



**From The President's Desk -**

"Well how are you going Len?" is the main question I'm asked these days, leading up to our National Convention. Now how do you think I should answer that? Well yes I am under the pump at the moment, but it's not all about the National Convention. There are other things happening around the fellowship that only reaffirms to me that we are heading for probably the greatest outpouring of the Holy Spirit we have ever experienced since the 80's. Yes, an out pouring different to anything experienced back then, but an outpouring of the Spirit of God that will change not only the way we think about the things of God, but more importantly the way we do the things of God. Yes! We are standing on the very edge of a move of God that will shake not only those attending the convention, but the nation as a whole. For those attending the convention, you will experience firsthand what breakout in the Spirit realm is all about; how God and God alone can take us from where we are languishing in a man-made bog of despondence, wondering when things are going to change for the better, and when is there going to be a move of the Holy Spirit over this land. When all we are seeing is our country slowly sliding down the path of spiritual destruction orchestrated by the humanistic left at the peril of us all, and more especially our children's children who now are subjected to social brain-washing confusing them as to even what sex they are. This all amounts to social engineering by the cunning craftiness of those few who would rule the world at the expense of the silent majority.

In our day sex and sexuality were subjects very much kept within the confines of the family home, where a father would instruct his son at the right time and a mother her daughters, teaching them what a wonderful part of life our sexual relationships are when participated with in God's way. That was a major part of parenting and the sole right of the father and mother, who had nurtured their offspring through quality time and hard caring and seeing to the needs of the family. They gave them instruction on how to conduct themselves in an ever expanding society, but not today. That God-given right has been taken away and given to people who you don't even know, whose mandate is to destroy the strong Bible-based family circle. Helping to create through social engineering, families dividing against themselves, falling into disarray, as the Bible says father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and so on. Then the social engineers shout out see "we were right. They are all homophobic hypocrites, social misfits who haven't a clue what they are doing."

Here is something for you to ponder and pray about before the National Convention: isn't it time for us God-fearing, Bible-believing, Holy Spirit-filled, God empowered, Sons of Almighty God. **(Oops let's see that again)** Isn't it time for us, God-fearing, Bible-believing, Holy Spirit-filled, God empowered, Sons of Almighty God? **"Yes that's what I thought you said, but is it right? Are we really all those things or do we only talk about them on Sundays when we are gathering with like-minded people? Please go on!"** Isn't it time for us to make a stand against this so called ungodly modern trend? **Yes high time, but how do we do it successfully?** Well the prophet Zechariah put it this way *"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, Says the Lord of hosts."* In Matthew 6:33 Jesus' instruction was: *"But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.* Now is the time to seek the presence of God individually until we can be like Moses and the children of Israel in Exodus 39:30: *And they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.* Loved ones it is all about God calling unto Himself a holy people.

How much do you hope to gain from God at the national convention? If you come prepared, prayed up, and seeking God for your own personal breakout that you would be better equipped enabling you to serve our Lord the King of Kings in the dynamics of His Holy Spirit, then my friend, you won't leave as you came. You will be changed. I believe into His likeness and become one of the happiest people on earth like Demos Shakarian did. Through your own fresh revelation of the forward plans of God; knowing how God is going to use each of us who are prepared to stand our ground in Christ Jesus and take back the lost souls of this the Great South Land of the Holy Spirit. Remember **2 Corinthians 10:4** *"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;"*

When you experience spiritual breakout you will not have to be instructed in the use of this type of weaponry. You will know that you know, that you are a soldier of the Cross making a difference in other people's lives whilst extending the Kingdom of God. Standing in true HOLINESS before Him.

God Bless you, looking forward to seeing you there.

**Len.**

**Coffee & Conversation with James**

Another true story from the experiences of a long-time member and friend.

*Submitted by Ron Oastler*

It one of those days when folk seemed to be busy on the marina pontoons, or walking briskly along the promenade toward the chandlery store with every indication that they had a clear intention.

'Busy little beavers aren't they.' I commented to James.

'Oh, how droll,' James quipped back, 'semi-aquatic and industrious ... quite different from the otter, are they not?'

With that question hanging in the air, we overheard a very short conversation between a young yachty, who had paused at the cafe table next to us, and an old salt sitting there. He asked the old salt if he could talk with him about the Harbourmaster's rules for docking in the marina.

'Can't talk right now' was the old salt's reply 'gotta see a bloke about the Harbourmaster's allocation of berths. See me at the end of the day.'

'Aha' I noted, 'sounds like there is a need for a couple of people to understand the rules for being in these parts.'

'Indeed, and oft times it takes an understanding of bigger and wider issues in order to understand a particular issue at hand.' James observed. 'This little scenario reminds me very much, of a situation in which I was placed quite some time back. The overall experience was one of the most significant that I can recall.'

