



SHARING

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Important news from the National Director.....

In this issue the first of the mission reports for this year is included as well as the updated schedule of missions for the remainder of 2010. Some missions planned have had to be cancelled or deferred or changed dependent the conditions in the diocese inviting SOMA Australia and of course the response of people here in Australia offering to go on mission.

Having made that disclaimer, **SOMA will soon be entering into a new era here in Australia. Following discussions with the Bishop of Canberra–Goulburn, Rt. Rev'd. Stuart Robinson. +Stuart has offered to become involved with SOMA Australia and sees its short term mission work as a strategic part his diocese's outreach. He aims to give an Episcopal oversight to SOMA AUST. commencing 2011. Furthermore he is excited about the opportunity to hold a SOMA rally in the capital during 2011 hopefully coinciding with the National Director's meeting of SOMA International in New Zealand. This would also involve teams 'doing' missions in a number of parishes in Canberra– Goulburn. KEEP POSTED FOR DIARY DATES.**



Bishop Stuart sees SOMA's short term mission outreach as being a vital way of bringing renewal in the Holy Spirit into the mainstream of the diocese. As people return from missions he feels their witness will, if sensitively handled, stimulate renewal whilst avoiding the divisiveness that unfortunately accompanied renewal in the 1970s and 80s.

I am sure that SOMA and all Christians throughout Australia will say **AMEN** to these ideas and prayerfully support both the Diocese of Canberra– Goulburn and SOMA as they seek to implement these moves.

SOMA Australia has not had the benefit of a bishop's oversight since Bp Hamish Jamieson retired and it should give much valued direction and balance to our work. Please pray earnestly for these matters and that we continue to walk the path as God directs. SOMA Aust. has been blessed so much and I feel that Bishop Stuart will assist SOMA to stretch its faith and develop its work.

It is interesting to see the number of faces new to SOMA that are stepping forward for mission teams. The two teams that have just returned from the Seychelles only had 2 members that have previously tasted SOMA mission life. Also we included several people from other denominations who were known to be moving in renewal and my experience with them has been most favorable and stimulating. Their approaches to the teaching and ministry enriched the impact of the mission within the Anglican setting of the Seychelles church.

Recently I have been influenced by a book of daily devotions collated from Canon Jim Glennon's years in the Healing Ministry. When praying with a person who has an illness or problem we face the person and the problem yet were we to turn 180° we would then face the Father from whom the solution or healing comes. Seems rather simple but isn't it true that often we continue to see the problem and continue to pray for it and not turn and see the answer and appropriate it by faith?

Pray earnestly that our SOMA teams will go out with joy, proclaiming the Lord's salvation, releasing the captives, declaring sight for the blind and afflicted and act by faith knowing from whom our strength and salvation comes. He is LORD!

Bruce Moon

HOW YOU CAN SHARE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOMA

Enclosed is a gift of \$.....for the work of SOMA (Please make cheques payable to SOMA AUSTRALIA)

With God's help I intend to make a pledge offering of \$.....each month/quarter/6 months/year.

I prefer to do this by direct debit – Please send me details of how to do this.

Please ADD or DELETE my name from the mailing list for Sharing & Prayer Bulletin.

Please send me details of how I can be a member of a SOMA mission team

I want to become a member of SOMA. Please send me a form

I believe God is calling me to become an intercessor for SOMA

I would like to remember SOMA in my will. Please send me the appropriate wording.

NAME..... phone

E MAIL

ADDRESS

SOMA Mission Reports

SEYCHELLES MISSION April May 2010

As this edition goes to press, we are coming to the end of ministry here in the Seychelles, with much praise and thanksgiving to God for our faithful prayer partners, each one of you who is standing with us and supporting us in this amazing and important ministry.

