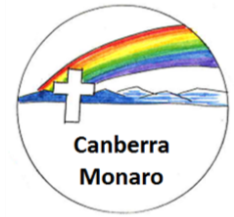




# EMMAUS NEWS



Newsletter of the Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community

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## A message from our Community Lay Director

### Gatherings

Saturday 10 Jul 21  
2 - 4.30pm  
O'Conner Uniting Hall

Saturday 14 Aug 21  
2 - 4.30pm  
O'Conner Uniting Hall

Saturday 11 Sep 21 (Going Fourth)  
8.45am - 5pm  
O'Conner Uniting Hall

Saturday 13 Nov 21  
2 - 4.30pm  
O'Conner Uniting Hall

### 2022 Walk Dates

Men's #91: 20 - 23 Oct 22  
Women's #92: 3 - 6 Nov 22

### 2021 Pilgrims

**Men's #89:** Ovi Boaru, Tom Browne, Josh Guelen-Oates, Irwin Hodder, Dan Rogers, Michael Simon, Trent Watson

**Women's #90:** Jacqui Bell, Kelly Browne, Kara Cavenagh, Catherine Couper, Gay Hodder, Pippy Robbins, Jess Rogers, Cecilia Symonds, Cathy Taylor, Judith Truter, Julie Willersdorf, Sharon Winslade



A warm welcome to our new Community members from Walks #89 and #90: Catherine, Cathy, Cecilia, Daniel, Gay, Irwin, Jacqui, Jess, Joshua, Judith, Julie, Kara, Kelly, Michael, Ovidiu, Pippy, Sharon, Tom, and Trent. May God continue to bless and encourage you during your fourth days.

These were the first Walks we have held since I have had the privilege of being the Community Lay Director for the Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community. It has greatly impacted me - the effort and time people are putting in when

servicing the Lord through Emmaus. A big thank you to all the team members of Walks #89 and #90 for your willingness to serve and to be open and available to God's leading.

Thank you to all those who have prayed, served meals, made agape and all the other things that make Emmaus possible. One of the foundations of Emmaus is anonymous servanthood. Your names may not be known to the Pilgrims, Team or even to me, but God knows what service you have provided to Emmaus and the wider Kingdom. May God bless you.

Although Walks are a very important part of Emmaus, the primary focus of Emmaus is to serve God by strengthening, training and encouraging our Community Members so they can then serve Him better through their local Church. A key to doing this is through our Gatherings.

The next Gathering is on Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup> at O'Connor Uniting Church at 2pm. We will meet in the Hall. This is an opportunity for our wonderful Sponsors to introduce our latest Community members to a Gathering. We will hear two Fourth Day talks by team members from our recent walks, Board members will give a brief update of what they have been doing. and in addition Wayne and Teresa Scott (LDs) and Joy Waldron (SD) will be Commissioned for the Going Fourth #15 to

be held in September.

2022 will see our Walks held in October/November and this will mean quite a bit of our annual program will need to be adjusted. A phrase being used by a number of Board Members is "get used to different": this clearly relates to us as a Community. The Board is meeting on Tuesday June 22<sup>nd</sup> and an agenda item is putting together a Calendar for 2022. The Board will also be meeting again on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Much of that meeting will be spent discussing Walk Reports and recommendations so we can adjust and make improvements for the Walks in 2022. As a Community we should never be satisfied with the status quo - we want to strive to serve God in better and more effective ways. Contact me if you want to share some of your thoughts with the Board.

One of the privileges/burdens of being CLD is that often community members share of some of their personal and family struggles. Can I urge you to pray for each other! There are many wonderful people in our Emmaus Community who are struggling through some deep, painful and sad times in their lives. May God give them comfort, answers and directions in these times.

**De Colores**

Andrew

## July Gathering

Saturday 10 July 2pm @ O'Conner Uniting Church

Covid safe sign available - download the Check in CBR app.



Don't forget your Worship Book, name tag and cross, scarf and any bling you'd like to wear to brighten the day!

# A message from our Community Spiritual Director



## Kingdom Encounter

a reflection on Luke 19:1-10

*He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.'* Zacchaeus stood

*there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'* Luke 19:1-10 NRSV

Many who have grown up in either the church or Sunday School know the story of Zacchaeus. After all, it lends itself well to the childhood imagination: a vertically challenged man, tree climbing, Jesus' personalised attention.

*But this is a story that speaks to much more than childhood.*

Zacchaeus was *not* popular. No tax-collector found themselves welcome among fellow Jews. After all they were *turncoats* – fellow Israelites contracting with Rome to collect money from the *occupied* and for the *occupiers*.

