

I have come that they may have life,
and have it to the full. John 10:10 NIV



Intraviv

IntraVic / Victorian Conference News / June 2009

12.3% TITHE INCREASE

304 PEOPLE JOIN CHURCH IN '08

THROUGH BAPTISM AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

GIVING PRAISE to GOD

and THANKS

to YOU

see page four for full story

MAKING HISTORY FOR GOD

Moe loane's commissioning was
the first of its kind in the world...

see page three for full story



A note from THE EDITOR...



Pr Denis Hankinson
PRESIDENT

Part of my role this year has been to oversee Cranbourne Church and one thing I look forward to is to read the Bulletin. Here is an allegorical story that took my attention recently, courtesy of our faithful Cranbourne Bulletin Editor Peter Landgren.

Walking through the forest, a seasoned hiker came upon a broad, slowly moving river. He stopped to gaze over the waters, appreciating the beauty, when suddenly he heard a faint cry coming from upstream. Looking in

the direction of the noise, he saw a man who was obviously drowning, floundering in the river and drifting slowly toward him. Stunned momentarily, he quickly sprang into action as he saw the man disappear beneath the waters.

Throwing off all of his cumbersome gear, he dived into the river and swam toward the spot where the man went under, then plunged below the surface and frantically hauled up the helpless man. Laboriously he towed the victim to shore and heaved the lifeless body up on the riverbank, attempting to revive the man, who eventually spat up water and began to breathe.

Relieved, the hiker paused to catch his breath, but no sooner had he done so than he heard another voice out on the water. Another drowning person! Once again he swam out and pulled that person to shore - a little more slowly this time. As the hiker-turned lifeguard revived the second victim, he heard yet another cry for help.

All day long the hiker worked, rescuing one person after another as they came drifting down the river. There seemed to be no end of drowning victims and the hiker didn't think he could keep it up.

Just when he was about to collapse from exhaustion, he spotted another man walking rapidly beside the river, headed upstream. "Hey mister!" he cried out. "Please help me! These poor people are drowning!"

Amazingly, the man kept walking upstream. The astonished hiker called out again. Without even acknowledging the cry, the man kept going. Indignant and angry, the hiker leapt to his feet, ran toward the seemingly uncompassionate man and stood directly in his path. "Sir! How can you possibly walk past all these drowning people? Have you no conscience? Must I force you to help me save these people?"

The stranger stopped, looked at him for the first



time and said in a calm voice, "Sir, please get out of my way. I am headed upstream to stop the guy who is pushing all these people in."

This story 'hit home' to me for a number of reasons. At the age of 16, I stood on the riverbank of the Murray like the hiker in this story. It was mid-morning. The scenery was beautiful and the excitement and adventure of a Conference Youth Camp lay ahead. With two fellow campers, I pushed off into the flooded river below the weir in a small, aluminium, outboard dinghy to follow a houseboat through the loch. I paused to negotiate the way we would take as the weir was turbulent in places. Suddenly, I heard some shouting and saw people on the hill above waving their arms and pointing to something ahead of us. I scanned the rushing water and saw the cause of their frantic actions - an overturned dinghy with two men flailing in the water nearby.

Stunned momentarily, I sprang into action opening the throttle, all the while keeping my eyes peeled in the drowning men's direction. After what seemed an hour, we reached the spot. I kicked off my shoes and barked instructions, "keep a look out, hold the tinnie steady and pray!" Already, one man had disappeared while the other continued to flail. Adrenalin surging through me, I dived into the murky, boiling turbulence to rescue the lost man.

Minutes later, I surfaced empty-handed, gulping desperately for air only to see the other man's hand reaching through the surface of the water as if grasping for light and life. Instantaneously, I plunged for the second man and after what seemed a lifetime, frantically hauled him to the surface. By this time other boats joined the rescue effort. "Over here mate!" I heard from another boat that had joined the rescue effort. When they dragged him aboard, **I knew two things: God was my strength and my hours of swimming training and lifesaving skills had paid off.**

No time to waste, I dived again and again to find the other man - just in case, but to no avail. A few months later, it would be this man's parents and family who shook my hand and thanked me just after the Governor General awarded me a bronze medal from the Royal Life Saving Society.

Little did I know that God would later call me to the ministry of saving souls for His kingdom. I feel privileged to have served in ministry in Victoria as both the 'hiker-turned lifeguard' and the 'man heading upstream'.

Recently, a number of people have asked about my plans for the future. Let me say in reply, that I hope to be in the place God wants me to be.

I do, however, have a personal perspective. It has been a real privilege to have led our Victorian churches in administrative ministry over the past nine years. God has been good and we have seen many of His blessings. As the 'man heading upstream' found, leadership is never easy, and I feel personally that nine years as President in one Conference is enough.

My preference is to take Long Service Leave in 2010. The Executive has kindly granted my request and thus, in fairness to the Victorian Conference, I will not be seeking re-election at the next session on November 8, 2009.

So 'til then, I say to those of you who stand by the stream of life where people are flailing: "Keep watch! Go in God's strength and use your God-given gifts to bring people to a full life with Jesus - now and for eternity."

Pastor Dennis

A HISTORICAL COMMISSIONING

It was a momentous event on Sabbath May 9, as our church leaders and laity gathered together to witness Moe Ioane's Commissioning for Ministry. She joins Sally Hall (NNSW), Pirooska Vranjakne-Feith (WA) and Kylie Ward (now in NZ) in a small, but growing group of Australia's commissioned women ministers.

"It was very exciting to be part of Moe's commissioning," said Pastor Rob Steed, Ministerial Secretary for the Victorian Conference. **"Not only is she the first woman to be a Youth Director in Australia, she is possibly the first Samoan woman to be commissioned in the world.** Most importantly though, Moe is a first class young minister who will continue to contribute significantly to God's church."

During the commissioning service, Pastor Eddie Erika, a fellow Samoan minister, referred to the historical significance, as he recalled how he took Moe to Samoa several years ago, to introduce church members to the concept of women ministers. "While there were some reservations there, and some nervousness on Moe's part, she soon won them over."

When confirming that Moe is indeed the first Samoan woman minister to be commissioned, Pastor Erika Puni, Stewardship Director of the General Conference, added "Please convey to Moe our congratulations."

Moe has touched the lives of many Victorians, whether it be through her music ministry, her chaplaincy and work as a pastor, or



in her more recent role with the Pathfinders and Youth as Youth Ministries Director.

She has long had a passion for various forms of ministry, and told of how she came to accept the Conference call to minister here in Victoria - of how it was God's direct answer to her prayer of where He wanted her to be.

Recently engaged, Moe put her fiancé, Adrian Stiles on the spot, offering him the microphone while giving her response. He stepped up to the mark, pledging his ongoing support through the challenges Moe will face as a pastor.

The Victorian Conference greatly values Moe and her ministry and praises God for the way He has blessed in her life.

The Conference would also like to congratulate her and Adrian, on their engagement, wishing them God's ongoing blessings in their partnership and their ministry.



