

# 2018 ANNUAL REVIEW

## MULTIPLYING GOSPEL WORKERS THROUGH MINISTRY APPRENTICESHIPS

*"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses,  
entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others"*

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

## DIRECTOR BEN PFAHLERT

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Thank you for your support in 2018 - the 40th year of MTS.

The 40th birthday reminded me again that MTS is a multi-generational, transformational Gospel ministry. MTS is not a flash in the pan. It is required long term. As the MTS Movement's Training Family Tree gets bigger with time, the impact in Australia and the world will compound.

Emma, the family and I committed to this work in January 2007. We've been in the role 13 years and it feels like we have just got started. We still have so much to learn and there is so much left to do. Thank you for walking alongside us in Gospel partnership.

The highlights of 2018 for me were:

### Re-writing the MTS Towards 2022 Strategic Plan

- The MTS Board put hours into this
- The fruit is a document that has unified the MTS volunteers nationwide behind the one vision

### The MTS 40th Celebration at The Roundhouse (UNSW) in June

- You can see the video chapter of each part of the event on YouTube. 4 short videos recording the history of MTS can be viewed at [vimeo.com/mtslive](https://vimeo.com/mtslive).

### The growth of the January G8 Conference

- The national training conference for all Trainers and Apprentices

### The growth of MTS in South America through Pato & Dagmar Oyarzun (Chile)

- They have grown fledgling MTS works in Cuba, Argentina and Mexico

### The launch of the Mandarin MTS Pilot

- 2 x apprentices in Sydney
- All training materials translated into Chinese

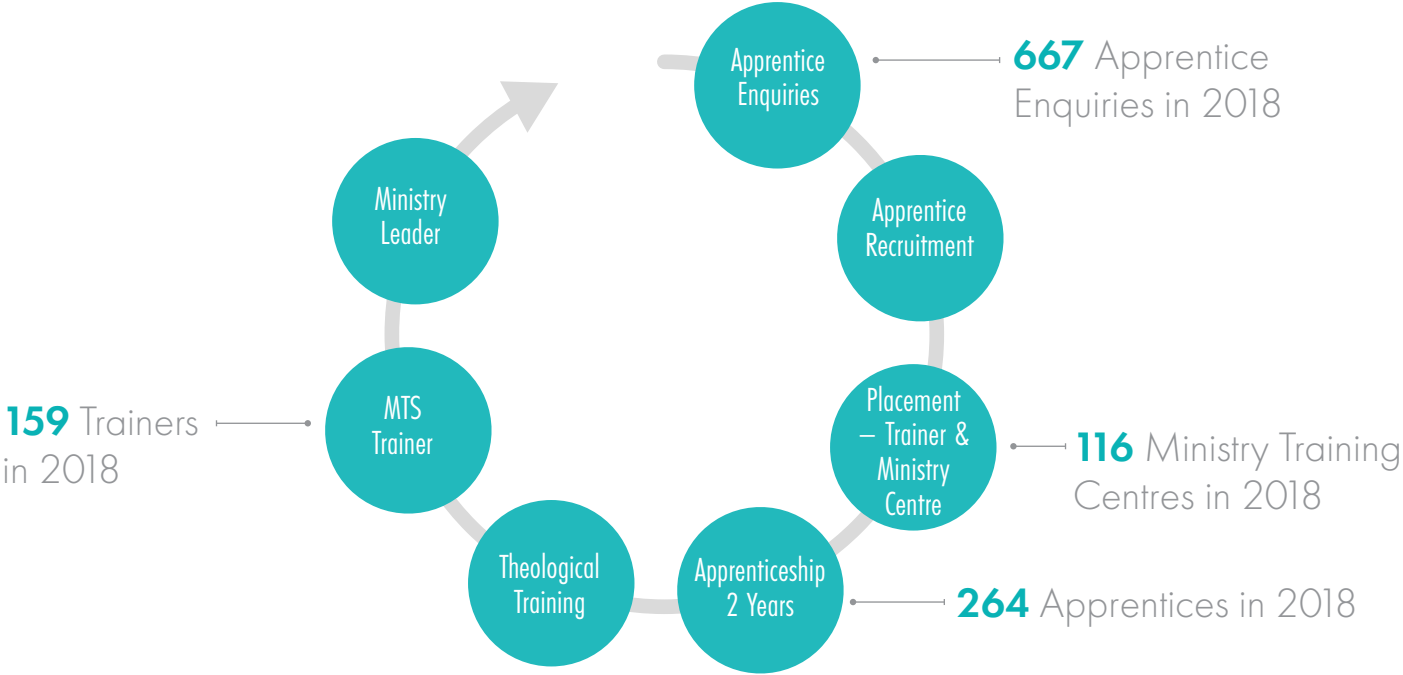
A day will come in the future, when we are all old and gray and we look back on our lives. I am very confident that none of us will think, "The resources I poured into MTS were wasted". Real men and women, in real time are being trained up to multiply themselves across the decades. The MTS Training Family Tree is growing in ever increasing measure with each year.

Praise God.

