

Christmas Angels... bringing joy to kids doing it tough

Every Christmas, **Second Chances SA** teams up with generous donors, churches and community clubs to bring joy to over 550 children and young people with a parent in prison here in South Australia.

Christmas Angels is a special program – connecting and strengthening the bond between children, families and imprisoned parents. Each donation of \$40 enables us to buy two brand new presents for each child to receive from their imprisoned parent on their Christmas Family Day.

This year, Christmas will be coming early to the children and families of inmates at Cadell Training Centre. On December 9, a team from **Second Chances SA** will be delivering a trailer load of custom-picked presents for dads to give to their children in person and share a special moment of joy with their children.

One grateful father last year wrote to us saying, *"My three daughters love the presents they received. It means a lot to them knowing that their father (me) gives them Birthday and Christmas presents."*

Christmas Angels is not just about presents. It's about keeping families connected and reminding children they are loved and not forgotten.

...that is their reality
this Christmas.



Take a look at our Christmas Angels (CSA) video on our Facebook page

If your church or community club would like to find out more about supporting **Christmas Angels** or if you would like to invite a **Second Chances SA** speaker, contact us at 8272 0323 or office@secondchances.org.au

Wanting to find out more about Christmas Angels? We can help.

We've recently produced a collection of brand-new brochures – explaining **Christmas Angels** and how you can get involved. If you would like to receive these to pass onto family or friends, please get in touch!

Keep an ear out for us over your local airwaves. With the generous support of community radio stations across South Australia, our latest Christmas Angels community service announcement (CSA) is playing across stations covering Adelaide, the Riverland and Eyre Peninsula!



Sunday SALE Success

Sunday 21 October we put together our first ever **Super Wedding Sale** at the Arkaba Hotel where many volunteers, staff and supporting companies came together to help raise much-needed funds. MC **Paula Luethen MP** wore her own wedding dress! More than 200 attended the event which comprised a major raffle, silent auction items, a bridal parade with many bargains to be had.



photo: Studio Shubin

Group of sponsors, volunteers and staff who put the event together



Meaningful Mentoring

The bewildering range of emotions ex-offenders experience as they leave the prison gates can be whirling. We know how they feel terrified about the prospect of leaving prison, and how daunting the challenge is of staying clean, staying sober and staying away from a bad crowd; challenges which were all part of the reasons why they got into trouble in the first place.

Many people in prison come from what are termed 'chaotic backgrounds'. This really means fractured childhoods, addictions, a lack of discipline, poor educational achievements, exposure to violence – and, at its very heart, an absence of affection or caring that loving parents and concerned role models, provide for the vast majority of us.

Mentors have an important role in unpicking this. A mentor at the prison gate can take the edge off that very first, frightening day when the ex-offender leaves and takes their first steps away from a life of crime. They can give an ex-offender a fair chance of staying on the straight and narrow by being that wise friend, supporting them in finding somewhere to stay, getting a job and reconnecting with their children.

For this reason, mentoring is crucial to turning around the lives of ex-offenders and preventing them from reoffending. We know a mutually agreed, mentoring match can have a tremendous stabilising effect in keeping someone on track to reach their goals. This is the essence of our slogan, '**Restoring Hope**'.

Our mentoring project '**Restore24 Community Mentoring**' promotes a mentoring relationship for at least **24 weeks prior** to being released. **Meaningful mentoring** can be the difference between staying out of prison or returning to the aimless revolving door of prison life.



Helen Glanville
Chief Executive



Victimologist meets Criminologist



photo: Redenta Finnegan

L-R Michael O'Connell and Geoff Glanville

At our third Café Night for 2018, Consulting Victimologist **Michael O'Connell AM APM** spoke about the invisible victims of crime. Who are the victims? The ones impacted by losing a bread winner, losing a dad, losing a friend, losing a father and losing a son – families and children of prisoners are among the range of victims crime produces.

Geoff Glanville introduced Michael O'Connell as they'd studied victimology together in the nineties under the oversight of former Queensland Commissioner of Police and victimologist **Ray Whitrod**. Like Ray, Michael has a commitment to justice, equity and integrity. Michael spoke at the **Annual Prison Ministry Network Dinner** Saturday 10 November at the Stirling Golf Club.

Holding them in her heart

Since 2007 **Helen Rance** has worked with the children of prisoners – teen girls. Girls who have lost their father or mother to crime and imprisonment; girls who at their critical time of adolescent development feel abandoned, vulnerable and alone. Helen Rance has met a need and filled a void in the hearts of many young women needing a supportive listening ear. She has been affectionately called 'Nanna Helen' to some. One of the teen girls who has grown up over the past seven years to become a reliable, influential Teen Girl Camp leader writes, '*Helen Rance was one of the first women I met on the camps as a kid. I was a very isolated teenager who didn't receive much affection and it was Helen who showed me so much unconditional compassion and love. She was one of the main people to help me decide to change my life around by showing me that happiness is out there. Helen radiates love and support for anyone she comes into contact with and that's what makes me love her more every day. To this day I now attend the younger and older teen girls camps as a leader and am very grateful to work alongside such a beautiful person.*'



photo: Redenta Finnegan

L-R Helen Glanville presents Helen Rance with her Certificate of Appreciation

We salute **Helen Rance** who is committed to the positive development and support of young vulnerable teen girls – the daughters of prisoners. There are many who appreciate her warm, loving smile and consideration. God bless Helen Rance!

