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Volume 1, Issue Two

Special points of interest:

- Renovations of the Classroom
- Student reports
- Two set to Graduate
- We're here to serve you

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MSOBS

Messenger

Serving you

This school year can be summed up as a year of service of the Saints. Our students have been busy with their studies but have made countless trips to supporting congregations to teach and preach.

In addition to that, they have faithfully served in their home congregations: teaching, preaching. Leading retreats and generally serving and meeting needs.

Satish Samuel, Sam White (our graduating students) and Dan Bray (our 2nd year student) have worked together at Eastside and Bankstown to help lead the worship services. Thank you for letting our students grow by these experiences.

The following pages will

Renovations continue

Earlier this year we were able to report some much needed renovation on our Electrical system. The 1970's codes and today's needs were vastly different. Thanks to many of you, we were able to raise over \$6,000 to replace our power source from the street, the Meter Box and the Fuse panel. In addition, our classroom only had one power point. The update included 7 new ones, including a port in the

include some of the activities and plans of each of our students.

Thank you for your love and support of these men and their families. We could not help them with their ministry training without your contribution.

Thank you as well for the opportunities you have given them to speak at your congregations. I have no doubt that these opportunities will aid them in serving faithfully for many years to come.

And I want to Thank our students for having such servant hearts. We have not required that they serve at this level. It is a natural response of their hearts. They are such an encouragement to work with.

ceiling for a future Projector.

This past week, we were able to paint the classroom and install floor covering. The funds for this came from sources in the States and a few contributors here.

Stop by during the Holidays and we will show you the progress.

Thank you for your love and support!

Let me introduce myself, my name is Sam White and for the past three years I have been studying at Macquarie School of Biblical Studies. I am married to Karyn White and we have nine children, Karyn, our children and I have been worshipping at East Maitland church of Christ since April 2006.

In October/November 2006 I made a commitment to undertake three years study at MSOBS and work towards being a fulltime minister. The support I had from fellow brethren was very encouraging, but the support of my family was truly a blessing from God.

They too would have to make sacrifices for this to eventuate and for me to be able to effectively complete my studies. Maybe they weren't fully aware of all the sacrifices and trials we would face over the coming three years, but they chose to support me back in 2006 and they have done so willingly and through many trials through the past three years.

I sent out letters to all the congregations in Australia, telling them of my intentions and commitment to fulfilling them. I initially didn't get many replies before my January 2007 start at MSOBS, but of the few I did receive, most were commitments to support me spiritually and financially for my first year.

That first month I only had half the support I needed and other money we had been relying on for living expenses was taken away, so we were in a bit of a predicament and wondered if this was what God wanted me to be doing.

So I prayed and put it in God's hands, trusting that whatever happens God will provide and take care of me and my family. That is exactly what happened, God provided and by the end of the first month I had all my support.

My first year I started with a fellow brother in Christ by the name of Satish Kumar, together we started our path for the next three years alongside a second year student by the name of Graham Wall who graduated at the beginning of 2009.

Together the three of us have built a strong bond and have helped each other with many things. This past 18 months we have also shared a classroom with Dan Bray who Satish and I have also formed a close bond with.

I could write pages about the school, the teachers and why someone should choose to attend MSOBS, all of them true but I would rather just share some benefits it has provided me by being a student at MSOBS.

I have had the opportunity to have fellowship with over 15 congregations over three states ranging from Morayfield QLD to Southeast in Victoria.

I have been able to sit at the feet of many committed men of God, such as Marvin Ancell, Ed Wharton, Ted Paull, Jerry Tallman, Craig Peters, John Massie, David Carr, Bob Marks, Roy Courtney, Dale Hartman and others.

I have built a stronger relationship with God, and have learnt how to study His word more effectively.

I have formed friendships with many fellow brothers and sisters in Christ from all around the globe that I wouldn't have had the opportunity to make if not for attending the school.

My three years at MSOBS has been eventful to say the least, Satan has certainly sent some curve balls at us to disrupt my studies. Such things as one of our sons having a ride on mower blade cut through his leg severing all three muscles in his leg, the death of my father in law, a pregnancy when we thought we couldn't/wouldn't have anymore (this was definitely a blessing from God, but still a distraction from studies) and many more.

But I can honestly say that whatever came our way God always provided a way out and all these things are a distant memory now. Looking back it is easy to see the hand of God guiding and carrying us through.

If I was to give any advice to anyone considering attending MSOBS, it would be go for it. It takes a leap of faith, but remember that faith is in God, and nothing is impossible for God. It would be easy to wait until you feel more financially stable enough to provide entirely for yourself and family, but how can God provide if you don't give Him the chance to.

It is a big leap but it is one that God will bless if you allow Him. It is easy to put off until you sort this or that out, but when will there never be a this or that, that we need to do first?

Put it in prayer and be ready to take the leap, don't let you or others get in the way of God working in your life and God will catch you.

Sam White

“Because of the LORD’S great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fails. They are new every morning great is your faithfulness” (Lam 3: 22, 23)

It was a great blessing for us to move to this country and also to be a part of MSOBS during the last 3 years. It is a priceless investment of time and learning

I’ve translated for many preachers from USA in India in Tamil, but hardly preached in English. I was challenged with new environment and different culture I wasn’t quite sure what I was going to do until I met Ted Paull at Blacktown lectureship in October of 2006 . During the whole series of lessons we heard many great lessons. Every one of them has been through MSOBS. We expressed our intention to go through MSOBS to Ted Paull and he had been a great help since then.

