



Christian
Venues
Association
experience the spirit of sharing

INFOPAC

AN INFORMATION PACKAGE

ABOUT

CHRISTIAN VENUES ASSOCIATION

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*“supporting and encouraging effective ministry
through Christian camping”*

Welcome to Christian Venues Association

It is a delight to be able to share with you, important information about the Christian Venues Association – a network of people involved in Christian camps, conference centres, accommodation centres & bed-and-breakfasts throughout Australia.

As you look through the following material, I am confident that you will discover a level of support and industry knowledge that will add great value to you and your operation.

“Experience the spirit of sharing” is not just a nice phrase. It expresses the rich emphasis on co-operation and generosity which marks this organisation, and which enables each of us to grow.

The Christian Venues Association provides fellowship, encouragement, information, resources, support, care, training and cost-savings which are invaluable. It also allows members to access the broader industry community via our international body, Christian Camping International.

I'd encourage you to become a Member. As such you will have the opportunity of not only receiving great benefit, but of also sowing into the lives of others, as together we seek to use our gifts to serve the Lord Jesus.

Gary Hill
Chairman (2010-2018)
Christian Venues Association

Our Roots

A condensed history of the Association.

1. A friendship begins

There is one word that typifies the international ministry of the Association - friendship.

Christian Venues Association had its beginnings in the friendship of Mel Stevens and Arthur Bartlett. Both men served the Lord for many years at Teen Ranch, Cobbitty before Mel and his wife Janet, went to Canada to establish another Teen Ranch and Arthur and Bonnie went to Victoria to establish Mill Valley Ranch. In 1971 Arthur visited Mel at Teen Ranch, Canada and attended a CCI/USA Conference. Arthur was one of many international delegates at this conference.

Two years later Arthur attended another CCI/USA Conference at which he was approached by Ed Oulund (then CCI/USA Executive Director) to start at division of CCI in Australia. Arthur left the USA with a strong desire to see Christian Camping International established in Australia.

2. A challenge becomes a reality

Following a number of Ed Oulund's leads, Arthur and Bonnie made contact with camping ministries staff around the country inviting them to the inaugural meeting of CCI/Aus on the 29th July 1974 at Adanac Lodge in Victoria.

A core group from Victoria met on that day recognizing the need for an association. Other interstate camping ministries would like to have attended however, were unable to attend owing to distance.

The first committee was Arthur Bartlett (President), Joy Carroll (Secretary), and Graeme Sells (Treasurer). Others in attendance became committee members. State Representatives were appointed.

3. Conferences identified as a priority

Members soon recognised that "getting together" had to be a priority. The first National Conference was held in August 1975 at Mill Valley Ranch. Interstate representatives included Glen & Jenny Jolly, Peter & Nina Arnott (South Australia), Kevin & Jan Craik (NSW), David Mack (Western Australia), and Bill & Pam Harback (Tasmania). In total, 55 people attended this first 2-day conference. 21 camps and organisations were represented.

1976 saw the second National Conference, with the theme "Vision Unlimited", being held at CYTA Lodge, Cooma (NSW). The members were thrilled to have Ed Oulund join them for the Conference along with Clarence Chown (Rawhide Ranch, USA) and Vince Craven, "Cobber" (Pioneer Ontario Camps, Canada).

With the appointment of additional state representatives, the governing body of the Association soon took on a national flavour.

4. International ministry of CCI takes shape

Banff, Canada, was invaded by 34 Australians in 1977 for an international CCI Conference. 63 delegates from 14 countries shared reports of camping ministry in their country and participated in discussions which would shape the international work of CCI. Christian Camping International Australia was recognised as an independent Association in 1978.

5. National Conferences engender enthusiasm and stimulus for growth

The very new ESA Camp & Conference Centre at Marysville, Victoria, hosted the next Australian National Conference, in July 1978. The theme, "Extend your Horizons", engendered a great deal of enthusiasm and personal membership started to grow.

National Conferences are always memorable so when the lights went out on the first night of the 1980 National Conference at CYC Cowes, delegates learnt to expect the unexpected in Christian camping.