Pastors Erika, Steed, Hankinson, Christian and Stanley with Moe and Adrian in front row



Pr Erika recalls Moe's visit to Samoa



Moe's Parents



Music is ever a part of Moe's Ministry



Congratulations, Moe and Adrian

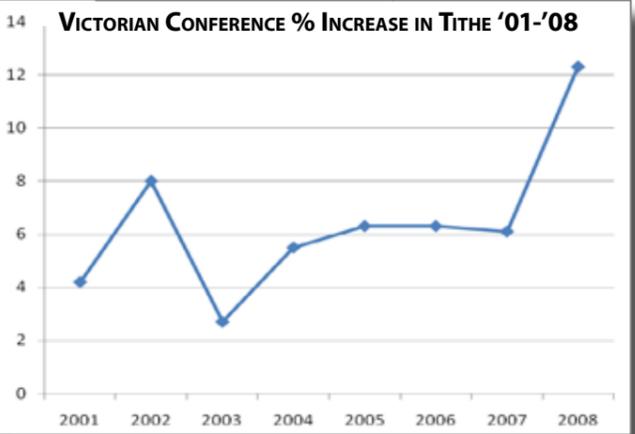
GOD'S BLESSINGS POUR OUT...

I am always in awe at the commitment of our people to God's work in this world. At the recent Union Executive Pastor Chester Stanley recommended to the Presidents that we affirm our people for their tithe faithfulness. **Victoria's tithe increase for 2008 was 12.3%.** On behalf of the Victorian Conference Team I thank God for the faithfulness of each member in returning to God their tithe and offering. **The average increase of other Conferences in Australia was 6.5%, well above the CPI of 4%.** Chester went on to note how increasingly Independent Ministries or special projects are calling for and attracting member's funds.

On that point I would like to especially honour church members' tithe that has come from major projects, such as large amounts of up to \$100,000. In Victoria this figure was higher than normal for 2008, being over \$400,000. As noted by a Conference Administrator, this tithe is often used for special projects, it is great to see the trust and support that members place in the Conference by their increasing tithe faithfulness.

It is great to see the trust and support that members place in the Conference by their increasing tithe faithfulness

Through this faithful giving, we have seen the blessings of God in our Victorian Conference in many ways. Firstly, the continual healthy increase in tithe over the last six years (see graph) has made more evangelism, chaplaincy in schools and ministry support in our local churches a reality. **The increase for six years is 42%, 15% better than the average in other Conferences in Australia.**

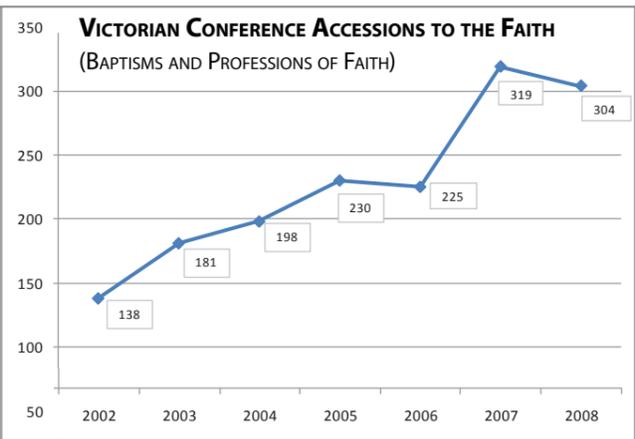


Secondly, this tithe increase, when added to the rental contribution from ADVENTCARE VICTORIA, has helped lift the percentage of tithe allocated to local church ministry and evangelism from 47% in 2000 to 60% in 2008. Victoria

has been the only large Australian Conference to achieve 60%, so qualifies for an added \$140,000 Division support. **All together this represents an extra 15 full time local church pastoral budgets or their equivalent.**

How can the effectiveness of these extra pastors and resources be assessed? Presently, the only indicator our organisation has is the number of new members joining the church. Here is further good news to report for Victoria!

304 new members joined our church in Victoria in 2008 (Baptism and Profession of Faith) and in the last two years, with the Finley program in 2007, 623 in total (see graph). **It is encouraging to see such growth** but this represents only 5% of our attendance. This is at best 'holding our ground'. We have much work to do.



Each time I listen to the wonderful stories of the individual faith journey of each of these 304 people, I can only praise God for His goodness and mercy. Our ministers, who have studied with these folk, along with our faithful members who are often involved in both the spiritual and practical paths of their journey to Christ, experience great joy and fulfilment at these baptisms.

On behalf of the Victorian Conference Team I thank God for the faithfulness of each member in returning to God their tithe and offering

On my officewall, through the nine years of my Presidency have hung the words from John 10:10. These words of Jesus are the inspiration and core motivation for my ministry, 'I have come, that they may have life, and have it to the full.' **It has been, and still is personally humbling and exciting to see the hand of God working in the Victorian Conference through His people to lead so many precious souls to a fullness of life in Jesus, for now and eternity.**

Pastor Davis

AUC ACCESSIONS AS % OF MEMBERSHIP '04-'08

	GS	NNSW	NA	SA	SNSW	SQ	TAS	VIC	WA	AUC
2004	2.58	1.65	1.52	1.94	1.85	2.64	2.19	2.17	1.58	2.11
2005	2.85	1.55	2.12	2.06	0.73	2.43	0.35	2.50	1.70	2.10
2006	2.29	1.69	2.01	1.36	1.30	2.14	1.90	2.09	2.04	1.96
2007	3.02	1.65	2.78	2.04	1.15	2.44	1.22	3.37	1.96	2.39
2008	2.25	1.75	2.83	2.14	0.80	2.74	1.41	3.15	2.20	2.34

SAFE PLACES

"When a child's or adult's world is overwhelmed by invasive, abusive behaviour, it cannot be returned: only the pieces remain to be collected and reassembled. Sometimes re-configuration in healthy happy ways is possible, but it may be a struggle. We owe it to this and following generations to prevent this."
David Robertson

"Churches are not inherently safe places for kids but there are specific things we can do to change that. It should never be too hard or too much trouble. There is a need, a duty, and an opportunity to lift our practices. Lets do it!"
Dallas O'Connor.

In keeping with the Victorian Conference's commitment to the provision of a safe church environment, the Ministerial Secretary, Rob Steed and Safe Places Coordinator, Sue Mercer, joined forces to cohost a Boundaries Seminar for our Ministers, Bible Workers and Chaplains. David Robertson (Director of AUC Safe Place Services) and Dallas O'Connor (Complains and Investigations Coordinator) were the facilitators. Topics covered included the implementation of Child-safe policies, the establishment of suitable boundaries to protect both parishioners and ministers from inappropriate relationships and the need for accountability and independent review. Feedback from those who attended was very positive.

Dallas O'Connor was pleased to launch the much-anticipated Local Church Safe Places Policy. This policy, and accompanying resource kit with posters, brochures, volunteer application forms, risk assessment information and proposed safety agreements, will assist every church in providing a safe church environment for children and vulnerable people.

"The ministers now have this policy and are very pleased as they are in the throes of nominating time in their churches and the policy is enabling them to take a proactive role in working towards a Safe Place."



Sue Mercer

Comments from the Boundaries Seminar

- "We can look out for and help each other, and should actively take on that responsibility."
- "It is good to think about and set boundaries preemptively."
- "Recognition of at risk behaviours and situations is a step in the right direction towards prevention."
- "It is so good that our church has specialists such as David and Dallas, who can teach and advise us about these difficult issues."
- "It's reassuring knowing our organisation has such a resource and has established a just, unbiased protocol for dealing fairly with complaints."

