



at Belgrave Heights Convention Centre

3 Convention Ave Belgrave Heights Victoria

*Come and discover God's heart for justice;  
listen to our indigenous brothers and sisters,  
encounter Jesus' call to follow Him to the margins.*

The SURRENDER conference is a gathering of Christians from across Australia to share ideas, stories and hope on justice, discipleship and mission.

The SURRENDER conference is for people from all walks of life - with workshops for first-timers, gathering spaces for the tribes, amazing programs for kids and youth, and heaps more!

<http://surrender.org.au/surrender15> enquiries@surrender.org.au 0403 177 995



GOD'S GLORY is soooo awesome!!!

The NT News

Night sky at Uluru. Picture: Kartikeya Sharma

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# 93 March 2015



**Cyclone Lam & GOD's firestorm at Elcho Island**

**New documentary film to be released at Elcho Island on 14 March**



Every year since the Revival at Elcho Island in 1979, a *Revival Thanksgiving Weekend* has been held where Yolngu and balanda (Aboriginal & non-Aboriginal people) have gathered in their hundreds to worship, learn and share what God is doing through Holy Spirit among them.

The Thanksgiving Weekend has always been celebrated in the middle of March, to remember that day on which they first recognised and felt the release of Holy Spirit among them on 14 March 1979.

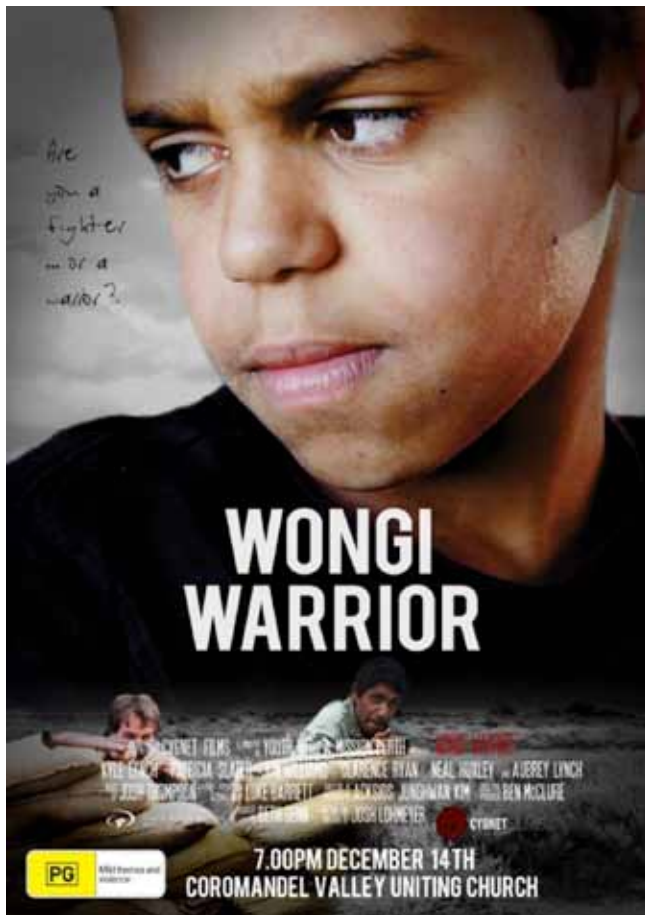
This year, the story of the Revival is being remembered with the world premiere of the documentary film, *GOD's firestorm*.

The Guest Speaker at the initial rallies was Rev Dan Armstrong, who has shared there on a number of Revival Thanksgiving Weekends since. Dan & Sue return to Galiwin'ku again this year, and Dan has been invited to be the Guest Speaker again.

Rev Wendell & Mary Flentje and John & June Blackett will also be present as special guests. Wendell was the agriculturalist and Mary and June were teachers at Galiwin'ku in the 1970s. John was the outstation community worker and was ordained at Galiwin'ku in 1977, and he has produced the film.

The extensive damage caused by Cyclone Lam only 3 weeks before the celebration raised doubts over whether it should be postponed, but the decision was made by the Galiwin'ku church leaders to go ahead. However there will not be accommodation for the hundreds of people from other Arnhem Land communities this year, since over 60 homes at Galiwin'ku are now uninhabitable - see pages 4 & 5 for details.

We pray that as the film goes out around Australia, it will help bring new life to those people who are not able to be present for the celebration. (See *Kheseed's order form to order copies*).



