

Faculty Weekend Away Review



Rachelle is interviewed about the recent Science Faculty Weekend Away.

Dee: So Rachelle, your in 5th year. How many FWAs have you been to?

Rachelle: 5...

D: You'd be quite an expert on FWA's then, so you'd be the perfect person to ask for your comments on this FWA. First of all, the location. What did you think of it?

R: It was a very lovely place, and relaxing to get out of Sydney for the weekend by the lakeside, in a little house with a community feel.

D: And the 80s theme night, how did that go?

R: It was heaps of fun getting dressed up in 80s clothes. Tim's moustache was great, I think the girls were impressed, they all seemed to be hanging around him that night, and lots of people had a chance to show off their 80s trivia knowledge. It was nice to see people getting competitive over their favourite 80s TV show.

D: Did you find the talks useful?

R: The talks were helpful, challenging me in a lot of ways about being joyful in all aspects of life. I found the application really pointed to me as a science student at Sydney Uni and in EU. Good to have Marty back, hanging out with EU science again after all these years.

D: Now, the must-have, after Bible and prayer, for a Christian get together - food...

R: The food was great, we had lots of cake, and you've gotta love that vanilla slice. The chocolate fondue on Friday night was really good. Ang (living up to her last name) and Julia were the cooks and they even got me orange juice and

coffee on request, which was really nice of them. The pizza things were so good I had to have thirds; the zucchini stuff was so much better than it looked, and the sticky date pudding - divine.

D: What sorts of other fun things did you get up to?

R: I don't know whether I had any fun...

D: What about the wasabi?

R: That wasn't fun. That was evil. Poor Emma is internally scarred. But I did have fun. Sitting around by the lakeside at night, telling stories, that was fun. Meeting first years, and other people I had never met before was good.

D: Any last comments?

R: Yeah, my favourite part was how the whole faculty was really welcoming to people, and I think the whole thing was just a really great weekend.

Other peoples' comments about their favourite part of FWA:

"The eighties theme night." Tim (4th year)

"Hanging out with everyone, especially during free time." Bronni (2nd year)

"The food, and cling-wrapping cars..." Emma (3rd year)

"Lying on the grass and chatting." Claire (4th year)

"The bonfire." Leanne (2nd year)

"The EU gameshow, where you could get to know people while learning about the EU, and the bonfire." Katie (1st year)

"The chance to get to know people better while building a community." Peter B (4th year)

The adventures of Malachi and Ezekiel in $\mu.O.Ds$

On the Wentworth Bridge...

Malachi: Hi Zeke, whatcha up to?

Ezekiel: Hi Mal. I'm heading off to a MOD right now.

M: MOD??? Is that another crazy EU acronym?

E: Haven't you been paying attention in small group? It stands for Micro Outreach Dinner.

M: Unfortunately I missed small group last week, so tell me more!

E: Well, a MOD is a dinner that you and your not-yet-Christian friend and 3 other EUsers and their NYC friends come along to so that they can discuss Christianity in a relaxed environment. There's even an evangelist there to help the conversation along and answer any tough questions your friend might have.

M: Hmm...would I be right in saying that this sort of thing sounds like it might be useful in the EU's mission year, especially with SEEK5 going on?

E: Exactly Mal! This is the perfect opportunity to

Micro Outreach Dinners

both *Express* your faith and *Invite* your friends along to a Christian event!

M: So how do I get involved?

E: Pick a date for the dinner that both you and your friend can go to, sign up for that night, pray, and then turn up!

M: It's that easy?

E: Yep. It's that easy. Well, gotta go!

M: Thanks Zeke, and happy evangelising!

M.O.D

Details

When:

Tue 26 April (Wk 7)

Mon 2 May (Wk 8)

Wed 11 May (Wk 9)

Thu 19 May (Wk 10)

Cost:

Approx. \$20 (for you and your friend)

For more info, contact Clive: cwylam@gmail.com

What's happening this semester for mission?

Week 6 is jesus WEEK

Week 6 - JESUS WEEK - a week-long mission week, raising peoples' awareness of Jesus on our campus. The talks are during the normal public meeting timeslots on Tuesday to Thursday, and will be on *Jesus: more than morals*, *Jesus: more than a blankie*, and *Jesus: more than mortal*.

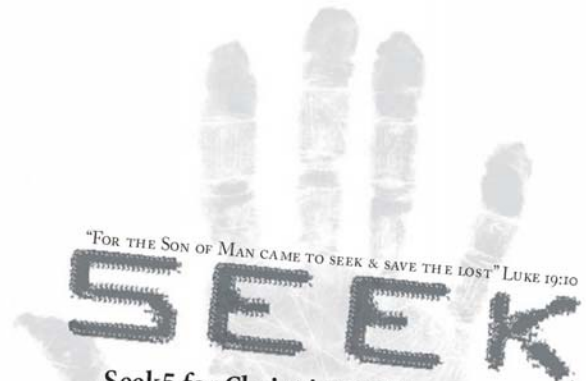
Weeks 7-10 - FBE WEEKS - this is where we'll be providing opportunities specifically for science students to encourage their friends to think about Christianity - such as at μ ODs.

Weeks 11-13 - THINK WEEKS - a time to be encouraging Sydney Uni students to think about what they believe. This will include daily challenging and thought-provoking posters, and giving out free DVDs containing testimonies.

What can you be doing?