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THERE IS A **CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE NEXT REGULAR CONSTITUENCY MEETING** OF THE VICTORIAN CONFERENCE OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

It will be held at
Seddon Seventh-day Adventist Church Hall, 21 Hotham St, Seddon.

November 8, 2009

The Constituency Meeting will commence Sunday morning at 8.00am and concluding at 5pm. Delegates will be appointed in harmony with the Constitution.

The business of the Constituency Meeting will include presentation of Administration and Departmental reports, Financial Statements for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008, all business as required by the Constitution and all matters as arising from the Regular Session of 2006 and the Special Session of 2008.

CHURCHES PLANTED FROM SABBATH SCHOOL SEEDS



Whether you are involved in a Small Group, a Sabbath School class or participate in the Homes of Hope program, you are involved in a community - not just a Bible study program that meets at a certain time and place - and it is through our interaction with others, through community, that the Holy Spirit can use us.

"Building friendships informally between group members is essential," says Pastor Rob Steed, Ministerial Secretary for the Victorian Conference. "Ultimately the success of all we do is about people being in a community."

Pastor Eddie Erika, Sabbath School Director for the Victorian Conference feels strongly about this. When he returned to Melbourne to take on this departmental role and to minister to Victoria's two Samoan Churches, he brought with him a passion for church growth through small groups. So when a few families, struggling with the distance they needed to travel each Sabbath, approached him about starting a new congregation, the church pulled together and began making plans.

Today, we have a new Group recognised, which meets in Melton and grew out of North Melbourne Samoan Church, and a congregation starting in Pakenham, affiliated with Carrum Downs Samoan Church.

The Melton Group meets every week with thirty regular attendees and plans further growth with an evangelistic campaign in September. In Pakenham, the members meet together fortnightly and consist of several families. Together with Carrum Downs Church they are planning to grow their numbers starting with a campaign held in May

and presented by an evangelist from Samoa. Over 120 non-Adventists attended the campaign which concluded with a baptism for four members who had already been involved in small groups for over a year. From the campaign, the Carrum Downs church already has six people wanting to attend, as well as other contacts which will be followed up.

How have these communities grown so much in recent years?

Pastor Erika attributes it to the congregations' commitment to small group ministry and prayer.

"In both churches we emphasise the importance of Small Groups," he explains. "These groups are based around our Sabbath School classes and everyone attending church is part of one." Members look out for and support each other, as well as study and pray together. They are actively involved together in church life too, as each group takes its turn running the preliminary segment of their Sabbath School programs. Outside the official 'Sabbath School' time, the groups meet together regularly, ranging from weekly to monthly, for more time of spiritual growth and bonding.

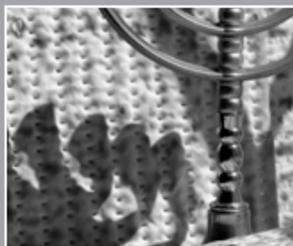
"We don't leave the groups unsupervised," adds Pr Erika. "An Elder is appointed to each group, and I meet with the Elders every two weeks for Small Group Leadership training."

The results are there for everyone to see. With church members looking out for each other, praying together and taking active roles in church and community life, they can't help but be 'on fire' for the Lord, and their numbers are



Epenesa and Sooalo were recently baptised after being in a group for over a year. Sooalo testified she is finally at peace, after twelve years of turmoil. "It has been a long time, but I now see God as a trustworthy God."

PASSOVER BRUNCH ATTRACTS JEWS



With the Jewish Passover in April and the Feast of Unleavened Bread spanning the traditional Easter weekend this year - **Living Waters Community Church hosted a Passover Brunch on Shabbat April 11** for almost 100 people. Barry Buirski, from Celebrate Messiah, was the featured speaker -

graphically illustrating the salvation provided by Jesus Christ our 'Passover Lamb' and Messiah. Members invited almost 30 friends - with Jewish friends delighted to find the Gilson College Living Waters Centre decorated 'just like a kibbutz for Passover'. Their interest in the Messiah was further awakened!

VIVA CAFÉ - THIS IS CHURCH

Planted in Croydon two years ago, Revive has developed a growing connection with community and social justice issues. **Revive is part of the Croydon New Life Adventist church** - which also has home churches at Kalorama and

Mornington and is strongly involved with its community.

As well as supporting the Dining Room, feeding 100 or more homeless people each Tuesday evening, Revive now provides Café for financially-at-risk families each Thursday evening.

Vive Café is a hive of activity. There are healthy meals for all (with extra to take home), games for children, table tennis and a clothing 'store'. It is a time for sharing, talking, getting to know each other; essentially, walking life together. For some life has been, and is, cruel. Every person is welcomed at Viva Café and cared for, and those involved in serving, talking and

caring, will tell you...

"This is church. This is where Jesus said He is."

BAIRNSDALE CHURCH MEMBERS...

have been busy 'doing evangelism' their way. A wholesome family movie night was hosted in March, with at least 70 non-Adventists attending. Danijela Trajkov and Jennifer



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CENTRE...

AN INITIATIVE OF THE PERSONAL MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT



Personal Ministries Director, Loren Pratt, Operates a church-based department, thus making himself more accessible to congregations. He has spent the last six years working with Northpoint Church from which he now bases the Experiential Learning Centre (ELC).

The ELC is a living demonstration of the skills Loren teaches and is providing members of the Victorian Conference with answers to questions they are asking about witnessing.

At ELC, those attending mingle with members of Northpoint, asking questions and hearing the stories of how the Ministry being showcased for the day has been implemented. Learning is also through observation, and classroom style instruction. There is opportunity to try

out some of the techniques and the day concludes with a time of debriefing and further discussion.

"What makes the ELC so attractive is that people actually get 'hands on' experience with the Ministry," says Loren, "providing opportunity to guide participants through difficulties and answer questions they may have, right on the spot."

While the work shops have already commenced, it is not too late to participate. For more information, contact Roslyn Harrison (03)9264 7777.

FUTURE EVENTS: DOOR KNOCKING, CARD & DVD - JULY 11; SERVICE MINISTRIES - AUG 8; SPIRITUAL GIFTS - SEPT 12; LEADERSHIP - OCT 10; NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT - NOV 14; SERVICE MINISTRIES - DEC 12

NETWORKS - Discover your spiritual gift, style and passion. Learn where you fit, in the life of your church. Experiment with your gift until you know where and how God wants you to serve.

SERVICE MINISTRIES - Learn 'new' ways to meet people, showing them a loving God and a caring church, and how to apply this Ministry every day. Discover how to bring people from the initial contact to the place where they become a regular attendee.

SMALL GROUPS - A very practical seminar, this course involves participants becoming a part of a Life Group, thus offering inside information on the way a meaningful small group runs.

PROXIMITY EVENTS - Explore and experience community events to which the public are invited, creating opportunities for church members to live Christ in front of their neighbours; where the 'churched' brush shoulders with the 'unchurched'. Participate in a Northpoint BBQ or Recipe Club.

