

## Mission Edition!



## Summer of Mission!



As the Missions Coordinator Les Dennis made his annual rounds of Beach Missions it was evident that volunteer teams were doing amazing work. As he reviews his diary, Les gives the following summary of a great Summer of Missions.

State Director Chris drove to the Tumby Bay Mission (near Port Lincoln) to conduct the Training Day and speak at a combined church service and attend the commissioning.

[continued - pg 3]

## In this Edition...

### Sowing for a harvest

In order to harvest you have to sow and for 150 years that has been the core work and mission . . .

[read more - pg 2]

### Beach Mission reports

Reports from our Beach Missions; Tumby Bay, Moonta, Port Vincent, Kangaroo Island, Victor . . .

[turn to - pg's 4-5]

### Big Week Out & SUSA

In 2017 Big Week Out was divided into three different locations with bases in the East, West and Hills . . .

[read more - pg 7]

### CE & SUSA Partnership

Many campers responded in faith for the first time and even more made a stand to share their faith with . . .

[read more - pg 8]

# SOWING for a harvest

Others, like the seed sown in good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop; some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown." Mark 4:20

I grew up on a farm in NSW. I know how to plough a paddock, sow seed, fertilise the soil and how to bring in the harvest. After 30 years of ministry I am still farming, not for an edible crop but more importantly for the souls of men, women and children.

In order to harvest you have to sow and for 150 years that has been the core work and mission of Scripture Union. SU across the globe is a seed sowing ministry that has touched millions of lives.

Here in SA we know our ministry has seen thousands over the years come to Christ, many of those people becoming sowers themselves. For all the camps, beach missions and school programs we have run, we may never know the true size of the harvest but we keep faithfully sowing that seed of salvation.

"Thus the saying, one sows and another reaps, is true."  
John 4:37

SUSA can only continue in this ministry of winning souls to Christ because of the many wonderful volunteers, generous donors and dedicated prayers that we have. We thank God for all of you who faithfully give what you can towards our ongoing seed sowing mission.

**Chris Battistuzzi**

Chris Battistuzzi  
Executive Director, SUSA



## From the Chair



**Under Eli's direction, a young boy, Samuel, was serving God at a time when the revelation of God was rarely heard or seen.**

This might sound familiar. There are times when we listen to the news, look at the world around us, or even life in our own families and are hard pressed to see much of the revelation of God.

That might apply to many of the young people who have participated over summer in SUSA camps and Beach Missions. But the book of Samuel has some very encouraging news.

Samuel has been given into the care of the old priest Eli, and is serving in the temple. One night God calls Samuel three times, and Samuel, thinking it is Eli calling, gets up and goes to see what Eli wants. But Eli has not called, and he realises that it is the voice of God calling Samuel. Pretty awesome!

After the second time Samuel hears the voice, the prophet writes:

*Again Eli said, "Son, I didn't call you. Go back to bed." (This all happened before Samuel knew God for himself. It was before the revelation of God had been given to him personally.)*

*1 Samuel 3.6b,7 The Message*

So here is Samuel working for the temple and the priest and he doesn't yet know God for himself – no revelation to him personally.

It makes one think – how many of us are very involved in our churches, mission organisations, even SUSA, but feel we haven't experienced that revelation of God that makes it personal, we haven't heard that calling of our name. But note that it is God who arrives and stands before Samuel. God makes the first move!

As all of us involved in SUSA – those who minister directly with children and families, those who pray, those who support both financially and in other ways – let us pray for all to hear God and to minister from that revelation. Then will our ministry be fruitful and prophetic.

Eli directed Samuel: If the voice calls again, say, 'Speak, God. I'm your servant, ready to listen.'" Samuel returned to his bed. Then God came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, "Samuel! Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak. I'm your servant, ready to listen."

May we respond as Samuel did – and just wait and see what happens!

**Vivien Bleby**  
SUSA Council Chairperson

## Pray for SA

**Join with SUSA State Director, Chris Battistuzzi and pray for South Australian children, youth and families.**

Bible reading, prayer and discussion. Coffee and biscuits provided.

Meet at the SUSA office on the 3rd Monday of each month, from 10-11am.

**Please Contact the SUSA office on 8235 9500 to RSVP and let us know you are coming.**





# SU CELEBRATION - Everyone's invited!



**T**o acknowledge the anniversary of SU's beginnings, a 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration will be held at Trinity Baptist Church in Colonel Light Gardens, on Sunday 10th September.

