



## Community Events

**A Community Gathering will be held at  
2pm at Ridgecrest on Saturday  
23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019  
as part of the Residential Gathering from  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

**(The Board Meeting will be incorporated as part  
of the Residential Gathering).**

### Community LD Comment

Greetings to all in the Name of our Lord Jesus.

So much has happened since I was commissioned as your new Community Lay Director at the recent Gathering in Orange. We had a great Gathering where people sat in table groups and joined together in discussion on the theme "I am a Child of God". We wanted to show that as children we are all family together by making a row of paper dolls – some with more success than others – but we all had a lot of fun. The table groups spent time together in prayer, and then celebrated Holy Communion by serving one another.

The Board meeting in the morning had to make the difficult decision of cancelling the Men's Walk due to the shortage of pilgrims, but it was immediately decided to move the Gathering scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> November, and to include it as part of a Residential Gathering from 22-24<sup>th</sup> November to make the most of the booking at Ridgecrest. I believe this will give us great opportunities for fellowship with like-minded Emmaus people, and help to re-focus and re-ignite our passion for Jesus. The format of this weekend is very flexible, you can come just for the Gathering on the Saturday afternoon, or for the whole weekend from 10.00am Friday through to 2.00pm Sunday, or for any time in between that works for you. There is a charge for using the Ridgecrest facilities, but this will be tailored to your needs.

**We need you to register for this event – registration forms are on the website, and are also attached to this newsletter. For Catering purposes, we need your registration by 10<sup>th</sup> November.**

Now is also the time to think about nominations for the Board – if you believe God is calling you to assist with the running of our Emmaus Community, please nominate for the Board. Nominations close on 12<sup>th</sup> November, and elections will be held at the Gathering on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Some of the Board will be attending "Get Fired Up", a weekend of encouragement for board members from all Emmaus

communities across NSW, to be held from 8-10<sup>th</sup> November on the Central Coast. We will bring you a report to the Ridgecrest Gathering.

We have a great programme planned for the Gathering weekend, with plenty of time for worship, prayer, small group times, fellowship, the great food that Ridgecrest always offer, and sharing Holy Communion.

I look forward to seeing you at the Gathering at Ridgecrest

De Colores  
Avril Butler

Trying something new can be a bit frightening!  
However, it has its merits, as it also can be quite enlightening!  
You never know, until you try, what the outcome is going to be!  
Like everything else in life, you just have to wait and see!

We'd like to feel that good things are in store for us.  
And if that be so, then it's an added plus!  
We can't cower, when we have to make any changes  
as it's got to be full speed ahead!  
Do not regress, just say yes  
and watch all the good things unfold instead!

Just never be reluctant when it's time for something new to  
enter your life.

The reason it's happening, it's the right time for a new  
beginning!

You just have to realize, now it's your turn to come out winning!

[Audrey Heller](#)

**Prayer Time - God listens to  
us all the time and one of the  
ways we converse is through  
prayer.**

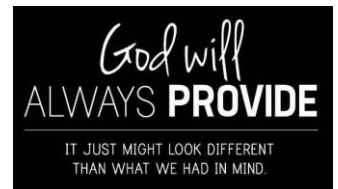
Our prayers are with our community, family and friends as they continue to live and love like Jesus.

We rejoice with those who celebrate and share in the struggles of those carrying the heavy burdens of ill health, grief, loneliness and worry. Our prayers are for all whose families have been affected by hardship and turmoil. We also continue to pray for members of our community as they continue along the journey of health challenges with a positive attitude.

Help us to embrace the changes that are happening in Emmaus: to people, to the program and to the Central West Emmaus Community.

We are thankful for the five women who were Pilgrims on Walk #42. We continue to pray that their Fourth Day might be fruitful; that there will always be people to celebrate the great gifts of God with them and that they may find support when reality is difficult to deal with.

We give thanks for all those who through their prayer ensured that the recent Walk was a wonderful life giving experience for all concerned.



Unfortunately the Men's Walk had to be cancelled for 2019 but we give thanks for Bruce and the men who put in time and effort as they prepared to take part. We think of the disappointment of team members for what might have been. However we rejoice that an exciting event is taking its place. A residential gathering is being held at Ridgecrest from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and our prayer focus is on this coming weekend and the new possibilities it opens up for us.

Please pray for the Board members who put much time and thought into preparing for the residential weekend. Pray for the community to accept the decision that has been made by the Board and for an injection of new life into the community to come from it. Pray that people will attend the residential weekend with enthusiasm and celebrate God's good gifts.

Please pray for the Lay Directors for next year's Emmaus Walks as they prayerfully consider the formation of their teams.

Please pray for prospective pilgrims for next year's walks in 2020 and those who will sponsor them. If you know someone that you think might benefit and could be sponsored please not only pray for them but ask them to come.

Rain is still desperately needed across this land of ours. Despite pockets of falls in some areas, many places in NSW are still in the grip of a relentless drought and in some places people have little hope - the situation is dire. We pray for those affected by these dry, dusty and harsh conditions.



