

# Emmaus Monthly

October 2006 Newsletter

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## INVITATION

The Fourth Day Talk at the *Gathering on Saturday 14th October* at Turramurra Uniting Church is designed to inspire all listeners to greater heights, living more fully in God's grace. Please make a special effort to invite those Emmaus Walkers, from your church and from your wide circle of friendships, who have not recently participated in this Christian encouraging service, for their sake, and for the sake of others in need.

*Commencing at 5 p.m. for the team and pilgrims from the recent Men's and Women's Walks;*  
**6 p.m.** for those wishing to have some fellowship and meal, bringing a plate;  
and **7 p.m.** for those who only have time for the service.

**Kitchen:** Wahroonga Weavers

**Spiro:** Peter Thomas

**4<sup>th</sup> day:** Ken Deck

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## A BIG THANK YOU from...

### Agape:

I would like to thank all those who have made Agape for the last Men's and Women's Walks. It was greatly appreciated and was loved by all.

After 3 years of being the Agape Representative on the Sydney Emmaus Community Board, I have decided to step down from the position. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me during this time.

- Vicki Harding -

### Prayer Director:

Thank you for your prayer support for Sydney Emmaus Women's Walk #108. Would you be surprised if I told you the Walk was FANTASTIC?

The comments - tearful but joyful - at Closing were so precious. Themes to come out of the pilgrims' experiences were freedom and release. And a repeated response to "What am I going to do?" was - pray.

This was music to my ears. As Community Prayer Director you can well imagine how precious prayer is to me. This connection with God - in intimate communion - is vital. All of our being and doing is centred in Him in prayer. And this was the response of the pilgrims.

The Walk was indeed wonderful. The pilgrims were truly blessed by your prayer. I trust you were also.

May God's peace, grace and favour be with you. In his love and blessing, De Colores,

- Peter Francis -

### Kitchen:

Thank you to all who helped serve the meals during Walks 107 and 108. I trust you were as blessed as the pilgrims.

- Tova Swadling - Kitchen Co-ordinator

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## Men's Walk #107 Report

Men's Walk #107: September 7th - 10th, 2006

Lay Director: Ross Swadling

Walk #107 was a small Walk. There were seven men attending an Emmaus Walk for the first time and twenty-one on team. We had two men from Fiji. One was an Assistant Spiritual Director and the other was a Pilgrim.

We all would have liked the numbers to be higher, so that more could have been blessed. However, the smaller numbers brought a particular depth and quality to the Walk overall. On the first night we decided that we were all Pilgrims on a journey. So in one sense, there were twenty-eight Pilgrims each blessing the others.

The Team was a wonderfully dedicated group of men. Each knew what was required and each played his part well. Thank you again, men.

Our thanks go to the Emmaus Community for its support in acts of love and prayer in the lead-up to and during the Walk. The "Team" was in truth a much wider group than just those who adopted a horizontal posture (briefly and occasionally!) at the Elanora Conference Centre.

Pilgrims, Team and Community all combined to make Walk #107 a blessed success. However, without the power and presence of the God we serve, it would all have been a futile exercise. We, therefore, give thanks because we know that our labour in the Lord is not in vain.

- Ross Swadling - Lay Director Walk #107

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## Women's Walk #108 Report

Women's Walk #108: September 21st - 24th, 2006

Lay Director: Ruby Arthur

Walk #108 was a lovely quiet gentle Walk in which we were really blessed. The training days leading up to the Walk and the Walk itself had been bathed in prayer and we were united as a Team. We were privileged to have Immanuel and Grace Reuben from Fiji on our team and also two pilgrims from Fiji.

The table groups came up with some amazing presentations on Friday and Saturday evening and the summaries of the talks showed the depth of their understanding. Candlelighting again was a 'blown away' experience for the pilgrims as was the special supper with real bananas!

God's amazing grace was evident before and throughout the Walk, and the Walk can be summed up in Psalm 126:3, 'The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.'

My thanks to the Community for their help and support before and during the Walk.

- Ruby Arthur - Lay Director Walk #108

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## Newsletters

If you know of someone who has been on an Emmaus Walk and could be included in our mailing list, please ask them to email Belinda Cant our Board Newsletter Representative, e-mail address: [newsletter@sydneyemmaus.org.au](mailto:newsletter@sydneyemmaus.org.au). And in that email they need to include their Name, Address, Phone Number, E-mail, and the Emmaus Walk No. Thanks.

This personal information is for the sole use of the Board to keep you informed of Emmaus activities and for no other reason so be assured that all information given shall remain confidential under the Privacy Amendment Act (Private Sector) Act 2000.

## **A special note from the Women's Walk #108**

As mentioned by Peter Francis the Women's walk was Fantastic. During the closing we had one Pilgrim read out a poem that she had written while on the walk. She has kindly let us share this poem with you all.

### **You are there**

**From the waterfall on the rock  
To the absence of a clock  
You were there**

**From the treetops along the ridge  
To the endless supplies from the fridge  
You were there**

**From each flower in its full bloom  
To the voices filled (or NOT) with tune  
You were there**

**From the lizard in the sun  
Top the thoughts of everyone  
You were there**

**From the spider on its web  
To our ever calling beds  
You were there**

**From the rippling of the stream  
To our endless hopes and dreams  
You were there**

**From the greenery so numerous  
To the skits and songs so humorous  
You were there**

**From the cockatoo so bold  
To the endless agape we now hold  
You were there**

**From the sun so warm and clear  
To the laughter and the tears  
You were there**

**From the "anticipate" no never!  
To the friends now and forever  
You were there**

**From the walk to Emmaus  
To the journey you will take us  
You ARE there**

**De Colores – Sydney Emmaus walk #108**

PS. My poems are not about what I can write, but are a gift from God, to bless the reader. - Anne van Rensburg -

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