Our camping ministry has grown in many different ways over these many decades of our history.

Now we are going to head for the skies and launch an Aviation camp. This will be an opportunity to challenge young men and women to be involved in one of the most helpful technical aspects of aiding the work of the Gospel.

When we say challenge we mean the challenge not only of becoming qualified to fly or maintain aircraft, but to the challenge of saving the lives of people who would die without the help. Taking supplies to missionaries whose only contact with the outside world is by long and arduous trekking or by the mission plane. Helping parents and pregnant mothers to be calm in very isolated places knowing that there are planes available to take them quickly to a hospital, or to see their children coming home for school holidays.

There is an incredible need for Christian pilots and engineers to serve as missionaries to ensure the gospel reaches into the hard to reach places around the world. The organising team is led by David Cummings who shared his thankfulness for missionary pilots, he said “When my wife and I first went to Papua New Guinea we walked for 3 days to reach the village we were going to minister to, after a number of years we were able to catch a helicopter which made the journey just 17 minutes.”

ESA will be linking with AvServe, an organisation that is dedicated to inspiring and recruiting young people to this ministry. This organisation has a professional flight simulator installed in a truck that goes mainly to Christian schools. Year 11 and 12 students are given the opportunity to fly the simulator and also to have a physics class on aero dynamics.

There is a great need for a new generation of young people to commit to becoming missionary aviation pilots and engineers, the Aviation Camp is for those who feel they might have an interest in these ministries.

The camp will be held in Bendigo from Monday 30th September to Friday October 4th and will include the opportunity to use a flight simulator, participate in a plane ride over Bendigo, learn about the physics of flying and receive teaching from those who understand missionary aviation ministry such as Roger Alder and Max Chapman.

For more information about the Aviation Camp call David Molyneux at the ESA office on 03 98375225.
Welcome to the March edition of In Step, inside you'll find some encouraging reports from ESA camps over the past few months. We're so pleased that so many people have participated in our camps over the Summer.

This year we are initiating an Aviation camp which you’ll read about on the front page and check out the advertisement for the Wimmera Easter Convention.

Thankyou for your support of ESA, whether you pray for us or support financially, we are thankful to our friends and supporters.

Blessings, David

ESA Prayer & Praise Updates

We are so appreciative knowing that there are faithful people praying for ESA (its outreach, workers, board, administration, volunteers and campers).

Thank you for partnering with us in prayer; that God would be at work reaching out to the lost and growing His Kingdom.

In addition to the prayer notes inside this magazine, we send out specific prayer and praise updates through email as particular needs arise.

If you would be interested in receiving these emails please contact Gerard & Linda at gabdoo@esa.org.au

ESA 10 Year Remembrance of Black Saturday

On Saturday February 9th and Sunday 10th February, around 50 people gathered to remember the 10 year anniversary of Black Saturday.

Our time was held at El Kanah in Marysville and remembered the many positive camps that occurred at the ESA campsite. Many of the former ESA campsite staff and volunteers gathered to tell stories and share memories of an important piece of ESA’s history. On Sunday morning over 100 people gathered for a church service led by Graeme Cann who encouraged us that God is with us through all of our trouble.

It was a wonderful weekend to catch up with old friends, remember the difficult events of Black Saturday and look ahead for what God has in store for each of us.

Thankyou to all those who attended.
It was an Olympics focused Junior Camp held at Phillip Island Adventure Resort in January with over 50 junior camper’s focusing on their chosen sports. The Jamaican Bob Sleigh team made a special appearance along with many other leaders who showed off their Olympic sporting talents. Many of the campers also showed their talents and skills dressing up in their Olympic costumes.

Mitch Lovell works as a high school chaplain and was our camp speaker. He encouraged each camper that God loves each person and wants to have a friendship with them. The camp included all of the great activities that are available on the campsite including a trip to the beach. Special thanks to the Camp Director’s Tamika (Oh-Ah-Tamika) and Bethany (Oh-Ee-Bethany) and all of those who helped lead on the camp. It was another great camp on Phillip Island.

