



Once again, the BST community has stepped up to support the college in an incredible way. Thank you!

In June this year, we asked for your help in renovating and updating a number of our bathroom facilities around the campus, as well as installing ceiling fans in the male accommodation blocks. We were hoping to receive around \$25,000 for the bathroom renovations, with any extra funds going to provide the fans and support other general building repairs and maintenance requirements around the college.

We are delighted to report that, thanks to the very generous gifts of friends like you, we received just shy of **\$50,000** in donations, which is a tremendous result. These extra funds will meet the bulk of our property and facilities maintenance budget for the remainder of 2022, putting us in a good position to begin 2023.

Please visit bst.qld.edu.au/donate to help meet our ongoing college needs.



Grow in your faith

15 SEPT
6:30PM

OPEN NIGHT

Equip for service

11 OCT
9:00AM

DAY

Register at bst.qld.edu.au/open



REV DR RICHARD GIBSON
BST PRINCIPAL

THE GREAT REVERSAL

We are often reminded of the importance of healthy self-esteem: the value we attach to ourselves. Sadly, early childhood experiences, disappointed parents, trouble fitting in at school, and broken relationships can leave people with a debilitating sense of worthlessness. It can cause people to be hypersensitive to criticism and to withdraw from relationships. And it can cloud our relationship with God.

The apostle Peter refers to Jesus as "chosen and precious in the sight of God" (1 Peter 2:4). This represents a radical reversal of human assessments of Jesus. He had been rejected, counted as worthless, by people, when they sent him to the cross.

It was the same point Peter made in his very first sermon at Pentecost, when he explained the meaning of the resurrection and pouring out of the Spirit: "Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified" (Acts 2:36). Later he will be even more pointed, when he eyeballs a crowd and says: "you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead" (Acts 3:15).

What is so astonishing is that Peter applies the same words to believers like us. To the scattered believers he wrote, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy

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nation, a people for his own possession" (1 Peter 2:9). And their faith is "more precious than gold" in the sight of God (1 Peter 1:7).

Because of the great reversal of the world's verdict on Jesus, we share in that reversal when we come to him. Whatever other people think of us, or the negative thoughts we have about ourselves, we are "chosen and precious" in the sight of God. Knowing God's assessment of him sustained Jesus through suffering and persecution. Knowing that we are "chosen and precious" too ought to sustain us through the trials and difficulties we encounter.

EVENTS

OPEN NIGHT

THURSDAY
15 SEPTEMBER 2022
6:30PM-9PM

Thinking about theological study? Wanting to explore God's word in a new and deeper way? Join us for our BST Open Night to participate in a lecture, meet some of your fellow students and lecturers, and get a taste of college life. We'd love you to join us!

Visit bst.qld.edu.au/open for more information.

OPEN DAY

TUESDAY
11 OCTOBER 2022
9AM-1:30PM

Join us at our Open Day for a taste of college life at BST. You can come along to our Tuesday chapel service, sit in on a morning lecture, hear a short presentation, then join us for one of our famous community lunches on the lawn. It's free to come along!

Visit bst.qld.edu.au/open for more details.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE OF CHRISTIAN MENTORING

BEGINS MONDAY
23 JANUARY-31 MAY 2023

By completing this Certificate, you will be qualified for mentoring in a variety of contexts. The principles apply in local and cross-cultural ministry settings, for helping men and women throughout their journeys as disciples.

Visit bst.qld.edu.au/mentoring for more details.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE OF PASTORAL CARE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

BEGINS MONDAY
6 FEBRUARY 2023

The Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care for Mental Health is aimed at equipping Christians to respond in a God-Centred way to those who are living with mental health struggles and those who are suffering.

This course equips students with both the theological grounding and the practical skills for engaging in effective pastoral care across professional, ministry, mission and personal settings.

Visit bst.qld.edu.au/mental-health for more details.

