



# The LIFE JOURNEY of a GAY CHRISTIAN

**by Rev. Dr. Shane Ken Andersen DD OMC**





Born in the city of Bath, Somerset England, on the 6th of January 1949 and lived in Saltford upon Avon (*the river*), between Bath & Bristol as a child. I was known then as Kenneth Anthony Goodenough. (*A very Anglo Saxon name*)





Raised by my parents, Lillian and Ken Goodenough (Snr), in a Christian family, though my father wasn't very religious, most of his relatives were involved in the Salvation Army, my mother was a 'Salvationist' and made sure we were brought up going to Sunday School etc. However, as a baby, my mother took me to the SA BATH Corps (*church*) and I believe that my deep down Christian faith from there on, stems from the moment that my mother arranged to have me 'dedicated' to God as an infant, by Colonel Hamilton under the Salvation Army Flag. Colonel Hamilton was the personal Secretary to the founder of the Salvation Army, William Booth. He performed this ceremony as a special favor to my mother, shortly before he passed away.

I attended the Bath Salvation Army Citadel for Sunday School and during the *adult* service after, I usually spent the time exploring around the city of Bath, visiting the Roman Baths, the Circle, and many other sights & sounds of that city, before meeting up with Mother's friend in the Salvo Choir, back at the church, who fed me with lunch, then put me on the bus back to Saltford each Sunday. Mum was unable to attend, herself. Needless to say, she had no idea I had just spent an hour or so each week, wandering around town instead of attending the main service. I was about 7 or 8 at the time, and my exploring/wandering nature would find me in very interesting situations later in life.



You may have noticed in the (*Left*), that my finger closest to my thumb was kept apart from the others to keep it clean, so I could put it back in my mouth. I loves sucking that finger, and to this day, at the age of 65+, my two front teeth were pushed forward because of that habbit.

The photo on the right, was a very enthusiastic young Salvo.

## AUSTRALIA BOUND as a TEN POUND POM:

I came to Australia on the ship, MV "Fair Sea" Sitmar Line, at the age of 9, in May 1959 with my family on the Australian Governments Assisted Passage plan. A "*TEN POUND POM*" (Pom or Pomie, originally stood for Prisoner Of Mother England, named so from the original convicts who came out from England to Australia, to serve their time in this land 'Down Under'). I remember, as we crossed the Equator,



I was swimming in the Ships' Pool, and I got out, dried myself off, only to find that I was suddenly wet again. So, I dried myself off again, and I was wet again. I went running over to my mother, telling her what was happening, and she laughed and say, "Son, that's called sweat/perspiration, which we don't get in England usually." We finally arrived in Australia, after a 5 1/2 week journey via the Suez Cannel. My father had a job waiting for him, on a Pineapple plantation in Samsonvale, west of Brisbane. My family members, Paul, Trudy, Carol & I, attended the local Public School until we moved, because our home was going to end up under heaps of water, for the Samsonvale Damn to be built nearby, a few months later, the Salvation Army found us a home in Nundah on the northern suburbs of Brisbane. Our Oldest (Step Brother) ROY, followed us later, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest (step brother) Colin, preceded us and was

put in an Australian Salvation Army Boys home until we arrived a year or so earlier. I'm really not clear as to why, there seems to be two different stories between him and Mum.

### THE MOVE TO NUNDAH:



The Salvation Army was a big help in finding our family a home and school in Nundah, on the top of a hill, on Buckland Rd, and a short walk to school. We went to church at the Salvation Army there across from the school, and diagonally opposite the church was an old DANCE HALL, but being a Salvo, we weren't allowed to dance,

but much later I returned to that hall as an adult, the story about that possibly later. I attended the Nundah State School, and found it very difficult to concentrate in class, often looking out the

windows from boredom, ...





and although my teacher told me after class to try harder, that I was intelligent enough, I seemed to learn more after I left school.

I was however, involved in our Nunday State school's Fife & Drums Marching Band, I was on the BIG BASE DRUM (seen here in my drum harness, and that may have been where I got the idea for one of them in my later life!) and we looked very smart in our whites, with brown & Gold trim hat's and lepers etc.



We won a number of awards, and participated in special events like the TOOWOOMBA CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS, ANZAC Parades, School fund raising activities. Yes well, I didn't know I was gay at either of these activities. I wish they had Fashion Police those days, they may have clued me in on something. Would you believe I was a CAMP COUNSELLOR, and didn't know I was CAMP? And this was a Salvo Spiritual Retreat. Oh you silly boy!

What WAS I wearing, at this beach side centre, leaning on the walls of the camp toilets.



## MY LOVE FOR PHOTOGRAPHY:

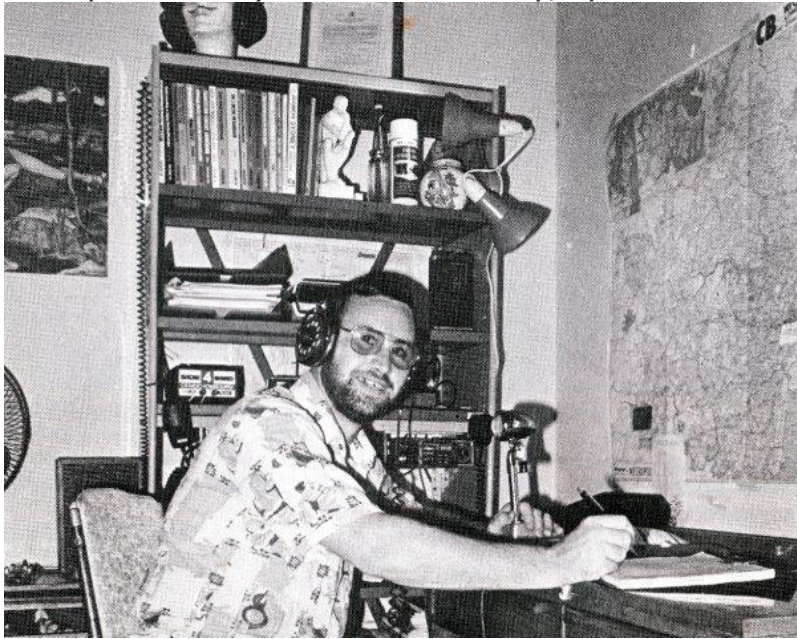


One of my main hobbies I had, was photography, and I first owned a Kodak 'Box Brownie medium format camera, (above) At the age of 11, I built a photographic DARK ROOM under the house, raised by wooden stumps, using old pine boxes to build the walls between four tall solid posts which were holding the house up for cooling. I was given a dilapidated old photo enlarger, which I pulled apart, cleaned, fixed, studied up on, and successfully used to process my prints for myself and the surrounding neighborhood. After buying chemicals (Developers & fixers with my spending money) and rocking trays plus a red bulb so I could see in the dark. I would take my camera everywhere on weekends and days off from, or after school. This was good training for my adult life.