This year’s canoe camp was located up on the Murray River starting and finishing at Boundary Bend. As we arrived we looked forward to the great weather that we would experience while we were paddling on the water over the next 4 days. The week consisted not only of canoeing, but also fishing, beach cricket, swimming (floating), and heaps of other fun activities. Each day we paddled between 20-25km and being on the water was great fun as a group, splashing each other and keeping cool and refreshed in the hot weather.

The cooks did an amazing job as we ate like kings! We would pack our lunch in the morning before we left camp and would take it on the water with us, stop on a sandy beach, eat lunch and have a heap of fun together halfway through our day of paddling.

The studies this year were delivered by Ben Frost who talked about trusting God at different stages in our life. As the kids split up into their small groups, some great discussions were had about trust and how we can learn to trust God at the different stages of life.

On the last night of camp we were lucky enough to have a local family donate their time and their speed boat for us to have a go on the “bikkie” and the water ski for those who were a bit more skilled. This was definitely highly anticipated throughout the week and was a stack of fun for everyone. All the hard paddling was paying off!

Overall camp was successful and everyone had a great refreshing start to 2019.
What a way to start 2019!
The guys and girls at Summer Coast had an absolute blast! We all got to know each other so well over the week. From bonding over a game of pool to cooking dinner together, there was something for everyone. There was so much fun had going out on bike rides, fishing, beach side walks and games on the beach. We even had a visit from ESA’s Gerard Abdoo who was kind enough to take us all out sailing and even letting us have a go at steering!

Over the week we learnt about, not only who Jesus is, but why the gospel is so important and how that applies to our lives.

The campers were learning so much and you could see the progress over the week, which was so encouraging. By the end of the week, leaders were being asked some great, deep, challenging questions!

Looking back at the camp, I am so proud of how the campers all came together and were so eager to learn about their Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, and what He has done.

Chelsea Richards
What a fantastic bunch of campers and leaders we had at Cape Bridgewater this year. Approximately 42 campers and an exquisite leadership team experienced some fantastic activities, food, God chats and fun.

The weather was mild all week but we still applied the sunscreen for that sneaky UV creeping through the clouds. A few days on the beach with some ultimate frisbee and cricket helped us fill in the afternoons. We also had one afternoon of complete messiness with the old favourite messy games. (Hopefully those stains came out in the after-camp wash!) Sandboarding was a hit, although there is always a bigger sand dune to find according to Sophie!

Our kitchen team were ably lead by Cheryl Lansdown and Judy Hudson (both first timers, but you wouldn’t have even noticed it!) The food was “magnificent”, “tasty”, “siq” and “lit” although there were no fires reported from the kitchen!

The studies this year were from the book of James. Campers were challenged to live a life that was full of faith-filled deeds, no judgement only grace and explored the idea of prayer and how we talk to God.

A fantastic night worship session lead by Matt and Abbey helped us to finish yet another ESA camp down in the south west coast of Victoria. We are looking forward to 2020 already!

What a great ride we had, open roads looking at mountains, farms and more importantly silo art. The camp started Friday night at Halls Gap where we were treated to a taste of the local Jazz and Blues festival in town.

After a good nights sleep we headed off to Rupanyup, Brim Sheep Hills, Patchewollock then overnighting at Lascelle. The weather was warm, the food was great and the conversations were a blessing to all.

Russel Knoll unfortunately had a puncture on the way to camp which set him back ½ a day but was able to catch up with us for lunch on Saturday. Greg Small took our studies sharing some of his bible journey as well as teaching and challenging each of us how we can do life for Jesus better each day.

Next day we headed to Boort where we visited “the spanner man”. A man who has suffered with polio but has made many life size garden sculptures all out of spanners. He also gave us the history of his family arriving in Australia, which was fascinating. His property is a credit to him and his family. Well worth the visit.