As membership grew in other states, National Conferences began to move around. The California Hotel at Katoomba, NSW was the venue for the 1982 Conference. Special efforts were made to promote the Conference to camping ministries in NSW. Strong representation from overseas, Brad Stenberg (CCI Southern Africa) and John & Lucia Schone (CCI Japan) was an encouragement to Australian members. "Gone Fishing" was the theme and workshops saw a number of specialists providing much needed training.

The 1982 Conference stimulated interest in NSW. For a time, NSW camping ministries met as the "Camps and Conference Centres Fellowship" (CCCF). Subsequently, they amalgamated with CCI Australia in 1984.

ESA hosted its second National Conference in 1984 and our links with CCI New Zealand were strengthened by the attendance of six New Zealand delegates.

6. Full-time Office Secretary appointed

As the ministry grew, it became apparent that there was need for a full-time worker. Judy Evans, previously working with Ambassadors for Christ accepted the call to serve as National Office Secretary from May 1985. Judy's appointment provided much needed support for Bonnie Bartlett, who served as the association's honorary secretary for 12 years. Bonnie's sacrificial service was acknowledged with a special presentation at the 1986 Conference.

The National Office was established in a house not far from Mill Valley Ranch, Tynong North, Victoria, providing the ideal opportunity for Judy to work with the then President, Arthur Bartlett and Secretary, Bonnie.

Creative themes and purposeful programmes continued to draw increasing numbers to National Conferences - 1986: CYC Cowes "Hitting the Target", 1988: Stanwell Tops "Set Free to Serve", 1990: Mapleton Holiday Centre "Shine, you are the light of the world!".

7. First formal national elections take place

Formal elections were introduced in 1986, and Arthur Bartlett was confirmed as President (1986-1988).

Cooks Who Care & Communicate (CWCAC) was formed in 1986 - a special interest group for cooks - under the leadership of Kevin Pool (Mill Valley Ranch, Victoria).

As the international work grew and the need for divisional exchange and dialogue was identified, so international forums (ARF - Association Representatives Forum) were commenced.

Australia was represented at these biennial forums and partnership with developing associations was fostered. The 1986 forum was the first contact Australia had with CCI Philippines.

Membership reached over 230 by 1988, with over 400 Australian and Overseas delegates attending the 1988 National Conference at Stanwell Tops Christian Conference Centre. Australia hosted the ARF at Vision Valley in August 1988. Bill Impey succeeded Arthur Bartlett as President (1988-1990).

8. CCI Australia incorporates as a company

The 1990 Conference at Mapleton Holiday Centre saw the adoption of CCI Australia's Memorandum and Articles, by the membership. On the 18th December 1990, CCI Australia was formally incorporated as a company, providing limited liability for members.

Horses in Australian Christian Camping (HACC), a special interest groups for horse riding programme staff was formed at the 1990 Mapleton Conference. With the introduction of AHSE (Australian Horsemanship Safety & Education), those associated with HACC became involved with the new organisation.

Bill Impey inducted John Hooton as President (1990-1992) and Garth Shepherd was confirmed as President-Elect (1990-1992).

Glen Jolly and Arthur Bartlett continued to serve as CCI Trustees (now called the International Counsel), along with other distinguished international camping leaders.

9. Strategic Plan adopted

After considerable prayer and discussion, the National Council adopted a Strategic Plan for the association, which incorporated a new mission statement and 6 key strategies. Much of the work on this plan was accomplished with the input of Don Thompson, Honorary Secretary (1990 -1992).

CCI Australia continued to grow and refine its ministry and services with significant voluntary input from members. State Committees and Representatives provide leadership at a local level with special emphasis on prayer networks, personal contact and pastoral care.

10. Leadership changes

Over the years, as leadership in Christian camps and centres change, so the leadership of the association changes. Plans have been put in place to encourage younger men and women to become involved in the organisation, both at a state level and at national level.

