



Study Visit to Malaysia

October 2019, Issue 92

During the last week of August, a six-member delegation from Toowoomba was sponsored by the Pure Land Learning College Association to attend an international seminar in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The delegation led by Mr. Haniff included Ms. Kate Venables, Director, CatholicCare; Senior Sergeant Debbie Haworth, Queensland Police Service; Mr. John Agnew, Chair of Downs and Toowoomba Churches Together; Dr. Stephen Wanyonyi, Chaplain Coordinator, University of Southern Queensland; and Ms. Meiling Chow, Youth Program Coordinator, Multi-Faith Multicultural Centre PLLCA.

The seminar titled, "Religious values in preventing and countering violent extremism" was organised by the Allied Coordinating Committee of Islamic NGO's (ACCIN) and was held at the International Islamic University Malaysia. The meeting featured prominent international speakers and was graced by the Minister for Home Affairs, Malaysia who acknowledged Toowoomba's role in forging interfaith harmony. Mr Haniff and Senior Sergeant Haworth addressed the gathering.



The delegation was invited for a visit and dialogue with various faith groups at the Buddhist Maha Vihara, a major Buddhist establishment in Kuala Lumpur. At the Maha Vihara, each member of the delegation spoke briefly about their work in Queensland and Mr. Haniff and Senior Sergeant Haworth addressed the meeting as members of a select panel of delegates.

The delegation also received a special invitation from the Malaysian Academy of Han Studies, a leading institution with a focus on ancient Chinese philosophy and its application in present day Asia.



Dr. Stephen Wanyonyi
Member, Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group

Carnival of Flowers



Members of the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group participated in the floral parade on 21 September 2019

Abrahamic Faith Gathering



A dialogue session on 'Forgiveness' was held at St Anthony's community hall on 18 September 2019