

## Steve Neuhaus – bio 2021

Steve was born in Stanmore, however arriving in Tanzania at the age of 4 months as his parents began 14 years of service with CMS. This was an amazing God blessed time with many ups and downs. In 1974, on returning to Sydney Steve commenced studies at St Andrews Cathedral School, the motto of the school was *Via Crucis Via Lucis* (the way of the Cross is the Way of Light). This motto was indelibly imprinted into Steve's heart and continues to be a guiding principle of his life today. In 1979, Steve attended Sydney University and was involved in the Sydney Uni Evangelical Society, which in the early 1980s ran a mission with the motto – *No Christ No Life Know Christ Know Life*. 1979 was also the year Steve joined the Army through Sydney University Regiment with an intention of remaining only 3 years. He forgot to hand in his discharge papers so is still here. 1983 saw a move to Canberra, marriage to Cath, birth of son Daniel and the need to find a 'real job'. Steve joined the AFP serving for the next 19 years as a police officer in the ACT region and rising to LTCOL RAInf. During this period Steve and Cath fostered many children, and in 1993 began fostering a 10 week old baby girl with Down Syndrome and a broken arm, she won their hearts and they adopted her. Leita is still a totally integral part of their family and continues to live with them. In 2003 saw a career change to chaplaincy through the in-service chaplaincy scheme, which resulted in 8 year posting to Townsville serving with 4<sup>th</sup> Fd Regt, 1 RAR & 5 Avn Regt, this included deployment on Ex SUMAN Warrior and latter half of MRTF-2. 2013 saw a move to fulltime Police Chaplaincy first with NSW Police and then with the AFP and a return to the ARES, Steve retired from Police Chaplaincy in 2020 to focus more on his role as the COMD CHAP to the Australian Army Cadets (AAC) and a slowly growing ministry with ADF and Police veterans. Steve's long suffering wife Cath has supporting him through all these adventures, herself recently retiring from the ARA and now continuing an ARES career. Steve & Cath's association with MCF began in the late 1990s attending one of the early MCF Dinners in a small room which seated about 20 people. Whilst in Townsville (2004-2012) Steve and Cath set up a MCF Family Support and Fellowship Group which met each week in their house, some of this group continues today through Zoom. Through the providence of Christ, two Army Chaplains, one AAC Chaplain and a Salvation Army Officer who now minister more widely through the ADF, grew out of this group and a long term mentoring focus. Steve feels blessed and challenged to be given an opportunity to give back to the MCF through the position of Vice-Chair. Steve is passionate about the veracity of the Bible and the saving Grace of God through Christ.

Also my personal verse is – But they that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength: they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31