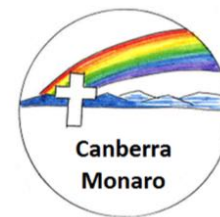




# EMMAUS NEWS



Newsletter of the Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community

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## A message from our Community Lay Director



2022 has been a year with lots of highlights mixed together with its fair share of struggles and low points. Some of us have lost family and friends during the year while others have been struggling with health and personal issues. Yet as I think back I am so grateful for God's blessings and leading during the year. It would be nice to say that we have seen the last of covid, however it is still impacting us individually and as a community in many ways. I want to thank each and every one of you for your involvement in the Emmaus Community during 2022 and I look forward to continuing to minister with you as together we serve our living God through Emmaus.

Walks #91 and #92 were a great time of blessing by God's agape love. Thanks again to Dean Warwick and Trish Dooley for your leadership and the Walk Team members for your service in obedience to God's leading in your lives. I have been asked "How do you measure the success of a Walk?" Answers could include: the number of pilgrims, the number of tears spilt, the ratio between laughter and prayers or even the total number of calories consumed in 72 hours! Only God really knows what the success of a Walk is, however a good indicator is the number of pilgrims who then come to Gatherings of the Community. On that basis I think we can conclude that these Walks were a success!

Since this is the first Newsletter since the Walks I would like to again warmly welcome our new pilgrims:

Dereje Aby, Andrew & Christine Carroll, Bryce Davy, Rachel Glassford, Kirsty Holmes, Veera Lehtimaki, Johnno Mraz, Fiona Parr, Diane Porter, James & Emma Prior, Bron Smith, Rob Stevenson, Jamie Van Heel, Rich Ward and Damian Wilkie.  
May God continue to bless you in your 4<sup>th</sup> days.

As we come to the end of the year, there will be a few changes to the Board for 2023. I want to thank outgoing Board Member Trish Dooley who has served so faithfully for many years. Continuing Board Members are: Von Chenery, Kirsty Ross, Jim Curtis, Gary Bates, Mike Rowe and Andrew Southwell. Incoming Board Members are Kat Santosuosso and Andy Visser. Andrew Chenery will serve as our Treasurer in a non-board position for 2023. I am really looking forward to how God will lead us through this new Board. We begin with a Workshop and Meeting on Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget to check out the 2023 Calendar in this Newsletter and then get the dates into your phone calendar, notebook Calendar, Wall Calendar and your partner and families calendars. I wouldn't want you to miss a thing next year. You would be crazy to miss Going Fourth in 2023!

May the Christmas period be a time of rest and blessing as you contemplate the great love of God shown through His Son. May the New Year be used to thank God for all He has done and a time to dedicate ourselves anew to serve Him in the year ahead.

## De Colores

Andrew

# A message from our Community Spiritual Director

## A Visit Announced



It has been announced in Oct by the NSW parliament that King Charles III will visit us, probably in Oct 2024, for it's bicentenary. So, I might ask you; "What does King Charles' visit to us mean for you?"

Possible answers might range from "Nothing" to "Lots". How you answer that question depends on who you are, your position on the monarchy and what possible impact it might have on you and your

life. I have dim memories of going with the family to see Queen Elizabeth as she was driven past the crowds lining Northbourne Ave, with her trademark wave to the crowds. When his Majesty comes, I suppose it will be much the same; some won't do anything at all, some will go out to see him if possible. But for some it will be very significant; there are those whose job it will be to organise and make arrangements, people will have to make his bed, cook breakfast, make security arrangements. Some police might cheer, or curse when they draw extra duties. Our

Governor General David Hurley and his wife Linda will no doubt get to meet him along with a raft of other polies and dignitaries.

And no doubt there will be people who today don't even know he is coming, who will be chosen to meet and maybe even speak with him. I'm thinking of the cute little girls who will be offering bunches of flowers in welcome to their school, or town etc.

Now, let's read of another announcement. From Isaiah 9.

*[2] The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine. ... [6] For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.[7] His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!*

Now, no doubt when Isaiah made his announcement about a light coming into the darkness of war and invasion of his day, there was just as much variety in the reactions of the people who heard it as there is in Australia today re King Charles visit.

But in the end, there are only two groups of people in Isaiah's world, just as there are only two groups of people in our world. There are those who need this child and those who don't. If you're doing just fine on your own; if you win victory after victory with no trouble at all; if you don't even see the darkness because your future is so bright you need sunnies, maybe the gospel isn't yet for you. Maybe you need to experience the darkness first.

But if you do feel the darkness; if you are weary and need rest; if you mourn and long for comfort; if you feel worthless and wonder if God even cares; if you fail and desire strength; if you sin and need a saviour; this announcement, this light is for you.

