

Welcome from Matt Hunt

Welcome to the inaugural Healthy Vibrant Communities (HVC) newsletter! As Lead Consultant I am excited to see the charity incorporated mid-2018 as HVC has been in the pipeline, discussed with many people for many years.

The mission of HVC is to promote the sustainable development of local church owned community venues providing essential services for the community. It is based on the experience of *CrossLife – a baptist church* in developing two community nodes – Lakeside and The Well on the Gold Coast.

With Australia’s population predicted to exceed 40 million by 2060 (SMH Tim Colebatch, 26/11/16), there is an opportunity to collaborate with local churches, developers, professionals, and funders to address the needs of these new communities.

Our vision is there would be one of these church venues in every second new suburb in Australia by 2040: a very achievable vision should these four stakeholders be brought together. In this way, HVC is both a church planting movement and community development model. There are a number of ways you can be part of this journey. We invite you to do so!!

Praise for “Leading Hybrid Churches”

‘I doubt there is a better book on mission leadership for hybrid churches. The contributors to this book take us forward by not only reflecting theologically on the mission of the church today, but also by imparting their insights as leaders and mapping out key principles. A must-read for anyone interested in or considering such mission.’

Ross Clifford, Principal, Morling College

Stockland on the Lakeside experience

Stockland, the developer of Highland Reserve at Upper Coomera, have supported the



CrossLife Lakeside community node writing, *“The outcome ... is a very successful model for the delivery of a community hub. Key to this success is that CrossLife had an end-to-end design and delivery process where they drove the design process and remained operators of the facility, which now includes a cafe, convenience retail, child care and community meeting room”.*

Lakeside – An Award Winning Concept

In November 2015 the Lakeside Community Node won the prestigious Wendy Chadwick Encouragement Award at the Planning Institute of Australia (QLD) Awards Night.

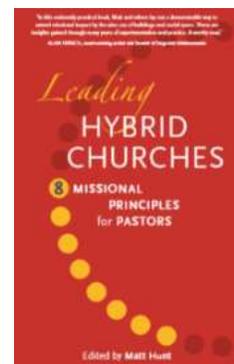


Ian Lumb (Strategy and Development) and Matt Hunt (Lead Pastor) receive the PIA Wendy Chadwick Encouragement award

The PIA said,
“In selecting this nomination the judges considered it demonstrated an innovative approach and has potential as a delivery model across Queensland, especially for communities where normal commercial approaches may not be sustainable.”

“Leading Hybrid Churches” Book Launch

Coinciding with the HVC launch is the launch of “Leading Hybrid Churches – 8 Missional Principles for Pastors”. The book was the result of a three-day conference attended by leaders of local baptist churches across Australia from ‘hybrid churches’: churches with financially sustainable commercial ventures as part of their outreach. The focus of the conference was the leadership of hybrid churches, with the outcome being the 8 leadership principles detailed in the book. The book is not just for Pastors, but for anyone with a heart for reaching the community in the post-Christendom 21st century.



Meet the HVC Board

Matt Hunt, HVC Lead Consultant and Lead Pastor, *CrossLife – a baptist church*



Matt Hunt is the Lead Pastor of *CrossLife – a baptist church* which has campuses at Helensvale, Southport and Upper Coomera. Matt loves Jesus and wants to help everyone follow him and love each other like Jesus loves us.

Matt's role with HVC as Lead Consultant is a result of leading CrossLife through the journey of planting the Upper Coomera "Lakeside" campus with a community centric venue with shops, a community centre and a child care centre and the second community node at Upper Coomera, 'The Well' which includes space for a medical centre, gym, Outside of School Hours Care centre, café, community offices and a community function centre.

David Slinn, Chief Executive Officer, Baptist Financial Services

David is a member of Gordon Baptist Church and is passionate about integrating ministry and community. David is CEO of Baptist Financial Services, a church charitable development fund. He also serves as a member of the Assembly Council of the NSW & ACT Baptist Association and on a range of other committees.

David is a Chartered Accountant and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has worked in major accounting practices in Australia and UK and internationally as an Investment Banker. He has also managed a multidisciplinary Australian architectural & design practice with extensive project experience.



Elisha Roberts, Group Finance Analyst, Hornery Group



Elisha began her public accounting career at Grant Thornton in Brisbane and Vancouver, this solid accounting background provided a spring board into the corporate world. Transitioning into business with the Wallace Bishop Group, Elisha then joined Travelex in London, Toronto and Sydney, which provided a global view of finance and change management services.

Elisha is a Chartered Accountant, and holds a Bachelor of Business from the Queensland University of Technology. She is married to Nathan and has three beautiful children under ten. She attends South Pine Community Church and has been a part of Baptist Churches in Queensland since she was a child.

Steve Izett, Pastor, South Perth Baptist Church, Executive Director, The Mosaic Centre

Steve is passionate about helping people discover the beauty of Jesus through the creation of sustainable social enterprises & missional communities. Steve spent 17 years spearheading the planting and development of the Carey Community, a hybrid church with a 1400 student K-12 College, Before & After School Care Centre, Early Learning Centre, Community Centre and Café.



In 2012 Steve embraced the call to lead the renewal of the 112-year-old South Perth Baptist Church. Over the past 7 years South Perth has developed the Mosaic Centre, a hybrid missional community which now includes a vibrant 52 place early Learning Centre, The Living Room Community, and soon to launch Mosaic Wellness Community, a social enterprise focusing on health and wellbeing.