The team of 8 people has been separated on the 2 main islands of Mahe and Praslin, One team was focused on teaching on the 7 Steps to Freedom in Christ and renewal in the Holy Spirit, whilst the other team focused on God's Design for Marriage preparing the way to run The Marriage Preparation Course and The Marriage Course from Holy Trinity Brompton. Marriage in the Seychelles has not been strong in their culture and many relationships have formed on a co-habitation basis often with little commitment. Both Teams experienced a wonderful reception and very responsive audiences, with many people coming to faith in Jesus, and finding release and healing. There was a real hunger for God's Word, and a lasting impact has been made.

Bishop James Wong has stood alongside the teams and ministered at every point of the mission. We have been able to stand alongside some of the leadership in the church and have been made very

aware of the challenges that face Christians in the Seychelles. God is graciously at work and we count it a privilege to join with our brothers and sisters in God's work.

The power and presence of witchcraft on the Islands is very real particularly on the second island of Praslin and we were aware of the spiritual battle that was being fought in the heavenlies and the authority of Jesus Christ over these forces. How we needed the Lord's covering on our work.

How hungry the people are! So many people are coming forward for personal prayer and ministry at the end of each message. We are finding many of the dear ones asking for prayer for healing, for relationship needs, for their unsaved husbands and boy-friends, and amongst these needs we are also finding that some need physical healing, deliverance from demonic powers, or from putting their trust in black magic, etc.

At Anse Kerlan (Praslin) night meeting, we were given a word of knowledge that agents of witchcraft would be there. As the service started it began to rain and dark clouds were building over the site (we met in the open air with some over 150 people attending) and it

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SOMA missions are exciting and very fulfilling for those adventurous enough to step out of the comfort zone and to be obedient to the call of God to short term missions.

All you have to do is get in phone or mail contact with the National Director, Bruce Moon, (his phone number is on the front) and indicate your interest. That's all it takes to get started.

Mission Activity in 2010

Dates & duration	Destination	Team size & est. cost	Description of mission
July 2010	Kashmir (India)		To encourage & support the small Anglican church as it ministers to a predominantly Muslim community. SOMA UK are including this mission in their efforts—if any are interested in joining them please advise Bruce Moon.
July (first half) 2 weeks + travel	Solomon Islands Diocese of Malaita	5-6 pax \$1200 + Visa required	To encourage the local church to grow in renewal particularly through the celebration of the sacraments and understanding of the empowering by the Holy Spirit.
July 2010 2.5 weeks + travel	Mauritius (Indian Ocean Province)	6 pax \$1800	To teach about renewal and to encourage the local church particularly in their healing ministry.
August 2010 2 weeks + travel	Nigeria—Diocese of Jos	?? \$3000 + conf accom	Participate in a SOMA International conference and then go out to areas with mission teams drawn from many countries. This area is currently experiencing civil unrest but the church there has grown under persecution. International Conference of SOMA National Directors will be held prior to the conference.
September 2010 2.5 weeks + travel	Uganda—Mityana Diocese	6-10 pax \$3000 Visa required	Follow on from the work begun last year in most of the 6 archdeaconries in the Diocese. Bp Stephen welcomes another mission to build on the growth that has occurred since 2009 mission.
October 2010 2.5 weeks + travel	Madagascar—(Indian Ocean Province)	6 pax \$1900– 2500 Visa required	To teach at the theological college about renewal in the Holy Spirit and the equipping role of the Spirit as a natural part of the students and clergy working in their parishes. Following the teaching segment it is hoped to go with the students on a week's mission to nearby churches. Other opportunities in other diocese may arise. Due to continued unrest and the violence the opportunities here have been suspended until the situation settles down.
November 2010	Macau—China		On the advice of the bishop in Hong Kong this mission will not eventuate this year and possibly next.

Notes regarding the mission plans for 2010.

- Actual dates are still subject to the inviting Bishops finalising their diocesan schedules.
- Costs are estimates ex Sydney and dependent upon when air fares are purchased and seasonal influences. Jetset Merrylands continues to serve SOMA so well in advising and finalising ticketing and visas—for their input we thank God so much!
- Normally the host diocese supplies accommodation and meals but in some cases depending upon their ability, each team member may have to contribute towards these costs.
- Team leaders are not decided yet and is a matter occupying the National Director's efforts.
- The National Director in conjunction with the mission team leader is responsible for accepting or rejecting invitations from people who express their desire to go on mission.