DOOR KNOCKING, CARD AND DVD MINISTRY - Find out what is successful and what is not.

LEADERSHIP - Good strong empowering leadership is a vital aspect of a healthy church. Mingle with Northpoint's leaders and discover what drives them to serve so passionately in Northpoint Church's ministries.

NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT - This well-proven tool measures the health of a church and helps it identify which Ministries to emphasise to enable spontaneous growth.

Ongalo Orwa were invited to co-present a Seminar, 'Dealing With Abuse', which was advertised to the general public.

Church members also participated in Bairnsdale's annual Field Day where they manned a 'Health Marque' and at a different event, \$6000 was raised with their 'Stall in the Mall', the funds going to International Child Care, local church welfare needs and to assist Helen Hall in her work among the Karen people in Burma.

Evangelism certainly does come in all shapes and sizes and **Bairnsdale Adventist Church is making sure their community knows of their existence and their mission.**

CHURCH ORIGINS NOW A 'MISSION FIELD'

In 1885, just 50 years after the first settlers arrived in Melbourne, Seventh-day Adventist pioneers also arrived, ultimately settling in North Fitzroy. Circumstances have changed over the years, and **North Fitzroy Church, once the hub of the early Adventist movement, steeped in church history, is now located in what could be considered a mission field.** The demographics of the area has changed, as has those of the church itself.

The members attending North Fitzroy today, no longer live 'just round the corner', they travel quite some distance to attend each week, yet they still want to

see the Gospel taken to those who do live there. They are no longer planning tent missions or establishing publishing work, but they are still active in presenting the Three Angel's Messages to the community of North Fitzroy. A *Signs* rack in the local supermarket is kept stocked, contact has been made with church neighbours through Easter and Christmas doorknocks, an 'Open Door' meals program operates three nights per week, letter box cards are distributed, and Search DVD's advertised in local papers.

While they are planning various programs throughout 2009, members have limited

resources and skills, and are looking for anyone who would be interested in helping in any way, whether it be in children's ministry with Kids Club programs, or in some other area, to help North Fitzroy Church build better bridges with their neighbours. **For more on this story, visit <vic.adventist.org.au>. If you are interested in helping, contact the Eddie Piez on 03 94598416.**





Here at the office, it seems we just get one project finished and it is time to move onto the next.

However when we hear the young people say things like "I was challenged by that message", "that really blessed me" or "I guess I have never encountered God quite like that before", the joy we experience is more than words can express. I feel blessed to be working for the young people of this Conference.
- Pastor Moe loane



'TUNE IN'

Pastor Karl Haffner, from Kettering, USA, spoke on the importance of 'tuning in' to God, in all phases of life, at this year's Youth Easter Camp. The young people took part in community events on Sabbath afternoon, with Operation Stitches (a children's ministry run for kids in Government Housing) and Northpoint Church, participating in their community Easter Egg Drop. On Sunday a Touch Football competition raised \$400 for RECON ministries.

Pastor Peter Roennfeldt gave an inspiring presentation

on Sunday afternoon, telling of how God is using Adventist young people around the world, and of the many churches they are planting.

The Youth Department is grateful to the many dedicated volunteers who made this weekend possible. "From set up Thursday evening, to pull-down on Monday, it was a fast paced weekend," says Pastor Moe loane, "involving many hours of volunteer labour, both behind the scenes and up front. Thank you to everyone involved."



CATALYST YOUTH SUMMIT

Recently the South Pacific Division Youth Department hosted its inaugural Youth Summit in Sydney, with Delegates attending from across Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Trans Pacific.

"The commitment shown, not only by the Youth Department, but also the Church in general was reassuring," said Victorian delegate, Josh Wood. "Having Pr. Chester Stanley (AUC President) present for the whole weekend, participating in all aspects of the Conference, reiterated that **Catalyst was not a 'token event'. It showed the Church has identified there are issues and it is serious about addressing them.**"

The Victorian Conference plans to facilitate a similar event later this year.

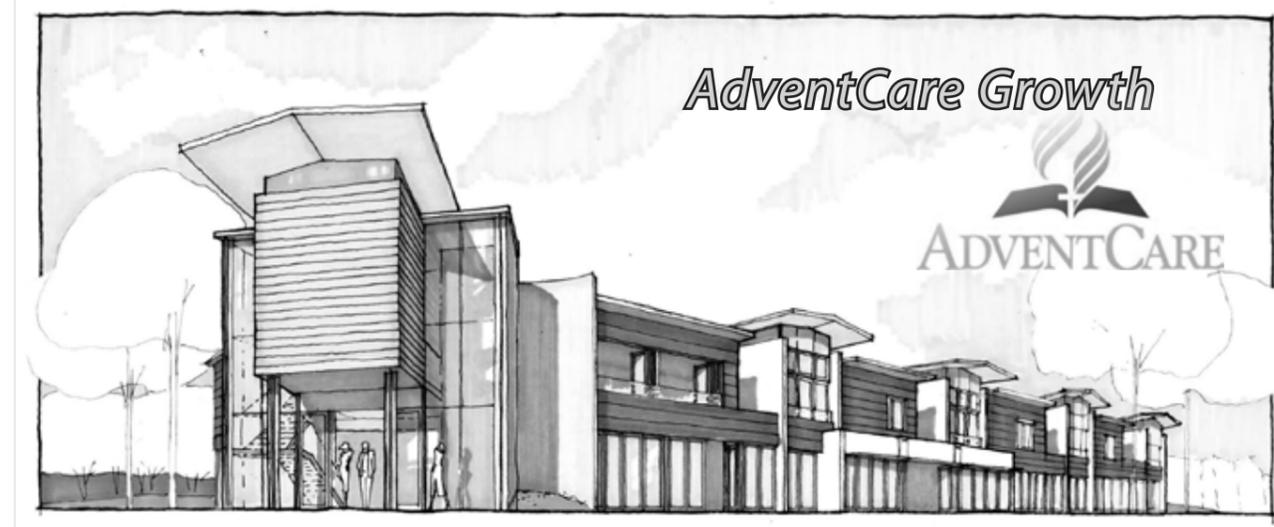


UPRISING - TEEN CONVENTION

Pastor Tony Knight (AUC Youth Director) is partnering with VicYouth for this event, which will challenge delegates to rise up for God. 'Uprising' is a pilot for a new form of Youth Ministry Training, paving the way for the

Victorian Youth Department's qualification to offer a Certificate III in Christian Ministry.

Taking place July 5-9, 200 teens and youth from around Victoria are expected, and we pray that many opportunities will arise for these young leaders to engage in, for their Lord.



ADVENTCARE IS ON THE MOVE...

...Well, maybe to say it is g-r-o-w-i-n-g would be a better way to sum up the excitement in the organisation. This year ADVENTCARE has contributed \$800,000 in rental returns to the Victorian Conference. This means that the Victorian Conference has 8 extra pastors doing evangelism and ministry because of ADVENTCARE.

"ADVENTCARE has become Victoria's very own Sanitarium Health Food Company," reflected Pastor Denis Hankinson, Chairman of ADVENTCARE Board of Directors. "SHF provides a service to the church and community by providing employment for Adventists, healthy foods plus finance for our church's mission. Likewise ADVENTCARE provides employment and a wonderful environment for its aged residents, of whom more than 60% are not Seventh-day Adventists. Additionally, by paying rental to the Church for church-provided lands, ADVENTCARE supports the church's mission in the community."

