

About

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Message from the Chief Executive



Pictured on our cover:
valued volunteers Ron
and Shirley Dell with
Baptcare Orana Day
Centre's Activities
Coordinator Fiona
Blenkhorn.

At my commissioning service in March, I was particularly inspired by the message of Reverend Daniel Bullock, Director of Mission and Ministries at the Baptist Union of Victoria, who inspired us to practice “divine hospitality”. He took inspiration from the extravagant actions of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37). Our hospitality is usually to our friends and loved ones; those we warmly invite in to our homes and with whom we can share easy camaraderie. But as Daniel reminded us, “the Bible is concerned with what I call divine hospitality – God’s hospitality! This is hospitality that pursues strangers: the sick, marginalised, elderly, frail, alien and even enemies with a costly love, a love that is willing to sacrifice in order to welcome the stranger into God’s kingdom, to adopt them as sons and daughters of the King, so that they can come and live in His house forever. That is divine hospitality – the type of hospitality the Bible is concerned with”.

Daniel shared “the words hospital and hospitality naturally share the same root word. So in order to understand the concept of divine hospitality it might be helpful to imagine you are visiting the emergency ward at your local hospital. If you are well you will wait forever to see a doctor, but if you arrive by ambulance, the most skilled and most expensive medical staff will immediately rush to assist you. This is very much like God’s divine hospitality: the more busted up you are, the more attention you receive and the greater priority you are.”

This simple but compelling teaching has stayed with many of us in the days since the service. Baptcare is inspired by divine hospitality, inspired to reach out to those most in need, in need of our services and of God’s love.

This edition’s message also enables me to recognise the contributions of Peter Francis who has resigned after 10 years of service as Chair and Director of the Baptcare Board. Since starting in my new role with Baptcare Peter has been of great personal assistance in my transition to new responsibilities and understanding of the Board. I have appreciated Peter’s wisdom, discernment and insight.

Just in the last 11 months the Board has been called upon to make numerous important, strategic decisions which will greatly further the mission of Baptcare in the years ahead. Baptcare is in a strong position based upon good leadership and a strong cohesive Board.

Peter leaves a Baptcare filled with passionate and committed staff, excited by the vision and the strategy of the future, delivering exceptional care and services to our clients and residents, some of those who are most in need in our community.

I thank Peter for his tireless work and wish him and his family God’s continued blessing for the future.

Graham Dangerfield
Chief Executive

Baptcare's Mission

Excellence in Christian care for individuals, families and the community.

Baptcare's Vision

Caring communities for all.

Baptcare's Values

Respect: We value the inherent dignity and equality of all people, regardless of their circumstances.

Justice: We value equality of opportunity and consistency of outcome for all.

Commitment: We value dedication to meeting the challenges of our mission.

Integrity: We value consistency between word and deed.

Accountability: We value the acceptance of personal responsibility.

Co-operation: We value working together toward our goals.

Contact details

Ph: 03 9831 7222 Fax: 03 9831 7272
info@baptcare.org.au
www.baptcare.org.au

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Five years in Tasmania

This July marks five years of Baptcare's work in Tasmania. Since then, Baptcare has grown from the aged care services at Karingal and Orana to include family and community services who are working with families with vulnerable children, high risk youth, grandparents and other relative carers, and people with a disability. While we are focused firmly on an exciting future, it is timely to revisit our Tasmanian heritage.

Karingal in Devonport was a labour of love for the Baptist Union of Tasmania, having established a committee to investigate a home for the aged in North-West Tasmania in the late 1950s, the land was purchased in 1962. After sufficient funds were raised, the first self-contained units were built in 1972 and 50 nursing home rooms opened between 1978 and 1981. Subsequent wings opened later.

Increased government compliance made it more challenging for independent operators to run aged care facilities, and Karingal Care Service merged with Baptcare in July 2008. Today Baptcare Karingal Community is a 112 bed aged care facility (including three respite beds), surrounded by 68 independent living units. This creates a real sense of community as independent residents have the option of their own activities program as well as the programs in the aged care facility. Some independent residents even give themselves a break by availing themselves of regular hot meals at Karingal.