**MY LOVE OF TECHNOLOGY:** In 1978, (a date which would end up very well known by the New South Wales/Sydney Gay Lib movement, ... more about that in the book) apart from that & everything else, I really got into CB (Citizens Band) RADIO, ran a CB Radio Club, called LAMBDA RADIO, and club members would take turns running a CB HELP PATROL. We patrolled Darlinghurst, spotting any trouble makers/Bashers around St.Vincents Hospital/Green Park district, and called in trouble to our CB Station up high, overlooking the harbour, and contacted the Police.

I researched, then joined CREST CB Emergency Radio Station in North Sydney, so I could help and also interview the other staff, for a book I had planned, co-authored by me called "Technical Guide to Australian CB Radio" by Thomas B. Floyd (My boss, at

Murray Publishers) while unfortunately, by the time the book was published, and at



least one full palette of books were waiting to leave our warehouse, CB Radio suddenly died, with online 'ratbags' interrupting on-air conversations and the emergency channel etc. plus newer technologies about to be introduced. I'm sure there are some out there in never neverland, who owns one of these books, apart from myself. But it was fun to put it together, and it cost me nothing. The boss may have lost plenty of money on this hard back book, which I still

hold pride & place on my book shelf. Though Thomas got the main credit for the book, and the photo above is from that book, along with a few others. He did acknowledge me inside the front cover, by saying: "To my editorial colleague Shane Andersen (one of the most enthusiastic CB'ers I know, and the best 'radio room' morning session chairman I've heard on air". I was a member of a number of other CD Radio clubs, went on convoys and Bar-B-Q & party fun runs.

### **BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE: Then there were computers...**

Dick Smith Electronics brought out the 1<sup>st</sup> range of Computer Kits came out, I bought one, had it assembled, stuck on a cassette deck and waited with all the associated noises, and the binary code loaded in. Or you could get a computer magazine from the local newsagent, with rows of typed binary programs printed, and you had to type that code in before you could use the program. Then came along the prebuilt computers like the Texas Instrument TI99 and later the 994A, and I used to run the Sydney based TI User Group...as mentioned next page.





Other computers came out, such as the Sinclair from England (Ultra slim) Atari & Commodore 64, but that's a whole other story, and a part of what now is more history down the plug hole, with the introduction of the Apple & IBM range of systems...

When Texas Instruments introduced its first personal home computer, the TI 99-4! And later, the 4A, as seen here in two configurations. I was working at St. Vincents Private Hospital as a Theatre Wardsman, and Oh! The stories I could tell about that job...but that's for another chapter.

I purchased, firstly the original Model TI99/4, along with a cassette tape deck to program it with, in binary, before getting a 12" data disk player. All TI units were the American NTSC colour units, and had to be fed to a TV SET (PAL colour) to via an RF Modulator/converter.



After contacting TI Australia in Sydney, I found that there was no computer / hobbyist user group in Australia, and because of my enthusiasm for the product, they suggested I start one. I did, and the first club meeting, was held in the hall of the Anglican (C of E) in Darlinghurst, between Kings Cross and St. Vincents Hospital. I was very interested in MIDI (Musical Interface Digital Instrument) and though I couldn't play a piano or keyboard, I was able, with the latest TI 3rd party software, about to program the computer, one note at a time, the most fantastic music pieces, from pop to classical, and everything in between, and have the computer play it back through an amp & speakers of my choosing. Shortly after this, I started a separate MIDI MUSIC group within the TI user club. The TI user group grew to a national club throughout Australia, and we set up an information and demo table at electronic shows in Darling Harbour, and at other locations to promote the club, with one computer playing this fantastic Midi music, and another demonstrating the latest programs and game graphics.

Joy of all joys, so was the Commodore 64 Home computer User Group, at their own stand. One smart kid came up to me from the group, claiming that the Commodore 64 was much better than the TI home computer. I asked him to show me the insides of their computer. What he took off the cover, I had the last laugh, as virtually all the chips inside that Commodore were all made by TI. In fact, I pointed out that Texas Instruments invented the silicon chip, then I returned to our TI User group stand with a smile from ear to ear.

I needed a printer, Texas Instruments at that time, only had a thermal printer, with 3" Thermal paper, very limited in what it could do.



A friend gave me an old telex machine, to see if it would work. A programmer member of our TI club, and I, programmed an interface software routine, to activate and use a TELEX Printer machine on my home computer, the TI-994a. It couldn't do graphics & photos, and it did OK for a while before I later bought a dot matrix printer, then as technology improved, I bought a Ink-Jet creation, now 3D printers are available for well under \$600, what a blast.

I loved to program in, and change much of the responses of a popular artificial intelligent program called Doctor Elizer. A female Doctor who, when you typed in a comment, she would reply to you.

But I degress! Sorry about that, I got carried away.

I still use a computer, but now for Church work, Publishing, Social Media, SKYPING, Chatting with friends around the world, Counselling, updating my web sites etc and so much more power and compactness... now back to the nitty gritty.

### **MY EVANGELICAL YOUTH:**

As a teenager, still very much involved in the Salvation Army, right through to my application to become a Salvation Army Officer/Minister, I used to go out with a small group of friends, preaching the word of God on street corner ...



During my late teens, I was both a counsellor and in the choir of the "Billy Graham Sunshine State 1968 Crusade" and "Youth for Christ" organisations. However, a few years after the Billy Graham Crusade and attending a Youth For Christ midweek group, a friend was about to drive me home. With a heavy heart, I confessed to him that I am



CAMP. He reached over my lap, to press the door lock button. I asked him "what are you doing", to which he replied... "I know a prostitute, and as a gift, I pay". An interesting thought, I said, but that won't work, it's not something you can cure or fix, though some have tried with Aversion/Shock Therapy, frying the brain. Forcing your eyes open and showing you sexy women, and get zapped when showing you sexy guys, like the movie "A clockwork Orange".



