



SHARING

Mr. Bruce Moon – EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SOMA Australia Inc
P.O. Box 305 Tel: 02 9987 4486
HORNSBY, NSW 2077 Mobile: 0407 209 575
Email: exec.officer@soma.org.au Website: www.soma.org.au

March 2009

A note from our Chairman.....

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus.

As the new SOMA year has already begun, I would like to thank you all for your encouragement, prayer and financial support over the past twelve months. A special thank you must go to Bruce Moon as Executive Officer as he completes his first year. Thanks too to Julie for her support to Bruce during this time. It has been a busy year organising last year's missions and also organising the many missions for this year and 2010. He would love to hear from any one willing to be part of a mission!

Membership of the association of SOMA has increased too over the last year, if you haven't registered as a member, consider doing so today. This membership not only allows you to be more involved in what SOMA is doing but gives you voting rights at the Annual General Meeting of Associates or members. This meeting will be held after the Annual Board meeting and will be on Thursday 12th March at 4.00pm at Golden Grove Healing Centre, 5 Forbes Street, Newtown, in Sydney. Please let us know if you would like to come. It would be good to have

members from all states present, so if you are a member and will be in Sydney during this time, please consider coming along.

Please pray for the Board Meeting, there is much to discuss and many decisions to be made. Bruce's tenure as Executive Officer of SOMA is only a temporary one, until such time as a new National Director can be appointed, and we will be considering this at this meeting.

I write this on the day after the National Day of Mourning for the Victorian Bushfires and am aware that many of our supporters are from these areas in Victoria and the flood ravaged parts in Queensland. The SOMA board upholds you in prayer at this time and we pray for those who are bereaved or have lost homes and possessions that the Lord will comfort and bring peace to you at this difficult time.

Many blessings

Cliff Parish, Chairman

From the Executive Officer of SOMA Australia.....

Our prayers have been 'Lord please give us mission targets', now our prayer is 'Lord please identify and provide the labourers for the numerous missions identified!' In His grace we are now receiving a number of enquiries from people interested in going on mission with SOMA Australia. **I believe that a key factor in the renewal of the local churches in Australia is for people obedient to the call to go out anointed with Holy Spirit and to bring back a portion of that anointing to share with the congregations in their churches.** SOMA has a very special role to play in this.



I want to ask all who read this to pray about the role they can play and to offer early for the forthcoming missions, already we are seeing people putting their names down, a number of whom have never been on a SOMA mission. DO NOT DELAY!

Please support SOMA in your prayers—use the prayer diary as a guide!

Please give generously as we are increasing the activity in SOMA Aust. and I want to provide funds to enable persons from some of the poorer nations to enable them to join our teams with a view to them gaining experience so that in turn, they can go out in teams from their own country. Bless you all.

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

Mission Opportunities

..... from the Executive Officer's diary

Following is an update of the wonderful SOMA mission opportunities currently on the calendar for 2009-2010.

The qualifications are few, in fact obedience to the promoting of the Holy Spirit is the beginning of abundant blessings that have become the hallmark of SOMA missions: Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, quite remarkable things occur as we see God sovereignly touching the lives of people we visit. If you come it would help to write out your own testimony (What God has done and is doing in your life) as Peter says in his Epistle (1 Peter 3:15): *"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have, But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience..."*

Typically the team will have teachers, intercessors, a leader, and others whose ministry is to pray and witness.

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

May 12th through to 3rd June 2009 ... Seychelles Islands Anglican Diocese

Bishop James Wong (Bishop elect to the Seychelles) has continued the invitation to SOMA Australia made by his predecessor to conduct a mission on the main Island of Mahe and the smaller island of Praslin. All the clergy and leaders in the churches are being brought together for teaching in all aspects of renewal and how it can be implemented in their



churches. I am advised that the clergy in particular seek assurance and acceptance to venture forth and to accept the renewing power of the Holy Spirit. The team will then divide and minister in the churches, encouraging them in all aspects of their faith. One of our roles is to encourage, equip and build up the local church and we will have many opportunities to do this. There are plans for the Roman Catholic church to join with the Anglicans in a finale over Pentecost weekend in a large witness to the islands.

Team composition

The team leader is Bruce Moon and 5-6 other people are needed to enable ministry to eventuate in the churches. Teachers –2 (probably clergy) will be

needed together with 4 members who can support with prayer and also share their faith both in public services and/or one on one. There will be areas where the teaching role will be open to any members of the team.

Travelling to and accommodation in the Seychelles

The airfare cost is likely to be around \$2500 AUD and bookings will be made before the end of March 2009. No visas are required before entry and no special health requirements are in place. Accommodation and most meals will be provided by the Diocese. Please log onto www.soma.org.au for details of the Seychelles, its culture and history.

