

Special Report on Conventions held in Australia and Fiji

In September my wife Sandy and I attended the Australian FGBMFI national conference in Brisbane. The theme was With One Voice. For some years FGB in Australia had been operating as 2 entities. There was evidently a fresh spirit of humility, unity, hope and joy flowing through the conference gathering. We had 2 glorious days of outstanding worship, teaching and testimonies. The best 7 minute testimony was given by Daniel Thompson, our recent export to Sydney from the Wairarapa.

8 of us from NZ were there. All of us were warmly welcomed.

The Australian National President, Daniel Wright, who came to our national convention, had been so impressed that he introduced afternoon workshops into their conference. These small groups on a wide range of topics allowed for active participation, with people gaining greater confidence to move in various areas of ministry - music, prophetic prayer, effective witnessing and discipleship and so on.

Rich friendships were made, not only with the Australians but also with the Indonesians and Fijians who had come specifically for the conference. Meeting these people was a highlight for us and will lead to much closer bonds with our FGBMFI colleagues internationally in the years to come.

A month later I attended the Asia Pacific conference held in Nadi, Fiji at the Crowne Plaza

resort. I travelled with Doug Woolley from Florida, the International Secretary for FGBMFI. He stayed in my home for 2 days prior to the conference and has become a firm friend.

Arriving a day prior to the conference I was placed in a team of 4 to visit and minister to inmates at Lautoka prison. An hour's visit turned into 2 hours of prayer and testimony - with inmates, staff and personally with the Officer in Charge. Each of the team was inspired by God to have appropriate messages to share and these were enthusiastically received.

The conference was held over 2 days. The theme was Love Breaks Every Stronghold. The generous Indonesians underwrote much of the cost. This was another superbly planned and managed conference. Fiji has 4 FGBMFI chapters and has plans to open more. Having the conference there was enormously encouraging to the local teams.

Again there were 8 from NZ, several sharing testimonies on the second day. We heard inspiring testimonies, messages relating to Christian principles in business and other topics. The conference ended with an open air outreach in a public park in Nadi. The main speaker was Gratien de Souza, a very tall man from Togo, Central Africa, a Regional FGB Vice President. He spoke with great authority with many people touched by Holy Spirit at the end.

Having Sunday free, I was driven to a lively church in Ba to share a brief testimony and Bible

message. God brought to my mind specific incidents and scripture to share that were appropriate for the audience and situation. The feast held afterwards apparently was arranged in my honour. How amazing and humbling.

To round off the trip I was dropped off at the airport at 3pm for a 7.30 flight. After a useful hour of re-packing, changing out of my sulu, filling in departure forms and so on, I set out for a walk. As I stepped outside I met Allan and Ariana Levi and their children arriving for their 8pm flight. I was thrilled at the timing and spent the next 3 hours having wonderful conversations and getting to know each other better. Praise the Lord for his abundant goodness.

The International part of FGBMFI is keen for NZ to join and take an active part in the worldwide fellowship. The conferences this year have broken down barriers and deep friendships are being formed through zoom meetings and attending international events. We in NZ have a lot of experience and insights to offer on the international stage.

In August next year there will be a world conference in Bali. I would recommend considering putting that date on your calendars.



Graham Simpson, National President FGBMFI NZ



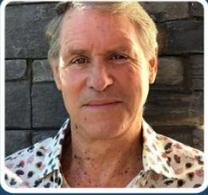
Upcoming Event

The Waikato/BOP Regional Camp will be held 28-30 November in Rotorua. Guest speaker is Murray Smith, founder of Bridges church in Cambridge.

All are welcome. Meals will be provided. You will need to bring a sleeping bag/blanket, sheet, pillow, towel and bible. Kindly contact Allan on hamiltonfullgospel@gmail.com for other details.

introducing our guest speaker...

PASTOR MURRAY SMITH



Murray began his career in graphic design. A call to serve in church leadership and a desire to encourage people to become everything God purposes for them to be, resulted in him leading, teaching and pastoring for over thirty years.

He and his wife Michelle have witnessed many miracles of the Lord's grace in people's lives and supernatural provision. They drew media attention in 2010, releasing their home to provide funds for the construction of a church and community centre.

FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL



"This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it!" **2 JOHN 1:6**

WAIKATO BAY OF PLENTY REGIONAL CAMP 2025



JOIN US!

LAKEVIEW BIBLE CAMP
7PM | Friday, 28th November 1PM | Sunday, 30th November

359 A HAMILURANA ROAD
NGONGOTAHĀ, ROTORUA

COSTS

IF REGISTERED BEFORE THE 14th OF NOVEMBER

FULL WEEKEND

Accommodation and food included - \$140

SATURDAY

Food included - \$70

IF REGISTERED AFTER THE 14th OF NOVEMBER

FULL WEEKEND

Accommodation and food included - \$180

SATURDAY

Food included - \$90

BOOKINGS

ARE ESSENTIAL

to register or for more information

Contact Allan Levi
0296015541 | hamiltonfullgospel@gmail.com

REGIONAL CAMP 2025

A NOTE FROM THE WAIKATO BOP REGIONAL DIRECTOR

I am excited and honoured to re-establish the Waikato & BOP annual regional camp. Regional camps strengthen FGBMFI members, encourage greater unity between chapters and provide valuable opportunities for fellowship.

