

On Track



Warming up

As you read this, summer will be under way across our nation. Depending on where you live, that could mean it is getting pretty dry, or it could mean that the wet season has begun. If you live near Melbourne, it could mean anything. Wherever you are, summer means holidays for many people, Christmas and the end of a busy year. This summer will no doubt be a welcome relief after what can only be described as a very strange year.

As summer warms up, so do our plans for PIM in 2021. Lord willing, we will launch New Dunesk in the New Year after having to postpone all our planned events in 2020. New Dunesk represents a significant investment by our Church towards finding new and effective ways of reaching our nation with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. From this special place, we plan to Inspire, Equip and Send out people for ministry in remote and rural parts of our nation. Will you be one of them?

For those finishing school and starting out in their working life, our **Gap Year program** offers the opportunity to spend a year exploring options for living and working in the bush whilst developing useful vocational and ministry skills and contributing to the life of a rural church.

For those at the other end of their working life, and looking forward to a season of road travel around the country, our **Nomads' Network** promises to create opportunities for fun and fellowship, for learning and serving and for opening doors to use this great season of life to make a useful contribution to the Kingdom.

Plans for our **Country Elders' Preaching Workshop** are warming up for August. In what is probably a world first, the Presbyterian Church **Camper Trailer Muster** is also scheduled for the October school holidays. This will be a fun way for families to get to know PIM, enjoy New Dunesk, and find ways to become more involved in making disciples for Christ across our country.

Other conversations are also warming up, as we connect with different groups across our church who are interested in finding ways to make the most of what New Dunesk has to offer.

We are grateful for those **Founding Partners** who have caught the exciting vision for New Dunesk and have committed to financially supporting us as we establish this brand new ministry venture. We look forward to personally inviting our Founding Partners to visit New Dunesk and enjoy it for themselves. If you are looking to get involved in something new and exciting in 2021, there is still time for you to sign up to become a Founding Partner of New Dunesk.

But more important than all these activities is the very reason we do them. As Christmas approaches, all of us at PIM wish you and your family a blessed Christmas. It is our prayer that you not only enjoy the season, but also that you are able to take a step back from the busyness of everyday life and reflect on what it truly means - that God himself would walk on Earth, seek out lost sinners and pay an enormous price for our redemption. News this good must be shared.

Me, a Founding Partner!

When collecting the mail, I was initially struck by the colourful logo and the words 'you are invited' across the front of the envelope. I quickly realised the letter was from PIM and related to their new ministry centre called New Dunesk. But what I was now being invited to?

The invitation inside was unambiguous. PIM were looking for Founding Partners to financially kick-start this new work. They were seeking funds to build the needed infrastructure to get the work going as soon as possible. There were several ways people could be a Founding Partner, and I thought the whole concept was a great idea. From my lockdown in Melbourne I now wanted to be a Founding Partner and support the PIM as they established this new ministry to get the good news of our Saviour to people in rural Australia.

While writing about being a Founding Partner of New Dunesk, I should at least mention what New Dunesk is seeking to do. My understanding is it will be a place for people from the wider church and across the nation to visit and be both inspired and trained for ministry in rural Australia. They are currently building a conference centre from an old piggery, putting in a campground for campers and caravan-ers, and will soon have their

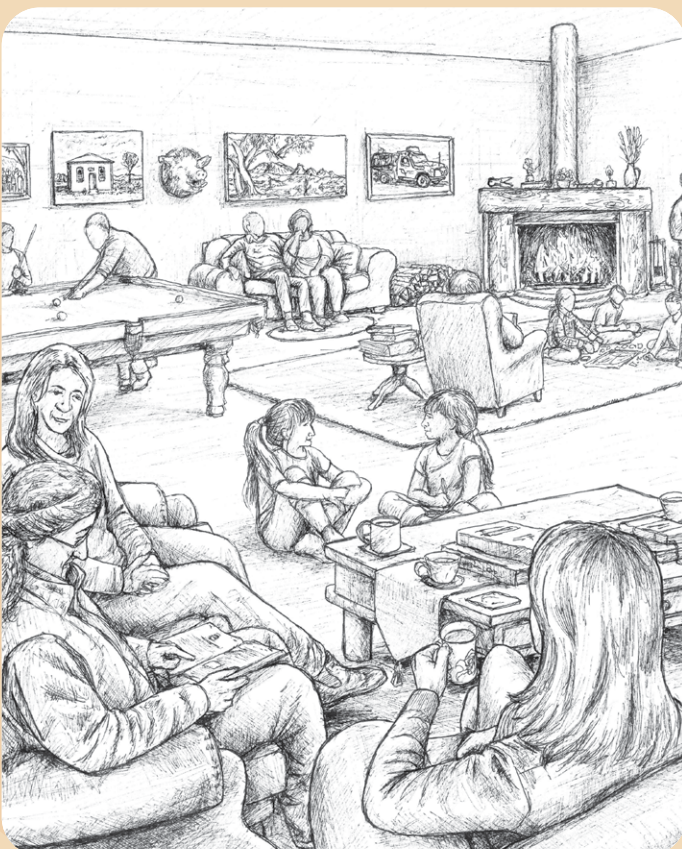
own Heritage Centre for tourists. They will run a Gap Year Program for young people and will conduct many training activities to help ministry happen in the country.

