

The Standard

October 2004

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From the Editor

Dear Banner etc. Worshippers,

Banners are in the eye of the beholder. We took a train ride into town to visit Brisbane's old gaol - Boggo Road. If you are contemplating a life of crime, a tour of that facility will set your feet firmly back on the straight and narrow. It has your basic old gaol decore - high red brick walls, cracked and stained cement, rusting barbed wire and metal pipes, small dark cells with heavy doors and iron bars - stark, ugly, depressing. But here and there, often high up, growing out of cracks in the brickwork were ferns, green, alive, cheerful and unexpected - like banners of hope.

Keep an eye out for banners in unexpected places. I hope you enjoy reading the banner stories in this edition of *The Standard*. God bless you all.

Desley.

Songs as Art and Banners

Holy. Holy. Holy is a travelling art exhibition from the Flinders University Art Museum which is currently in the Museum of Brisbane. Contemporary artists explore the links between Christianity and Aboriginal culture. *The Messiah* 1996 by Tjangika Wukula (Linda Syddick) Napaltjarri is a large painting but it could easily be a hanging banner. The work is based on scriptures from Isaiah and the artist has used symbols from Aboriginal culture to mirror the themes used by Handel. To quote: "It is essentially Handel's Messiah as a visual artwork".

Have you tried making your favourite hymn/chorus into symbols or designs that you could put on a banner?

I have one banner based on a song - "Shackles" (Take the shackles off my feet so I can dance) by MaryMary. It is fabric and ribbon glued on yellow dancetime satin. The ribbon of blood flows from the cross and breaks the chains attached to the black ball. The feet are then set free to dance towards the cross.



Turning a favourite hymn or song into a banner can be a great experience. This is Desley Hubner's "Shackles" banner.

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Banner for Brisbane Healing Rooms

The Brisbane Healing Rooms are an international ministry based on the work of John G. Lake (1870-1935). The premises of The Brisbane Healing Rooms are located on the corner of Shottery and Devon Streets in Yeronga. A banner was made especially for the Healing Rooms.

Our vision is to see God's power for healing installed back into the body of Christ. We want to see a healing room ministry in every city in every nation.

Barbara's Hanging Banner

Barbara Bates-Brownsword attends St Mary's Anglican Church. The minister asked for seasonal banners to be made - red, purple, white, green. It was the red season. Barbara said, "I prayed about it, especially what to put on the red banner, and it came to me to do three drops of Blood gradually turning into tongues of fire. The fire represents the Holy Spirit - the dove. It wasn't until I hung the banner up, that the full impact of what it meant hit me - wow - I was kneeling before it weeping. You can't have the Holy Spirit without the Blood being shed."

Barbara was asked by Lyn Howes from the Healing Rooms if she would do a banner for the rooms. After prayer, Barbara did the same design as was done on the red season banner that she had made for her church but on a blue background. "This was my contribution," said Barbara. "I made it for the Lord." Barbara appliques her designs and lines her banners, which makes them quite sturdy.

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.

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Barbara explained that she wasn't into colours and meanings. She just liked doing artistic things and seeing the colours combine for effect. People are never too old to try new things!

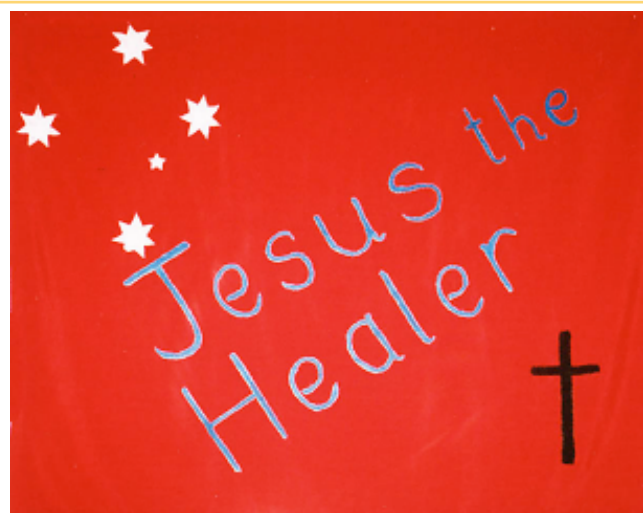
Fay's waving Banner

Banners are used quite often as part of prayer and worship in the Healing Rooms. They are arranged on the floor, hung on the walls as well as carried and waved. Quite a number of different people have made the banners that are there. One of the directors of The Healing Rooms, Marilyn Edwards, has made two banners using contact for the designs - simple and effective. One has a white background and a gold dove, the other is purple with a gold crown - the designs cut from gold contact and stuck on the fabric.