My hope for this camp is to strengthen FGBMFI, that mean will be encouraged, inspire and strengthened; ready to put what they take away from this camp into action.

WHAT TO BRING

along with your gear...

- Bedding
- Towel
- Bible



LOVE OFFERING

We will be receiving a love offering to bless our guest speaker.

I encourage you to give generously!

REGISTRATION

FULL NAME:

CHAPTER:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

Please email a copy of the section to hamiltonfullgospel@gmail.com

Report on the En Hakkore Camp hosted by Southern Region on 29th - 31th August in Central Otago

Southern Region Camp 2025

For winter camp 2025 it was back to En Hakkore on the Maniototo in Central Otago. Guest speaker for the weekend was Danny Smith from Whakatane. Danny and his wife Helen had already spoken and ministered at the Timaru and Taieri chapters the week of the camp. Their messages and ministry time at those meetings were excellent and closely resonated with the men and women attending. On the Tuesday following camp Danny and Helen spoke and ministered at the Balclutha Chapter.

We started Friday evening with a light meal, the first of many meals that were lovingly prepared for us by the En Hakkore community led by the amazing Yvonne. We were blessed all weekend by their ministry to us.



The praise and worship team was led by Stephen Taylor on keyboard and guitar, with Myles White and Graham Partridge on guitar and the amazing Ross Calverley on vocals. This team of men brought our worship to a high level throughout the whole weekend.

Danny spoke to us on the theme of "Wells in the Oasis" throughout the weekend.

Some thoughts I took on board from Danny's talks were :

- It is time for the wells to flow again from your belly, rivers of living waters.
- You cannot separate love and faith.

- We need to drink from Jesus' well.
- Psalm 18 v 1-2
How I love you, Lord! You are my defender. The Lord is my protector; he is my strong fortress. My God is my protection, and with him I am safe. He protects me like a shield; he defends me and keeps me safe.
- Renew your mind, speak the Word of God out of your mouth.
- Be aggressive against all darkness.
- 1 Corinthians 13 the love chapter, the love of God in our spirit.



- Stir ourselves up and encourage each of us in the Lord. Paul told Timothy to stir himself up – see 2 Timothy 1:6-7 : For this reason I remind you to keep alive the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; instead, his Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control.
- You need fellowship with other men, being obedient and hearing God's voice, walking together in agreement with Jesus and the Father.
- Walk in authority we have as sons of God.
- God corrects those he loves, and loves those he corrects.
- The character of God. If we know God's character, we will walk in his character.



Prayer Meetings

Each morning began with a 7-8 am prayer meeting in the laundry meeting room. On Saturday morning, the prayer meeting began with sunlight filling the room. On Sunday there was a dusting of snow outside. We welcomed God into the day. This was a great opportunity for all men to be involved, pray, speak out, bring a prophetic word and lead in song. These prayer times each morning are an excellent training ground for all of us, to be bold and courageous.

Electives

Following the success of electives at convention this year it was decided to use the skills of some of our members to present three electives as part of the camp programme. During Saturday morning we were able to select and attend two of the three electives.

Elective 1 : 'Effective Discipleship' presented by Andrew Stirling.



There are three main areas of discipleship :

1. Group follow up (e.g. Church or Bible studies)

2. Individual study by the new disciple

3. Personal follow up – this is sorely lacking within most Western churches.

Andrew spoke of buying a boxing bag and gloves for his son, expecting him to use them, but he only used them once on the day they were given to him. Andrew realised that if he took time and showed his son how to use them and encouraged him, his son would be far more likely to use them. So fatherly discipleship is vital. Be the mentor your friend can call on, sit with and discuss biblical questions with.



Answers to excuses :

- To invite someone to church and hope someone else will disciple them is a cop out, no different to buying a boxing bag for your son and not teaching him to use it.
- To say you're too busy, is also a cop out.
- To say that you are afraid of failing is pride. Get over yourself. God wants to reach people in NZ. He wants to use you. Accept that and get to work.
- To say you do not know what to do is also a cop out. Apprentices make mistakes, so did Jesus' disciples. You will make mistakes. Simply make sure you learn from them.
- To say you're too old is also a cop out. Paul was on the verge of death but was still able to say "To live is Christ. " Eternity is a long time, there's work to do before you get there.
- Be accountable to start discipleship training one new Christian this year.

Elective 2 : 'Getting your testimony ready'
presented by Bruce Beckingsale



brother keeps on sinning against me, how many times do I have to forgive him? Seven times?"
"No, not seven times," answered Jesus, "but seventy times seven"

- **Tony Shaw, Timaru chapter**



Elective 3 : 'Inner healing' presented by Michael Miller and John Mckenzie.