A further \$700,000 of the rental is being used to support new purchases and upgrade current facilities. Because of the vibrant, professional leadership of Ruth Welling and her

Artist's impression of the new nursing home at AdventCare Whitehorse

team, with the support of key consultants, **ADVENTCARE is now in a position to continue the program of upgrading at Whitehorse (previously known as Coronella) with a new Nursing Home Wing at an approximate cost of \$15 million in the next year as well as the purchase of a Yarra Valley Aged Care facility with 100 resident places.**

"It has been a real challenge to turn prior losses into such a positive financial situation but now we can go ahead with the purchase and upgrade," says Dr Hankinson.

Ruth Welling, Chief Executive Officer of ADVENTCARE Victoria stated, "To stay viable in today's increasingly regulated and competitive environment we need to upgrade and have facilities that will secure our future along with expansions to achieve better economies of scale.

"We have great, dedicated staff who are proud of the contribution we are making to God's work. **We want to give all praise to God for His goodness.** I have seen so many of His blessings in our work. I just know my team and I could not achieve all we have without Him."



MEET THE VICYOUTH TEAM

The Staff in the Victorian Conference Youth Department are ably assisted by committed volunteers who dedicate their time to impact young lives.

The VicYouth Advisory is made up of Regional Leaders appointed by the Youth Director, whose role is to help bridge the gap between local church youth leaders, and Conference leaders. They meet regularly to pray over VicYouth Ministry and its direction. This year, the Advisory includes Wayne Piez, Phillip Hyland, Faye Stothers, Mark Watson, Paul Holton, Adam Selent, Robin McGillvray and Chrissie Cooper.

The event planning team, Vision Reality Makers (VRM), consists of youth from around Victoria and was created to help plan and run the larger Conference Youth events. Carli Dunne, Beth Steed, Damien Wasilewski, Bryan Roberts, Cristina Zas, Rachael Kelly, Amanda Thomas and Nino Svonja make up the VRM.

If you have a passion for seeing God's kingdom grow amongst the young people of Victoria and want to be involved, please contact VicYouth at the Conference Office on 03 9264 7777.

MEET THE WILSONS



Hi, my name is Andrew Wilson and I'm working as a bi-vocational minister at Horsham and Nhill churches in western Victoria.

This is a new part of the state for the family (my wife Leisa, kids Tim and Anna, and myself), and we are enjoying the broad horizons and the beautiful Grampian mountains.

As a family we love getting out into nature and so we are appreciating the new opportunities to do so.

Previously I worked as an elder within the Wangaratta church, so my position now is quite different, but I am enjoying the challenges and the personal growth that comes with working as a minister.

It is particularly nice to work with the dedicated, experienced members in my two churches.

One of the exciting things happening in this area is Satellite Evangelism. Both churches have members who are active in promoting and installing satellite dishes and we have people attending church as a result of their ministries.

The other exciting thing for us is that, thanks to committed members of Stawell Church, there is an active Pathfinder Club here in the Grampians so our young people have an interesting and challenging program mapped out for the rest of the year.

Some time ago, my family and I watched a DVD series by Dr Derek Morris called "The Radical Prayer." We prayed and asked God to send us out into His harvest and we have felt blessed in coming to Horsham and Nhill. It is our hope and prayer that we will allow God to use us for His work in this part of the world.

Feel free to worship with us if you are visiting this beautiful part of Victoria!

UPDATE FROM MONGOLIA

Dr Harold Waldrip recently returned from visiting Mongolia at the request of Pr Paul Kotanko, President of the Adventist Mongolian Mission, where he taught prevention and management of Diabetes, both to Health Professionals and to the wider community. There is huge need for this kind of help as the frequency of Diabetes being diagnosed is rapidly increasing in Mongolia. "They are really up against it," Dr Waldrip commented. "Mongolian diet consists mostly of meat, fatty meat at that, with the occasional rice, potato or carrot thrown in. They can't afford anything else."

"With the \$14,000 donated by church members, we were able to purchase 85 blood glucose monitors and a year's supply of testing strips for each one," continued Dr Waldrip. "I would just like to say a big Thank You to everyone who contributed. You could tell that those who received the monitors were so grateful. I did not understand their language, but their smiles and handshakes said it all."

Dr Waldrip is hoping to further continue this educational

work; Pr Kotanko's parting words are ringing in his ears - "Please come back next year."

For more on this story, visit <vic.adventist.org.au>



Dr Waldrip and his wife Verlie in front row, seated beside Pr Paul Kotanko

BERWICK CHURCH'S TRAVELLING BIBLE



Inspired by the General Conference's "Follow the Bible" initiative (www.followthebible.net), Berwick Church is having its own Travelling Bible. **Each week the Bible goes to a different church member or family.** Favourite passages are underlined and comments or encouraging notes written in the wide margins.

Church members can also submit drawings, poems, songs or anything else that made the week they had the Travelling

Bible memorable. At the end of the year, these items will be put on display, providing opportunity for encouragement as the members share experiences they had while the Travelling Bible was in their possession.

REMEMBER WHEN...

...scrubbing boards and flat irons heated on a wood stove were part of life? Remember how dolly pegs fastened the washing to lines strung between two posts?

Katrina Gultom, member of **Ferntree Gully Church** and a master at floral arranging, combined yellow chrysanthemums with these

items from another era, to create a fitting tribute to the Mothers of our church on Mothers Day.



ADOPT-A-CLINIC
Nunawading Church has joined the South Pacific Division's Adopt a Clinic program, sponsoring the

Sepik River Clinic in Papua New Guinea, where dedicated staff live and work in dilapidated buildings for two thirds the remuneration they could earn in town hospitals. The staff also run a mobile River Clinic providing a service to otherwise isolated villagers. Nunawading Church plans to raise funds to provide much needed supplies, repairs to the buildings and fuel



REACHING OUT TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



Most of us know we **should** be sharing Christ, but struggle with **how**. Another struggle we face is **with whom**. If you have been an Adventist for some time, chances are most of your associates are already Christian. There is, however, a goldmine of people who have not yet chosen to follow, or do not even believe in Christ, literally 'right under our noses' within our church environment.

This goldmine consists of some of our own youth, those who are attending church but are only marking time, waiting until they can choose to stay home. It consists of our children's school friends, whether they attend church school or not. While

within our church schools it consists of the many non-Christians enrolled there. Here is an opportunity 'on our door step' to share Christ and to encourage our children to do so too.

Following are some hospitality pointers geared towards our young people and their friends and associates in their schools. As you read on, prayerfully consider whether this could be your area of ministry and if you would like more ideas, you can view the full article by Andre Afamasaga, at <vic.adventist.org.au>. Log on and click the IntraVic Menu.

Create a loving, affirming and accepting environment in your church, for these young people, as they are. They are masters of body language, so exude the love of Christ.

Plan regular youth and teen oriented programs, for your own young people and encourage them to invite their friends.

Create memories for life. Sharing Christ is about building up relationships first. Some of the best memories are created over food and fellowship.