Fay King, one of the Healing Room workers, has made quite a number of banners. She, on occasions, blows the shofar and has put this instrument on a banner. Fay has also made banners which proclaim Jesus as Healer. In August, 2004, Fay participated in the Mercy Women's Walk, a fundraising 8km walk along the Brisbane River. Banners taken on this walk included a pink healing banner and a Living Water banner.



"It wasn't till I hung the banner up that the full impact of what it meant hit me." "You can't have the Holy Spirit without the Blood being shed"
Barbara Bates – Brownsworth.



"Jesus the Healer" proclaimed on Fay King's Banner.

Digging a Well of Healing

This is an extract from a letter written by the directors of the Brisbane Healing Rooms to leadership at the International Association of Healing Rooms in Spokane, USA with regard to this special event.

One of the significant highlights of the year was when God gave us

an assignment to dig a well of healing at the mouth of the Brisbane River, to prepare the way for the flow of healing to the city and then to the nation of Australia.

The Brisbane River winds through the city like a great serpent. We did some research into the history of Brisbane, especially with regards to the mouth of the river and discovered that it had been the site of a penal colony and a leper colony. There was terrible violence, abuse, cruelty and death associated with this site which was became the entrance to the city of Brisbane.

At 2pm on June 29, 2003 a group of 21 of us met together at an appropriate site in obedience to God's word to us. We began with a time of worship then went into a prayer of repentance (adapted from Daniel 9) for the sins of our forefathers. We repeated De Quiros' proclamation over this "Southern Lands of the Holy Spirit" and made a Josiah declaration on behalf of Brisbane and the nation of Australia.



Out Of Our Minds Banner Design's "The Great Southlands of the Holy Spirit" and "The River" used as prophetic tools in digging a well of healing in Brisbane Australia.

We each took some soil in our hands and broke the curses that were over the land, in the name of Jesus. We dug the well and, according to God's direction, placed a prayer cloth anointed with healing oil and some salt into the well before hammering in a surveyor's peg covered with healing Scriptures.

We then took more salt as a sign of cleansing (Lev 2:13), and cast it upon the waters of the incoming tide, for healing to flow through our city from the north, south, east and west.

It was an extremely powerful and moving ceremony and we believe that something definitely happened in the heavenlies that afternoon.

Recording the Event

The story of the digging of the well of healing has been recorded in the Healing Rooms' photo album. In best Creative Memories/scrapbooking tradition, there is a double page spread of photos and story to preserve the event for future generations. What a great idea! See photo on next page.



Recording the event in a scrapbook preserves the event for future generations.

Although they aren't mentioned in the letter, the photos show that several banners were used during the ceremony.

My Journey with Banners

By Patrica Anthony-Ross

July 2000 - Mittagong, Australia - CDFA International Conference.

Christian **Dance** Fellowship - I'm a dancer. I go to "dance". I find it difficult to try other art forms for worship - I won't know what to do, I might look silly.

Notice something? I, I, I, I. Something interesting to look back on from the distance of the next few years!

The dance group that I was part of back on the Sunshine Coast had one male member at that stage and he used banners occasionally in a dance. There was a 'Banners workshop' scheduled with David Stanfield - I went for Barry. Within 5 minutes I was blown away by this wonderful way of worshipping God and fighting for Him. Within an hour David had asked me to lead a procession? a march? a charge to battle? I don't know - I knew NOTHING about what I was doing.

Within the next hour (or was it two?) a prophecy was being spoken over me - another first. What do I do with that?

Morning worship on another day, David asked me to go on stage with a banner with him when I felt the time was right (I won't know when, I'm no good at impromptu) - I, I, I, I - perhaps I need to learn to listen to the Spirit and OBEY! Well, I did - but I wasted a bit of time while I plucked up courage.

A few months later - Toowoomba

Our dance group and David Stanfield were part of a large event there. In the open worship David again asked me to respond at the appropriate time. I felt the prompt. Someone else responded (with the same banner as mine) before I was brave enough to move. "Sorry, Lord. You really did want that banner up there, didn't You!"

