

"...do not fear, for I am with you"

Recently I read a verse that really filled me with confidence, courage and hope. I want to share it now with the hope that it will inspire your prayers for CSA this month, and encourage you to not give up in the task set before you. When we are living in the vine, everything in God's hand bears fruit. God has called you and He is here to help.

"I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said you are my servant; I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand... For I am the Lord your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, "... Do not fear; I will help you." ISAIAH 41:9-10,13.

CS GIRLS

Pray for Jodene Watling, our fearless CSA Chicks pioneer, as she settles into her new home in Cronulla. Thank God for the incredible support the local CS community has given her as well as the many new opportunities and support from her local church that God has blessed her with.

Pray especially for the CSA Girls: Rise up Movie Series that is currently under production. Pray God in his incredible faithfulness provides Jods with every resource, equipment and funds needed as well as the team of people she needs to get this fully off the ground. Pray for her continued inspiration and refreshment as she makes these movies and pray that in the arm of our God they become an amazing way to reach the hearts of girls and women across our country.

PADDLE AGAINST POVERTY

Praise God for these crazy kids that have paddled to bring mercy to people who are enduring the hardships of poverty.

Pray that the money raised in the various paddles around the country will multiply in its impact, and that the witness that friends and family saw in those paddling would be a source of questioning about where a love this radical comes from.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Pray for Steve and the Bailey family that God would continue to knit their family together in love and that as Steve leads us faithfully that God would bless him with continued wisdom and strength fit for the task.

For more info email Nerida, National Prayer Coordinator: prayer@christiansurfers.org.au



Christian surfers australia 2012 NATIONAL GATHERING

Thursday 5th to Monday 9th April 2012
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PADDLERS AGAINST POVERTY CENTRAL NSW. PHOTO BY JODENE WATLING

EFFECTIVE AND FERVENT PRAYER



Summer is upon us once again, time to shed the sealed wetties and dust off the boardies except if you live in SA, VIC or Tas. As most CS missions come to a close for the year I really want to push the challenge of prayer out to you.

We have been looking at the book of James in our small group recently and I was reading chapter 5 verses 13-16. These verses talk of praying in suffering, giving praise for good things, prayer from the elders for sickness and confession of sins. The second part of verse 16 says *the effective and fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. (NKJV), The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results (NLT).*

Our prayers as a righteous people, made that way by Jesus, have great power. As I reflect on 2011 there have been many things I would like to have seen happen in CSA. Yet in 2012 there are so many possibilities, from gaps in our coastline, not yet covered by CS, to chaplaincy, to one-on-one discipleship. So many opportunities that are before us, but they will need the effective and fervent prayer of the righteous. That's you!!

I ask that you pray for your RCs and other leaders. Daily, weekly, encourage them in their faith, finances and calling.

Pray for your local mission, for the things that are happening in your local area, for the healing of people's hearts and their journey of faith.

Pray for the resources to make this happen, people, churches, finances. Effective and fervent prayer.

As you read this issue of Inside, commit to prayer all the things that CSA is involved in around Australia, from the Jesus Pro Am competition series to Paddle Against Poverty events, to leadership training courses, to the CSA National Gathering 2012 in QLD.

God bless,

Steve Bailey
National Director
Christian Surfers Australia





PADDLE AGAINST POVERTY NORTH NSW

The dawn light glints off the glassy-eyes of the few who make it down to the Sawty beach rendezvous. First a trickle, then a torrent, 36 surfers in all – and well-wishers and family – begin going about preparations for the northbound paddle up to Coffs Jetty. They all know that cheering, streamers, international fame, and good coffee await those who make it up there. But they also know there's 10,000 metres of slog before all that. Behind all the early-morning jokes and greetings, the steely resolve sets in. They prepare. Sun-cream, vasso and foam-wedges to rest their heads on. Words of encouragement from old-salt Dal Brown (paddler, orphanage builder, legend). The paddlers then pray in a circle, for some of them an uncommon experience – talking to a God they don't yet know. Then they take to the water, punching through the shore to the flotilla of support-craft waiting for them out the back.

Over 4000 kms away the snoring kiddos sleep, blissfully unaware. Dreaming peacefully. Kids who once lived on the street. Kids like Intan, Dika, Wira, Gede & Putu. Kids who now call BaliLife Orphanage their home. Before they came to stay at BaliLife many had no known DOB, some didn't even know their real names. It's hard to 'get' your eternal worth when you're not even sure what your real name is, scavenging on the streets of Kuta, living in shadows. But not now. These kiddos now know that someone, somewhere, for some reason, loves them. They saw love in the eyes of Bapak (father) Eko, Ibu (mother) Norma and Kakak (big sister) Ika who tucked them in the night before. Some of them may even sense it as they hear fantastical stories of friends-they've-never-met in a far-off land fundraising for them. CS crew doing all kinds of crazy stunts. Stunts like an ocean paddle between Sawty and Coffs!

