



# eNews September 2023

## Thoughts

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12 (NIV)

Today's verse of the day reminded me that we need to love others, but also allow ourselves to be loved. Being a servant for Christ, has us all running around doing things for others, helping others, and supporting others; however, we need to pause and be still. Allowing others to help us or support us is a gift from Christ. Peter didn't want Jesus to wash his feet at first, so we also need to feel and except the love of others through the Holy Spirit.



As the Executive Committee moves forward towards the AGM in November, we thank our new Treasurer and assistant Treasurer. With our prayers from last month for financial clarity still

in God's hands, we do see our giving meeting the expectation of the budget. This we give all the Glory to God our Father, but also for those who love Him and want the Kingdom in Defence.

Our prayers also remain for the members of 6 Aviation Regiment and their families as the funerals and memorials remain ongoing, and for all affected by the tragic death of the Army aviators on Ex Talisman Sabre. Especially for those who are now dealing and grappling with another aircraft crash. Captain Eleanor LeBeau, 29, Corporal Spencer Collart, 21, and Major Tobin Lewis, 37, were killed while training to defend Australia. As my good friend (Steve Neuhaus) says, we need to put the verse into context; therefore, John 15: 12 is followed by 13 and 14. John 15:13-14, Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command.

May we love others as much as these Marines loved us in Australia, for training to defend another Nation is a true sign of friendship. Keep up the love and glory for Jesus Christ and His ministry here in Defence.

Cheers and God Bless

Thommo

Darren Thomas, MCF-A Vice Chair

## MCF-A AGM 2023 – Save the date

All MCF-A members are asked to save the date for the upcoming MCF-A AGM which will be held **via Zoom Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm AEDT (CBR, SYD)**. Anyone else interested in the AGM is also welcome to attend but please

contact [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au) to make sure you receive joining details as these are only sent to members (not associate members or supporters). **All members will be emailed info about the AGM in coming weeks.**

## MCF-A Exec changes

The MCF Exec and Council would like to inform you of some changes to the MCF Exec until the AGM, effective immediately. A huge thank you to CHAP David Schweinsberg for being the MCF-A Treasurer for the past 18mths. David's resignation was accepted at the MCF Exc and Council meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August where the meeting voted that Mrs Santhosha (Vani) Houghton be the interim MCF-A Treasurer until the AGM. The meeting also voted that Mrs Cath Neuhaus be an assistant to Vani during this time. Thank you ladies for stepping up to fill this role, and thank you David for your hard work during your time in this role.

## Save the Date - Film, Q&A with film maker and Dinner

***Everyone is very welcome to attend, why not make a weekend of it?***

You can just come for the movie, stay for the Q & A or do the whole event – day designed to be friendly to those coming from Melbourne/Albury and beyond.



**Date:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2023

**Venue:** Puckapunyal (Vic) Chapel (Base access can be arranged)

**Time:** Film from 2pm, then Q & A with the film maker, light refreshments, followed by dinner from 5pm

**Cost:** **Adults** \$50 (includes film, Q & A, dinner, light refreshments and more) **Children 10 and under** FREE

**MOVIE only** (70mins – or stay for Q & A) suggested \$10+ donation at the door to help cover costs

**Film:** *Written in Chalk: The Echo of Arthur Stace (of Eternity fame)*

**Bookings** (please book even if only attending the movie): <https://www.trybooking.com/CKZOX>

**Save the date or register now – Adelaide**

All welcome to attend the

# Defence Christians Dinner South Australia

**Saturday 25th November 2023**

6.30pm for 7pm start

**Where:** Naval, Military and Air Force Club – 111 Hutt St, Adelaide (Private room)

[Naval, Military and Air Force Club - 5th Aust](http://navmil.com.au) (navmil.com.au)

**Cost:** *pay for own food and drinks from bar menu*

**Dress:** Smart Casual eg: collared shirt, neat slacks or equivalent  
(no jeans - jacket and tie optional)

**Guest Speaker**  
to be confirmed

**RSVP by COB Friday 17th Nov** – limited numbers so don't miss out

Register your attendance: <https://www.trybooking.com/CLERE>

For more info email: [mcf\\_office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf_office@defence.gov.au)

Proudly supported by



Trybooking link to register: <https://www.trybooking.com/CLERE>

## Bible Engagement/Studies – Bible Society of Australia



**A message to you from Bible Society Australia;** This is our Bible reading site, not sure if you have seen it before. It also holds all our Bible devotional plans that we have sent out for 'Daily Bible'. We'd love you to let people know they are there waiting to be used. They can be **used personally** or **adapted for a quick Bible Study**.

