



Photo Credit: Kalen Howse

## A VIBRANT REUNION

HEBREWS 10:24-25

A Victorian Adventist Conference Magazine

# INTRAVIC

● ● ● ● ● APR-MAY 2023



# A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



## SO GOOD TO BELONG...

Thousands gathered for Big Camp 2023 at Lardner Park. What an opportunity for the family to get together – the church family from across Victoria!

Big Camp is such a special opportunity. Getting together is great. So many are blessed by such a wonderful spiritual retreat – there's something for everyone.

Memories are created, new friendships formed and existing friendships deepened. Food is shared, fellowship enjoyed, spiritual renewal and revival experienced. Big Camp provides so much for those who come along. Isn't it blessing to belong to our church family – especially at times like this.

After those COVID years when we couldn't run Big Camp, the floods in central Victoria meant we couldn't hold Big Camp at Elmore as in the past. The Field Day facility is even now being used for temporary accommodation for people who were flooded out all those months ago. So the team explored Lardner Park, praying for God's leading.

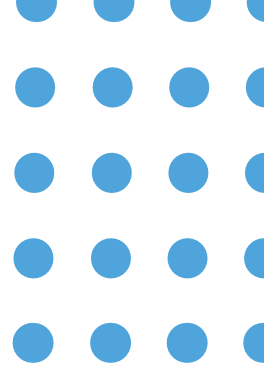
Then, with less time than enough and a strong commitment to make it happen, it was made possible. There's a huge team that makes Big Camp happen and I want to thank every one who was involved.

I am so thankful for the Godly speakers who were able to take the scriptures and point to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. There's so much to be thankful for.

Please enjoy this edition of IntraVic.

**Graeme Christian**  
Victorian Conference President

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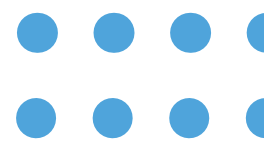
Mark the dates and free up your calendar! Don't miss out on what's happening around Victoria and Australia!



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# A VIBRANT REUNION

## ● ● ● ● ● ● EASTER BIG CAMP 2023

"AND LET US CONSIDER HOW WE MAY SPUR ONE ANOTHER ON TOWARDS LOVE AND GOOD DEEDS, NOT GIVING UP MEETING TOGETHER, AS SOME ARE IN THE HABIT OF DOING, BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER – AND ALL THE MORE AS YOU SEE THE DAY APPROACHING."

– HEBREWS 10:24-25

Finally, it was back! After five long years of its absence, thousands of Victorians came together to participate in a weekend filled with prayer, praise, and polyester tents...

There is no denying the blessing that was Big Camp 2023. From camp planning stages to building camp stages, it was an incredible journey filled with awesome stories.

While we usually pitch our tents at Elmore, the 2022 floods turned the campsite into a place of emergency housing; but instead of giving up, God guided us back to another familiar location: Lardner Park.

From there, it was an exciting race to get everything in place! Guest speakers, worship teams, surprise activities, the list goes on... and the Lord was with us every step of the way, cheering us on like an enthusiastic coach!

And so, April 6 arrived, and the theme – Reconnect – was prominent in every interaction, which is no surprise given how long it had been since our last conference camp. While the weather was windy and wet, Victorian Adventists embraced the 'Showers of Blessings' and wore their warm smiles to every meeting.

We had an abundance of talented speakers sharing insightful messages, and each tent had its own unique atmosphere! Here's a compilation of a few division recaps written by people who were there:

### ENCOUNTER

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Written by Paul Kotanko

The name of our venue stated what we desired to accomplish for our people: *Encounter*

How do you create an encounter with God? Especially in a great big tin shed? One of the main ways is having a sense of expectancy. Expectancy on the part of those leading out and expectancy on the part of those attending. Expectancy that through the singing, the speakers, the worship and the atmosphere that God will show up.

The day always began with family worship early in the morning. The kids and adults were treated to great singing led by Kenton Ridley. This was followed by stories about Jesus' death, rest, and resurrection with David Edgren. A great way to experience a family encounter with God.