Commencing at 3pm and concluding by 8.30pm, this celebration is open for all SUSA supporters (past and present) to attend.

Whether you are/were involved in Schools Ministry, Camps or Beach Missions this is a special thanksgiving celebration with dinner, entertainment, kids' games, catching up and even feeding the sharks ( curious? ) You can attend all or just part of the celebration.

**If you would like to RSVP, offer your support or request more information for this event, please contact Kevin Hull on 0412 996 519, or email at: [kevin@susa.org.au](mailto:kevin@susa.org.au)**



*1967/68 Port Elliot  
Beach Missions Team*

*Kevin Hull's 1st Beach  
Mission, aged 16.  
Can you spot him?*

*Are there any other  
Team Members you  
can recognise?*

## Summer of Mission!

*[continued from pg1]*

Missions Next team leader Col Sweeney and his team, assisted the Victor Harbor team set up their five tents and gear. At the end of the day, team leader Emma said "We have never been so ready". As the old saying goes: "Never say never..."

When that huge December storm hit, I was woken up by a 2AM phone call from team leader Petra –

*"Les, we have lost the main activities tent and the second activities tent has collapsed. With many team tents down, missiles are being blown about".*

A replacement activities marquee was sourced from SUSA HQ, and with the help of nearby camping parents, local churches and team, the Mission was ready to start by 1.30PM on the same day. The team, having had little sleep the night before, cooked pancakes for families the same morning.

The missions at Port Vincent and Moonta were visited early and midway into their activities and it was a blessing to see teams leading the daily programs and the attending children really getting into the action songs, learning memory verses and participating in crafts and games. The Teens Programs at both missions were well attended by holidaying and local young people.

The final mission held later in January was on Kangaroo Island. This was the second year of operation and led by Pete and Julie Calvert, with great support from the local Anglican Minister, the Uniting Church Pastor and the Chair of the local Church Council. A group of local ladies cooked for the team. It was an exciting time for the team, many of which were younger people to see a huge increase in numbers.

Missions Coordinator and the Missions Next Team want to thank the serving hearts of all team members and local Mission supporters for their amazing energy to see Jesus glorified with their commitment to this ministry.

**Les Dennis** | Missions Coordinator

The team, having had little sleep the night before, cooked pancakes for families the same morning.



If you have a heart for this 150 years of Beach Missions why not enquire about joining and or supporting a team?

There have been many children and their respective families who have come to learn more of God's love for them through the many years of Beach Missions.

With some teams small in size, the load was great for those who served at some of the missions during December and January.

Scripture Union is ready to commence a new Beach Mission at Goolwa and a team is required. Local churches are ready to support and team leaders are getting organized. Alternatively you can join an existing team.

**Les Dennis** | Missions Coordinator

**You can join Les and help grow SU's Beach Missions Ministry. For more information call 8235 9500, or email [info@susa.org.au](mailto:info@susa.org.au)**

## Tumby Bay

**V**olunteers from churches across South Australia gathered in Tumby Bay for Scripture Union Family Mission – a week of activities for kids and families.

Team Leader Dale Telfer reported: “*Going Bananas*’ was a fun theme and an excuse to eat lots of bananas in various forms; smoothies, muffins, ice blocks, banana splits, pikelets ...whatever else we could think of for activities with children.

We had the right mix of people on team, (young and old), working together to help children understand why some people in the Bible went ‘*Bananas for God*’ and why we can go bananas for Him too!”

One of many highlights was to see young team members take on challenges and responsibilities. Participants are thinking carefully about what it means to be on the team in the future.

A large crowd of all ages participated at the Sand Sculpture Competition, with some amazing team work producing creative results. Feedback was positive regarding the Community Afternoon, and the Family Night – where children presented songs and stories as a recap of the week. There was a lot of support from the town with donations from individuals and local business.

Seeing the youth in the local district we are mindful of their need to hear a message of life, love and hope, and to know they are precious to Him.

We are prayerful about re-igniting a Youth Evening Program, and are seeking Youth Leaders to be involved in it. Pray with us that January 2018 will see a youth program that’s bigger and better than ever.”

Tumby Bay SUFM takes place early each January, with locals and tourists all welcome to attend. It is a fabulous training ground for those new to leadership and keen to grow in their own faith as they serve God and make Jesus known.

**Glenys Tiller-Sauturaga**



Victor Harbor

## Moonta

Mission

**T**his was our sixth beach mission in Moonta, and once again, there is much to give God thanks for. A number of challenges beset our team in the early stages of planning, causing us to consider the viability of the Moonta Mission for this year. However we felt strongly that God was doing some wonderful things. We prayed, asking God to provide a way forward. By His grace our prayers were answered, and we had a wonderful time.