Prior to the crusade coming to Brisbane, I, along with hundreds of others around the State, visited churches, and help organize training volunteers, Ushers, Counsellors, Choir members etc for the big crusade, I had also done those courses. I remember, as a Youth Counsellor, on my first night at the Crusade, my legs were rapidly rattling with nervousness, while I stood next to this person, who came out to the front, to dedicate his life to Christ.

At this time in my life, I had no idea that I would discover something was different about myself, and it wasn't until, a little bit later on, while, as a Cub Scout leader, I realised what it was.

In my mid to late teens, I felt the "calling" from God to become a Salvation Army Officer. I left Nundah Salvation Army Corps because I felt I wasn't doing any good in such a large church, and transferred to a very tiny "Outpost" in Fortitude Valley,

Brisbane, where I really felt needed, and where I could do the most good as a Salvation Army Cadet preparing and training for Officership.

## COMING OUT TO MY PARENTS:

**Telling my father...** I mentioned to my Dad that "I am CAMP/Gay" His response was... "No you're not son, just go out and play a lot of sports, you'll be fine." I found out later, much to my mothers disgust, that he infact had a manfriend on the side.



I wrote to my mother, the response was something, for some unknown reason so wonderful, and her reply back to me was proudly printed in a National CAMP/GAY publication as follows: Dear Son, When I read your letter about you being a homosexual, I cried. I care about you so much. I had briefly scanned over newspaper articles, but because I didn't think it was relevant to our family, I didn't pay any attention to those articles &

comments. I was concerned for you, thinking if it was my fault, but I came to the realisation that no matter what, I love you as you are, and you will always be my son, and I will always love you.

## CHRISTIANITY & HOMOSEXUALITY CONFLICTS:

At the age of 20, (as mentioned regarding my Youth For Christ story elsewhere in this book) I had some conflict with my Salvation Army Commanding Officer at Head Quarters in Brisbane when I sought counselling with him about me coming to terms as a homosexual/Gay individual and my Christianity. He told me that homosexuality was a sin, and that if I remained an active homosexual, I would not be able to go to Theological Training College and become a Salvation Army Officer.

Confused and upset with him, the Salvation Army and God, I left them behind, believing that God didn't love me. Obviously I had to sort things out, but looking back, God knew this also, and put certain things into play...

A few months after, in December 1971, I left the church, I was wandering down George Street and into Roma Street in the city of Brisbane, when I discovered at number 379, plaque on the wall of a building next to a small door, which simply said "C.A.M.P. Inc" (Campaign Against Moral Persecution).





### **GOD HAD A PLAN FOR ME (PHASE ONE): Jeremiah 29 v 11 & 12**

My curiosity led me to enter and go up a small steep set of stairs, and at the top, was a door and a security window & buzzer. I pressed the buzzer, the window opened, and I asked the person what C.A.M.P. was all about. He told me it was both a Counselling and Social Centre, for homosexual Men & Women, Bi and also transgendered community. It was at that point in time that I had discovered a centre, which was there to help me sort myself out. As I grew to know and accept myself as a Gay person, I worked there as a volunteer, and later on, became a counsellor, helping others who found themselves in the same situation as myself.

Giving no further thought at the time to my relationship with God and my Christianity, I learned to have a healthy respect and understanding of me being GAY, and that there were so many others "out there" who were just like me, who also needed assistance.

### **OK, IT'S NOW TIME FOR PHASE TWO:**

After a while, it was almost as if God had said ... "O.K. let's throw another spanner in the works, and get you back on track - now that you're getting that part of you sorted out".

One Sunday evening, after working at C.A.M.P.Ink, I felt the need to go for an early evening walk, feeling a bit alone, and just wanted to think about things. I wandered further than I anticipated, (as if being led) from the city heart through to Fortitude Valley where I came upon an old picture theatre, which was being used as a Pentecostal Church.

I stopped, I heard music and singing and I felt the urge to go in and sit down for a while in the back row.

Well, after the church service was over, I wandered down the centre aisle... (I have no idea why) But three quarters of the way down, an elderly lady came up to me, whom I had never seen before, and she said "You're Kenneth Goodenough, aren't you?" I blushed and said that I was. She then said "***God spoke to me in my prayers last night, and told me we would meet, and to give you this message***"...

I froze, thinking what the heck is going on here? She then went on...

***"God told me to tell you to come back to me, as 'I have work for you to do!'"***

I rushed home, and in tears knelt down at the side of my bed, and prayed to God, asking for his guidance through all this.

Shortly after this experience, I had heard about Peter Bonsall-Boone who was running a Christian Gay group called "Cross+Section" at C.A.M.P. Inc, in Sydney. I phoned him up, and talked to him about my life and what had happened, then flew down to Sydney to meet with him, about the possibility of starting up a branch of "Cross+Section", in Brisbane at C.A.M.P.Inc. He was a great help, and a wonderful person. He encouraged me no end. I started up a group.

Shane went on to say "I was a Scout leader in Brisbane, back at the start of the '70's and was very popular with both Scouts, Cubs and their parents." After a while, Shane came to realize that being Gay may be misunderstood etc, and thought it best not to continue as a scout leader, because if it got out, the parents might want his resignation. So he resigned his position with them. After a few weeks all the parents had signed a petition asking him to return, as they believed him to be one of the most popular leaders they had. He told them 'NO!' with no reason for his decision.

### **CONFLICT WITH THE PRINT MEDIA:**

A year or so after this, Shane sought to run adverts in the Courier Mail Queensland newspaper to which the advertising department refused to run adds for Cross+Section (Christian Homosexual group), so Shane went direct to the Advertising Manager at the Courier Mail to find out why.

As soon as Shane walked into the Advertising Managers office, they both recognized each other. The manager was one of those parents who had originally signed that petition demanding Shane return as Scout Leader. He then understood why, and agreed to run the adverts for Cross+Section, plus C.A.M.P. Ink. Gay Counselling Centre headquarters, Christ Community Church, (which was later to be established by Shane), Troy Perry's Visit adverts, and many more to be promoted through the Courier Mail.

