



2024

Annual Report

Acknowledgement of Country

IVP acknowledges the care and connection to country of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The more we learn, the more respect we have for the Elders, past present and emerging.

Vale Vern Cork

Vern Cork, co-founder of IVP, passed away on 2nd August 2024, in Kemenuh, Bali. His ashes were scattered off Sanur Beach, by his Balinese and Australian friends, with a ceremony honoring the beliefs of those present who were Hindu, Moslem, Buddhist, Christian and atheist.

Message from the Chair

Welcome to IVP's 2024 Annual Report. In it you will hear of the mechanics of IVP's functioning from the teams responsible for building on the achievements from IVP's 37 years of existence.

Rita Warleigh has been at the centre of those achievements and continues to inspire, encourage, and exhort the current cohort of volunteers that make up those teams. Rita, with Chris Dunstan and Vern Cork founded IVP in 1988 with the intention of sparking the message of peace through international voluntary service.

Vern had a long association with Indonesia as a scholar, and developed deep personal ties there. With deteriorating health, he began working with Rita on a library project that blossomed into an SCI workcamp co-organised between IVP Australia and IVP Indonesia. Sadly, he died shortly before volunteers arrived on the island.

The Vern Cork Library will give local high school students access to a rich collection of books. It has also initiated a special connection between the two IVPs, and we hope introduce more young Australians and young Indonesians to wider horizons through IVS.

2024 has seen the Goulburn Farmers Market consolidated through a dedicated committee on the back of concerted efforts of the small IVP team that nursed the GFM to life. It continues to demand Rita's experience, time and skill as Market Manager but now has its own momentum, while remaining constituted within IVP. Among other impacts, it gives us for the time being, a financial foundation.

IVP continues to provide an organisational base for the Raising Peace festivals, cementing our place in the Australian and international peace movement.

Elsewhere in the report, you will read from the teams responsible for placements, membership, communications, IT, projects, finance and human resources. The latter has become a vital function as we improve our procedures for recruiting people to fill roles on the committee, to brief them, keep in touch, find roles that accord with their situation, acknowledge their talents and record their contributions.

Many of the new people taking on roles on the committee and working groups have not had workcamp experience. However, professional skills among recent recruits bode well for their contribution and for IVP as a whole.

We had taken for granted working relations when we operated out of a physical site. We are adjusting to building the same working conditions on-line, with rare opportunities to meet in person. The patience of the newer members of the committee in this process is acknowledged. Our outlook and purpose have not changed.

As usual it is the volunteers - past and future - to which this report pays tribute: those who have joined us in roles on the committee and teams during the year; people from other countries on a first Australian visit who we pick up from the train station ready to devote 2 weeks to physical work on a community project, and are still smiling when we drop them off afterwards; and those young and older Australians inspired to see the world after searching through our online projects database.

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**This report is a collaborative effort by those responsible for the different functional areas and was designed by Marketing Communications Officer Lucija Stolic.*

Executive Summary

The 2024 Annual Report reflects a year of renewed momentum and steady growth for IVP. From expanding our workcamp activities to deepening international partnerships, this year has demonstrated the resilience and dedication of our community of volunteers.

We welcomed new volunteers, launched new projects, and continued to strengthen our role in peacebuilding and cultural exchange. The Goulburn Farmers Market celebrated its first anniversary and now serves as both a community gathering space and a financial foundation for IVP. Our ongoing commitment to the Raising Peace initiative brought meaningful conversations and collaborations to the public through podcasts and events.

International cooperation remained a key focus. We worked closely with IVP Indonesia on the Vern Cork Library and contributed to SCI's efforts through regional governance and conflict management initiatives. New digital strategies were developed to adapt to changing user behaviours, and social media engagement provided valuable insights into our evolving audience.

This report acknowledges the contributions of our volunteers and project partners who made 2024 a meaningful and impactful year. As we look to the future, we invite all members and friends to continue shaping the work of IVP together.

Workcamps and Projects

We continue to be inspired by the transformative experiences that happen at workcamps, where volunteers open their minds and hearts to different ways of living and thinking. These shared moments of collaboration often lead to lasting friendships, the breaking down of prejudices, and personal growth that brings new ideas and fresh possibilities for a better future.

After several years of running only one workcamp annually, this year marked a significant shift. We successfully delivered three workcamps and continued with two ongoing projects, suggesting that IVP is entering a period of renewal and energy.