Link: <https://bible.com.au/>

The month of September is usually the month to think about and **celebrate God's creation**. This link may be a good place to start – and one the **scientists may particularly enjoy**: [Bible.com.au: Reading Plan - God of all creation](https://bible.com.au/Reading-Plan-God-of-all-creation)

## MCF-A clothing – great Christmas gift idea!



With thanks to MCF-A Vice Chair, Darren Thomas, there is going to be **another run of MCF-A clothing**. See the attached for the clothing available.

Return the order form to: [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au) along with the payment (*please include your name in the reference*) as instructed on the form. **Orders close COB Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2023**. You should receive your order before Christmas.

## All women are welcome

**All women - spouses, serving members, friends, anyone who is interested in Defence and what Solid Rock are doing** are welcome at Solid Rock events.

**Canberra** on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2023 there is a Women's Breakfast at Gold Creek. Tammy George is Guest Speaker. \$20 all included. Use the QR code or book via the link: <https://www.trybooking.com/CJIRU>

We would love you to join us for our Women's Breakfast

8 am on  
Saturday 9 September 2023

The Manor at Gold Creek  
18 O'Hanlon Place, Nicholls

Cost \$20 for full breakfast including barista coffee

Book via QR code or at  
[www.trybooking.com/CJIRU](http://www.trybooking.com/CJIRU)

Saturday 16 September

### ADELAIDE DAY RETREAT

Come and enjoy the day with us in beautiful Glenelg.

We will start with breakfast at 8.30 am and finish about 4 pm.

It will be a day of fellowship, good food, fun and laughter

TryBooking.com/CKVKB

**JOIN US**

**Adelaide**  
retreat day:  
16 Sept, 2023  
at Glenelg.

Breakfast at 8.30am, finish around 4pm. Booking link:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CKVKB>

**Questions for either even email:**  
[coordinator@solidrockministry.org.au](mailto:coordinator@solidrockministry.org.au)

**Not in Canberra or Adelaide but would love to be involved**, check out <https://www.solidrockministry.org.au/> to see what's happening near you.

**Anyone is welcome to start a Solid Rock group** in their area. Use the contact button on the website to put in an expression of

interest or ask questions.

## Australian National Prayer Breakfast

**in person and online – registrations now open**



Mr David Smith, MP and Senator Matt O'Sullivan, co-chairs of the Parliamentary Christian Fellowship, would like to extend a warm welcome for you to join the 34th Australian National Prayer Breakfast!

This will be a great opportunity to pray for our leaders and for the wellbeing of all people throughout this great land.

**Monday 13 November 2023**

**7.15-8.15am AEDT (in person and online)**

**Parliament House, Canberra**

**Additional streaming at 7:15am AWST**

To register for in person or online: [Australian National Prayer Breakfast 2023 | Humanitix](#) *(In person, book before 13<sup>th</sup> Oct for discounted price)*

**More info:** [Australian National Prayer Breakfast](#)

## Christianity in Iran – please pray for them

Encouraging news coming out of Iran but they need our prayers

[Christian great awakening exploding in Iran](#)

## Other items

**Have you posted or moved house? Are you deploying or away from home for a long time?**

**Posted or moved**, please update your details [HERE](#)

**Deploying or on a long exercise?** MCF-A would love to support and pray for you while you're away. Let us know at: [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au)

## Membership

[Membership](#) is free and **open to every Christian**. If you've not had an association with Defence or you don't identify as Christian you can be an associate member via the same link.

## Donations

**MCF is supported almost entirely through freewill donations by members and supporters.** Please look at Supporting MCF in prayer, with your time and through [financial support](#). (Direct debit preferred – details at right side of the webpage link)

***Note that donations (over \$2) to MCF-A are tax deductible.***

## Prayer requests

To put forward prayer points for inclusion in the Prayer Calendar please email the MCF Office: [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au)

You can also send through **urgent prayer points** that are sent on confidentially to the MCF Prayer Warriors, or enquire about becoming an MCF Prayer Warrior or volunteer to be the Prayer Coord.

## Contacting the MCF Office

**PHONE:** 02 6132 7845

**EMAIL:** [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au) You can also find us on Facebook and ForceNet.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter please contact: [mcf.office@defence.gov.au](mailto:mcf.office@defence.gov.au)