Be focused in your evangelism - if non-churched youth are present, keep the program geared at their level, don't overwhelm them.

Develop strategic links with local schools. If your church is wanting to link with a school, strategy and commitment is required, it will not 'just happen'.

Working with young people is about more than just getting them 'through the door'; it is about keeping them there and it is about empowering and equipping them to bring others in too. We need to ask ourselves "What is more important, cultural and generational preferences, or Jesus' desire that not one of these children should perish?" Jesus 'entertained' with parables without watering down His gospel.

Hospitality to our young people is about engagement. It is about environment. It is about relationship.

"It is not about what we can do," concludes Andre. "It is about who we are - and WHOSE we are."



for the boat.

Would your church like to be involved in the Adopt a Clinic program? More information can be obtained from Jenny Robson at the South Pacific Division, on <www.healthinfo@adventist.org.au>.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Merrilyn Hastings has been, and continues to be, actively involved with the Queen Elizabeth Centre, one of Ballarat's two Health Service campuses. She has held various roles within the Ladies Auxiliary, including three terms as President. In August 2008 she was presented with a Certificate of Recognition

for 20 years of service to the Centre. Then in December she was awarded a Life Governorship of Ballarat Health Services, for her voluntary service.



"My volunteer work has been a great way to witness," says Merrilyn. "I don't have to say much - most of the people I work with know I am an Adventist. I just drop in a word

or two where appropriate.

"It is humbling though, to realise my small efforts do mean something to somebody somewhere, that they should choose to recognise me in these ways."

THE MONGOL RALLY

Peter Krogdahl, member of East Prahran Church, is planning a fund raising activity with a difference. **He is participating in an amazing charity event, The Mongol Rally, raising awareness and donations for Mongolian charities.** Each participating team must raise a minimum of \$2500 in donations, and is encouraged to donate their Rally vehicle to charity in Mongolia after the

event.

Beginning in England, the route takes participants through 16 countries before arriving in Mongolia a month later.

If you would like to help Peter and his team, visit their website. <http://brokeforgoing.blogspot.com>



LEARNING FOR LIFE

Year 9 students at Gilson College in Taylors Lakes, are engaged in a broad range of experiential education, in a program called Learning 4 Life (L4L), based on philosophies of the founder of the Circle of Courage and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The program has been developing over a number of years, and now has four full-time staff appointed under the leadership of Chris Cowled.

L4L has an **Urban Learning component**, with students travelling into the city on public transport on different occasions, completing various tasks relating to buildings, shops, transport and gardens. During this component, they learn group dynamics and decision-making skills, as well as developing confidence in making enquiries and negotiating public transport around the city. For some of this component, the school liaises with Heritage College in Narre Warren, thus fostering a connection with other students.

There is a **Service Learning component** in L4L which begins locally, as students go out in small groups to volunteer in places such as aged care homes, sporting facilities and pre-schools, or even cleaning up or planting in public areas. It extends then, to Warrnambool for a school camp, where the students volunteer with the Warrnambool City Council, Birds Australia, the Department of Sustainability and Environment, primary schools and Lyndoch Aged Care. Here they plant, weed, clean, backyard blitz, help with endangered bird and plant identification, and have fun with balloons, 'magic' tricks, puppets and clowns.

The **Expedition Learning component** seeks to develop the students' self-confidence as they prepare for a Tasmanian expedition. The College has forged a solid partnership with Avondale College over the past three years, with a strong focus on staff training and facilitation. Through a series of training walks, the students are well trained, outfitted and prepared in all areas, for a safe and satisfying learning experience in Tasmania.

On the most recent Tasmanian expedition, there were two separate incidents where students became separated from their group.

"In both cases" reports College Principal, Mark Vodell, "Police Search and Rescue praised the boys for the choices and decisions they made while separated from their groups. Commendations were made about the suitability of the students; equipment, training and level of preparedness for the conditions that they faced."

"While College personnel are not pleased either incident took place, they are extremely grateful for the safe outcome. It appears the numerous safety features in place, the significant training of the students and insistence that they have appropriate clothing and equipment ensured the incidents had a satisfactory ending."

As Gilson College consolidates the Learning 4 Life program, it plans to include Enterprise Learning as the final component.

Of the L4L program, the principal has this to say.

"The positive outcomes we have observed, and the comments made by parents, students and staff confirm the value of Learning 4 Life. We aim to develop a curriculum that is internationally recognised and known for its excellence."



Melanie, Jessie and Annu at the summit of Mt Ossa



Mark Vodell with Mary, Natalie, Isabella and Jessica at Hartnell Falls

ALMOST PERFECT RECOGNITION
Lilydale Adventist Academy student, **Jamison Judd, who achieved a 99 ENTER in the 2008 VCE**, has been awarded an Australian Student Prize.

This prize is awarded to the top 500 Australian students each year in recognition of their high academic achievements. Each prize comprises a Certificate and cash award of \$2,000. Congratulations, Jamison.

BAGS FOR POSSUMS
Nunawading Christian College recently visited Healesville Sanctuary and participated in the Bags for Burramys program.

Burramys (Mountain Pygmy Possums) are under threat from climate change as they rely on snow cover to hibernate during the winter months.



The students collected plastics and back at school, they placed them in our Bags for Burramys collection bin. **These plastics will eventually be**

taken to Replas to form a recycled plastic seat for our Sustainability Garden.

It is great to see kids take action for climate change!

LEARNING THE IMPORTANCE OF ANZAC DAY

Our schools mixed learning with fun during the week



leading up to ANZAC day. Some of our senior primary students from several schools had the opportunity to attend a ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance. Other students made wreaths and laid them

UNIQUE TRANSITION FOR HENDERSON COLLEGE

Henderson College, located near Mildura, recently entered a new era of education when for the first time a Transition Class was offered. The Transition Class is a relatively new concept to education. The program focuses on the development of oral language skills, involving learning through play and games specifically designed to enhance fine motor skills,



essential in the learning of reading and writing. It is aimed at pre-schoolers who are age appropriate to begin Prep, but not quite ready

developmentally or socially.

Principal of Henderson College, Mrs Sandra Ferry, anticipates that children who complete this program will be significantly more engaged learners throughout their school years as a result of the increased maturity and capabilities gained with this extra year of creative, constructive and independent play opportunities.

The program runs during normal school hours and has the flexibility for rest days if the student requires it. Morning recess and lunch time are set at different times to the rest of the school and will gradually be integrated with the normal school schedule further on in the year. More information can be found at www.henderson.adventist.edu.au.

MOTHERS' DAY TREAT

The mothers of Edinburgh Early Learning Centre were treated to a special Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea on Friday 8th May.

As soon as lunch was over, the children started decorating the Purple Room, rearranging the furniture in preparation for the afternoon tea. Working in pairs, they set the tables with pink tablecloths and plates, and white napkins and stemmed plastic glasses. Each table was decorated with a small gift bag to which helium balloons were tied and iridescent white and pink hearts were scattered strategically around the centrepiece, creating a celebratory atmosphere.

"Oohs" and "Aahs" could be heard as family members entered the transformed Purple Room. Mothers, grandmothers and even a few fathers watched their children perform The Mom Song, with an encore performance!