We are body, soul, and spirit - May the God who gives us peace make you holy in every way and keep your whole being - spirit, soul, and body - free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we go through life, especially when we are young, we get wounded by things that happen to us and words spoken to us. These wounds can be physical, sexual, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual. They can happen through everyday life or via abuse.

1 Peter 2:24

Christ himself carried our sins in his body to the cross, so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness. It is by his wounds that you have been healed.

James 5:16

So then, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you will be healed. The prayer of a good person has a powerful effect.

Matthew 18:21-22

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, if my

En Hakkore Camp (Southern Region) Photographs





Remembering Johan (Joh) Remiens

Johan was a Field Rep for Auckland and Northland for many years and was a well-known personality in FGB circles with his strong Dutch way of doing things. He could be very direct and assertive with his requests or suggestions that could upset people if taken the wrong way. This was probably his military training that was coming through.

I remember the Regional Director at the time, the late Paul Hair, having to calm the waters with Chapter Presidents on several occasions after Joe (as we called him then) had attended one of their committee meetings or spoken to them on the phone. Notwithstanding, underneath the strong personality was a gentile and very caring heart. At 94 years of age he was to outlive his 2 wives, his Dutch bride, Rina, who he was married to for over 60 years and then Valerie who only passed away a couple of months before Johan went to join them both in heaven.



Johan was the loving full-time caregiver for both in their last few years of their lives. Johan clocked up many miles travelling around Northland servicing a host of chapters that existed at the time at Kaikohe, Kerikeri, Moerewa, Whangarei and Dargaville. Once he retired from being Field Rep he continued to conduct regular church services in Crestwood Retirement Village in West Auckland where he lived most of his life in New Zealand until moving to Northland about 10 years ago to stay with one of his daughters before marrying Valerie. He was an evangelist at heart and was instrumental in saving many souls for the Lord. Well done, good and faithful servant!



The following notes were given to Peter Bilton for the eulogy from a niece at the service:

Joh was an Amsterdam baby, born 25 May 1931. He didn't talk much to me about from his early years, but when WW2 broke out his family was taken to a concentration camp when he was around 14 years of age. After moving camps four times as he saw a gate open and ran. He escaped just near the end of the war and spent a year walking home across Germany eating mostly apples from trees along the way. When he arrived home his mother was angry with him for not being there when his sister died in the camp. He carried that guilt for the rest of his life.

Later, while a soldier in the Netherlands Army he made rank of sergeant.

He married Rina in 1954 and then pretty much immediately went away with the Army, sometimes for weeks or months at a time, but as he said to me 'she just got on with it', and soon she had a lot more to get on with when joining the family was baby Hans and then baby Carin.

The family of 4 was offered a cheap passage to NZ on a boat making its last voyage so they arrived in NZ with 10 pounds in their pocket. NZ appealed as Rina's brother had already immigrated, but also a chance to leave the reminders of the war and that

traumatic part of their lives behind was needed.

In NZ Joh joined in communities in West Auckland, and sang and performed in many musicals, he was part of a 3 person singing group called Concordia. Singing was his passion. A third child, Deborah, tragically died just before birth. Two more children followed to help to heal this heartbreak, Sandee and youngest Mark.



Caleb Salisbury, Whangarei Chapter President, giving a tribute at the farewell celebration service.

Joh got involved with the Full gospel business mens fellowship international, and other community groups.

In later years after a move up north Rina's health declined, Joh became her carer. He recalled Rina was uncomfortable and only able to sleep in an armchair, so he slept next to her in an armchair too.

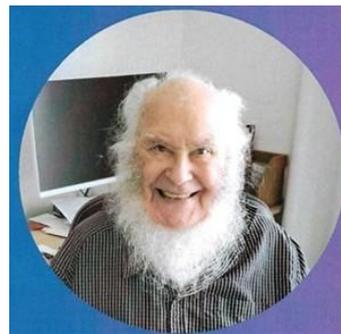
He cared for her right up to the end.

We had met Joh and Rina a few times when they stopped by for a cuppa, we already knew him as a Loud Dutch Santa who cracked jokes and had a great bread recipe. He and Nana Valerie married in 2019, a long friendship turned to marriage. They had many happy times and yes a disagreement or two or three but they were a comfy shoulder to lean on, a steady hand, to each other, and a constant reminder to each other to take your medicine and take your stick when you get up to the bathroom.



Field Assistant, Craig Patten, officiating the farewell celebration service.

When he lost nana just over 4 months ago, he was again bereft, however he still had a bit of hope and was motivated to move into Ashbury Heights Retirement Village (where he was for about 6 weeks before passing away).



It was a comfort to us to know he was cared for, and had company, groups to join, and new friends to joke to. He told me he was still getting used to people doing things for him, he didn't even need to make his bed! It was a comfort to know his last weeks and days had hope and joy in them again.

Side note : Alan Brown, our current Auckland CBD chapter member, was living at Moerewa when there was a chapter there that Johan visited.

Peter Bilton

Auckland/Northland Regional Director