

# Australia/South Pacific



A beautiful tree in Melbourne, Australia

**Richard and Margaret Carver**

**Jan/ Feb/ Mar 2004**

Newsletter by Foreign Missions Division  
8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood MO 63042



Dear Partners and friends,

A new year begins and we are thankful once again for your continued interest and support. Sincere thanks to all who sent Christmas cards and emails. Remember us in prayer as we begin a busy year traveling overseas, as well as to the church in Cairns, Australia and also for growth in the new church in our local area.

**Photos left to right:**

1. Rev. Richard Flowers
2. PNG Ministers Meeting
3. Bible School Graduates from Cairns
4. Part of the Australian Conference crowd
5. Our son Richard Jon ministering in PNG
6. Children during Sunday School promotion
7. Australian Aborigines at the Conference

People from all over Australia came to the Events Centre for the Conference, with many attending from as far north as the Torres Strait Islands, west as Perth, and a large contingent from the Red Centre, our beloved Aboriginal saints.

## Australian National Conference

The Australian National Conference was held on January 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at the Wyndham Events Centre, Melbourne. It was a wonderful time of renewal and strengthening with the anointed preaching of **Rev. Richard Flowers of Dallas, Texas**.

People from all over Australia came to the Events Centre for the Conference, with many attending from as far north as the Torres Strait Islands, west as Perth, and a large contingent from the Red Centre, our beloved Aboriginal saints.

The Conference Choir and the Songfest on Sunday was a blessing to everyone, and the worship of the congregation was uplifting. We thank God for the wonderful work done in people's hearts during the week-long event.

You can view a slide-show of the Australian Conference on our website at: [www.upci.net/missionaries/carver](http://www.upci.net/missionaries/carver)

## Papua New Guinea Ministers Meeting

I was invited to attend the *Annual Ministers Meeting in Goroka, Papua New Guinea* by **Brother Henry**. I was able to have my son **Richard Jon** accompany me. Papua New Guinea is the country of his birth and where he spent most of his childhood. This was his first time to return since he left there 17 years ago, so it was a very special time for him.

He was able to minister in the language after all these years of being away. He did a wonderful job addressing the men and women at the ministers meetings. Brother Henry was also there from the States (he is on furlough) and of course **Brother and Sister Gratton**, furlough replacements for PNG.

The Ministers meeting was held in Goroka with about 300 ministers and leaders in attendance. I was able to minister on some subjects that I had had on my heart for some time and that I knew would benefit the ministry. We had three nights and two days of good teaching and preaching.

## Cairns Assembly

The Cairns assembly is doing wonderfully, with church growth being experienced on a weekly basis. Bro. Trevor Elliot reports that they are having visitors at every service, and people being baptized on a weekly basis.

Now running over 80 people on Sunday, there is a quality group in Cairns, determined to work together for the Lord, even in the weeks we are absent from them. A good number of them are attending the video Bible School program, and we were pleased to have Cairns members amongst the Graduates at the Australian Conference Bible School Graduation. These were the two men assisting myself to pastor Cairns Church, seen in the photos above.

## A Busy Time Ahead

We have a busy schedule for the first half of 2004. Sis Carver has been invited to speak at the National Ladies Retreat in Lae, Papua New Guinea and we both will be traveling there *Jan 28-Feb 10*.

Late February, our daughter-in-law Andrea is due to give birth to their second child.

In early March I am planning a trip to East Timor in the Indonesian Archipelago. Bro. Bennie DeMerchant, missionary to Brazil, has requested me to accompany him to this untouched island nation.

Then in April I am returning to Papua New Guinea to join them for their Annual Conference. Immediately after this I fly into Singapore for Global Council meeting.

We look forward to being able to share with you information from these exciting events. Please do keep us in your prayers as we attempt to do all we can do for God's Kingdom, and for traveling mercies along the way.

— The Carvers

**Right:**  
Our three grandchildren: Laura, Matthew & Ryan, soon to be joined by one more at the end of February.



Visit our website for more information: [www.upci.net/missionaries/carver](http://www.upci.net/missionaries/carver)