Now here is the God bit. When there is a fight looming you want the best fighters and weapons that you can get. But God does not do it like that. He sends a baby and that is not what we expect is it? When you get a baby, it is weak. It can't even hold its head up. A baby is vulnerable, anything can happen, and it will have no defence. So how is it then that God sent a baby into this vicious world? In what universe does that make any sense at all?

But God does not do things the way we think would be smart, indeed God overturns our expectations because God made the world in such a way that weakness overcomes power, foolishness overcomes wisdom and a child defeats all the strength and might of evil.

When everything else in this world fails, when our best plans are found wanting and useless, when we have reached the very end of what we can do, it is then that a child is born to us, it

is a baby in the Manger who will set everything right again.

This verse says the government will be upon his shoulders. We might ask of our secular government: "Can we trust the leader?" And by extension we might also ask: "Can we trust Jesus?" and "What kind of government will he bring?" Well, Isaiah tells us. Jesus is and will be forever a "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

I love what Ray Ortlund says in his commentary on this:

"As the Wonderful Counsellor, he has the best ideas and strategies. Let's follow him.  
As the Mighty God, he defeats his enemies easily. Let's hide behind him.  
As the Everlasting Father, he loves us endlessly. Let's enjoy him.  
As the Prince of Peace, he reconciles us while we are still his enemies. Let's welcome his dominion."

So: Have we allowed the Child-King to take over the government of our lives? Only then can we know the benefits of God with us. We cannot have the light, the honour, the joy, the abundance, the integration that he offers in any other way.

May your Christmas truly be filled with Joy, Peace, and Love.

De Colores,

**Jim**



## Walk Reports - Men's Walk #91

I would like to say from the start, what an amazing honour and privilege it was to lead Walk #91. Having had time to reflect on the entire process of training and the Walk weekend, I want to say that even though I was the appointed Lay Director, the success of the weekend is down to the team and community's dedication to performing their individual roles.



I love the whole Emmaus movement for a whole lot of reasons. The main one being I love watching Men walk in on the Thursday night, often wondering why they are even there and then leaving on Sunday evening, changed men. This happened on Walk #91. Nine phenomenal men arrived, still thinking about what they had left behind. After the New Found Friend activity and watching the DVD, the pilgrims are asked to remove their watches and to place their trust in people they don't know in order to get around. Although this must feel slightly odd, everyone embraced this. The silence is always a powerful time and once again, this was embraced by all.

Without anticipating, Friday morning brought with it a sense of excitement. From the moment table groups were announced, all of the pilgrims launched themselves and listened intently to the talks, discussions, posters, etc. A number of notes were received saying that every table group was gelling well together.

Everyone showed their spirit of acceptance of the program and participated in poster presentations. As Lay Director, I said, "Double points would be awarded for interpretative dance." What a joy it was to see men express themselves through dance!! Everyone went to bed with a sense of joy and hunger of what God was going to do in the coming days.

Saturday morning came around and after enjoying another delicious breakfast that also included "Happy Toast", Pilgrims and Team threw themselves into the activities of the day.

Dying moments is always a powerful time of the weekend and Walk #91 was no different. Pilgrims and Team shared openly their individual "Dying Moments" and God arrived in a huge way. Breakthrough was received and Pilgrims and Team's lives were changed. By this time, everyone involved was pressing heavily into God and God was doing what God wanted to do.

After a number of powerful talks and the customary food opportunities, the dinner was phenomenal and the Pilgrims and Team were blown away by the attitude of servanthood by the community. The poster presentations were next level and a level of creative genius was discovered that included play-dough and a standard of dance not seen previously. The ALD skit followed and this was a moment in time that will be remembered for ever.

The next powerful time was Candlelighting. I have had the privilege of witnessing the Candlelighting experience a number of times, and every time I am lost for words. If the team who have experienced this previously are blown away by the experience, I can only imagine how appreciative the pilgrims felt. After returning to Greenhills, the Pilgrims and Team all looked completely blessed by the time.

Sunday rolled around and the Pilgrims all arrived still buzzing from the night before wearing an amazing amount of bling!! After another breakfast full of deep fried goodness, and a break of about 3 hand widths, Pilgrims and Team converged once again on the Conference room.

There was a small sense of disappointment when the Pilgrims were told that there were no more official opportunities to exhibit their dancing skills, however God was transforming lives. Even though Sunday is a very busy day, by this time the Pilgrims were all forging ahead with new ideas of how to serve their own churches and communities while also dealing with some difficult issues. God was once again providing.