Since 1992, those elected to the role of President have been –

- Garth Shepherd (1992-1994)
- Glyn Mahon (1994-1996)
- Geoff Cooper (1996-1998)
- Ken Heffernan (1998-2010)
- Gary Hill (2010-2018)

In 1996, changes were made to CCI Australia's Constitution, to reflect the changing needs of the association and the Australian Corporation's Law. No longer did members see the need for a President Elect position and this was changed to Vice President, enabling the possibility of a short-term commitment in National leadership roles to be undertaken by interested parties.

11. National Conference Updates

National Conferences continue to draw camping staff from around Australia and often a small number from overseas CCI Associations such as the Philippines and New Zealand.

1992 saw camp staff descend on Camp Clayton in Ulverstone in North West Tasmania. Graeme and Julia Cann from Victoria were an excellent speakers.

1994 The Collaroy Centre at Collaroy on Sydney's northern beaches saw an excellent number in attendance. Three 2 day Headstart Seminars preceded the National Conference which had Rev David Cook from Sydney Missionary and Bible College as speaker.

1996. Mapleton in Queensland with Rev Grant Thorp of Ballina Presbyterian Church, as Speaker.

1998. Stanwell Tops Christian Conference Centre, NSW. Bob Kobielush from CCI/USA lead a Leadership Headstart Seminar. Speaker was Rev Glenn Davies of Miranda Anglican Church. The theme "catch the Vision: run with Passion".

2000 CYC the Island with the theme of "On the Edge" with Commissioner Ian and Nancy Cutmore as speakers.

2002 National Conference was held at The Mapleton Centre, QLD. Keynote speaker Rev Stan Nickerson on 'Inspect the Fruit'.

2004 The Collaroy Centre (NSW) with International Speakers Chick & Margaret Yuill of the UK.

2006 Phillip Island Adventure Resort with Jeff Lucas of Denver USA as Speaker to over 350 delegates.

2008 Alexandra Park Conference Centre in Queensland hosted over 320 delegates with Duffy Robbins, Philadelphia USA, as speaker.

2010 The Collaroy Centre in NSW hosted over 250 delegates with Mike Raiter, Principal of Bible College of Victoria, as speaker.

2012 Phillip Island Adventure Resort hosted over 200 delegates with Byran Lorritys from Memphis, Tennessee USA, as speaker.

2014 The Tops Conference Centre hosted around 300 delegates with Byran Lorritys from Memphis, Tennessee USA, as speaker.

2016 Alexandra Park Conference Centre hosted around 250 delegates with Karl Faase, CEO of Olive Tree Media, as speaker.

12. Where to from here?

National Council periodically reviews the needs of the members and services required to fulfil those needs. Consequently, in 1997 major decisions were set in place to commence as from the beginning of 1998.

National Council decided to provide a substantial injection of finances to State Fellowships to enable them to create and introduce new initiatives for their local members. Some state fellowships have introduced regular "regional" fellowship meetings and some have sent their committee members "out" to the geographically isolated members to provide a very practical means of fellowship and support. One state fellowship has since taken advantage of fulfilling the need for a permanent pastoral carer who can travel around the state making regular pastoral visits.

At the end of 1997, the National Office was relocated to Foster on the mid north coast of NSW as staffing was reduced to 3 days per week as from 1st February 1998 and Judy Evans now works at a Christian camp in Forster for 2 days each week. Judy completed her incredible service to CCI Australia in 2002 and works full time for the Camp in Foster.

In February 2000, National Council again held discussions regarding the future of CCI Australia. One of the key points is the urgent need for an Executive Director who has the vision and expertise to lead CCI Australia along the next step of fulfilling needs of members.

From January 2002 an Executive Officer has been employed and is the main contact at the Office.

In August 2008 Christian Camping International Australia started trading as Christian Venues Association.

Fellowship & Training

Experience the spirit of sharing

Regional Meetings and Member Development Days are one of the most important and effective elements of Christian Venues' ministry to camping people. The meetings provide opportunities for essential personal contact between members between National Conferences, and are a consistent source of encouragement. Held regularly in most Regions and under the leadership of Regional Committees, the meetings give special emphasis on fellowship and sharing.

Worldwide, the CCI Associations have become well known for their fellowship.