### **A NUMBER OF 1st's FOR QUEENSLAND:**



## **TO ALL MINISTERS OF RELIGION in Queensland" (Early 1974)+**

An open letter written by Shane (Ken) read as follows, (and printed in Volume 2 Number 12 of CAMP INK National Magazine): where he wrote, saying...

I am alarmed at the amount of young and older people alike, who are being turned away from their churches because they are homosexual. Many of these are having trouble trying to understand themselves and need guidance and understanding. But all they get in return is a "Sorry, you're against God's laws and we don't want your kind in this church."

Shane continued to write: I get people coming to me almost in a state of a nervous breakdown seeking help. I often wonder what would happen if a son or daughter of one of these ministers, such as yourself, told his /her parents, he/she was camp? Some parents have been known to disown their own child, even beating them, while others (not too many) in fact try to understand.

I can praise the Lord (being a christian and homosexual) that God is understanding and loving toward all God's creation, no matter what their sexuality or so called laws against society. YOU hold a very big responsibility in your hands for the lives of each and every individual within your denomination, please, for the love of God try to look into these things I have written about, and seek the Lord's guidance in an attitude of prayer

KEN GOODENOUGH Cross+Section Q'ld

## **Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 1974 – The start of things to come?**

As the leader of CROSS+SECTION, Shane (Ken) had arranged the first HOLY UNION or COVENANT OF LOVE SERVICE, the State of Queensland's first version of a GAY WEDDING. He had, as a guest pastor, Reverend Mario Schoenmaker from Christ's Community Church in Perth, came to Brisbane to perform this service, which other churches were up in arms about...

Newspaper headings like such as this one in the Brisbane TELEGRAPH:

**ALL-MALE MARRIAGE – 'NOT ASKED'...** Queensland's Congregational Union of Churches has not been told officially of the State's first homosexual marriage to be conducted by a Perth Congregational minister in Brisbane next week. The marriage

between Peter, 32, a builders laborer, and Ron, 21, a saddlemaker, will be performed at the Campaign Against Moral Persecution Club in George Street, City, by the Reverend Mario Schoenmaker, from Perth. A spokesman from the union said, Mr Schoenmaker would conduct the ceremony under his own authority.

The union had not been approached to provide a minister for the ceremony. It had no official policy on the subject of homosexuality, leaving such decisions to individual ministers. "The general trend seems to be for a more sympathetic approach to such people," the spokesman said.

Shortly after, Ken (Shane) had requests from other couples to Marry them, and after some counselling as to why they wish to have the Lord's blessings on their relationships, etc, Ken went ahead and performed a few more, which he still does today

As coordinator of Cross+Section and first Gay Christian group in Queensland based at C.A.M.P. Inc in Brisbane, "I had special guests of understanding and/or known Gay Ministers, such as Reverend Mario Schoenmaker, come and speak at Cross+Section, and had organized TV and Radio interviews, and Auntie ABC was very supportive on a number of occasions". Shane went on to say "... which led to the Executive Committee of C.A.M.P. asking me to do a special job for them"...

### **PENDING SPECIAL VISITOR:**

They mentioned that there was a Gay Minister in the U.S. named Rev. Troy D. Perry who had set up a church called Metropolitan Community Church (M.C.C.) in L.A. with a special ministry to the Gay Community. He had apparently been in touch with the committee of C.A.M.P Ink (Qld) via post, (we didn't have emails back then) mentioning that he wanted to come to Australia for a speaking engagement. I was asked to look after this special project. I received all the information I could on him and his ministry, then sent out press releases to all the news media, arranging TV and Radio interviews for when Troy arrived. I advertised for folk to "Hear Rev. Troy Perry speak about the Church and the Homosexual" on Wednesday 10th of July '74, 8pm at 379 George Street (C.A.M.P.Ink Headquarters) mentioning that Rev. Perry was the author of the book "The Lord is my Shepherd and He knows I'm Gay".

Troy arrived in Brisbane, along with Rev. Lee Carlton, and his partner, Randy, and everything seemed to go pretty much as planned, with the exception of a few hiccups' along the way with some of the media who thought that it was all just a big joke. During his stay with us, we went for a trip on a Brisbane river cruise, singing some great gospel songs, talking about M.C.C. in LA, and I was asked by Troy to start up MCC in this city, I said I would think about that. Toward the end of Troy's visit with us, he made some phone calls to Sydney, trying to set up interview sessions with the media down there, but seemed to be having problems.

The Gay Catholic group "Acceptance" heard about Troy and what he was trying to do, contacted him, and the next leg of Troy's tour was underway. The Lord God must truly have wanted this ministry in Australia, as everything fell into place in time, with the opening of MCC in Adelaide, and Shane had started up and Pastored Christ Community Church in Brisbane, and which later became MCC Brisbane, in January 1975, but in the meantime, between Brisbane's church name change, MCC Sydney was founded, under the leadership of Rev. Lee Carlton, thanks to a group of founding members there, who helped to set up MCC Sydney before Lee arrived.

### **LGBTI/HUMAN RIGHTS PROTESTS: .....**



Whether it be back in 1974 as Christ's Community Church was demonstrating with C.A.M.P. & CAMPUS CAMP, the University Students for GAY/HUMAN RIGHTS in Brisbane, or in BAGUIO, Philippines with the team of MCC Baguio, MCC QC and MCC PH with the very same issues in 2010, and currently, Shane had been there representing the rights of the Christian Homosexual.

### **HYPOCRITES & CHARLATONS:**

Shane mentioned, "I hear folk who claim to be loving and understanding Christians saying with selfish ignorance that an active homosexual is an abomination to God and themselves, taking a few verses out of the Bible which suits and strengthens their arguments against me, as a Christian homosexual and all I can say to them is... "You hypocrites and charlatans". With only 7 texts supposed to speak ill of homosexuals and in most cases mistranslated, and 370+ cases against Heterosexual misgivings, plus many other condemnations against what they believed to be \*the right to own slaves,



\*women talking when they were told to be silent, and \*cover their heads, \*eating so called unclean food like Pork, \*The right to own slaves, \*mixing of different types of cloth together, and the list goes on, but throughout time, they have decided to overlook all that, they overlook the fact that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior said nothing, nor condemned homosexuals what so ever, and have been told in God's word not to condemn... but the fear of the unknown, causes their ignorance to do and say stupid things, against fellow human beings.