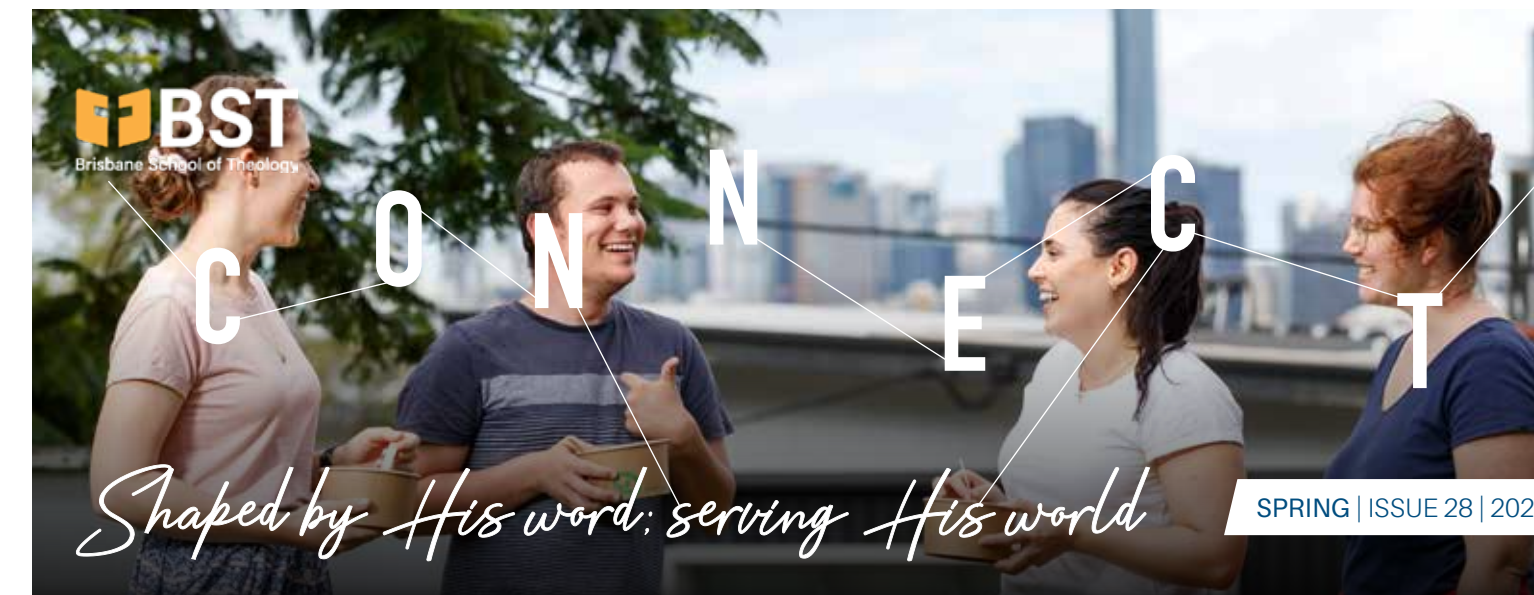
To register for these events, visit bst.qld.edu.au/events
For more information on upcoming events or contact us on (07) 3870 8355.



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Brisbane School of Theology is an operating name of Bible College of Queensland. We are an affiliated college of the Australian College of Theology, our ABN no. is 55009670160 and the ACT CRICOS no. is 02650E.



Shaped by His word, serving His world

SPRING | ISSUE 28 | 2022

WHERE WE'VE BEEN. WHERE WE'RE GOING.
AFTER 79 YEARS, WE ARE ON THE BRINK OF SOME BIG CHANGES

On 21 July, generations of past students came back to BST for our 2022 Alumni Dinner. It was a wonderful evening of reconnection and reflection—and an opportunity to look to the future.

Next year marks the 80 year anniversary of Brisbane School of Theology. As we prepare to celebrate that milestone in 2023, it was a very good thing to take some time to see where we have come from, and the many wonderful people who are, in fact, the true story and purpose of BST.