It is has been a whole new experience for me to go through MSOBS. God has blessed us through the year in School with great family in Christ. I am happy to say about our teachers who dedicated their time and effort to teach us and always been a great support.

I have two wonderful brethren Sam White and Dan Bray who gave me a constant support and encouragement. I got to spend some time with Graham Wall, during the first two years of studies, who is already graduated and working at West Heidelberg Church in Melbourne.

I have gained better knowledge of Greek and deeper understanding in Bible. I had opportunity to work with different congregations and get to know the brethren across the country.

We are living in the world where we are not happy with what we have but all are stressed and not happy for the things we don’t have. Our want is always more than what we need.

“What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?”(Matt 16:26).

Our ultimate goal in life is salvation. It is important that we spend quality time with God and brothers and sisters in CHRIST, which is possible with MSOBS.

We are very blessed and thankful for the wonderful support spiritually and physically from various congregations.

We are also very grateful to God for all the brethrens who share their time, love, support, and encouragement with our walk with God.

Satish Samuel

Dan Bray—”These past two years ...”

My name is Daniel Bray and I attend MSOBS. I grew up in country N.S.W in the town of Bathurst and moved to Sydney in 2003 to further my Electrical Career. I am also closer to family who had rallied around my brother who suffers from Cardiomyopathy which claimed the life of my eldest brother. Before going to the school I worked as an Electrician on Major Sydney construction projects. Whilst working on these jobs I was also a trade union rep for all the men. I was offered a full time position with the Electrical Trades Union which would have seen me represent Electricians across N.S.W even during my first year with MSOBS. .

I remember when I was doing Union work around Sydney during the last election I had the realisation that God wanted me to represent him with the same drive and passion I was representing the E.T.U. I had been searching for God since 2004 and had attended many Pentecostal churches and eventually ended up attending the Seventh Day Adventist Movement as I interpreted the Sabbath as still being binding. I was trying to do God’s will with the knowledge I had but it seemed I was banging my head up against a wall. Through a variety of circumstances that only God could have set up I began to study with a man named Grant McFarland who taught me the Gospel and the Bible in a manner I had never encountered before.

Eight weeks later I was baptised and 2 months after that I quit my job to attend MSOBS at the beginning of 2008. The school has played a major role in equipping me for a life time of service for Jesus in whatever capacity that may be. The dedicated men and women of the Macquarie Church of Christ have created a loving and fruitful atmosphere for the students to learn and mature in. This family atmosphere is a learning experience in itself but and enables us students to immediately put into practice the teachings of scriptures and to encourage one another to love and good works.

The knowledge and interpersonal skills that I have learnt at MSOBS have given me greater insight into myself and have equipped me with the necessary tools to minister Love and the word of God to people in a variety of situations. Since attending MSOBS I have been blessed to be able to preach across Sydney with The Gospel and Prospering in the things of God or spiritual things being my central themes. God wants us to prosper in Loving him and loving others. If we love him we will obey his word, if we love him we will love others and let our light shine in our spheres of influence bringing people closer to the true knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *Dan Bray*

Before ...



And After recent renovations ...



40 Years of
serving Australia

“We know that they will make a positive contribution to the church where they will serve—and we want them to do this for a lifetime”

Academic Dean: Ted Paull

The pace of life sometimes seems deceptive. When you are thinking that nothing much has been happening you suddenly realise that time is passing quickly. In just a couple of weeks it will be a year since Graham Wall finished school and more than six months since he started work with the Heidelberg West church in Melbourne. It will also be the end of three years of training at MSOBS for Sam White and Satish Samuel.

In actual fact these students have been through more than 1800 hours of class work and practical exercises as well as countless hours of personal study on assignments and lots of opportunities to preach and teach for groups in many churches and to teach and advise individuals. All of this has contributed towards their training and experience.

They have received instruction in regular classes from about a dozen teachers plus experienced many lessons though others at the lectureships and in their travels.

It has been a real privilege and blessing to have a part in their training! It has been exciting to see them grow in ability and maturity. It has been wonderful to experience what they have shared with their teachers and fellow students. Their families have also contributed to their opportunities and challenges.

We know that they will make a positive contribution to the church where they will serve--and we want them to do this for a lifetime. We know that they will still benefit from help and encouragement and even some supervision. We know that they have talents which can be used for blessing the church and the community.

We also know that they will have to exercise flexibility and judgement and rely on God's wisdom to do the best and most effective job. We know that sometimes that will have to change their methods and priorities to fit in where God intends for them to serve.

Ted Paull

Monday Night Class



Anzac Day 2009



A year in pictures ...



2009 Graduate: Satish Samuel and his wife Hannah and son Jolits



2009 Graduate: Sam White, his wife Karyn and children: Matthew, Josh, Shannon, Lachlan, Gage, Jasmine and Rhiannon.

Brotherhood fellowship, Good will ambassadors, Bible Class teaching, Preaching, Service, Counseling, Encouraging, Involvement, Sacrifice and love ... 2009: A pretty good year! Blessed to serve beside you!