Just when the Pilgrims thought that they had experienced all of the surprises that Emmaus could offer, out came the letters. What a delight it was to be there when men open their letters and break down in tears as they are reminded of the journeys they have been on and how much they are loved. After the letters were read, Pilgrims and Team made their way down to the Conference room and were greeted by the Community. After a small chat from myself, the Pilgrims were asked to share about what the 3 days have meant to them and what they will do about it. All Pilgrims were excited to share about their journey and the changes God has made in their lives. It was so exciting to see how these men have changed and are hungry to see how God will use them during their 4th days.

To wrap up, what an honour it was to share this time with the Pilgrims and to encourage

them into their 4th day adventures. I want to finish by sharing some words I shared with the team at the Friday evening team meeting. I believe that these words are relevant to all of us as we go about our day to day lives.

***“We are here to create an atmosphere that allows men/women to make themselves vulnerable and to not get in the way of anything God wants to do.”***

De Colores

Dean

## Walk Reports - Women's Walk #92



There was a sense of excitement amongst the new members of the team as we gathered together on Thursday night after the pilgrims had gone to bed.

The team were such a blessing on the walk and the pilgrims experienced acceptance, healing, love and a sense of safety and freedom.

The Community Prayer Chapel was very inviting and full of warmth and love. God was definitely in that space and wrapped the whole space in His loving arms.

The entertainment for Saturday evening was delightful. There was a lovely selection of songs, and the volume was just right to allow conversation while providing a peaceful

backdrop of vocals and music. Absolutely gorgeous.

It was lovely to see so many of the Community turn up for candlelighting. It certainly moved me to tears (again). The lighting was perfect.

The closing ceremony was also well supported by the Community, and it was lovely to hear the responses from the pilgrims regarding their experiences over the weekend.

Overall, the weekend was a beautiful time of sharing, laughing, singing and healing. I believe that the team blessed the pilgrims and were blessed by the pilgrims as they responded to the weekend and the “special” moments that we enjoyed on the walk.

De Colores

Trish

## 10 December 2022 Gathering



A couple of dozen Community members gathered on a perfect day for a BBQ lunch and general catch up at O'Conner Uniting Church on Saturday 10 Dec 22. A delicious lunch of sausages and salad and cordials (of course!) was fuel for a wonderful time of catching up, chatting and praying.





## Ok, now for some 'we need you to help our Community' News!

### 4th Day Speakers

What is a 4th Day Talk?

At most Gatherings we have a Community member share a brief message about how God has been working in their life since they did their pilgrim Walk. 1 Peter 3:15 tells us to be ready to explain the hope we have within us. A 4th Day Talk is just that!

It doesn't need to be long (10 minutes is plenty), it just needs to be real.

You might have just done your Walk or it might have been many years ago, it doesn't matter. If you share what has God done in your life I can assure you, what you say will powerfully impact others within the Community.

If you would like to give a 4th Day Talk, see or email Andrew Southwell or Von Chenery and they will find a time at a Gathering for you to share and bless us all.

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## Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community (CMEC) - Positions on the Board

### Minute Secretary

- Would you like to learn more about how the CMEC Board guides our Community?
- Can you attend a Monthly CMEC Board Meeting?
- Do you have basic computer skills and enjoy keeping notes in order?
- We have the role for You!



The Minute Secretary works closely with the Secretary, capturing the discussion, decisions and Action Items at each Board Meeting.

Templates for both Meeting Minutes and Action Items are provided. You then email them to the Secretary, who reviews and sends out the Board Members.

If this role sounds right for you, we can arrange a guided handover to get you started. There will always be support provided as you become familiar with this role.

Contact the Secretary on: [secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au)

## Treasurer

- Would you like to use your financial management skills to support the CMEC Board?
- Can you attend a Monthly CMEC Board Meeting?
- Do you have the basic computer bookkeeping skills using MYOB to maintain the Emmaus Accounts?
- We have the role for You!

The Treasurer is an Executive member of the Board and a full Job Description is provided with a list of activities to guide you. Andrew Chenery is filling the role in 2023 as a non-Board position.

If this role sounds right for you, we can arrange a guided handover to get you started. There will always be support provided as you become familiar with this role.

Contact the CLD on: [cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au)



## Gathering Coordinator

- Do you love organising, communicating and working behind the scenes?
- We have the role for You!

The Gathering Coordinator works with other Coordinators and the Community Lay Director to arrange the monthly Gatherings.

If this role sounds right for you, we can provide a full Job Description with a list of activities to guide you.

