

ANOTHER COMMUNITY CARE VAN HAS STARTED OPERATION IN PARRAMATTA, NSW

Since 2015 the Order of Malta Community Care Van has been operating in Sydney, bringing medical care and essential goods to homeless people in the Archdiocese.

A second Order of Malta Community Care Van has now started operation in Parramatta Diocese, NSW on a Monday evening with a second weekly service anticipated to commence shortly.

The Parramatta Community Care Van is recruiting volunteers with full, unrestricted driving licences and medical, nursing or paramedical knowledge to help run the service.

"Nurses can make a huge difference to the homeless," said Regional Hospitaller Mark Boffa. "They take blood pressure

readings, bandage wounds and injuries, and have people in critical condition be admitted to emergency wards who might otherwise not be taken seriously."

Volunteer drivers accompany the medical professional and also help by distributing goods and connecting the homeless to available services. Goods distributed include dental health kits, water, hygiene and women's sanitary products, hats, sunscreen and the Order's "Coats for the Homeless".

"Our hope is that we will establish further Community Care Vans throughout NSW and ACT" explains Mark. "Our biggest obstacle is finding the funding for the set-up costs, including the vans themselves".



Donations to support the Community Care Van project and Coats for the Homeless can be made on page 5

Interested in Volunteering? Visit www.orderofmalta.org.au to learn more

MEET THE NATIONAL HOSPITALLER: ROBERT COSTA

Dr Robert Costa has been appointed as National Hospitaller of the Order of Malta in Australia. In this role, Robert is responsible for overseeing our National Charitable Works.

Robert became a Member of the Order in 2011 after being introduced to the Order by Dr George Boffa. Since that time Robert has been heavily involved with various projects including Coats for the Homeless and the Order of Malta Medical Clinic in Dili (Robert is the Medical Director of the clinic). Prior to becoming a member of the Order, Robert had been involved in international medical outreach having been

involved in volunteering roles to various South Pacific Nations and India.

Professionally, Robert is a Cardiothoracic Surgeon with an appointment to a major Sydney teaching hospital and several private hospitals.

"My immediate focus in the role of the National Hospitaller, is to oversee the charitable works being undertaken in each region under the supervision of the Regional Hospitaliers." said Robert. "My vision is to expand the current works and to establish regional, national and an International project in which all members of the Australian Association can become involved in."



Left to right: Dr Robert Costa with Dr David Dawson at the Order of Malta Medical Clinic in Dili.



MEMBERS PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE HOMELESS IN ADELAIDE

Order of Malta Members in South Australia donated \$10,000 to assist the Hutt St Centre in Adelaide. The funds will help deliver more than 45,000 meals, case manage and support 570 people into housing, support 150 people into employment, support 50 people into further

education and provide nursing and treatment to more than 3,300 people.

The region also assists the Adelaide Day Centre and has an upcoming Movie night to raise funds for Coats for the Homeless and centre.



PAPAL AWARD TO CONSOUER MARGARET O'DONNELL

During the St Patrick's Day School's Mass earlier this year in St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, in front of a congregation of over 2500, the then Archbishop of Melbourne, Dennis Hart, presented Consoer Margaret O'Donnell with the papal award of the Croce Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, its accompanying lapel pin, and the formidable testsmur (certificate).

The Cross for the Church and the Pope recognises Catholics who have given distinguished service to the Church.



The Order of Malta (ABN 37 142 209 121) is a Public Benevolent institution and is endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as Deductible Gift Recipient. Licence : SA - CCP3236, WA - 21310



The Order of Malta invites you and your friends to a Film Evening

JOURNEY'S END

Sunday 18th November 2018, 5pm for 5.45pm
Regal Theatre, 275 Kensington Road, Kensington Park, Adelaide, SA

Champagne and light refreshments pre-film
Donation \$25.00 per person

Proceeds go to the Order of Malta Charitable Works and the Adelaide Day Centre

Bookings online at www.orderofmalta.org.au/events/movie

UPCOMING LOURDES DAY MASSES IN MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY

On Saturday 1st December, Members will host Lourdes Day Mass Celebrations where those attending will receive a blessing for their health and a bottle of Lourdes water for their personal use. All are welcome to these special masses.