After many 100s of km we finished the ride tired but refreshed from having a break from the business of life and just basking in the beauty of the World God has created.
Partnership Form

Sign me up! I will partner with ESA in its mission by:

1. Being a Prayer Partner
   ☐ I commit to regular prayer for ESA: please send me prayer updates and special requests

2. Receiving In Step
   ☐ Please send me a copy of In Step to keep me up to date with what is happening with ESA ministries

3. Being a Financial Partner
   ☐ I would like to become a financial partner, making regular payments every
     ☐ year ☐ month ☐ fortnight ☐ week of:
     ☐ $1,000 ☐ $500 ☐ $250 ☐ $150 ☐ $100 ☐ $50
     ☐ other $
   ☐ I would like to make a one off gift of $

Please designate the area you wish your gift to be directed towards:
☐ Gerard Abdoo ☐ Peter Geldart ☐ Howard Hinson ☐ Dave Maxwell
☐ Geoff Pearse ☐ Nick Buscombe ☐ Scott Ronalds ☐ Wherever it is needed / General gift
☐ General - covers all the areas of ESA work
☐ Partnership Committees - for projects within these geographical areas:
  Gippsland, Central Victoria, Western Victoria
☐ Camper Sponsorship - supports those who can’t afford to go on camps

I would like to pay by
☐ Cash / Cheque / Money Order
   make payable to ESA Country Ministries, and please don’t send cash in the mail
☐ Credit / Debit Card (Visa / MasterCard)
   Name on Card
   Expiry Date: / Date Signed /
   Card Holder Signature:      Date Signed   /

I prefer to be contact by ☐ Email ☐ Post

My Contact Details
Surname
Email address
Postal - Street name and number
City/Town/Suburb
State     Postcode
Phone Number (   )
Mobile Number

Mail to 19 Tesmar Circuit, Chirnside Park, VIC 3116
or Scan and email to esa@esa.org.au
**Daily prayer notes**

**MARCH**

**Friday 1st:** Pray for Sonia and Howard serving in Bendigo.

**Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd:** Pray for country churches as they reach out to their local community, pray that each church would be effective in sharing God’s love.

**Monday 4th:** Pray for Dave and Debbie Maxwell and their daughter Lacey serving in Gippsland.

**Tuesday 5th - Thursday 7th:** Pray for each person preparing to attend the Grab A Dad camp that God would prepare their hearts for a great weekend.

**Friday 8th – Monday 11th:** Grab A Dad Camp – Pray that each person would sense the presence of God during this time of refreshing and relationship building.

**Tuesday 12th:** Pray for Geoff and Carrie Pearse serving in the Western District.

**Wednesday 13th:** Pray for Scott and Deborah Ronalds and their children serving God in the Gippsland region.

**Thursday 14th:** Pray for Peter and Wendy Geldart and their sons James and Benjamin as they serve God in Alexandra.

**Friday 15th:** Pray for Gerard and Linda Abdoo serving in Maffra as they begin a season of long service leave.

**Saturday 16th – Sunday 17th:** Pray for the leadership of country churches that they would sense God’s presence as they build His church.

**Monday 18th – Thursday 21st:** Pray for everyone that volunteers for ESA, pray that 2019 would be full of God’s blessings as they serve Him.

**THURSDAY:**
- Sec College lunch program – Dave Bible studies – Howard, Sonia, Gerard teaching Scripture

**FRIDAY:**
- Breakfast Club - Gerard leads at Maffra Sec Coll and is also mentoring, Dave runs a Men’s breakfast, lunchtime program and boys group, Gerard, Linda and others run an Aged Care program

**APRIL**

**Monday 1st:** Pray for David and Emily Molyneux and their three children Jonathan, Joel and Ella.

**Tuesday 2nd:** Pray for Peter and Wendy Geldart and their son James and Benjamin as they serve God in Alexandra.

**Wednesday 3rd:** Pray for Nic and Jess Buscombe and their children Arabella and Ted serving God in Ballarat.

**Thursday 4th:** Pray for Dave and Debbie Maxwell and their daughter Lacey serving in Gippsland.

**Friday 5th:** Pray for Gerard and Linda Abdoo serving in Maffra during their time of Long Service Leave.

**Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th:** Pray for country churches as they reach out to their local community, pray that each church would be effective in sharing God’s love.

**Monday 8th - Wednesday 10th:** Pray for the leaders preparing for the Gippsland Junior Camp, pray that God would be alive in each leader’s life as they prepare.

