



BROKEN BAY CENTRAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT - JOHN DONNELLY

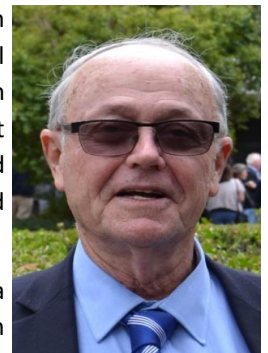
As this is my last Broken Bay President’s report I would like to thank you all for entrusting me with this leadership position. It has been a privilege to walk with you all as you assist God’s marginalized.

I would like to draw attention to the Support for Members and Volunteers as noted elsewhere in this Newsletter that is available from the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Any member experiencing distress or concern about an incident or relationships relating to their work in the Society are encouraged to utilize the EAP. The number you can ring concerning this is 1800818720.

State Council would like to have members more involved in our Special Works that are now under the Vinnies Services. Already we have a new Conference at The Talbot. In fact Members are already able to be involved at The Talbot in the following ways :-

- a) *The Serving at Tables.*
- b) *The scheduled Kiosk attendance*
- c) *The Sunday Pastoral Care Team for Mass and the Morning Tea – Joy Bowen is a contact here.*

In addition we have the Vinnies Youth and Community Centre (VYCC), Powell St, Brookvale in the former Youth Reach premises. The VYCC Management Committee met Thursday 20 May and would like additional members and volunteers to be involved.



Our tradition of Spirituality has been a major part of our way of vocation from Blessed Frederic and his companions. In fact, the role of Spiritual Advisor is the only role in THE RULE that is described as “most important”. Leo Tucker and his Team is offering an on-line course on facilitating this faith in action course on THE SPIRITUAL ADVISERS HANDBOOK. Kindly read more about this in this Newsletter.

Best Wishes and thanks to all our members and volunteers and especially to our staff, especially Gayl and her Metro Team, who support our members so well in our Society Work.

METRO REGIONAL DIRECTOR - GAYL PURCHASE



Key activities are in process across all of our Vinnies Support Centres with more members feeling confident to return to operations and a steady growth in volunteers in centres to ensure adequate coverage of support for those most vulnerable in our communities. In April and May we have been able to support over 1200 people in Broken Bay seeking assistance which is a wonderful result.

Our Mini Vinnies Formation program has begun again and during terms two and three schools will support their local conference Winter Appeal.

Members and volunteers have joined to commence operations at our newly named Vinnies Youth Community Centre (VYCC) in Brookvale. This centre will offer members and in particular our vinnies youth leaders facilities to network and meet. It is completely a membership led initiative and there will be more information coming in the next few weeks with an invitation to the centre’s opening.

Prior to our next newsletter our wonderful and indefatigable John Donnelly will be

standing down as his tenure as Broken Bay Central Council President. I have been so privileged to work closely with John for the last year and half of his presidency. His wisdom, generosity of spirit and kindness in guidance has been an incredible support to me both professionally and personally. John you are truly a servant leader and true Vincentian.

I know we will all join together to formally thank John but I couldn’t miss the opportunity to express my deep gratitude to him and wish him all the very best as he steps back from this pivotal role.



Vinnies Stall in Mall



Barry Finch and Nick



El Herlianto

Vinnies stall in Chatswood mall

On Saturday 17th April, Vinnies held a stall right in the heart of Chatswood mall.

The stall showcased many of the ways Vinnies supports the community, with flyers for membership, social justice, Vinnies youth and many more. We also had Vinnies notepads, bookmarks, magnets and pens to give away and the community was very generous with contributions to the donation buckets.

Thanks to Nick and Barry for helping with the setup and for the members who joined the stall throughout the day.



Vinnies stall in Hornsby mall

8th June at Hornsby Mall – Volunteer expo

Come along if you'd like to support the Vinnies stall and chat to people about volunteer and membership opportunities. Contact Janice.Stokes@vinnies.org.au



Broken Bay Community Sleepout

SAVE THE DATE

This year, the Broken Bay Community Sleepout will be held on the Central Coast – possibly Ourimbah – on Friday 27th August. This will be a COVID-safe, non-virtual, experiential event, that will involve people sleeping out, presentations, talks and activities designed to provide a small taste of what it might be like to experience homelessness. Save the date and put your Conference together to come along on the night.