MELBOURNE

St Patrick's Cathedral
10.30am

SYDNEY

St Mary's Cathedral
10am

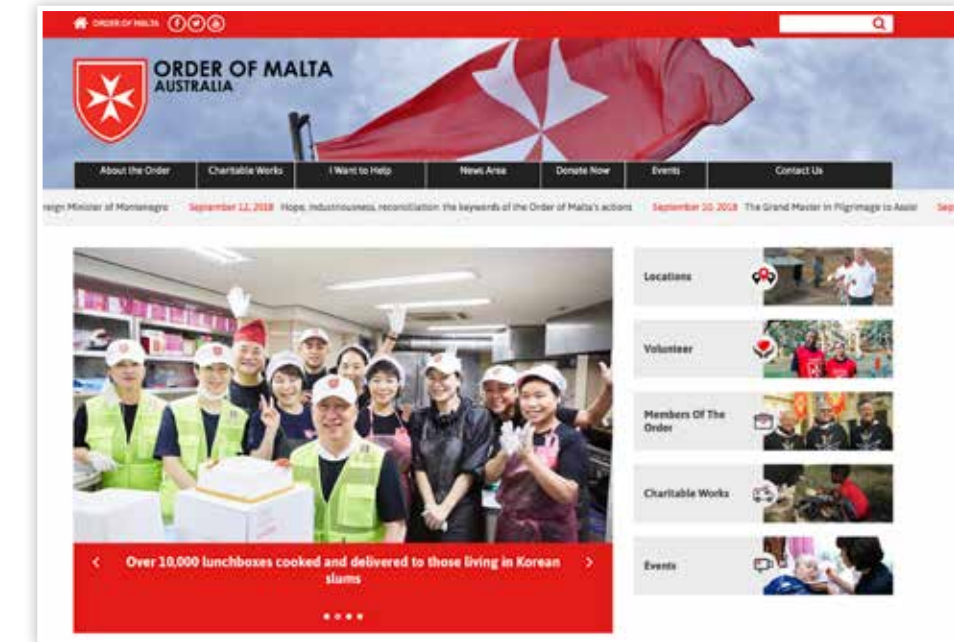


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IN THIS ISSUE - PROJECT UPDATES UPCOMING EVENTS LATEST NEWS

OUR NEW WEBSITE HAS LAUNCHED!



www.orderofmalta.org.au

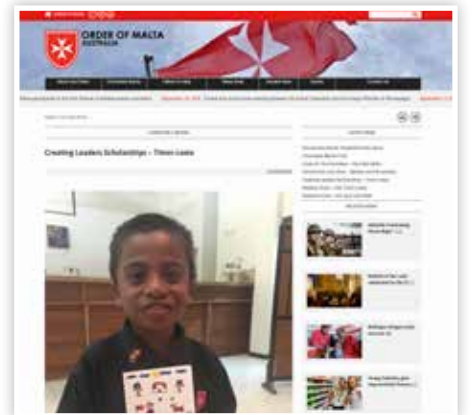
The Australian Association's website has recently been relaunched with a new look that is more user-friendly for visitors, regardless of if they are using their phone, tablet or desktop. However, the changes don't end there.

"The new website is not just a cosmetic update. We have redeveloped the site so that it better meets the needs of all our audiences" explained Anthony Gerada, Vice Delegate of Communications. "We recognised that the majority of enquiries generated from our website came from people in the community wanting to get involved in local activities and Members wanting to access resources. Consequently, we have added new sections so this information can be accessed anytime, anywhere".

The new site has additional sections to provide further information about:

- ★ Upcoming Events – including fundraisers, Lourdes Day Mass celebrations and spiritual activities
- ★ Volunteering – activities needing volunteers by location
- ★ Our Locations – pages dedicated to our regions, so Members, volunteers and donors can be across activities in their local community
- ★ Information for Members – details of upcoming retreats, liturgical calendar of the Order of Malta, reflections from our Chaplains and much more

The new site will continue to provide weekly updates on the activities of the both the Australian Association and international interventions of the Order of Malta.



Feedback to improve our website further? News stories to share? Please email info@smom.org.au

ORDER OF MALTA MEDICAL CLINIC IN DILI TO CELEBRATE ONE YEAR OF SERVICE

In November, our Medical Clinic in Dili will be celebrating its first year of service to the people of Timor-Leste. In this time over 12,000 patients have been treated and the clinic and its staff have reached numerous milestones:



▲ Following the signing of the MOU with the Ministry of Health, the Clinic participated in a mass annual immunisation campaign and the clinic now administers vaccinations to patients on an ongoing basis.



▲ Our Clinic has benefitted from the expertise of medical professionals who have visited our Clinic and volunteered their services.