Noosa Baptist Church

The dance group was part of the worship. During the music worship time when there were banners placed around, I felt the prompt and I could only respond. I even knew which banner I was to pick up. "Yes, Lord, I hear Your call".

There followed a couple of workshops with David and some opportunities for private outdoor "wielding". We lived in Noosa at the time, by the river. I now had three banners. In the early morning, I would take my banners and my walkman downstairs and work to claim the river back for the Lord.

Buderim

We moved to Buderim. I was still in the dance group While listening to a speaker, I heard a definite message from the Lord. "I won't give you the next until you let go of this". Was "the next" the banners? Was "this" the dance group? As "banners" were pulling strongly at me, this seemed like a reasonable interpretation of the message. but I'm a DANCER! I don't know how to "do" BANNERS! In obedience, I "let go" of the dance group BUT... nothing.

In the following two years, we were at two different churches. I sat and stood and worshipped with my voice but how I wanted to wield those banners! Though I offered - it didn't happen. One Palm Sunday, our church was leading a procession to an open air worship afternoon. I waved a banner during the procession - I knew there should be more. At the service - there was plenty of space - and did I wield!!! I was at the back of the people (no threat, I thought, of being watched) but I was seen and what the Lord used my body and the banner for was seen. This was not just about me. It was what the Lord wanted the banners to add to our praise and worship of Him and to fight for Him.

May 2004 - Esther Women's Weekend

I went to get to know some of the women from my new parish (yes, we had moved for work again) and what did I get? Reinforcement of that prophecy from Mittagong (four years on). Also, I learned how to and how not to journey on from a prophecy.

CDFA Share Night

Two weeks later: I was asked to do something and I said yes - scary step! I used a piece of music that I often used in my private open air worship with banners. There was positive feedback. Not only did this way of worship bless the socks off me as I praised my Lord but I was sharing it with others. There is freedom in my current church to work with banners and dance spontaneously and I am learning to respond quicker when I get "nudged" out of my pew by the Holy Spirit - in church or outside.

Lead on, Lord!!



Patrica's Journey into worshipping with banners spans four years - it began when she attended a workshop "for someone else"!!

Hanging Banner at Christian Life Centre, Gatton, Australia

by Sandra Lewis

In the second half of 2003, God led me to read Revelation 7:9-10. As I was reading and talking to Him about it, I felt that He was saying I should make a banner for the church. I felt no urgency, so I put it aside. When a Korean friend was returning home in late October, I asked him if I could take a photo of him looking upwards because I wanted to use him as a model for the banner (which I later did).

It sat at the back of my mind and I prayed about it occasionally but did nothing.

In early January 2004, I drew a rough sketch of the layout saying, "Lord, I don't know how to do this." Later the same week I was in Toowoomba having a quiet time at Picnic Point, when I began thinking about it again and I said, "Lord, if You want me to start on this banner now, then when I go to 'Spotlight' help me to find the right backing fabric inexpensively, and the rest within my current budget." I went and He did.

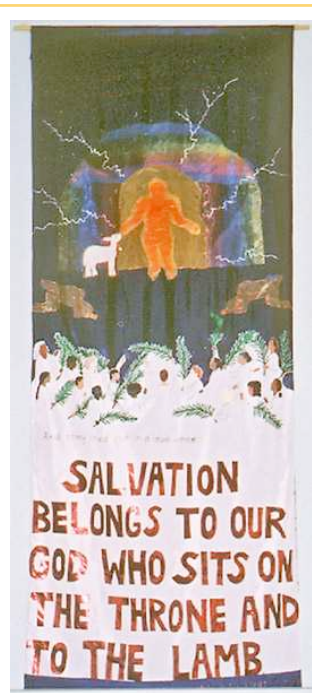
I'd never done anything to this scale before, so I followed the suggestion from a lady at 'Spotlight' that I copy the sketch onto butcher's paper, enlarging it to the right size. I then asked my pastor if I could use the church building as there wasn't space at home to make it.

I found it physically and emotionally draining as I was aiming for it to be completed by the first Sunday in February. It was necessary to cry out to God constantly, because I didn't know how to do it. I'd be saying, "Lord, how can I depict this? What do You want me to do?" God faithfully supplied the inspiration only as I completed what He'd already shown me, and He helped when things went wrong and I wanted to give up.