Here is an example of the many letters Shane received after running adverts in the newspapers about our special and unique ministry to the GLBTI Community, Shane was told that he would be going to hell, (the letter was unsigned), and inside the letter was a feather with some excrement/faeces on it. Not a nice thing for a Christian to put in the mail.

### **MANY MIRACES OF GOD'S LOVE FOR US:**

Apart from that wonderful message through that elderly lady to me, Shane said, many miracles have been experiences, telling me, and many other LGBTI people know that we are loved by our creator God, UNCONDITIONALLY, despite what others think or do against us in God's name.

**Another Miracle:** At one particular MCC Spiritual Retreat, out on a country farm, we (Rev. Lee Carlton and our congregation) participated in a Holy Communion outside the house with the birds chirping and cows mooing, but in the middle of that service everything went quiet, and the birds and animals went silent for a short while. Then a member of the group, gathered there started to speak in tongues... (*O.K. the sceptics will say that even the Devil can speak in tongues*)... but the message interpreted by our Pastor, was that of assurance and of the love of God for us all meeting at that place. After the interpretation of God's message to us, the birds recommenced to sing, and the cows continued to moo. You can well imagine how we all felt after that experience.

When I attend an affirming church service, such as MCC, and now many Uniting Churches in Australia, the fellowship, warmth and love felt at that place, is so sadly missing from other established churches such as Anglican & Catholic, and even Salvation Army just to name a few, where I have been asked to leave when I introduced myself and they have either heard of my work, or my sexual orientation. Yes I have a firm belief in a living God, and a loving God.

**Another Miracle:** I visited a church in the Philippines, and was asked to preach there and assist with the Holy Communion. The congregation had each been given some bread, and was then given a small glass of wine, but when it came for me to receive my wine portion, they ran out. So, by my side, out of view of the congregation, I had a

small bottle of mineral water, which I then consecrated with the sign of the cross and a short prayer, then I drank as a replacement to the wine. It tasted so sweet, unlike what I drank out of that bottle earlier. I mentioned it to the pastor, and he smiled and asked me to tell the congregation what had happened. You should have seen the smiles on their faces as I mentioned, that the Holy Spirit was in this house with them.

In fact God has revealed him/herself to me on a number of occasions through both answered prayer & miracles that I have experiences in my personal life & ministry. And yes I know that God loves me for what I am. And yes, I truly believe with all my heart that God does not see me as a '**practising**' homosexual but a person whom the Lord had created and '**accepts me as I am**' with my variation of human sexuality.

My Heavenly Parent God, would not have been instrumental in using me, and so many others like me, all around the world, with similar experiences such as what Troy Perry, and many others, like him, that had experienced, to help important ministries such as Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC), & Outreach Ministries Australia (OMA), Sweden (OMS), to become a reality underway, and to tell of God's love and understanding, to share the good news, and rejoice for who are, children of God.

I firmly believe that if this was not a special plan by God to spread the good news to the Gay, lesbian, transgendered, Bi, Intersexed & seeking individuals in this community of ours, of God's love for us unconditionally for what we are, then this ministry would not have continued past the first few years, let alone the 40 plus years that it has been here in Australia. I have experienced many miracles in my life, a few I have shared with you in this book and will continue while God gives me breath, and the ability to do so.

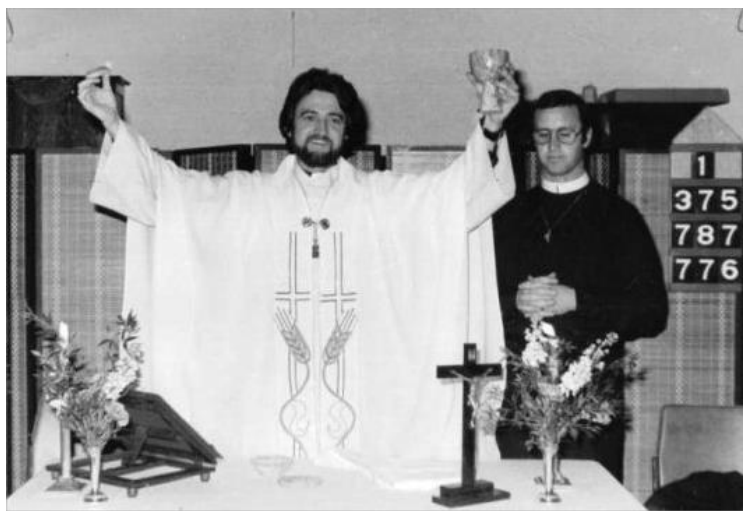
### **SPOOKY EXPERIENCES:**

(1): Many years ago, in my early 20's, I went to the movies to watch "The Exhorsist". After, and for about a week or so, I couldn't sleep, tossing & turning, disturbed from what I had seen in that movie. So, I went to visit a Catholic Priest, and to have prayers with him, seeking something that resembles a form of exhorsism. I was told, in the news media, that some had the view that homosexuals were possessed of the Devil, which I personally thought was ludicrous, however, after the Catholic Priest prayed over me, and before I returned home. I asked him "If I was possessed in any way, would it reveal it's self?" to which he replied, "Yes it would have!" I thanked him, and left with a smile on my face. Oh, by the way, I slept beautifully from then on, no restless nights.

(2): After starting up the Christian Gay Group at Brisbane's C.A.M.P. (Campaign Against Moral Persecution) Inc Club, called "CROSS+SECTION", and "GAYLINE" telephone counselling service in Newfarm, just up the road from Fortitude Vally, I was invited to a friends party. Apon arrival, I entered their flat from their kitchen entrance, and it felt very cold in there.

I said to them, "Has anyone been dabbling in the occult in this room?" and the friend who invited me, said "Yes!". "We were playing around with our "OUIJA (pronounced 'WeeGee') BOARD". "Some of us had collected a small bottle of Holy Water from the local Catholic Church, just incase anything went wrong". And I asked, "well, did it?" One replied "Yes, while we were playing, a gush of wind opened the kitchen window, and furniture started moving, so we panicked, and went into the lounge room, after sprinkling some of that holy water around the room". I sensed something had happened in here, and asked them all to return to the Lounge room. Then, I prayed a special prayer, and the room came back to a normal temperature, which they noticed upon reentering the room.