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-community-sleepout-central-coast-region-2021>



CONFERENCE NEWS

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR THE ICONIC MATTHEW TALBOT HOSTEL WOOLLOOMOOLOO



First Mass, tour and Q&A on Sunday 14 March, 2021

Background

The Matthew Talbot Hostel was established by the Members of the [St Vincent de Paul Society](#) (the Society) in 1938 and started its mission with 11 beds and 100 meals a day.

It was dedicated, as a hostel for "friendless" men, and was blessed on 25 October 1938 by the Archbishop of Sydney, [Norman Gilroy](#). It was named after Dublin dockworker and reformed alcoholic, [Matt Talbot](#).

By 1944, the hostel was providing 1,600 meals a week. The hostel was first located at the St. John's Church building, 420 Kent Street. It was later transferred to [Ozanam House](#) in Young Street in December 1952 and later to its present location in Woolloomooloo.

The Matthew Talbot Hostel Shelter for homeless men caters for men over the age of 21, who need temporary crisis accommodation and/or other support. In addition to the 98 beds, the other services offered, through the facility, are accessed by more than 35,000 men each year. These include a primary health care medical clinic, meals, restrooms, chapel, pastoral care, counselling, case work and basic facilities.

Today, the Society, a lay Catholic organisation, supports the role of pastoral care in the development and care of the people we serve. At the Talbot, a regular Sunday Mass is celebrated in the Chapel, by local priests. This tradition is vital in encouraging spirituality and faith and has been a criterion of the role of pastoral care through the new strategic direction, ensuring the creation of the new Mission, Spirituality and Pastoral Care Directorate.

With a consistent pastoral presence based at the Matthew Talbot Hostel, an available office space, a roster of clergy that attend each Sunday to celebrate Mass and our men open to gentle support it seems a God given opportunity to explore and call for a **St Vincent De Paul Conference** at the iconic Talbot to support these Mission based goals.

Beginning the journey

The development of a new Conference at the Matthew Talbot has been in conversation for several years. Now, due to the Company restructures, space and key staff, more than ever before, it appears to be the most opportune time to move this vital initiative forward. To this purpose, Tony Cranney, Central Council President for Sydney, has been in conversations with Leo Tucker, Executive Director, Mission and Spirituality and Joy Bowen, of the Mission Team based at the Matthew Talbot. Tony understands and supports this proposal from the Mission team and is responding to the needs of the State Council in developing Conferences. The initial role of a Conference at the Matthew Talbot Hostel, Woolloomooloo will be a spiritual/pastoral role, which is encouraged in our Vincentian Rule in that *"Promoting a life of prayer and reflection, both at the individual and community level, and sharing with their fellow members"* and that *"Vincentians are sincerely concerned with the deeper need and the spiritual well-being of those they help..."*

The Conference shall be firmly based in the Talbot Hostel where space is allocated for that distinct purpose, so that the men at the Talbot are the primary recipients of care. Joy Bowen, Spirituality, Mission and Pastoral Care partner will be responsible for the enhancement of pastoral skills and supervisory support to each individual and group, she can also fill the space of spiritual advisor until one is nominated. Further ministries of Conference members could include intentional friendship, practical assistance in providing household needs when men are housed, involving the men in games, activities, eventually across the Woolloomooloo site, including the Ozanam Learning Centre. Of course, if Conference membership is not where you feel called, a volunteer role at the Ozanam Learning Centre or the Matthew Talbot is available through our Volunteer Coordinator.

Woolloomooloo staff too are invited to join the Matthew Talbot Conference. That is, to do a little volunteering for the Hostel, on days and times that suit you, and reflect on the ministry with the Conference group of good-hearted people once a month, (btw, you don't need to be a Catholic to join!)

If you have questions, contact Tony Cranney or Joy Bowen. .