The **Goulburn Show Workcamp** ran for its sixth consecutive year, hosting five volunteers from Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, Japan and Vietnam. The Show Committee continues to appreciate the presence and contribution of our international teams



The **Southern Tablelands Workcamp** was a new initiative held across two locations, each for one week. Four international volunteers joined us—two from Japan, and one each from Thailand and Vietnam, along with one from Australia. In the first week, volunteers helped prepare and operate the Tallong Apple Day Festival, which celebrates the region's heritage. In the second week, they prepared and supported an Open Day at the historic Richlands Homestead in Taralga and attended a workshop focused on First Contact between Argyle County settlers and the local Gundungurra people.



The **Library Project** in Bali was Vern Cork's final wish. With some funding from Vern and collaboration with IVP Indonesia we developed it into a workcamp and created the library, and called it *the Vern Cork Library*. The five volunteers, two from Australia and one each from Indonesia, Italy and Slovenia, worked together to transform a disordered collection of books into an organised community library. They cleaned, catalogued, and shelved the books using shelving donated by IVP. We hope this project will continue into the coming year.



The **Goulburn Farmers Market** celebrated its first anniversary in October. It continues to grow steadily, hosting 25 to 30 vendors monthly and welcoming between 600 and 1,000 visitors at each market. In December, the market included a Makers Market where local artists showcased and sold handcrafted items such as jewellery, bags, hats, pottery, jigsaw puzzles and a locally themed Goulburn Monopoly game. More information can be found at: goulburnfarmersmarket.com.au.



Raising Peace continued to thrive in 2024. We produced six podcasts based on recordings from previous festivals, all of which are available at raisingpeace.org.au. A key highlight of the year was the festival organised for the International Day of Peace on 21 September, held in collaboration with World Beyond War. It was an uplifting and well-attended event. Raising Peace does not have a formal committee, but it is sustained by a committed group of eight to ten individuals from various peace organisations, with IVP supporting the website and financial administration.



Looking ahead, we plan to continue our collaboration with the Goulburn Show and Tallong Apple Day Festival in 2025. We also hope to deepen our work with IVP Indonesia on the Vern Cork Library and explore new opportunities together.

We warmly invite all IVP members to propose new workcamps wherever you see a community need. With the experience we have gained in organising workcamps, the opportunities are wide open and can be shaped by the people who are ready to lead them.

FINANCE

Thanks to effective expenditure control, grant support, and the strong performance of the Goulburn Farmers Market project, IVP achieved a solid net profit in 2024. Given our stable financial position, we have maintained a term deposit to take advantage of high interest rates while they remain favourable.

For the year ending 2024, our gross income rose from \$6,922 to \$25,085, and net profit increased from \$1,441 to \$8,153. Our financial status remains very healthy, with liabilities reduced by 50% to \$3,141 and total assets reaching \$24,837.

These results provide a strong financial foundation for IVP's continued operations and future project development, ensuring that we remain resilient and well-prepared for the year ahead.

Account	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023
Assets		
Bank		
International Volunteers for Peace - BDCU Account (Farmers Market)	8,584.31	2,966.72
IVP General - Statement Account	6,958.63	10,857.19
PayPal	2,716.05	494.54
Bendigo - Term deposit 206173502	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total Bank	23,258.99	19,318.85
Fixed Assets		
Computer Equipment	568.22	0.00
Total Fixed Assets	568.22	0
Non-current Assets		
BDCU Shares	10.00	10.00
Investment - Goulburn Solar Farm (at cost value)	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Non-current Assets	1,010.00	1,010.00
Total Assets	24,837.21	20,328.85
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Raising Peace General Funds	672.44	1617.44
Raising Peace - Jan de Vogt Peace Fund Grant Liability	0.00	4,527.50
Other Payables	911.05	641.05
Raising Peace - WBW	1,557.85	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	3,141.34	6,785.99
Total Liabilities	3,141.34	6,785.99
Net Assets	21,695.87	13,542.86
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	8,153.01	1,441.98
Prior Year Adjustments	184.41	0.00
Retained Earnings	13,358.45	12,100.88
Total Equity	21,695.87	13,542.86

IT and Website

Over the past 12 months, the IVP website experienced a 30% decline in visitor traffic, reflecting a broader industry trend where user engagement is increasingly shifting toward social media platforms.