Some Regions hold "camps for camping people", "camps bashes", "state get-togethers" and other regular days at different centres. Whenever and whatever, you'll find people sharing ideas, being willing to listen, specialised training, resources and spiritual refreshment and encouragement.

Regional contacts are as follows -

<i>Queensland</i>	Andrew Grant - QCCC
<i>New South Wales</i>	Steve Williams – Crosstalk Technical Services
<i>Victoria</i>	Geoff Caldwell – Camp Wilkin
<i>Tasmania</i>	Peter Jack – Blue Lagoon CYC
<i>South Australia</i>	Karen Parker – Tarooki Campsite
<i>Western Australia</i>	Dianne Abbott – SU Camp Geographe

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through Christian camping"***

National Conference

Every two years, Christian Venues Association holds a National Conference. National Conference is one of the most important events in the Christian Venues calendar. At Conference, members enjoy -

- fellowship* meeting new faces and renewing acquaintances, developing supportive prayer links
- sharing* resources, ideas, games, ways to solve problems, etc.
- encouragement* for the weary, lonely and hurting
- teaching* great Bible teaching and worship times
- workshops* helpful workshops on a range of camping topics, including staff relations, technical and practical matters, programme ideas, food service, leadership, management, accreditation requirements, etc.
- re-creation* time to rest, relax and re-build

National Conference also helps members keep in touch with the organisation, its services and benefits.

Conference is not to be missed. Some camps even close down for the duration of Conference and send all their staff along. Link, Personal, Associate and Student Members have a great opportunity to network with all Conference delegates.

The next National Conference will be held in 2018.

Connect 18
August 2016

DON'T MISS OUT - PLAN TO BE THERE!

Membership

1. Introduction

Membership in Christian Venues Association is open to all persons involved in, or with a direct interest in, Christian camping. Members are required to affirm and sign the CVA Statement of Faith and Code of Conduct annually and provide supportive documentation of their commitment to evangelism and discipleship through their camp's ministry.

2. Membership Classifications

Six Membership Classifications are available and defined below:

Student	All persons engaged in fulltime study at a School, College/ University, Technical College, CAE, Bible College, etc. involved in, or with a direct interest in, Christian camping.
Personal	Individuals involved in, or with a direct interest in, Christian camping (Board Member from a Conference Centre or Camp, Voluntary Staff, Fulltime Staff, Conference Centre or Camp Cooks, etc.)
Associate	Individuals associated with an Organisational Member and nominated by that Member as part of their membership benefit. (Associate Members do not have voting rights.)
Link	Churches and Camping Agencies/Organisations with a direct interest in Christian camping (e.g. user groups)
Organisational	All Christian Conference Centre or Camps and/or Camping Agencies/Organisations.
Business	Businesses that wish to indicate their support for Christian Camping by joining Christian Venues Association.

3. Benefits

	Student	Personal	Link	Associate	Organisation	Business
Regional Fellowship Days	x	x	x	x	x	x
Regional Training Seminars	x	x	x	x	x	x
Regional Pastoral Care Networks	x	x	x	x	x	
Quarterly Magazine	x	x	x	x	x	x
National Insurance Scheme					x	
Personal Insurance	x	x	x	x		
Employment Practices Insurance					x	
Christian Supply Chain	x	x	x	x	x	x
Resources	x	x	x	x	x	x
Executive Monthly optional	o	o	o	o	o	o
Insite (by subscription)	o	o	o	o	o	o
Membership Card	x	x	x	x	x	x
Membership Certificate	x	x	x	x	x	x
Membership Directory entry	x	x	x	x	x	x
National Christian Camping Directory					x	x
Website Directory entry					x	x
Email Newsletter	x	x	x	x	x	x
Website Member's Area access	x	x	x	x	x	x
Access to CVA's Member Forums	x	x	x	x	x	x
Special National Conference rates	x	x	x	x	x	x
Use of Christian Venues logo	x	x	x		x	x
Voting privileges (18yrs & over)	x	x	x		x	
Advisory Services	x	x	x	x	x	x

We believe in ...

