



Victorian Christadelphian Support Network

www.supportnetwork.org.au

ABN 40266034126

Annual Report 2011/12

Committee

Bro. Rex Dupe, Ringwood - Secretary and Treasurer
Sis Helen Smallwood, Clayton - Telephone Counselling Co-ordinator and Committee Member.
Sis Donna Walker, Ringwood – Committee Member
Sis Lesley Stevenson, Canterbury – Counsellor and Committee Member
Bro Jon Wright, Ringwood – Committee member.

Resource Officers

Sis Suzanne Russell, Ringwood
Sis Vicki Ladson, Ringwood
Sis Margaret Knox, Boronia - Website Manager

Mission Statement

The Victorian Christadelphian Support Network will provide a free scripturally-based and confidential range of support services to the Victorian Christadelphian Community to enable members to improve their spiritual, physical and emotional well-being.

VALUES

1. Excellence

The message of God through His Word the Bible is the guiding principle of all activities and counselling undertaken by the Victorian Support Network.

2. Access

The Support Network offers a range of services to Christadelphian families primarily in Victoria but also Australia and worldwide through the Internet and Phone Counselling Line. We ensure that all members have adequate and continuing training and support.

3. Confidentiality

All members of the Support Network are committed to, and bound by, a Confidentiality Statement. We uphold the confidentiality of any person who contacts us and respect their right to anonymity. (See a copy of the Confidentiality Statement in the appendix.)

4. Integrity

The members of the Support Network respect the individual, couple and family and uphold the highest ethical and Scriptural standards. All members are bound by a strict Code of Ethics.

VISION

The Victorian Christadelphian Support Network will:

- Encourage the view that seeking assistance when experiencing difficulties is scripturally and spiritually sound.
- Supplement the existing supports available to families, couples and individuals by spouses, family, friends and ecclesias.
- Provide a range of counselling services.
- Maintain an independent financial base.
- Provide a resource file and library service accessible to the Christadelphian community.
- Develop and implement measurement tools and internal reviews to ensure the highest quality of service is provided.

Secretary and Treasurer's Report

ACTIVITIES July 2010 - June 2012

As indicated in last year's annual report, this has been a year of change for what was previously known as the Care Group. Many would now know that in order to better describe our work and to fall in line with other associated groups both nationally and internationally, we have officially changed our name to **The Victorian Christadelphian Support Network**.

You will note from the letter head above this change has necessitated a new logo. We have also updated our website to make it more informative and user friendly and incorporated an improved chat line facility. As part of our on-going development we are hoping to incorporate some elements of social networking into the site to encourage a wider cross section of the more techno savvy and younger members of our community to contact us and access information.

Our confidentiality statement has been revised to meet certain legal requirements; a copy of the revised statement is shown in the appendix.

We believe this change of name has given us an opportunity to revitalise our group and hopefully present a fresher face to our community. We invite you to access the site and would appreciate any constructive feedback on what we have done, or suggestions for further improvement. The web address is www.supportnetwork.org.au.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sis Margaret Knox for her role in updating and managing our website and our Bro Matthew Waite for his help and website support over the past few years.

We are pleased to announce that Bro Jon Wright has joined our committee and we look forward to his assistance and inputs in achieving our aims and objectives.

The main focus of our activities over the past twelve months was to organise seminars based on issues raised by members of our community. Further seminar information is outlined under another heading below.

The committee would like to hear any ideas and suggestions that members of our community may want to put forward as to how we can better support our brethren and sisters.

It is my intention to resign from the Support Network at the end of this calendar year and I look forward to having someone volunteer as my replacement. Please contact any of our committee members if you interested in filling the role of secretary and treasurer. Anyone taking on this role will find it, as I have, a rewarding and fulfilling role, working with an enthusiastic and very supportive group.

Bro Rex Dupé

Professional Indemnity Insurance

We continue to use the services of EIG ANSVAR to provide Professional Indemnity Insurance for our qualified counsellors in Victoria and South Australia. Circumstances have prevented the Queensland Support Network from participating in sharing the costs of our policy in the future, which is our biggest single annual expenditure item. This means that our share of the cost has gone from 33% to 50% with South Australia picking up the other 50%.

We will review any alternatives for insurance when our policy is up for renewal at the end of the next financial year.

Fundraising

The increase in our share of our insurance policy costs, unhappily, coincided with a significant loss of our main funding source through the closure of the Lion's Den Op Shop in Forest Hill. This loss was flagged in our last annual report. In order to fill this gap we are looking at a number of other fundraising alternatives. In the meantime we are extremely grateful for the financial support we have been receiving from some individuals and ecclesias which has encouraged us enormously. We look forward to this same support continuing throughout this next year.