During the morning programs, Kevin Petrie inspired us with his talks on intimacy with God through prayer and the privilege of adoption into God's family. Wayne Krause challenged us to see ourselves as people who exist primarily for the people who are not in our churches and who don't know Jesus (yet!).

In the evenings the speaker was Anthony Kent from the General Conference Ministerial Association who began his pastoral ministry in Victoria. He spoke of the death and resurrection of Jesus, not just as a historical event, but as something meaningful to him. His major challenge was passing on the torch to the next generation by sharing with them the stories of our encounters with God.

It was a weekend full of wisdom and wonder, and indeed, God was there with us.

### CONNECTIONS

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Written by Bryan Roberts

This year's Big Camp saw the establishment of a new meeting division here in Victoria. Built upon what began as Mosaic in previous years, Connections ran as a full program in a separate venue for 2023.

The intent is to create a space where together we can reflect, discuss, question, and share how to apply the messages from the daily preaching.

This year, these messages came from the generosity of Claudia M. Allen. Claudia is a Community Outreach Supervisor in the Howard County Government Office of Human Rights & Equity. She also serves as a Volunteer Pastor at the Emmanuel Brinklow SDA Church in Maryland, USA.

Her artfully-prepared presentations were filled with beauty, challenge, inspiration, insight and confrontation. They gave those of us in the room the opportunity to elevate the stories of people's oppression into the grand story of scripture as we voyaged from Genesis to Revelation.

This voyage over the weekend was navigated together through worship, musical praise, workshops, good coffee, good food and the celebration of Easter. We left with a weary eagerness to digest what was an incredible five days of connection and look forward to the opportunity to do it together again next year.

## YOUTH 18+

Written by Naomi Janmaat

Being back in a large crowd of youth was an exciting experience. From the hubbub of icebreakers to the unity of worship, it was evident that the essence of community was thriving!

The theme for the youth this year was *Restore*, and our speaker, Pastor Edsel B. Cadet, was a divine match. Currently the pastor of the Cambridge SDA Church in Everett, Massachusetts, Edsel has a passion for mental health and earned a Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counselling specialising in Couples and Family Therapy. With his knowledge and experience, he shared how to restore oneself and one's relationships through finding Identity, Purpose, and Healing in Christ – a timely teaching after the tumultuous events of the past three years.

Over the weekend Edsel reminded us that transformation and healing isn't an overnight occurrence, but rather a process filled with peaks and plateaus. With every question asked, he answered with the reassurance that while forming new relationships and overcoming past bonds can be a daunting journey we are not alone; God is with us every step of the way if we allow him to be.

But the community of the youth shed was not limited to the scheduled services. Thanks to the time and generosity of Gilson College Community Church, their *Grace Café* allowed us a chance to connect with each other over games, food and hot drinks, and an abundance of musical talent to watch and enjoy.

I praise God for everyone who played a role in creating such an inviting atmosphere, and I can't wait to see the blessings He has in store for next year.



## HIGH SCHOOL

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Written by Josh Stadnik

Big Camp 2023 was an incredible weekend filled with meaningful activities and inspiring messages for our teens. Despite the cold and rainy weather, over 200 teens joined us for a time of spiritual growth and fun.

Our speaker Callie Buruchara delivered powerful messages around the theme of *More than a Feeling*. She challenged us to consider the role our emotions play in our lives, and how we can have meaningful connections with other people and with God that are more than just a fleeting feeling.

On Sunday, the teens participated in a range of exciting activities, including laser tag, gaga ball, human foosball, and a colour run. These activities not only provided an opportunity for the teens to bond and have fun, but also helped to strengthen their connections and reinforce the message of the weekend.

The most significant moments of the weekend were when seven individuals made a commitment to baptism and countless others made decisions to make Jesus a priority over their feelings. These moments were powerful and emotional, reminding us of the importance of our faith and the connections we share as a community.

Overall, the Teen Tent was a fantastic weekend that brought us closer to each other and to God. We are grateful for the opportunity to connect with teens from around the state, and we look forward to the next event! We believe that the connections we made during this weekend will continue to impact our lives and strengthen our faith in the future.