VINNIES IN LOCAL MEDIA

<https://coastcommunitynews.com.au/central-coast/news/2021/02/labor-mps-add-to-calls-for-more-social-housing/>

Labor MPs add to calls for more social housing

TOPICS: [Labor Social Housing](#) [St Vincent De Paul Society](#)



Labor MPs David Harris, Liesl Tesch and David Mehan are backing calls for more social housing on the Central Coast

FEBRUARY 5, 2021

Labor MPs on the Central Coast have thrown their support behind a call from the St Vincent de Paul Society for a commitment from the State Government to provide more social housing in the region, with latest figures showing the waitlist still tops 3,000.

The Society is calling on the Government to build an additional 5,000 new social housing properties state-wide each year for the next decade to address the current waitlist. St Vincent de Paul Society Central Coast Social Justice Representative, Denis O'Rourke, said latest government figures show 46,000 general social housing applicants in NSW and a further 5,300 listed as priority up to the end of June 2020, with 3004 on the Central Coast alone.

"Each applicant represents a household, meaning the number of people, including children, who are without a place to call

home remains well over 100,000 across the state," he said. "When the JobSeeker payment was raised, we were seeing a decrease in the number of people turning to Vinnies for assistance. "Now that the rate is dropping there is a growing concern from people unsure of how they will stay above water." Member for The Entrance, David

Mehan, said it should be no surprise to anyone that the Central Coast public housing waiting list has increased. "There is less public housing on the Coast now than when the current State Coalition Government was elected in 2011," he said. "Answers provided to questions on notice by the Member for The Entrance show that the total number of social housing dwelling on the Coast in 2011 was 4565. "By 2020 this had fallen to 4343 – a reduction of 222 dwellings over the period. "Many of these dwellings have been sold to the private sector in what is effectively the privatization of public housing."

Member for Gosford, Liesl Tesch, said it was unfortunate to see regular opposition to social and affordable housing developments due to unfair beliefs about the kinds of people who might move in. "The reality is that more than half of people in social housing are single pensioners, and a number are families in dire need," she said.

Shadow Minister for the Central Coast and Member for Wyong, David Harris, also supported calls for more social housing. "On existing social housing properties maintenance is a real issue; some are remaining empty for a long period of time [waiting] on repairs," he said.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast, Adam Crouch, said the Government was aware of calls to build more new social housing on the Central Coast and was working to identify local demand for suitable homes and recycle ageing, outdated properties to build more new homes. "This reinvestment program also delivers new homes to support vulnerable people while generating jobs and spending in the construction sector, to help boost NSW's economic recovery from COVID-19," Crouch said. "Recognising the ability to deliver these multiple benefits, this financial year the NSW Government increased the budget for social housing investment by over 80 per cent.

"This includes almost \$900M to accelerate the delivery of thousands of new homes and create up to 3,000 jobs. "Of this, \$812M is for new and upgraded housing across the state, and \$80M to support new housing sector pre-apprenticeships, apprenticeships and cadetships, and help deliver 100 new social homes.

"This new funding takes the total NSW Government investment in social and affordable housing to \$4.4B over four years. "The NSW Government also continues to invest in the growth of the community housing sector and working together we have delivered more than \$3.2B in social housing properties since 2014-15.

"In the next five years, LAHC is on track to deliver more than 3,200 new homes across NSW, while Community Housing Providers are expected to contribute nearly 3,000 social and affordable homes over the next couple of years."

Terry Collins



REGIONAL SUPPORT/VINNIES SUPPORT CENTRES

GOSFORD VINNIES SUPPORT CENTRE

Children's Reading

The Gosford Vinnies Client Support Centre were recently lucky enough to be donated approximately 7 large boxes of new children's books. Our kind donor wishes to be anonymous, but she is a book reviewer who had accumulated many books over the years. As she was moving to a new house, she thought of who she could donate the books to and decided that SVDP would be that charity. The books cover a wide range of ages, from toddler to teenager.

Our wonderful Wyoming Conference member, Wayne Haswell, kindly picked up the boxes and delivered them to our office. We wondered how we would distribute so many varied books and decided that the best way was to set up a bookshelf and ask our clients to help themselves. Our clients have been happy with this system and have often exclaimed that they are really good books.