Statement of Faith

Members are required to uphold and sign the following Statement of Faith, which is universally accepted by all International Associations of Christian Camping International.

We believe in:

- the Holy Scriptures as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct;
- the triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, His substitutionary atonement for sin, His bodily resurrection and His personal, visible return to earth to reign in righteousness and glory;
- the person of the Holy Spirit and His work of conviction, regeneration and sanctification, who indwells every believer equipping them with gifts for service and witness;
- the necessity of new birth, in salvation by faith in Jesus Christ alone and the importance of a life fully committed to the will of God in Christ;
- the church as the one universal body of Christ who is the Head, called to be God's redeemed people.
-

Code of Conduct

Members are reminded of the Christian Venues Association Code of Conduct. These guidelines recognise the diversity of member's ministries and seek to help members apply God's word to the effective modeling of the Christian life through Christian camping.

- Using our campsites, conference centres and/or programs for furthering the Christian gospel and extending the Kingdom of God.
- Encouraging biblical morals and conduct.
- Training staff and volunteers to use their gifts and abilities to maximise ministry opportunities and quality of service.
- Conducting staff and volunteer relations, external relations with government, industry organisations, suppliers and customers with integrity and justice.
- Taking every precaution to ensure the safety and well-being of guests, staff and volunteers.
- Providing an environment which discourages irresponsible or excessive use of alcohol or any use of illegal drugs.
- Protecting and conserving the natural environment.
- Accurately portraying the facilities and programs available.

Members are responsible to God and each other, to interpret and apply these guidelines to each situation in the light of scripture. In any situation requiring action based on the Code of Conduct, counsel and support be offered in accordance with Biblical principles by:

- making pastoral contact
- visit(s) by peers appointed by the Regional Committee or the Board of Christian Venues as required.

Mission Statement

Christian Camping International Australia is an alliance of people centred in Jesus Christ. As part of His Church, we are committed to evangelism and discipleship and seek to enable one another to minister effectively through Christian Camping.

Members are enabled through fellowship, spiritual encouragement and pastoral support, sharing ideas and networking, training and equipping, the development of standards of excellence, the interpretation of Christian Camping to the Church and wider community and the development of new and existing ministries.

Purpose Statements

(1) *To support and encourage one another in effective ministry and in personal spiritual growth.*

To reach our God given potential, each one of us needs a network of "mentors" which includes some with experience beyond our own, some who are following in our footsteps and peers from outside our organisation as well as from within.

The Association is uniquely suited to enable its members fulfil this need.

(2) *To assist one another by sharing resources or providing services which will advance the primary purpose without becoming an end in themselves.*

Christian Venues Association Board

Christian Venues Association is coordinated by a Board (previously known as the National Council). Board Members are elected by the membership and serve in a voluntary capacity.

The Board currently consists of -

Chairman

Gary Hill

Deputy Chairman

Geoff Caldwell

Secretary

Ian Edgar

Treasurer

David Tolman

Regional Representatives

New South Wales

Steve Williams

Victoria

Marcel Edmonds

Queensland

Andrew Grant

South Australia

Karen Parker

Tasmania

Peter Jack

Western Australia

Vacant

General Member

Jessica Warner

CEO

Graeme Janes
(02) 4587 7155

InSite, a Christian Camp & Conference Journal

InSite is a valuable resource for anyone involved in Christian Camping. It is produced by CCI/USA six times a year and is available by subscription through the National Office. The subscription year is from January to December of each year. (Please see the Membership Application Form and tick the appropriate box.)

Thought-provoking articles on topics such as:

- * Board/Staff Communications
- * Training Counsellors
- * Making the \$'s last
- * How to avoid the burn-out syndrome

provide helpful "professional" stimulation for camping staff. With even just one good idea per issue, the annual subscription is good value.

A recent issue had this to say on "*Tomorrow's Camping Leaders*" which stated:

**Young people respond to challenge, so set staff expectations high.
Strive for a summer staff that can say as Paul did,
"Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ."**

and an article on "*Habits of Healthy Camps*" stated:

**Healthy camps remember God;
Healthy camps remember their mission;
Healthy camps plan and prioritize;
Healthy camps train;
Healthy camps evaluate;
Healthy camps change.**

Pithy and helpful, a subscription will help generate ideas and widen your staff's vision of Christian camping throughout the world. Contact our Office for a sample!