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Indeed, Big Camp was a blessed reunion, and we thank God for guiding both the process and outcome! But while it is powerful to have thousands of Victorians in one place celebrating the death and Resurrection of our Saviour, it is only one weekend in a whole year...

We should not underestimate the impact of meeting together within our own communities, for frequent fellowship is an essential component of Christian growth and perseverance!

Don't limit yourself to camp conversations, continue to reach out and reconnect; to form new friendships and nurture existing ones, so that by the time we reunite again next year, our campground will be even more vibrant!

## DIGITAL RECORDINGS:

We understand that not everyone was able to join us over the weekend, so we recorded as much as we possibly could!

Currently available in both video and podcast format are the following tents:

- Encounter
- Connections
- Youth

We also compiled some fun highlight videos showcasing the community of the campground!

### FIND US ON YOUTUBE:

**Victorian Adventist Communications**

### FIND US ON SPOTIFY:

**Adventist Church Victoria**

**Naomi Janmaat**  
Communications Coordinator

# reconnect photo gallery

Photo Credits: Kalen Howse, Naomi Janmaat, Jonathas Newlands





**POWER WASH:** Junior Tent got a fiery surprise while they washed cars for their ADRA fundraiser!



**TRUE COLOURS:** High School Tent let loose on during a chaotic colour run on the open campground!



**IT'S TRICKY:** Youth Tent put their knowledge to the test as they try to answer trivia questions!



**FEELIN' FRESH:** The ADRA Veggies and Connections Tent shared crisp and crunchy camp snacks!



**HAPPY CAMPERS:** Even though the skies were grey, there was always a smile to brighten the day!

# Bairnsdale's Busy Month of Blessings

On March 4, 2023, Julene Raymond organised and led a service of worship and praise to recognise and celebrate women in the church. Alongside choir singing and special musical items, many shared the inspirational stories of women who impacted the world for good – ranging from Hellen Keller to Anne Askew, an Englishwoman born in 1520 and martyred for her faith at the age of 28.

For our main message, Paula Rykers gave a sermonette on the influence of godly mothers, speaking of Jochebed, mother of Moses. While motherhood was the main theme, Julene ensured the celebration of all women, including single and childless women who mentor and encourage others; she also recognised the efforts of men who take on maternal roles.

Then the following Sabbath, March 11, services began early at 9:00am with the baptism of Fiona Miller and Indie-Anna Rykers at Sunset Cove, Lake Victoria, Paynesville. It was sunny, the lake was tranquil, and at one point, during Fiona's baptism, two beautiful black swans swam serenely past in the background.

Fiona is a young mother of two girls, who serves the church in many ways, one being a Sabbath School facilitator. Indie-Anna is a mature 10-and-a-half-year-old who has been involved in Sabbath School and church, even at times leading out in children's stories on her own.

While Pastor Rian van Deventer lead out the baptisms, his daughter, Carrissa, accompanied him with hymns. We then returned to the church in Bairnsdale and continued with Sabbath School and the main service, which was also taken by Pastor Rian.

During the service Fiona and Indie-Anna affirmed their understanding of joining with Christ and the church, and were welcomed into fellowship with baptismal certificates, gifts of flowers and Bibles.

A fellowship lunch followed, enjoyed by church members and visitors alike.

Finally, On March 25, a large group of people

attended a special concert at Bairnsdale Church themed after "The Great Rescue." With orchestral and choir music, special items, and a story we were taken through the last events of Christ's life.

The cross and then the resurrection moved our hearts as we remembered how Jesus came to show us the way of life and save all who accept His gracious rescue. The joyous occasion ended with Pastor Rian making a beautiful call for all to personally know our risen Saviour and be ready when He returns to take us home.

Bairnsdale Church is vibrant and growing, with several non-church members, volunteers at the ADRA Food Bank and Opportunity Centre, and the Gems 'n Jams Op Shop, often attending services and others taking studies with Pastor van Deventer.

