



Armidale phone 5776 0200 or email armidale@vinnies.org.au | Bathurst phone 6362 2565 or email Bathurst@vinnies.org.au



A Hand Up



Compassionate



Human Centered



Volunteer Based

Regional Director | Phil Donnan

Flooding assistance – Thank you to all the conferences and members that have been working hard to help the communities impacted by floods. This includes Cowra, Canowindra, Molong, and Orange in the Bathurst Central Council area, and Walgett, Moree, Narrabri and Gunnedah in the Armidale Central Council area. Well done all! We have had \$30,000 of Society funds to distribute in the area as the conference funds available to us. We have also been very blessed with donations from the public including \$50,000 from the Sisters of Charity of NSW.

Social Justice Awards – We have supported schools with \$50 end of year awards to students promoting and supporting social justice issues. We have partnered with 18 schools in the Armidale Central Council area and will be looking to extend the programme to the Bathurst Central Council in 2023.

CAMS / IT rollout – Armidale has received their new laptops with Bathurst rollout just commencing. CAMS training is scheduled for Armidale in late January/early February with a calendar to be distributed shortly. CAMS rollout in Bathurst is planned for April with conferences to be consulted for training dates in December.

Financial Literacy – TAFE has finalised the training programme with a scheduled three Fridays in March 2023 with two 3 hours classes on those days. Interested members are requested to contact their relevant Member and Community engagement Coordinator (Ahmed, Denise or Tanika) to discuss and enrol.

Orange Vinnies Van – Keith Dowling has commenced as the Vinnies Van Service Coordinator in Orange. He is getting familiar with local operations and will undergo additional



training in Sydney in December. We look forward to Keith improving our Van operations and gaining more sponsors in 2023.



Surveying supplies - Bishop Michael McKenna of Bathurst, Parish Priest Fr Greg Bellamy and Mary Mulhall, President of Molong Sacred Heart Conference

Financial Year to Date – October 2022

Council	Number Members	Number Visits	Number Primary Clients	Value of Assistance	Appeals Income
North West Region Total	387 (+6)	2,787	1,698	\$229,799	\$68,744
Armidale Total	180 (+3)	465	714	\$77,914	\$12,165
North Eastern Regional	38 (+1)	247	409	\$48,099	\$9,158
Armidale Regional	64 (+2)	186	138	\$20,346	\$1,520
Namoi Barwon Regional	34 (+1)	116	79	\$9,044	\$322
Tamworth Regional	44 (-1)	3	3	\$425	\$1,165
Bathurst Total	207 (+3)	2,073	1,234	\$151,885	\$35,044
Castlereagh Regional	44 (0)	454	306	\$36,443	\$12,311
Cudgegong Regional	28 (0)	221	128	\$15,274	\$9,625
Orange Regional	88 (+2)	739	431	\$61,140	\$9,889
Evans Regional	47 (+1)	659	375	\$39,027	\$3,219

Never see a need without doing something about it. Mary Mackillop

Bathurst Central Council President | Neil Rabbett

Firstly I would like to wish all staff, members and volunteers in the North West a great festive season and a much better 2023.

New Evans Regional Council President - Denis Kelly was elected as Evans Regional Council President. Denis has been a Member for over twenty years and is also currently the President of St Vincent's Portland Conference. We look forward to him contributing to Bathurst Central Council and continuing on the good work in the Evans Region. Please welcome him when you have an opportunity. Denis replaces outgoing President Marina Gray. A huge thanks to Marina for her four years of dedicated service in the role and the wonderful initiatives with starting the Bathurst Vinnies Van, Cooking for One, renewing Assumption conference in Bathurst, and conducting the Community Sleepouts.

Members and Volunteers awarded - Bathurst Central Council members and volunteers had several folk recognised for their community activities through 2022 and I would like to acknowledge those recipients here:

Ian Wray (Regional President Castlereagh) - Community Services award Orana Region for volunteering.

Mary Mulhall (President Sacred Heart Molong) - Central West Mums 'Angel of the Year'.

Bill Kelly (Member St Marys and St Josephs Orange) - Papal Medal for services to Parish. Order of Australia medal in the Australia Day Awards.

Peter Hargreaves (Member St Brigids Dubbo) - Dubbo Day Award for service to the Community as a Cancer Council driver.

Sandy McGrath (Twinning Officer Central Council) - Senior Citizen of the Year Gilgandra Shire Council.

John Kearns (Member St Vincents Portland) - Order of Australia for services to the community.

Until next time, Neil.



Bill Kelly OAM with wife Ann

Armidale Central Council President | John Adams

The Walgett Conference is currently progressing. I joined Phil Donnan at Walgett on Friday where we meet some wonderful people who are working hard to progress this new and exciting conference for the Walgett community.

Vinnies Gunnedah recently invited Gunnedah conference members to celebrate 100 years of Vinnies shops in NSW with a luncheon (pic). It is important for the shops and conference to work together to bring about the goals of the St Vincent de Paul Society

Due to a number of issues I have been unable to visit a number of Conferences this year, I will hopefully rectify this early in the new year. There are a number of matters that I will raise in the new year, more news later.

I would like to thank everyone for your amazing work this year.

Elaine joins with me to wish everyone a very happy, holy and special Christmas season and our prayer for you all is a wonderful 2023.