The townships of Moonta and the Copper Coast warmly received us into their community. We spent the evening of New Years Day in a local caravan park offering a free pancake supper, clowns, crazy hair stands, beach cricket, plus a number of other activities to the holiday makers.

The caravan park was very supportive, allowing us to use their resources and openly promote what SUSA was doing over the week. It was a great opportunity to connect with lots of families to share why we were there, and invite them along to the program.

Approximately 90 children attended the program during the week, some who were ‘returning’ from previous years.

There were also many new children from un-churched families. We are so thankful that we had the ability to share the good news of Jesus so freely with them!

We had a superheroes theme for this mission. The program went through an overview of the bible including God’s salvation plan, showing that Jesus is, and always has been, the ultimate superhero.

We saw so many within our team step up in various ways, in both leading and serving. Our team left the week exhausted, yet encouraged by what God had been, and continues to do.

We look forward to Moonta Mission 2018! Please continue to be praying for the families that connected with us over the week on mission that they will come to a full realisation of the good God we serve.

**Esther McKee**





## Pt. Vincent

## Kangaroo Is.



**T**he theme of our program this year was 'Stunned Mullets'. The aim was to share real stories of real people who encountered Jesus, and were absolutely stunned. Stunned by His power, stunned by His mercy, stunned by His forgiveness!

Approximately 60 children and teens attended our programs during the week, with many more joining in our family events in the evenings. It was a privilege to share this time and our message of hope with all of them.

We also held three 'family friendly' events enabling us to build relationships with the children's parents and share about the mission. Each event had a great atmosphere, with many parents staying afterwards to enjoy the time together and chat with our team members.

The Teens Tent had 20 teens attend during the week. It's always great to see teens returning year after year, as well as some new faces.

It was great to spend time building relationships with the teens through all the activities, and to have the opportunity to go deeper with them in the Bible discussions and talks.

A highlight was when some of the boys asked our team members to share their testimonies during their discussion group; and a couple of local Christian teens who also attended, openly shared their own testimonies with the rest of the teens.

We thank you, the SU community, for your prayers and support and we continue to pray for God to be working in the lives of all of those children and families we shared the time with at Pt Vincent this year.

**Darren Sanderson**



**A**fter small beginnings in 2016, the 2017 Kangaroo Island Family Mission experienced the fruit of faithful prayer and the fingerprints of God could be seen all over it.

In consultation with the local churches, the community of Kingscote and wider Kangaroo Island, we changed the week of mission to 14th-21st January. It's worth mentioning as it avoided the Mission clashing with Vac Swim.

This proved to be clear guidance and wisdom from God; our attendance increased, and we reached just over 60 registered children from all over the Island.

Kangaroo Island has become a popular tourist destination for many international visitors. A French speaking family from New Caledonia had their two children join us for a day. They left having learnt the day's memory verse in French! Acts 17:27 & 28 "God is not far from each of us, for in Him we live, and move, and have our being" We pray that God will use this verse to lead this family to know Him and His presence in their lives.

Our team consisted of people from 9 different churches from across Adelaide and Kingscote. Each member displayed what it means to live as part of God's family, the church, to the people of KI.

A provision we enjoyed was the local support. This included a wonderful cook and helpers, accommodation, faithful prayer, and generous home cooked morning and afternoon teas....yummy!!

It was clear that God had been working in the Kingscote community long before we arrived. Many hearts had been softened, and welcomed us much more positively than the previous year.

While there are many families yet to participate and be introduced to Jesus, the door is opening on KI. We look forward to many more Family Missions to allow all children and families the opportunity to find out about God and the abundant, flourishing, eternal life He offers.

**Julie Calvert**

If you - or someone you know - have a story about how an SUSA Beach Mission has changed your life, we'd love to hear from you. Send your story to: [stories@susa.org.au](mailto:stories@susa.org.au)



# Victor Harbor



**V**ictor Harbor SUFM was a huge success again this year. Great numbers of participants, both new and old, joined us in the Beachfront Holiday Park for 7 full-on days of activities. The team was small, but of a very high quality, and embraced the demands that were created.

The big storm that hit us just after set up was very destructive, but God's hand was seen very clearly in team morale and the support from the caravan park and local Victor Harbor community as we rebuilt.