PADDLE AGAINST POVERTY CENTRAL NSW
6 km from Manly to Dee Why took place on 19 November 2011 and raised over \$6500 for a World Vision Australia project in East Sumba, Indonesia aimed to help the locals with sustainable farming techniques, education and healthcare. What an awesome opportunity to do something for someone in need in the name of Jesus!

MORE INFO: WWW.PADDLEAGAINSTPOVERTY.ORG

This is the second year the Coffs Paddle has been run. Across both events, paddleagainstpoverty (the entity we set up) has raised over \$38k – which goes a fair bit farther in Bali than here in Oz. The paddles have really galvanized the local CS crew into action, and also been great community events – gaining the warm support of the local council, SLSCs, Marine Rescue, NSW Maritime and local businesses.

The day ended up with all the paddlers, support-crew and well-wishers crammed into Water Surf Art Café on the strip (the always-smiling owner Matty was one of the paddlers, supported by his lovely wife Kaori), drinking the best coffee on the coast, eating bacon-and-egg rolls (mmmm, succulent bacon), laughing at the day's antics, comparing chafe, and celebrating the effort.

Special mention goes to the four super-gals who took part this year. Also to Vossy who near the end cunningly wedged some foam onto the keel of Lotty's board ("why am I going so slow!?" he could be heard moaning as he brought up the rear) – and also the uber-fit Ty Cook who smashed us all in the 500 mtr/dollar dash-for-cash at the end (cash towards BaliLife of course!) run by the indefatigable Opa Rob. But the best part was just taking part!

It's good to remember that there's a world out there so much bigger than our hum-drum lives can sometimes lull us into thinking. To remember that God has a heart for all people, and that the most poignant way to share of His great kindness is love in action. Because, as John 1:18 puts it, real love is "...not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." So mighty CS crew out there across the great Oz-land, get involved in the next paddle near you, and let's change the world together.

Doug Woodhouse & Nic Gilmour



Q & A WITH LUCAS BARTLETT REGIONAL COORDINATOR VIC/TAS

TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF, WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?

I'm from Torquay in Vicco. I grew up on a mountain top about 100 kms from the ocean in Eastern Victoria.

WHEN DID YOU START SURFING, AND WHAT DOES SURFING MEAN TO YOU?

I started when I was 16. I was a bodyboarder before then. Surfing to me is freedom, it's harmony between Creation and us, and for those who realise it, with its Creator. Its perfect control and complete uncertainty all in a split second. It is for me when I forget about myself, a true act of worship to my God.

ULTIMATE SURF SESSION?

In honesty my favorite sessions have been a sacred little secret spot down south called Cats, my best mates and I cruise down to whenever it's on. But like I said it's a secret so I can't tell you where it is. I can honestly say though never tell Rich Agius he can bring one carload to your best-kept secret cause his car's got 10 seats! Ha-ha love you Rich CS conference Vic 2009 Yeeew!

WHAT BOARDS DO YOU RIDE?

At the moment I'm riding a Brett Warner 6'2 x 18-1/2 x 2-1/4 Great board!

SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU LAUGH IS?

Watching old Hill Song clips from the 80s on You Tube with Nick Ward.

ANY FUNNY CS STORIES?

So many! But I don't want to incriminate Eliot Gray too much! I used to live at the CS open house in Jan Juc when I was about 20, and I was on my way back from a CSA conference in Adelaide. I had told a rather built and tattooed surfing mate he could lob at my place while I was away and had also told a couple of local grommets they could come and go as they pleased (something I've now learnt never to do). Got a phone call, it's my mate "Lucas, there are a bunch of feral kids round at your place and they're trashing your house. I persuaded them to leave so it's all cool" I'm like, "Ummmm, ok, I'll sort this when I get back." Phone rings again, this time it was the groms: "Lucas there is a raged psycho dude in your house, with huge guns, covered in tats, he's swinging round a golf club!" I reassured them to come back the next day when I'll be there and it will all be fine. Just goes to show how things are a matter of perspective.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED WITH CS?

About 12 years since I was a grommet.

WHAT'S YOUR CURRENT ROLE WITH CSA & WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

I'm the Vicco and Tas RC. It involves being coordinated or so I hear?

YOU ARE DOING THIS BY FAITH (RAISING SUPPORT), WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO DO IT?

I just saw a need for my brothers and sisters in CS to have someone to serve them and the cause for Christ in a relational and authentic way in our two states. Jesus has showed up time and time again with what I need so that leap although it is a big one it's the right one. My God owns the cattle on a thousand hills He's got me sorted.

GOD TOUCHES LIVES THROUGH CS; CAN YOU SHARE A STORY THAT MOVED YOU?

I've seen God touch people's lives time and time again, but the most close to home is one of my best friends. He's one of the most honest, real and faithful dudes I know and he has been a light to me in many dark times. He's said the hard things to me when they wouldn't have been easy to say. Him becoming this awesome disciple of Christ didn't happen overnight, and it wasn't solely through our friendship (thank God, 'cause he'd be a mutant), but it was through a community of young believers that spurred each other on and walked with each other following Jesus together. I met him on the beach when I was 18 and 10 years on he's showed me Christ's love and faithfulness so many times in so many ways.

