



Many Languages in Christ

*Listen Plan Do
One Peg at a Time*

Ethnic Congregations Project Newsletter ACSQ

Yeronga Meeting

On 21 February I travelled to Yeronga Parish to meet with people of six different ethnic backgrounds who call Yeronga their church home. It was an opportunity to explain the objectives of the Ethnic Congregations Project and give them time to tell me what they think their were main needs. Rev. Rebecca King and a number of community leaders and parishioners came to have their say and know that they were listened to.

They reflected on the three scholarships provided in the early days by the church to disadvantaged children and what a wonderful help that proved to be. They would like to see more initiatives like this in the future.

Their main hope was that Sudanese people in Australia would look beyond the tribal links of the old country and be one in Christ here. Actually, I could see this already working at Yeronga. Within their community they have already done much to come together.



Many leaders involved in the conversations.

Bishop Rob Catchup

In mid February I had the opportunity to catch up to one of the earliest supporters of the Sudanese refugees to this region, Bishop Rob Nolan. In the early days he was my mentor and received me and the Sudanese community with great warmth and encouragement. It was a difficult time in learning to adjust to a new way of life and friends like him eased the path for many of us. We hold him in great esteem and it was wonderful to catch up and take advice for my new role into the future.



Bishop Rob and Daniel

St Bart's Staff Lunch

The team at St Bart's (the church where I am based) invited me to my first staff luncheon in March. They were keen to hear about my position in the diocese. I was also keen to let them know what a support they were in helping me understand the working of the office.

I'm looking forward to attending these luncheons when I can and sharing the enthusiasm they all have for what they do.



St Bart's Team at the lunch

Rev. Dan's the Man

I had the chance to meet Rev. Dan Berris of the Lakes Parish in early March. He has a diverse ethnic mix in his congregation from a number of African countries. He has been active for some time in having Swahili translations used to accompany English in PowerPoint for part of the services. Like me, he sees a great benefit in people sharing their stories of who they are and where they came from. I look to sharing more ideas for the benefit of everyone.



Rev. Dan Berris and Daniel

Bishops Briefing

While in Brisbane on 9 March I had the privilege to have meetings with Bishop John Roundhill and then another with Bishop Jeremy Greaves. It was a great opportunity to brief each of them first hand on the Ethnic Congregations Project, what is happening now, and also my plans for the immediate future. I appreciate the support and collegiality that they both extended to me. I look forward to working with them as the project progresses.



*Left: Bishops John and Daniel.
Above: Bishops Daniel and Jeremy looking over project materials.*

