



Many Languages in Christ

*Listen Plan Do
One Peg at a Time*

Ethnic Congregations Project Newsletter ACSQ

Robina Meeting

At Robina on 21 April I had a meeting with Reverend Stewart Perry at Holy Trinity Parish Centre. What is really exciting for me is that this is the first Asian and Chinese congregation groups I have encountered. Stewart gave me a warm welcome and over lunch we discussed ways I might help implement steps to open up more links with the different ethnic groups in the parish. He was particularly interested in the "Hello Evening" programme we have developed. We are now looking at ways to get these running in the parish. I am very pleased and looking forward to the first evening getting up.



Reverend Stewart Perry with Bishop Daniel at Robina Parish Centre

Catholic Care Connection

Always on the lookout to access information and expertise from other organisations I have met with the Kate Venables, CEO of Catholic Care for the Toowoomba Diocese and Hanna Belesky a coordinator with TRAM's (Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Support Centre). There is a huge store of knowledge and practical experience in dealing with migrant people helping them integrate into Australian society. They were both keen to open a dialogue to share things that might work across both groups. One subject discussed was the interfaith group that they run and if they might be able to access and run some of my Hello Evening programmes. There are many promising things that they and we might share in the future. Watch this space.



Daniel meeting with CEO Kate and TRAM's coordinator Hanna

Meeting Sarah Plowman

I had a meeting with Sarah, the Director of Ordinands and Vocations on 9 March to discuss my work in the diocese and how I might be able to help any ordinands from different ethnic backgrounds. It was a very productive meeting, sharing our perspectives and ways we can cooperate in the months ahead. I look forward to what can be achieved.



Daniel and Sarah discussing ways help with language support.

Erica - Links to Youth Needs

Erica Skerman, the Director of Youth, Children and Families Ministry met with me on 15 March to share what is happening with ministry for young people in the diocese. As a result of that meeting I now have an invitation to attend the Icthus Camp in the July school holidays to connect with some of the youth and young adults from across ACSQ. This will be great opportunity to share my work and their expectations of what can improve in ethnic cooperation with young people.



Erika and Daniel

Around and About

Besides all the meetings and planning for events over the past month, there have been a host of other events I have shared in that focus on ethnic links and making what I am doing better known.

A few examples include:

Accepting an invitation to Hume Ridge Church to share my personal storey with the youth and young adults; A round of Easter services with the ethnic community at St James Toowoomba; Meeting ethnic community leaders at St Paul's Ipswich to discuss Hello Evenings.



*Top Left: Leaders meeting in Ipswich.
Above: Part of the group at Hume Ridge.
Left: Easter march from St James.*