Contact the Secretary on:  
[secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au)



## Emmaus Contact Details

Emmaus Role	Name	Email
Community Lay Director (CLD)	Andrew Southwell	<a href="mailto:cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au">cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au</a>
Community Spiritual Director (CSD)	Jim Curtis	<a href="mailto:csd@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au">csd@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au</a>
Secretary	Von Chenery	<a href="mailto:secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au">secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au</a>
Treasurer	Andrew Chenery (one year - 2023)	<a href="mailto:treasurer@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au">treasurer@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au</a>
Registrar	Michelle Southwell	<a href="mailto:registrar@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au">registrar@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au</a>



## 2023 Emmaus Board Members and Coordinators

<b>Community Lay Director (CLD)</b>	Andrew Southwell
<b>Community Spiritual Director (CSD)</b>	Jim Curtis
<b>Treasurer</b>	Andrew Chenery (2023, non-Board position)
<b>Secretary</b>	Yvonne Chenery
<b>Minute Secretary</b>	Vacant – can you help?
<b>Community Member</b>	Kirsty Ross
<b>Community Member</b>	Mike Rowe
<b>Community Member</b>	Gary Bates
<b>Community Member</b>	Kat Santosuosso
<b>Community Member</b>	Andy Visser



### 2023 Canberra Monaro Emmaus Coordinators

<b>Registrar</b>	Michelle Southwell
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Dale Cooper
<b>Training/Education Coordinator</b>	Mike Rowe
<b>Music Coordinator</b>	Gary Bates
<b>Supplies Coordinator</b>	Matthew Smith
<b>Agape Coordinator</b>	Deb Glassford
<b>Reunion Group Coordinator</b>	Jenny Best
<b>Web Coordinator</b>	Geoff Moore
<b>Candle Lighting Coordinator</b>	Jim & Jill Pearson
<b>Walk Prayer Coordinator</b>	Geoff Moore
<b>Gathering Coordinator</b>	Vacant – can you help?
<b>International Agape Coordinator</b>	Vacant – can you help?
<b>Walk Dining Room Coordinator – Men's Walk</b>	Von Chenery and Michelle Southwell
<b>Walk Dining Room Coordinator – Women's Walk</b>	Jan Pearsall and tba
<b>Walk Serving Coordinator</b>	Kristy Ross



As you can see there are some vacancies. Can you help? Would you like to know more...?  
 Contact us - Speak to a Board Member at the Gathering or email:  
 Andrew Southwell [cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au)  
 or Von Chenery [secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au)

# Noticeboard

**Direct donations**

Have you thought that instead of making a one-off donation at a Gathering, you could make a regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly donation? By doing this, you will help ensure that we can keep supporting Pilgrims and meet the running costs of Emmaus. To make a direct deposit use the following details:

Name of bank account: Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community

Bsb: 634634, Account Number: 100021977

Reference: your name

**Credit card payments now available**

Our Community has introduced the use of a Square Card – tap and go service.

You don't have to pay with cash. Pay with credit or debit card at any Gathering - a Board member can help!

**Emmaus Newsletters**

You can opt in to receive Newsletters from both the Australian Emmaus Community and the Upper Room.

**News from the Australian Emmaus Community**

[News \(emmaus.org.au\)](http://emmaus.org.au)

**News from the International Emmaus Community**

The Upper Room Sep Newsletter is [here](#) or go to <http://emmaus.upperroom.org> - and the link 'Sign up for our Newsletter'

**Reunion groups can use zoom**

Emmaus has a Zoom license that is available for all the Emmaus Community. If you would like to use it to hold a Reunion Group Meeting, Bible Study, Team Meeting or to have a chat with friends over coffee, then please use it, that is why we have it.

Just contact Von Chenery at [secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au) to book in your meeting

**Lost your Emmaus Name Badge??**

You can order a new Emmaus name badge by sending your name (first and last name) to our Registrar Michelle Southwell at [registrar@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au](mailto:registrar@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au)



