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How can anyone put his faith in Christ if he's never even heard about Him? How can he hear about Him if no one tells?  
Romans 10:14

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## Victorian Conference News

April Edition/2014

Bringing you news from our local churches across Victoria and from our Conference Departments, sharing information, inspiration and encouragement

### From the Editor

### So much to be thankful for...

As a Conference, we have so much for which to be thankful. Our main conference evangelistic initiatives are well underway... and we are seeing opportunities such as never before. So let's not be distracted by daily challenges surrounding us, but stay focused and faithful. I invite you to keep on praying: for God's leadership in His church; for the Holy Spirit to work on the hearts of those we have, and will reach; for those who are actively engaged working with seekers; and for God to bring someone across your path – someone with whom you can share your faith. As the Apostle said in Hebrews 12, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way... keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end...



[Read full editorial here...](#)



## Local Church News

### Clark and Marissa's Story

BY Clark Pelaez

In November, Clark and Marissa accepted a call to baptism, made by Pr Graeme Christian while preaching at Echuca Church. In January they were baptized and their five year old son was dedicated, and they returned to the Philippines during April with bags of books to share with their families and friends who have only heard of their touching journey from afar. "We previously had trust in God, but now we also have learnt obedience to his word," they say.

[Read their inspiring testimony of God's guiding, of despair and of ultimate triumph...](#)



### A Huge Event

By Pr Darren Croft

St Albans members had a day they will not forget, with the Croatian ambassador joining them from Canberra, to attend his first Seventh-day Adventist function.

[But this was not their main reason for celebrating...](#)



### A Walk Across

By Mandy Hegarty

As acknowledgment of their achievements and the transitional time they were in as eighteen year olds, Wantirna church held a 'rite of passage' ceremony for its youth, telling them that they do matter...

[more](#)



### Diversity within Unity

By Robert Bryson

Our congregations at Werribee found that, like



### The 'Stayers' Trot Off

By Elayne Stanford

Ferntree Gully members said farewell to Ray and

at Pentecost, Christianity can dissolve linguistic and cultural barriers, as they met together to share in worship at point Cook. [more](#)

Del Boehm, who after 45 years of attending the church, have moved to NSW.

[We wish them God's blessing...](#)

## Just to be Heard

By IntraVic

Langwarry Church members are discovering that to reach out to the Aboriginal community around them, they need to sit down and listen.

[They need to let their neighbours tell them their stories...](#)



## Plenty Going On...

By Allan Gray

...At Plenty Valley Adventist Church! Baptisms, service trips, CHIP events... And earlier this year, their emergency response was tested... [and was successful](#)

## "Help Me Find You"

By Mandy Hegarty

March first, Wantirna church members witnessed the baptism of Ana Rufino. You can read her story [here...](#)

## Building Fences

By IntraVic

While Blazeaid volunteers were repairing fences after January's fires, Church members from Horsham Church, in conjunction with ADRA Australia, were cooking up a storm to feed the [hungry workers...](#)

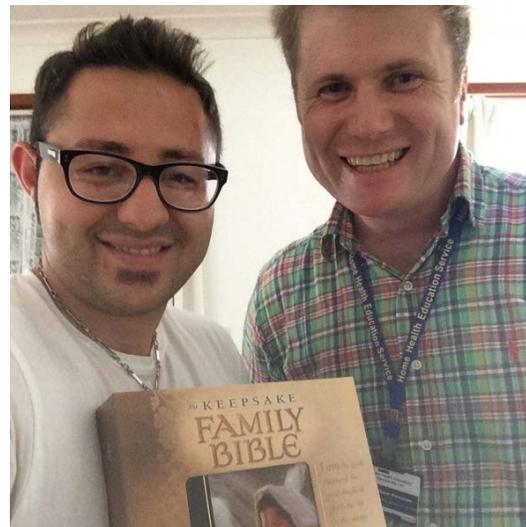
## Departmental News



## ADRA Connection - Laos

By Rosemary, Hanna & Mary-ann

Last year a Connections team, consisting of members from a number of churches, travelled to Laos. Upon their return, they said: "When you find yourself in circumstances limited by



## Dauntless

By Joe Paola

In this increasingly isolating age, finding someone willing to listen can be difficult. Our Literature Evangelists are often called to do just that – to listen to, and then pray with those

communication, resources and time, it is hard to measure 'success'." However their project has since been completed, and they have learnt to measure success through God's eyes...

[Read more...](#)

they visit. And this is just one of the ways they are working dauntlessly for their Lord. Here we share with you some of their stories from recent months, working in Werribee and Castlemaine.

[Read more...](#)

## Congratulations...

By IntraVic

Nunawading Christian College recently received the City of Whitehorse Sustainability Award, which recognizes individuals, schools, businesses and community groups within the council, who achieve outstanding levels of sustainability in their daily environment. The College received the title of 2014 Whitehorse Sustainable School and was highly commended as the overall sustainability winners. Special thanks to Mrs Helen Reed, for her work as the sustainability coordinator.



## Complete Well-being

By Sibilla Johnson

Health is much more than life without pain and disease. It is a state of complete physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being. Sibilla Johnson, our Health Director for the Victorian Conference, discusses this further [here...](#)



## Dinners With...

By IntraVic

The evangelistic dinners with Gary Kent were held in three locations across Melbourne during April, with a good attendance, and we ask that you pray for those who were there. Follow this [link](#) for photos and more details of these events...

## From the President

Graeme Christian

As many of you are aware following the Constituency meeting last year, our Conference is facing a difficult time financially. But I am pleased to report that while we are endeavouring to deal with these challenges, we are not distracted from the core business of our Church. It is exciting to see our Evangelism 2014 plan being implemented and succeeding. Your ongoing support and prayers are very much appreciated.

For a report on what had been happening with Evangelism 2014 – [click here](#)

For an Executive Committee overview – [click here](#)



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