On the afternoon of the first Saturday in February I lacked one fabric paint for outlining the people and the throne. The paint I was using was hard to find. I cried out to God again. "Lord, I can't finish unless I can get that paint." I knew it wasn't at 'Lincraft' and supplies were minimal at 'Spotlight' but I hadn't checked for this colour. I phoned and they said they'd put the one left aside for me. I knew our boarder was in Toowoomba, so I phoned him. He answered and I said, "Hi, Nick, Sandra here, where are you?" He said, "Spotlight." God is awesome!!

I got the paint and had the banner finished by midnight. I presented it to my pastor the following morning before church.

The words at the top of the banner say: "After this I looked and there before me was a Great Multitude that no one could count from



Sandra's "Revelation 7:9-10" banner was a stretching process with plenty of provision and providence along the way!

every Nation, Tribe, People and Language standing before The Throne and in front of the Lamb..."

Banner Symbols on a Greeting Card

In her book "Australian Banners and Graphics for Jubilation" (reviewed in *The Standard* - September, 2002), Margaret Gambold has a section on "...the Symbols of Christianity in today's world." She mentions quite a number of symbols of modern church tradition and nature as well as Biblical symbols. This is an example "A kingfisher bird rising from flowing water is a spectacular symbol for resurrection. The kingfisher colours, those of royalty, the rising from living water a reminder of baptism... white lilies for purity..." She goes on to say, "There are so many symbols of our faith in God's world that we should never be short of ideas for our art."

It seems that artist Roger John agrees. The kingfisher rising over a waterfall which flows into a pool surrounded by lilies (with the dawn light sparkling through the trees) is one of his designs that has been teamed with the Lord's Prayer on a greeting card produced by Koala Posters Publishing.



Biblical & other symbolism create a rich pool from which to draw inspiration for banners. Thank you to Koala Publishing, Ourimbah NSW for permission to use their card.

The Lord's Prayer has been the basis of a number of songs, books, meditations and prayers but perhaps not in symbolic art. Look carefully at this card and let the symbolism in the objects and the colours bring deeper understanding of this prayer.

Has anyone ever made a Lord's Prayer banner?

My Year of Closing & Opening Doors

By David Stanfield

This year has been quite full already!

Time to close some doors

In January I felt the Lord confirm that I was to retire from two major ministries I had headed up over the last ten years. The first was the unity catalysing group "A Bunch of Christians" and the second was the coordinator of "The Toowoomba Christian Directory."

It was clear and so it was relatively easy to do! I believed that I need to have more time free for family and some exciting new projects arising - and so it was.

The Big 40!

In June I celebrated my "Big 40" birthday with a worship time in Toowoomba Anglican Cathedral - It was great to have friends and family join to celebrate the milestone - many banner for the first time!



Celebrating David's 40th in the magnificent Church in central Toowoomba!

Spain Prayer Journey

Then I co-led an exciting tour to Spain and celebration of Praise in Santiago. Three thousand people from 30 countries joined together to declare GOD Lord of Spain! I led 50 Spanish young people with the new Blood & Fire design inspired by the Spanish National Flag.

I'll forward you a full report on the Spanish Prayer journey in the



Fifty Spanish Young People declare God's faithfulness to Spain in Santiago in August. Another 60 worshippers then joined them with other banners in a celebration that went for over 2 hours!

next month or so, highlighting the many different ways banners were being used by folk who had never touched a banner before!

Daniel Stanfield Born

And the quiver is now full! After a relatively short labour Daniel Joseph James Stanfield was born. He weighed in at 3.2kg (7lbs 1 oz) and is gorgeous. At 4½ weeks he is now over 5 kgs and looking great!



Christopher (5) and Elizebeth (20 months) are delighted with baby Daniel. Chris informing him "You are zero!" minutes after he was born!

Send a caption - win 20% off!

It's also great to have the two older kids getting to the stage where they can come with me to workshops.

This photo is priceless - Christopher (5) allowing Elizebeth (1½) to wave a banner in comfort!

Give this photo a caption and you may win 20% off your next order from Out of Our Minds Banners.

We'll print them in our next newsletter! The one chosen as most creative will get 20% off their next order!



Phone in or send in your caption to david@worshipbanners.org.

Future Worship Workshops

I'm looking forward to my first workshop in Toowoomba my home town next week, as well as a full-day worship in Redcliff, Brisbane on the 30th of October. I'm planning to have two weeks in the USA. The Express your Worship Conference at Tampa Florida 11-14th November and Activating Your Weapons Of War 18th - 20th November in North Carolina.