

Interview with Rev Kyle Graham

Australia

Rev Kyle Graham ministers in Lock and Port Lincoln, Australia. During the closing months of 2019 he was engaged in deputation meetings. He kindly consented to be 'interviewed' by the editor for the Free Presbyterian Vision magazine.



CM: Kyle, where and when were you converted to Christ?

KG: I was brought up in a Presbyterian church and I was taught the gospel from my earliest days by my parents. I came to trust Christ personally as a child of nearly six years old. I don't remember a lot about it but I was away in the family caravan with my dad and brother and after our evening devotions, while in my sleeping bag, I asked the Lord to save me. There was nothing dramatic about it, it was just me, with a simple understanding of the gospel, praying with the faith of the child. The Lord answered prayer and His grace has made all the difference to me.

CM: How did you sense the call of God into the gospel ministry?

KG: I was always aware of the need for a believer to be open to the will of God but in my early teenage years, I struggled with that idea. I was always an introvert and hated anything to do with public speaking so the idea

that I had to be willing, if God should call me, to be a minister was quite a daunting thing.

There was a lengthy period in my teenage years when it felt I was wrestling with God over that whole issue. I was very aware of my inability but through various sermons and particularly my own Bible reading, the Lord finally won. I finally submitted and committed in prayer that if the Lord called me, I would be willing to go. It was later, while at university, that the Lord again began to burden me concerning gospel ministry. Initially, I was reluctant. Still, the Lord once more brought me into submission, drawing my attention to the words of Deuteronomy 23:21, 23.

CM: What are your memories of studying at the Whitefield College of the Bible?

KG: I remember my first year with a lot of fondness. I lived at college along with some of the other students and

there was some wonderful fellowship together and excellent support for one another. I count it a great privilege to have been there for four years. Every day began with devotional preaching and so much teaching was relevant not only to the head but to the heart.

CM: How did your burden for Australia develop?

KG: My burden for Australia only began in my final year at the Whitefield. It started with a phone call from Rev Harris when he asked me if I would be willing to fill the empty pulpits in Lock and Port Lincoln for whatever amount of time I would be able to give. I promised to pray, along with my wife Eppie, and the Lord impressed the great commission upon our hearts. I was conscious that the congregations in Port Lincoln and Lock would need something of stability so I didn't want to go a year or less and ultimately applied to the Mission Board to go out for three years.

MISSIONARY VISION

CM: What are the particular challenges of ministering “Down Under”?

KG: One of the big things is the distance. We are in a rural part of Australia so everything is very spread out. That instantly makes it a little bit more challenging to reach out to the local communities around us, especially as many of these towns could be an hour away from either of our congregations.

Australia is also an irreligious society, certainly in terms of organised religion. I’ve often found people to be friendly but relatively uninterested when it

comes to the gospel. It can, therefore, be a challenge to bring people under the preaching of the gospel. Isolation would be another issue. My recent time of furlough has been a blessing because it has enabled me to renew fellowship with the rest of the denomination. Where we are labouring, not only are there no other Free Presbyterian churches nearby but we are not aware of any other churches of any sort on the Eyre Peninsula where we would be happy to fellowship.

CM: What are the pressing matters for prayer that you have presented during your deputation meetings?

KG: One of the issues that weigh upon my heart is that there are vast regions of rural Australia where there is very little of a gospel witness and there seem to be several believers who are scattered about and have no faithful church to attend. We need the Lord to raise labourers in many parts of remote Australia. There are also increasing worries for Christians at present due to the political agenda of some. There is increasing pressure placed upon believers who are daring enough to speak the truth in the public arena. We need the Lord to work in the hearts of politicians to preserve religious freedoms for us.” ■

Rev & Mrs J Creane visit Nepal



Rev and Mrs Creane (far right) pictured with (L to R) Rev and Mrs W Graham, Rev and Mrs P Thapa and Miss J Gillespie.



Rev J Creane preaching in Nepal with Rev P Thapa.

MISSIONARY VISION

Progress in Uganda

 **Right:** The Chairman of local Council for Nsaalu Village, near to Emmanuel Christian School, unveiling the plaque at the dedication of the new bore well provided by the Mission Board for that area.



 **Left:** A special dedication service and Gospel outreach was held on behalf of the Mission Board by Rev David McMillan at the official opening of both new bore wells in Uganda. Many of those who attended the service at Nsaalu, near to Emmanuel Christian School, are pictured gathered around the new well and plaque at the close of the dedication service.