Orana in East Devonport was set up by Dr Gordon Jamieson and his wife Norma in 1984 as a response to the needs of carers and individuals being cared

for in the community. The service was funded mainly with donations and had many volunteers as well as staff who were willing to contribute by working for less than award wages. Orana relocated to the larger, current site in East Devonport in 1997. After negotiations with Karingal Care Services, Orana became an arm of Karingal in 2004 and merged with Baptcare in 2008. Orana today is a hub of activities for the older residents of the Devonport region. They have a respite cottage for stays of up to three weeks. A Sunday lunch is hosted twice a month, cooked and served by generous volunteers.

In 2009 the Tasmanian Government created Gateway to ensure that vulnerable children, young people and their families are effectively linked into relevant services. Baptcare manages the coordination of half of the Gateway regions. The Gateway model has proved so successful, it has informed the model in Tasmania for the upcoming implementation of DisabilityCare. Baptcare looks forward to our involvement with this project. Another highlight was when Mary D'Elia, Baptcare's State Operations Manager for Family and Community Services in Tasmania was awarded the "Excellence in Improving Personal and Community Support" award at the 2012 National Disability Awards.

Last month saw Baptcare awarded another contract with the Tasmanian government to provide a new initiative of individualised mental health packages for adults with severe and persistent mental illness. For such a short period of time, the staff of Baptcare in Tasmania have achieved substantial growth and should be proud of bringing care to life to greater numbers of people.





A family affair at Northhaven

Do you remember the ad for Remington, where Victor Kiam liked the shavers so much he bought the company? Well for Penny Pay, the Activity Coordinator at Baptcare Northhaven Community, she likes the community so much her mother and grandmother-in-law have moved in, and her own daughter has joined her in working there.

In what is a testament to the close knit town of Kerang in Northern Victoria, Baptcare Northhaven Community has become an extra special community for the extended Pay clan. Penny started working there in 2005, her grandmother-in-law Serena Pay

became a resident in 2011, followed by her own mother Janice Guymer at the end of 2012.

Her daughter Chelsea Pay is completing a traineeship at Northhaven, and looks forward to continuing with Baptcare as a personal care attendant. This gives Chelsea the opportunity to continue her career in Kerang, rather than moving to look for work, which happens to many other young people in the area.

Pictured right: (clockwise from top left) Penny Pay, Chelsea Pay, Serena Pay and Janice Guymer.



Pictured above: Westhaven's visiting pet dog, Liam (retired after years of service as a seeing eye dog) is particularly intrigued.

His Master's Voice

Beethoven wrote that 'music is the mediator between the spiritual and the sensual life'. From a man who composed some of his most famous works after he lost his hearing, it has particularly meaning in an aged care environment, where many residents are challenged by the loss of some of their own talents and abilities. Beethoven's belief is the same inspiration for the Music Therapy program that is a popular part of the activities and programs at Baptcare's aged care homes.

Peter Coughlan, Music Therapist, chose the 1920s wind-up gramophone from an antiques store in 2006. For the antiques buffs among you, it is a Swiss Clock mechanism, wind-up Gramophone,

with bevelled glass on three sides of the body work. There is an eidelweiss flower engraved on the armature, and has a sixteen plate brass horn to amplify the sound.

The residents in our homes relate very well to the sound of this player, as soon as the needle starts to crackle and hiss as it engages the record. Discussion takes place about who had one, or whether they might have had the Edison Diamond Disc player, and some even talk about their parents or grandparents having a Cylinder player. It is heart-warming to see a 93 year old machine still able to engage so many, with its magical reproduction of the songs of yesteryear, including some Beethoven.

The Baptcare and CHT Architects Charity Golf Day 2013



The Baptcare and CHT Architects Charity Golf Day was held at the beautiful Heritage Golf and Country Club at Chirnside Park in April. We had 95 players taking part, from 23 different organisations, enjoying the lovely day and a great game of golf, and then joining us afterwards for lunch. Guest speaker, former Australian cricketer Damien Fleming entertained everyone over lunch, and then awarded prizes to the day's winners, including the winning team HWL Ebsworth Lawyers and runners up Xchanging.