**Judith Walker**  
Bairnsdale SDA Church



# LOCAL NEWS PT.1

## Lilydale Celebrates her 40+ Anniversary

Lilydale Church finally got the opportunity to Celebrate her 40th Anniversary on the weekend of March 24th and 25th. It has lovingly been coined her 40+ because it was planned for 2020 however, due to that too often mentioned pandemic, this beautiful lady got to be a little coy about her age.

The weekend commenced on Friday evening with a light dinner, music through the decades, and Pastor Jeff Parker presenting an amazing message.

Sabbath was packed full of wonderful programs and opportunities to meet up with old friends and enjoy great food. The featured speaker for Sabbath morning was Doctor John Hammond, Lilydale's gifted music team presented a choir and orchestra. Brilliant Sabbath school teams offered wonderful options for every age group, while the youth presented a panel-style adult Sabbath school lesson in the main worship centre.

The official opening of the new ministry area took place at 4:00pm accompanied by music and fanfare. Most importantly, sincere gratitude was given to our Heavenly Father and the generosity of church members, particularly the builder, elders and deacons who have given so much in time and money to allow the dream of creating more space for ministry to children, to take place. It was so hard to say thank you, not because we didn't have the words, but because there were so many people who just kept on giving.

Senior Pastor, Darren Croft led out in telling the story of this season of this continually growing church. This beloved church has never rested on her laurels and is constantly listening to where the Holy Spirit is leading. Although celebrating her past, her mission is to always look to and plan well for the future of taking the never changing Gospel to an ever-changing world.

The honour of cutting the ribbon was given to Builder Glen Jackson, Marg Wilson - wife of the late Neville Wilson who was part of the original building team, and Counsellor Len Cox.

The beautiful celebratory cake, skilfully made by Candy Oliver, was cut by head elder Paul Woodward and head deacon Lindsay Barrett.

In the evening, dinner was followed by a wonderful concert and memories offered by past leaders and pastors. There were many old photos and videos to enjoy and remember the journey, the miracles, the fashions, the people, but mostly to remember God's plan for His body...and keep watching; God isn't finished with Lilydale yet!

**Pr Faye Stothers-Khan**  
Lilydale SDA Church



# KNOW YOUR WHY

## **“WHY, DAD? WHY DOES GOD WANT US TO MOVE TO MELBOURNE? WHY CAN'T WE STAY HERE? WHY CAN'T I STAY AT MY SCHOOL WITH MY FRIENDS?”**

There was hardly a breath between those deep-seated questions. Like all inquisitive children, she was hungry to understand why things happen, and I knew a quick-fix answer wasn't going to satisfy her.

It had been over a week since we broke the news: “We've accepted God's Call to serve in Victoria,” and if my wife and I were still coming to terms with it, of course, our five-year-old daughter would be wrestling with this decision.

What I said next would impact her emotional state for the entire day. She deserved quality time to get quality answers, but we were two minutes away from the school gates, and the traffic lights had just turned green.

I had a split second to decide how to answer the “Why God?” questions she asked. Feeling composed and God-led, I said:

“Baby, Mum and I have prayed long and hard about this. We believe, and are very excited, that God has called our family, which is a special thing. It means each of us is part of God's plan, and our family has the awesome chance to work with God in fulfilling His mission for us. He will guide us to a good home to settle in, a good school where you will enjoy learning and make more friends.”

As the words left my mouth, it dawned on me that maybe God was communicating to me through my daughter. Using her questions, God was letting me understand ‘The Why’ – why did we say yes to Him?

I found that when we ask ourselves this question, it helps clarify our purpose and define our direction. It anchors our lives and centres us on God's will.

I like what author and speaker Simon Sinek says about ‘The Why’:

## **“IT IS THE COMPELLING HIGHER PURPOSE THAT INSPIRES US AND ACTS AS THE SOURCE OF ALL WE DO.”**

God has placed in my heart a passion, focus, and drive for growing His kingdom by shaping church culture that is inclusive, that encourages our families to do life together and empowers our children to be innovative and use their spiritual gifts without fear of judgment.

It has been almost three and a half months since our move, and the questions my daughter asked in mid-November 2022 continue to shape our ministry:

## **WHY DID WE COME TO VICTORIA?**

Western Australia has been home for 18 years of ministry, it was time to broaden my experience and to find new opportunities for growth and learning new and exciting skills.

