



Raffle Volunteers

Once again it is time to say thank you to a wonderful group of women who help raise funds for Outreach—namely, our raffle ticket sellers. Through their efforts and generosity they make a significant contribution toward this end, and for that we are so grateful. Well done ladies. The next raffle will commence on the 13th July. God bless, take care and go gently.



*Sr Marie Stanley
Co-ordinator*

Raffle Winners Raffle Drawn 3rd April

- 1st Prize.....Craig Ellis**
Signed Cronulla League Jersey
- 2nd Prize.....Cecile Modolo**
Hair & Beauty Gift basket
- 3rd Prize.....Cameron Sydenham**
Dolci Doro 1.5kg Easter Egg



Raffle Drawn 26th June

- 1st Prize.....Melba Joseph**
1 Throw over Quilt
- 2nd Prize.....Sr Jude Doyle**
*Tresemme Hair Styling Package including
Tresemme Philips Salon Curler*
- 3rd Prize.....Sr Monet Mason**
Men's and Women's Natio products

Up & Coming Events

- 22nd July**
Mary Aikenhead Feast Day
Foundress of the Sisters of Charity
- 24th July**
Market Day SVC Function Room



Date Claimer

- 30th October—Cocktail Evening 6-8pm**
- 16th November—Volunteer Graduation 2-4pm**



**Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence
in Compassionate Care 1909-2009**
St Vincent's Private Hospital
Congratulations!

Dear All,

Firstly, I would like to welcome Rajika Gilhota, who is the new Co-ordinator of the Eastern Area Visit Program. Rajika commenced on the 20th April and has already demonstrated her dedication and skills in co-ordinating the Service. She is busily getting to know the Volunteers, staff and clients they visit, as well as taking referrals & visiting prospective new clients to the Service. She has come in at a time of review and change of systems and processes and has readily become involved in her leadership role. We are delighted to have Rajika join the Outreach Family.



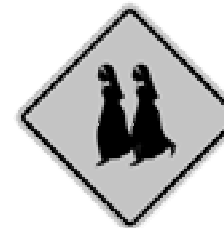
We also farewelled, Marguerite House, Fieldworker at EAVP. But the good news is that Marguerite is engaged and has re located to another state for her marriage and future.

Since our last newsletter we have had our Co-ordinators Annual Planning Day facilitated by Michael Thornber. The work achieved on the day, together with the planning by the Outreach Committee is currently forming the basis for our Strategic Plan for the next 5 years.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank Robert Cusack, Executive Director of SVPH for the donation of a 12 seater bus they have replaced, to our Parent Support Program. This will greatly assist the Volunteers who transport Parents and children to and from the Parenting sessions. Our sincere thanks for this great asset to our Program.



Nuns Run



As Sr Margaret Guy writes in her article further on, she, Srs Adele, Anthea and I participated in the Nuns' Run which was to raise the profile of the Cancer Research Centre at the Garvan Institute & St Vincent's Hospital as well as raise funds towards the building of the new Cancer Centre. Sr Anthea

& I participated by driving the support vehicles and the other Sisters completed their designated part of the walk. On the final day, 5th June, we all gathered again at the Garvan for the walk from Darlinghurst to Centennial Park for the finale. The target was \$100,000 and as this goes to print this has been far exceeded—current total is \$170,403.67. This has been due to the wonderful generosity and support of so many from Dubbo to Darlinghurst.



To conclude I would like to thank the Fundraising Committee in particular, Gina Pizanis, for all the planning, organisation & preparation for the Race Day on the 20th June. Despite the weather it was a great day. Thank you to everyone for your participation and support. We look forward to you joining us again next year. God bless!

*Sr Margaret Fitzgerald
Executive Director*



Presentation at Bethany College, Hurstville

Mary Kleist, Religious Education Coordinator at Bethany College, Hurstville asked Outreach to do a presentation for Year 9s during Holy Week. This was part of their program on the Catholic Church in Australia: the history of the Sisters of Charity and Sisters of Charity Outreach with some of our present ministries.

