

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Aleem Ali



As a social entrepreneur, pastor, mentor and facilitator, Aleem loves little more than working with passionate people to implement great ideas that advance the common good. Awarded and recognised for his contribution to the community, Aleem has spent the past 20 years seeding and mentoring the development of various outstanding programs and enterprises. Currently, Aleem is the Manager of *Welcome to Australia's* new national initiative, *Welcoming Cities*, and planting a faith community in Brisbane.

James Alley



James is an illustrator, designer and artist. After graduating in 2000 from QCA with a Bachelor of Design, James worked as an Art Director at *Billabong* while creating and exhibiting locally and having his work featured in various publications. After a year working and travelling in London, James came home to work on community-focused design projects at *Human Ventures* in 2007. Working for a social enterprise providing programs for marginalised young people and rural and indigenous communities nurtured a desire to use creativity for good and not evil. In 2010 James started a design and illustration studio while studying at Malyon and interning with a local church. Since then his studio has completed numerous creative projects for no-profits, churches, creatives and businesses. When not creating or spending time with his family or friends, James likes exploring how to connect faith and culture in meaningful ways.

Dave Benson



As a former high school teacher, youth worker and Pastor, Dave is passionate about forging a public Christian faith that seeks the flourishing of all in Australia's post-Christendom culture. He lectures at Malyon College in the areas of evangelism, apologetics, worldviews, faith-work integration and practical theology, and is the Director of *Traverse*, the Malyon Centre for Bridging Church and Culture.

Anomi Bruynius



Anomi is a qualified strategic asset management professional with over 20 years of experience in a wide variety of physical asset intensive industries, both in the private and public sectors. She consults to organisations to improve their asset performance and asset management practices through leading edge technology and expert advice. Anomi also owns four restaurants in Brisbane - *Park 7 Diner* is an American themed restaurant and three Sri Lankan/Indian restaurants. Anomi's prime reason for working is to raise money for charity. Underpinning her commercial enterprises has been the establishment of the ANT Foundation, a non-profit organisation that supports a wide range of worldwide causes with a particular focus on Christian charity.

Susan Chapman



Susan Chapman has worked as a high school music teacher, primary school performing arts teacher, tertiary drama teacher, author, speaker and performer. She has performed live and on TV and radio, including duo work writing and performing with her husband Chris, and four adult children. They have published books of plays and toured the UK twice, working with British author and speaker, Adrian Plass. Her PhD study at Griffith University concerns Arts Immersion.

Jenny Cox



Jenny Cox is a recently retired secondary school teacher who has taught in high schools and TAFE colleges throughout the state. In this working environment, she has had opportunity to develop and model kingdom values inside the classroom and in the wider school community. Jenny has headed up the Women's Ministry at Ashgrove Baptist Church for the past seven years. She has also helped organise and facilitate *Careforce - Life Keys* courses which explore the dynamics of relationships within families, work situations and the community. A mother of four, Jenny has recently celebrated forty-two years of married life.

Jonno Farrell



Jonathan is a Chartered civil engineer with 15 years experience in the water industry. He manages the design and delivery of major infrastructure projects in the Greater Brisbane area. Jonathan is passionate about seeing communities flourish through the sustainable development and safe provision of quality water and sanitation infrastructure. He sees his vocation as a calling and believes in a dependence on a creative God for inspiration and wisdom to perform this role. Jonathan is passionate about creating a culture of prayer in the workplace to see that environment thrive and ultimately achieve the goal of enriching quality of life for communities.

Anna Farrell



Anna is a clinician and researcher in the healthcare setting. She has worked internationally with extensive experience working as a healthcare professional in London, United Kingdom. She sees it as an immense privilege to be a health professional.

Duncan Gibb



During his 30 years in civil construction, Duncan has been driven by a need to find solutions to engineering problems. He is a qualified Civil Engineer whose expertise has been instrumental in the success of numerous projects and programs in Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia. Notable examples are the Christchurch post-earthquake horizontal infrastructure rebuild, multi-billion dollar Australian motorway upgrades and New Zealand projects. In 2013, Duncan was made an honorary Fellow of the Institute of Civil Engineering UK and appointed as the 10th Brunel International Lecturer. He is also a Fellow of Engineers Australia and the Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand.