As I look back on my time in the church, I can recall camps and conferences that were a real time of encouragement and growth for me. I applaud PIM for taking the step to establish their own ministry-focused rural homestead and conference centre, which will make a real difference, both in the quantity and quality of ministry in regional Australia. I would humbly encourage others to join with me and become a Founding Partner. Your contribution will bring blessing to many others for years into the future.

Editor's note: Following a personal request of the CEO, this article was submitted by an anonymous supporter of the PIM, and now a Founding Partner of New Dunesk. Part of the new Club 100!

For more information on New Dunesk, the Founding Partners program and prayer updates, please visit the website: www.pim.org.au/foundingpartners Or call the CEO, Andrew: 02 6100 3510

In conversation



The clubhouse

Stephen Reed is an award-winning freelance artist and pen sketch illustrator who lives and works in the Blue Mountains of NSW. He has completed many commissioned art works and is also an illustrator of books. Stephen is a graduate of Sydney Missionary & Bible College and has a real interest in gospel mission. While PIM was in conversation with Stephen about the prospective ministry from New Dunesk and our desire to have 100 people sign up to be a Founding Partner, Stephen responded by providing us with an original drawing titled: 'An Artist's Impression of the New Dunesk Clubhouse'.

As with many pieces of art, there is a certain degree of licence. We are not sure there will ever be a clubhouse at New Dunesk, but we love the idea it conveys. It captures a sense of community, a place where people of all ages will gather together and seek to strengthen ministry to rural Australia. We are even told that hidden in the picture are a number of people historically involved with the PIM. Everyone who signs up to be a Club 100 Founding Partner will receive a hi-res print of Stephen's work.

🕒 From the patrols

History comes alive

Sometimes we are reminded of PIM's rich heritage in very tangible ways. Like PIM, the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) was founded by the Rev John Flynn as a response to the great needs of our nation in the early part of the 20th century.

Flynn's vision made an enormous contribution to opening up the outback and making life safer, and also healthier, for those living and working there. Sometimes PIM Teams have to make use of the RFDS themselves. In September, our newest PIM Team, the Chais, called on the RFDS when their son, Lewis, was injured.

Lewis had what seemed like a minor accident on his little pushbike after being scared by some local dogs. Alvin and Narelle took him to the local nursing post when the pain didn't abate after a couple of days. On assessing Lewis, the nursing post staff quickly arranged for the RFDS to fly in to Mt Magnet and take Lewis and Narelle immediately to Perth. After many tests, it was confirmed that Lewis' pancreas had been split completely in half.

The medical team in Perth were deeply concerned about the short and long term consequences of Lewis' very serious injury and were finding it hard to work out how to treat the damaged pancreas in such a small child. A call for prayer went out across the nation, and beyond, and many of God's people lifted Lewis up in prayer. And God answered. Without the need for risky surgery, Lewis' pancreas has continued to work and there now seems no need for anything further to be done. A most serious situation has been resolved. Thank you to all who prayed for this situation, and thanks to God for what He did through Flynn all those years ago to put in place such an effective medical service that has blessed not just the Chai family but countless others throughout the decades.

📡 News & updates

Travel plans for 2021

Tourism agencies and government bodies across the country are encouraging Aussies to holiday in Australia in 2021. Why not take their advice and plan a visit to New Dunesk in 2021? We'd love to have you drop in for a short visit or an overnight stay, or to join one of our events:

Gap Year

1 Feb-26 Nov 2021

Nomads' Network

Begins 14-19 April 2021

Country Elders' Preaching Workshop

26-29 August 2021

Camper Trailer Muster

October School Holidays 2021

For further information, visit our website: www.pim.org.au/newdunesk



My gift to show Jesus' love to Australians in the outback

I want to help share the Gospel with more people and communities in remote and isolated regions of Australia.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

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 **CEO's corner**

From Andrew to you



There is a sickness in the world that is far worse than the coronavirus. It damages everyone it touches, ruins lives and makes a mess of the world.

The consequences of this sickness are life changing, and there is no vaccine. This sickness is not caused by a pathogen, or spread by standing too close to an infected person. We see

evidence of this sickness in all levels of our society, we see it in our local communities and, if we are honest with ourselves, we see it in us. Sin wreaks havoc on our society, our economy and in our homes in ways that are far more damaging than a physical illness. And because sin is rebellion against a holy God, it has eternal consequences. We can't be vaccinated against sin, but by the grace of God there is an effective and permanent remedy that is freely available.


As Christmas approaches, this is a great time to pause and remember that all the chaos and mess we see in our world, and in our hearts, has at its root sin. Of course, sin is not new. It has been destructive ever since it entered the world back in Genesis 3. But the remedy for sin is not new either. At Christmas we remember how God stepped personally into the situation to bring about His remedy—a remedy that is free for us but costly for Him. Rejoice this Christmas about what He has done for us!

This tremendous message of God's effective remedy for our sin is the reason PIM Teams hit the road. It's the reason why we are setting up New Dunesk and it is a great reason for you to take a risk this Christmas, and share this news with someone you know.



Andrew Letcher
CEO

PRIVACY: PIM values the privacy of the people we work with, therefore, we may at times change the names of people in stories, substitute photos or obscure some geographic details that might identify them. However, all the stories we tell are true and accurately convey what we see God doing in people's lives.

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worth driving for