# Canberra Monaro Emmaus Calendar 2023

<b>JAN</b>	Sat	14	Board Workshop Board Meeting	10am-12noon 1-3pm	
			2 Weeks of Prayer Focus – via Community Email	2 weeks before Gathering	
<b>FEB</b>	Fri	3	Newsletter		
	Sat	11	Board Meeting	11am	O'Connor UC
			Gathering: Commissioning WLDs and WSDs #93 & #94	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Sat	25	<b>Going Fourth #17 Training</b>	10am - 4pm	O'Connor UC
<b>MAR</b>	Sat	11	Gathering: Commissioning Going Fourth Team	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Tues	14	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Fri	24	Newsletter		
<b>APR</b>	Sat	1	<b>Going Fourth #17</b>	10am - 4pm	O'Connor UC
	Sat	8	<b>NO GATHERING Easter weekend</b>		
	Tues	18	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
<b>MAY</b>	Sat	13	Board Meeting	11am	O'Connor UC
		13	Gathering	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Fri	26	Newsletter		
<b>JUN</b>	Sat	3	Meet with Walk #93 & #94 LDs, ALDs & MDs + WLDs Runsheet & Easy Worship Training	10am- 1pm	O'Connor UC
		3	Gathering (date changed because of long weekend)	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Sat	10	<b>NO GATHERING - Long Weekend</b>		
	Tues	13	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Sat	24	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Walk Team Training #93 &amp; #94</b>	8.30am - 4.30pm	O'Connor UC
<b>JUL</b>	Sat	8	Board Meeting	11am	O'Connor UC
		8	Gathering	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Sat	22	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Walk Team Training #93 &amp; #94</b>	8.30am - 4.30pm	O'Connor UC
<b>AUG</b>	Fri	4	Newsletter		
	Sat	12	Mega Agape Morning	10am - 1pm	O'Connor UC
		12	Gathering	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Tues	15	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Sat	26	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Walk Team Training #93 &amp; #94</b>	8.30am - 4pm	O'Connor UC
<b>SEP</b>	Sat	16	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Walk Team Training #93 &amp; #94</b>	8.30 - 1pm	O'Connor UC
		16	Gathering and Teams Commissioning	2pm - 4.30pm	O'Connor UC
	Tues	19	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Fri	29	Newsletter		
<b>OCT</b>	Sat	7	Gathering	2pm	O'Connor UC
	Tues	10	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Thurs	19	<b>Men's Walk #93 – Team 3pm onwards</b>	7pm Pilgrims	Greenhills
	Sat	21	Candlelighting	8pm	Western Creek UC
	Sun	22	Closing Ceremony - Greenhills	3.45pm	Greenhills
<b>NOV</b>	Thurs	2	<b>Women's Walk #94 – Team 3pm onwards</b>	7pm Pilgrims	Greenhills
	Sat	4	Candlelighting	8pm	Western Creek UC
	Sun	5	Closing – Greenhills	3.30pm	Greenhills
	Sat	18	Men's & Women's Debrief	11am – 1pm	O'Connor UC
		18	Gathering - Meet the Board. Board Elections.	2pm	O'Connor UC
		18	- Commissioning <b>GFLDs and GFSD #18</b>		
	Tues	21	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
<b>DEC</b>	Fri	1	Newsletter		
	Sat	9	Team Selection #95 & #96	10:30am	O'Connor UC
		9	BBQ Gathering	12.30pm	O'Connor UC

### 2023 Walks (booked with Greenhills)

Men's Walk #93 Thursday 19 - 22 October

Women's Walk #94 Thursday 2 - 5 November

### 2024 Walks (booked with Greenhills)

Men's Walk #95 Thursday 17 - 20 Oct

Women's Walk #96 Thursday 7 - 10 Nov

### 2025 Walks (booked with Greenhills)

Men's Walk #97 Thursday 23 – 26 October

Women's Walk #98 Thursday 6 - 9 November

## 2023 Public Holidays

ACT		NSW	
New Year's Day Holiday	Monday 2 January	New Year's Day Holiday	Monday 2 January
Australia Day Holiday	Thursday 26 January	Australia Day Holiday	Thursday 26 January
Canberra Day	Monday 13 March		
Good Friday	Friday 7 April	Good Friday	Friday 7 April
Easter Saturday	Saturday 8 April	Easter Saturday	Saturday 8 April
Easter Sunday	Sunday 9 April	Easter Sunday	Sunday 9 April
Easter Monday	Monday 10 April	Easter Monday	Monday 10 April
Anzac Day	Tuesday 25 April	Anzac Day	Tuesday 25 April
Reconciliation Day	Monday 29 May		
Queen's Birthday	Monday 12 June	Queen's Birthday / Volunteer's Day	Monday 12 June
		Bank Holiday	Monday 7 August
Labour Day	Monday 2 October	Labour Day	Monday 2 October
Christmas Day	Monday 25 December	Christmas Day	Monday 25 December
Boxing Day	Tuesday 26 December	Boxing Day	Tuesday 26 December

School Terms	NSW 2023	ACT 2023
Term 1 (Eastern)	27 Jan – 6 Apr	27 Jan – 6 Apr
Term 1 (Western)	3 Feb – 6 Apr	-
Term 2	24 Apr – 30 June	24 Apr – 30 June
Term 3	17 July – 22 Sept	17 July – 22 Sept
Term 4	9 Oct – 19 Dec	9 Oct – 15 Dec