We pray for those for whom life is not easy and all who are experiencing a time of great change. God's comforting hand is there for each and every one of us, no matter what is happening.

Please continue to hold the Board in your prayers. The Board faces ongoing challenges each year as it looks at creative ways of caring for the community. Several members have completed terms or moved away and there is a place for you if you are interested. Your prayers are always appreciated and we give thanks for all who serve in any way.

#### Some Prayer Points:

- Please continue to pray for Rebecca Fowler, Ingrid Jeffery, Pedr Corderoy, Julie-Anne Wagstaffe and Roslyn Yates, Pilgrims on the recent Women's Walk #42, as they continue their fourth day journeys.
- Please continue to pray for the Community Spiritual Director, Allan Vincent, as he journeys together with his wife and family and the challenges they are facing at the moment
- Pray for rain in the Central West and beyond to break the devastating drought conditions as many centres face the prospect of being without water.



Your prayer support is invaluable.

It's not too early to start praying and thinking about sponsoring someone for next year's Emmaus Walks - **if you are thinking about sponsoring ... start now!**



- Begin by praying when you are considering a potential pilgrim.
- Consider inviting the potential pilgrim's partner. Emmaus wants to strengthen relationships so experiencing the Walks at similar times is better.
- It is not for everyone. It is meant to grow and revitalize the commitment of someone who has already commenced the journey.
- Choose carefully who to sponsor. Pray. Consider the attitude the person will bring to their table.
- Describe the experience fully. The pilgrim needs to be able to trust the program and those running it.
- Explain it is a structured weekend not a restful retreat. It works best if pilgrims can relax and flow with it rather than trying to analyse or consume.
- The focus is time with God away from the world ... no watches or cameras and you don't need your mobile phone.
- Share what your Walk meant to you. Remember your pilgrim's experience will be different to yours.
- Then there are the jobs ... explain the form, send it in, help them pack, encourage and reassure, bring them to the site, help with luggage, beds, registration and pray over their cross.
- Tender loving care is the way to go from you, their sponsor, from the team and from the community.
- Tender loving care for their family at home while they are on the Walk.
- Guess what? There is still more to do ... organise and collect letters - 8 to 12 especially from family (with F marked on the outside of the envelope, they will get these first) and close friends, any more, and especially gifts, give them to them after the Walk as a surprise, be a part of the 72-hour Prayer Vigil, attend Candlelighting and closing and take your pilgrim home.
- The love continues .... support their Fourth Day by bringing them to their first Gathering, helping them find a reunion group, picking them up for future Candlelightings and closings and training them in being a good sponsor.
- There is a cost to you in time, maybe money and it calls for sacrifice. At some time in the past, someone did this for you.
- It is one of the most important roles you can contribute in Emmaus. It calls for your best.



Our God of love, hope and freedom has given each one of us special gifts and talents and one of those beautiful people who has had the gift of encourager bestowed on her is Jenny

Gilbertson, so if you want to have a chat about sponsoring I encourage you to make contact with Jenny.

## Community Corner

As mentioned in the previous newsletter the date and venue for the final Gathering has been changed and it has now been included as part of the upcoming residential weekend at Ridgecrest on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> November. The final Gathering for the year will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November at Ridgecrest at 2pm. I would encourage you to attend the Gathering – you can do this even if you don't attend the whole weekend. Personally I think the weekend could mean a whole transformation for the Central West.



The October Gathering was held in Orange and even though Carolyn and I were unable to attend I imagine it was celebrated in the usual Emmaus tradition with much enthusiasm, community and sharing of the Spirit, which carried on into our regular fellowship over a cuppa and cake.

The Board is looking for new members and indeed has been considering the question of succession planning. Each person has a gift and something to offer. If you feel you are being drawn into becoming a Board member don't hesitate to contact one of the members with any questions you have. There are only a few days left to nominate yourself or someone else before nominations close on 12<sup>th</sup> November. Nomination forms were included with the previous newsletter and the ballot forms will be available at the Gathering for you to consider and vote for Board members.

Carolyn and I have moved and are now living in Wauchope. As we unpack boxes and settle into the community here, Central West Emmaus is constantly in our thoughts and prayers. This is my last newsletter for the Central West Emmaus Community so there is a vacancy in that area for someone (and I know there is someone) who feels called in that direction. I would only be too happy to help someone on that journey.

If you have something special, or in fact anything you would like to contribute to the Newsletter, please don't hesitate to send it in and we will make every effort to include it. For the time being all contributions can be sent to the Board via the secretary, Sandra Mudford, at [s.muddy17@gmail.com](mailto:s.muddy17@gmail.com)

Everyone has a story to tell that can be of benefit to someone.



## Reunion Groups

Emmaus encourages us to share in Reunion Groups: our joys, sorrows, delights and struggles as we walk our Fourth Day. They help us to be accountable to God and each

other as we endeavour to share Christ with the community in meaningful ways. Reunion groups are a wonderful way to support each other as we share our experiences with others.