**Thursday 11th - Saturday 13th:** Pray for those preparing to attend the Wimmera Easter Convention, pray that each person would be challenged and inspired by God to serve Him in a greater way. Pray for each person as they travel for their safe arrival.

**Sunday 14th – Wednesday 17th:** Pray for the Gippsland Junior Camp starting today, pray that each person attending the camp would sense the presence of God.

**Thursday 18th:** Pray for Ruth Parfett as she oversees the finances in the office.

**Friday 19th – Monday 22nd:** Pray for those attending the Wimmera Easter Convention that as it runs each day of Easter, each person would sense the presence of God with their theme “God Wins”.

**Tuesday 23rd - Thursday 25th:** Pray for those preparing to lead the Dirtbike Camp in Alexandra.

**Friday 26th – Sunday 28th:** Pray for those attending the Dirt Bike Camp that each person would ride safely and that they would sense the presence of God during the weekend.

**Monday 29th:** Pray for Geoff and Carrie Pearse serving in the Western District.

**Tuesday 30th:** Pray for Dave and Debbie Maxwell and their daughter Lacey serving in Gippsland.
MAY

Wednesday 1st – Friday 3rd:
Pray for everyone that volunteers for ESA, pray that 2019 would be full of God's blessings as they serve Him.

Saturday 4th – Sunday 5th:
Pray for country churches as they reach out to their local community, pray that each church would be effective in sharing God's love.

Monday 6th - Friday 10th:
Pray for those who volunteer on the Board - Joash, Nathan, Geoff, Carolyn, Rachel and Ann. Pray that as they prepare for their upcoming annual retreat that they would sense God's leading in their plans and preparation.

Saturday 11th – Sunday 12th:
Pray for country churches as they reach out to their local community, pray that each church would be effective in sharing God's love.

Monday 13th - Thursday 16th:
Pray for everyone that volunteers for ESA, pray that 2019 would be full of God's blessings as they serve Him.

Friday 17th - Sunday 19th:
Pray for those attending the Gippsland Dirt Bike Camp that each person would ride safely and that they would sense the presence of God during the weekend.

Monday 20th:
Pray for Gerard and Linda Abdoo serving in Maffra during their time of Long Service Leave.

Tuesday 21st:
Pray for Sonia and Howard serving in Bendigo.

Wednesday 22nd:
Pray for Peter and Wendy Geldart and their sons James and Benjamin as they serve God in Alexandra.

Thursday 23rd:
Pray for Nic and Jess Buscombe and their children Arabella and Ted serving God in Ballarat.

Friday 24th:
Pray for Dave and Debbie Maxwell and their daughter Lacey serving in Gippsland.

Saturday 25th - Sunday 26th:
Pray for those preparing to attend the Men's Camp next weekend, pray that they would sense God's guidance in their preparations.

Monday 27th:
Pray for Geoff and Carrie Pearse serving in the Western District.

Tuesday 28th:
Pray for David and Emily Molyneux and their three children Jonathan, Joel and Ella.

Wednesday 29th:
Pray for those leading the Men's Camp that God's presence would be with them.

Thursday 30th:
Pray for Peter and Wendy Geldart and their sons James and Benjamin as they serve God in Alexandra.

Friday 31st:
Pray for those attending the Men's Camp tonight that each one would arrive safely and sense God's presence this weekend.

JUNE

Saturday 1st - Sunday 2nd:
Pray for the Men's Camp that each one would sense God's presence this weekend.

Monday 3rd:
Pray for ESA Board Chair Joash, his wife Natasha and their sons Noah and Levi.

Tuesday 4th:
Pray for young people attending camps this year, for them to learn to trust and know God.

Wednesday 5th:
Pray for those who volunteer on the Board - Joash, Nathan, Geoff, Carolyn, Rachel and Ann.

Thursday 6th:
Pray for Scott and Deborah Ronalds and their children serving God in the Gippsland region.

Friday 7th:
Pray for Nic and Jess Buscombe and their children Arabella and Ted serving God in Bendigo.