Committee Meetings

Five (5) committee meetings were held and minuted in the past 12 month period with financial reports submitted at each meeting.

Newsletters

Our Newsletter is circulated periodically throughout the year to all ecclesias. These newsletters are designed to give information on past and future activities of the Support Network. As part of our new look we are endeavouring to make our future newsletters more informative and attractive in their presentation and content.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FROM 01/07/11 TO 30/06/12

Annual Income	\$7112.11
Annual Expenditure	\$6,980.25
Balance	\$131.86

Westpac Bank Balance at 30/06/12	\$3,200.11
ING Balance at 30/06/12	\$1,089.55
Total Cash on hand 30/06/12	\$4,289.66

Estimated Budget Forecast for 2011/2012	\$7,610.00
Actual Expenditure 2011/2012	\$6,980.25
Under budget forecast by	\$629.75

Sources of Income 01/07/11 to 30/06/12

Donations from Ecclesias	\$1,386.30
QLD & SA Indemnity Insurance Contributions	\$1,628.00
GST Rebates	\$314.00
Interest on Bank Account	\$3.81
ING funds transfer	\$3,500.00
Phone Reimbursement	\$280.00
Total	\$7,112.11

Items of Expenditure. 01/07/10 to 30/06/11

EIG/ANSVAR Indemnity Insurance	\$2,662.00
Bank Charges	\$2.25
Phone Charges	\$698.48
Internet and Website Charges	\$2012.82
Stationery, Printing and Admin. Costs	\$104.70
Transfer to ING Account	\$1,500.00
Total	\$6,980.25

Budget Forecast for 2012 – 2013.

EIG ANSVAR Insurance	\$1,500.00
Seminar Airfares and travel Costs	\$1,000-00
Bank Charges	\$5-00
Phone Charges	\$500-00
Internet Charges	\$500-00
Stationery and Admin. Costs	\$500-00
Purchase of Books and DVDs	\$300-00
Seminar costs	\$2,000-00
Catering Costs	\$500-00
Estimated Total Expenditure	\$6,805-00

Telephone Contact and Chat Line Service

Over the past 12 months the web site has been in the process of being re-designed. Due to this the Chat Line has not been able to be accessed. We are pleased that the new website is up and running and the Chat Line is more user-friendly. We are looking forward to welcoming visitors to the site. We would encourage visitors to explore the new website and check out the breadth of resources that are available.

The 24 hour phone line is still providing a valuable service to the Christadelphian community. Due to confidentiality we tend to receive more interstate calls than local calls. We are often able to refer the caller back to their relevant support service for assistance if necessary.

We are very pleased to welcome Sis Lesley Stevenson to our counselling service. Sis Lesley has completed her training and is currently doing further study to enhance her skills. We are sure that Sis Lesley will bring a new dimension of expertise to the work we are already doing in the community.

Our continuing prayer is that our Heavenly Father will continue to bless our work and provide the resources and wisdom for us.

Sis Helen Smallwood

Request for Helpers

We would like to hear from anyone who is willing to help in the work of the Support Network. If you are interested in this type of work please contact a committee member.

Planned Activities for 2012-13 (D.V.)

SEMINARS

As mentioned in the last Annual Report plans, Bro Simon Dodson ran a seminar on *Bullying* in February of this year. There was positive feedback from a number of attendees on the content and it was considered to be a worthwhile exercise with a possible follow up seminar.

The following is a list of prospective seminars the committee are looking at, some of which may be held over the next 12 months subject to the availability of speakers and suitable times.

- Budgeting
- Homosexuality – A Believer's Response
- Sex Before Marriage
- Dealing with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder).
- Singles and Single Again

Appendix



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CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

The Principles of Confidentiality

Your personal integrity is the integrity of the Support Network.

All that one hears in the course of one's duties is in confidence, and under no circumstances should the name or the specific details of a telephone call or a face to face meeting be disclosed without the prior consent of the client unless there is a legal requirement to do so, for example, an alleged case of child abuse.

Discussion with a supervisor or a support person should avoid identifying information.

Commitment of Confidentiality

In the sight of God, I solemnly affirm and declare that, within the Principles of Confidentiality expressed above and the Code of Ethics, I will not disclose any communication made to me while engaged in any aspect of the Victorian Christadelphian Support Network. I recognise that I am released from this commitment in situations which are life-threatening or where there is a legal requirement to do so.

Signed Date

When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfil your vow. It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfil it. (Ecclesiastes 5 v 4-5).