

The Standard

March 2003

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From the Editor

Dear Banner etc Worshipers,

Like many men, my husband is not a great fan of sitting through church services. "You know," he said, "I feel closer to God looking at trees than sitting in church." Later he said, "Do you know why I feel closer to God looking at trees?" "No, dear," I said. "Because," he said, "I was created to be in a garden not a building."

Interesting thought! So I started looking at trees. Have you noticed how trees are like banners? How they move with the wind? How they proclaim life, new growth, steadfastness, fruitfulness, joy, beauty, rest, protection?

A lady once explained how God had used a flowering poinciana tree to illustrate the Blood covering to her.

In a prophetic word, God told us that banners would bring a glory in His house. This is what trees do to the earth which is the Lord's footstool. So, plant a tree and let the whole earth be filled with His banners! God bless you all.

Isaiah 60:13 ...the fir tree, the pine tree and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

Desley Hubner

Waving Banners at the Dam

On Sunday, 1st December, Dennis and Margaret McMartin from Heart of David Ministries gathered with others, mainly from their creative dance company, for a time of praise and worship at Hinze Dam, which provides water to the Gold Coast area. They chose a spot overlooking the water and started to worship to taped music using their banners, scarves, timbrels and other instruments. There was opportunity to share as people approached them to ask about the banners.



Working together in worship and warfare in the fresh air surrounded by creation can be a very powerful experience.

This event was planned as Dennis and Marg feel that God wants his people to worship Him in the midst of his creation. Another outing was arranged for the 23rd February. It had rained all Saturday but Sunday dawned fine and continued fine until about 2.30pm when the worship was to start. Then a storm came up and the rain came down and continued for several days. No one complained as it was desperately needed. However, Marg feels that the Hinze Dam area is a special spot and anticipates there will be other worship sessions there.

If you would like to participate, ring (07) 5530 5694 or write to 3 Thredbo Drive, Worongary Qld 4213.

Waving Banners on the Mountain Top

We joined a couple of other churches who were having a combined prayer meeting on top of a nearby mountain only to find we were about 45 minutes early. We had our banners, of course. I had my Jesus (King of kings), the Cross and the Blood banner and the Celebration Blood banner and Helen had her multicoloured, multipurpose Malachi 4:2 banner. A young girl, a member of the public, asked about them and another man who didn't know us or the banners and couldn't see them very well because it was quite dark, did a good job of explaining them to her. There was a slight breeze for the banners and an air of excitement and expectancy. Then the pastor of one of the churches came and asked us to put them away in case we offended someone.

This surprised us as we had attended banner worship workshops run by that church. However, we removed the sticks and took them back to the car and wore the banners around our necks. Our philosophy is, whenever you meet opposition, have Holy Communion as this takes the focus off any emotions and onto Jesus. We had our water bottles and Helen found a muesli bar in the bottom of her bag. Then we wandered back towards the group and I saw a round garden and started to walk around it and Helen went over to the lookout.

I walked around the garden for about 15-20 minutes praying the Blood of Jesus over the city and then I started declaring Jesus, the Cross and the Blood. Then Helen came racing over to tell me what she'd seen in the spirit as she had prayed. She didn't know what I had been praying but she had seen an angel with a massive Blood banner come down and start to circle the city in the direction I was walking, going around faster and faster and then she'd seen a huge cross rise over the city.



"The Blood" OOMB banner design

We don't see this sort of thing often but we have started to notice a pattern. On two occasions when we were asked to remove the banners and even on one occasion when I hadn't brought them because I thought the focus was going to be on teaching rather than worship, God has responded by showing us banners in the spirit realm. We have also noticed that God has never sent fire and brimstone to consume people who have opposed banners! *Continued...*

A quarterly publication for those who serve God with banners, ensigns, standards, flags, ribbons, scarves, garments and similar instruments of prayer, praise, prophecy, worship and warfare.

Editor: Desley Hubner, 5 Lemon Street, Fruit Grove QLD 4113 Tel: (07) 3841 0932

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We prayed together for a few minutes and then a bus load of people arrived for the prayer meeting but we felt our part in the proceedings was finished. I remembered a buy-one-get-one-free cappuccino voucher in my bag and we were gone.

Hanging Banners in His Name

They line the walls of the Carina Salvation Army church, cnr Chattaway and Gallopoli Roads, Carina, on Brisbane's southside. The pastor had had another one of his Holy Spirit inspired ideas and he approached Lynn Ford on the II Timothy 2:2 principle of entrusting things to faithful people - banners to represent six names of God to be made as an act of worship. Making banners was something new in the church and for Lynn.

Elohim - Creator - Strong One: This banner focused on creation - day with the sun, night with the moon and stars, with a comet indicating the wider universe. There's a butterfly and a whale and Adam sitting under an apple tree.