Gourmet sandwiches, crackers, cheese and fruit topped off with sparkling apple juice were served, as the parents socialised.

At the end of the day, the mothers went home proudly holding in one hand their lovingly created Mothers' Day gift and in the other, their most treasured possession - their child!

TOUCHING HEARTS, CHANGING LIVES.

In early May, all our Victorian Schools closed their doors to students, as our teachers attended their annual ASVAC conference.

This year's focus was on the 'special character' of our education system and the theme was "Touching Hearts, Changing Lives". Guest speakers included Bailey Gillespie, Bev Christian, Tony Knight and Andre Afamasaga, and the feedback from those attending, indicated they enjoyed the subject matter presented as well being spiritually refreshed.

The Conference also provided opportunity to present the Teacher of the Year awards. **Naomi Moss from Gilson College received the award for Graduate Teacher of the Year, and Raelene Devlin from Ironbark Christian School, the Teacher of the Year Award.**

Each year a special offering is collected for a mission project. In 2008, the offering went to Salt Ministries in Cambodia and this year an amazing \$12,000 was donated to Mission in Action, Kenya (Nakuru Baby Orphanage).



Raelene Devlin and Naomi Moss

at local War Memorials. Many enjoyed baking and eating Anzac Biscuits, while all learned of and experienced, to some extent, the stories behind and the significance of ANZAC Day.

animal farm, lucky dips and a cake decorating competition and auction. However hidden talent was revealed in the Tennis Ball Throw, with Daniel Schlegel clocking a speedy

120km/hr!
As part of their Service Activity, Year 8 classes collected non-perishable food items, making a hamper of useful household products which was silent-auctioned off. **The students selected Victorian Bushfire Survivors to be the recipients of the proceeds.**



FANTASTIC FUN - FABULOUS FETE
Heritage College held their annual Fete and Open Day earlier this year. Many community members and families attended and enjoyed being entertained, while satisfying their appetites at the cake shop and Mauritian food stall.

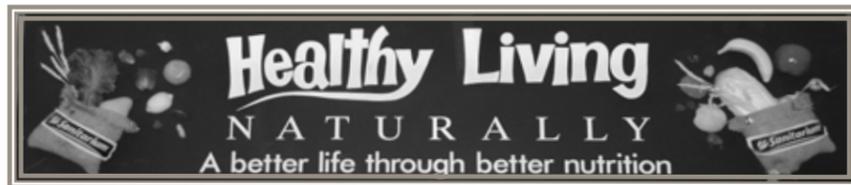
There were the usual fete activities: face painting, busking competition, paintball,



GETTING READY FOR HIGH SCHOOL - GRADE 6 ORIENTATION PROGRAM AT NCC

Every Friday afternoon during terms 2 and 3, Grade 6 students at Nunawading Christian College attend the Secondary Campus to get a taste of life as a student there. In the second

term, they participate in Science and Art classes, then in Term 3 they will try their hands at Industrial Technology and Information Technology. The students are very excited by the program.



With an expanded range of goods and its own separate area, the new Sanitarium Shop, located in the ABC at the Victorian Conference Office, is open for business. "With our new freezer we are able to supply the complete Sanitarium frozen range," said Tina Gilchrist, "and if there is any Sanitarium line we don't have in stock, just ask Joe or myself and we will be happy to get it in for you." As well as the regular Sanitarium products, the shop stocks many varieties of grape juice as well as gluten flour and olive leaf extract. Drop in if you are in the area, and check out the new shop, as well as the range of books, music and gifts at the ABC.



141 CENTRAL ROAD
NUNAWADING.
MON - THURS 9-5,
FRIDAY 9-12.30 & FIRST SUN
OF EACH MONTH 1-4PM



**POSITION VACANT:
Facility Operations
Coordinator and
Clinical Services
Coordinator**



AdventCare has four aged care and retirement villages located in Bendigo, Nunawading, Yarra Junction and Warburton. Due to the recent expansion of our operations, two positions have become available.

Suitably qualified applicants are invited to apply. Closing date: 2 pm, 26th June 2009. For further information about these positions please see <www.adventcare.org.au>

**THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT OF THE
VICTORIAN CONFERENCE WOULD LIKE TO
ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING
ANONYMOUS TITHE AMOUNTS...**

01/08/08	\$826.00	22/12/08	12,000.00
05/09/08	\$2,145.00	07/01/09	\$838.00
24/09/08	\$251.00	30/03/09	\$2,130.00
09/10/08	\$1,400.00	23/04/09	\$1,542.00
03/12/08	\$100.00	24/04/09	\$77.00
04/12/08	\$2,670.00	27/04/09	\$80.00
05/12/08	\$2,425.00	06/05/09	\$37.50

Thank you for your faithfulness in returning your tithes



Sept 28 - Oct 4, 2009

ATTENTION: Church Members

Is your church planning a Vegetarian Cooking program to coincide with National Vegetarian Week?

Last year Sanitarium provided support to 38 community vegetarian cooking demonstrations held around Australia.

Accredited cooking demonstrators will receive a demonstration kit containing promotional materials, a \$50 shopping voucher and giveaway recipe books.

If you are interested in hosting a demonstration please contact Keryn Walsh on 02 4346 7946 or via <keryn.walsh@sanitarium.com.au>

THE HEALTH FOOD COMPANY



Melbourne Sunset Times

JUNE	Friday	Saturday
12, 13	17:09	17:08
19, 20	17:08	17:08
26, 27	17:10	17:10
JULY		
3, 4	17:13	17:13
10, 11	17:17	17:17
17, 18	17:21	17:22
24, 25	17:16	17:27
AUGUST		
31, 1	17:32	17:33
7, 8	17:38	17:39
14, 15	17:44	17:44

Sunset at Bairnsdale is 10 minutes earlier and at Hamilton, 12 minutes later.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE EVENTS

- June 20** - OFFERING - Pacific Island Advancement
- Youth Rally - 4pm
- June 24-29** - Victorian Teen Convention
- June 27** - OFFERING - Education/ Camping Ministry
- July 4** - OFFERING - World Mission Budget
- July 5** - ABC Open Day - 1-4pm
- CHEP Training Program
- July 11** - ELC - Door Knocking Ministry at Northpoint Church
- July 18** - OFFERING - Adventist Media Evangelism
- Shepparton District Regional Day with guest, Kayle Dewaal from Avondale
- July 25** - OFFERING - Education/ Camping Ministry
- July 31- Aug 2** - Women's Ministries Retreat
- Aug 1-2** - WILD ED training weekend for Youth
- Aug 2** - ABC Open Day 1-4pm
- CHEP Training Program
- Aug 8** - ELC - Service Ministries at Northpoint Church
- Aug 15-6** - Youth Winter Camp
- Aug 15** - OFFERING - Education/ Camping Ministry

BIRTHS

Abbey Renae Tikner was born to Dean and Melodie, on March 23 2009

Dirk and Krystelle had a surprise with the early arrival of Mikael James Sahag Kothe on ANZAC Day. Mikael has two great uncles named James, who fought for Australia during the war.