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was suggested that people cram into a small hall but we felt that by God's grace the meeting could continue and we prayed against the rain and it stopped instantly with not a drop falling all night and the dark clouds just passed by! This miracle was spoken of throughout the Seychelles! In ministry time the team experienced a demonic onslaught which started after an hour or so of prayer ministry when Bruce prayed for a teenager who fell to the floor and started manifesting an evil spirit when the name of Jesus was spoken over her. Coincidentally several other teenager friends some distance away outside the small hall began to manifest, arms flaying, eyes rolling, blasphemous screeching noises, teeth bared and whole body contortions, the demonic spirits moving from one to the other and back over and over again. When our leader instructed that the girls be released from those holding them (preventing harm) 2 of them hugged each other and fell to the ground motionless but when the 'leader' of this "pack" appeared from the hall they sprang like feral cats snarling and fighting as they jumped on her. We saw how Satan's agents turn on themselves destroying those whose bodies they inhabited. We called the meeting to a conclusion after one of them quietly and reverently proclaimed Jesus is my Lord and was totally at peace when the sign of the cross was made on her forehead. The whole time there was over 4 hours, many were healed, several released from affliction, several gave their lives to the Lord and the disruptive ones returned to their village and we felt strongly that Jesus' lordship prevailed.



A feature of all the meetings was the scores of people who gave their lives to the Lord for the first time, healings abounded and ministry times were punctuated with shrieks of joy and clapping as people realized they were healed! Many were delivered of demonic affliction and when the peace of the Lord was spoken over them it was easy to see them set free and at peace.

We were approached by Carla and Joel and little Malik (means king) who were prayed for last year after years of infertility, Malik is almost 2 months old now. Praise God!

Bless you all for your prayers and support.

Report on SOMA Australia Inc.

AGM LEARNS SOMA AUSTRALIA ALIVE AND THRIVING

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of SOMA Australia was conducted at St. Peter's Watson's Bay following an encouraging meeting of the Committee of Management.

Routine matters included the approval of a number of recommendations of the Committee of Management .

- Maximum number of Committee members increased from eight to twelve.
- The need for payment of a \$10 fee for membership of SOMA has been waived.
- Rev'd Glen Rebello, rector of Australind parish, Diocese of Bunbury, was accepted as an ordinary member of the SOMA Australia Committee of Management)

National Director Bruce Moon's report to the AGM engendered much enthusiasm among members in attendance. Bruce reported on and expressed the need for continuity in countries recently well received in mission, such as the Province of the Indian Ocean (Mauritius, Seychelles and Madagascar) and also in the diocese of Mityana in Uganda.

We have been requested to expand our involvement to training in theological colleges – possibly using retired clergy; and to meet a need especially in the

Seychelles for pre-marriage training, including deliverance. Bruce also reported on mooted changes to the operation of SOMA International to enable it to more effectively contribute to the operation of worldwide SOMA.

The AGM also received the audited Financial Statement for 2009, noting a reasonable surplus – but recognizing this as a consequence of the nominal stipend sought by the National Director. The budget for 2010 was also adopted.

SOMA Australia is alive and thriving – but is doing so thanks mainly to the efforts of a dedicated National Director and a small number of missionaries and supporters whose ministry continues to have a considerable impact on and bring great blessings to often struggling and persecuted churches in developing centre's.

We have the entry points to the mission fields – we are welcome when we come – we have a gospel to proclaim – and Holy Spirit to empower us to do so – but we need your contribution – your presence, your prayer and your financial support to achieve the maximum result for the kingdom. What about you?

Rev. Rex Marre
Deputy Chairman
Minutes Secretary

IF YOU WANT TO READ THE REPORTS FROM PAST SOMA MISSIONS PLEASE GO TO THE WEB SITE www.soma.org.au AND CLICK ON MISSION REPORTS—GOOD PHOTOGRAPHS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.