

# Boys' and Girls' Brigade Garage Sale Saturday 20th June 2015

**ONLY 3 WEEKS TO GO**

Yes there is only 3 weeks to go before we hold our Annual Garage Sale on Saturday 20 June 2015. The funds raised will be to help pay for the costs of running both the Companies. We are seeking help from parents and friends, asking that they donate goods that they no longer use, so we can sell them and so raise some much needed funds.

We expect to be selling second hand furniture, electrical goods, books, clothes, computers, tools and bric a bac. Anything, as long as it is of some value. Please have a look around at home and see what you can find. As storage is a problem at the church we hope you can store it at home until just before the Garage sale. If not then please let me know and we will see what we can do. Thank you for your support.

Yours in Girls and Boys Brigades. Michelle and Graham Terry

9885 0912 - mob 0405 427 066 - 0426 527 772

## **BORONIA SENIORS**

**MONDAY 15th JUNE  
10.00am — 12 Noon**



AUSTRALIA

Guest Speaker:  
**LIZ TAYLOR**  
from the  
**Multiple Sclerosis Association**

*Our speaker will be enlightening us of the impact M.S. has on the patient and their families and carers.*



*"Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear." - 1 Peter 1:17*

### **Syria**

Occupation by Islamic State has only made a difficult situation worse for Christian's living in Syria. Last week the Syrian city of Palmyra fell to the military arm of Islamic State, forcing the retreat of Syrian troops. In the space of just five days Islamic State have enacted Sharia law, as with other areas under their control, carrying out 400 extra-judicial executions.

Since the beginning of the civil war, 63 churches have been destroyed - with at least 40 attributed to the al-Assad regime, leaving no safe place for Christians to turn. Kidnappings are also frequent and as of February this year, more than 200 Christians are still being held by militant groups.

Late last week, Open Doors was made aware of a kidnapping by unknown masked men in front of a church in Aleppo. A prominent pastor at a church in the Homs district was pushed into a car in front of onlookers. No one was able to identify the men who conducted the kidnapping as their faces were covered. No further information has come forward since the kidnapping, bringing further uncertainty and fear to the Christian community.

Aleppo has been in a state of disarray since the beginning of the conflict four years ago, with different groups controlling different sections of the city. Recently, opposition fighters came very close to one of the Christian areas in Aleppo. Many of the Christians still living there don't know what to do. It is a blessing, however, that some Christians have stayed and the message of the gospel still remains in Syria.

*Sources: Open Doors, World Watch Monitor, Reuters.*

### **Pray with us:**

- Pray for the pastor taken hostage, that God would keep him safe at this time, using him as a witness to his captors.
- Pray for the people of Syria, that God would provide a road to peace in this country.
- Pray for the church of Syria, that God would strengthen the Christians so the gospel would not leave the country.



*"And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." - Hebrews 10:25*

## Yemen

For years, many factional groups in Yemen have spread terror and fear. But recently the country of Yemen seems to have become a new Sunni-Shia battleground, with both Iran (Shia Islam) and Saudi Arabia (Wahhabi, a branch of Sunni Islam) openly fighting on Yemeni territory.

While this may be an oversimplification of the conflict, the multiple sides warring in Yemen are causing widespread devastation. This is not helped by the fact that Yemen is the poorest country on the Arab Peninsula with 45 percent of the population living below the international poverty line (USD \$1.25/day). The suffering caused by this most recent conflict has made an already difficult situation for Christians even worse.

With the exception of foreigners, Christians in Yemen are forbidden from attending church. It is also illegal to evangelise, as Sharia law forbids Christians from sharing their faith and Muslims from converting.

So far, it appears that despite the circumstances, believers have continued to meet, refusing to be paralysed with fear. It is so important so that they can encourage one another and strengthen the community of Christians as they face persecution.

### Pray for Christians in Yemen:

- Midnight Tuesday, local time, marked the start of a five-day ceasefire to allow aid agencies to provide assistance to those in need. Pray that all parties will abide by this, allowing the ceasefire to hold.
- Pray for an end to the continuous conflict - that God would intervene with a lasting resolution.
- Pray for believers to boldly share the good news despite opposition and the threat of punishment



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