Saturday 8th – Sunday 9th:
Pray for everyone that volunteers for ESA, pray that 2019 would be full of God's blessings as they serve Him.

Monday 10th - Friday 14th:
Pray for those who volunteer on the Board - Joash, Nathan, Geoff, Carolyn, Rachel and Ann.

Saturday 15th - Sunday 16th:
Pray for country churches as they reach out to their local community, pray that each church would be effective in sharing God's love.

Monday 17th:
Pray for Sonia and Howard serving in Bendigo.

Tuesday 18th:
Pray for former volunteers, staff and board members who have served God through ESA and be thankful for what has been achieved over the years.

Wednesday 19th:
Pray for Scott and Deborah Ronalds and their children serving God in the Gippsland region.

Thursday 20th:
Pray for the volunteers and Camp Director's who assist in leading on different camps, pray for encouragement in the spiritual journey.

Friday 21st:
Pray for Ruth Parfett as she oversees the finances in the office.

Saturday 22nd - Sunday 23rd:
Pray for country churches as they reach out to their local community, pray that each church would be effective in sharing God's love.

Monday 24th – Friday 28th:
Pray for those attending the upcoming July school holiday camps in Anglesea, Swan Hill, Pental Island and Gippsland. Pray that the leaders would sense God's guidance in their preparation and for those who will attend that each person would have an incredible week on camp.

Saturday 29th - Sunday 30th:
Pray for those who volunteer on the Board - Joash, Nathan, Geoff, Carolyn, Rachel and Ann.

Thank you for your prayers.

E.S.A. Country Ministries
19 Tesmar Circuit, Chirnside Park VIC 3116
Phone: (03) 5963 7075
e-mail: esa@esa.org.au
Web site: www.esa.org.au

"Pray for one another"
James 5:6

Thank you for your prayers.

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James 5:6
MARCH

ESA Grab A Dad Camp
Dates: Friday 8th – Monday 11th March, 2019 (Labour Day Weekend)
Cost: $210 for the first 2, then $80 per extra family member.
Details: “Grab a Dad” camp is designed for Dads and their kids of all ages. Sons and daughters are encouraged to grab their dads so they can spend quality time reconnecting and building memories that will last a lifetime. The program has been designed to incorporate activities that dads and their kids can do together, canoeing, caving, games, bush skills and some interesting life based Bible talks.
More Info: Howard Hinson 0409 258 042

ESA Fishing Camp
Dates: Friday 12th - Monday 15th April
Cost: $115 (Adults over 16)
For Family pricing please call the office on (03) 9837 5225
Location: The riverbank near Cobram
More Info: Peter Geldart 0427 316 327

Gippsland Junior Camp (Year 4 - 6)
Dates: 14th - 17th April
Location: Glengarry, Gippsland
Details: Come along and explore with us at Gleneden which is just out of Glengarry around 20mins from Traralgon. With lots of fun activities come and spend time with friends, make new friends and learn more about the greatest friend - Jesus.
More Info: Scott Ronalds 0400 605 514

ESA Dirt Bike Camp Alexandra
Dates: Friday 26th - Sunday 28th April
Cost: $110 per person
Location: Geldart Property, Alexandra
Details: Tune up your dirt bikes and bring your mates for an awesome time with like-minded people. Great food provided along with some helpful bible teaching and interesting conversations. Bikes need to be REC registered and riders hold a motor bike licence.
More Info: Howard Hinson 0409 258 042

APRIL

ESA Men’s Camp
Dates: Friday 31st May – Sunday 2nd June
Check the website for more details.

ESA Pental Island Junior Camp
Dates: Monday 1st – Friday 5th July
Check the website for more details.

May

ESA Gippsland Dirt Bike Camp
Dates: Friday 17th - Sunday 19th May
Details: Riders are required to hold a valid license. These are great weekends. Enjoy the beauty of Gippsland whilst enjoying the thrills and spills of some great riding tracks. Enjoy great food, great fun, great friendship and great discussions about life and faith.
More Information: Dean Richardson 0438 346 235

ESA Mountain Bike Camp
Dates: Friday 24th - Sunday 26th May
Check the website for more details.