Volunteer projects, in Australia and overseas

Contact

[HOME](#)
[ABOUT US](#)
[PROJECT SEARCH](#)
[WAYS TO VOLUNTEER](#)
[MEMBERS AREA](#)
[NEWS & EVENTS](#)
[DONATE](#)

Find a project

> Join a Yoga and Teaching Volunteer Project in Nepal

Raising Peace – 100 years of SCI

Read about volunteer experiences

Spring Camp 2025

January – April 2025

Semoya Eco-Farming Camp
Semoya, Yogyakarta
4 – 17 February 2025

Sedangguwo Permaculture Camp
Semarang, Central Java
14 – 27 April 2025



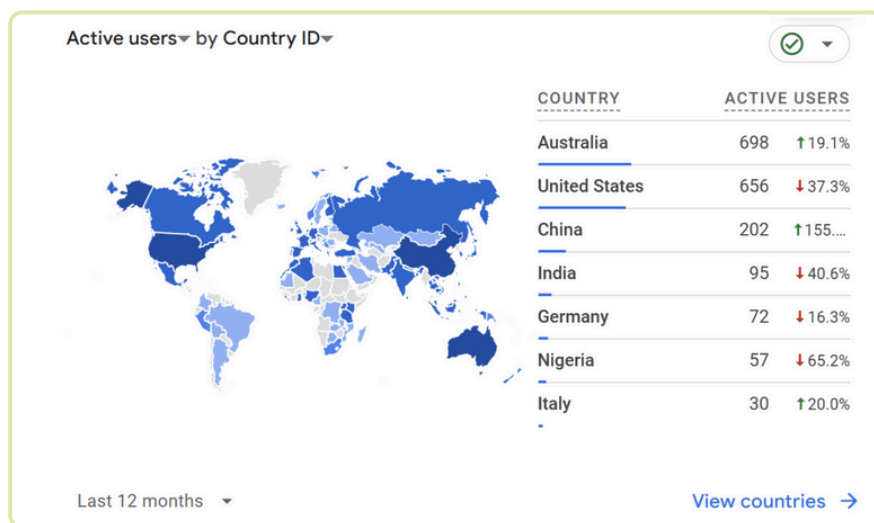
- Most visited pages from IVP website in the past 12 months.

	Page title and screen class	Views	Active users	Views per active user	Average engagement time per active user	Event count	Key events	Total revenue
		4,961 100% of total	2,377 100% of total	2.09 Avg 0%	40s Avg 0%	17,193 100% of total	0.00 All events	\$0.00
1	Home - International Volunteers for Peace	1,978 (39.87%)	1,465 (61.63%)	1.35	19s	7,665 (44.58%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
2	Project Search - International Volunteers for Peace	572 (11.53%)	333 (14.01%)	1.72	28s	1,492 (8.68%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
3	About us - International Volunteers for Peace	421 (8.49%)	273 (11.49%)	1.54	41s	1,278 (7.43%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
4	Ways to Volunteer - International Volunteers for Peace	224 (4.52%)	167 (7.03%)	1.34	21s	563 (3.27%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
5	Perspectives on Peace and Conflict - International Volunteers for Peace	187 (3.77%)	150 (6.31%)	1.25	54s	776 (4.51%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
6	Short-term Volunteer Projects - International Volunteers for Peace	134 (2.7%)	118 (4.96%)	1.14	23s	411 (2.39%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
7	Members Area - International Volunteers for Peace	116 (2.34%)	57 (2.4%)	2.04	33s	312 (1.81%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
8	Contact - International Volunteers for Peace	100 (2.02%)	93 (3.91%)	1.08	20s	317 (1.84%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
9	Become a Member - International Volunteers for Peace	99 (2%)	68 (2.86%)	1.46	29s	346 (2.01%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)
10	News - International Volunteers for Peace	93 (1.87%)	73 (3.07%)	1.27	21s	295 (1.72%)	0.00 (-)	\$0.00 (-)

- How do people find IVP website.