 **Below:** Miss Noreen McAfee is pictured submitting the application for Primary School Registration for Emmanuel Christian School at the local Education Office accompanied by Rev D McMillan and Mr B Stewart.



 **Above:** Rev D McMillan and Mr B Stewart pictured with Mrs Hannah Foster and Mr Augustine, the Social worker employed by Emmanuel Christian School. Both Mrs Foster and Mr Augustine work on the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) program run by the Mission Board at the school.



 **Above:** Rev M Baxter with local Ugandan children pumping water from the new bore well.

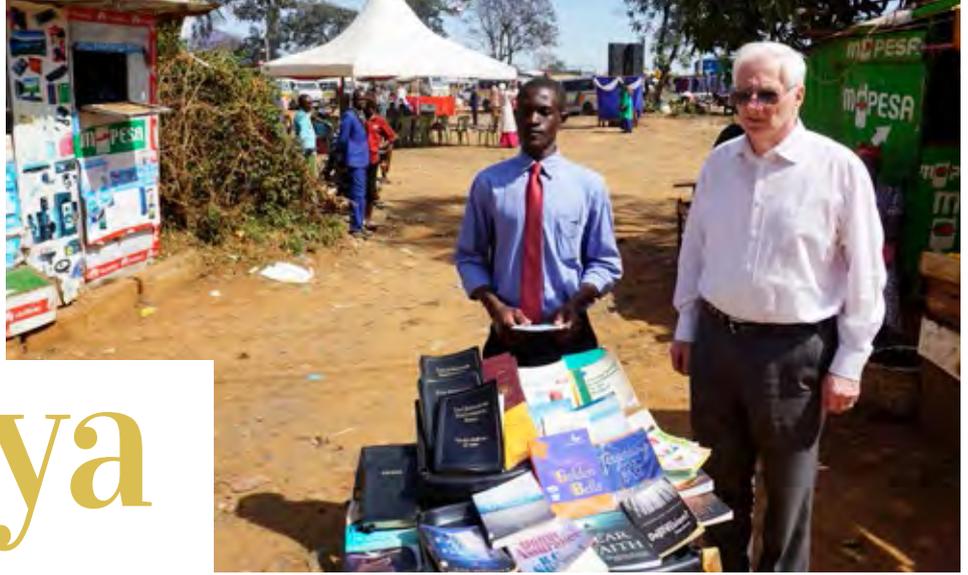


Noel Shields Mission in Parkanaur

Home evangelist, Mr Noel Shields conducted a gospel mission in Parkanaur Manor House, Dungannon, from 28th October to 10th November 2019. An extensive outreach programme preceded the mission with many invitations being distributed in the local area. There were unsaved in attendance each evening and there were opportunities to speak to Roman Catholics regarding their need of the Saviour. The mission was supported by Christians from Dungannon, Aughnacloy and the surrounding area. Eternity alone will reveal the fruit of these labours. ■

MISSIONARY VISION

Mission Board Representatives visit Kenya



✉ Above: Rev Malcolm Patterson with Godwill who operates a Book table Ministry in Kitale with the support of the Mission Board.



✉ Above: The encouraging congregation that gathered in Kakamega, Kenya for Bible study during the visit of the Mission Board delegation in November 2019. The speakers were Rev David McMillan and Mr Alastair Hamilton



✉ Left: Rev. David McMillan speaking to a group of young people assembled for Bible study.

✉ Above: Mission Board representatives with Kenyan missionaries (L to R) Mr A Hamilton, Miss M Russell, Mr B Stewart, Rev D McMillan, Mrs A Patterson and Rev M Patterson

Missionary Council Weekend

22-24 NOVEMBER 2019

The annual Missionary Council weekend was held at the end of November 2019 in the Magherabuoy House Hotel, Portrush. Those participating included, Mr E Graham, Miss P Mills, Dr J Douglas, Mr C Killen, Miss J Walsh and Revs D Park and J Gray. A full schedule

included presentations of present missionary work across the world and a presentation of the Jewish Passover. Rev J Gray, who was the guest speaker for the weekend brought appropriate and challenging messages. A question and answer session was held on Saturday morning. ■



✉ Members of the Q and A panel at the missionary council weekend

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