Highlights from the program included growth of the adults team, who connected with many adults in the park through the coffee ministry, this year inclusive of a 'coffee tasting' afternoon.

Bibles were extremely popular and on some nights we had to re-stock our bible table as they were all taken.

Huge numbers turned out, as usual, for the evening programs, particularly the Talent Night, showcasing the talents of those in the team and park. This included acts from children who had been waiting and preparing all year!

Many of the age groups were full to capacity and there were great opportunities to connect with the children and their parents and share God's love with them.

The passionate and devoted team worked exceptionally hard this year and the fruit of this can be seen by the hundreds in attendance, and faith questions asked by the people in the caravan park.

God always moves and does incredible things through this team, and we are so excited to do it all again next year.

**Emma Shaw**



**I**f you share our heart, passion and purpose to see more children come to Christ and effectively disciplined, then please seriously consider and pray about joining our CLUB 100.

Contact the SUSA office on 8235 9500, or visit our website for more information: [www.susa.org.au](http://www.susa.org.au)

# LEAVING a legacy that lasts



**O**ne of the most powerful ways you can contribute to future generations is by remembering SUSA in your Will. This is commonly known as a Bequest and is a gift that you leave in your will to be distributed according to your wishes.

This particularly meaningful gift provides a unique opportunity to leave a lasting legacy that reflects your values in life.

Gifts in your Will are a simple yet incredibly powerful way to continue to support SUSA's mission of introducing Jesus to generations of young South Australians into the future.

For more information on leaving a gift in your Will, please contact SUSA during office hours. We recommend that you consult with your Solicitor or Trustee to prepare your will and to review it regularly.

**If you feel prompted to partner with SUSA and are considering leaving a gift in your will, contact SUSA Office on 8235 9500, or email [info@susa.org.au](mailto:info@susa.org.au) for more information.**

## That's Entertainment



traditional Entertainment Book - or - Digital Membership

**O**der your new Entertainment™ Book or Entertainment™ Digital Membership before 27 March 2017 and you will receive over \$200 worth of additional offers that you can use right away!

Entertainment™ Memberships are packed with thousands of up to **50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers** for the best local restaurants, cafés, attractions, hotel accommodation, travel, and much more!

Available as a traditional Entertainment Book - or - Digital Membership on your smartphone, your Membership gives you **over \$20,000 worth** of valuable offers.

You can help SU with fundraising by selling them on our behalf to your friends, work colleagues or church contacts. \$14 from every membership sold supports SUSA Ministry.

**Order your Entertainment™ Books and Digital Memberships from us today, and help SUSA continue to share the life, love and hope of Jesus to a young generation. Call 8235 9500, or email [info@susa.org.au](mailto:info@susa.org.au)**



In 2017 Big Week Out was divided into three different locations with bases in the East, West and Hills. Thank you for all your support throughout the week, God answered your prayers and his love was shared!



## East Base Report

**F**riday was an incredible day, which saw our whole base head out to Shepherd's Hill Recreation Park for our East Base Service Event! This is the second time our base has run an event with everyone at the one location and it was an incredible success.

Our participants and leaders cleared out an entire creek bed by digging and dragging out tyres, ropes, concrete slabs, old sheds and much more! It was an exhausting day but a day which saw relationships strengthened and a culture of teamwork for God's kingdom shine!

It wasn't all labour. In the evening we wrapped up the week with some acoustic worship and time of reflection, discovering who Jesus is and how our perspectives have changed or been challenged this past week.

What an honour it has been to serve alongside an inspiring group of young people who have sacrificed their time, energy and money to love their community.

God's presence shone through their actions and words. Thank you to everyone who contributed towards making Big Week Out East Base what it was this year.

## Hills Base Report

**W**hat a week! Unbelievable how much God worked through our service today and it was a great way to kick off the next 51 weeks of service until Big Week Out 2018.

We polished up all our backyard blitzes from throughout the week and did a few trips to the dump. Another car wash today saw dozens of people stop by for a chat, coffee, bbq, and of course, an automobile scrub.

A huge Thank You to all our leaders this year, they were amazing and contributed so much time and effort. Also a big shout out to our volunteers, local churches and prayer networks for supporting us in more ways than we can express in such a short email.

Finally, to our participants: Your energy and servant hearts are what make Big Week Out happen. Thank you for your dedication, Godly inspired attitudes and gifts that made this year such a success.

We pray for the energy and hype from this week not to fade. For us to continue to chase God as servant hearted disciples that long to see a world for Him. We pray for opportunities to share His love, and we invite His Spirit into those times to be our guide and leader.