Mark Greene



Mark used to work in advertising and is prepared to admit it. He's now Executive Director of the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity. Mark is a champion for workplace ministry and mission in everyday contexts, speaks widely and has written a number of books including *Thank God it's Monday*, *Supporting Christians at Work*, *The Great Divide*, and *Fruitfulness on the Frontline*.

Adam James



Adam James is a social entrepreneur. After working for ten years as a support worker for at-risk youth and people with disabilities, Adam began a social enterprise cafe. *Cup From Above* exists to champion disadvantaged people in the community and is used as a vehicle for community development. The cafe is now a registered charity with multiple programs and is primarily run by volunteers. Two thirds of the volunteers are Christian and hail from 14 different denominations. Adam holds an organic weekly church meeting at the cafe where people from many denominations connect. He is passionate about connecting the far corners of the church and seeing the body of Christ united in this city.

Andrew Laird



Andrew has a background in radio journalism, holding degrees in media and theology. He works for the City Bible Forum in Melbourne where directs a program called *Life@Work* (lifeatwork.org.au). He is also the Dean of the Marketplace Institute at Ridley College where he lectures in the area of faith & work. He is currently undertaking research for a Masters thesis in missional ethics. He is married and has two young children.

Alistair Macpherson



Alistair has been a lawyer for 15 years, practicing in various government roles (including as a criminal prosecutor) before moving into private practice. He is currently a Director of Corney & Lind Lawyers and leads the Dispute Resolution and Litigation teams within the practice. He also serves on the Board of Queensland Baptists and studies part-time at Malyon College. He is married to Leigh and has two young children, one alpaca and one goat.

Kara Martin



Kara Martin is former Associate Dean of the Marketplace Institute at Ridley College in Melbourne. She has worked in media and communications, human resources, business analysis and policy development roles, in a variety of organisations, and as a consultant. She was Director of the School of Christian Studies for three years and has lectured with Macquarie Christian Studies Institute and Wesley Institute. Kara has a particular passion for integrating our Christian faith and work, as well as helping churches connect with the workers in their congregations. She is married to David, and they have two amazing adult children, Jaslyn and Guy.

Deb Mostert



Deb has a contemporary art practise that is some 25 years young involving drawing, painting and lately, some small sculpture. She is wife to Noel and mother to 3 adult followers of Christ. Deb is continuing to weave Grace, Truth and Beauty into her practise and to actively pursue the breaking of boundaries between the sacred and banal. She exhibits widely to openly engage in conversations within a contemporary Australian Art environment.

Scott Pasley



Scott Pasley is married to the lovely Deb and has three young children. Scott works with City Bible Forum in Brisbane, where he helps Christians to grow in their confidence in Jesus in the workplace and helps enquirers meet Jesus in the city. He has experience working behind the desk in construction and infrastructure planning, in pastoral ministry, as well as labouring on coal wagons and loaders. Scott loves cycling, caramel lattes, carpentry, and Catan, Carcasone and Colt Express.

Rod St Hill



Rod is Academic Director and Dean of Business at CHC Higher Education in Brisbane. His passion is teaching business in a Christ-centred, Bible-based worldview context. He has published over 40 papers and book chapters in economics, learning and teaching and theology of business. As one of the leaders at the Global Business As Mission Congress in 2013, he was responsible for publication of *'Your kingdom come, your will be done...in business'*. He mentors Christian leaders and sits on the boards of a number of not-for-profit organisations. He is an Academic Advisor to the *Third Path Initiative* and a foundation member of the Council on Business & Theology. Rod has been married to Jeanette for 35 years and is Dad to two married daughters.

Bec Vallee



Bec Vallee has worked as clinical nurse at Ipswich hospital for two years. She has worked across most areas and has recently specialised in Cardiac Intensive Care and community management. Bec is married to Pastor Ryan Vallee and attends Kenmore Baptist church. Over the years she has spoken at a range of conferences and high schools and loves to engage with young adults and people exploring what this wild adventure of life and faith is all about!



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