Jackson is a young Indigenous boy who has a knack for telling stories. Stuck on a bus with two curious kids, he uses his beat up journal to bring to life the daring adventures of his war hero grandfather, Jim. Saving ungrateful fellow soldiers and eventually winning their friendship and respect, Jim is everything a warrior should be. But when Jim is betrayed, Jackson takes matters into his own hands.

Based on actual events from the harsh deserts of North Africa in WW2 to the Goldfields of Western Australia in 2013, Wongi Warrior represents a groundbreaking collaboration between independent film-makers and Indigenous community elders to give a voice to the stories of their land. There are no easy lives, yet even the most challenging stories need to be told, for it is in the telling that there is healing.

**WA Premiere**



**7pm Friday 17 April  
phone 0409 209 023  
for further details**

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- produced by *Cygnat Films*, a ministry of *Youth With A Mission*, Perth
- written and directed by *Josh Lohmeyer*
- Email: [jdloh@hotmail.com](mailto:jdloh@hotmail.com)

\*\*\*\* Highly recommended by *Khesed*

-> from page 6 **New Indigenous Bible Translation Teams**

steadily broken down by the Lord, and now the Co-ordinator of Warralong Community is Kevin Fred, for whom many of you used to pray. He is a close friend, who himself did a lot of Bible Translation with us in our early days. He would be the Team Leader at Warralong.

Another old friend and co-translator whose name you will remember, Bruce Thomas, is an influential Elder on the Strelley Community, and would be the Team Leader there.

The third community lives in HomesWest houses scattered around South Hedland. Donald Thomas will be the Team Leader for that group...

[Brian has purchased a utility and is looking for a suitable caravan. He will probably] ...leave the caravan at Warralong for the 8 months, and just use my camping vehicle (a utility with a canopy on the back) when in the other two communities...

Now that I've got the vehicle I'm able to take more definite action on looking for ...a caravan that can function fairly readily as a mobile office, that happens to have a kitchenette and a single bed in it. I expect that I'd only need it for the 8 months, and would then plan to sell it again.

A friend reminded me recently that Moses began his main life-work when he was 80. Well, if the Lord wants me to get back into Bible translation work at this late stage, I'll be very happy to go through all the motions of doing it; but He will have to give me the health and the guidance and the wisdom for the task; and it will have to be He who makes the whole project a fruitful one for the Nyangumarta people.

Two weeks ago I was thinking of all the difficulties that I know will be

involved. Many of the community-oriented Aborigines up there don't work by a clock yet; many of them don't even work by a calendar. How will I ever be able to organise classes, or even one-on-one sessions, that will actually happen, somewhere around about the time that I try to run them, preferably at least on the same day? I sat down with a cup of coffee and picked up the book that I was reading at the time. It's the kind of book that has a Scripture verse at the beginning of each chapter. As I flipped open the book to the bookmark at the next chapter, I was saying to the Lord, "I really can't see just how this is all going to work, when I actually get up there." Then my eye fell on the verse at the top of the page. It said, "Your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21, NIV.) So I guess that is how it is going to work.

**Khesed Perth Prayer Meeting**  
**31 March**  
**1.30pm to 3.00pm**  
**36 Latimer Way Langford**  
**0409 209 023**  
**Last Tuesday each month**

**Victorian Indigenous  
Prayer Meeting**  
**7.30 pm Wednesday, March 11**  
**@ 17 Daniel Street, Burwood**  
**My humble apologies for the  
change of date**  
**- Anne Green**

## New Indigenous Bible Translation Teams

We reported last year on two areas where local Aboriginal people have organised themselves into teams to translate the Bible into their own languages – in Arnhem Land and in the Pitjantjatjara area in north west of South Australia.

Here are two edited reports from semi-retired Nyangumartu Bible Translator, Brian Geytenbeek. Nyangumartu is the language used in the Port Hedland area, WA. He wrote in November last year:

Last Christmas I reported that Greg Gardiner and Donald Thomas, two young men who worked on Bible translation with us 20 years ago, but were at that time addicted to alcohol and gambling, are now studying the Bible, and leading a church of Nyangumarta-related Aboriginal people living in or around South Hedland...

A major factor in Donald's new commitment to Bible translation came soon after he came back to the Lord. The Lord appeared to him, showed him an open book, and pointing at it said, "You've got an unfinished job!" Donald knew what it was. Fifteen years ago he had started to translate Exodus, but had quit partway through chapter 2. Well, he bought himself a laptop computer, ready to start the work with, but he didn't know how to set it up. I helped him to do that when he happened to be in Perth in March, and he started translating again...

