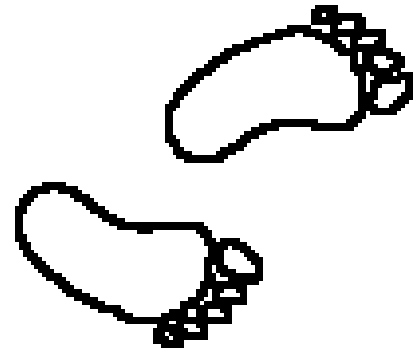


October 2020 (2)
Issue 139

The Next Step

Canberra Christian Fellowship
(in the Methodist Tradition)

Canberra
Aboriginal Church



The CAC service resumption
is currently uncertain.

Hal Roach (1925 - 2012)

Relatively few Christian people achieve widespread recognition primarily as a result of their faith. Mention Billy Graham and most people will recognise the name as that of a Christian preacher, however most other Christians in the public eye are known first as actors, politicians, entertainers, business people or for some other reason before their faith is considered. We too are usually best known as workmates, neighbours, sportsmen or good friends with our faith as an added extra. Perhaps that is the way it should be. We are seen and known as the imperfect beings we are, however as we grow in and live out our faith, God's influence and the work He is doing within us shines through us.



I have discovered almost nothing of the religious beliefs of Irish comedian Hal Roach, however a few comments I have seen suggest he, like us, lived his life with an awareness of God and guided by Him.

Born John Roche in Waterford, Ireland, John was nicknamed Hal and the name stuck. He began his career as a boy soprano, winning a local talent contest and continued by touring with an illusionist, singing and assisting with magic tricks. After his voice broke, he no longer sang but continued with the magic. Gradually he added comedy to his act while dropping tricks until his had become a stand up comedy act. He commented "I don't think anybody ever plans to go into comedy. I think comedians are

born. ... those who can do it, it's what God destined them to do. That's all there is to it."

Hal Roach certainly had a talent for telling jokes. His time performing at the world-famous Jury's Irish Cabaret in Dublin earned him an entry in the 'Guinness Book of Records' for the longest-running engagement of a comedian at the same venue - 26 years spent as the star of the show.

"I'm a 'clean' comedian," he said. "You look at my audience, and you'll see priests, nuns, children, mums and dads. I think that when you become salacious, or what we in the business call 'blue,' you alienate many, many parts of your audience. Other comedians tell me that's what young people want today. Maybe they do, but I don't agree. They're not going to get it from me at any rate. If my family can't come to see what I do, then I don't want to do it."

During over 60 years in show business, Hal Roach recorded a number of albums and DVDs of his shows.

An example of his humour: -

The teacher said, "Sean, what is a cannibal?"
He said, "I don't know."
The teacher said, "Well, if you were to eat your mother and father, what would you be?"
He said, "An orphan."

To use Hal's well known catch-phrase
"Write it down. That's a good one."



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hal_Roach_\(comedian\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hal_Roach_(comedian))
<https://web.archive.org/web/2006111712906/http://www.northeasttimes.com/2004/0311/rita.html>
<https://ireland-calling.com/hal-roach-jokes/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojHmfrYLW6k>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBQoEaIN9uY>

Mission Without Borders

By accident I pocket phoned David Turner of Mission Without Borders. As a result we were able to have a chat. David has had a foot injury, now mending. As it coincided with COVID restrictions, it wasn't as disruptive as it could have been.

The countries where MWB are active are battling CORONAVIRUS just like the rest of the world. David has heard that a number of staff in one country (he hasn't learnt which) have tested positive to the disease. They could use our prayers.

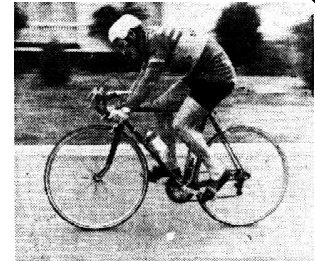


Happy Birthday !!! 100

26 October 1920 saw the arrival of Norm Simper into this world.

The Next Step No. 102 (September, October 2018) tells a little of Norm's life story.

The picture at right shows Norm (a world champion cyclist) in training. (From The Canberra Times, Thursday, February 24, 1977, Page 32.)



Veteran cyclist, Norm Simper, winner of the 55-59 years section in the world cycling titles, in training at Farrer.

Prayer Points Please pray for the Aboriginal Church just as they are praying for us.

Please pray

- for Aboriginal communities all over Australia.
- and give thanks for new translations of scripture available to people in Arnhem Land.
- for leaders, doctors and ministers.
- for revival - that people will seek the Lord.
- for the elderly, those in lockdown in their homes (particularly in Melbourne) and for each other.

and give thanks for the Canberra Aboriginal Church virtual gatherings using ZOOM for around 40 minutes each Sunday from 5pm. - A time of fellowship, worship and delving into God's Word.

The Canberra Aboriginal Church service resumption date is uncertain but will not be until the weather warms and the coronavirus risk, particularly for older and more vulnerable people, is more predictable and the possibility of local outbreaks lessened.



The weather is warming up, the COVID-19 risk is lessened, the clock has been put forward and many people are ready to return to more normal worship services
SO

CCF services resume on Sunday, 25 October, 2020 at 5pm

Ring Ian with any queries.

Annual General Meeting

The rules we have adopted as an A.C.T. incorporated association require us to hold an Annual General Meeting each year. This year has proved an unusual year in so many ways, however the requirement for an AGM remains.

This year it is impractical to follow our past habit of gathering for a meal then attending to business at meetings following.

Our AGM will follow our service on 25 October. It will include items of business specific to an AGM such as Membership, Election of Officers and the Treasurer's report.

Any other business will be dealt with in a (hopefully short) General Meeting.

Ring Ian with any queries.

Chaplains

Please pray that as coronavirus restrictions are gradually lifted, the chaplains we particularly support will be able to follow the new paths You have set before them. - Mr. Owen Chadwick - Universities chaplaincy, Rev. Bob Prior - Racecourse chaplaincy, Rev. Paul Tabulutu - N.S.W. / A.C.T. Fijian churches



Devotional material



Prayer



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Bible Reading



Fellowship by Phone