Around 40 guests came together for a great meal, representing a number of different cohorts from across the decades. It was a beautiful reminder of our history, and the many lives that have been touched by this college.

Our keynote speaker for the evening was Tim Fawssett, who graduated from BST in 2002 with a Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies. Back then, Tim didn't know what the future

held, but dreamed of what God might have planned for him and his ministry.

Today, he is serving as SU Australia's Cross-Cultural Coordinator, where his role includes a special focus on the organisation's engagement with First Australians, multicultural and multiethnic churches, and through to cross-cultural mission.

He reminded us that even in Jesus' day, the idea of 'loving our neighbour' was cliché; easy to say, and hard to apply. The story of the Good Samaritan, then, was an illustration of the kind of risky, costly, and radical love that we are all called to demonstrate—with God's help.

Along with Tim, fellow alumni Ian and Sue McQuay also shared with us about their time serving with Wycliffe

Bible Translators, and our Residential Chaplain Jonny Lush spoke about his 12 years of service at BST, and his next steps in pastoral ministry in country NSW, beginning in 2023.

Together, these guests painted a beautiful picture of the many ways God can use each of us to bring glory to his name. It was an honour to have each



of them play a role on the evening, and wonderful to be reminded of the great talent and faithfulness that has graced this college over many years.

And it is with that firm recognition of the long history of

BST in mind that we can now look ahead to what God has in store for us next. We are about to enter a very exciting phase in the life of the college; the next five years will likely see some very significant changes to how we teach, how we think about ourselves and communicate about ourselves, and how we can best resource the college for future service...

Continued inside...

Would you like to know more?

Join our social media channels or subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter for regular updates on BST news and events.

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Visit bst.qld.edu.au for more info



Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera to subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter

tell us YOUR story

Next year, BST is celebrating our **80 year anniversary**, and we want to hear your stories and see your pictures. Bring the past to life, remind us of where we have come from, and look ahead with us to all that is to come as we continue to see new disciples shaped by God's word, ready to serve his world!

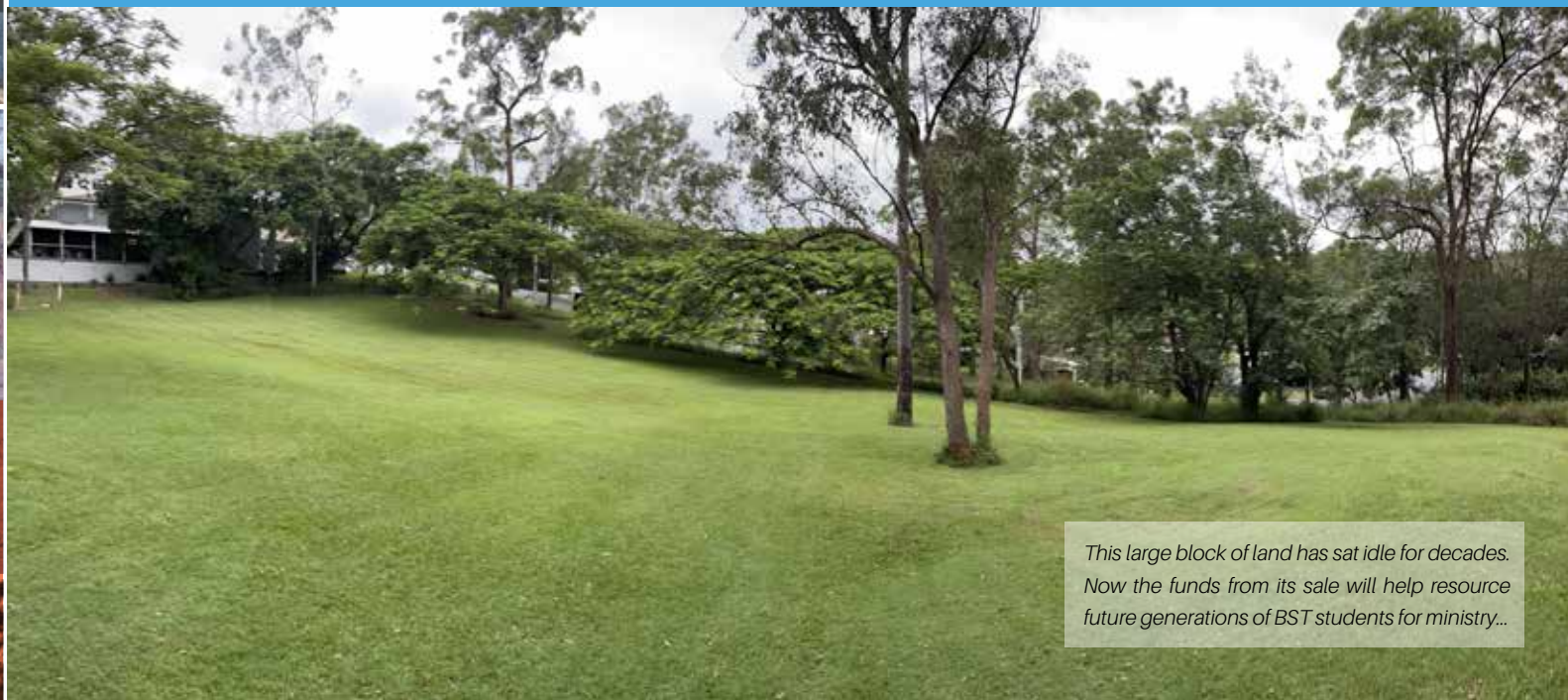
Submit your stories and photos to communications@bst.qld.edu.au, or contact us on **07 3870 8355**, and help us paint the full picture of **1 Cross Street, Toowong**. Thank you!