Jehovah Raah - The Shepherd Who Guides - has the path winding upward, the pond of still water with swans in the corner, the shepherd's crook made of brown rope and the hands, one holding the crook and the other indicating the path, are coffee-dyed gardening gloves.

Jehovah Jirah - The Lord will Provide: The background of this banner is netting held in shape with a red ribbon border. In the middle is a basket of fruit and vegetables and a chocolate wrapper indicating the sort of provision important to the banner-makers.

The pastor had originally wanted Lynn to organise a group of women to do the banners. However making a banner is one skill and organising a group to make a banner is another skill and Lynn felt up to learning only one skill at a time. She made the banners with a friend. They worked separately and then came together to make the last banner as a combined effort.

Jehovah Shalom - The Voice who brings Peace: Lynn's friend had found a picture of a dove which she had enlarged on the photocopier and this was the centrepiece. The background was a yellow circle with rays of rainbow colours emanating from

it. Margaret, who had accompanied me on this venture, saw this banner as the mouth of a trumpet.

Numerous skills were learned in the making of these banners and new words introduced to the vocabulary - gembond, vliesofix. These are marvellous inventions given by God to banner makers. How straight were the lines! The lettering became easier when it was discovered that it could be done on a computer then held up to a window and traced around.

Jehovah Nissi - the Lord my Banner: This banner is on the back wall. While all other banners are square or rectangular, this one has the traditional peaked base and ribbons on both sides. It has another

banner on it, narrow and waving, complete with its own stick, with an eagle below. This eagle is a masterpiece. He is presented with his wings spread and his underside facing you.

The layers of fabric to make the wings, real feathers in his tail, the shaping and detail of his head and his feet make him a very impressive looking bird.

Then we went downstairs to look at the last banner. It had been used as a prayer and meditation focus in a prayer room set up for the Carina fellowship's participation in a 24/7 Year of Prayer conducted by Salvation Army churches throughout the world. This is the biggest banner, about one metre wide and two metres long, needing three rods to hold it. It is stunning in its effect.

Jesus - Saviour: Originally it was to have been in the shape of a cross but this didn't work so it was put on a black backing. The black and purple cross rises out of a gold crib and has a gold crown at the top. All around the cross are strips of colour - fabric from all the other banners. Inside the cross is another cross of hessian with the cross piece as outstretched arms with a red velvet heart in the palm of each hand. Metal buttons hammered flat are the nails. The head is a padded circle of hessian surrounded by a crown of thorns - twisted bougainvillea.

The banners were used on successive Sundays as the minister spoke on the names of God. During worship the banner was brought in with accompanying music and presented to the pastor who then hung it on the microphone stand and later referred to it in the message. However, the last banner was too big for this so it was hung in place before the service and covered. Lynn and her friend were supposed to uncover it but they couldn't. Making the banners, especially the last one that they had worked on together, had an immense impact on them both. Lynn said, "I couldn't do it. I just sat there and blubbered right through the 9.30am and the 11am services." Many others in the congregation were affected also.

It isn't known how long these banners will stay up but they are well worth a look. As well as the two morning services there is also a 6pm service. Hopefully, they will be given a permanent place with accompanying words of explanation and interpretation.

Ed. Keep your ears open for a "Banner Bank" concept that will allow you to see these banners online soon!

Hanging Banners in the Background

On Wednesday, 12 February, the Watoto Ugandan Children's Choir visited our church. With their colourful costumes, a screen, two banners and their national flag, they converted an Australian platform into a little bit of Uganda. One banner depicted a village scene complete with goat and hen and chicks while the king of beasts reigned on the other.

A couple of banners can change the focus of a room. They can turn a community hall or school room into a place of worship.

Banner Profile

Banner making is exciting. It's fun to have an idea and watch it develop but it is even more fun when two people who have never met have the same banner design or one person has the design and another person has the understanding. Pamela Burnett shares the story of her banner and those involved in its design and production.



Hanging Banners can transform the space they are hung in. This banner, by Nita Brown of Sydney, was hung at the International Christian Dance Fellowship Conference - Mittagong, 2000.

“Creation Revived” Banner

In November, 2002, I met a young man, Levin Kaukerei, who shared with me two special revelations from the Lord. First, he had seen a banner which was simple but profound. It consisted of two colours, green and blue. Two-thirds was green, and was the vibrant colour of fresh leaves in spring. The remaining third was blue. It was the deep shiny blue of the sea as the sun glinted on it. As I pictured it, I saw the whole banner surrounded by gold fringing to represent the glory of God surrounding His creation.

