

## A Gathering of Former ABM Missionaries

On Monday 15th March 2010, an amazing collection of people gathered at St Saviour's, Glen Osmond.

About eighty all told, 43 from SA and others from all over Australia and even from the UK, they were men and women who had served as missionaries or volunteers supported by the Anglican Board of Mission. Messages and greetings came from another 48 who had been unable to come through age, ill health or some other reason. As someone commented, the collective term of service of those present would be almost a millennium! It was a time of catching up with old and new friends and compatriots and swapping reminiscences – a celebration of having shared in a unique and valued experience.



A series of short accounts by some of those present, 'A Mosaic of Mission' highlighted some experiences of the mission in which they had been privileged to work. Ranging from a tale of a menacing swarm of bees to a theological reflection on God's purpose and plan in the call to mission, they covered different aspects of mission work in Northern Australia, PNG, Polynesia, Africa, Korea, Melanesia and Laos.

Fr John Cottier, who with his wife Judy had been part of the 'first contact' mission work in Simbai in the PNG highlands, spoke of their delight on returning to Simbai some 30 years later and meeting Bishop Nathan Ingen - and priests, teachers and leaders of the PNG community - who had all come from Simbai.

In answer to the question, 'Was it all worth it?' the answer was a resounding 'Yes!' both to those who went and to the people they went to.


Members of the ABM Board, Judy Cottier, Joy Freier and Bishop Garry Weatherill, asked people to take time to write down their stories so that they could be collected and not lost.

Looking to the future, Chris Peters from ABM spoke of work in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in which ABM is currently engaged.

Today instead of sending missionaries, ABM's policy is to provide support to indigenous ministry and community development. A collection taken up on the day was offered to assist payment of school fees for the children of indigenous clergy in Papua New Guinea

**Anne Chittleborough  
March 2010**

*(Anne and Martin Chittleborough served in Papua New Guinea from 1966-1976. Anne was for some years on the Board of ABM and the South Australian Provincial Committee.)*



**RETURNED MISSIONARIES GET-TOGETHER, ADELAIDE 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010.**

1. Rolf Sherwin	20. Doug Parrington	39. Katie Williams	58. Bob Butters
2. Anne Chittleborough	21. Joy Stacey	40. Ron Williams	59. Betty Porter
3. Martin Chittleborough	22. Simon Bailey (Rector)	41. Anthony Radford	60. Mabel Trenorden
4. Kathy Wannop	23. Margaret Parrington	42. Philip Freier	61. Gary Prince
5. Lindsay Bond	24. James Stacey	43. Rosemary Haste	62. Joyce Prince
6. Judy Cottier	25. Ted Newing	44. Sue Dutton	63. Ron Morris
7. John Cottier	26. Joyce Newing	45. Denise Stephenson	64. Dorothy Astle-Steep
8. Rosemary Mortimer	27. Judy Price	46. John Stephenson	65. Nancy Garland
9. Don Mortimer	28. Joan Durdin	47. Mary Wardman	66. Malcolm Dutton
10. Margie Chittleborough	29. Jane Nelson	48. Bev. Hewitt	67. Jenny Gregory
11. Kay Thorp	30. Dorothy Daw	49. Gillian Kaines	68. Maurice Dowell
12. John Kaines	31. Elin Johnston	50. Avril Dalby	69. Margaret Buttfield
13. David Smith	32. Sybil Pawley	51. Philip Thirlwell	70. Margaret Thirlwell
14. Chris McAvenna	33. Alison Cobbett	52. Una Bachman	71. Rhyll Henzel
15. Frank Coppock	34. Donald Johnston	53. Dorothy Rogers	72. Betty Ashton
16. Jane Bodley	35. Pam Rowney	54. Peter Routley	73. Mary Dowell
17. Roy Todd	36. David Cobbett	55. Alan Dutton	74. Robin Radford
18. Margaret Flint	37. Dean Rowney	56. Bruce Henzel	75. John Beiers
19. Georgie Todd	38. Jeremy Ashton	57. Joy Freier	