

## **Elspeth Carr**

Here is a bit of history of the retreats.

In 2000, we attended an MIV re-entry day at Ridley College. It offered a lot of info but no chance to share, so we began looking for a better way to assist missionaries in transition/re-entry.

In 2001, we began inviting MIV women to morning teas/evening suppers to share stories of re-entry.

Early in 2002, Sister Martha from the St Paul's missionary order "Wominjeka", St. Paul's Mission Centre, Norton's Lane, Wantirna South attended and told us about their experience of assisting people in re-entry and transition. She offered to adapt their 8 day programme to 2 days which was all the time we could spend. Two of us attended (Pam Thyer and I) and we appreciated the approach.

Sister Martha sent 3 attachments on the 21st April 2002 and kindly offered to allow us to adapt the materials in any way that suited our constituents. The rest is history!

The first re-entry retreat was held 9th to 11th October 2002 with 13 participants and 4 facilitators (Pam Thyer, Laurence Whitehead, Margaret Knight and myself). Helen first became a facilitator in 2003.

I coordinated the first 4 retreats with a total of 60 participants.

Helen became co-ordinator in 2006 and I don't know how many participants since then.

Blessings

Elspeth