'It happened like this - late one Thursday morning my secretary came into my office and asked if she could talk with me about a personal matter. I said that I would be happy to, and the end of the day would be best. I was about to take one of the Sales Reps to lunch to resolve an employment situation. So it was agreed that Rhonda would come by my office at close of business that evening.'

'So it was, that at day's end Rhonda joined me at the round meeting table in my office. Anyone walking by would think it was a review meeting, not realising the very personal nature and importance of this encounter.'

'Rhonda and her boyfriend (fiancé?) Peter, who were living together, had decided to marry. They approached their parish priest who told them that because Rhonda had been married previously, he could not marry them. He offered some suggestions, including a declaration that Rhonda had not married to have children - which she rejected as untrue. All avenues they explored led to the same dead end.'

'At this point Rhonda said to me "you have been telling me that Jesus has the answers to life and living, what am I to do?" What a profound question, I thought. So I paused, thought again, then silently prayed for the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.'

'Well Rhonda, I could tell you what the Scriptures say about your dilemma, but you can hear from the Lord Himself. When we become a child of God, by receiving Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, we then have His Spirit within us to lead and guide us in His ways. You would want that would you not? You can

receive Him right here and now by committing yourself to Him. Can we pray together to that end?' So it was that Rhonda fulfilled the scripture:

*"For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved." Romans 10:10 NIV*

'Then after praying for Rhonda, I took a bible from the shelf and suggested she read the Gospel of John which tells of the love of Jesus and the Father - and the Book of Acts which tells of the enabling power of the Holy Spirit ... Then I bid her God's blessing and good evening.'

'The next day Rhonda said "I've read all of the Gospel of John and the Book of Acts, what should I read next?" How wonderful ... so then two things then happened. I suggested some further scripture reading, plus I called an on-fire Spirit filled Anglican minister who was rector of a church close by where Rhonda was living. They agreed to look after her come Sunday and shepherd her in her new-found faith. Which they did - and the Holy Spirit started an exciting work in her life.'

'Come Monday I asked about her experience of Sunday, to which Rhonda replied "It was wonderful. I loved the service. The minister's daughter-in-law looked after me and we went home to the rectory for lunch and a rest, and then I went back to church for the evening service."'

'The next week was similar. When questioned about her Sunday, Rhonda replied "It was wonderful ... and they had a water baptismal service, like the bible teaches, so I got baptised last night". The Holy Spirit was doing a quick and thorough work in Rhonda's life - beyond even my expectations.'

'Another week and Rhonda's report on Monday morning was: "I had a wonderful experience of the Holy Spirit yesterday and have had trouble speaking in English today!" Baptised in the Holy Spirit - all part of the progressive revelation and blessing that the Lord had for her.'

'I was expecting almost anything the next week, and was not disappointed. Before I could really ask what was happening in her life Rhonda volunteered: "I was reading in Corinthians where it says to not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. The principle applies to business partnerships but also to life partnerships. So I told Peter that I couldn't marry him while he was an unbeliever, and he would have to go back and board with his folks." So the Lord Himself had told Rhonda what to do about her intended marriage.'

'You may remember me telling you about Peter coming to faith through a dear brother in our Fellowship? Well, Rhonda and Peter did finally marry and I was asked to propose the toast to the Bride and Groom at their wedding. What a privilege - and what a beautiful account of the ways of the Holy Spirit in reconciling precious souls unto Himself. We play an effective part when we allow Him to guide us.'

## REMEMBERING ANITA COBBY: FORMER CHIEF INSPECTOR GARY RAYMOND



BY CLARE BRUCE [HOPE MORNINGS](#)

*(Gary is a member of the Blacktown Chapter, Sydney)*

**If you believe in the power of prayer, say a quiet word of thanks that in 1986, Chief Inspector Gary Raymond was at work on the case of Anita Cobby's murder.**

When he wasn't sifting through evidence, tracking down leads and making arrests—Gary was taking moments to pray, asking God to help bring clarity and justice. As a Christian who worked in the police force for decades, the retired inspector says he did a lot of his investigations 'on his knees'.

"I'd tuck myself away somewhere and just bow in prayer and say, 'Lord, this is your investigation, I'm handing this over to you, show me where to go, what to do.'" It's more than 30 years since the infamous rape and killing of Cobby, a young nurse at the time, at Prospect in Sydney's West. Gary chatted to Hope 103.2's Katrina Roe about his memories of that time—and there are many.

### The Memories Never Leave

"Memories stay," he said, of the shocking time. "Firstly there's the shock that something like this happened. Even as a seasoned detective, you go into disbelief and denial and anger, that people could do this to somebody else. "Then after that, speaking to the family left behind is devastating, to see their sorrow, their emptiness. It's like being hit by an emotional freight train.