We hope that by providing books to children we start them on a course of reading and learning that they can follow throughout their lives

Lisa Dalton, Vinnies Centre Coordinator Gosford



WYONG VINNIES SUPPORT CENTRE

Huge Thanks to all the Volunteer's & Members

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. From Monday 17th to Sunday 23rd May 2021, (<https://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/get-involved/nvw/>)

The theme for NVW 2021 is Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.

RECOGNISE: Celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in our lives.

RECONNECT: To what is important by giving our time to help others and ourselves

REIMAGINE : How we better support volunteers and communities they help.

The Staff, Volunteer Conference Members & Volunteers of the Wyong Vinnies Support Centre (VSC) within St Vincent de Paul Society strive every day to assist, support, empower &/or refer where applicable all the people we assist (PWA's) whilst keeping in line with the St Vincent de Paul procedures & guidelines.

Some of the good work that the Vinnies Members &/or Volunteers do include:

- Regional President collects & delivers bread each Thursday from Coles Wyong & brings it back to Wyong VSC for

distribution to the PWA's (People we assist) & works in conjunction with FIAM.

- Wyong President works in the VSC each Wednesday & assists the PWA's
- Wyong & Warnervale Conference's see the PWA's twice a week at the Wyong VSC (by appointment) to assist PWA's that fall under their area/region
- Volunteer/s work closely with external organisations like Fiam (Faith in Action), Catholic Care, We Care Connect, Shoebox Revolution, Share the Love & Uniting Doorways to holistically provide wraparound support/assistance to the PWA's.
- Volunteer Hamper Room Sue also ensures that nothing is wasted. All plastics are recycled through COLES & all left over fruit & vegetables are given to our neighbor Tony at the "Warrior Centre" & he makes soup from it and gives it to the kids that attend his self-defense or self-confidence classes. All the boxes from Foodbank are provided to local pre-schools who uses them for craft activities.

During 2021 upcoming Volunteer week, As Vinnies Centre Coordinator (VCC) for the Wyong VSC (Brad Dingle), I'd like to acknowledge each & every volunteer of the Wyong VSC of Wyong Region (Members/Volunteers) & all the other hundreds of volunteers that provide their time to support, guide, listen, empower &/or assist the people we assist each and every day within St Vincent de Paul.

Brad Dingle, Vinnies Centre Coordinator - Wyong



REGIONAL SUPPORT/VINNIES SUPPORT CENTRES

Chatswood Vinnies Support Centre

This year, in February, I put out a call to action to our Conference Presidents to assist with our Interview Referral Rooms as many of our esteemed volunteers have been unable to continue service due to illness.

In our Chatswood Region, Forestville, Chatswood and Willoughby Conferences have raised their hands to join us to assist the People We Serve on a weekly or bi-weekly basis in our interview room, bringing their home visitation experience to the forefront of our Vinnies Support Centre.

One of the Members of our Youth Team also participates in volunteering in the interview room bringing her own experiences of fighting for social justice, serving people in need and providing essential social and material assistance to the poor.



They have also assisted us in packing items for the Members of our other Conferences to collect for their own journeys to assist the People We Serve with essential food parcels on their home visitations to provide a tangible accompaniment to the food vouchers we also provide.

Our Chatswood Vinnies Support Centre is still recruiting for new volunteers to join us together to learn how to give and share our time and food to the People We Serve as well as learn some new skills and ways of life that have remained hidden from society.

Being able to see life from more than one perspective, allows our internal society to evolve and adapt to the changes of the coming climate and the current pandemic as well as to prepare for the future of assistance and the future of non-profit organisations.

“No work of charity is foreign to the Society”

Our Vinnies Support Centre often has unique ways of helping the People We Assist:

For example:

We had a client who had repeatedly been given differing information from his energy provider regarding his electricity and gas bills. We were able to access an online chat for the energy provider with the client able to view the screen and assist with any questions. From there, we were able to re-instate his hardship plan, secure ongoing payment plans and print out a copy of the transcript for the client to keep on record in case he received any communication from the provider that differentiated from the transcript.

“Conference work includes any form of help that alleviates suffering or deprivation and promotes human dignity and personal integrity. It includes visiting people in their homes, in hospitals, institutions or wherever else they may be found needing aid or comfort. Those who are homeless have a special call on the charity of members.”