(3): When I came to live in Sydney, back on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 1975...,



I lived in the home of Rev. Lee Carlton, the Sen. Pastor on Metropolitan Community Church Sydney, in Bondi for a short while, and as an assistant Pastor for Rev. Lee, and too continue my theological studies with him, and until I was able to find another place to stay, that was provided for me by a member of MCC. It was a terrace house in Darlinghurst, down near St. Vincents Private Hospital

(which I was later employed by, in Operating Rooms as a Theatre Wardsman). One of the previous tenants of that terrace house, was really 'miffed' at the fact that he had to move out, to give up his room for me. This person, I found out later, was a Warlock, into the black occult.

One Saturday afternoon, all alone in the house, I started to see blow flies, coming out from behind framed pictures in the walls, then even more, from the ceiling light attachment, and other areas of that room. I quickly got a can of fly spray, and a swatter, killing hundreds of the flies. I said a prayer, and they seemed to go as far as they arrived. A week later, this previous tenant called around, to introduce himself to me. He asked me if anything strange had been happening in the place. I told him about the flies, and he said "Yes I know".

(4): Another strange thing happened in that Darlinghurst house, one day, the person who had arranged for me to live there, was sitting on the sofa, with his cat on his lap. I was sitting on the sofa facing him, when his cat looked at me strangely. And yet he wasn't really looking at me, but in my direction. Then the cat slowly turned his head and looked at the stairs going up the next level, where the kitchen was located. We both noticed that the cat started to peer at the steps as if watching something going



upstairs. Then we heard the sound of dishes ratteling in the sink, and the cat watched this spirit come down the stairs, and stood infront of me. Though I couldn't see it, the other person had started to freek out, knowing what was there, and told me there is a ghost in the room, checking you out. I mentioned that I sensed something, but no harm would come to me, then the ghost left. My 'Flatmate' was shaking and very nervous, so I got out my portable/Hospital Visitation Communion set, gave him communion, and he settled down, and went to have an early night.

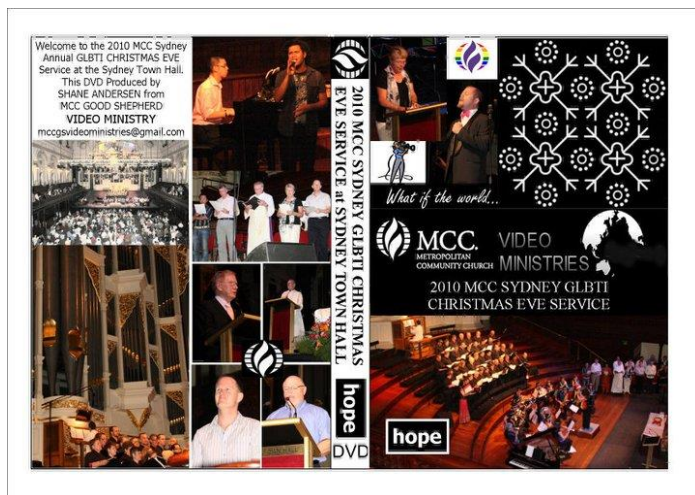
## **SOME BACK HISTORY:**

**"AN ORIGINAL 78er"** History remembers this as "Our STONEWALL" as mentioned thus at the [www.ALGA.Org.Au](http://www.ALGA.Org.Au) (Australian Lesbian & Gay Archives web site)...

In 1978, as the anti-gay backlash in the US gained strength, activists in San Francisco called for an international day of protest. Sydney's Gay Solidarity Group was quick to respond. Unwittingly they were taking the Australian gay movement to a new place.

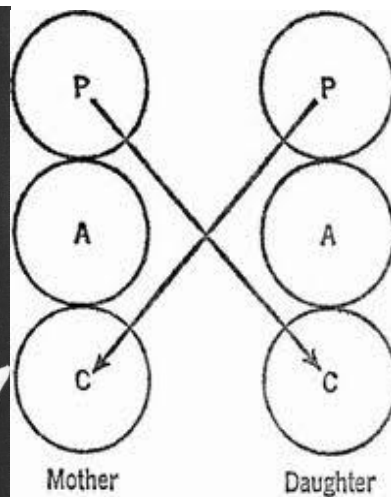
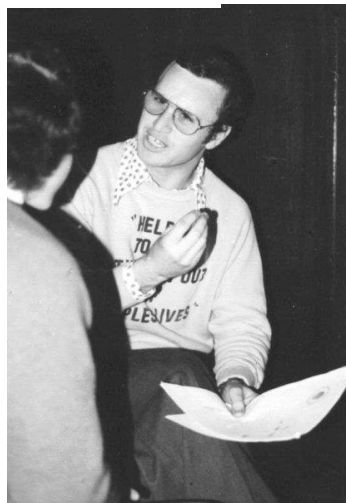
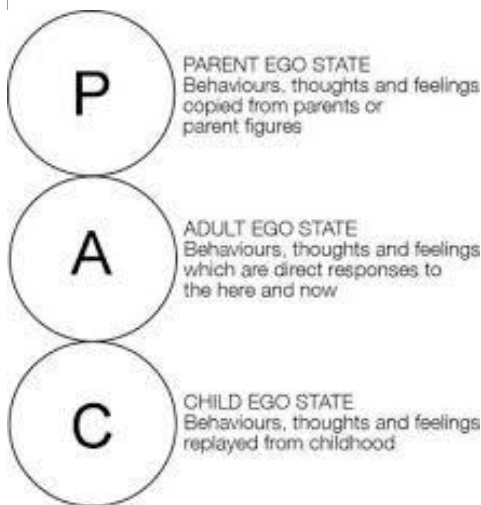
The protest included a march through the city in the morning, followed by a public meeting. But on the night of July 24, something different happened. A festive march – dubbed a Mardi Gras – with music, costumes, dancing in the streets, began in Kings Cross (the traditional heart of gay Sydney) and made its way to Oxford Street (the coming place to be). Shane joined the parade, and had no idea of what was to take place from that point on. All went well. Two thousand people turned The largest such gay and lesbian march in Australian history. Even the police were there. The organisers had obtained a march permit, intending that a police presence would protect them from any yobbos in the streets.... This was not to be so... Big mistake. For reasons that still unclear, the cops withdrew the permit mid-march, ordering the crowd to disperse. Furious, people refused, and bolted back to Kings Cross only to find themselves trapped.