Of course, they also took enough to cover their own expenses – and then some. This was an occupation that made Zacchaeus very 'rich'.

All this should help us understand why these people like Zacchaeus were considered betrayers of their heritage and forfeiters of their birthright.

So much so that a tax-collector was no longer a '*...son of Abraham*'.

*But this opportunistic, well-off outcast is determined to see Jesus.* Blocked out by the crowd, Zacchaeus finds himself up a 'sycamore tree' seeking a small glimpse of the famous teacher and healer.

### A small glimpse

Of course, we have credited this turn of events to Zacchaeus' height. But both the Greek text – and the translation above – say '*he* was short in stature'. This '*he*' could refer to either our tax-collector or to, of all people, *Jesus*.

*Zacchaeus' considered tree climbing episode just may have been to peer down into a crowd and sight a short Messiah!*

But no matter who it was that lacking height we arrive at the same place. This well-to-do outcast planning a sighting of the famous healer and teacher.

Zacchaeus, however, much to his surprise, was not the only one with plans that day. Jesus deliberately stopped beneath Zacchaeus' tree, 'looked up', named it's occupant, and invited himself to stay at his home.

Perhaps the crowd could forgive this misunderstanding if it did not seem so *intentional*. At the very least Zacchaeus and his occupation are known to all 'who saw it'.

Surrounded by an adoring, starstruck crowd, Jesus had his pick of places to rest.

*And he chose Zacchaeus.*

Once again, Jesus has left a gathering of grumblers in his wake: 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.'

*It is becoming something of a habit.*

But Jesus' willingness to share hospitality with this thief seems well placed. We know nothing of the content of their dinner conversation, but we do know – and have celebrated for centuries – the outcome: 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.'

It is a miracle – after all – that *no one* thought possible.

And I think, even though he used different terms, Jesus would agree. Jesus called this

generous turnaround 'salvation', Zacchaeus 'a son of Abraham', and his mission 'to seek and save the lost'.

Jesus cared a great deal about our relationship with God. It would seem from this story that he cared at least as much about our relationships with each other. Zacchaeus' is no pie-in-the-sky apology. *His salvation is generous and grounded in action, restoration, and repentance.*

A big result for such a little glimpse!

### **Conversation Starters:**

*What experiences have you had that have drawn you to a deeper understanding of Jesus? What would be your equivalent of the 'little glimpse' of Jesus that Zacchaeus sought?*

*How does this account deepen your understanding of 'salvation'? How does it broaden your understanding of Jesus' welcome?*

Peace,

**Mark**

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## Mark's Blog

Our Community Spiritual Director, Mark Beresford, publishes weekly Bible reflections on his website, Barefoot Follower: Inviting Reflection on the Stories of Jesus (<https://barefootfollower.life>). You are welcome to visit this site anytime.



**Going Fourth #15**  
**Saturday 11 September 10am to 4 pm @ O'Connor**  
**Uniting Church**



Come along to hear three special messages on the theme

**“Everything that has breath praise the Lord”**  
**Psalm 150:6**

Join us on Saturday 11 September  
O'Connor Uniting Church Hall  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bring your lunch, name badge and worship book

Prepare for sharing, fun, fellowship, food opportunities and hearing God's word  
Morning and afternoon tea supplied

Please register by sending an email to  
The registrar at [registrar.canberramonaro@gmail.com](mailto:registrar.canberramonaro@gmail.com)  
Or the secretary at [canberramonaro@emmaus.org.au](mailto:canberramonaro@emmaus.org.au)

Cost \$10 - pay at the door (cash only, no EFTPOS)  
Or by direct deposit to Canberra Monaro Emmaus  
BSB: 634634 Account Number: 100021977  
Please put your name as the reference



# Walk Reports

## Men's Walk #89 WLD Report



After a COVID pandemic caused a cancellation of Walk #89 in 2020, we are now able to reflect on the delivery of a wonderfully successful Walk #89 in 2021. The Greenhills surrounds were, as usual, astonishingly beautiful and, to top it off, we were blessed with clear blue skies

and the last of the temperate weather.

What a special honour and privilege to be trusted to lead this Mens' Walk. Every Emmaus Walk is a very special time and Walk #89 was no different. We were blessed with a wonderfully cohesive Walk Team. All team members have a magnificent servant heart, and their love of our Lord and our Christian brothers and sisters was on full display.

Our Assistant Lay Directors maintained a fine sense of humour as they worked tirelessly to ensure that the Walk program progressed on time and without a hitch. The Table Leaders and their Assistants did an exceptional job of facilitating discussion after each Talk. Their leadership was fundamental to the pilgrims being so engaged from the outset.