Through sponsorships, player fees and charity holes, we raised over \$45,000 for our Family and Community Services programs, which includes working with children in foster or kinship care, parenting programs like our Home-Start for struggling families and supporting children with disabilities. The amount raised is a new record for the event in the five years it has been held.

We would like to thank our supporters and sponsors, particularly Principal sponsors CHT Architects, and Major sponsors AE Smith and Connect, as well as our Supporting sponsors (Xchanging, Telstra, Smith and Tracey Architects, and Nationwide) and Hole sponsors (Knight Frank, Laundry Solutions Australia, Hawkins Consulting and Taylors Development Strategists). Thank you all for making this day possible, and to all supporters and players, we hope to see you again next year!



Pictured above: players enjoy the Baptcare and CHT Architects Charity Golf Day.

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Baptcare Chief Executive Commissioning

On March 14, our Chief Executive Graham Dangerfield was commissioned at Ashburton Baptist Church, surrounded by staff, residents, clients, volunteers and supporters. A commissioning is a time honoured ritual amongst people, often religious or sacred in nature. It expresses our highest values, calls on our greatest powers and focuses them on an individual to authorise and release that person for the work assigned to them. At the service, under God, we celebrated Graham Dangerfield, acknowledged the excellent job as Chief Executive that he is already doing, blessed and empowered him for this journey, submitted to his leadership and commended one another once again to the inspiring and important work of Baptcare.

The commissioning service started in a wonderful way: by giving thanks together. At a time of celebration it is appropriate to recall the many gifts at work in our midst, to evoke the memory of those who have gone before us and to name all those contributing to the work and community of Baptcare now.

The heart of our commissioning service was when Graham willingly accepted the privilege and responsibility of leadership. It took place via the time honoured rituals of call, response, laying on of hands and prayer. Daniel Bullock from the Baptist Union of Victoria called Graham to "welcome his responsibilities to lead this community of residents, clients, staff and volunteers, to discern the way forward, and encourage and enable the organisation to stay true to God's call." He also called all those present, on behalf of the entire organisation, to accept his leadership, pray for him and to support and encourage him.

Graham then spoke and placed himself within his wider family's story. As the grandson of medical missionaries from the China Inland Mission, he feels that his work at Baptcare walks in their steps sharing Christian heritage and their focus on those in need.

The commissioning was further enhanced by the Carey Grammar Middle School Choir, led by Martin Arnold, by shared prayers, a hymn or two and an excellent afternoon tea afterwards.

Pictured below: (left-right) Joanne Morgan, Rev David Ratten, Graham Dangerfield, Alma Widdicombe, Rev Gordon Wild and Rev Daniel Bullock.



Peter Francis retires as Chair and Director of the Baptcare Board



May 2013 marks the end of an era for Baptcare with the resignation of Peter Francis as Chair and Director of the Baptcare Board. His humble and inspired leadership over the past 10 years has overseen a huge period of development and cemented the foundations for further growth.

On behalf of our Board, staff, and clients past, present and future Baptcare would like to express our deep appreciation to Peter for his incredible contribution and commitment over the past 10 years.

Peter first joined the Baptcare Board as Chairperson in August 2003. Peter's service to the wider community is significant including; Member of the Board of Melbourne Citymission for more than 20 years and Chairperson of that Board for 13 years until 2001, Chair of Singleton Equity

Housing Ltd from 1990 to 2000, Chair of Supported Housing Development Foundation from 1995 to 2000, Board member of Whitelion Inc since 2002 and Director of Melbourne Opera since 2010.

In 2004, Peter was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to the community, particularly with Melbourne Citymission.

Some key events that occurred due to Peter's considerable efforts during his time at Baptcare include; the solid development in community aged care packages from modest beginnings in 2003, expansion of Baptcare's services interstate to Tasmania, opening and expansion of Baptcare Sanctuary which provides support transitional accommodation for people seeking asylum, acquisition of Baptcare Wyndham

Lodge Community, Baptcare Templestowe Orchards Community and Baptcare Peninsula View Community and Baptcare selected with Mission Australia as a launch site for the new National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in Tasmania.



