

# SU News

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."  
Psalm 119:105



## Sharing the love of Jesus



**T**he theme of this years' GENTS Camp was 'Future > Past'. A drama narrative developed the story of a typical father/son relationship over four successive generations since World War 2 and showed typical dysfunctionality that is passed on when pain and hurt is not healed. This provided a great opportunity for boys to see how Jesus not only forgives sins, but heals hearts to break generational 'curses'.

Leaders shared the reality of their challenges growing up into men and how faith had given hope and new life. Personally

I found my small groups regrounded my conviction of how important Jesus is for all of Australia. A number of campers expressed they had great fathers and in stark contrast, there were boys who shared painfully how they either didn't have a dad or their father was in prison for amongst other things, beating them. One Yr 10 boy was so moved by this he asked for prayer that God would help him find and support boys in need in his community who didn't have good dads.

For many of the boys GENTS Camp crossed socio-economic,

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 Camps Edition | Spring 2018

## Life, Love & Hope for a Young Generation

**SUSA**   
Scripture Union South Australia



## From the Director

**W**ith over 30 years of ministry behind me this one thing I know; 'Introducing young people to the God who loves them, to the person of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit to work in their lives, is the greatest thing that I could ever do!'

And that one thing is what SU continues to do however and wherever we are able through camps, schools, clubs and beach missions.

We are called, in fact I'd say we are commanded, in Matthew 5:13-16 to be spiritual salt and light into a world that desperately needs to know Jesus. SU doesn't do this on our own. We partner with so many wonderful volunteers, with churches and other ministry groups, all for the sake of sharing the good news of Jesus.

Our recent camps were powerful and we saw lives changed for an eternity as young men and women gave their lives to Christ. We saw even more for whom these camps led to a strong recommitment of faith.

‘Introducing young people to the God who loves them . . . is the greatest thing that I could ever do!’

Recently we have seen growth in SUPA Clubs and other children's ministry. I personally have been travelling the state doing training, meeting with local leaders and being a catalyst for mission however God wants to use me. Pray that God will bring in more workers for His harvest.

We are living in challenging times for the gospel and the church but be encouraged, people still need to and want to hear the truth about Jesus, so get out there and be God's salt and light into your community and if SU can help you in any way just give us call.

*Chris Battistuzzi*

**Chris Battistuzzi**  
Executive Director



## From the Chair



**The mention of the word 'camp' may well conjure up memories of being on a camp as a young person which was organised by Scripture Union or some other Christian group.**

SU continues to provide many camping opportunities that endeavour to meet the social, physical, emotional and spiritual needs of young people. Christian camps can have a huge impact on a person's faith and help campers encounter and respond to Jesus' call on their lives.

As Jacob found in Genesis 32:1-2, these encounters can be more than a little surprising! 'Jacob went on his way and the angels of God met him; and when Jacob saw them he said, "This is God's camp!" So he called that place Mahanaim. 'Mahanaim' – two camps.

The first camp was Jacob's – vulnerable with all his family and flocks as he left his uncle Laban to return to face his brother Esau.

Christian camps can have a huge impact on a person's faith and help campers encounter & respond to Jesus' call on their lives.

The second was God's camp, with angels protecting Jacob, meeting him just where he was – camped on the dusty road, at the hour of his need.

In circumstances of danger, Jacob sees the angels of God on earth, camping around his own camp giving him the assurance of God's presence and protection.

Please pray that as young people engage in our camping programs, they too will know God and His love and care for them – angelic or otherwise!

**Vivien Bleby**  
SUSAC Council Chairperson



## AGM Dinner



**This was not your usual boring business and report based AGM. In fact the SU AGM Dinner was a powerful night of seeing lives changed and God's mission achieved!**

Along with our guest speaker, Brenton Ragless, it was an occasion where the future vision and ongoing mission of SU was shared, affirmed and blessed for what has happened in the last 12 months and for where the ministry is going in the years ahead.

The combined messages of Chris Battistuzzi and Brenton Ragless really complemented each other and a sense of God's presence, purpose and blessing came through powerfully.

Above all, SU is committed to the mission God has for us and through our membership that evening this was enthusiastically supported and most importantly, covered in prayer.

# GENTS Camp



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ethnic and colour boundaries for the first time in their lives.

Always a highlight was the 'calling-out' ceremony, where we welcomed six young men into manhood, and the whole camp encouraged them with words to help them know that in Christ, they are ready for the future and becoming the men God wants them to be.

Four years ago, Josh Chenda stood before the first GENTS Camp in 2014 and was welcomed as a man. This year Josh Chenda was camp co-director for the first time, joined by Caleb Everett. They did a superb job! I am grateful and overjoyed seeing this kind of fruit resonating with the vision of what we hoped GENTS Camp would achieve. They are but two of many amazing examples of what God is doing through GENTS Camp.

Because such able leaders are now stepping up at GENTS Camp, I have been freed to start plans for GENTS Father-and-Sons camp in May 2019, as well as helping GENTS Romania get started in July 2019. (yes, I am helping GENTS Camp impact the lives of boys in Eastern Europe).

**Hamilton McNicol**

State Youth Coordinator



# SUSA Active in Schools



**D**uring Term 3 we saw 200 students opening up the New Testament and hearing about Jesus with Christian Option Programs running in schools. Children who may never have heard about Jesus or opened a Bible, receive their own gospel and hear directly what Christians believe and why Jesus is so important. It is also encouraging to meet with those kids who are Christian in the schools and encourage them as they walk their path with Jesus as well.