Outreach today and what volunteers did was to be a feature so three volunteers, Lily Fiorenza [Liverpool Court Support], Michael O'Connell [Country Care Link] and Michael Foster [CCL] shared some of their stories re their roles as volunteers after my presentation on the above topic.

Their stories included "I felt trusted when one country woman said she was completely in my hands as she had no idea where she was going"

"What a big dam!" an aboriginal boy exclaimed to his mother when he saw the ocean at Manly for the first time. CCL featured the most because Mary Kleist chose this service of Outreach as the charity for which the Year 9s would raise funds during Lent.

Sr Ellen O'Carrigan rsc, School liaison, had paved the way with an earlier presentation on Outreach, using our DVD.

We received \$1348.70 from the approx 109 Year 9 students.

Thank you Bethany College for your generosity!!! *Margaret Guy rsc*

Volunteer Training Program

There are 20 volunteers plus 4 staff, half way through the core units of the volunteer training program-less in number than in previous years but not less in quality of personal attributes. These volunteers will commence their probation time in our Services in late June/early July.

My 2 days — Nuns Run for the Garvin/St Vincents Campus Cancer Centre

Srs Margaret Fitzgerald, Anthea Groves, Adele Cottrell-Dormer and I travelled to Orange by train on Friday May 29 to participate in the Nuns Run, either as drivers or walkers. We were met by the team and given wonderful hospitality at the home of Dr Alan and Julie Kerrigan.

Next day Srs Helen Clarke, Leone Wittmack, Anna Parlevliet, Adele and I, plus support personnel from the Garvin, walked into Bathurst with the support cars driven by Srs Margaret and Anthea and the smart car, driven by Dr Annabelle. About 17 kms was walked that morning.

That afternoon, we were treated to a Winter High Tea with the Bathurst community at Bishops Court Estate, led by Christine Le Fevre. The Bathurst Panorama Chorus entertained us with several choruses "We are family...I've got all my sisters and me" Thanks to the wonderful team. Thanks also to the generous parishioners at Bathurst Catholic Cathedral and Father James Cutliffe who gave more than \$1200 in a spontaneous collection at Mass that night. The Sisters of Mercy at Rahamin, Mt St Josephs, gave us a warm reception and provided meals and accommodation.

On Sunday, in the freezing cold, the walkers accompanied by the support vehicles, travelled from Bathurst to Mt Allambie.

*Sr Margaret Guy
Volunteer Educator*



Sisters of Charity Outreach Race Day

20th June



Donors

The 2009 Sisters of Charity Outreach Race Day was a huge success. 364 people attended this fundraising event at Randwick Race Course. A great day of fun, laughter and hopefully a few wins was had by all.

We would like to say a special 'thank you' to our supporters who donated such wonderful prizes for our silent auction and raffle.

We raised \$17,150 on the day to help support our work.... but more importantly we had 364 people showing their support for Outreach and the Services we provide to those in need in our Community.

A big thank you to the Committee who organised the day and to Mr Mike Bailey for once again being MC on the day. Special thanks to Gina for all her Co-ordinating of the day.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at next year's Race Day.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORTSisters, Volunteers, Donors, Campus Colleagues and Friends of Outreach!



- Australian Jockey Club
- BridgeClimb
- Brenda Keogh
- Buywise
- Chatelaine Quilters Gymea Sydney
- Cronulla Sharks
- Danny's Seafood Restaurant
- Dr Katherine Samaras
- Ellen Cannon
- Ellen McNamara
- Friends of Outreach
- Helen & Michael Burns
- Helen Dart
- Ingham Enterprises Pty Ltd
- Intercontinental Jewellery
- Jill de Waal
- Kathleen Donohoe
- Katrina Lawrence
- Michael Foster
- Michelle Bradley
- Mr & Mrs R J Masson
- Mr W.R. Galvin
- Paula Gallagher
- Peter Coffey
- Service Painting & Building
- St Vincent's Clinic

Eastern Area Visit Program

I am delighted to have this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Coordinator for the Eastern Area Visit Program. The last six weeks have been very exciting and I thank all the staff, volunteers and clients who have helped me settle in so easily.