	Active users	Sessions	Engaged sessions	Average engagement time per session	Engaged sessions per active user	Events per session	Engagement rate	Key events	Event count	Total revenue
	100% of total	100% of total	100% of total	Avg 0%	Avg 0%	Avg 0%	Avg 0%	All events	All events	100% of total
Total	2,377	2,930	1,353	32s	0.57	5.87	46.18%	0.00	17,193	\$0.00
1 (not set)	1,399 (56.33%)	1,542 (52.63%)	482 (35.62%)	21s	0.36	5.30	31.26%	0.00 (-)	8,179 (47.57%)	\$0.00 (-)
2 google	725 (30.5%)	971 (33.14%)	623 (46.05%)	48s	0.86	6.64	64.16%	0.00 (-)	6,445 (37.49%)	\$0.00 (-)
3 bing	76 (3.2%)	106 (3.62%)	74 (5.47%)	48s	0.97	6.66	69.81%	0.00 (-)	706 (4.11%)	\$0.00 (-)
4 raisingpeace.org.au	45 (1.89%)	58 (1.98%)	40 (2.96%)	46s	0.89	6.31	68.97%	0.00 (-)	366 (2.13%)	\$0.00 (-)
5 m.baidu.com	52 (2.19%)	52 (1.77%)	5 (0.37%)	1s	0.10	4.15	9.62%	0.00 (-)	216 (1.26%)	\$0.00 (-)
6 ngobase.org	43 (1.81%)	51 (1.74%)	41 (3.03%)	50s	0.95	8.00	80.39%	0.00 (-)	408 (2.37%)	\$0.00 (-)
7 duckduckgo	13 (0.55%)	17 (0.58%)	8 (0.59%)	35s	0.62	5.94	47.06%	0.00 (-)	101 (0.59%)	\$0.00 (-)
8 sci.ngo	13 (0.55%)	15 (0.51%)	11 (0.81%)	1m 02s	0.85	7.80	73.33%	0.00 (-)	117 (0.68%)	\$0.00 (-)
9 facebook.com	14 (0.59%)	14 (0.48%)	10 (0.74%)	2s	0.71	4.71	71.43%	0.00 (-)	66 (0.38%)	\$0.00 (-)
10 linktr.ee	12 (0.5%)	14 (0.48%)	5 (0.37%)	7s	0.42	3.36	35.71%	0.00 (-)	47 (0.27%)	\$0.00 (-)

- Visitors by countries.



While this decline is notable, the website remains an important information and registration platform. The most visited pages remain those related to volunteer opportunities and workcamp highlights. Visitors accessed the site primarily through direct searches, social media links, and email newsletters. Audience analysis shows strong engagement from users in Australia, Japan, and Indonesia, reflecting the continued international reach of our activities.

These insights will guide our digital strategy as we explore ways to improve user experience and align our website with our evolving communication goals.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

In 2024, we maintained active profiles on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Facebook continues to serve as our primary social media platform, with 1,612 followers. Instagram is primarily used to promote workcamps and attract potential volunteers, while LinkedIn is used to highlight our achievements and share industry-relevant updates. However, our LinkedIn activity has been limited due to a lack of professional content tailored to that audience, therefore a greater emphasis should be placed on developing a more consistent LinkedIn strategy.

• Facebook

In 2024, the IVP Facebook page received 3,400 views and reached 4,700 people, a 22% increase compared to the previous year. Despite this growth in reach, content interactions dropped by 41% to 342 engagements. This decline may be attributed to reduced posting frequency and changes in the Facebook algorithm. Page visits increased significantly, with 1,100 users visiting our page, an increase of nearly 50% from 2023.

Our audience primarily consists of individuals aged 25–34, with the largest segment based in Australia (30%), followed by Vietnam and the United States.