There's the sensory stimuli of the crime scene, the sights, sounds, smells and touches of that, which very much impact. And finally, there's dealing with the offenders. "When you eyeball those who have done such horrific things, it's really emotionally quite testing. But we've got to remain professional and fairly stoic, so that we can gather the evidence together... so we can make a good solid brief around that."

### Community Outrage over Anita Cobby's Murder

The community's reaction to the killing of Anita Cobby was a mixture of "outrage and fear" at the time, says Gary. "As it came out that she'd been abducted, brutally raped, tortured and murdered, there was fear—because [the offenders] hadn't been arrested, and [we] didn't know who it was, where they were, and in our minds, and in the community's minds, was [the question]: will they offend again?"

### Tracking Down the Five Offenders

Pulling together evidence and tracking down the five men involved in the murder was like piecing together a puzzle, Gary says. There was evidence from witnesses, forensic evidence, and testimonies gathered by hitting the streets and talking to street kids, drug users, prostitutes and pub security staff. Once there was enough evidence, Gary says, they "arrested them one by one". "We were confident," he recalls. "We had a major break where the main offender, John

Travers, one of his relatives or friends brought him some cigarettes down into the cells. We'd arrested him over a stolen car...he actually confessed to her, [during] the visitation. She was shattered... she came and saw us, and our team got a warrant for a listening device. She went back down in the cells later on, and he confessed on tape under a Supreme Court warrant.

"When we interviewed the other offenders, they confessed what Travers had done." Having worked on heart-wrenching cases like the Cobby murder, Gary Raymond says that he's learnt, about humanity's very good and very bad sides. "Dealing with murder, and serious crimes like child sexual assault, really makes you see how low humanity has got from that time in the Garden of Eden, where the fall happened and sin came into the world and shattered it," he said.

But it's not all bad news: "I've learnt that there's a lot of good in people; as police officers we see a lot of bad people but they're only a minority." Among the many good people he's met, who have risen up to make a difference, were Anita Cobby's parents Garry and Grace (Peg) Lynch. Both now deceased, the couple were gracious, courageous people who went on to help the families of other murder victims, and were involved in forming the Homicide Victims Support Group.

The group is also launching a new trauma centre called Grace's Place, named after Grace Lynch, which will be a refuge for children who survive a family murder.

#### Dealing With the Trauma of a Murder Case

When Gary Raymond is asked how he handled the traumatic situations that he saw in his policing career, he says prayer was the key. "As a Christian cop I always do what I call a 'flick-pass'," he says, referencing a football move. "Whenever I was traumatised by the world, I'd say, 'Jesus, I didn't die on the cross for this—you did. I'm handing this over to you and I want you to comfort me as you've promised, and give me that peace'. I always imagined that Jesus was a detective partner with me and we'd be working on cases together".

His love for me and his forgiveness for the mistakes I make, is unbelievable—but believable!" And it seems the Lord used Gary in many powerful ways. Working in Police Rescue, he was very passionate about his role as a suicide crisis negotiator, talking people back from the brink of suicide. Partnering with Jesus also meant that Gary prayed for those he came into contact with. He often prayed for witnesses and victims of crime, as well as many offenders: "The Lord led a number of offenders to himself through me, after their arrest," he said.



**[EVENTS – See webpage for details](#)**





**INTERNATIONAL  
Our Mission**

FGBMFI is one of the largest Christian business organizations in the world. Founded in 1953, we are in 142 nations - meeting in over 7,000 chapters. Our members and leaders include every race, culture, social status and language.

**By God's grace, we connect people with opportunities to reach out and help others find a better life and work together to build better communities.**

We do this by:

**Calling people back to God...**

*There is a better life by following Jesus Christ.*

**Promoting integrity and good character...**

*Being a reflection of God to our world.*

**Participating in God's good work...**

*Releasing gifts, talents and resources to help others.*

**Working together to build better cities & nations...**

*Impacting our leaders and our culture.*

**Taking the message of God's love to every family...**

*A true grass roots effort that is changing the world.*

"The mandate from God is that we break the chains of despair in the world. Our mandate is to destroy the isolation of loneliness, and link the world to God!"

***Demos Shakarian, Founder***



"It is our destiny to lift up God in every business center, every marketplace, every government center and university... every nation, city, town and crossroads of the world. People of faith, shining with God's glory, bringing the uplifting message of God's power... reaching out, helping, encouraging and lifting. Today, through our efforts, we believe that over 2 million people come to God each year."



International President Mario Garcia



**FGBMFI (Australia) Convention  
9th – 11th August 2019  
NORTHLAKES – Queensland**



**Men and Ladies**

What a great response so far but there is still room for you if you want to come and experience the 'Breakout Convention' with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Your Convention Committee has been working overtime so that you have a great time of fellowship including engaging with our top line speakers during the convention.

*The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. 2 Chronicles: 16-9*