The Eastern Area Visit Program is witnessing change- a new coordinator and the resignation of a much loved field worker, Marguerite, who has moved interstate. We have been reviewing our procedures and processes to strengthen our program and to provide appropriate support to our clients. Our client list is growing and we require more volunteers in our program to meet the demand for our service.

We are also working towards extending our networks and providing effective advocacy for our clients, many of whom have a growing need for support.



'Laughter Therapy' was the Social Club theme last month and I know everyone enjoyed the belly laughs! It gave me an opportunity to meet some of our clients and volunteers and spend a fun filled afternoon with them.

I look forward to meeting all our clients and to increased interaction with our volunteers who work tirelessly and quietly, without asking for the support and recognition they so richly deserve.

*Rajika Gilhotra
Co-ordinator*

Safe Haven

How fast the time is flying. We are already half way through the year. We have been very busy at Safe Haven helping women and children by providing them with a safe place to stay while contemplating their future.

A few thank yous are in order. Firstly as a result of a 2 year Grant from the Sydney Community Foundation the Safe Haven was able to assist Mothers with babies and young children to purchase consumable baby products. We were also able to assist the Mothers to establish the families when they leave for longer term accommodation. On behalf of the families we are most grateful for the Foundation Support.

I would like to thank the R.O.S.E. Club a very caring Community Group who have

helped with donated goods eg toiletries, clothes and toys. These donations are gratefully received as most families arrive without anything because they have fled quickly from the violent situation.

Thank you also to Mrs Lizzie Drew for her donation of clothing and a games table, and to Bruce Stevens for his donation of a TV and DVD player for our client's use in the new lounge room.

Safe Haven recently had a visit from the Homeless persons Line. As a result of the visit, we now receive regular calls from Homeless Persons to update their daily vacancy register.

*Sharon Sutherland
Co-ordinator*



Volunteering

Our Volunteers

The remarkable contribution of Outreach Volunteers was celebrated during National Volunteers' Week 2009, May 11 – 17.

This is the largest celebration of Volunteers in Australia. 35% of adult Australians or 5 million people give 700 million hours to the community each year.

This year's theme, 'Volunteers: Everyday people, extraordinary contribution', was the focus of the celebratory events. It is indeed an 'extraordinary contribution' because each volunteer cares enough to give of their time and share themselves with those in need – 'compassion in action'.

As part of National Volunteers' Week, Outreach hosted two events to acknowledge and thank volunteers, one event at St Vincent's Clinic, the other at Loreto Place Liverpool. Volunteers from across Outreach Services gathered and shared liturgy, lunch and the joys of volunteering. It was wonderful to hear volunteer's stories and the joys that volunteering with Outreach brings them. Thank you to all Volunteers for making these celebrations a success.

Outreach Service Coordinators paid tribute to volunteers by naming and celebrating the gifts they bring to their service. Thank you again to all Volunteers for bringing your wonderful gifts to Outreach, helping to achieve the Mission.

New Outreach Volunteers are currently in the middle of their 6 week training program. I am confident that they will help to continue the wonderful tradition of living 'compassion in action'.

As Mary Aikenhead said 'Do your best and may our God guide us in all our little doings'.



*Maria McNuff
Volunteer Co-ordinator*

Outreach Shop



Once again I would like thank our wonderful shop volunteers who by their presence each day ensures that the shop is open and functioning. We're now well into Winter time and the Outreach shop is full of beautiful warm handmade knitted and crocheted woollens for children and adults, thanks to our group of volunteers and supporters. We have bed sock, beanies, rugs and jumpers.

It is also that time again for Confirmation and 1st Communion and all the religious items have arrived into the shop. We have special rosary beads, prayers books and plaques.

Outreach Race Day Fund Raiser will be our biggest yet as all the tables have been sold out before the RSVP date. That means 350 people will be attending. It is great to see so many people support Outreach and its services and all the wonderful prizes donated for the raffle and silent Auction. It should be a great day.



*Gina Pizanis
Co-ordinator*

Parent Support Program

At the Parent Support Program, the topics for discussion during our groups this term, have all been leading up to the presentation, to the parents, of our 'Play Power' workshop.

