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SEPTEMBER 2023 • Edition 3

The Third Edition of The Vincentian for 2023 is Here!

Welcome to the latest edition of the Vincentian.

In this edition, we take a closer look at the current homelessness crisis and share ideas on how you can help with calling for housing justice. We also discuss the importance of supporting a First Nation's Voice in the Constitution as we move closer towards the Voice Referendum in October.

This month, we begin testing of our new **Members and Volunteers system (MAVS)** which includes a refresh of our current Members and Volunteers website and a brand new MAVS database ('**MAVS Portal**'). The new website and portal will improve the member and volunteer experience by making it easier to browse opportunities, locate resources, complete requisite training and more. We hope it encourages connection and community among our valued member and volunteer cohort, too.

Most significantly, in this edition we recognise some of our members who give so much to the Society in order to improve the lives of others in the community. Thank you to Corrie, Ken, Rob & Shirley, and to all our members who constantly contribute so much to the Society. We are so grateful for your support.



SPOTLIGHT ON:

Testing commences for new Member & Volunteer system This month, a group of representatives from our staff, volunteer and member cohorts will commence testing of our upgraded Member & Volunteers (MAVS) website and MAVS

Portal. **READ MORE** WHAT'S NEW S Vinnies CONGRESS 2023+ Members Policy Update -Homelessness Week 2023 **UPDATE – 9 August** August 2023 2023 **READ MORE READ MORE READ MORE** New Van Service in Coffs Rosalie Rendu Forum 2023 Spring Appeal 2023 Harbour **READ MORE READ MORE READ MORE** Why the Voice is a matter of social justice not politics **READ MORE VINCENTIANS IN ACTION**

Margaret's Story: Light, Love and Gratitude

After a successful career and amid caring responsibilities for a granddaughter, homelessness was the last thing Margaret expected.

"One's self-esteem had hit rock bottom," Margaret wrote in a handwritten letter



reflecting on her journey. .

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Ken Greaves – Celebrating 65 Years of Service

We are pleased to share the news of Ken Greaves, Conference President of St Michael's Conference in Deniliquin, achieving 65 years of service with the St Vincent de Paul Society!

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Hundreds of Mini Vinnies celebrate making a difference

The annual gathering of Mini Vinnies from Vinnies Metropolitan Region was a huge success this year, according to Schools Engagement Officers Kate Conroy and Roydon Ng.



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65 years combined service recognised at Warners Bay

St Mary's Conference at Warners Bay recently celebrated milestone service awards for two members. Rob Loughran reached 40 years of service and Shirley Ross-Gowan reached 25 years!

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President-elect presents credentials to Pope Francis

Brother Juan Manuel Buergo Gómez was this week in Rome to present his credentials to Pope Francis in his capacity as President General-elect.



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Farm fires, front-line teaching and hockey championships



Meet Corrie Ellis: Wagga's new top Vincentian

On 28 June 2023, Correne Ellis was elected as the new Central Council President for Wagga Wagga, taking over from Peter Burgess who completed his four-year tenure.







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