## **WHY ARE WE HERE?**

To help motivate cultural change conducive to growing leaders and inspire the next generation of disciples to be bold in their pursuit of God!

Our family have settled into a good home with our now six-year-old daughter enjoying her new school (Nunawading Christian College) and making more friends. Now that we know and understand our why, we look forward to seeing what God has planned for Victoria!

**Uili Mauga**

Head of Children's and Family Ministries



*"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Matthew 28:19-20

# LOCAL NEWS PT.2

## Werribee Youth Support Ironman 70.3 Triathletes

On Sunday 26th of March, Werribee Youth had the opportunity to be part of something super special!

The Ironman 70.3 Triathlon is one of a series of long-distance triathlon races organised by the World Triathlon Corporation. The number 70.3 is for the total distance in miles covered in the race, consisting of a 1.2-mile swim, a 56-mile bike ride, and a 13.1-mile run.

Werribee SDA Youth was enlisted set up and stand out at the "hydration station", an area on the course where athletes can get a well-needed energy boost.

So, we met up at church at around 5:50am to pray before heading out for a quiet, traffic free 40-minute drive to Geelong's Eastern Beach Reserve.

Upon arrival it was all hands on deck to get as many fluids made and ready to be handed out to the athletes competing in the 90km bike ride. The remainder of the morning was spent handing out water, Gatorade, and gel packs to cyclists travelling at speeds of 20km -- which sounds slow but is quite fast when you're trying to launch a water bottle into someone's hand while they balance their bike with the other!

It was a blessing to be part of such an amazing event! Not only did we get to be Jesus' hands and feet by showing kindness in the community, but we also got to see how God has created our bodies to do amazing things!

Special shoutout to CJ Guiling for being a fearless leader and getting us all where we needed to be and to the parents and honorary youth that attended.

**Nicole Khumalo**  
Werribee SDA Church



# Western Spanish Youth Share God's Love in Sunshine

"Love is a Verb" was the theme for this year's Global Youth Day and Week of Prayer initiative. So, to put this into action, the youth of Western Spanish SDA church decided they would be a loving light in their Sunshine community.

Split across their local town centre and Sunshine station, the youth ran several impactful Global Youth Day activities. As pedestrians walked by, they handed out compliment cards – that they printed and designed themselves – as well as ice-cold water bottles to stay refreshed during the 33-degree day. But it was the mystery box that had the most powerful message...

Holding up handmade posters that read "Want to see something special?", they encouraged pedestrians to look inside a box which stood in the middle of the walkway. Those who were curious enough to sneak a peek saw a carefully placed mirror that shows them their reflection, creating heart-warming moment that communicated everyone is special and loved in God's eyes!

But that was only the beginning, because end of that Sabbath meant the official start to the Week of Prayer. Every night that week, both the youth and adults came together in prayer to learn and understand God's Love for us, and want it means to share that love to others.

It was a fruitful, community-building experience and we look forward to "Being the Sermon" next year!

**Kimberly Penate**  
Western Spanish SDA Church



# ACTS OF KINDNESS

## ● ● ● ● ● ● AN UPDATE FROM ADRA

*"WE HAVE THIS GREAT HOPE. THE HOPE OF JESUS AND HIS SOON RETURN, WHERE HE WILL WIPE AWAY EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES, AND DEATH SHALL BE NO MORE, NEITHER SHALL THERE BE MOURNING, NOR CRYING, NOR THERE WILL BE PAIN ANYMORE, FOR THE FORMER THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY"*

- REVELATION 21:4

I am so thankful to be part of the family of God. A community which supports each other, a community which worships together, a community which does life together.

Sadly, though, I work with people who have no community, who have lost their livelihoods, who are experiencing immense pain, and have lost all hope.

But, because of the beautiful promise made in Revelation 21:4, ADRA works to be the light of the world, and bring even the smallest joy to those who need it most.