- Decide which 5 friends you'd like to SEEK this year, and commit to pray for them regularly.
- Invite them along to the Jesus week events this week, and to the μ ODs.
- Buy a SEEK5 keyring to help you remember to pray.

Mission events this semester



Seek5 for Christ in 2005!

Share your life: put in the effort to build genuine relationships of trust with others

Express your faith: tell them the gospel

Invite to events: take advantage of the quality evangelistic events EU is running this year

Kneel in prayer: pray faithfully all year for the salvation of your 5 friends.

A Life of Joy

Joy

This simple 3 letter word has been the source of some confusion. So what exactly is it all about and how do we understand it?

What is joy?

Is it the acronym J.O.Y. - Jesus Others Yourself?

Is it a feeling?

Is it an emotion?

According to the dictionary:

- intense and especially ecstatic or exultant happiness
- the expression or manifestation of such feeling

It's hard to make sense of this definition based on our experience of life. How often do we experience intense and ecstatic happiness? Yet the bible implores us to "Be joyful always" (1 Thes 5:16). Perhaps it's a bad definition? That's often the response I get - that it's all about semantics and definitions. However, more I ponder it, the more I think that it was appropriate that Paul use this word to describe our lives.

There are 2 things that I'd like to suggest then that are to be the basis of our joy:

1. Joy is found in who we are.

In Luke 10:20, when the disciples return from their first

mission and are rejoicing from having demons submit to them, it is Jesus who retorts by saying, "... However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." What Jesus has pointed out (and which 1 Peter 1:8-9 picks up on) is that we are to find joy in the fact that we are children of God, saved by grace, loved by the Father and co-heirs with Him - that is an incredible truth!

2. Joy is found in anticipation.

Our understanding of joy should also anticipate eschatologically the joy of being with Christ forever in the kingdom of heaven (Rev 19:7). That is why there is an association between rejoicing and suffering because it gives us perseverance to run the race that is set before us (James 1:2-4) and it anticipates the joy that comes with the perfection of our faith in Christ (Heb 12:1-2), as we look forward to the new heaven and the new earth (Rev 21:1-4).

Some thoughts on living a life of joy

- Remind yourself of who you are every day - that you are a child of God, saved by grace, loved by the Father and co-heirs with Christ Jesus.
- Despite the ups and downs of life (particularly suffering), remember that we look forward to something better - a time when we will be with God.
- Rejoice and praise God in all things because of the truth that now is and is to come.

With all these things in mind, let us therefore be people who are marked with a profound and secure understanding of our identity and our future. Why then wouldn't and shouldn't we be full of joy and intense and especially ecstatic or exultant happiness?

Clive - EU Staffworker

Meet Joel

Iain interviews first year science EUer, Joel Wallman.

Iain: Hey Joel, what's your full name, year, fave subject and fave baked goods?

Joel: Joel James Wallman, 1st year, almost definitely maths, sweet pies of any description.

I: Cool. This is your first year of uni, what's been the good bits so far?

J: The good bits have been Science Weekend Away, meeting all the new people at uni, some interesting new stuff to work on.

I: What's been the not so good bits?

J: Work... particularly sitting up late at night, trying to work on assignment, knowing I know how to do it but not knowing what I'm doing wrong.

I: Hmm... yeah that's tough. What have you liked or disliked about EU Science stuff so far?

J: Science O'Clock - its a great place to meet people and just have fun, and I liked the Science Weekend Away. It was great to spend a weekend with other Christians from the Sci-

Keep up-to-date with EU Science. Visit our website at <http://www.sueu.org.au/faculties/science>

Community Challenge

The Beginning of semester is fading and the weekend away is done, but the Christian community never ceases.

The weekend away was around a week ago, and for those that went it was a great time. Mind you, camps such as these are always a lot of fun. I think it is because you spend some time away from the pressures of the world with a group of people who share your own values and outlook on the world. (This would be a good point for me to slip in a plug for annual conference!)

God calls us into salvation and into the community of Believers, and the two cannot be separated. Herein lies the community challenge.

As EUers, we need to be loving toward each other and those who aren't part of us, Christian and otherwise. After all, our Lord does not love some more than others.

A large part of this is to be doing ministry together, or to act as partners. When we do ministry together (both for each other and for others), we grow together. This is what strengthens the Christian Community.

In the EU, this will take on lots of different forms. SEEK 5 is one way to be loving your non-Christian friends. Looking out

ence faculty. The thing I disliked about that was coming back.

I: So, Science Weekend Away hey? That was my next question. How was it? Did it rock hard?

J: [laughter] Definitely! Lots of crazy fun, the bonfire was cool, the talks were quite interesting and all the people were either as crazy as me or we're all sane, I'm not sure which.

I: Yeah, its hard to tell. The topic was Joy. What did you learn about Joy that stood out most for you?

J: Just that we can take joy in knowing that God will provide for us and that He is our strength. We don't have to try and struggle through the worst times on our own.

I: Would you go again next year?

J: [feigning reluctance] Oh, yeah, I think so.

I: Good work. Finally, any advice for other first years?

J: Don't ask first years for advice...



for EUers who you wouldn't normally talk to is another. Making your social group an inclusive one. Praying for your small group leaders. All of these things help build the body of Christ, and will create a community that is visibly different in attitude to the university.

I hope that we can build a strong Community through the rest of the year, one that is focused on Jesus and doing his work. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all over the year.

Hebrews 10:23-24 - Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

God Bless
Sean