

Following in her



yet felt unable to respond with a positive answer as my two children, Jonathan and Katherine were in their Senior years at High School and would need to move onto University before the end of the 5 year contract. However, God closed other doors of opportunity given to me, even with me not taking up a 'wonderful' position offered to me in Adelaide. He wanted me in Whyalla and made that very clear over the October school holidays and while I was at the Global Leadership Summit at Seaton Family Church. We visited the next weekend as a family and my children loved it and were completely supportive about this move, despite the cost to themselves in leaving friends and a school they loved.

What influenced you to become a teacher?

My Father was an inspirational teacher and Principal as I was growing up and I think his enthusiasm and expertise influenced me greatly to look toward teaching. Teachers in my high school also recognised something in me while I helped in the primary classrooms and encouraged me to become a teacher. As I wasn't a Christian at that time, I can't say 'God called me' but He obviously did through those around me who knew me well.

What did you experience at your first teaching appointment and where?

I began teaching in the southeast for 1 term at Tennison College where I largely taught Art - Pottery as that had been my major at uni. I was only 1 year older than the eldest boy in Yr 12 and he said there was no way he was going to

I had previously been Campus Principal at the Sunrise Paradise Campus and was teaching Reception at the Fullarton Campus when I was asked by our Head of Schools, Kym Golding, to take up the position of Principal at the new Sunrise School being started in Whyalla in January 2009. I had been sensing God moving in my heart about new areas of service and so I explored this invitation over 3 months,

WHYALLA

It couldn't be done

Edgar A. Guest



Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't", but he would
be one

Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.

So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Father's Footsteps

call me Miss and I was Jacqui to him! I was then pencilled in with the Education Department to take a position at Cook! So when it came that I would actually go to Whyalla, Whyalla seemed close and huge! I had 3 contracts that year in different Whyalla schools and then went Permanent at Fisk Street Primary. It was tough as the students were tough at times..... but experience is the best way to learn!

How do you feel when students you've taught succeed in life? Do any of those students return to say thanks?

These experiences make you realize the link in the chain of a child's development that you play and it is certainly rewarding yet alarming. The responsibility of shaping young lives is not to be underestimated and taken lightly. I have had the privilege of seeing students from schools where I have taught grow into who they have been created to be, leaving high school to venture into their callings. Wow! My involvement with Sunrise students at Temple Christian College has been wonderful and we often share stories from their time in my class or in my school. Seeing one such girl who had a heart to sing and worship God, lead worship at the National CSA Conference last year is only one example of how what we do builds over the course of a child's schooling.

As headmistress do you have hands on teaching or are you involved in management and curricular work or all three?

Last year I had a larger teaching load where I

taught the R-2 Literacy block for much of the year. This year with further staff members I have been able to focus on management and support of staff and teaching practice. We have building projects happening also so I have spent more time on site development as well as organising all our resources and resource areas.

An important lesson you've learnt along the way?

There are many, however one thought comes to mind immediately, and that is to value those around me. Whether it be children, parents or staff, expressing value builds people and people build teams. Teams build communities as people are encouraged to be all they have been created to be. God's Kingdom comes in this way and the Great Commission is activated in powerful ways.

What's the next step for Jacqui Munro?

After getting my children through year 12 I may like to take a rest! No seriously, I long to see God's transforming power change lives so I guess that can happen anywhere. I am actively involved in our new Sunrise School in Port Moresby, PNG that started this year and am now helping with the development of teacher training to start up there in Jan 2011. We will start a school in Fiji in 2012 as well. I am actively involved at Bethel (CRC) in Whyalla and will help with a youth mission trip to PNG this coming January which will be an amazing opportunity for our young people to experience God in new ways.

Jacqui Munro, Whyalla

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one ever has done it";
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,

And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddity,
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
Thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you one by one,

The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done" and you'll do it.