We began the term looking at our own childhood, the games we played... how involved our parents were... what freedoms we had... how we had to use our imagination.

Then we moved on to our teenage years, and with the many different cultures we had a lively discussion about how our teenage years differed depending on what the cultural expectations were.

Meeting our life's partners was

the topic of our next discussions, and where that led us... who made the choices... what were the celebrations... how they differed and how they were the same!

Having seen everyone married, we actually shared photos of the events, and it was amazing how similar they were! We then went on to talk about our interaction with our children.

The 'Play Power' program, helps parents realize the great potential that everyday situations have as learning and fun moments to have with our children. It encourages positive interactions with our children from birth and gives wonderful

examples to share.

A major part of the program is pictorial, and it is true, a picture tells a great story.

In some cultures play is considered insignificant, in others a reward for work completed, and in others does not happen at all. This program is a start to showing parent what we think is the most important part of a child's growing up.

Rikki McIntosh
Co-ordinator



South West Visit Program

Companionship is continuing in a very positive way to be provided by Sr Kate Fitzpatrick to the current clients. The provision of home visitation is centred on strong, respectful and positive relationship.

Since its launch in March the SWVP we are seeing clients making progress by linking them with other services, there has been increase in their physical activity and an increase in their morale.

Nanette Nilon is our first volunteer to join our Visit Program in the South West. We are delighted to have her on board.

I have completed the Volunteer Training Program presented by Sr Margaret Guy and Maria McNuff. It has been a very enjoyable and sharing experience. The program has given me the opportunity to further increase my orientation in the work of the Sisters of Charity Outreach and, also it has given me the opportunity to meet volunteers that are keen to join the SWVP.



Nives Vuchich
Co-ordinator

* In Outreach we strive to *
 * create a community of *
 * services based on Gospel *
 * values with: *
 *
 * • Compassion *
 * • Justice *
 * • Human Dignity *
 * • Excellence *
 * • Unity *
 *
 * motivated by our theme of *
 * 'Compassion in Action' *
 *

Country Care Link



Here we are in June already. Time for many of our Drivers to head North for the Winter to escape the chill and good luck to you all and safe travelling.

The last couple of months have been busy here in Country Care Link we have to date made approximately 511 trips across the Sydney metropolitan area. Among these trips we transported mothers and children to the Royal Far West Home at Manly, to Children's Hospital at Randwick and Westmead and to Tresillian at Canterbury.

So the arrival of six new Children's car seats has been very timely. These purchases were made possible by the donation from the Commonwealth Bank Staff Community Fund. We thank them for their support enabling us to purchase the Government approved child restraints.

I attended the Isolated Children's Parent Association Conference held in Dubbo during March. That was an eye opener, hearing the difficulties faced by these parents who want the same opportunities for education for their children when they live in isolated places as those who live in the City. (It was good for me to be out in the 'bush' too.)

I intend to participate in the Nun's Run. I will join the group at Guyong and walk from there. Am looking forward to the exercise as I'm not too good behind a desk all the time!!

I wish to thank my wonderful volunteer office workers for their patient guidance in helping me to 'settle' into this new role. Of course we would not be able to function if it were not for all our Volunteer Drivers so a big thank you to you all too.



Sr Adele Cottrell-Dormer
Co-ordinator



We remember two of our dedicated volunteers who have died in the past six months — Peter Rush & John McGlinchey. Both Peter & John were volunteer drivers in our Country Care Link Service. They appreciated the need for this Service and enjoyed meeting the people from rural NSW and taking them to their medical appointments across Sydney. A part of this was also transporting patients from Bankstown Airport who had arrived via Angel Flight.

We give thanks for Peter & John and the way they touched the lives of so many and we offer our prayerful support to their wives, Margaret & Anne. May they rest in peace.



Vale Peter Rush
15/12/2008
Peter was a Country Care Link
Volunteer driver from 2003-2008.



Vale John McGlinchey
25/4/2009
John was a Country Care Link
Volunteer driver from 2002-2007.