Our Spiritual Director and his Godly assistants were always at the ready to pray, encourage and share with the pilgrims.

Our wonderful Dining Room Coordinators with their volunteer crew did such a wonderful job. Their love and care for us was very obvious and they were a very important part of our Walk team.

Our inimitable photographer ensured that we all could take home a great picture of the Walk Team with pilgrims. And our Agape Fairy did an exceptional job, treating each item of agape with the same love and care as those who created them. The pilgrims very-much appreciated the agape gifts and the Pilgrim Packs.

The efforts of our CLD Andrew Southwell, and his engagement with many overseas Emmaus communities, resulted in a large number of letters of support and love and encouragement from distant lands. Those letters were very encouraging to pilgrims and the Team.

The worship music and reflective commentary provided by our Musical Directors added so much to the quality of the weekend.

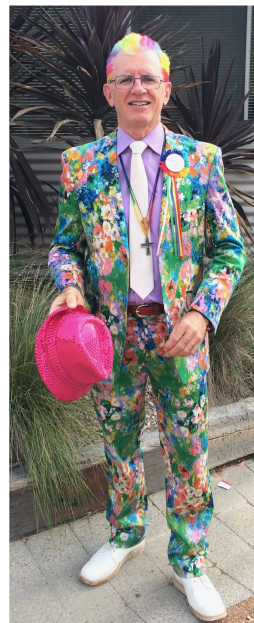
I want to thank the community members who supported us with their presence on Saturday night, and also at the Closing ceremony on Sunday night. I'm sure you will agree that the responses of the pilgrims at the Closing were truly inspirational.

Finally, to all those who prayed for us, particularly our amazing Prayer Directors, please accept our heartfelt gratitude. God listens and prayer works!

When all is said and done, our little Walk #89 Team was a small part of a much bigger Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community. May God richly bless you all.

De Colores, Michael

## Men's Walk #89 WSD Report



Well, it was a long time coming, but it was worth the wait. With Covid 19 delaying the walk a year, it was a blessing to see how the team maintained a prayerful focus and anticipation of what God was intending for our walk. The team was ably led by Mike Rowe and the trusty band of ALDs; it is always a joy to see how the team members grow in grace and service as training progressed, and this was evidenced by how the

Lord provided us with a cracker set of talks to review and confirm.

On the walk the team continued to bond in a spirit of high idealism and obedience to the Emmaus principles. The walk flowed well and each member of the team fulfilled their role, relating well to the pilgrims and having fun in doing so. It was a pleasure to see first time team members as well as seasoned members leading discussion at tables and the SD team also getting alongside and relating to our pilgrims.

Our 7 pilgrims appeared to settle in quickly and they participated in the program with good spirits, which is a sign of good sponsoring. They were open in sharing on the tables, and pretty enthusiastic in the presentations. Dying moments was a special time; everyone came out readily and I noted that the Spirit prompted everyone with significant issues to leave at the foot of the cross for Jesus to deal with. Similarly at closing, the pilgrims came and shared readily and honestly and this encouraged us that God was at work, and that we should work towards running another Walk next year under Dean Warwick's leadership, to bless another set of pilgrims.

We appreciated the community gathering for Candlelighting, and the time of contemplation that followed was sweet with commitments to Christ being strengthened and deepened. We welcome the new members of the community and look forward to seeing them at gatherings and serving as team together on a walk in the near future. After a COVID pandemic caused a cancellation of Walk #89 in 2020, we are now able to reflect on the delivery of a wonderfully successful Walk #89 in 2021. The Greenhills surrounds were, as usual, astonishingly beautiful and, to top it off, we were blessed with clear blue skies and the last of the temperate weather.

Jim Curtis



## Women's Walk #90 WLD Report



Our God is an awesome God! How many times have we heard that or said it ourselves and yet it continues to be so. The cold winter days we shared at Greenhills did not phase or deter our gorgeous Pilgrims and Team. From the Thursday night to the Sunday afternoon everyone went from

strength to strength. The Pilgrims quickly engaged with each other, as well as with Team members.