Some of the Nyangumarta Christians now want to revise the Scriptures that Helen and I translated, converting them from the older speakers' dialect into the younger speakers' dialect (the older speakers having all died now); and they want to translate more of the Bible as well. They want to do this in discussion groups with the people in South Hedland, and on Strelley and Warralong. (The latter two communities, where Nyangumarta is a lingua franca, are roughly 50 and 100

kilometres east of Port Hedland "as the crow flies", respectively – a bit further "as the car drives".)

They want me to train them in Translation Principles, and to act as a "player-coach" on their team. While ever they are keen to do it, in their own time and at their own expense, I will be happy to help them in whatever ways I can, for as long as the Lord gives me

"You've got an unfinished job!"

the strength to do so. I am assuming that He wants the job done, or He wouldn't have given Donald that hint.

21 February 2015

...The idea is for me to circulate between 3 different communities, training 3 different translation teams in Translation Principles, and being their player-coach and office boy, as they apply those principles to their Bible translation. At a later stage I can be their liaison officer with the Bible Society...

The Lord has steadily been overcoming the obstacles, one by one. ... on my field trip in December, I got the necessary permissions to visit the two out-of-town communities. Helen and I had always been banned from going to Strelley and Warralong in our years up there, 1972 – 1999, by the white people in charge of them, solely because we were Christians. Since then that barrier has been

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## Botany Bay Recognition - NAR

Recent edited reports  
from Lindsay McDowell:

- For the first time in years every member of our Recognition Leadership Team from East to West were able to meet face to face... with no one missing.
- That enabled us to meet with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council... That has since proven to be of great benefit... in joint activity since.
- We have received highly valued letters of support from two church denominations at national level, with encouraging signs this support may grow even stronger.
- Letters of support from well-known Australians are on the increase.
  - We have now engaged in meetings with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, and with the Department of Indigenous Affairs.
  - We may soon have opportunity to present Recognition at Botany Bay to the NSW Government.
  - We have sought approval to hold a Recognition at Botany Bay stall at the La Perouse monthly *Blak Market* to explain the aims and objectives to the local community.
  - We have met with two national Australian Youth organizations.
  - A city council in the Botany Bay area unanimously passed a motion in support of *Recognition at Botany Bay* recently. Another city council in the area also threw in their support two years ago.
    - I had a follow up meeting the next day with a Bishop... who told me that since our first meeting he has become really convinced about the value of *Recognition at Botany Bay*. He has taken our material to a number of his fellow bishops Australia wide with the idea it may be presented to a national conference of their denomination.
    - On Monday 2 March the Recognition Team will commence a major work in South Australia with many communities and/or churches at Murray Bridge, Adelaide, Port



Augusta and if time permits, Ceduna, over a period of about 10 days. Similar visits will take place in communities at Wagga Wagga and Swan Hill on the way to SA. It will include a presentation to Revival SA in the Adelaide CBD on Saturday 7 March at 10.00am. People from churches all over Adelaide and beyond will be present.

- On 17 March our Team has been invited to make a presentation at a City Council Councilors' Briefing Session. Some of our Sydney Team will have opportunity to be part of this.
- On 18 March our Sydney Team will make a similar presentation to the Uniting Church Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) in Sydney. The Congress has already written to say they support this mission, but now their National Executive invite a face-to-face presentation.
- On 20 April I will join the West Australian Team for a *Gathering of the Elders and Recognition Journey* in the Western Desert to Warburton, and through the Wheatbelt, Goldfields, Pilbara, Carnarvon, Geraldton and back to Perth, returning to Canberra on 20 May.



<- Galiwin'ku Bible Translation Centre

*GOD's protection is amazing!!! There were no deaths or injuries! June Blacket was praying for a 'bubble of protection' as the cyclone approached. Afterwards, Yolŋu walked around looking at the buildings which were undamaged, and commenting on who lived there.*

Galiwin'ku Church and the outdoor meeting platform  
*a tree fell on the church roof, causing a little damage*



Photos by:

- BOM
- ABC
- NT News
- Ellen Wickens/ Injalak Arts and Crafts
- Gunbalanya
- Northchasers.com

# Cyclone Lam 19-20 Feb 2015 Elcho Island & Arnhem Land