HOW CAN WE SUPPORT YOU?

Please pray for VIC/TAS and all of the faithful servants at work here. Pray for those who don't yet know Jesus, and for more workers to tell them about Jesus. For me personally – to be strong and keep my hand to the plow and if I start to look back that Jesus will catch my eye again and remind me of all the amazing things he has been and done in my life. One of the ways I am raising my support is selling an album of gospel music I have written under the name *Sailor* www.facebook.com/sailorsongs, to get a copy of the album and help support me please email lucas@christiansurfers.com.au.

JESUS PRO AM 2011 CRONULLA

Jesus Pro Am, hosted by Christian Surfers Australia, has been running over the last 26 years, with 31 events in NSW and QLD.

Jesus Pro Am has the simple aim to introduce surfers to our King, Jesus Christ. *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.* Habakkuk 2:14. We believe Jesus Pro Am is helping bring this scripture to life as Christian Surfers, local churches and partners stand united to complete three main objectives: share and demonstrate the Gospel of Jesus, promote unity and run Australia's largest Christian professional surfing competition.

Cronulla Beach on 8-9 October 2011 was an extremely well-run and successful event. We experienced two awesome days of surfing, food, bands, skating, tarp surfing, face painting for kids, food, prayer, competitions, live streaming, social justice awareness, give-aways, live radio broadcast, and more food! The Cronulla event definitely lived up to the reputation that Jesus Pro Am has built over the years. And most importantly, people's lives were touched with love, acceptance and generosity, and there have been new decisions made to follow Jesus as a result.

Jesus Pro Am is run by volunteers, who give up their time to advance the Kingdom of God. We would like to shout out a HUGE THANKS to



everyone who has partnered with the 2011 events – all our sponsors, churches, 100/100 partners, businesses, CS crew, basically anyone who was involved. With a new era of young guns coming in to run this ship, we give a shout out to Al Westbury for overseeing the Jesus Pro Am over the last 4 years. The baton has been passed on to the very talented Jake (Haddy) Hadcroft from South Australia. Jake will be moving to Coffs Harbour in the New Year and is now the new Jesus Pro Am Director. Please keep him in your prayers, as we know the challenges and spiritual attacks will come. The public experiences this event over two days, but Jake and his team will be working on it all year round. For more info, results, photos, previous events, etc, check out www.jesusproam.com.au

Stay tuned for what's ahead for Jesus Pro Am, as things are only just warming up! God has great plans for JPA, greater than anything we could ever do or imagine!



LLC MINISTRY INTERNSHIP, 8 FEB – 13 DEC, 2012 AD EMPOWERING LEADERS FOR GLOBAL IMPACT

Something not for the faint-hearted – Nic & V Gilmour and the Nth NSW CS crew are hosting ministry internships for CS crew in 2012AD. From its inception in the 70's, the mission movement Christian Surfers has had an emphasis on equipping and empowering our crew for world-changing acts of service. Likewise, strong mentoring relationships have also played a key role in making CS the dynamic and fruitful mission that it is today. This CS culture has also shaped what we're offering next year @ LifeHouse Leadership College.

Truth is, the hottest forge and the hardest anvil will best shape your destiny in God. But there's more to it than merely studying the Word. Knowledge alone can be toxic, as we are reminded in Paul's letter to those whacky Corinthians (regarding a divisive issue of the day, but there's heaps we could insert in our own day, right) where he warns "... knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God" (1 Cor 8:1b-2). Whoa! To love and to know God is ultimately the point after all eh! Not just to know the Bible of God, but to know the God of the Bible. Thus, everything we do ought to lead us forward in a growing relationship with Christ. Another way of putting it is that authentic spiritual maturity comes about only through ongoing transformation – of head, heart and hands.

"[JC] is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. (Col 1:28-29)

So, one aspect of the internship is training in Bible and theology (Cert IV in Ministry, fully accredited and Austudy certified), but that's just the starting point. Crew taking part will receive close personalized mentoring, and also be given epic opportunities to serve in CS – both of these aligned with whatever their specific gifts and calling are. We'll also scrounge them cheap/free conferences (CSA @Sunny Coast, CSI @Hawaii, Hill Song @Sydney & more), and they'll be invited on a seat-of-the-pants (ahem, sari!) mission trip to India. The entire year is geared towards holistic development of disciple-leaders.

BTW, this is just one of the many epic training options we make available for our CS crew (others include SALT, YWAM DTS...). And, just so you know up front, this one will have a Charismatic/Pentecostal flavor, will demand you spend a year living in Coffs Harbour on the mid-Nth coast of NSW, and (oh yeah, don't forget this) you'll have to shell-out 3 grand too. But for some of you reading this, you may think it's a good fit. But the real question you need to answer is: 'but God, are You asking me to do that!?' So put it in your pipe and have a toke. Pray, think it through, and seek Godly counsel – including from your Mission

Coordinator and/or RC. More info is up on the CS website, and applications are live as you read this.

And hey...fearless & committed applicants with a passion to change the world need only apply!

Nic & V Gilmour