▲ In addition to services at the clinic, our staff frequently visit remote areas and set up outreach services to provide medical care to those unable to attend the clinic in Dili.



▲ The clinic's services recently expanded to include minor surgery every Wednesday. In the Clinic's second year of operation we intend for this to increase should funding permit.



▲ Malnutrition is one of Timor-Leste's biggest health challenges. Our staff run regular Nutrition Health Education sessions for parents.



▲ In June, the Order's Ambassador Collin Yap signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Health, Timor-Leste. This further strengthened and formalised our collaborative partnership with various health programs.

More information about all of the Clinic's activities, including patient case studies and our 'Meet the Doctor' series can be found at www.orderofmaltaclinic.org.tl

ASIA PACIFIC YOUTH CAMP FOR THE DISABLED 2019



The Order of Malta Youth Camps for the Disabled has a successful history of 30 years in Europe.

Following the success of the Inaugural Youth camp in Singapore in 2018, the Order of Malta in the Asia Pacific region have committed to making it an annual event, with the participating countries (Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, Australia and the Philippines) rotating as hosts.

The camp, for disabled youths aged between 18 – 35, is focused

on providing not only fun, games, integration and discos but also unity in prayer, thought and discussion.

The next camp will be held in October 2019 in Hong Kong. Interested participants should email info@smom.org.au.

Visit www.orderofmalta.org.au to read an account from one of our volunteers from this year's camp in the Philippines.

ANNUAL MASS AND RETREAT IN ALICE SPRINGS

In September, Members of the Northern Central Region attended their Annual Mass and Retreat in Alice Springs where they also met Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals from the 'Our Lady of the Sacred Heart' and the Santa Teresa parishes, who are interested in being involved in the work of the Order as volunteers.

Members have been very active in the area, distributing blankets,

Rosary kits and Lourdes Water to many who are sick and in need. The distribution has targeted predominantly Indigenous People of the Arrernte Community, who are the traditional owners of country east of and around Alice Springs.

The Order of Malta is exploring further ways to assist Arrernte people who are in need and to engage more volunteers to assist in serving the sick and the poor in Central Australia.



Visit www.orderofmalta.org.au to learn more about initiatives in your local area



OVER 10,000 LUNCHBOXES COOKED AND DELIVERED TO THOSE LIVING IN KOREAN SLUMS

On 27 June, Members and volunteers of the Order of Malta in Korea celebrated the 2nd anniversary of the lunchbox project where over 10,000 lunchboxes have been cooked and delivered to people living in Seoul slums.

MEMBERS SUPPORT FLOOD VICTIMS IN THAILAND

Following the torrential rain from tropical storms Son-Tinh and Bebinca, over 236,000 people in 79 districts of 14 provinces in Thailand were affected by floods from the middle of July to the middle of August.

In response, Members of the Order presented Fr. Joseph Sinoun Keomanivong and Fr. Peter Bountem, vicars of Vicariate of Pakse, with a donation to assist flood victims in Laos.



Man wades through floodwaters in Khom Kong, Laos. (New York Times Photo)

PROJECT UPDATE

2018 COATS FOR THE HOMELESS DISTRIBUTION



Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the commitment of our Members and volunteers, 6,000 of our Coats for the Homeless have been distributed to those sleeping rough across Australia.

On behalf of those who received our Coats, 'thank you' to everyone who supported this project.

Planning for the 2019 Coats for the Homeless distribution is now underway.

The volume of Coats available for distribution next winter will depend on funds available for the project by the end of November 2018.

Please consider a donation to support this initiative.

\$100 will buy three of our warm, shower-proof Coats for the Homeless

Donations can be made using the donation coupon below.

I WANT TO HELP



You can make a donation by completing this form and returning it in the reply paid envelope provided.

I am happy for the Order to allocate my donation to where the need is greatest; or

I would like to support:

- Coats for the Homeless
- Community Care Vans
- Order of Malta Medical Clinic, Timor-Leste
- Asia Pacific Youth Camp

REMEMBER, GIFTS OF \$2 AND OVER ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

- Send me information about leaving the Order a bequest
- Please remove me from your mailing list.

Donations will be allocated to projects as requested by the donor. However if the needs of a project have already been met, we will allocate funds to another Order of Malta charitable activity.

Name

Address

State Postcode Telephone

Please find enclosed a Cheque/ Money Order

(payable to 'The Order of Malta') for \$ or,

Please debit my credit card the amount of \$

Frequency Once only Monthly

Card Type Visa MasterCard

Credit Card Number

Expiry Date Cardholder name

Signature