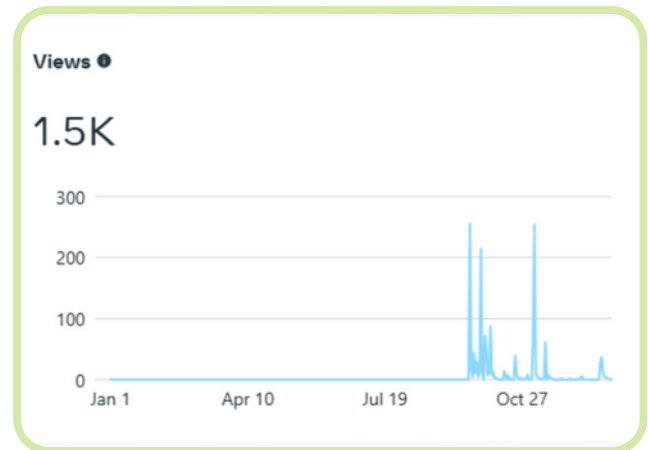
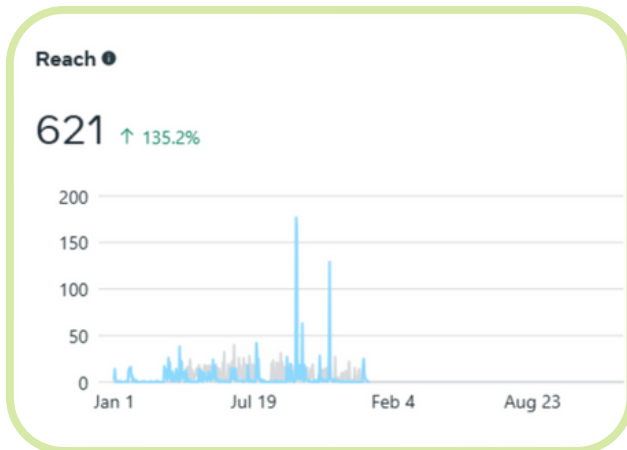


• Instagram

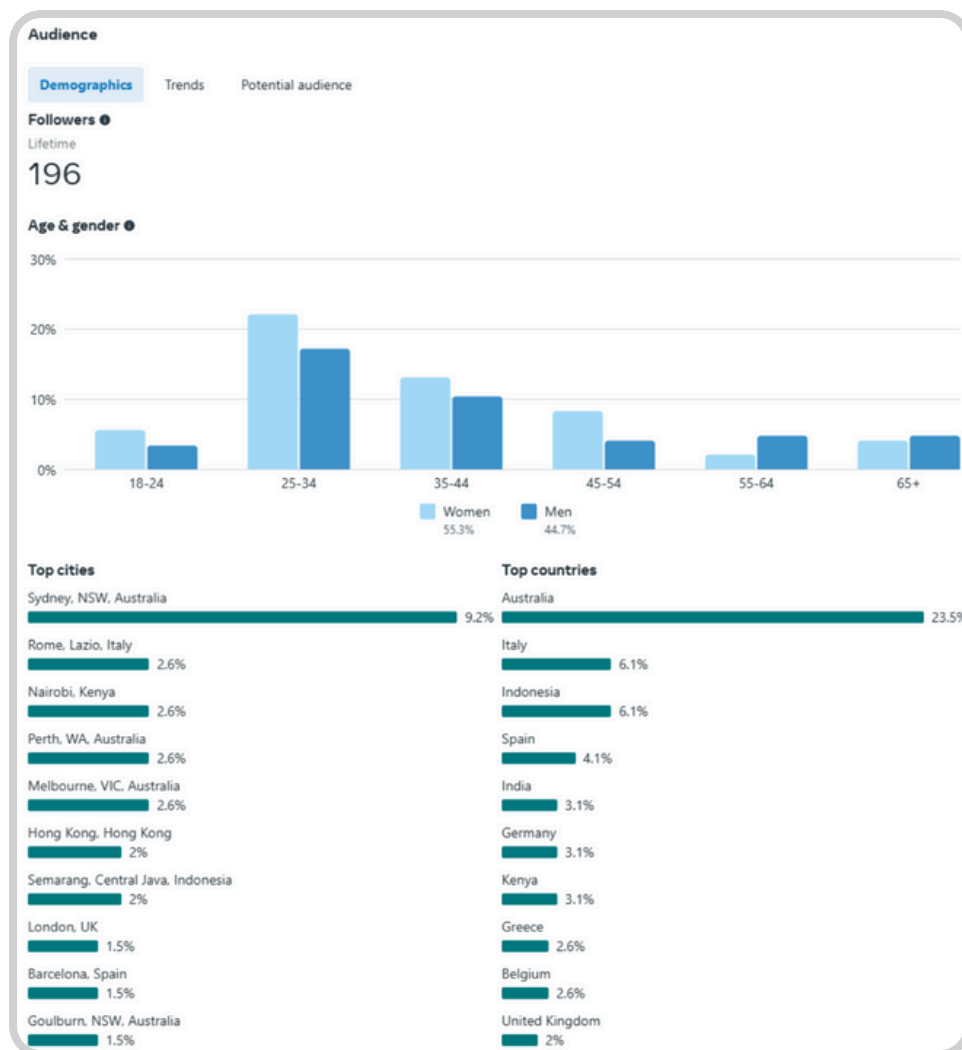
In 2024, our Instagram content received 1,500 views and reached 621 people—an increase of 135% from the previous year. However, profile visits decreased by 26.9%, with 316 users visiting the page, likely due to less frequent posting.

