

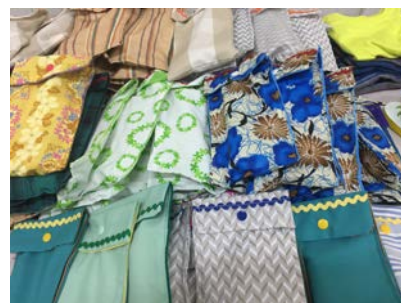
PWA Evening News



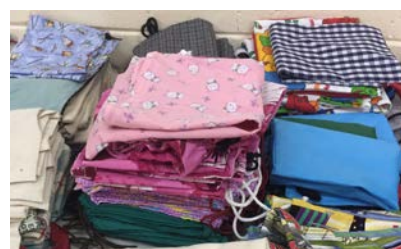
What fantastic teamwork we witnessed again at our annual Christmas Shoebox Packing Day! Forty members of our congregation came along to help, ranging from children to great-grandparents and a record 352 boxes packed!

Margaret Hales' knitting needles have been very busy all year making teddy bears for the shoeboxes ... seems like this could

be a bit infectious – as her daughter, Glenda, joined in and helped her mum to make even more than last year! Robyn Walker's sewing machine has been running hot for months now too ... making pencil cases which she then filled with the hundreds of pencils, rubber, sharpeners, etc, that our wonderful church family (that's right ... you!) has supplied throughout the year. Once again this year, all of the hygiene items you supplied were packed into plastic bags containing soap, toothbrush, comb



and facewisher by Ann and Charlie Toland's Wednesday night KYB group members. Cloth bags were made by many of our ladies and a call for donations resulted in \$2,000 being forwarded for postage. What a wonderful effort!



As is our Penrith PWA tradition, our newest church 'member', Zechariah Woodruff, was welcomed with a beautiful baby basket.

It is just so wonderful see so many of our church family members come together to assist with catering for morning teas and luncheons following funeral services held at our church - and what makes such acts of Christian love and support so very special is that lots of these people who give so generously are from across our whole congregation – not just 'the PWA ladies' as may sometimes be mistakenly assumed. A very big 'thank you' once again to all of our PWA ladies AND the many others in our church family who go to so much trouble to help on such occasions.



Our PWA Market Day this year was tinged with a little sadness ... as the number of people attending each year is dropping, with many of the 'long-term' helpers and stallholders now not as 'young and spritely' as they used to or suffering health problems. Seems like it is probably time to explore other strategies for PWA fundraising and support for the major programs and outreach work of our church.

In contrast, the level of interest and participation of ladies in the annual PWA Craft Camp seems to be growing each year – Praise God! We have an amazing God who presents us with such great opportunities for reaching out with the Gospel message. As has become a bit of a tradition over recent years, four Penrith ladies are Workshop Leaders and a number of ladies from Penrith Church are attending, some for the very first time.

~ Lyndall Pickering