Through our Vinnies Support Centres, we see a wide range of complex issues affecting the People We Serve. Bankruptcy, Immigration, Bereavement, Family Breakdowns, Housing Affordability, Disability and Job Losses and we use our skills and knowledge to help not only the People We Serve, but also, our Conferences with much needed support with their visitations and campaigns for the Winter and Christmas Appeals.

**Christine Anthony,
Vinnies Centre Coordinator - Chatswood**



Good News Story

The “R” story – overcoming the grief of the loss of a mother

Our Parish Priest contacted myself, the local conference president and enquired about emergency accommodation for a man (“R” aged 38 years) who had attended the Sunday evening Mass and was distraught at the thought of returning home to where his mother had passed away the previous day. This family had been assisted by Vinnies from time to time.

I attended the church around 7.45pm and found that Fr Peter had been counseling “R” who was also supported by a friend since 7.00pm. When asked by Fr Peter I advised that there really was no suitable accommodation available through ‘Vinnies’ that evening on such short notice. The possibility of going to a hotel/motel was considered. After some time R was able to come to terms with his fears and agreed that his friend could take him back to his home and to see how that worked and if not to take “R” to a nearby motel.

The death of his mother was a shock to “R” as she had returned from respite care in the last day or so and this gave “R” confidence that she had recovered her health. R’s mother had been in good spirits the day before. “R” made the call to ‘000’ and the events that followed were also understandably very distressing and traumatic.

We assisted in the following ways

- contacting ‘R’ to see that he was coping with the situation.
- assisting with the search of the ‘Electoral Role’ to find the sisters of the “C” so as to advise next-of-kin.
- applying to our Regional Office for ‘Emergency Funding’ to meet the cost of the funeral as quoted by the ‘Funeral Home’. The arrangements provided were for a ‘No attendance/No Service Cremation’ and then Fr Peter conducting a ‘Memorial Liturgy’ to celebrate the life of “C” at the church which “C” and “R” attended.
- Working with “R” to prepare a suitable “Memorial Liturgy” in conjunction with the Parish Priest and Parish Office Assistant.
- Fr Peter conducted the ‘Memorial Liturgy’ to celebrate the life of “C”. The sisters of the decease and other family members attended.
- Providing a reception after the ‘Memorial Liturgy’ and providing tea, coffee and refreshments. This allowed family and friends to reconnect and offer on-going support to “R” and to each other. This lead to reconnecting the larger family who had lost touch in the previous years.
- Since the ‘Memorial Liturgy’ we have called “R” to see how he was coping after the celebration of his mother’s life.

I have to thank Shirley at Hornsby for her guidance throughout. Again, thanks to Shirley and Jodie for the prompt arrangements in providing ‘Emergency Funds’. Helen Ryan at W N Bull Funeral Homes showed a sincere and compassionate care for “R”. Helen attended as a number of meetings were necessary to finalise the arrangements. Helen was very giving of her time to ensure R’s welfare and comfort with the final arrangements. We endeavored to focus at all times on the ‘Memorial Liturgy’ as the opportunity for “R” to celebrate the life of his mother “C” and honor her memory. I am pleased to say “R” has been able to get on with his life, work through his grief and focus on treasuring his mother’s memory.

**Ted Green, Epping Conference President
Hornsby Region**

Congratulations !!

Congratulations to Barry Finch (Chatswood Regional President) for his 40th Anniversary and his amazing contribution to the Society!



Well done and thank you to Pat McArdle from Carlingford Conference for 30 years of wonderful service to the Society !

Community Engagement

Your conference, or you yourself, may be interested in being involved in opportunities to engage further with the community. There are Aged Care facilities in the Chatswood, Marrickville and Strathfield areas that would love to see some Vinnies volunteers join them. Around 40% of aged care residents receive no visitors, and according to the Loneliness Report, social isolation kills more people than cancer. Programs that Vinnies would be welcome to take part in, include Pet Therapy, Art Therapy and just visiting with a resident.

If you have a markets nearby, you may want to consider having a Vinnies stall. We can provide information to the community on volunteering, as well as all the Vinnies services. It’s a great way to raise the Vinnies profile within the Community.