### BACKYARD BLITZ

Last month, I witnessed hopelessness. As we entered the garage of a suburban family home, we heard noises rustling amongst the mounds and mounds of rubbish. Yes, it was rats. Rats had not only entered into the garage, but also into the house where a single mother and her 3 children under the age of 10 resided. The mother struggled with mental health issues after a marriage breakdown and years of physical and emotional abuse. She said to me:

"Bec, my house reflects how I feel, I just don't know how to cope anymore. I love my children and I just want them to be happy."

I could hear the pain in her voice, see the struggle in her eyes and I just wanted her pain to go away.

Later that day, as the youth from Burwood church finished cleaning – one of the leaders who had been talking to the mother spoke to me and said they were planning to catch up again soon, as the mother mentioned to her that she wanted to be part of a Christian community and that she was so happy that it was Christians that came to clean up her house today.

Praise God, that we can be His vessels to the broken, that we can bring a smile to someone who is struggling, that we can be His hands and feet.

### PROUD PROGRESS IN PAKENHAM

Every Thursday evening, we operate a bus outreach at Pakenham station which is in the southeast of Victoria. The train station and the park are renowned for people who are experiencing homelessness, addiction, and food insecurity.

In November, last year a young 12-year-old girl came on the bus – we will call her Sally. She was wearing minimal clothing and her behaviour was concerning. We were able to get in contact with her mother and her social worker who allowed her to come to the bus every week.

Fast forward to February this year, I arrived at the bus and met with the manager, who said that Sally showed him an app. This app showed that she hadn't hurt herself in 3 months. When I heard this great news, I went to my car looking for an ADRA shirt but all I could find was an ADRA jumper. So, I took it to Sally. When I said to her that I was so proud of her and all her help on the bus, I could see the warmth in her eyes as I gave her the jumper. It was a 30-degree day. Sally wore that jumper all night at the outreach.

It's a humbling experience to witness God's interventions. He really knows how to make you smile.

### COMPASSION MAKES CULTURES COMBINE

I never thought I would see the day where Muslims would fill an Adventist church worshipping God.

This happened last month, on the Sabbath of March 18, when we celebrated the life of Fatia (Kathy) Bassal, an ADRA volunteer who recently passed away. Her family expressed how much Kathy loved coming to ADRA because of the love and compassion shown to her.

Her daughters will continue their mother's legacy by



**Backyard Blitz: Members from Nunawading, Burwood, Wantrina and Lilydale all helped out!**



**Cultures Combine: Praise God for the compassionate community of volunteers at Carrum Downs**



**A Royal Visit: Princess Mary spends time at the Elang Family Support Services Centre**

volunteering at the ADRA Carrum Downs Samoan SDA Church

## **FAITH-BUILDING FOOD BANKS AND OP SHOPS**

Over in the north, at the Melton Community Centre, ADRA was featured in the Age – The headline: *"No teeth, scurvy diagnosis: Cost of living drives foodbank pressures"*.

They reported on a 72-year-old woman on an aged pension who didn't have enough money to fix her teeth - about half of her upper teeth are gone. She said that it would take her about a year to save up to \$3,000 for dentures, but she is hopeful because she is able to save small amounts of money each week by getting assistance at the ADRA food bank.

Over in the west of Melbourne, St Albans SDA Church on their opening day in April 2021, only a few people came to the meal and food pantry program. Last month, 60 families came to the church needing support with 3 recipients currently having bible studies.

Last September, our newest op shop opened in Bunyip. In December, the manager - Mary, was baptised in the Bayles SDA Church. Mary remarked at her baptism that she found a purpose through ADRA - a reason to get out of bed and that she wants to help others find their purpose and make more disciples for Him.

## **A ROYAL VISIT IN VANUATU**

On April 25, 2023, our Vanuatu team were honoured to have Her Royal Highness Princess Mary of Denmark and her delegate visit ADRA's Elang Family Support Services Centre at Etas.

Women who have been empowered through our life skills training had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to showcase to Her Royal Highness the items they produce and sell to earn an income for their families.

With the impacts of climate change affecting people in Vanuatu, especially women and children, Etas' community got to share their story of how they are adapting to the changes.

We hope that this visit will provide valuable insights into the challenges women in Vanuatu face and inspire further action towards creating a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient future for all.

