

Shalom friends here in Australasia, January, 2004

We can't stop in the middle of our "Operation: Behold Your God!" campaign here in Sydney to write a full newsletter, but we want to give you an update on activities here and in Israel. In February, we will again be back with the regular-look newsletter. Many blessings for a fantastic 2004! (This is being written during campaign in December, but due to processing will not get to you until January)

From the financial department

Good news. The ads in the Sydney Morning Herald (6 December) and the Financial Review (9 December) were scheduled to cost about 3 times what they ended up costing. Praise God! Thanks to those who gave so we could put those "The Messiah Has come...and his name is Y' shua" ads in those two major newspapers. If you meant to give towards those and didn't (yet) get around to it, it's not too late. Please earmark your donation to "BYG: Ads" and we will sort it out. Use the envelope enclosed and you may use a cheque or (The full ad is not shown) credit card (Visa, Mastercard, Bankcard).

The Messiah has come and his name is

Y'SHUA

Y'SHUA? Yes, that's his name. You've never heard of him? Sure you have. He's commonly called Jesus. Y'shua is the Jewish way to say his name. He is very Jewish, you know.

news, remember that the truth might be so simple that it was overlooked by the people who should have known.

The need was, and is, due to the "human condition" (just in case you're choking over that three-letter word, "sin"). God's solution is a sacrifice, a sin bearer, a saviour, a mediator, a mentor, a Messiah.

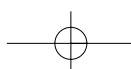
From the Sydney campaign



Sponsored by jewsforjesus.org.au

Advertising via the press is one way we did this work. We also used billboards in the Eastern suburbs like the one shown here (they'll be up until 31 January). And many Lawn Signs were put out front of Christians' homes and on church lawns to advertise the reality of Jesus for Jewish people. The Chatswood 'Carols by Starlight' held on 7 December featured Bob's opening in prayer and the ad above being strongly displayed along with the carols which were handed out to the large crowd which attended. Not everyone likes the billboards, but it's getting attention!

Volunteers are here who were born in Singapore, Thailand, New Zealand, the US, South Africa, the Netherlands, Egypt, France, and Aussies from Perth, Queensland, and all around Sydney! How great is our God to organize such a team as this one. (most are in photo on page 4) We can use all the help we can get in 2005 when we do this in Melbourne, so plan to ask off from work to spend the 3 weeks with us during BYG



Melbourne. Susan from our Sydney volunteers prayed with an Indian man Bartil who was on holiday here. Steve from the US prayed with a Gentile at Taylor Square to meet Jesus, just hours after he arrived to volunteer. Bob Mendelsohn, our director, led Karl to Christ near our hotel, and the Kingdom is advancing.

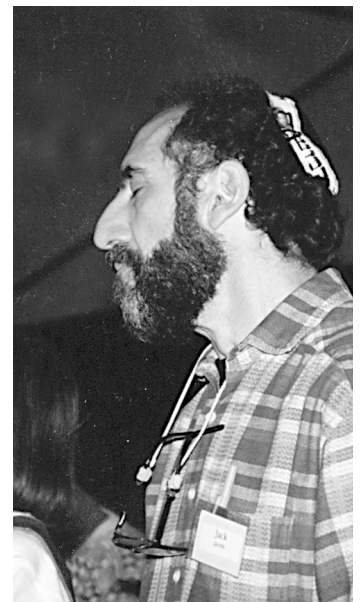
From Melbourne...just before the campaign

Bob has been meeting on the phone [and in person once] with John, a 57-year-old Jewish man. John's daughter is a believer and full on in love with the Lord. John has been keen to sort through the issue of salvation and eternal things, even attending his daughter's church in Dingley. He said, "It's good for her, but well, it's just not for me." At least he was saying that, until November, when he came to a talk Bob gave at The Melbourne Club, then the next day John and Bob met up to discuss Jesus and Jewish things again. John began to describe himself as "an anglisized Jew." When they met, it became clear that he was becoming a believer. They prayed together to make firm the commitment John had already made in his heart and now John's anglisized self-description is changed to 'a fulfilled Jew.' Praise God for this man's finding eternal life in the Messiah. His daughter is thrilled as you might imagine, as her prayers for her family are being heard.

From our Tel Aviv (Israel) office

One of our annual broadsiding events is the "Love" parade in Tel Aviv. It is an excuse for young people in Israel to act like well, young people everywhere else in the world! The staff went down to the site to evangelise and found many open contacts among the thousands.