July 9th through to 28th July 2009 ... Mityana Anglican Diocese– Uganda

Revd John Musaasizi on behalf of his Bishop, Stephen Kazimba, writes *'Praise the name of our Lord Jesus. It is great to be planning for the up coming SOMA Conference due in July 2009 in the Diocese of Mityana. Thank you for choosing to come to this side of the Earth. The Diocese of Mityana has 6 archdeaconries and we would like to reach them all during your stay with us. We expect not less than 100 participants at each Archdeaconry Headquarter. The composition of the participants would be clergy, Lay Readers and some members holding leadership positions in church. As for those archdeaconries that are not far away from your place of residence like Cathedral Deanery, Mityana Archdeaconry, Bukomero and Makonzi Archdeaconries, these may be reached on a daily basis. But as for distant archdeaconries like Kasenyi and Bamusuuta, staying in those places may be the best option until ministry is accomplished. The bishop's house is under reconstruction and it is expected that by June this year, it will be done. One of the reasons for this scheme of reconstruction and renovation is to enable the bishop and his wife to accommodate all visitors that come to Mityana Diocese. This approach avails ample time for bishop and his wife to pray with visitors and also share experiences and future plans with them. John'*



Team Composition

Ideally the team will comprise 12+ persons who after the first 4 days in Uganda will divide into 3 equal teams, one team going to each of three archdeaconries in the next week of mission and then the teams will cover the next 3 archdeaconries in the next week. Each team should have a teacher and the other members will also be called upon to teach and share their testimony as well as ministering to those having needs. The team can be bigger. Some SOMA people from USA and Ireland have indicated their willingness to join this most exciting mission.

Seldom has SOMA been given such a challenge to bring encouragement to the local church and renewal to the leaders. We will be sharing with a number of congregations on the 3 Sundays we are in Uganda.

Travelling to and accommodation in Uganda

The airfare cost is likely to be around \$3000 AUD and bookings will need to be made before the end of April 2009. Visas are required (in Australia 190AUD) before entry and some special health requirements (yellow fever vaccination) need to be in place. Accommodation and most meals will be provided by the Diocese. Please log onto www.soma.org.au for details of Uganda, its culture and history. Sightseeing can be done after the team has disbanded on 28th July if you choose.

Aug 11th through to 26th Aug 2009 ... SABAH Anglican Diocese– Malaysia

Archbishop Albert Vun has asked SOMA International to join in a conference **'Ready for Action'** in Kota Kinabulu Sabah 13-15th August which is being run by SOMA. For more details of the conference please see their website www.anglicansabah.org. The churches of the Diocese are established on a cell church model (cf Singapore) and have very strong growth. After the conference (which we will attend and help in) we will be sent to various churches in the country of Sabah.

Team composition

Ideally the team should have 6 people to enable teaching and ministry to occur in the churches. Teachers –2 (probably clergy) will be needed together with 4 members who can support with prayer and also share their faith both in public services and/or one on one. There will be areas where the teaching and giving testimony will be open to any members of the team.

Travelling to and accommodation in Sabah

The airfare cost is likely to be around \$1100 AUD and bookings will be made before the end of June 2009. No visas are required before entry and no special health requirements are in place. Accommodation and most meals will be provided by the Diocese. Please log onto www.soma.org.au for details of Sabah, its culture and history. More details will be available in the next issue of **SHARING**

Other missions on the horizon..... The following missions are in the early stages of planning and the dates may alter until we can firm them in. Please factor these into your diary—the people of God are on the move!

1. **Argentina** (South America) September 2009- we hope to join with SOMA people from other parts of the world and to send two teams to support and to teach the local Bolivian church where SOMA ministered so powerfully in the 1990s
2. **Nepal (Kathmandu)** September- October 2009 a return mission to the church in Kathmandu and possibly to another centre in Nepal
3. **Solomon Islands (Ysabel Diocese)** July 2010 - a return mission to encourage the local church and to stimulate renewal in the Spirit
4. **Madagascar - (Antsiranana Diocese)**— this mission has been postponed until the political situation in Madagascar has stabilised and the civil unrest has subsided. Please pray for Bishop Roger Cheung as he gives direction to the church under such stressful conditions. Hopefully this mission will occur later in 2010
5. **Kashmir (India)** arrangements are in place for a mission there to a church outreach to Muslims.
6. **Nigeria August 2010 (Diocese of Jos)** this mission is connected to the meeting of the national directors and we are planning to move out into a number of areas with at least 10-12 teams.

Please pray for our AGM Thursday 12th March

- **For the Board to have vision and commitment to stretch the tent ropes of SOMA**
Isaiah 54:2 "Enlarge the place of your tent, And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, And strengthen your stakes. For you shall expand to the right and to the left, And your descendants will inherit the nations, And make the desolate cities inhabited.
- **The future leading of SOMA Australia as the current Executive Officer hands over this time next year.**
- **For greater release of funds to expand SOMA's ability to help poorer SOMA groups start missions in their own right—this is our joy to do!**
- **Praise God for an increase in interest in a number of churches as people see going on mission as a way to fan renewal in their home churches.**
- **For an army of 'pray-ers' to intercede for renewal in the churches here and overseas and to undergird each mission.**

GOD DOES EXTRAORDINARY THINGS THROUGH ORDINARY PEOPLE.

ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS:

- **CAN GOD DO IT?**
- **CAN GOD DO IT THROUGH ME?**
- **AM I WILLING TO LET HIM ?**

Join SOMA Australia and play a part in the operation and direction of it– it costs but \$10 per annum!

As a member you can access the 'members' area of our web site www.soma.org.au and have access to team information, links, photos etc.

JOIN SOMA NOW AND PLAY A PART IN THE RENEWAL OF OUR CHURCH