



Eglinton School

We decided to go a week earlier than planned and just do four days, trusting that this was the leading of God. However it was quite fraught with difficulties and obstructions, which was very interesting though not always pleasant. But our purpose was still the same – to encourage principals and teachers in their work of emotional and spiritual education of the precious children in their charge.

On Monday our first school was O'Connell where S received booklets and prayer. Just getting there was a challenge with roadwork for all the potholes, and took a great deal longer than we expected. Then we drove to West Bathurst and Eglinton schools where we were received well by ladies at the respective offices, as we were at Anson Street Orange, Calare and Clergate schools. We drove to Euchareena School but it has been closed so we went on to Stuart Town where J in the office was too busy with her own phone call to listen, but we left the booklets anyway – a mistake as this turned out. We arrived at Mumbil School as the office lady, S, was leaving, but she was so courteous and took the booklets to offer to the Principal next day. We stayed that night in Wellington, where A and S received our prayer thankfully, and discovered that there was to be a teachers' strike on Wednesday, and many schools would be closed.



Clergate School



Ballimore School

The pressure was on for us to complete as many school visits as possible on Tuesday.

We were received by S with such appreciation at Nanima where there is now only a preschool, and then at Wellington School the Principal was also most helpful and appreciative. We then offered our booklets at Geurie School where they were received but at Wongarbron they were not because they have good SRE teachers who have their own material which has been approved by the Department of Education, so that they do not "proselytise" (Department's term). In this case the word seems to mean do not convert minds from just



Geurie School

knowing the Bible stories to having an active belief in the love and power of God. This conclusion came from an extraordinary text message and subsequent (very unpleasant) conversation from an SRE teacher who is also on the Governmental committee for SRE, that evening at the motel. Her conversation was menacing and she would "take our recalcitrance to conform" further, as she considered our booklets illegal! Nevertheless, we went on from Wongarbron to Ballimore, Buninyong, Orana Heights, Dubbo South, and Dubbo North schools and received courtesy and favour from each person we spoke with, including two Principals. At Dubbo School, D, the Principal there, asked us into her office to talk about the booklets, most interested in our vision and purpose. At Dubbo West the booklets were accepted but S "did not have time for a prayer", which is probably our basic purpose in each school. This practice gives us an opportunity to pray not only for staff and children but to have faith agreement for the entire community in that place. We went on to Eumungerie where again we were well received by the Principal, M, and it was only lunch time! Thank you Lord, we had time to drive to Gilgandra School, where again the Principal received us and the booklets with appreciation and we still had time to drive to Gulargambone School to offer our booklets and be welcomed. We drove back to Gilgandra for the night and prayed for J for healing, and with A and L.

We set off on Wednesday, earlier than usual, wondering how the day would work out, and drove to Warren School just as the teachers were standing outside the gate so we prayed for B and D and then R, the office lady, who accepted the booklets. We needed to rely of the GPS for the next school, Marra Creek, but it let us down and took us a very long way off course. Just as we were despairing two Italian tourists came along the road and were able to point us in the right direction (and we prayed for them too!). The booklets were received well at The Marra School and then we were warned not to go to Quambone the shorter way as the water was too deep on the road. Instead of 34km we needed to drive back to Warren, 109km, and then to Quambone, 95km. How country people cope with this on a daily basis boggles the mind! Then when we finally arrived at Quambone the school was closed because of the strike. Oh Lord, what are we here for? BUT we met K in the shop. She and her husband, D, had come from Perth, sent by God,



Goolma School

and had been trying to get Scripture into the school and even revival into this little town for some years. She was so grateful to meet us and to receive the booklets (and a small donation for her work) and gave us love and soup. She felt encouraged by our visit. What joy that gave us after our struggles! We arrived at Coonamble School just in time to offer the booklets and they were received well, and we drove back to Gilgandra, where we had opportunity to pray for J and R. The only school we had missed was Tooraweenah.

So next day we drove there and were thoroughly rebuffed – no prayer, no books. But L who runs the preschool bus was willing to pray with us, and we went on to Mendooran, Dunedoo, Goolma, and Gulgong Schools. At each of these the booklets and prayer were received graciously, and we drove to Ulan School to find that it had been closed all year because of the mines. P, in the shop, accepted a prayer and told us that Wollar School was also closed for the same reason, so we drove to Cudgegong Valley School and then Mudjee School. At each of these the booklets and prayer were received graciously, and we had time to go to Lue School where C, the Principal, received the books with great appreciation. We should have left it there on a high note but we went on to Rylstone School, echoes of Tooraweenah – no books, no prayer. We did pray here with G and D outside the school, and left for home, stopping at Capertee for a very late lunch. The happy ending was praying for E at the fuel stop.

We had covered almost 2000km, prayed for 62 people and the communities they represent and actually visited 39 places. We had delivered 33 sets of each of children's booklets and teen tracts, or over 600 booklets, believing that when God sends His Word it will accomplish His will. Thank you Lord for this privilege and Your Presence with us always!|



Cudgegong Valley School