

Greetings from Ross and Kathy Callaghan

Hi everyone! With this newsletter comes our warm greetings and very best wishes for 1995. We hope you have had a good year and that you know God's richest blessings in the days ahead.

It's great that we can celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus at this time of the year. It helps remind us just how good God is. We've certainly experienced much of His blessing during 1994.

Here are some of the main things which have happened:

- Everybody maintained good health, except that Ross has had problems with his back and neck.
- Ross and Kathy celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary by going on a trip to Singapore and Hong Kong. A special highlight was a day trip into China.
- Ross presented papers at three conferences, including one in Adelaide. Kathy joined him there after the conference and we had a lovely time exploring parts of South Australia.
- We recognised the growing demands of our family when we bought a computer and a second car (a Chevette, later replaced by a Toyota Starlet).
- We moved our glasshouse from the centre of our back garden, over behind the garage. This sparked a major amount of gardening and re-landscaping. We like the new effect and there's still plenty to do!
- Ross had a very fruitful year at his work. He has resigned as Training Manager at The Open Polytechnic and next year will just be a trainer. Many fewer hassles! He developed and presented lots of training programmes, including some in Auckland, Tauranga, Napier, Palmerston North and Levin.
- Ross visited his mother in Auckland on her 80th birthday and a little later when she was in hospital.
- Kathy continued with her work at Soma. She works 2 days a week and often does extra days.
- Ross was involved in preaching at quite a few different Churches. He extended his ministry by becoming Area Chaplain for the Wairarapa/Hutt Valley Girls Brigade and an advisor for Woman's Aglow.
- Kathy joined the Faultline Chorus: a Sweet Adelines barbershop-style group. She really enjoyed the singing, the fellowship, the performances and the trip to Christchurch when all the choruses got together.
- Ross completed his Diploma in Theology and nearly finished a Diploma in Tertiary Teaching.
- We had lots of people to stay during the year. Our 'outside room' got plenty of use. (Feel free to come and visit us sometime).

Now for a little information about our children's activities. They're all teenagers now and very pleasant to be around.

Debbie (18) completed her Medical Intermediate year at Victoria University. She's hoping to get into Otago Medical School next year. She achieved an A average which may or may not be good enough. Debbie spent a lot of time with her boyfriend Fraser and had part-time jobs at Dress for Less and ACC. A highlight for the year was going on a tandem parachute jump from 12000ft!

Sarah (15) recently sat School Certificate and her earlier results indicate she will do very well. Sarah has been fully involved in our Church youth group, in ISCF and in Girls Brigade. She played hockey in the 1st XI and also handball. She has continued to develop in her singing abilities and is in the school choir, barbershop and a capella groups. Soon she will be getting her drivers licence.

Philip (13) changed to Hutt International School at the beginning of the year and has been in Form 2. He's had a very good year and got an award for his progress in Japanese! Phil really enjoys his cricket and has had lots of success with batting and bowling. He goes to Boys Brigade, is in the school choir and is part of the Church's Junior Youth Group.

Well that's our family's news for 1994. Overall, we have had an excellent year and we're very grateful to God for all of His blessings. We hope that you have had a great year as well and that you experience the peace and love which are so much part of the Christmas season.