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NOVEMBER 2022 • Edition 1

Welcome to our new volunteer newsletter!

Welcome to our new newsletter, *Volunteering at Vinnies*, which is especially for you, our St Vincent de Paul Society volunteers in services and programs.

It's a chance to acknowledge your hard work and celebrate your amazing achievements which are important to the lives of so many people across NSW. The St Vincent de Paul Society NSW continues to grow and develop, so we think it's important to make sure volunteers receive the news from our programs and services. We hope the new newsletter fosters community and shares pathways for further engagement with the Society including Society membership, paid employment, and social events.

Volunteers are invaluable and we couldn't do what we do without your assistance in supporting people, giving of your time, and helping us build a more just and compassionate world. We look forward to sharing stories about our volunteers in this edition of *Volunteering at Vinnies* and we invite you to share your vital feedback in our recently released [Members & Volunteers Survey](#). Your voice is important and we would love for our volunteers to contribute to future newsletters. Keep an eye on our 'You're the Voice' section which will detail how to do so.

We hope you enjoy this first edition.



Jack de Groot, CEO Vinnies NSW



L - R: Jennifer Wright, Emma Durkin & Chantelle Sharma

SPOTLIGHT ON:

The Volunteer Experience Team - here to support you

Volunteering is at the heart of the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW. It reaches across all areas of our work, supporting people experiencing poverty or disadvantage in line with the Society's mission and vision. In 2021, Vinnies NSW developed its first Volunteer Strategy and founded a Volunteer Experience Team to drive the implementation of the strategy across NSW.

A primary focus of the Volunteer Experience Team is to work alongside our Volunteer Managers to ensure that our cherished volunteers enjoy an experience that feels safe, rewarding, supported and recognised.

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WHAT'S NEW



100 Years of Vinnies Shops!

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International Volunteer Day

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Rosalie Rendu Forum

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VOLUNTEER NEWS



Volunteering Australia: New Landmark Research To Guide The Future Of Volunteering

Volunteering Australia has published landmark research presenting a full picture of volunteering in Australia as told by volunteers and organisations.

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You're the Voice: Member & Volunteer Survey

You're invited to have your say in the 2022 Member and Volunteer Survey, and to contribute to future newsletters.

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90 Years Young! Congratulations and thank you, Dawn

Vinnies would like to wish retail volunteer Dawn a very happy 90th birthday! Dawn, a volunteer with our Vinnies South Tweed Heads shop, recently celebrated her 90th birthday in store with birthday cake and flowers.

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Volunteers as Leaders: Creative Space Cartoon Workshop

Along with providing people with a place to sleep, regular meals and medical treatment through our various Vinnies services across the state, Vinnies NSW also offer a range of programs allowing people to find and share their voice through creativity.

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Meet Zoe Carides, Ozanam Learning Centre Volunteer

Zoe Carides volunteers at the Ozanam Learning Centre, Woolloomooloo. Motivated by a need to help, Zoe reads to the Centre's visitors.

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Pathways to further engagement: Taylor's story

Having worked in Disability Services for 20 years, it was during an organisational restructure that Taylor (*second from right in photo*) decided to reconsider his career options.



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Community Cooperation Key to the Success of the Vinnies Illawarra Van

The Illawarra Van has school students, community volunteers and local businesses to thank for helping it reach out to vulnerable people in the Illawarra.

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St Vincent de Paul Society NSW ABN: 91 161 127 340

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