

## COMMUNITY FORMATION TUESDAY:

**CHAPEL:** At chapel this week Matt Deverell and Alex Yu lead our time together and we look forward to having Mark Johnston (Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership) continuing our BUMP theme.

## TUESDAY LUNCH: STEVEN GREEN & SARAH HARRIS

Next year Sarah is teaching a biblical course onsite in Israel and Steven Green, from Olive Tree Travel in Sydney, is making it happen. Steven has organised many tours for theological institutions and interested groups and he is excited to be part of this trip for Carey. They are convinced that visiting ancient sites, and learning the geography and history of the land and people, can transform the reading of scripture, and reinvigorate faith. After this interview there will be a meeting for any interested students to ask all their questions.

## WEDNESDAY PRAYER

At 12:40pm each Wednesday we come together in the Chapel for a time of prayer. Please feel free to come along to join staff and students.

For the next 5 weeks we are taking some time to pray for different things/issues in our world.

Facilitator this Week: Charles Hewlett

## SASS MONDAY LUNCH DATES

This semester, as part of our free Monday lunches, there will be four themed lunches:

15th August - Chinese theme

29th August - Maori theme - guest speaker - David Moko

26th September - Chinese theme

TBC - Pacific Island

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Charles Hewlett writes... "Dear Carey Students I am writing to encourage you to make our Tuesday Formation and Community activities a priority at Carey this semester..."

[READ MORE HERE](#)

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Library Hours during semester

Monday-Thursday 8:30am-6:30pm

Friday 9am-5pm

Saturday 10am-12:30pm

### Library information skills training:

1. Library Resources  
Part One

Tuesday 2 August 2016

1:00-1:30pm

2. Library Resources  
Part Two

Tuesday 9 August 2016

1:00-1:30pm

3. Academic Writing

Tuesday 16 August 2016

1:00-1:30pm

4. Library Resources

Part Three

Tuesday 23 August 2016

1:00-1:30pm



## BEING BAGLESS

"Don't take a bag," said Jesus, when he sent first the twelve and then the seventy out on mission (Luke 9:3; 10:4). Well, I followed that instruction during the break. It wasn't intentional. I

had actually packed a bag, very carefully, planning ahead for all I'd need for each stage of a rather complicated trip to the UK and Ireland. About forty hours after leaving home, however, there I was standing at the baggage carousel in Birmingham airport, travel-worn, disheveled, and, eventually, alone. No bag.

Where had it got to? Who knew? Certainly not the battle-weary employee at the Lost Baggage counter who quickly jotted down some details and gave me a phone number to ring the next day. So there was nothing for it but to venture forth in my new state of baglessness.

I'll admit I was not completely bagless. I did have a little cloth duffel bag that I'd taken as a carry-on, but the strap had snapped so I had to clutch it like a toddler cuddling a teddy bear as I

made my way through Birmingham to Newbiggin House, where my friends Ash and Anji Barker are setting up an urban mission centre.

It was when my ring at the doorbell was answered by a young guy who didn't seem very eager to throw open the door in welcome that it dawned on me that the lack of a suitcase had implications for my identity! It was not immediately obvious that I was the expected heroic traveler from the other side of the world. I was told later that with my little duffel bag I looked as if I'd just been released from Winson Green prison up the road. Not the look I was going for. It turns out that baglessness produces humility. It certainly did the next day when my shabby travel tee-shirt, pants and trainers did nothing to mark me out as a visiting scholar to be taken seriously at a conference of startlingly well turned out church leaders and academics.

Fortunately, I was at least washed and shaved, because my baglessness had been teaching me dependency. I'd had to ask for help, accept the gift of a razor (from the startled young man who

had let me in), get the use of a washing machine (every day!), borrow socks and (I know!) underpants.

The experience that will stay with me from that time of baglessness is, however, of preaching the good news of Jesus with an extraordinary sense of the presence and work of God's Spirit. The congregation was engaged, receptive, and sharing the bread and wine of communion with them was deeply moving. I was still in my travel clothes, but on this occasion that actually seemed to be just right. It was in the Winson Green prison chapel. Yes, I did look just like all the other prisoners - no power-dressing advantage! My involuntary baglessness had given me a simple mode of identification that perhaps was part of the breaking down of barriers and that sense of connection.

Humility, dependency, identification. Perhaps that was Jesus' point.

*George*

George is the Director of Mission Research and Training