

KEVIN MATTHEWS - Kevin's Wilderness Journeys
<http://www.users.bigpond.com/okkevin/index.html> (webmaster)

27 Middle Street
Cardiff South
NSW, 2285
okkevin@bigpond.com

1 May 2003

Dear family and friends,

Greetings to you all once again. With the arrival of this letter I am pleased to report that I am in improving health over all. I do have a dose of the flu at the moment, but other than that I am feeling much better these days after the ravages of another dose of Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome (CFIDS). I'm back at work (except for the last couple of days with the flu) and getting on with things to some extent. I still have a few little reminders of it from time to time, but as I said, over all I'm much improved.

Did I get a chance to get away with the recent long weekends of Easter and Anzac Day? Well, yes and no. On both weekends the weather was too poor to have the opportunity for a camping trip, but I did get a couple of day trips done. I've been able to visit the Gloucester and Copeland Cemeteries for research, Copeland Tops State Forest and Barrington Tops National Park for a bit of a bushwalk, and Stroud and Newcastle for photos of the Anglican churches in those places (local history). A few photos of these trips will follow the letter.

Over the last couple of weeks I've enjoyed being able to have communications with the Truth Reformed Baptist Church in Thane, India. I've also been working on a web site for them and this is now online. Visit the site at: <http://truthreformedbaptist.bravepages.com/index.html>.

Also I've been pleased to be able to get the Outpost BookAid scheme up and running, with the first ministry update having been sent out to supporters of the work. There are a number of ministries that people are able to support through the BookAid ministry. The first was Ghana's 'Shalom Indigenous Foundation (Baptist Mission).' The ministry involves people simply sending new or second-hand Bibles and reformed books to the ministry outlined in the update and described on the web site. All the contact information is given and every book sent (even if it's only one) is a major help and support to the ministries involved. If you're interested in the ministry and would like to help, visit the Outpost BookAid site at: <http://reformerkev.esmartweb.com/bookaid.html>. There's also a mail group (email only) you can join for regular updates at http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/Outpost_BookAid/.

I've also been busy on the family and local history site that I have, with more work being done on the family tree side of things, as well as putting aspects of the history of towns associated with my family online also (eg Stroud, Boolaroo, etc. I've been working on a family history book as well and still have a lot of work to go on that. I'm constantly seeking to improve and update the site, with a whole heap of headstone pictures from various cemeteries to be put online in due time (when I get around to it - there are hundreds of them). Visit the site at: <http://www.freewebz.com/matthewshistory/index.html>. You'll also find a link to a new horticulture site I'm developing, which is what my trade is supposed to be. It can be found at: <http://reformerkev.esmartweb.com/horticulture.html>.

On the subject of horticulture my interest in such things has revived somewhat, so now I'm attempting to grow various plants in pots and tubs, including cacti, ferns and orchids. I can't do much with the ground where I live because of the onion weed and oxalis that's everywhere. So I'm enjoying that a bit.

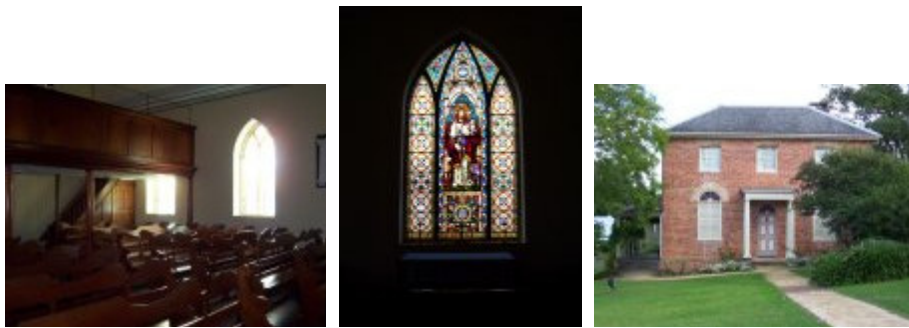
Well, I can't think of much else to tell you at the moment, so until next time that's me finished.

Regards,

Kevin



ABOVE: Various views of Stroud's Anglican Church



ABOVE: Inside Stroud's Anglican Church and Stroud's Quambi House



ABOVE: My car at Moppy Picnic Area; Views of Polblue Creek Falls



ABOVE: Newcastle's Christ's Church Cathedral (Anglican)