TRUST SERVICES

To have a will prepared for you, book through Reception at the Conference Office, on **03 9264 7777**

Pr Ian Royce can assist you in the preparation of a will however appointments are **ESSENTIAL**. The next opportunities are: **July 19 at the Conference Office and September 13 at Greensborough SDA Church**

This is a free and confidential service available to church members

CONFERENCE NOTICES

**REVEALED... YOUTH RALLY :
20TH JUNE AT 4PM. GUEST
SPEAKER IS RANKO STEFANOVIC**

Where: Melbourne Christian Fellowship, 70 Holloway Rd, Wonga Park

Ever thrashed out a topic, over and over... and over, until there is no more to discuss, then suddenly, in one conversation, you encounter an epiphany? Expect something similar when you hear Ranko!

He brings new insights, perspective and inspiration to a book you thought you knew. Join us for a 'feast'... you never know, you may just walk away enlightened!

A Sports Night will follow: keep the evening free...

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



<http://vic.adventist.org.au>

The Victorian Conference web site... Visit it today.

e-Giving: the convenient way to give offerings and tithe.

www.adventist.org/egiving

INTRAVIC DATES FOR 2009

COPY DEADLINE - 10TH OF JAN, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER

IN CHURCHES BY 2ND SABBATH OF FEB, APRIL, JUNE, AUG, OCT, DEC

Editor: Pr Denis Hankinson : **Submissions to Assistant Editor:** Sherrie Courtney
PO Box 215, Nunawading, 3131, <scourtney@adventist.org.au> or 03 9264 7777

CALLING ALL STRING, WOOD AND BRASS PLAYERS

Do you want to be a part of an Adventist Orchestra? Rehearsing at Wantirna SDA Church twice per month and performing monthly, members from all churches are welcome to join. For more information, contact Bill Neyra on 0404 856 626 or at <billneyra@optusnet.com.au>

GIANT BOOK SALE.

Next date, July 26, put it on your calendar. 5000 quality used books, with 70% marked at \$3. Religion, Bibles, EG White, music, CDs, Christian novels, Cook Books - reading for everyone.

Nunawading SDA Church Hall, 11am - 3pm. Proceeds go towards the Church Building Fund.

UNFURNISHED ROOM AVAILABLE

in otherwise fully furnished unit, 10min walk to train and bus, unit also has garage. Male or female suitable, preferably 20-30years old. Pictures can be sent and/or inspection on request. Contact Sarah on 0408 781 388.

REACHING OUT TO OTHERS THROUGH REMEDIAL MASSAGE

Small classes available, taught by qualified instructor (Nurse (SAH), Naturopath/ Remedial therapist). Cost: \$550. Course runs for 5 days: 1½ hr sessions morning and night, with practical sessions between. Concludes Friday morning. Discounted cottage accommodation available on request.

Enquiries: <philip@tranquility.com.au> or 0409 839 130.

AT EAST PRAHRAN CHURCH

JUNE 27, come and hear Dr Norman Young, discussing Christ in the Book of John. Starting at 11am, and concluding in the afternoon after a potluck lunch.

JULY 4, enjoy the Camberwell Chorale Faure's Requiem at 5pm.

The Editor reserves the right to edit and include or exclude any article from publication. Articles not included due to lack of space may be included in a future issue or placed on the Church website. The Editor also reserves the right to exclude Ads or Notices after just one issue.

Please note, **commercial advertising** is not published in Intraviv. Only accommodation notices, if accompanied with a reference from Local Pastor.

Photographs of minors must be accompanied by permission to use the photographs in print and on the web, signed by parent/guardian.

Bible verses are from various versions which may include NIV, JVV, NJJV & Clear Word.

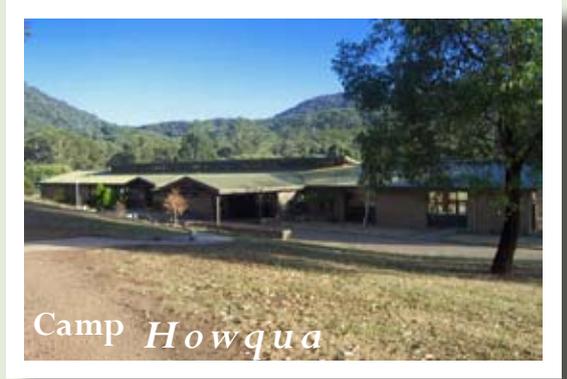
Cover: Jason Bradshaw & Yoke Design (adapted)

NOTE: Neither the editor, nor the Seventh-day Adventist Church is responsible for the quality of goods or services advertised. Publication does not indicate endorsement of a product or service.



Camp *Howqua* news....

There have been many exciting improvements to facilities at Camp Howqua over the last year. Roads within the camp were sealed, dramatically reducing the dust and enhancing the appearance of the grounds. The amenities block also received an extreme makeover, which our campers have greatly appreciated (no more need to dodge falling tiles) and with the Federal Government's Community Water Grant, Camp Howqua was able to fit water tanks to the Main Lodge and dual flush cisterns and water-saving shower heads throughout the site.



Camp Howqua

A record year in 2008 has enabled the Camp to fast-track some of the major improvements planned for 2009. Already, the Ski Lodge has been vinyl clad, meaning less maintenance is needed to keep it looking fantastic.

More cabin bathrooms are to be renovated, and as part of a major facelift for the gardens in front of the Main Lodge Ursula and Kellianne are hard at work planting and pruning.



Sealed Roads

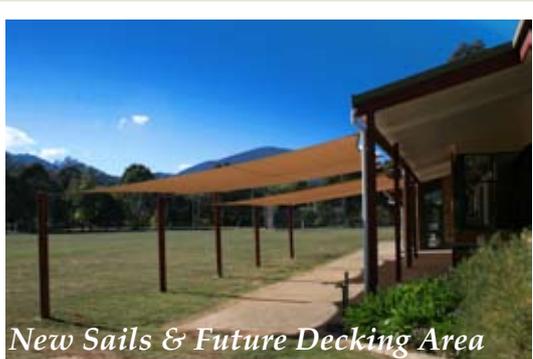


A place for all seasons...

Development Offering raised \$20,000, which funded the installation of permanent shade sails, as well as two shade tents for use at activities elsewhere. **August 29, 2009 is the date the Conference has set aside for the next Camp Howqua Development offering.** The funds provided will be used for construction of a deck area under the shade sails at the rear of the Main Lodge, turning it into a great place to sit with a cuppa and catch up with friends, watch the young ones run around, or just simply experience God's daily masterpiece of nature unfold in front of you.



Gardens Progressing



New Sails & Future Decking Area

"We would like to take this opportunity to praise God for His support of the ministry here at Camp Howqua."

"We have received many blessings: whether it be donations of plants, cuttings and bulbs for the gardens, offers of your time, or money given for small projects such as new signs for the amenities block; whether it be for your support of the Development offering last year, or you anticipated support again on August 29."

"We pray that God will richly bless you, as He has blessed Camp Howqua and ask that you accept our heartfelt thanks for your part in helping Camp Howqua further cement its reputation as one of the premier Christian Camping Ministry venues in Victoria."

"If you are an old friend and regular visitor to Camp Howqua, or would like to check it out for the first time, we would love to see you here."



Warren, Ursula, Richard and Kellianne.
Camp Howqua Management Team.