Israel has several "festivals" each year for new age seekers, who camp out for three days and create a village like Woodstock (tie-dye shirts and all). The biggest one is called Beresheet and is held during Rosh HaShana, on the Sea of Galilee). This year we had our own booth where we gave away many Hebrew books. We made over 125 contacts with Jews who want to know more. Just like is going on in Sydney this month, the branch was helped by some of our faithful local volunteers, as well as three from Finland, and four from Korea.



David is one of our staff in Tel Aviv. He was in the office and received a phone call from a twenty-year-old yeshiva student who wanted to talk. Shlomo had arrived from England, where he had first heard about our ministry. He is looking for something (other than orthodoxy), but after we met, he determined that the gospel is still too foreign to his thinking. We continue to pray for him, won't you?

Our staff worker, Miriam (1) met with a woman who wanted her 19-year old daughter to have a New Testament. The woman's name is also Miriam (2) and her daughter is Ruth. Miriam (2) is a long-time believer, but Miriam's (2) husband forbade Miriam (2) from sharing the gospel with their daughter. Miriam (1) gave Ruth a New Testament. While they were

talking, they spoke about a doctor. It turns out this medico is the same one, Miriam's (1) husband Shlomy has been discipling for over six months. They were overjoyed to see that in their small suburb God miraculously saved two of his chosen people. And they know each other! Please pray for boldness in the lives of these believers.

Dan Sered is one of our workers in Israel. He is meeting with both Avner, a brand new believer, recently delivered from drugs and Avner's roommate, another Dan, who seems keen to know Y' shua as well.

More from the Campaign

The campaigners are wearing shirts with this logo to help the Sydneysiders and everyone who is visiting to know who we are.

Not just



Kyle Sutton works with another Jewish mission and is stationed here in Sydney. He is our chaplain during the 3 weeks and daily brings us both biblical messages and personal encouragement. The day of our consecration service, with prayer and singing and trusting in the Lord to lead us, Kyle and a team of campaigners went out to Bondi and Kyle met some Israeli tourists who were seriously inter-

ested in Y' shua. God is so good to help us reach the lost.

In fact, each of the campaigners are experiencing the joy of sharing with so many Jewish people. How do we do it? We use Psalm Reading (similar to Palm Reading) stations on George Street or Double Bay, Kings Cross or Newtown. We call Jewish names from the phone book asking if they would like to receive a copy of 'Survivor Stories'. This too is proving successful. "Man on the street" interviews using our video cameras and a microphone are helping many to share their opinions about Jesus and thus we are making Him known all that much more. We are handing out tens of thousands of gospel tracts like the one enclosed to help the tourists and locals, shoppers and business people, all people - to find eternal life and begin to make the gospel understandable. (We ended with the total distributed: 146,025).

Our first Jewish decision was a woman, 48 years old, from Hungary. She met Rob Wertheim, from the US, on a Saturday night and even before she received her mailing (in response to all contacts a mailing is sent out) Bob rang her and set up a visit. During that first visit she prayed to receive Jesus as her Saviour and Lord. Awesome, isn't God?

We need you to continue to pray for the results. By now the campaign will be over. The volunteers are back at their homes and remembering well the experiences of the campaign. But it's not at all over. People will be seeing the billboards, and still looking at the refolded broadsides in their pockets. The issue of Jesus will not go away. They are



responding to our billboards and ringing and emailing. We got a call from a Jewish man in Melbourne who had never identified as a believer, but had held onto a tract for 3 years and had the courage to ring during BYG. Two different men contacted us as they had Jewish grandparents, but didn't know what that might mean for them as believers in Jesus today. For many this is a time to 'connect the dots' about Jesus and Jewishness. We thank you, each of you, who prayed and who sought God on our behalf. He was indeed strong towards us. He opened eyes of 16 people to become believers with us, right on the streets. We collected the names of over 4 dozen not-yet-believing Jewish people who are keen to know more about the Messiah. And it's not over at all!

Pictured here are the team in front of Central Baptist Church on George Street, where we ate our meals daily. The church was so kind to let us use their building as a headquarters of sorts during the campaign. God bless Pastor Tse and all the good people there! On the left here is Mark Landrum, who led the campaign. He and his wife Rahel are moving here from the UK. Mark's originally from the US. We'll write more about the Landrums in the next edition.

Also here are the special shirts we wore...always drawing people to look at our website so we could have continuing contact.



Thanks good friends for helping us make Jesus known in all countries, until He returns. May it be soon! Have a blessed 2004.

Also working in Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Israel, Russia, South Africa, Ukraine, the UK and the US.

Jews for Jesus Australasia



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