The concept that the Lord has birthed in my spirit is that: - “All creation groans while it waits for the revealing of the sons of God.” And I believe that the Lord has shown me that this is the time for the sons of God to rise up into their full inheritance in Him and proclaim to Creation itself that the time of its groaning is to end because this is the time when the bride is making herself ready for the return of Jesus Christ in triumph to celebrate the marriage supper with her, His spotless glorious bride.

I have a special friend, Eleanor Bardwell, who bought beautiful translucent material and made up this significant banner for me to use when we worship the Lord together. So, now, as we soar into the heavenlies in spirit we all have a visual reminder that our God wants not only His bride but all creation to rejoice that His Son will soon be reappearing on earth in glory.

Ed. Watch this space for the second revelation and a banner which is on the drawing board at present.

Out of Our Minds Banner Workshops

In Australia:

David Stanfield is on the move again. He will be in **Newcastle, New South Wales**, for the first time to run a day workshop on Saturday, April 5th and an afternoon workshop at **Salamander Bay** on Sunday April 6th. Contact John Waller (02) 4937 3279 for more details.

David will be attending the inaugural Australian Christian Arts Summit in **Canberra ACT** on the 2nd-3rd May.

He will be returning to **Launceston Tasmania** in May where he will join the leadership of a men’s retreat on 9th-10th May. Awesome! David will then host a Christian Dance Fellowship of Australia (CDFA) gathering on the 17th May.

Don’t miss this event if you are male and live in or near the Apple Isle. On the last occasion David spent time with these men, they ran into church with banners and had the women of the congregation shouting with joy and the children copying their dads in a smaller circle out the back. Awesome!! Contact Marilyn Humphries on (03) 6247 9700 for more details of the Tassie tour.

Later, from September 5th to 7th, David plans to return to Launceston for an “Open Heaven” Prophetic Worship Convention with David Swan from Malaysia. If you are into Worship, no matter where you live, don’t miss this!

David loves doing workshops, so if you would like him to run one in your area or to minister with banners, just call him on 1300 366 660.



David Stanfield leads a workshop in Perth Western Australia in 2002. God’s instruction to David was “Don’t make it complicated.”

Overseas:

David will go to the United States for four weeks touring from about 13th June to 24th July. This tour includes the ICDF conference in Dallas, Texas from 6th-12th July. He has been asked to take some banner workshops for men and is very excited about it.

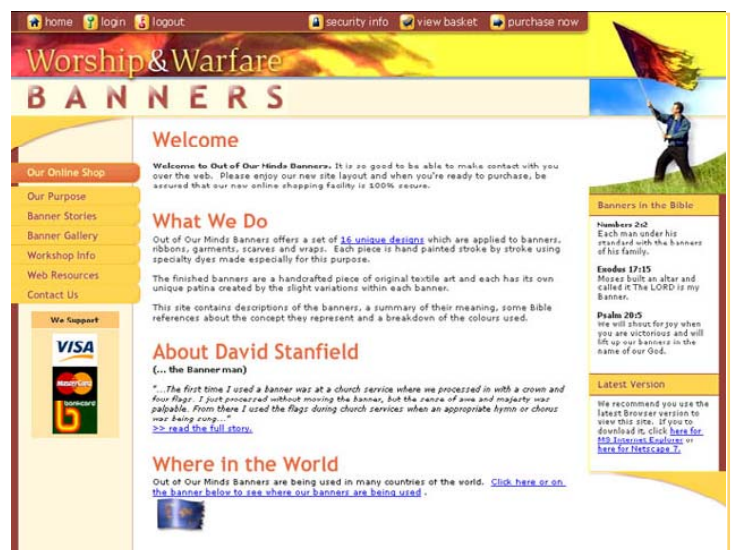
Out of Our Minds Banners Website Review

The website address is www.worshipbanners.org and it has colourful, quick-loading pages. God’s instruction to David with regard to the workshops was “Don’t make it complicated” and this principle has been applied to the website. Navigating our way around was made easy with a side menu of links.

‘Our Online Shop’ has links to ‘Wielding Banners’, ‘Designs’, varying banner sizes, garments of praise and scarves. ‘Our Purpose’ speaks vision and mission and is truly inspirational. ‘Banner Stories’ is a work in progress. ‘Banner Gallery’ shows photos of banners and scarves in use. ‘Workshop Info’ tells of future tours and what to expect at a workshop. ‘Web Resources’ shows links to related sites. ‘Contact Us’ is self-explanatory. There are banner scriptures down the side of each page.

It’s well worth a visit.

Helen Ashcroft



The opening page of the Out Of Our Minds Worship Banners Web Site. A full colour version of “The Standard” is available on the Web Site.

Book Review

“Banners Around the World”

Edited and compiled by Priscilla Nunnerley with Ruth Wood.

Published by Christian Banners in association with Nuprint Ltd, Station Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 4SE, England in 1994.

