

Farewell Minute – Rev Colin Gordon

Placement: Centralian Patrol, Alice Springs. Patrol Minister 2010 – 2015.

In 2010, Colin Gordon came from his native New Zealand, to be appointed by Frontier Services, to the Centralian Patrol. He had impressed those who interviewed him for the position, with his clear focus upon relating to the people who lived and worked in that remote part of Australia.

He showed this strength from the beginning of his ministry, and became a trusted and accepted member of this scattered community. He gained his pilot's licence, and travelled by plane or 4WD, across the patrol area and became a familiar face, and a trusted friend. They shared their thoughts, opinions and experiences, and sometimes they even entrusted him with their close confidences.

Colin was skilled in seeing how a need could be met, by making connections, and working with others. For example, he provided play-groups on stations, with the help of students from St Philips College. Or, he helped fly School of the Air teachers to remote stations, but then spent his time with the people who lived there, building relationships and providing ministry.

Colin's five-year appointment came to a close at the end of 2015. He and his wife Kim, flew back to New Zealand, and he intended to find a new opportunity to use his gifts for ministry there.

The Pilgrim Presbytery expresses its thanks to Colin, for; his willingness and flexibility in serving the people who live and work in that remote part of this territory, and for his help as the Deputy Chairperson of the Presbytery.

We are also grateful to God for the gift and grace that Colin brought into our midst.

Rev Bruce Slater