



ALAN HOSKINS
~ORDER OF AUSTRALIA



FAREWELLS
ARRIVALS &
INDUCTIONS



\$700,000 STILL
up for grabs

The Northern Light

MARCH 2017



ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDAL TO ALAN

UNITED by a desire to serve others above and beyond has seen Alan Winley Hoskins awarded the OAM for services to the Uniting Church in Australia and the community.

Mr Hoskins, 78, was delighted with the award, but insisted it is very much a team effort.

"You don't get involved in community work for this," he said.

"For me this is the last thing I was thinking about."

Mr Hoskin's service included: board member of UnitingCare NSW/ACT, 2014-2015, chairman of North Coast Regional

ALAN HOSKINS ORDER OF AUSTRALIA MEDAL

Aged Care Board since 2008 and board member since 2004; a board member at UnitingCare Ageing from 2009-2015 and founding member at Food Bank, Lismore Regional Mission.

Since 2012 Alan has been deputy chairman of the Lismore Regional Mission Church Council, as well as the congregation chairman.

He was also a board member at Summerland House Farm, House with no Steps, 1999-2012.

Alan still is a committee member of the Wilson's Riverbank Development Project.

Alan retired from 44 years at dairy cooperative Norco where like cream, he rose to the top.

"I was born on a very small dairy farm, we had very little money and I had to get a job after finishing the intermediate certificate," he said.

"I was lucky to get a job at Norco then I got a scholarship to study dairy technology."

Alan said he's always amazed and gratified that when you ask people for support they want to help. *with permission of the Northern Star*

\$700,000 STILL up for grabs

NOT all of the \$700,000 offered to the Church by Uniting has been used up. Presbytery has been told that invitations to use up this money will be received by the Presbytery Chairs Meeting through the whole of the three years.

To date no applications from this Presbytery have been successful but some of the applications have been invited to tweak their request including one which has been asked to up the amount they are asking for.

Uniting offered the Church \$2.3 million over three years for mission that is community based or has a ministry idea within the community.

Of this amount \$700,000 was allocated to Presbyteries throughout the state

FAREWELLS WELCOMES AND INDUCTIONS



Rev Jane Fry, acting secretary of NSW/ACT Synod preached at the induction service of Rev Robert Griffith to Lismore Regional Mission.

As chair of the Placements Committee it was Jane that encouraged the Church to consider Robert for the placement.

Jane also attended the meeting of Presbytery and spoke about better communication

Pablo, Fernanda, Isabella & Santiago see next story



PABLO ~ ON A MISSION FOR GOD

MIRACLES, changes and radical moves is how Pablo Nunez, new pastor at Ballina Uniting Church describes his journey to take up this interesting challenge at Ballina



Pablo is from Uruguay in South America He's been a Christian since he was 12 years old

"That's when I heard the gospel for the first time and responded to God's love by giving him my life.

When I was 16 I received my missionary calling in a teenagers' camp in southern Brazil.

It took me 4 years to respond to it but in January 1995 I left my home, my culture, my church and all my plans to serve God as a missionary in Brazil at the age of 20.

I joined Youth With A Mission (YWAM) in Curitiba, Brazil, for two years, and then I moved to Contagem, Brazil.

It was there that I met my wife, Fernanda, while working in a performing arts evangelistic ministry.

She came to one of our training schools

and I fell in love with that feisty, talented, passionate, gorgeous young lady that was on fire for God every time we went to the streets to do outreach. We prayed from December 1997 to July 1998 before starting our relationship, and we got married on November 28th 1998.

Fernanda and I were invited to come to Australia in 2000 for the Olympic Games outreach.

We came in May 2000 and stayed for 6 months, doing outreaches in Melbourne, three months in Adelaide, then Sydney during the Olympics and Paralympics, and Newcastle before returning to Brazil with the certainty that we would move to Australia one day.

We finished our commitment in YWAM Brazil and came to work with YWAM in Adelaide in May 2003.

We loved living in the city of Churches, working with discipleship of young missionaries and leading a performing arts ministry that we travelled all over Australia, and then to East Timor, Fiji, New Zealand, Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, Uruguay, India and China.

Then in 2007 we were invited to become the directors of YWAM South Australia, and we started our new role just two weeks before the arrival of our daughter, Isabella.

We led YWAM SA for 8 years; we moved the base to the heart of the neediest area of the city and we pioneered ministries that reach out to homeless, prostitutes, children and youth at risk as well as sending teams to the outback regularly.

Our son, Santiago, was born in April 2013 during that amazing season. Then in 2014 we felt our time there was coming to an end and we started searching in God for the next steps.

We thought we were going to be missionaries forever but God had different plans.

We were at home at Playford Uniting and I was challenged to start a PoD, which I began in September 2015, as well as studying with the Uniting College.

We became Australian citizens!

That year was fantastic, with God clearly leading me in the journey to become a minister with the Uniting Church. TO NEXT COLUMN

GOD HAD DIFFERENT PLANS

I was ordained a Pastor by my home church in Uruguay in 2007 and I had been the minister for YWAM SA for 7 years, as well as being the Pastor for a Brazilian church in Adelaide for 3 years. But this calling was to be a minister for the rest of my life. I stepped into this season with my wife's support and excited about what would come next... and then a phone call put me in contact with Ballina Uniting.

I wasn't expecting to leave South Australia, but I knew Fernanda was praying about moving to a different place (remember she's Brazilian? She was praying for a place near the beach, with short winters and long summers...)

From that initial contact until the confirmation was a season of miracles, changes, radical moves... I finished my PoD and I had offers to consider doing my candidacy and pastoring in South Australia, but God was very clear in that we were going to move, and way before we were expected there, we were driving from Adelaide to Ballina to start the next step of the journey.

We have loved everything so far, but especially the love we sense from the amazing people of Ballina Uniting.

We sense a great deal of commitment and a rich legacy in our congregation, and we love the way they enjoy life.

Our children love the area, especially the river, and we look forward to continue our training while we serve this community.

We may not be missionaries anymore, but the mission is far from over.

My passion for people, for preaching, teaching, discipleship and for the church are greater now than ever and I'm looking forward to the next steps into this adventure!



much cooler in the hall, than the Lismore Church on a Saturday afternoon in February



quite a crowd turned out for Christopher's farewell at Alstonville



they seem to be happy



