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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

June/2014

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

From the Editor

Core Business

What's central to the church life in your church? As Seventh-day Adventists, we have every reason to say Christ is the centre of our lives and our churches. The apostle reminded us to fix our eyes on Jesus, who is the 'author and finisher of our faith' (see Hebrews 12:2) and we're working on that! The simplest way to know what's central is to evaluate where resources are invested – both people resources and funds. Jesus gave the church it's job description. We're here to make disciples, to teach and to baptise. That's our core business. How is your church keeping our core business at the centre of its church life?



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Local Church News



Evangelism 2014

By IntraVic & R Bryson

Churches in the South East and South West have been incredibly active this year, working together with the Conference in a collaborative evangelistic effort. Guest presenters have been brought to the Conference and their programs simultaneously run in the two regions, with local church members providing the backbone needed to make this happen. In this article we share with you some of what has been happening recently. As you read more, ask yourself what your own church could be doing for its community, to share our message of hope.

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What do YOU Want to Be?

By Karen Collum

What do you want to be when you grow up? This was the question the children of Ballarat Church explored during Kidz Church. Presented by Children's Ministries leader, Katherine Darroch, she got the kids involved in telling the story of Samuel anointing David. After the service, Katherine ran a Faith Shapers



Success in Health

By Jared Martin

Centuries ago, the apostle John said "I wish above all things that you prosper and be in health" The year started for Macedon Ranges Health Ministry with Sibilla Johnson conducting a Food Handling course. All 23 attendees were from the community, with

workshop – an opportunity for members to commit to supporting the children of the church and intentionally shape their faith.

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a representation from the local Secondary College Chaplaincy. Several people attending have expressed an interest in a recipe club, one even volunteering her home if needed!

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1-2-3- Changing Lives

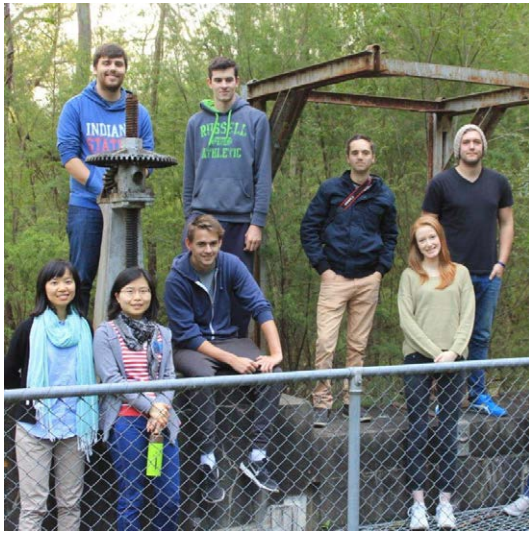
By Sonja Larsen, Asian Aid

Years ago Glenn & Lindy Sperring of Nunawading Adventist Church felt “impressed” to expand their family by sponsoring another child. Later they became involved with a second sponsorship, through their Sabbath School class. A third opportunity arose when Lindy encouraged the Year 12 Class at NCC to take on sponsorship as a class project. Read more here, and ask yourself is this a way you too, could help share God’s love.

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Departmental News



YPW Retreat 2014

By Darren Croft

The annual retreat for Youth Pastoral Workers recently took place at Jumbunna Lodge in the beautiful Yarra Valley. This event provides training and networking opportunities to assist their local church work. The relaxed setting gives the YPW's a chance to mix with those from other churches undertaking similar ministry roles and learn from each other as they share their different experiences.

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VicYouth/ADRA Basketball

By Will Tai Tin

In May, VicYouth and ADRA combined resources to host an event which speaks a universal language – which brings together groups who may otherwise have little in common, with a single goal... To play ball... and in the process increase awareness and funds for ADRA. It was the annual Basketball tournament, and was once again, a huge success.

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Victorian Education

News from our Schools

Each year within our schools, a week is set aside, sometimes called a Festival of Faith, other times Week of Worship. But whatever it is called, it is a week where the atmosphere at the school changes. Students develop an increased awareness of spiritual issues, closer bonds are forged and lives are committed to Christ. This month two of our schools share their special weeks with us.

Another yearly event within our schools is the trip to Avondale that the senior students take, and Heritage College shares its experience with us.

Edinburgh College recently had a huge celebration with the 50th anniversary of the secondary college and Henderson College hosted a successful Alphabet Ark with just five weeks to prepare.



From the President

By Graeme Christian

Once again Pr Christian shares with you a number of conference matters and decisions made at the last conference committee. He touches on Elmore Camp for 2015 as well as reporting further the future of the Nunawading Estate.

“Please continue to pray, because as I’ve said before, if ever we needed prayer support, we need it now.”

[read more](#)



Live It Out

By Natasha Jakolew

May 17 was a big day for ADRA and VicYouth. The morning saw Billy Otto present at the teen rally, held in the school hall at Nunawading Christian College, and this was followed by an outreach training and information session in the afternoon. the day concluded with a concert promoting awareness and cooperation between Burmese and Australian Communities.

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Living Well

By Lyle Southwell

The Adventist Discovery Centre is excited about its new health correspondence course. ‘In my opinion Living Well is by far the best health course of its type that I have seen to this point’ says director of the centre, Lyle Southwell. Developers pray it will be a useful tool in bringing people to a closer relationship with their Creator.

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Front Line

By Our Literature Evangelists

Over the last month, a number of stories have come in from our literature evangelists. We have a report from the campaign in the Longwarry and Gisborne regions. We hear how Damian prayed with a man who had not prayed for over 30 years, and Matt tells how he sang happy birthday to a delightful soon-to-be mum and prayed with a newlywed Sikh lady. Our literature evangelists are truly on the frontline of a spiritual war, working diligently to reclaim people, creating opportunities for the Holy Spirit to work on the hearts of their contacts. We ask that you keep them in your prayers as they work from door to door, meeting, ministering and praying with those who open up.

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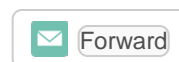
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