The police attacked. Kicking and punching marchers and dragging them to paddy wagons. All hell broke loose. Shane and others fought back – the marchers joined by locals. In the end 53 people were arrested. Fortunately, Shane wasn't one of those arrested, but joined a sit-down strike outside the old Darlinghurch/Kings Cross Police Station. Occationally joining others who were beating on the doors of the Police station, demanding them to let the others be released... this was only the beginning. The protests – and the arrests – went on. But the refusal to be cowed meant that a year later an anniversary Mardi Gras was held. A tradition was born. Now, the Police are our 'friends, and join in on the Mardi Gras parades each year with a contingent of 'Lesbian & Gay' Police.



## SETTING UP A CRISIS INTERVENTION CENTRE

Shane was co-founder, with Rev. Chris Syamputra (now in Sweden), and Bruce Piper, MCC Sydney's Crisis Intervention Centre & Phone Counselling Service which incorporated "GAY LINE", where Shane was chosen to be their Director of Training, teaching a form of Psychology etc.



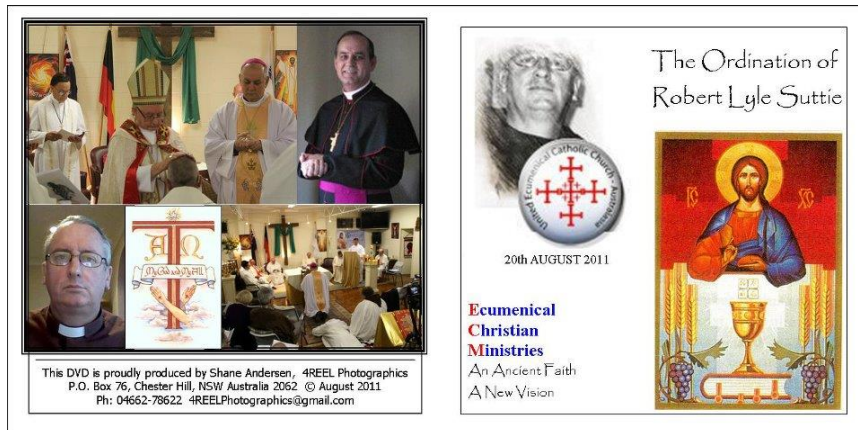
to the trainee phone counsellors called "TA" (Transactional Analysis) and the Science of Behavior.

Shane also joined the team of counsellors at the Ted Noff's Kings Cross Wayside Chapel Crisis centre under the leadership of the now Rev. Bill Crews, doing drug & alcohol counselling, dog shifts (Midnight to Dawn Street Mission work), feeding the down & outs in the late hours of the night.

Shane, an avid photographer, was also Ordained at Christ Community Church Sydney, April 21<sup>st</sup> 1981... and later, after much studies, achieved his Doctor of Divinity 11th of July 2010, with Studies on Multi-Faith which included Muslim & Christianity Faiths), though felt his main calling by 1999, was to the Video & Photographic Ministry within the church. Shane established the MCC Sydney Video & Photographic Ministry,

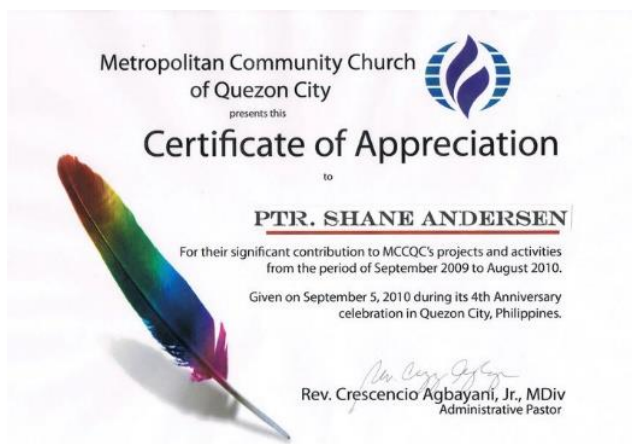
A couple of Shane's DVD sleeve designs, photography, video editing and individual copies produced from on his home computer for the Video Ministry Outreach program

at MCC Sydney and Ordination at ECM. The contact info on both have since changed. With the above MCC Sydney Christmas Eve service Shane filmed it at the Sydney Town Hall, where he physically carried his video gear to each camera angle within that massive venue and had just got out of hospital, though unexpected by himself and MCC but it had to be done.



I recording many services & taking media & general church photos until December 2009 where he transferred his membership to MCC Good Shepherd in Granville, and Outreach Ministries Australia and other countries.

As also mentioned, Shane, continues his freelance photography, after 11 years in a national Australia Camera House in Sydney of which he has since retired. Running their monthly video training courses during that time with them, photographic workshops, and guest speaker & photographic Judge at various Camera Clubs around Sydney. He has also trained photographers in Bali (one of whom has since gone to Germany to run his own photographic exhibition two years in a row).





He visited the Philippines 7 times, from 2004 to 2011, returning to the Philippines in October 2009, to run an MCCQC Photographic Workshop on the 17<sup>th</sup>



to help raise funds for that church, assisted in Flood relief work after a major Typhoon devastated the Philippines, and also taught many there how to use photography as a job skill. Also pictured here, assisting to consecrate new members to MCCQC.

He was a guest speaker, or took part in the services of Metropolitan Community Churches throughout the Philippines in MCC Quezon City MCC MB (Baguio) and MCC PH (Makati City). MCC Baguio plus a number of their out-posts. In Baguio he filmed a documentary in and around the *alleged* **'HAUNTED' Diplomat Hotel**, and participated in the Baguio Gay Pride, where he spoke at 3 large functions including a street rally, on both LGBTI/Human Rights in their communities.

In October 2011 Shane returned to help celebrate MCCQC's 5th Anniversary and to present them with two special gifts...