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Brisbane School of Theology

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WHERE WE'RE GOING (CONT'D)



This large block of land has sat idle for decades. Now the funds from its sale will help resource future generations of BST students for ministry...

Where we're going (continued from page 1)

As our Chair of the BST Board, Terry Leister, shared with our alumni at the dinner, the college has just completed the sale of a large parcel of unused land behind our residential accommodation blocks at the back of the property. The sale of this 4,300m² block will provide significant passive income generation that the college can invest into future ministry.

the way it is" have needed to be revisited during the course of the pandemic and the rise of online learning. BST is now wrestling with how we best stay true to our core distinctives of face-to-face learning in community while also making allowances for some online engagement, and the opportunities that kind of learning can open up for international students, and in particular for our Chinese program.

agencies and ministry partners, donors, and more. It's an exciting process, and one that we hope will help set our course for the next five years and more. Stay tuned for more information about the outcomes of this research over the coming months!

Thank you for praying for our students, faculty and staff, and for continuing to uphold the ministry of the college; without that support, this college would not be here today.

It is hard to calculate the impact that our 1,800+ graduates have had in the work of God's kingdom since 1943, but it is clear that faithful servants like the Fawssetts, the McQuays and the Lushes represent just some of the ways in which this college, and friends and supporters like you, have made a difference.

Here's to the next 80 years!



In addition, BST has opened up new avenues of ministry and learning in recent years, with the introduction of our Centre for Asian Christianity, our alliance with Living Wholeness to provide a Graduate Certificate and Pastoral Care for Mental Health, our Christian Mentoring program and Child Protection program.

We continue to see all of these new additions as central to our core business of sending out disciples who are shaped by God's word and ready to serve his world—but it's important to know if that rings true with friends like you who have given so much to BST over the years.

We are in the process of conducting a range of focus groups and phone interviews with a wide mixture of our stakeholders, from alumni to current students, mission

That last point is something that every organisation must continue to engage with over the years, and we are no different. The world has changed drastically in the last 80 years—in fact, it has changed immensely in just the last two years! Some things that were widely accepted as "just



Our Principal, Richard Gibson (front centre), with alumni from across the generational divide.

