

Word from the Director

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to oversee the running of Mill Valley Ranch and continue to serve God, reaching young people, develop the horse program, build on the township and have many groups as possible have a place to find God.

Baptist Camping Victoria is excited that people are passionate about Mill Valley Ranch as we are. Thank you for everyone's comments on the developments of the Ranch. Development is a positive step forward, but the ministry and changing lives is our highest goal.

Ministry

Over the summer 319 young people's journey's continued through visiting the Ranch and out of them we had 70 first time commitments and 100+ recommitments to continue their walk with God. The priority is to disciple the Ranches, disciple the VOLLIES, and disciple the Staff. I acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all the staff lead by Sue and Will Ellis. The training weekends for VOLLIES have been well attend and the ministry time and development of their faith has been outstanding. The quality of the young people around the Ranch is exceptional. We have the Baptist Camping Vision Day in March, we will look at how to develop staff in the ministry area, to support all young people's decision.

Development

We are excited to have the funds to develop and meet the vision of the founders who have had the vision may not have had the resources. Doing the arena after waiting forty year has been a blessing. We have Daryl Hargreaves master plan of where to place the accommodation block and the office administration (hotel). We have used his look on the accommodation building, but are very disappointed that we cannot build Daryl's plans for the office. Funding is now restricted, and we want to keep moving forward so the new plan is what we can afford.

We are very aware of making buildings look old and have meet with Arthur and have discussed the following:

Action plan

1. The arena is getting a facade using old poles that have been in storage.
2. The accommodation look was based on Daryl Hargrave plan. We have built the rooms to meet the vision of MVR not the current market.
3. 2019 calls us to have the safety and wellbeing of the campers at our highest level. The Ranch needs an office as soon as possible at the front gate to meet these requirement. The Administration block will go where the Hotel was to go. We do not have the funds to build a commercial office block (Hotel) in two stories, and that is disappointing. However we are excited to be able move forward with the plans that went out.
4. We have discuss enlarging the chapel into Book nook with Arthur and are getting engineering advice on how to do this.

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Building new and making it look old is our plan. All the new facades will have additional trims and signage to make them look old. We are working hard at balancing the books and doing development that we can afford under all the shire, fire, flood level, and building requirement for a commercial site.

Financially we have made inroads into the operating loss on the Ranch with a \$165k increase but still need another \$200K to breakeven. Baptist Camping Victoria believes that with our focus, hard work and God's blessings this gap will be bridged.

Please continue to pray for the Ranch; it's staff and the impact we make on the lives of the people who come to stay.

Yours in Christ



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