Overseas, ADRA globally has responded to the wars and disasters in Ukraine, Syria, Turkey, and the Pacific Islands whilst assisting families, communities, and women who have been exploited and abused to start their own businesses, and establish safe drinking water systems and sustainable food sources.

## REFLECTIONS AND RESOURCES

I am in awe of the dedication and selflessness of our church members who serve people experiencing hardship. Our teams across 30 centres are responding weekly to people in need, for no financial reward, just an opportunity to share His love and hope.

If you would like to support, you can volunteer or donate here to help where it is needed most:

[WWW.ADRA.ORG.AU/VOLUNTEER](http://WWW.ADRA.ORG.AU/VOLUNTEER)

[WWW.ADRA.ORG.AU/DONATE](http://WWW.ADRA.ORG.AU/DONATE)

May we continue to be the Church even when the Sabbath service is over.

**Rebecca Auriant**  
ADRA Director

## WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS: STORIES FROM THE GALLERY



"ADRA helped me find my purpose, now I want to do the same for others. I want to make more disciples for Jesus"

**MARY - MANAGER, ADRA OP SHOP BUNYIP**



### MEET PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

The Pakenham Community Outreach Bus drives to connect with those facing homelessness, addiction and food insecurity.



## KIDS SHOW KINDNESS AT CAMP

Over 300 acts of kindness were completed at Big Camp during our ADRA Kindness Challenge. Well done kids!



"We had packed all of our food hampers for the day and had nothing left for our next lot of deliveries. Two of the volunteers who are not Adventist said:

'Let's ask your God to bring in the 4 staple items that we desperately need.'

The next day those 4 exact staple items were delivered. Praise God."

**SUE BEAMENT - MANAGER, ADRA FERTREE-GULLY**



"Since starting our ADRA food pantry in the peak of COVID, we have 5 recipients regularly attending Church, 3 children attending Sabbath School, 5 watching the livestream and interacting in the chat, 4 attending friendship group and 2 previous clients volunteering fortnightly."

**LIZ HEATH - MANAGER, ADRA WANTIRNA.**

# NEW ADDITIONS

## ● ● ● ● ● AN ADVENTCARE UPDATE

### TYPES OF ACCOMODATION WE OFFER:

- INDEPENDENT LIVING UNITS
- RENTAL UNITS
- RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE
- RESPITE CARE
- DEMENTIA CARE
- PALLIATIVE CARE

#### ADVENTCARE WHITEHORSE

163-165 Central Road, Nunawading VIC 3131

E: [whitehorse@adventcare.org.au](mailto:whitehorse@adventcare.org.au)

P: 03 9259 2000

#### ADVENTCARE YARRA RANGES

5 Woods Point Road, Warburton VIC 3799

E: [yarra.ranges@adventcare.org.au](mailto:yarra.ranges@adventcare.org.au)

P: 03 5966 4420

#### ADVENTCARE INDEPENDENT LIVING UNITS (ILUS)

Blackburn, Nunawading and Warburton

E: [units@adventcare.org.au](mailto:units@adventcare.org.au)

P: 03 9259 2106

AdventCare is a caring and well-respected Community based Aged Care Organisation that is guided by Christian values of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, catering for people from all backgrounds. We provide excellent care and outstanding services within a homely environment.

At our Whitehorse home we have a dedicated Memory Support Unit for specialised Dementia Care. Our home sits within beautiful natural bushland with our own bubbling creek. Stroll along our boardwalk and enjoy the scenery and tranquil sounds of birds and other wildlife.

We are conveniently located within close proximity to Blackburn Lake, local cafés and major shopping centre and bus and on-site parking is available. Enjoy a coffee, cake, or lunch in our new in- house café, book the private dining room for special family occasions or utilise our outdoor BBQ area.

Our Yarra Ranges home is located in picturesque Warburton in the Yarra Ranges, minutes from local cafes and tourist attractions. Surrounded by abundant flora and fauna the Home backs onto the Yarra River and has direct access to the Yarra River Walk.