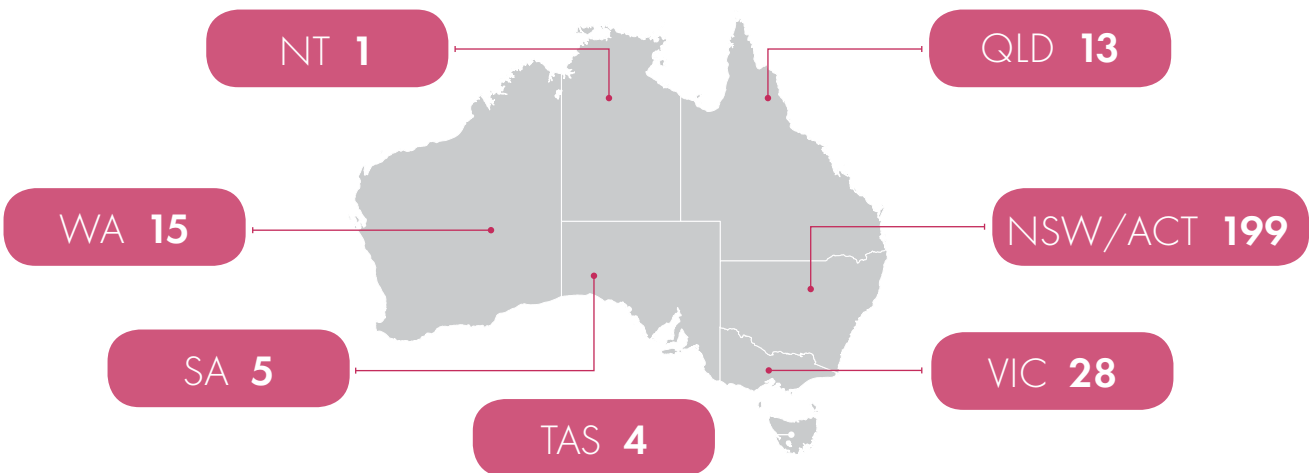
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ben Pfahlert".



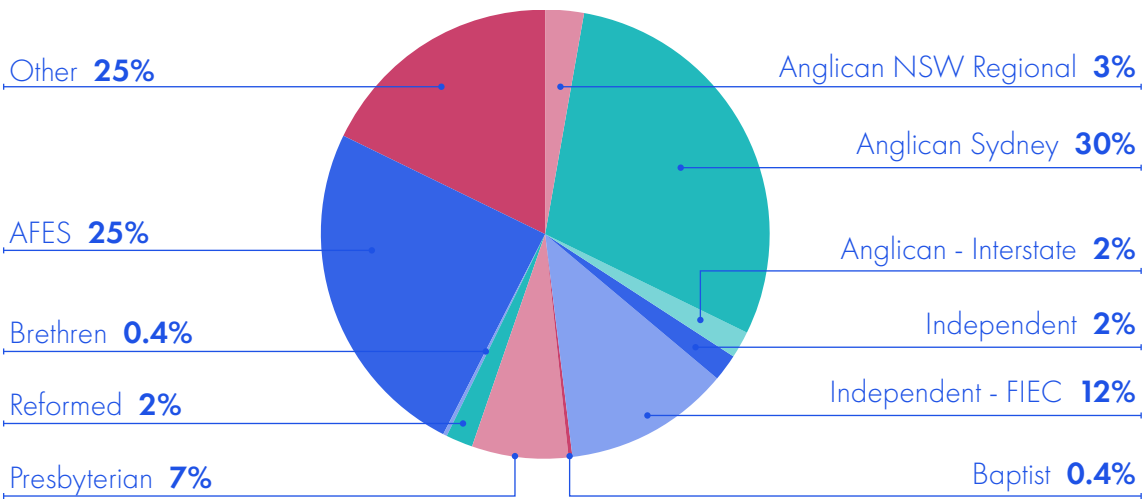
# CYCLE OF GOSPEL GROWTH



## NUMBER OF APPRENTICES BY STATE



## APPRENTICES BY DENOMINATION





## PARTNERS IN MINISTRY



*Chris Mok and Dave Abraham – St Lucia Bible Church, Queensland*

### APPRENTICE CHRIS MOK



#### *Chris, what did you do before your apprenticeship?*

I worked as an engineer in Brisbane – specialising in stormwater quality and flood management. Putting together 2D flood models / simulations were definitely a highlight!

#### *What led you to an MTS apprenticeship? Were you encouraged by someone?*

I was convicted that the most important thing in life is for people to hear the good news of Jesus in the bible and believe. And so I loved the idea of being able to read the bible with people as a full-time gig for two years - what an incredible opportunity. I also wanted to see Christians in church, freed from the entanglement of sin, that they may not chuck-in the faith, but instead be free to bear much gospel fruit in the praise of Jesus. Yes - I had a couple of pastors, Dave Pitt and Dave Abraham, on my back for a few years. I'm very grateful for both of them.

