley, 90 minutes north of Sydney **14-16 JANUARY 2011**

Keynote speakers
**Sonja Couroupis
and Linda Broekman**
from Life Network Australia
www.lifenetwork.org.au

Life Network aims to link pro-life Australians and bring about life-affirming change.

A number of young pro-life enthusiasts and campaigners are also on the program!

**BOOK NOW
USING THE ENCLOSED FORM**



**CHOICES OF LIFE IS ON
FACEBOOK**

YOUNG PRO-LIFERS ON THE MOVE

In early August 2010 three year 10 students - Hayley, Shenae and Isaac— at a NSW State High School made separate presentations about abortion to 3 different classes. When 6 students were chosen to present their talks to the High School parents at a parent information night, all three were selected! They have now boldly shared the pro-life message with their peers and over 60 parents.

It had an amazing impact through out the staff and students and people were talking and asking questions about the issue of life and abortion. It had positive ramifications amongst the parents too — the truth, with compassion, was clearly heard.

On October 9 Hayley also spoke passionately at the March for Babies on the steps of Victoria's Parliament House in Melbourne!



**Thank you to those who
have sent stamps—more are
always welcome**

Post them to PO Box 459,
GORDON NSW 2072 or give
them to Bruce when he visits
your school or church!

Germany's Dilemma- The Other Side of Choice

by Anne Arthur

The distribution of Germany's population is seriously skewed. The population is ageing and there are few births. Lower-Saxony - one of the northern countries of the Republic of Germany - is badly in need of babies. Germany's birth rate is 1.38 per woman, and a rate of 2.1 is required to replace the population. Even with an increased number of immigrants, a replacement rate seems impossible to achieve.

Low birth rates affect all areas of life. In 2009, many companies were looking in vain for candidates for apprenticeships. Approximately 10,000 apprenticeship positions remained unfilled because of lack of candidates. And this year does not look better. This forebodes a future shortage of skilled workers to replace those who die or retire.

Is this an unforeseen backlash of liberal abortion laws? I witnessed those laws being passed. It is abundantly clear to me that there is a direct relationship between contraception, abortion and low birth rate -

whether those who enact laws admit to it or not. The liberation of abortion laws resulted in the elimination of approximately 1,000 German babies each work-day; just the number of births the country needed to keep the population in balance. **More important, laws change culture with the passage of time. By facilitating unrestricted abortion, a culture of selfishness has developed, and adults cannot be bothered to take the trouble to raise children.**

The push for a 'right' to unrestricted abortion is being carried out in developing countries in order to bring them 'up to scratch' with more 'progressive' nations.

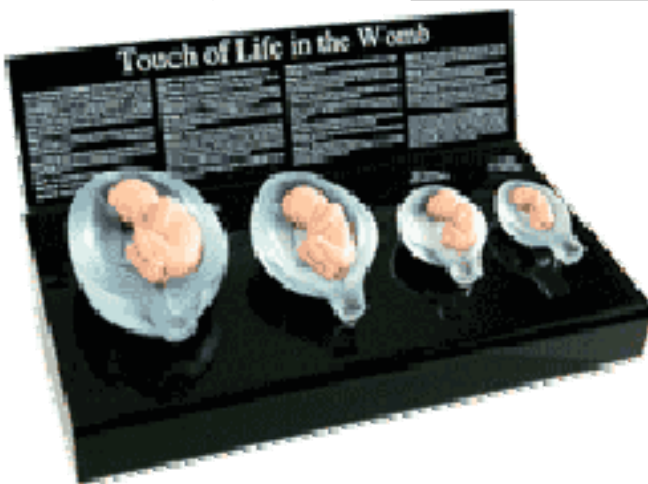
There are some lessons best learnt from the experience of others ... the self-extinction of the German population may just be one such lesson.

Anne Arthur may be contacted at amecarthur@yahoo.com

Is Australia going to face the same dilemma in the years to come?

NEW!

LIFE IN THE WOMB FOETAL MODELS



The wonder of the pre-born is captured in these remarkable life sized models. Each hand-crafted baby—at 10, 12, 14 and 16 weeks—lays snugly in a semi-clear womb. The womb halves fit perfectly together and create a sense of the reality of life in the womb. They are made out of a soft silicone which gives them a realistic feel and weight. Each pre-born is designed to be handled, felt and cradled. The combination of seeing, feeling and holding the babies and wombs makes an impact and opens doors to tell the truth of life before birth.

Ideal for schools, churches, shows and any event where the value of life needs to be promoted. Dr Toni Turnbull purchased a set for use at the Royal Adelaide Show (see page 2)

COST: \$400 Including freight from USA

Name

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Please return to: CHOICES OF LIFE
PO BOX 459 GORDON NSW 2072

Please charge each month to my credit card until I advise otherwise

OR a one off donation of:
 \$50 \$100 \$200 or my choice

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