1: A gift from Metropolitan Community Church Good Shepherd in Granville, Sydney in the form of a stained glass window panel with the UFMCC (Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches) insignia on it which was presented to Rev. CeeJay, Pastor of MCC Quezon City, had placed in the front of their new altar, and



2: On behalf of Outreach Ministries Australia (OMA Sydney), Pastor Shane presented a special Merit Award to a member of their church for outstanding work in both the church and their community, in the form of a soft leather, gold leaf bound Zondervan Archaeological Study Bible. Shane is the Senior Pastor of Outreach Ministries Australia, with branches in Sydney (NSW), Sunshine Coast (Q'ld), Melbourne (Vict) and Sweden and our Asian Affiliates in the

Philippines and in India, Pakistan & Africa.



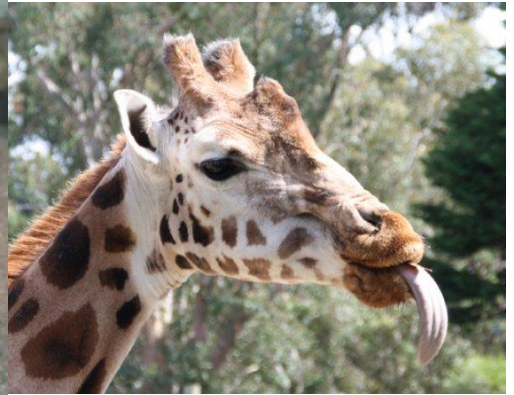
Shane also preached via SKYPE to an affiliate church in Pakistan as part of their Sunday service, with an interpreter at their end, plus the 'Open Door Church' (Penrith, Outer Sydney), Eastwood Uniting Church 'ONE HEART' multicultural youth evening service and conducts, Candle Light Vigil for those risking their lives, coming to Australia by unsafe boats, and ending up in Detention, and Rev. Dr. Shane Andersen visits folk in detention centres, and other human rights advocacy work, Hospital Visitations, Counselling plus Funerals, Weddings (*Same Sex Holy Unions*), Home Blessings, Baptisms & Christenings, Ordinations of Pastors in Australia, including Multi-Faith, Multi-Cultural and Multi – Denominational etc. Infact, he studied, and had graduated as a Doctor of Divinity (Multi Faith Studies) on

the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010...as mentioned previously here.

Along with his OMA responsibilities, Shane also made the Eastwood Uniting Church his spiritual home for a few years, running a Photographic Seminar which resulted in almost 2 years running a camera club and TV station training, such as Interview techniques, camera, Audeo, lighting, teleprompter training with the help of his 'EUCwebTV' YouTube channel, to broadcast the trainees work, and assisting with the 1Heart Youth & Multi-Cultural Sunday evening service, in the Multi-Media area. Here are some samples of Shane's photographic work:

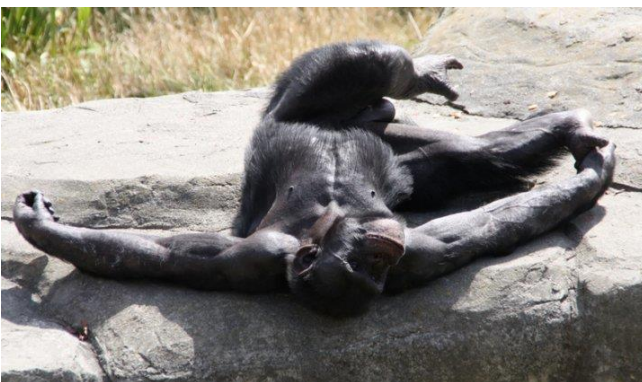






God has given us a life to experience, making the very best of, helping and to spreading the good news of His/Her abundant love for us, no matter what our color, creed, human sexuality variables. God made us as we

are with love. Though at times my sense of humor can be a bit of riskay, I blame that on being an ex-brit, influenced by my Gayness and life itself, I make no excuses as a Pastor. I know that my heavenly parent created me and loves me, and also enjoys much of my explorations and adventures through life.



A final word, don't let any one tells you that God doesn't love you, or telling you "I hate the sin but not the sinner", or Judges you for being different that them. Check out the texts I have provided here, and simply trust and enjoy your creator God, God's Son & Treacher Jesus the Christ (teacher), and

the Holy Spirit.



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and Twitter: @OutreachMinistries.Australia

Skype: trekmate, and SMS: 04662-78644 or OMA Office: +61-2-9680 0575

If you would like other printed material regarding "Homosexuality & The Bible" or would like some Bible Study lite reading printed material, please email us at our address.

...oooOooo...

Search the scriptures: Help from God – Romans 8:28

A BOOST from God when down: Zephaniah 3 v 17, John 3 vs 16 & 17

John 10 v 10, Romans 6:23,

What David had to say at Jonathon's Funeral: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sam.1:23, 26.

Jonathan's Covenant with David: 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 1 to 4, 40 & 41

Why did God make me this way? Romans 9 vs 20, 21.

Matthew 28: 18-19 What God requires if you: Micah 6: 8

God has a plan for your life: Jeremiah 29 vs 11-13

As of May 2015, Outreach Ministries Australia, has Ordained 9 Ministers in Ipswich Queensland for church planting in and around the southern State.

One in Melbourne who runs a very effective ministry to the homeless and working in conjunction with AVALON in Melbourne.

Two Orddinations , we have planted a church in Midway, Kent in the U.K. with the a Minister there, and also Ordained a minister in Pakistan.

Rev.Dr.Shane Ken Andersen is now the International Moderator of OMA, and based in Sydney.



## Who ever discriminates against you: Matthew 5 v 22

<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that <sup>b</sup>everyone who is angry with his brother or sister, <sup>a</sup>will be liable <sup>a</sup>to judgment; whoever insults <sup>d</sup>his brother or sister, will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to <sup>e</sup>the hell <sup>e</sup>of fire.

The supposed anti-gay texts can all be explained away, many have been miss translated, or interpreted in a way from the original Hebrew and Peshitta, and Aramaic (Syriac) text to be used to non-true believers and those who seek to judge because of their own ignorance of the truth. God bless you real good.

Yours in Christ & Gay Pride.

Rev. Dr. Shane K. Andersen DD OMC

December 2014