

JUNE 2023 • Edition 2

Vincentian Editorial – June 2023

This Vincentian has much to celebrate across the Society in NSW – the 50th anniversary of Mini Vinnies, the continuing success of School workshops, Imelda and John O'Neill receiving the Order of St Sylvester, the Macquarie Region Festival Mass, and more!

The floods late last year affected so many and this edition shares the touching story of Billy and Frances, a couple we assisted, and highlights the great work of the Orange Region which was one of the areas badly affected. It is no surprise to our members that disaster recovery is a long-term endeavour and many continue to make extraordinary contributions to recovery across the state. We are pleased to announce the new School Student Broadband Initiative for which members can nominate families to receive free access to the internet, a key practical barrier for people experiencing disadvantage.

We also remember and extend our condolences for the loss of a tremendous Vincentian, Rob Baker. Many are participating in National Reconciliation Week and this edition launches our Conference Kit about the Voice to Parliament. Paul Burton's letter to members speaks strongly about informing ourselves ahead of the Referendum on Voice to Parliament and the role each of us can play in this significant moment.

Enjoy The Vincentian for June 2023!



SPOTLIGHT ON:

Message from Paul Burton to Members on the Referendum

Dear Members

I write to you about an important issue on the Australian community's agenda at this time, in my capacity as NSW State President and also as your fellow Vincentian.



WHAT'S NEW



Mini Vinnies started in NSW fifty years ago! 50 Years of Mini Vinnies







Retirement service for 5 Murwillumbah members







Calendar of Significant Days of Inclusion





New Broadband initiative to narrow the digital divide

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Theory of Change



We're Hiring: Aboriginal Engagement Partner





Seeking interest for positions on the SVdP Board of Directors



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VINCENTIANS IN ACTION

Billy and Frances almost home after floods

In their more than 80 years, 22 of those years in their home, Billy and Frances Hodge had never experienced anything like the November 2022 floods.



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An Armidale Vincentian - Vale Rob Baker

Robert Baker was a well-respected and dedicated Armidale Vincentian. He first served while a young Classics student at university in the early 1960s, accompanying older Conference members on their visits.

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Vinnies assists flooded communities in Orange Region

Towns in the Orange Regional Council area of Molong, Cudal, Canowindra and Eugowra were hit by devastating floods in November of 2022.



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Macquarie Mass success, Gymea graces and Papal Knighthoods

Sydney Central Council has much to celebrate and the wonderful Macquarie Regional Festival Mass, the baptism in Gymea of a person we assist and a high honour for John and Imelda O'Neill are some of the many joys we'd like to share.

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Secondary students learn Vincentian Spirituality and action

In the face of rising homelessness, our Catholic communities are grappling with the challenge of finding effective solutions to this pervasive issue.



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