Pictured left:
Peter Francis OAM.

Contemplation corner

At this time of year, Christians find ourselves in the midst of the Pentecost season. On that very first Pentecost Day people from all around the known world gathered and heard the good news in their own language, in words they could understand (Acts 2: 2–13). At Baptcare, our staff work with people from many parts of the world – our residents at Sanctuary find themselves in a foreign land with strange words, some of our family and community services and our aged care clients and residents grew up overseas. Some of these aged care residents and clients have dementia and can now only communicate using their mother

tongue. It is important that these people are able to express themselves in familiar language so they can tell their story and ensure it is understood. It is equally important that we communicate good news (sometimes with words and sometimes with actions and gestures) to them in ways that are understandable. Our staff endeavour to do this each day as they attend to their daily needs. Your support enables us to continue to bring good news to these people in a way that gives them dignity and offers compassion. On their behalf we say thank you.

Pray for...

- Our clients and residents for whom English is not their first language.
- Our staff who work with many who cannot communicate in English.
- All, that they might hear the good news of love and compassion in language they can understand.

Give thanks for...

- Our work in Tasmania over the last five years (p3).
- The work of our volunteers throughout Baptcare (p3).
- Our retiring Chair of the Baptcare Board, Mr Peter Francis and his 10 years of leadership (p7).

"I'm very, very grateful to Sanctuary, I was just thinking my life is going to come to an end, but I came here and recovered."

–Kamil*, Baptcare Sanctuary client

Five years ago Baptcare set up our first Sanctuary facility at Brunswick, to provide supported transitional accommodation for asylum seekers living lawfully in our community. Sanctuary provides not only shelter and refuge, but also provides casework and pastoral support, offering counselling, advocacy and referrals to other services, and also a sense of community. Since then we have expanded our program by opening a further facility at Preston, to increase the number of individual asylum seekers we can assist, as well as accommodating family groups.

These are people who have come to our shores fleeing persecution and violence, often in fear of their lives, and having experienced traumatic events you or I would find it difficult to even imagine. Once in Australia, staying here legally while waiting for their claims results, they face further hardship and difficulty. Many asylum seekers have no right to work or access to Centrelink benefits or any other form of Government assistance. This puts them at risk of homelessness, poverty, ill-health and social exclusion, on top of the traumas they already have had to deal with. This is the situation Kamil found himself in.

Before Kamil first came in contact with Sanctuary, he had been going through a very difficult time. "I didn't have any proper place to live, it was very hard for me," he said. "I was thinking my life was getting to an end, before coming here to Sanctuary".

He had fled his country of origin, fearing for his life – "I can't go back to my country...because of

persecution". He had no job, support from Centrelink or family here to assist him. After living with friends who were unable to assist further, and being referred to services that were full or only could take him for brief temporary periods, he came to Sanctuary.

"We walked together all around Sanctuary and he showed me the facility and the things they provide to all residents, you have got washing machines, a kitchen, and donated food...you know, these are all sorts of things which anybody would like to have, basic things," Kamil said.

As well as comfortable and safe accommodation, Kamil has been provided with casework support, pastoral care, and linkages to other programs such as trauma counselling, and English classes.

Kamil says he is "**very, very grateful to all Sanctuary staff**" who have offered him support during this critical time, and now as a permanent resident, his future here is now looking brighter. He has moved on from the facility, and is now one example of the many asylum seekers we have supported through Sanctuary who are now living successfully in the community.

Kamil's story illustrates what a difference the Sanctuary program makes to the lives of those who come and find shelter with us. **But we can't do it alone.** Baptcare receives no Government funding at all for Sanctuary – so it is only through the help of people like you that we can continue to do this vital work.

That is why your support is so critical.

Please donate today at www.baptcare.org.au.

Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.

*name, details and image changed to protect privacy.

Yes! I will help Baptcare support people like Kamil.

Gift amount: \$25 \$50 \$120 \$200 \$_____

OR I would like to provide ongoing support of \$_____ per month until further notice via credit card (please provide credit card details to the right).

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**Send to: The Fundraising Coordinator,
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OR phone 03 9831 7222.**

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