As with Facebook, our Instagram audience is primarily aged 25–34, with most followers based in Australia, followed by Italy, Indonesia, and Spain.

The most engaging content was a series of Instagram Stories shared by a volunteer from the Vern Cork Library project. This reinforces the effectiveness of user-generated content in capturing audience interest.



In 2025, our strategic focus will be to maintain strong engagement on Facebook while actively increasing both engagement and follower growth on Instagram and building our presence on LinkedIn.



PLACEMENTS

The Goulburn Agricultural and Horticultural Society Annual Show took place from 24 February to 7 March, with the support of five international volunteers.

A new initiative, the Southern Tablelands Apple Festival and Historic Homestead project, was held from 25 September to 8 October, also supported by five dedicated volunteers.

We partnered with IVP Indonesia to organise the Bali Library Workcamp in September, sending two volunteers from Australia to participate in this meaningful collaboration.

In total, we welcomed ten incoming volunteers and had six outgoing volunteers, with a well-balanced representation in terms of gender and age.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the development of SCI's new Placements System, which promises to significantly improve the efficiency and quality of our placement processes.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Our Human Resources team underwent several changes in 2024. A turnover in the HR Officer role added pressure to the team, but thanks to the leadership of Dave Hessey, we managed to navigate these challenges effectively. With his support, we recruited several new volunteers who have since joined key operational teams.

Efforts to update orientation materials and role descriptions are ongoing, aiming to make volunteer engagement smoother and more welcoming. We are still actively seeking to fill roles in Membership, Website Management, and General Administration. Building stronger support systems for volunteer integration remains a top priority as we strengthen our remote working structure.

MEMBERSHIP

IVP welcomed 9 new members in 2024, reflecting a growing interest in international voluntary service and community-based peacebuilding. To better manage our community and stay in touch, we have transitioned our membership database to the MailChimp platform. This will allow us to communicate more efficiently, share updates regularly, and ensure members receive invitations and opportunities in a timely manner.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

As well as attending International Committee Meetings, we actively participate in SCI's Asian Development Working Group (ADWG) and Asian Platform Meeting (APM) engaging with 15 other regional branches throughout the year and contributing to regional governance and solidarity-building efforts aimed at strengthening the SCI movement in the Asia-Pacific.

In April, we met with Asia International Working Group (AIWG), a Europe-based initiative promoting exchange between Asian and European branches. This group also monitors the wellbeing of SCI branches in Asia, evaluates new groups wanting to join SCI and supports reactivation of dormant groups.

In addition to being the Australian branch of SCI, IVP is a member of Network for Volunteer Development in Asia (NVDA). With NVDA being in its 20th year of existence, we benefit from the youth and enthusiasm of its members and the willingness to try new approaches. Most of our incoming volunteers now come through this network.

IVP initiated and still plays an organising role in RESPECT, a working group within SCI, established to support peaceful conflict transformation within the movement. Active cases this year allowed the group to test and refine its procedures. This initiative is becoming a vital way to integrate peace education into the everyday operations of SCI and to nurture cultures of understanding within and across branches.

We were grateful to benefit from a Toyota Foundation grant received by NVDA, which made it possible for a medium-term volunteer from Japan to join us for four weeks in October. During Yurika's time in Australia, she supported IVP's administration, helped manage the Goulburn Farmers Market, engaged with local high school students, and participated as group leader in the Southern Tablelands Workcamp.

In 2025, IVP will co-lead a new project with IVP Indonesia, supported by SCI funds, aimed at training young activists in peacebuilding and conflict transformation. This project reflects not only a continuation of our international collaboration, but also our shared commitment to empowering the next generation of changemakers.

IN CONCLUSION

We acknowledge the energy, ideas and care of everyone involved in any aspect of IVP operations in 2024. We invite you to join us in 2025 to create new possibilities, to share what you care about, and to keep international voluntary service alive and relevant in a world that needs it more than ever.