This term also saw the trial run of the redeveloped "Believe It or Not - Beliefs and Values" program with Burnside Primary School. Kids got to read about the characters "Adele" and "Dylan" and interact with the program content in a new and dynamic way.

The aim is to bring out the important lessons that the leaders are teaching, and put them onto a visual platform, so that when they look at the booklet, the message is clear, consistent and ready for them to relearn.

There was much positive and helpful feedback to the new format and a few fixes are needed but we are 95% there and it will soon be ready for the rest of the schools! After this, it's onto the next COP for redevelopment.

With excitement!

**Cherie Jaeschke** ( School's Worker ) and **Chris Battistuzzi** ( Primary Coordinator )

# SUPA Growth

**A**s SUSA goes through a period of change and discernment of where God wants us to go, we are clearly seeing God open new doors into SUPA Club ministry.

Traditionally lunch time clubs, we now have 3 SUPA Clubs operating outside of school hours, running in a partnership between SUSA and local churches. Added to this have been 2 SUPA Holiday Clubs which are 3 or 4 day outreaches to local kids.

We have had further interest in SUPA Clubs from other regions and are working to develop a new ministry model around this exciting new area of mission and ministry that God is opening up.

This year SU has been promoting the ministry of Quizworks, which run Christmas and Easter Seminars into Primary Schools. While not an SU ministry we are very supportive and have been happy to use our networks to promote Quizworks. In the end it's all about more children hearing the good news of Jesus.

At SU we are kingdom focussed, not 'us' focussed. The programs we use don't necessarily need to carry our brand or label, it just needs to share the gospel with sensitivity, quality and God's love!

*If you want to know more about SUPA Clubs or how you can be involved, contact Chris Battistuzzi.*



Introducing new COP characters, Adele and Dylan



# Jewels Camp Ignites Faith



**J**EWELS Camp 2018 – WOW, God showed up BIG time! 7 first time decisions to follow Jesus and by the end of camp every single girl had begun or was continuing

on her journey of faith in Jesus!

SURVIVOR was this year's theme with tribal councils, immunity, reward challenges and much more. All setting the scene for the gospel to be woven powerfully through the Survivor concept.

Daily challenges saw tribes compete against each other. Physical fitness, strength, and endurance were tested along with tests of nerve and intelligence that were all huge fun and built strong team unity.

Through challenges, drama, small groups and Bible engagement the message of God's incredible sacrifice of His Son came through loud and clear.

Seven girls gave their hearts to their new Saviour and most others made meaningful commitments of faith.

Our Yr 11 and 12 leadership initiates participated in rites of passage activities to discover their pathway to womanhood and their identity as women in God.



“I've never been to a more unified camp and I've been to a lot of camps.”

This proved powerful and life changing for many girls.

A year of prayer for a strong leadership team was answered and we had 14 exceptional leaders who drove the united culture of the camp. Our leaders depth of unity was at the heart of our success this year and it flowed through to the campers. Three of our new leaders were returned campers who shone in their gifting areas.

Prayers for a worship team were answered wonderfully with four new young leaders exploding into worship ministry by leading the most intimate and powerful campfire worship we've ever experienced.



The spectacular finale of the camp, organised by Dianne Kenyon from Clare Uniting, was a talent concert lit by flame torches. The excitement of the girls performing a diverse range of dance, drama, comedy, singing and acrobatics had everyone in stitches one minute and thoughtful reflection the next.

To see so many beautiful young women shine in their identity as daughters of The King is the ultimate reward of this ministry. We are building a culture of belonging, unity and knowledge of our identity through the eyes of Jesus. Watch out for JEWELS 2019. We think God is on a roll.

**Cherith Harvey**  
At Risk Kids Ministry

## Welcome Julie!



**I**t's with great excitement we introduce you to SUSAs new Missions Coordinator, Mrs. Julie Calvert.

Julie has been involved with SU Family Missions for almost 20 years. She has played a significant part in many Missions: Pt Elliot, Pt Neill, Tumby Bay, Pt Vincent, Moonta and more recently, Kangaroo Island.

One of the many reasons Julie loves missions is the opportunity for families to minister to other families. This is something unique to SU family missions in which few other ministries can compare.

“Nothing compares to watching a child be introduced to Jesus”

After 4 years in the role Les Dennis will be stepping down. Les has been a blessing and done an amazing job. We truly believe that Julie is God's person to replace Les. She is already learning the role as she is volunteering 1 day a week until she officially takes over next year. Please keep her in your prayers.

## Time to think Mission

**M**issions at Tumby Bay, Moonta, Port Vincent, Victor Harbor and Kangaroo Island are well into their final planning stages. Our training day was well attended and a great start to pulling teams together for the purpose of sharing Jesus to children and families during the holidays.

If you're wondering about being involved on a mission it's not too late to join. Some teams still need additional members.

We're always on the lookout for people who can help in practical ways, like cooking, hospitality, craft or in some other way. Contact Les or Julie at the SU office. They can match you to a Summer Mission where your skills and experience are needed the most.

Pray hard for our Mission teams as they commit their time and resources to a mission, and for the building of great relationships with families on holidays and with those who live in the towns.

### 2018/19 Mission Dates

**Victor Harbor**  
26 December 2018  
to 5 January 2019

**Moonta**  
5-12 January 2019

**Tumby Bay**  
5-12 January 2019

**Port Vincent**  
5-12 January 2019

**Kangaroo Island**  
12-20 January 2019



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