June

ESA Gippsland Teen Discipleship Camp 2018 (Year 8 to 12)
Dates: Friday 5th to Tuesday 9th July
Cost: $195
This camp is all about getting deeper into God’s word, with help of a great speaker and interactive workshops. Come and learn more about God, make new friends and do some fun activities.
Director: Anderson & Jessie Murry
Contact: Scott Ronalds 0400 605 514

ESA Anglesea Junior Camp (Year 4 - Year 7)
Dates: Saturday 6th – Wednesday 10th July
Check the website for more details

ESA Anglesea Teen Camp (Year 8 - Year 12)
Dates: Saturday 6th – Wednesday 10th July
Check the website for more details
ESA Camping is the camping ministry of ESA Country Ministries. Our aim is to Equip, Serve and Assist country churches in their outreach and discipleship.

About Camp Applications
All camp applications are done through our online application process. Paper applications can be requested through the office if required.

How to Apply
Check out opening and closing dates for applications and apply online at www.esa.org.au. If paper applications are required, please telephone ESA office on (03) 9837 5225.

To be fair to all, our policies are:
1. Full fees to be paid prior to camp closing date.
2. Your camp fee includes a non-refundable $30 Administration charge.
3. Assist us by applying early: some camps fill well before the closing date!
4. No phone bookings accepted.
5. If paying by cheque / money order, make out to ESA and mail to ESA, prior to closing date of camp. (No cash in mail please).
6. Transport to and from camp is your responsibility.
7. Confirmation of your application and further information will be available approximately 10 days prior to camp.

ESA Staff
David Molyneux
Gerard Abdoo
Peter Geldart
Howard Hinson
Dave Maxwell
Geoff Pearse
Nick Buscombe
Scott Ronalds
Ruth Parfett

For the latest camp information:
www.esa.org.au

FRIDAY 19 - MONDAY 22 APRIL
YOUTH CAMPS 2019
GOD WINS!
Speaker - Tim Walter
JUNIOR TEEN YOUNG ADULT
WARRACKNABEAL
www.wimmeraeasterconvention.org.au for more information
In late January the ESA staff gathered in Bendigo for their Staff Retreat to plan for the year ahead.

During our time we had David Cummings come to speak and encourage the staff with his leadership teaching. David is an inspiration to many, even in his 80’s he is still full of energy and will to share his wisdom from so many years faithfully serving God.

For those who know David you will know that he travels with his piano accordion and we were blessed to be led in our worship time by David.

We also had Max Chapman, a retired MAF pilot attend the retreat. Max volunteers to take a flight simulator around Victoria encouraging people to engage in flying with the aim of encouraging people to become missionary pilots. The ESA staff enjoyed the flight experience on the back of the truck and ESA are looking at ways to further work together with Max to promote the flight simulator.

ESA Teen Camp at Phillip Island went OFF with Jesse Starr speaking and one of the biggest Teen Camps in the history of ESA!
There is something special when Christian organisations work together towards the great calling of connecting people into God’s story.

This summer, we saw exactly that when Gerard and Linda Abdoo joined with the Scripture Union run Theos mission in Lakes Entrance. They supported this mission by leading the cooking, facilitating leadership training and general outreach as part of the program.

Mission is all about welcoming people in and creating community.

We provided a free meal each night and ran afternoon and evening activities for families and young people. We created a space where people felt safe and could talk about stuff that really mattered to them and to us.

Each year has a different flavour. This year we had opportunity to encourage many other Christians who were on holidays. One of my favourite examples of mission was on New Years Eve. We welcomed a couple into the space with their two daughters.

When we said we were Christians the man said “oh perfect! our daughter has been asking questions about Jesus - you can answer them!”

How awesome is that!

We got to share the gospel with the whole family that day.

We have a common goal as Christians: to build one another up and share the Good News of Jesus Christ and we sure got to do that on Mission this year.

Letitia Crispin, Co-director, Lakes Entrance Summer Theos Mission

KEEPING
InStep
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19 Tesmar Circuit, Chirnside Park VIC 3116
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