#### *What are 1 or 2 surprising things in ministry you have discovered during your apprenticeship that you didn't expect to?*

I was surprised at the differences between ministry as a layperson and ministry as full-time worker. I thought it would be the same, but it feels like there is more responsibility and more people are affected by my own walk with God – it's a bigger test of conviction and character than I initially expected it to be. I didn't think that God would grow me so much through this time. I didn't think I'd struggle so much to manage my time and rest (there is just so much ministry that can be done).

#### *Finally Chris, what may be in your future?*

Serving God in a local church, hopefully bible college.

## TRAINER DAVE ABRAHAM

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### *Dave, how long have you been a trainer, did you do an apprenticeship yourself?*

I've been training apprentices since 2012 and have trained 4 apprentices including Chris. I did a part-time MTS apprenticeship in 2005-2006 at Denham Court Anglican Church in South West Sydney and also fixed computers at a school part time. My wife also did MTS apprenticeship part time for 2005 (and then had our first child).

### *What role did you play in encouraging Chris to consider an apprenticeship?*

I disciplined Chris for a couple of years. I think I applied the brakes. Chris was keen, he'd been thinking about it for a while. I encouraged him to consider his motives for wanting to do an apprenticeship, the seriousness of vocational ministry, the cost involved, as well as the importance of character. I wanted him, not just to do it, but really consider if this was right for him, and he was right for it. Chris has been a wonderful encouragement and it has been a great blessing to work along side and train him in ministry!

### *What aspect of ministry (character, conviction, competency) would you consider you have seen Chris significantly grow in?*

**Competency:** More confident leading upfront, more organised, grown in his ability as a leader of leaders, including being able to train, organise and motivate others. He has grown as a small group leaders and in his capacity to encourage and equip young men and empower them for ministry.

**Conviction:** We've wrestled through theology together, reading The Cross of Christ by John Stott, which has been very helpful for seeing the significance of the cross. A growing trust in God and how Chris acts in response.

**Character:** Reliability in caring for ministries and people under his care, faithfulness, initiative in being observant to anticipate ministry needs and serve in ways which bless others, – inputting into the character of others and growing himself

### *How does MTS fit into your role as a Christian leader?*

I'm Children and Youth Pastor at St Lucia Bible Church. My whole role is based around equipping leaders for a lifetime of faithful service in God's church – to be equipped to raise up young people to maturity in Christ. The way we teach, grow and train people is through the word of God and sharing of our lives, MTS is exactly this, but more intense; there are greater opportunities for sharing life and God's Word. I can work with Chris together in leading others, and I can give him space as he leads others to learn and grow and develop and gain experience as he leads and serves.

Having an MTS apprentice is a lot of work personally with regard to training and resourcing – and also extends the ministry incredibly.

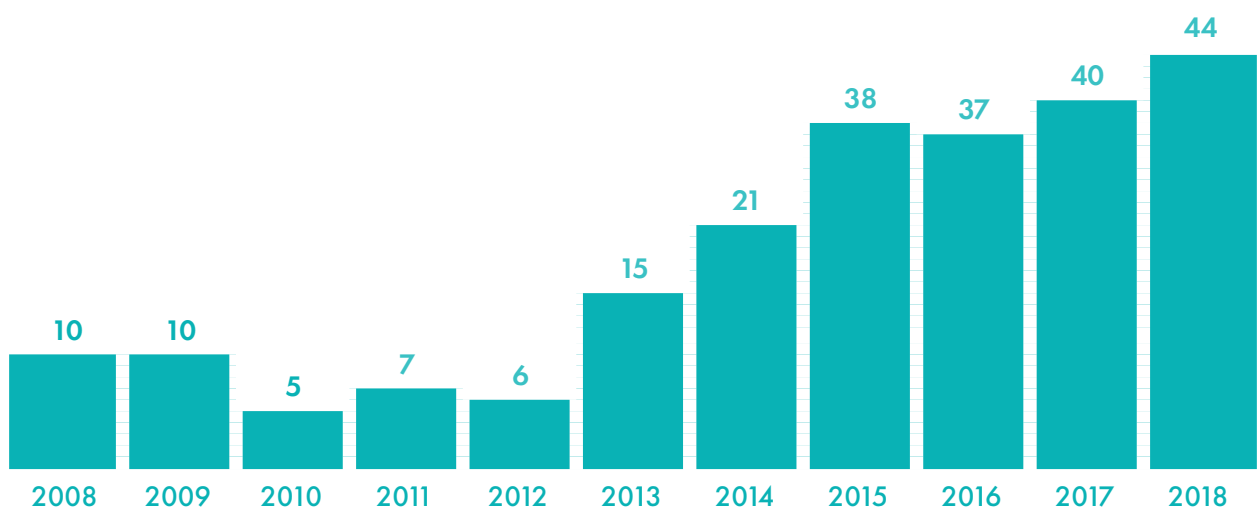


1 in 29 Australians have never heard the name Jesus

## NUMBER OF **MTS APPRENTICES**



## NUMBER OF **FIRST YEAR SCHOLARSHIP APPRENTICES**



Number of candidates challenged to apprenticeship in Australia

**667**