Please let Janice.Stokes@vinnies.org.au know if you’re interested in further information.



A Great Demonstration of Vinnies Support for Reconciliation

The Broken Bay Diocesan Council began endowing Indigenous Scholarships through ACU well over a decade ago.

Today, we have 9 x \$2,000 such scholarships. John Donnelly and Barry Finch have been to the forefront of this Scholarship. They have attended the annual Presentation of Awards at the Strathfield Campus and some luncheons organised by Strathfield Campus that we have been able to speak with the student scholarship holders.

A great demonstration of Vinnies support for Reconciliation by John and Barry !



SHOPS/RETAIL

WOY WOY SHOP - UPGRADED

BEFORE



AFTER



Vinnies Woy Woy store has been an icon for more than 70 years on the Central Coast. A major effort has been made to upgrade the frontage of the Woy Woy store.

The store has contributed significantly to the good works of the Society by being involved in the services provided by the Welfare department and Woy Woy and Umina/Ettalong Conferences. The upgraded look has enhanced the good image of Vinnies and the store continues to serve those in need.

Clive Moane
Area Manager - Central Coast





SCHOOLS/YOUTH UPDATE

State Youth Retreat Reflection

On the 5th of March, myself and eleven other State Youth Team members embarked on a retreat in the Blue Mountains to organise our game plan for the year, as well as to restructure and work on team skills. It was so great being able to finally meet Youth Representatives from other areas in NSW in person, rather than just over zoom.

As a team, we had sessions on how to improve our marketability and promote the “Good Works” of Vinnies, incorporating all aspects of modern day platforms and strategies. On top of that, the team received a special “DISC” personality training, learning how to analyse someone's personality and find better ways to communicate with them. The DISC training has already assisted me in talking to clients and other St. Vincent de Paul



members and volunteers. I am certain that this will greatly improve other in-person interactions with home visitations, Buddies Days and Vinnies Van Services, allowing for smoother conversations with no agitation or stress. Learning the ability to calmly diffuse an issue with someone is one that will be engraved into all my works at Vinnies. On top of it all, we also had talks and a Q& A session with experienced Vinnies State Council members Michelle Chahine, Brooke Simmons & Kathleen Thickitt, to learn everything we could from them. It was amazing being able to learn from them, and it invoked discussions about how we as the youth can both learn from the adult

conferences successes, as well as implement our own ideas and strategies.

All in all, the State Youth Retreat was a great formational support for our team - everyone could feel it. Being able to be in one room with all the members of our State Youth Team reinvigorated my passion for the team and projects. All the sessions, lessons, and reflections made the experience worthwhile – the retreat was something that the team really needed.



Luke Antoun, Broken Bay Youth Representative

Vinnies Metro Youth Online Series

RE:VINNIES is an online series of zoom gatherings to reconnect and reinvigorate both existing and new Vinnies Metro Youth volunteers & members with each other but also with the wider Vinnies community. The objective of the online gatherings is to encourage all our young adult volunteers & members, especially those who have not connected with Vinnies in the past 12months due to COVID restrictions on our regular youth programs, to reconnect with one another, to feel part of the Metro Youth community and to grow their personal engagement and formation with Vinnies. The online gatherings are hosted by the Metro Youth Representatives.



The online series launched on Monday 8th March, International Women’s Day, with a session celebrating some of the amazing Vinnies women. We heard incredible stories from women who inspire, lead and are committed to making a difference every day. Thank you to our panellists; Anne O’Driscoll, Kathleen Thickitt & Michelle Chahine and to everyone who joined us online. We look forward to the next session!



SCHOOLS/YOUTH UPDATE

What's Happening at the Schools!

This year started off great with many activities and programs available for students to learn about Vinnies and put their faith into action!

We have seen the addition of Mini Vinnies and Teen Vinnies members that generously support Vinnies in their school and local community. St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga, started a Teen Vinnies group back in February, and pledged to put their faith into action and follow in the footsteps of Blessed Frederic Ozanam by serving those in need.

