News from Cobar



March 2024

Dear supporters,

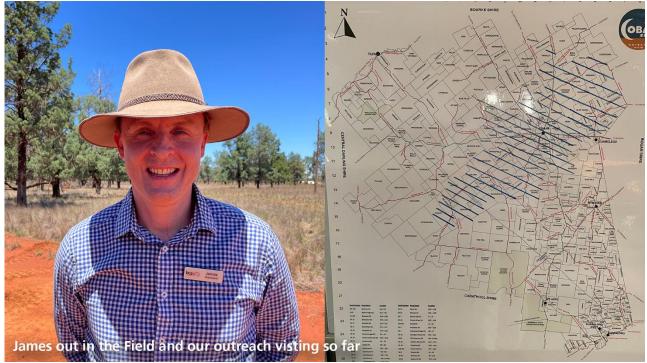
It has been a great pleasure to seek to develop ministry in Cobar over recent months.

Outreach visiting

It was tremendous to have Brian & Chris Macgeorge return in February to assist with our outreach visiting. They were last here in October 2023.

It was a great delight to visit one property in the western part of the district, about 90 minutes away from Cobar. It was just one of those classic encounters with a farming family. We were warmly welcomed, we talked around the kitchen table in the homestead, and we were able to hand out a copy of Luke's Gospel for one of them to read. In some ways, nothing has changed since BCA began. It's great that people so far away from town can be reached by going the distance.

We are still in need of helpers for our outreach visiting ministry. If you would like to assist, please find more information by clicking on this <u>LINK</u>.



BCA Nomads

So far, outreach visiting ministry has been greatly blessed by BCA Nomads. However, BCA Nomads have not confined their service of Cobar to just this role. In January, we appointed BCA Nomad, Graham Watt, as the Treasurer of our parish. We are delighted to welcome Graham to this role to replace the great work of Dr Warwick Baines, the Registrar and Business Manager of the Anglican Diocese of Bathurst, who was helping us in the first year of our ministry in Cobar.

Church

At church, we have been working through a sermon series called, *Following Jesus*, in which we have focused on the words that Jesus spoke to his disciples on the night before he was crucified. In Bible Study, we have been doing the Lent Bible Study Series for the Bathurst Diocese, *Gazing at God's Goodness*, with talks by The Revd Paul Dale.

Sadly, we lost one of our church members in March and a very enthusiastic one. Jim Delbridge loved Jesus and was such a blessing to James. It was so encouraging to see a 93-year-old so concerned about evangelism and actively reaching out to people. In his final few hours, James said that it seemed as though Jim was going on holiday, he was very polite but was keen to get going (to be with Jesus). It was great to be able to gather for his funeral, to give thanks to God for his life and hear of his extensive ministry to many in town.

Events

On Monday 8 April, the local churches will be running the **New to Cobar** event in which we seek to welcome new people to town and fast-track them into community life. This is not an evangelistic event but one in which we seek to be a blessing to the community. Please pray that new people will come, and that James will be blessed with strength and be a godly witness as he seeks to connect with people in the community to coordinate the event.

We are also looking forward to running *Christianity Explored* in May. Please pray that people we have met in the community will accept the invitation to come along.

Strategic planning

Over the last few months, James has been helping parishes in a new role he has as the Strategic Planning Facilitator for the Bathurst Diocese. James has really enjoyed speaking with parish leaders

throughout the diocese and encouraging them to be as effective as possible in their ministry strategy. This role also led him to the National Evangelism Workshop in Melbourne in February to learn more about Hope25, a national evangelism campaign in the Anglican Church of Australia, in which the diocese and the Parish of Cobar is participating in.

Prayer Requests

- Please pray that new people would come along to *New to Cobar* and that James would have strength and be a godly witness as he coordinates the event.
- Please pray that people would accept invitations to come to *Christianity Explored* in May.

James & Brittany Daymond

Our Ministry in Cobar is supported by <u>Bush Church Aid</u> <u>Click here to make an online donation</u>

Reaching Australia for Christ since 1919

P.S. Be sure to visit <u>BCA's YouTube channel</u> to see our video update.