Annual Subscription for 2016 is \$80.00 including postage and GST

Order through the Christian Venues National Office.

Christian Venues Association Insurance Scheme

Insurance is one of the more important but sometimes difficult issues for Conference Centres and Camp Managers. Knowing what cover to have and the dollar value of the cover is, at times, difficult to assess.

Christian Venues Association (CVA) has established a relationship with GJ Insurance Consulting who has been able to negotiate a competitive Insurance Scheme for CVA **Organisational Members**.

Associate and Personal Members may also use our Broker for regular insurance needs, knowing that they are being looked after by a person who understands Christian camping and their personal circumstances.

Contact the CVA Office or visit www.cscbg.org.au if you have further questions.

What Policies are offered through the Christian Venues Insurance Scheme to Organisational members?

- Property Insurance
- Business Interruption
- Public & Products Liability
- Professional Indemnity
- Management Liability
- Voluntary Workers Personal Accident
- Motor Fleet

What other Policies are available for All Members?

- Motor Vehicle
 - Comprehensive &
 - Third Party Property Damage
 - Household
 - Buildings & Contents
 - Pleasure Craft
 - General Property
 - Machinery Breakdown
 - Electronic Equipment
 - Construction /Contract Works
 - Fidelity Guarantee
 - Event Cancellation
 - Cyber Insurance
 - Personal Accident (Incl Fringe Benefits)
 - Tax Audit
 - Business Insurances
 - Travel Insurance
- And all other General Insurances



1300 384 799
www.GJIC.com.au

GJ Insurance Consulting Pty Ltd ABN 99 088 306 405 AR 358983
Authorised Representative of PSC Connect Pty Ltd ABN 23 141 574 914
AFSL 344648

CHRISTIAN

INSURANCE

SOLUTIONS

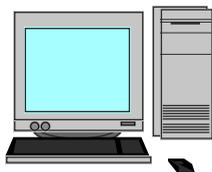
We're only a phone call or click away!

When your church, youth group, Sunday school, Christian school, beach mission, etc. is next planning a camp, retreat or conference, we would encourage you to use a **Christian Venues member camp**. Our members would be glad to help you in the planning of your next camp. Just phone, fax or email them! Many of our members now have their own website, which gives more information about their facilities and services.

Also, many of our camp and conference centre members conduct camps for children and teens during the school holidays.

Christian Venues Association publishes a *National Membership Directory* each year for all members.

In July 2003 the first National Directory of Christian Conference Centres, Camps and Service Providers "**Somewhere-To-Go**", was published and sent free to over 16,000 schools and churches. This is an annual production. Copies are available from the Association office.



Look us up on the internet! Yes, details of all member camps and conference centres and other information can be found on Christian Venues website

www.christianvenues.org.au

Email us at info@christianvenues.org.au

A **Member's Only Area** exists on the website for Christian Venues members. Once you become a member, a user name and password will be assigned to you for access to this area.

Christian Venues also has it's own email contact list. This full-featured mailing list system provides our members with a forum whereby they can share information and ideas quickly. "**Monday's Mail**" is sent each fortnight to keep members informed of what's on in the Association. To be placed on the email list, just send a message to mm@christianvenues.org.au and ask to be added.

Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care

Christian Venues Association is blessed with the appointment of Honorary Chaplains to each region.

Chaplains may be contacted by all members on 1800 088 249.

There will be many occasions when the prayer and support of peers within the Association are a significant factor in your ministry. Matters may be shared confidentially with your Chaplain, or placed in Monday's Mail or a special prayer request email for general prayer – contact the office if you wish to have a matter prayed for in this way.

Queensland & Northern Territory – John and Narelle Rees

New South Wales – Gary and Judith Baker

Victoria & Tasmania – Philip & Sandra Martin

South Australia & Western Australia – Jay and Butch Lassey