As our society has changed and become so busy with many demands on our time so we must adapt to stay relevant and faithful. When it is not possible to meet as a group in a physical location we can consider new ways of meeting. Technology can assist us as we keep up to date by phone, email, social networking and computer video calls.

I would encourage all people in the Emmaus Community to be creative. Coffee with a friend can be more than a social outing as we nurture relationships with God and each other, while keeping on the lookout to build community. Meeting face to face is not always possible so keep in touch any way you can.

## Reunion Groups

<b>Bathurst Butterflies</b> (First Sat of month)	0417 479 676
<b>Bathurst Gold</b>	6331 2729
<b>Bathurst Rainbow Connection</b>	6331 9241
<b>Dubbo Zooey Zebras</b>	6882 2639
<b>Dubbo Wild Ducks</b>	6885 4454
<b>Dubbo Misfits</b>	6887 2191
<b>Hassans Walls</b> (Last Sat of odd months)	6351 4214
<b>Lithgow Zigzags</b> (Last Sat of odd months)	6351 4214
<b>Mendooran Doers</b>	6886 1265
<b>Narromine Sunflowers</b>	6889 1791
<b>Nyngan Nutmegs</b>	6832 1339
<b>Oberon Pine Nuts</b>	0412 907 843
<b>Orange Blossoms</b>	6361 0127
<b>Parkes Stargazers</b>	6869 1969
<b>Peak Hill Gold Seekers</b> (First Sun of month)	6869 1784
<b><u>WWW.com</u> - Wellington</b>	6845 2404

If the above details are incorrect please advise the Board so they can be amended.



## Central West Emmaus Website

For the time being we are still operating with a temporary website, hopefully only for another month or so, and then the new National server will take over. The new webpage should be up and running soon as the developers work as quickly as they can. Like all Emmaus people they are volunteers and your prayers would be appreciated.

We will let you know when you can visit the new webpage and the address will be included in the newsletter when it is ready. De Colores, Michael Flack and Andrew Alder

## Central West Emmaus Board 2019

Community Spiritual Director Team - <b>Allan Vincent</b>	Spiritual Oversight and prayer for our Community and Board Meetings and Walks and building up the Community in love.
Community Lay Director – <b>Avril Butler</b>	Connecting, loving, encouraging and building the Community, Oversight of Community and Walks, Inspiring the Board and chairing meetings, running Gatherings, future direction.
Secretary – <b>Sandra Mudford</b>	Taking and compiling Board minutes from meetings, maintaining community contact details.
Treasurer, Registrar & Ridgecrest Liaison <b>Don Butler</b> (caretaker)	All financial matters, updating forms, being registrar for the walks and our campsite communication person.
Reunion Groups and Newsletter -	Inspiring and encouraging our Reunion Groups, Encouraging the Community to sponsor and following up on new Pilgrims. Putting the newsletter together and distributing to the Community.
Prayer – <b>Andrew Alder</b>	Sourcing Community for Prayer for walks. Praying for us all.
Supplies - <b>Helen Harris</b>	Obtaining all things necessary to run Walks including handbooks and equipping Lay Directors.
Copyright - <b>Jenny Gilbertson</b>	Keeping our song lists and music Copyright updated.
Music Coordinator – <b>Leisha Chaseling</b>	Coordination and delegation of music for Emmaus events.
Community Agape & Walk Agape - <b>Jenny Gilbertson</b>	Keeping us connected to Emmaus Communities, both Overseas and Australian, as well as organising local agape from Reunion Groups for Walks.
Gatherings - <b>Geoff Hoskins</b>	Sourcing the Fourth Day Speaker and booking venues for Gatherings. Looking after the kitchen at Gatherings and preparing the Communion Table.
Candlelighting – <b>Avril Butler</b>	Ensuring materials are available for Candlelighting.
Training – <b>Helen Harris &amp; Avril Butler</b>	Overseeing One Day Team Training, Board Talks and lunch.
Website - <b>Michael Flack &amp; Andrew Alder</b>	Keeping our website current, updated, interesting and informative.

IT Oversight <b>Andrew Alder</b>	Support with, and custody of, electronic equipment
Sponsoring – <b>Jenny Gilbertson</b>	Providing information and support to sponsors
Book Table – <b>Michael Flack</b>	Organising the Book Table for both Walks
Pack up and set up –	Overseeing set up and packing up for Training and the Walks

**DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS???**  
**Can we use it to send your newsletter please?**



Newsletters are compiled a few weeks before each Gathering to inform and remind you of what is happening. We are always looking for items of news for our “Community Corner” and any other things that may be of interest to members of our Emmaus Community. If you have any items, please forward them to the Board secretary as after the elections I will no longer be part of the Central West Emmaus Board. I would like to say I have enjoyed my time on the Board and in my role as compiler of the newsletter. May God’s richest blessings be showered upon each and every one of you.  
De Colores - Ian Sharp

**Please let us know if you change your postal or email address and still wish to remain in contact.**

### Ridgecrest Gathering

Join us at our next Gathering, being held at Ridgecrest Conference Centre on the 23rd November at 2pm (as part of the residential gathering)