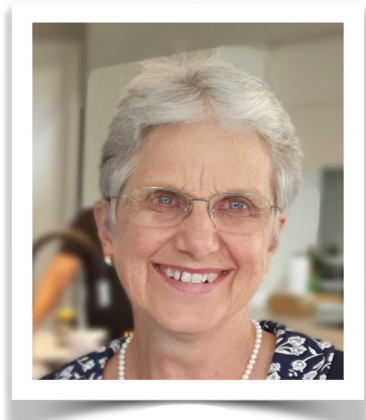
I had the privilege to see the relationships grow and blossom in the table groups as the Pilgrims embraced God's love and passed it on. It was incredible to see how they cared for and nurtured each other, not only on their own table but to everyone there. God's Holy Spirit was with us in abundance, and then some. The Pilgrims took to poster time with relish and were disappointed when, on Sunday they didn't have to do them. There were some incredibly talented women! The Team of Walk 90 were the most amazing group of women who worked very hard to make this Walk the best it could be. In their tireless, selfless giving they blessed the Pilgrims enormously and, I'm sure, in return were richly blessed themselves. The icing on the cake was our beautiful worship time – bliss!

Radiant faces could be seen very often and of course the tears as well. God clearly worked in both Pilgrims and Team. And at Closing the responses were very heart felt and positive.

What a privilege and honour it has been to lead these women to a closer relationship to God, through God's love. I thank God that He provided everything needed to make this Walk so memorable. A big thank you to the Emmaus Community, for stepping up to the mark to make this all happen. It's undeniable what is possible through God's love and teamwork.

De Colores, Jan

## Women's Walk #90 WSD Report



"Let us walk in the light of the Lord" was the theme chosen by Jan the LD.

This was so fitting as we saw God's light shine in the lives of the pilgrims, break through the darkness and bring healing and freedom.

This walk to Emmaus was a beautiful journey with Jesus. Throughout team training, we sensed the Lord preparing the team and bringing us into community with each other, drawing us together under His Lordship.

I would like to thank the board and the community for this privilege to serve God in this role. It was such a pleasure working with a wonderful team of ASDs and the whole team. I thank the Lord for His faithfulness and the faithfulness and diligence of the team and this community. A **Big** thank you to the sponsors who prepared the pilgrims so well, to the community for your prayers and service in so many ways, so God's love and grace could be very real to the pilgrims. The power of prayer was felt during the training and throughout the walk. The prayer cover is so vital. The gift of music and praise and worship ushered in the Presence of the Holy Spirit in a tangible way, drawing the pilgrims into His presence and they were ready to receive a fresh revelation of His love into their hearts. The pilgrims' lives are being transformed by His love and they experienced healing and freedom.

We celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness and the privilege to be part of Walk 90 for 'such a time as this'. His heart is about drawing us closer to Him, and restoring us as His daughters and His representatives here on earth. As we journey on our fourth days, I pray that each of us will be so aware of His Presence, Power and Provision in everything as we declare "Jesus is my all in all". 'The Lord is my light and my salvation'. Ps. 27:1

What a Mighty God we serve. All glory is His!

De Colores, Mary



## Note to Community

Next year the Emmaus Walks will be held later in the year – warmer Walks! In preparation, the Board have updated the 2021 calendar

### Canberra Monaro Emmaus Calendar

#### July – December 2021 Updated

<b>JUL</b>	Sat	10	Women's Debrief	11.30am	O'Connor UC
			<b>After Walk Gathering</b> – meet the Board Commission - #15 Going Fourth LD and SD	2.00pm	O'Connor UC
	Sat	17	Going Fourth #15 Training	8.45am-5.00pm	O'Connor UC
	Thurs	22	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
<b>AUG</b>	Sat	14	Board Meeting	11.00am	O'Connor UC
			<b>Gathering</b> - Commission Team Going Fourth #15	2.00pm	
	Fri	27	Newsletter		
<b>SEP</b>	Sat	11	<b>Going Fourth #15</b>	8.45am - 5.00pm	O'Connor UC
	Thurs	16	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Thurs-Sat	16-18	National Conference		Toowoomba (tbc)
<b>OCT</b>	Sat	9	<b>Zoom Gathering</b> CLD Meet with WLDs	7.30pm 11am or 4pm	Zoom OCUC
	Thurs	14	Board Meeting – Team Logistics ALD, Progression	7.30pm	Zoom
		29	Newsletter		
<b>NOV</b>	Sat	13	Board Meeting <b>Gathering</b> - Commission GF#16 LDs (Board Elections if required)	11.00am 2.00pm	O'Connor UC O'Connor UC
<b>DEC</b>	Sat	11	Team Selection Meeting for Walks #91/92 <b>Gathering</b> - BBQ	11.00am or 2.30pm 12.30pm	O'Connor UC O'Connor UC

## 2022 Walk Dates

Men's #91 Thursday 20 – 23 October

Women's #92 Thursday 3 – 6 November

**The 2022 Calendar will be sent out in the October Newsletter**