## West Base Report

**W**hew! What a fantastic week!! Our final day saw us heading out to finish off a few Backyard Blitzes, as well as returning to Seaton Primary HYPA to continue landscaping. The colder weather kept families away from Henley Square and our Family Fun activities, so that team also joined the Seaton team - which meant they had enough manpower to finish all of the work (and more!).

We ended the day with dinner, games and worship - taking the chance to look back on the week and reflect on the things that we had learned. It was great to see how God has worked in the lives of our leaders and participants this week, growing their servant hearts and love for all of God's people.

Please join us as we pray for everyone involved to continue this going for the days, weeks and months to come.

We are so thankful to God for the organisers and leaders who helped make Big Week Out West Base possible. It has been a phenomenal week.



# VISION & ZEAL for Christ



**As of January 30th, I have been working at SUSA for 7 years. It's the first time I have been eligible for long term service leave!**

When I think back it was touch and

go that I took the job as the State Youth Coordinator. When I looked at what SU had been doing in recent history I wasn't sure that this was what good, relevant, gospel ministry in the future needed to look like for teens in SA.

When I talked with Mark Schultz (the then director) of my concerns, I was excited to discover that the heart of SU is not programs, but exactly what I was passionate about.

I took the job and the youth department was me, myself and I.

There has been plenty of trial and error in the past 7 years, but I am more excited than ever to be leading now a great team of staff in the youth department and a growing movement of Team Leader and Team Member volunteers.

This year we will be trialling our new training program that has being a 'missional movement' squarely at the centre.

We are not program centred, but in just January alone, over 30 young people chose to follow Jesus for the first time in SU activities. So much to thank God for!

**Hamilton McNicol**  
Youth Ministry Coordinator

This year marks the 150th anniversary of SU and I am greatly encouraged by the warning given at the 100th anniversary of SU in London;

*"First comes a brave pioneer, a man with vision and zeal for Christ; a man who dares to do things differently. Others join him, other people who share his idea and enthusiasm. So the man becomes a movement, a movement aglow with fire for God. Naturally the movement has to acquire administrators, office buildings and headed note paper. And slowly and surely as the years go by, the movement becomes a machine... It relies on the prestige of its name instead of the foolishness of preaching. No longer revolutionary, it becomes highly respectable... And so, in time, the machine becomes a monument... A man a movement, a machine, a monument. That sadly has summed up the story of some once great causes."*

*'A Tale of Two Visions: The story of Scripture Union worldwide', p 64*

## CE & SU Partnership

### CE Junior Camp

**1** 20 Campers gathered for 5 days of games, crafts, sports, food, making new friends and digging deeper into God's story. Campers and leaders explored the story of God through 7 episodes: Made, Break, Wait, Here, Save, Help and New.

These episodes took campers through God's story of creation, the brokenness of sin in our world, Jesus' birth, death and resurrection, as well as the mission we as followers of Christ have now, and what that means for the future.

During challenge night, many campers responded in faith for the first time and even more made a stand to share their faith with others in their school or social groups.

Campers boldly prayed for each other and many prayers were answered. Challenge Night once again was a foundational night in faith for many of the campers.

It's a blessing to be able to connect with young people in this ministry, we look forward to next year and welcoming more campers and leaders to camp.

**Nicole Mugford** | Pastoral Carer



### CE Senior Camp

**1** 00 volunteers, together with small group leaders from over 60 different churches, faithfully and sacrificially served 250 teenage campers.

Campers heard Bible Talks from Ephesians and praised God in song; laughed during meal times, small groups and the Camp ConCERt. Friendships were forged as campers delved deeper into God's word.

We heard testimonies of God at work in people's lives. 30 young people responded for the first time to make a serious commitment for Jesus, while a large portion of camp responded to hunger more after Jesus.

One camper said "CE helped to rekindle the fire that I felt inside of me the first time I gave my heart to God".

Another camper made a commitment for the first time: "I have realised just how important Jesus is and I need him in my life."

We can't wait to see what God has in store for these youth as He builds His Kingdom through them!

**Oliver van Ruth** | Camp Leader

*Life, Love & Hope for a young generation*



SU News is published by Scripture Union of South Australia Inc.

14 Adele Avenue, Kidman Park, SA 5025

T. 08 8235 9500 F. 08 8353 6400 E. info@susa.org.au Print Post Approved 6332371/001

Autumn | 2017

www.susa.org.au