#### UPDATE ON NEW WHITEHORSE FACILITIES:

We are excited to announce the completion of two new wings: Elmshaven and Burnham.

In these new areas, residents can enjoy each other's company in the beautiful communal lounges, or over a delicious meal in the sleek dining areas.

There is also a new outdoor garden space equipped with a BBQ and a shaded seating area – perfect for gatherings with family and friends.

Overall, the renovations will provide a total of 48 new beds, with all the building works to be completed in late September.

Rooms are still available for booking. To schedule a viewing please contact our Admissions Officer on **(03) 9259 2130**.

For more information go to [www.adventcare.org.au](http://www.adventcare.org.au)

David Reece / Naomi Janmaat

AdventCare CEO / Communications Coordinator



**A DESIGNER DINING EXPERIENCE:** Our residents enjoy their daily meals in our new colourful dining rooms.



**LOUNGING IN LUXURY:** Our spacious community areas are perfect for social conversations or quiet time.



**GREAT ROOMS AND GARDEN VIEWS:** Our rooms come with an ensuite and a TV, and our new outdoor space is perfect for gatherings in the open air.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## DESTINY RESCUE FUNDRAISER

**WHEN: JUNE 24 FROM 5:15PM**

**WHERE: BURWOOD ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Show your support for Destiny Rescue during a fundraiser at Burwood Adventist Community Church! Try international food, peruse market stalls, enjoy live music, and even bid at a silent auction!

Destiny Rescue works to rescue children from sex trafficking and exploitation. For more information about their work go to [destinyrescue.org.au](https://destinyrescue.org.au)

## RENEW WOMEN'S RETREAT

**WHEN: JULY 21-23**

**WHERE: PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT, COWES VIC**

Calling all ladies to join us for a weekend away at Phillip Island with our special guest speakers Joy-Marie Butler, Claire Marsh and Sylvia Mendez, beautiful worship music, catching up with old friends, making new friends and sharing delicious food!

For more information and registration go to [vic.adventist.org.au](https://vic.adventist.org.au)

## VICYOUTH SHRED IT

**WHEN: JULY 28-31**

**WHERE: ADVENTIST ALPINE VILLAGE, JINDABYNE NSW**

It's time to get your Shred on! Shred It is back - and you won't want to miss this year's event! Get ready for an epic few days with friends from all across Australia; be challenged by inspiring messages from our speaker, chill out by the fireside at the cosy AAV, wake up to brisk mountain mornings and crisp air and hit the slopes with your fellow shredders and shreddettes. You've been waiting all year for this. You need to be there!

Full send (Fri PM – Mon AM), semi-send (Fri PM – Sun AM), and day pass tickets are available. For ages 18-35.

For more information and bookings go to <https://events.adventist.org.au/event/info/10880>

DESTINY  
RESCUE  
FUNDRAISER

INTERNATIONAL FOOD  
MARKET STALLS  
SILENT AUCTION  
LIVE MUSIC

Venue:  
Burwood Adventist  
Community Church  
162 Highbury Rd,  
Burwood VIC 3125  
Doors open at 5.15pm

JUNE  
24TH  
2023

SAVE  
THE  
DATE



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

Send in your stories and we'll  
share them with everyone in one  
of our upcoming issues!

Here's our email:

victorianadventistcommunications  
@adventist.org.au

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▶▶▶ **RENEW**

CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG LADIES 2023

**JULY 21-23**  
AT PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT

**UNDER  
CONSTRUCTION** ◀◀◀

Three circular portraits of women are arranged in a triangular pattern on the left side of the banner. Each portrait is set within a white hexagonal frame that overlaps the yellow background.

STRUCTION // UNDER CONSTRUCTION // UNDER COM

# ▶ RENEW

CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG LADIES 2023



A weekend away at Phillip Island with our special guest speakers Joy-Marie Butler, Claire Marsh and Sylvia Mendez, beautiful worship music, catching up with old friends, making new friends and sharing delicious food! For more information and to register please check out the Women's Ministries page at [vic.adventist.org.au](http://vic.adventist.org.au)

# UNDER ◀ ◀ ◀ CONSTRUCTION

## JULY 21-23

### AT PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT