



Welcome to our first Arrow Alumni News!!

The Arrow Alumni News will be an emailed newsletter for all members of our Alumni. It will include short articles on leadership from an Alumni member and some personal stories from others, info on good leadership books and articles to read, up coming conferences, and particular information about Arrow to encourage us to support the current participants in their Arrow programme. This first Arrow Alumni news is a short version of what's ahead.

So, why an Arrow Alumni? Speaking with our Arrow graduates over the last few years has built up our picture of our Alumni. For many of us, the outstanding contribution of Arrow to our life and ministry is the relationships and networks that are built during the 2 year Arrow programme. At its heart, that is what the Arrow Alumni promises to continue: Arrow's cross-denominational ethos and relationships of trust and appreciation.

Further, rather than a stale "talking head" structure alone, the Alumni will promote the skills within the Arrow community by sponsoring our interaction together like iron sharpening iron (Proverbs 27:17). Our Alumni Days may include a keynote speaker and a time to open the bible together, but we will also include more interactive sessions over key issues in leadership and evangelism to promote and share together what God is teaching each one of us.

But the Arrow graduate community spoke of an Alumni that did more than just promote "my" ministry. Over and again, we as graduates saw the Alumni as opportunity to invest in and develop the next generation of Christian leaders across Australia. There is something special about the possibility of sitting in the room with other godly leaders from across the generations, passions, denominations and hopes that have generally divided the church in Australia, particularly for those who are emerging leaders. We all hope to see this wonderful opportunity of godly, trusting, diversity grow and expand as each Arrow programme infects the Alumni community with more emerging leaders to impact our nation for Christ.

Our State based days for 2006 run in the last full week of October; Perth on Monday 23/10, Adelaide on 24/10, Melbourne on 25/10, Sydney on 26/10 and Brisbane on 27/10. All Alumni Days run from 10am to 4pm, and include lunch and morning and afternoon teas. They are free of charge. Some venues are locked in, others will be announced in the weeks ahead. All Arrow graduates are invited to attend this year, however from 2007 on, you would have had to pay your annual Alumni fee of \$90 to be able to attend an Alumni Day. If you have any questions regarding the Alumni and what we hope to provide for, achieve in and invest through our Alumni please call me on 0401 297 258 or (07) 5573 3644, or email at matthunt@hbchurch.org.au

Matt Hunt, Arrow Alumni Director, Ministry Team Leader, Helensvale Baptist Church, QLD.

... An October discussion starter ...

I sometime get dissatisfied with the current approach to Christian leadership. I love reading books and listening to talks and discussing its principles, but I sense there is something we are radically missing. What about 1 Peter 5:2-4 ...

"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; ³not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

Clearly we are NOT in charge – it is God's flock, and he is the Chief Shepherd - but what does that say about the role of a church leader? Warren Bennis and Burt Nanus in *Leaders: Strategies for Taking Charge* say they've discovered over 850 definitions of leadership. Some Christian definitions include ...

"Leadership is influence, the ability of one person to influence others." (Oswald Sanders, Spiritual Leadership)

"A Christian leader is someone who is called by God to lead; leads with and through Christlike character; and demonstrates the functional competencies that permit effective leadership to take place." (George Barna, Leaders on Leadership)

"Spiritual Leadership is moving people onto God's agenda." (Henry & Richard Blackaby, Spiritual Leadership)

How do these definitions play out in light of the fact that we are not the leader of the church, but He is? At a practical level, what is the role (definition) of Christian leadership? I want to suggest a different definition ...

"The role of the Christian leader is to point the people to the Lord of the church so as together they find His will for the church."

This has a huge impact on how we lead. I am reminded of *Matthew 16:18* where the Lord Jesus **HE** will build HIS church, not **me** build His church. Walter Wright. Former President of Regent College put it this way ...

"The future demands vision from it's leaders. But not as much a vision of where we are going, as a vision as whose path we are following... Visionary leadership from a biblical perspective is about prayer – listening to God, about obedience – joining in what God is doing, and about integrity – following faithfully with humility and vulnerability."

It's the difference between merely telling or teaching the church what God wants, and us saying, "let's work out together what God wants from us." Do I see my call as a Christian leader to explicitly, intentionally, and deliberately seek, point and guide the church to hear the Lord Jesus? Or am I, unintentionally, taking His place as leader of the church?

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Walter Wright

THE ARROW ALUMNI TEAM ...



QLD – NT Alumni Coordinator

Marg Tognolini
(Arrow class 2005-06)

Marg has been on SU Queensland staff for the past 16 years in her role of Secondary Schools and Camps Ministry Consultant. She consults with Regional Managers and other key staff and volunteers to see effective youth ministry take place throughout our schools and camps in Queensland. Her personal passions include spending time with family & friends, photography and travelling. Marg writes of the Arrow Alumni ...

"I am finishing the Arrow Course this year and I have loved being a part of it. It's an awesome opportunity to learn and grow in my own leadership ability but it's also great to be able to talk to others who are in the network. For these same reasons I look forward to being a part of the Arrow Alumni and to have the privilege to get to know others in the Arrow network."



WA Alumni Coordinator

Tania Watson
(Arrow class 2003-04)

Tania is the Minister-Family LifeStreams at South Perth Church of Christ. She is married to Neil and Mum to Sebastian and Lucy. She has eclectic passions including coffee, books, art, filmmaking, quantum theory, pondering church culture. On Saturday mornings she loves to sit at her local café and read *The Weekend Australian*. Tania says of the Arrow Alumni ...

"I support the Arrow Alumni because there's something very special about being offered an opportunity to learn from significant Christian leaders in an 'intimate' setting like the Arrow Conferences. I really appreciated the privilege of being able to chat with great leaders and hope that by being a part of the Alumni, that myself and others can help to ensure that young leaders continue to have access to the Programme and that graduates can keep each other sharp in ministry"

Seeing a National Christian network such as the Arrow Alumni get off the ground is going to be a big task. It's great to welcome the following people to join our Alumni team as State based Coordinators, committed to keeping the Arrow network and relationships continue after our programmes are completed.

The State Coordinator's role is to work as part of the Arrow Alumni team in coordinating Alumni Events for their State and manage the Arrow network of relationships within their State.. They will also be part of the coordinating group for our National Gathering when it runs in 2008.



VIC-TAS Alumni Coordinator

Steve Webster
(Arrow class 1995-96)

Steve is the newly appointed vicar of St. Michael's Anglican Church in North Carlton, Victoria. Steve is married to Penne (a music teacher) and has a son, Jared, in Year 12 and daughter, Kyria, in Year 11. Steve is also part-time sports chaplain to an AFL club and part of the Sports Chaplaincy Australia network. Steve's hopes for the Alumni reflect his Arrow experience ...

"Arrow was the most stimulating and helpful leadership program I have ever been involved with. The quality of input was outstanding; however, it was the opportunity to grapple with the issues of Gospel mission in contemporary Australia with an exciting and gifted group of young church leaders from across the nation that had the most impact. Arrow provided a network of many enduring relationships across denominations from state to state that has been most valuable in the years following the program. I look forward to this continuing in our Alumni."



NSW—ACT Alumni Coordinator ... Geoff Folland ... (Arrow class 2005-06)

After working as a Chartered Accountant, Geoff began serving with Student Life at Macquarie University in 1995 and is currently the leader of the ministry at Macquarie Uni, and overseeing Student Life's ministry in the Sydney region. He has been married to Liz for 9 years and is father to two children (Philip & Katrice) adopted from the Philippines. Geoff's hopes for our Alumni are ...

I was first introduced to the Arrow program ten years ago, but was invited to participate in the most recent class. During those ten years I had regular contact with different Arrow participants and alumni and really valued their different perspectives and experience. The best thing about my participation in the Arrow program has been the opportunity to develop good relationships with peers doing ministry in different places. It is my desire to see that network of relationships continue and expand as the generations of Arrow Alumni connect more intentionally.



SA Alumni Coordinator ... ?????? ... (Arrow class ???-??)

Although a few of us are planning the Arrow Alumni Day in SA on Tuesday October 24th Mount Lofty House, we haven't got an Alumni Coordinator to the Alumni in SA yet!! Please pray about this and watch this space!! Contact Matt Hunt about our October Day!

Arrow Alumni State Days 23-27 October 2006!!

Please note these down in your diaries for our first meetings as an Alumni! All Arrow graduates are invited to these meetings. If you are able to pay the Alumni fees prior to these dates that would be great, or you can pay on the day (\$90 per year).

WA— Monday 23rd October,

South Perth Church of Christ, corner McNabb Loop & Murray Street

SA—Tuesday 24th October

Mt Lofty House, 74 Mt Lofty Summit Rd

VIC/TAS- Wednesday 25th October

Venue To be advised

NSW/ACT—Thursday 26th October

Venue To be advised

QLD/NT—Friday 27th October

Venue to be advised