Cost: \$16

This book is about “hanging” banners not “waving” banners. Two women in England wrote letters to people all over the world asking them to fill in a questionnaire about their banners & banner making.

The main Australian response came from Launceston in Tasmania but the best responder was Africa. Jenny from Uganda started making elaborate banners but now has a vision for simple banners made at minimum cost. There’s a sketch of a group working on a banana leaf banner. Selina from Kenya shares this vision and suggests seeds and dried flowers glued on a board or fibre mats with words painted on them.

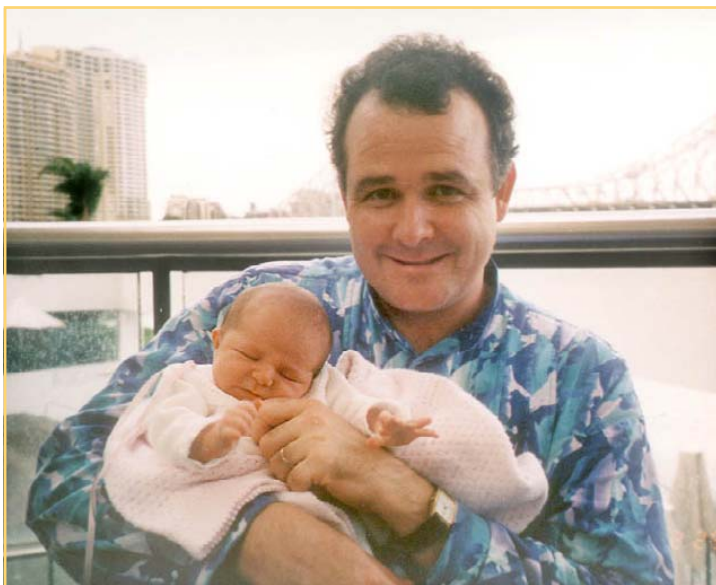
Joyce from South Africa wanted to make a banner with the wives of the clergy on their annual refreshment weekend. She didn’t know what to do or how to go about it so God gave her the design and some construction hints in a dream. Marie from New Zealand worked on a “I am the vine, ye are the branches” banner with ladies from a retirement home sewing on the velvet leaves.

There’s a section on prayer and meditation using banners and also one on giving and receiving banners where banners, banner-making expertise and/or craft material for banner-making has been given or exchanged with other countries.

There are lots of pictures and drawings, some innovative ideas and some great banner stories. This book would be a worthwhile resource in any banner maker’s library.

New Banner Worshipper born

Elizabeth Jane Stanfield was born on Thursday, 20th February weighing 3.2kg (7lb 1oz). Congratulations to David, Marta and Christopher.



Elizabeth Jane Stanfield - prophecies already indicate she will dance people back from the dead!

Banners in Mozambique

The ongoing saga of these banners has been in every edition of The Standard. Now, at last, they are in the nation for which they were made. The story continues...

In October 2002, as a member of the Mozambique Outreach church mission’s organisation, I spent over two weeks travelling on a prayer journey up the coast of Mozambique, in south-east Africa. Part of the weapons of our prayer journey’s warfare were three flags made by members of the banner team from Citipoint Christian Outreach Centre, Brisbane.

The first flag, representing Freedom in Christ, depicted a fountain of green, red, gold and yellow on a white background. The second, representing the Righteousness of Christ, was white “splattered” with red. The third was the national flag of Mozambique with a prayer for the nation painted on it in gold and a cross replacing the gun and hoe.

The flags were used in many public places as we travelled. Not only were they flown for short periods, but the bright, multicoloured Freedom flag was draped over our knees for the long bus journey from Mozambique’s capital Maputo to the large central coast city of Beira, and worn as a skirt as we stepped off the bus there. As a visiting team, we were able to do some simple teaching with some Beira church leadership on the use of flags in prayer.

The Freedom flag was left in a church with an aggressive outreach focus in the Manga village on the outskirts of Beira. The others currently have their home in the Mozambique Outreach mission’s compound in Beira.

Dale Allen

Spirit & Truth Worshipers’ Workshop

Workshops have been postponed until further notice.

Gold Embossed Praise Scarves

When worshipping with my Praise Wave scarf, I’m often asked where I got it so I’m including the details again. These 100% polyester scarves are imported from Korea and they come in red (not always available), navy, purple, green and white, all with gold printing and decoration.

Cost is \$12 each plus p.&p. of \$3.50 for 1-5 scarves.

Orders: Audienne Watt, 4 Helen Street, Pittsworth Qld 4350 or phone (07) 4693 1801.

Banner Song

Here’s a few lines from another banner song:

See the gospel banner floating
From our top-mast o’er the waves;
Sinner, read its gen’rous offer:
“Come, find refuge, Jesus saves.”

From *In the Good Ship of Our Captain*

Rev. William Kuipers, 1928.