Year 9 students at St Augustine's College, Brookvale, have been attending the Vinnies Youth and Community Centre



(previously called 'Youth Reach') once a month on rotation to learn more about the good works of the St Vincent de Paul Society and the many ways in which they can be involved. So far, two groups have participated in the outreach opportunity, having prepared snack packs and toiletry packs, that go towards Vinnies Van Services to be distributed to people experiencing homelessness. The students have enjoyed giving back to the community with these hands-on activities. Woy Woy Van Services will be starting up soon, that will have a direct impact on the lives of those experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the community. Emails have been sent out to all schools on how to support the Service, and any donations are very much appreciated.

May God continue to bless all the students in this Central Council and all they do to support Vinnies.

NATIONAL 17-23 MAY 2021
VOLUNTEER
WEEK
RECOGNISE. RECONNECT.
REIMAGINE.

THANK YOU to all the fabulous members of St Vincent de Paul. For all the time you give and the care you provide to those in need; for living the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and for working to shape a more just and compassionate society, we thank you !!



FAMILY WINTER SLEEPOUT @ HOME 2021

On Friday 30th July, students and their families will gather in their own homes to raise funds and awareness for those experiencing homelessness and disadvantage in our community.

Last year, through the tremendous efforts of students, parents and teachers, over \$70,000 was raised for Vinnies NSW. We are asking for your help to spread the word far and wide across your region, to encourage Catholic Schools to get involved. Remember, schools can choose to have their funds designated to support their local conference.

Schools can register now at the following link

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/family-winter-sleepout-home-1> and any questions can be directed to olivia.andrews@vinnies.org.au.

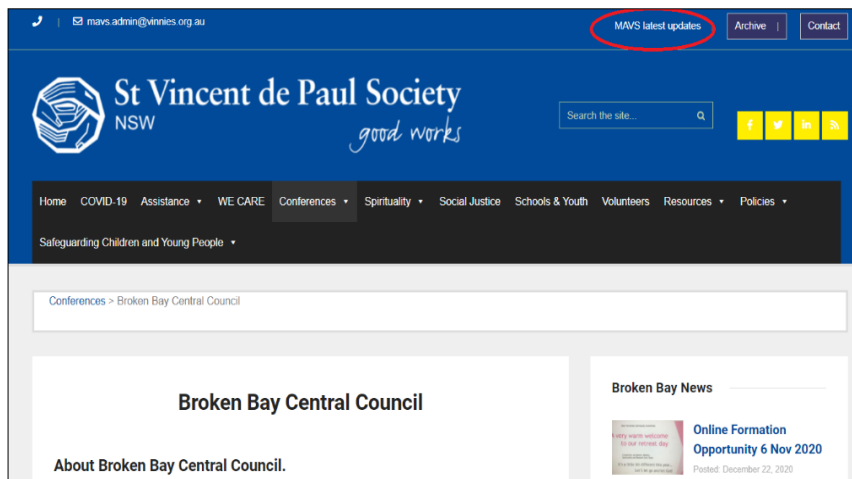


Member and Volunteer website

A reminder about the resources, news, contact and publications available for you on MAVS. Here you can find the latest on COVID19; Programs for assistance; Updates on Conferences and Spirituality; Social Justice content; Schools and Youth; Volunteers; Safeguarding Children and lot of resources available for your use.

<https://mavs.vinnies.org.au/home/>

Broken Bay Central Council have their own page: <https://mavs.vinnies.org.au/conferences/broken-bay-central-council/>



For requested updates, please email janice.stokes@vinnies.org.au. This is a great opportunity for sharing the news from our Conferences and Regions with each other. Looking for a way to let your Community or Parish know more about Vinnies? For suggestions on additions to Parish Bulletins or a speaking notes for a few minutes after Mass about upcoming Social Justice events and the work Vinnies does to address Social Justice, please visit the Social Justice page <https://mavs.vinnies.org.au/social-justice/> and look for 'Social Justice Diary 2021 – Resource for Members'.

There are also lots of other updates happening on MAVS which you can check in on anytime here: <https://mavs.vinnies.org.au/mavs-latest-updates/>.

The Vinnies Members Induction video has been updated - please refer to the bottom of this page. <https://mavs.vinnies.org.au/resources/recruitment/>