CAC IN FOCUS CHRIST IN THE CENTRE



BST's Centre for Asian Christianity has the vision, under God, to be an Australian hub for the acceleration of gospel growth in the Asian Church. With the resources we have we seek to make strategic partnerships with organisations which are making a significant difference for the kingdom of God. The past few months have seen some significant developments in our Centre, a couple of which I share below:

Indonesian Ministry. Dr Chris Luthy from the faculty at Jaffray Theological Seminary in Makassar, Indonesia shared at BST earlier this year about the strategic ministry of this seminary. Since then CAC has begun building a relationship with this seminary through him – with Dr Luthy now a member of our Board of Reference. It has now reached an exciting point where a visit to the seminary by Dr Samuel Goh and Dr Andrew Prince is planned for 15th and 16th of August to meet with the Principal, other faculty, students, and potential future Indonesian Christian leaders. We would love you to pray that God will continue to reveal to CAC and Jaffray strategic ways we might partner together for the spread of the gospel throughout Indonesia.

Thailand Ministry. One of our other Board of Reference members, Jeff Callow, has served in Thailand with OMF for well over twenty years, and has been instrumental in the development of our Thai ministry. This past year we have been forging a relationship with Bangkok Bible Seminary through one of the faculty – Dr David Chang – along with OMF more broadly. We have already identified some strategic ways we may be able to work together through academia, publishing,

supporting potential church planters and expansion of an evangelistic ministry. Towards the end of this year I hope to visit Bangkok and southern Thailand to see the work first-hand and meet with seminary leaders, pastors and church planters. I would appreciate your prayers that this visit will help develop the relationship between CAC and our Thai partners and that the direction God wishes this ministry to go will become increasingly clear to us all.

Asian Ministry Summit II. In May CAC held an Asian Ministry Summit in Sydney, attended by twenty five Asian Ministry leaders from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne in particular. Being able to be in person rather than online was a great joy. The people who attended were mostly from mission agencies, university Christian groups, and various other parachurch organisations. The attendees appreciated the opportunity to network with likeminded colleagues, discuss some common Asian ministry challenges and issues in some depth, and to be encouraged in their respective ministries. The collaborative nature of parachurch organisations fits in well with CAC's ministry approach and so we will continue looking for different ways to support and work with such likeminded Asian ministries in the future.

Blessings,

Andrew Prince
Rev Dr Andrew Prince
CAC Director



BITTERSWEET

Farewell Kylie Brown (sort of)

This is a time of bittersweet transition for us at BST. Kylie Brown will be ceasing her role as Student Advisor at BST, after nearly seven-and-a-half years of faithful and creative service of the BST community. We will miss her care for female students and her Four Minute Muses in chapel! The great news is that she leaves us to take up a role with Christians Against Poverty. God has been preparing her for this role and we share her excitement at full-time employment in such a key area. In more good news, she will continue to coordinate the Mentoring Course that BST has offered for some years. Please pray for Andrew, Kylie and their children as Kylie settles into this new job.



Welcome Rhonda Oliver (sort of)

In even more good news, we are thrilled to welcome Rhonda Oliver into the role of Student Advisor at BST. Rhonda recently completed a Master of Divinity, having studied five units at BST. To this familiarity with our college and the role, Rhonda adds vast experience with university and secondary school students, and many years of active church involvement. She will continue to teach and supervise boarders at Somerville House as she gets alongside women students at BST and contributes to their learning and enjoyment. Please pray for Rhonda as she is welcomed into the college community, settles into her responsibilities and establishes relationships with the students.



THANK YOU for giving to the CAC Appeal!

In the first half of this year, friends like you gave more than **\$20,000** to our CAC Fundraising Dinner & Appeal, which has been doubled to more than **\$40,000** by a generous donor.

The CAC relies on this support to continue its mission of accelerating Gospel growth in the Asian Church. Thank you for being part of this vision.