Men on a Mission



photo: Redenta Finnegan

L-R: Rod Foran and Zinedine Nicholls

Another two new volunteers for **Team ARC** have put their best foot forward to make a difference at the Adelaide Remand Centre (ARC). They are committed to visit on a weekly basis and respond to written request forms asking for help

with storage of their property and banking. These requests are made by prisoners because in most cases, they can't trust their friends or they're from interstate and have no one they can trust to store anything with safety.

From PK to Premier's Award



photo: Les Dennis

Premier's Allan Sloan Young Citizen Community Service Prize

Ryan and Montana had a tough start. Now they're two driven young adults. It started with a **PK Mentoring Camp** seven years ago. Today, they volunteer their time and energy mentoring and leading younger PKs who want to be just like them.

In October, they were awarded with a Premier's Allan Sloan Young Citizen Community Service Prize presented by Deputy Premier and Attorney General Vickie Chapman MP. **Ryan and Montana – you're an inspiration to many! Second Chances SA honours you both.**

Making Memories @ Mylor



Sponsored by Rotary Club of Regency Park (Junior Teen Boys Camp)

When it comes to planning and executing good **PK Mentoring Camps**, they are as effective as the availability of good mentoring leaders combined with a fabulous 48 hour program with professional supervision of activities. Without mentoring leaders at a high ratio of leader to camper, the camps will not proceed. Without secured sponsors like **Sisters of Charity** and **Rotary Club of Regency Park** the camps will not go ahead. We remain in awe of the leaders and the sponsors and sincerely thank them all.



Sponsored by Sisters of Charity (Primary Camp)

Boots 'n Books



L-R: Staffers Sarah Kaine, Mel Eckert, Helen Glanville with Genesis Footwear manufacturers Helen and David Burrell holding some of the shoes from the back of the truck.

On two occasions we received phone calls.

From **Lillie's Books** we received a call from founder Jill Andrews – 'Might you be able to receive suitable, brand new books to help children read?'

From **Genesis Footwear** we received a call from David Burrell – 'Might you be able to use some black leather school shoes?'

On both occasions we answered with a resounding 'yes'. On both counts these wonderful donors delivered.

Within weeks we received 80 children's books for a range of ages plus 100 pairs of black leather shoes. We are in awe of the generous hearts of these wonderful, kind people who like to encourage and bless the children to develop in literacy and be prevented from truanting through brand new shoes.



L-R: Jill Andrews from Lillie's Books delivering books to CEO Helen Glanville



Truck stands out!



Second Chances SA was hard to miss at the Adelaide Prayer Breakfast (Sep 20) at the Adelaide Convention Centre. **The Second Chances Furniture Warehouse** truck was a definite standout and the belle of the ball at the annual event. With **Second Chances SA** Ambassador, **Henry Olonga** and Chairman, **Timothy Minahan** on hand for a chat – the display caught the

attention of many of the morning's attendants and helped raise awareness of our organisation and the services of the Furniture Warehouse.

Henry wows Town Hall crowd

Second Chances SA Ambassador, Henry Olonga was a sure showstopper August 22 as a guest performer at the South Australian Police Band's *The Hits of Stage and Screen* held in Adelaide Town Hall. Henry's performance also provided an opportunity for him to share with the audience the heart and mission behind **Second Chances SA** – reminding them of the importance of early intervention and of restoring hope to broken lives.



photo: Heather Warnett
Second Chances Ambassador, Henry Olonga

New Times for Second Chances SA

Keep an eye out for a special two-page spread featuring **Second Chances SA** in the latest edition of **New Times** (pp. 14-15). As an organisation, we are supported by volunteers from many Uniting Churches in South Australia and are financially supported and engaged with many Uniting Church congregations.



Second CHANCES SA
restoring hope

SECOND CHANCES SA INC GOVERNANCE

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Project Officer: Redenta Finnegan (Vol)

GRANT FUNDED POSITIONS:

PK Family Care: Mel Eckert
PK Family Care: Sarah Kaine
PK Community Support: Bronwyn Chant



Furniture Warehouse

131 Richmond Road, Richmond SA 5033
Ph: 8352 7722
Mon-Fri 9:30am – 4:30pm
Sat 10:00am-3:00pm
Manager: Liam



Op Shop

397 Diagonal Road,
Sturt SA 5047
Ph: 8296 5588
Mon-Fri 9:30am – 4:30pm
Sat 10:00am-3:00pm
Co-Managers:
Sue Rice & Peter Bruno

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Second Chances Op Shop and
Second Chances Furniture Warehouse.

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