

Victorian Report

National Gathering

Introduction

Music - 'What a Mighty God we Serve'

We (Noreen) **Are** (Tony) **CLC** (Angela) **Victoria** (Lisa), (Patrick) **EA** for Victoria
We have 100 members in CLC Victoria- 8 groups in the country & 8 groups in Melbourne

CLC Victoria – What gives us life and energy

Inspiration (Noreen) comes from belonging to a vibrant Vic CLC community, all seeking to find God in our everyday lives, within a supportive Ignatian community. For me CLC is a wellspring that nourishes my spirituality.

Listening and honesty (Tony)

CLC listens to its members. From their discussions issues proceed in an upward direction. The State Exco welcomes this discussion even if at times it concerns awkward and difficult issues. Community is not something that comes easily. We have to trust one another. One aspect of this trust is to listen and then respond honestly.

Vibrant and growing (Lisa)

In Victoria we are vibrant and growing. We have regular communication via email from Exco and through our newsletters keeping all members and friends informed with an opportunity for feedback. We are engaged with the wider Victorian CLC community with great participation at events, having all groups represented throughout the year. And a commitment of CLC members to contribute towards Magis 08 activities.

We have had a fantastic year with 19 new members joining which has increased our young people membership, and we look forward to having these numbers grow well into our future.

CLC Victoria – Challenges

Leadership (Angela)

We are prepared to take on a commitment with the community. My example was being nominated to be a member on the CLC Victorian EXCO. Therefore I committed to a service role of 2 years in the leadership team. CLC needs to continue forming Leaders – inviting, supporting and nourishing them in their challenges.

Mission (Lisa)

Another challenge for Victorian CLC is for members to have Mission in life, to live the CLC way of life and to develop ways of offering the richness of CLC to others through example. For members to participate in and encourage Social Justice issues and bring forward these issues to their groups and the wider CLC to allow for shared responsibility amongst us all.



Membership *(Angela)*

To continue membership we need to have Spiritual conversation with ordinary people who are seeking & searching for more Spirituality in their lives.
We can invite friends & current members to CLC days.

Issues for CLC Australia

Connection: *(Tony)*

Nexco must connect with ordinary members. This is achieved by effective leadership that unites all in a common mission. The Australian Common Mission represents a unifying mission and serves to build a purposeful community, an apostolic community at national level. The grounds of the Australian Common Mission need to be revisited and restated.

Communication *(Noreen)*

- We need to deepen our contacts with one another on Nat and across State levels - otherwise they will wither... We need to reinvigorate communication also between National and our general membership to rekindle the spark.

Growth *(Lisa)*

We believe that the growth of CLC Australia needs to include a major contribution of a more diverse younger membership. New members bring life to the Community and young people bring a renewal of ideas. A younger presence on a leadership team allows for bringing forward relevant and current issues allowing CLC to remain intergenerational and open to a wider understanding of the Christian faith.

My journey with the Lord has been enhanced and challenged through the involvement in both my CLC group and my position as Treasurer on Vic Exco. CLC is definitely a commitment I believe has contributed in all areas of my life and could be of amazing benefit to many in my age bracket.

Moving Forward as a National Community

Lighten Up *(Noreen)*

We need to grow CLC with the times in language, design, presentation and exchange. Get younger people involved in designing promotional materials, formation etc. that appeals to a younger audience. If we are to grow and expand especially among younger people and have a truly intergenerational Nat CLC, then members need to be encouraged to be involved in articulating how they feel, be co-responsible for setting direction and involved in decision making....leaders of the future!

Open a Window *(Lisa)*

Now we need to Open a Window and invite new members to join us. We believe to move forward Nationally we need to engage with young people and especially those involved in the Magis program. To utilise CLC involvement in Magis 08 experiments and World Youth Day and to promote the amalgamation of Ignatian Spirituality.

Dream On *(Tony)*

What would be the characteristics of an ideal CLC? It would be apostolic, ecumenical, intergenerational, engaged in social justice, and its membership would be booming! Let us just not dare to dream, but to act!