

VOLUNTEERING: "WE TRULY WELCOME YOU COMING TO COOK A BBQ FOR US"



Tierney House resident Rod (pictured right) with Order of Malta volunteer Lachlan.



Regular BBQ volunteers Stephen Chiew and Teresa Zamora

Our volunteers undertake BBQs at Tierney House Homeless Service and Gorman House Drug and Alcohol Detoxification unit three times a week to provide patients with support and camaraderie. The units are in Darlinghurst and are part of St Vincent's Hospital.

Together the residents and volunteers cook and serve the BBQs and in doing so, residents are provided with important social interaction during their time at the units.

"This regular volunteering gives me great satisfaction and joy because I see how grateful and positively engaged the Residents are during the two hours whilst my fellow volunteer 'buddy' Stephen and I are there.

It's wonderful when we encourage the Residents to help... they show enthusiasm and enjoy the opportunity to assist whether it's helping arrange the tables in

the kitchen and dining area, helping me in the kitchen or helping Stephen at the BBQ.

The best part is when everyone sits around the tables enjoying the ambience, chatting, and of course, we all love eating the delicious BBQ cooked with aplomb by Stephen!"

Regular BBQ volunteer, Teresa Zamora

"We started arranging a joined table to gather all the residents together like a family lunch. This has created a positive buzz for the Saturday afternoon BBQ lunch, with more conversation and interaction among the residents, and encouraging some to assist with the lunch prep.

The Order has facilitated me to refocus regularly out of my routine, in serving the poor and the sick. As Jesus says whatever you do to those most in need, you do unto me. That's fulfilling plus."

Member of the Order and regular BBQ volunteer, Stephen Chiew

Learn more about volunteering opportunities with the Order of Malta at www.orderofmalta.org.au

BREAKFAST PROGRAM AT GRAY PRIMARY SCHOOL IN PALMERSTON, NT



Since July 2019, the Northern Central Region has been sponsoring the Breakfast Program at Gray Primary School in Palmerston, a small city half an hour from Darwin. The program provides eligible students with breakfast, recess snacks and lunch to ensure all children have access to food.

Gray School Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) is 818, with the national average being 1,000. 63% of families whose children attend Gray Primary School fall in the bottom quarter, meaning that the majority of them come from the low socio-economic sector of our society.

On Friday 16 August, Consoeurs Maria Randazzo and Frances Booth were welcomed at the School Assembly by the Principal Ms Rebekah Stapleton. They were invited to give a talk to the students to explain what the Order

of Malta is and how the Breakfast Program will provide students with nutritious meals to assist each child to fulfil their full academic potential.

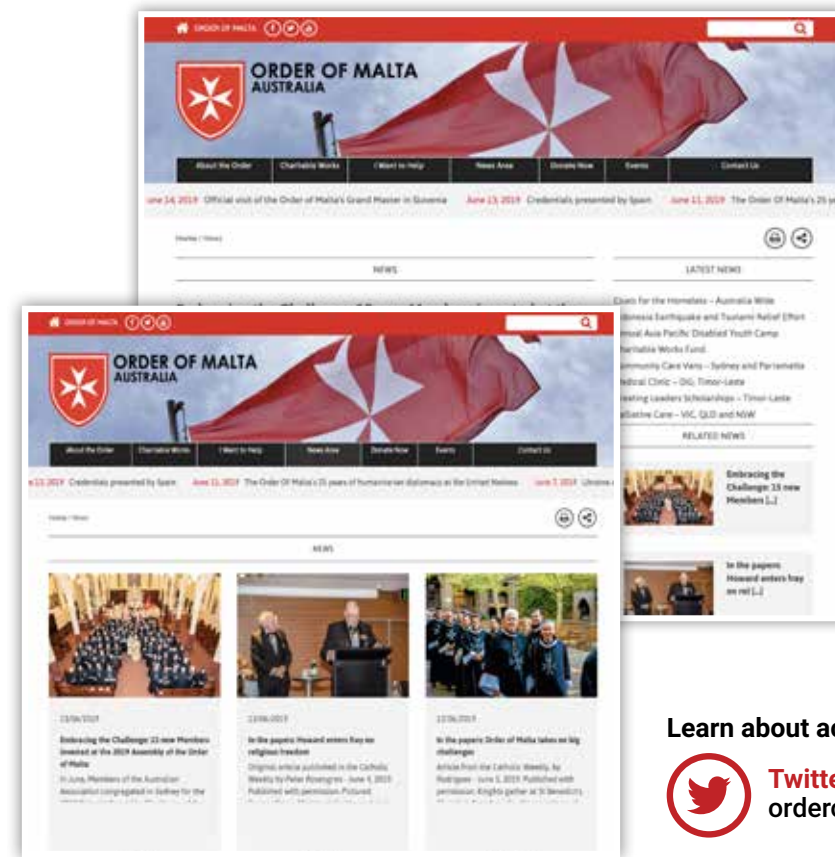
Currently 62 children at Gray Primary School are sponsored through the Breakfast Program funded by Members of the Order of Malta in NT.

Sponsoring a child in the Breakfast Program costs only \$40 a year.

Although the Breakfast Program has only been active for three months it has been a wonderful success and the Order of Malta would like to expand the project to other schools. However this is reliant on additional funding becoming available.

Donations to support the Breakfast Program can be made on page 5.

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By leaving us a legacy, no matter what size, you allow us to plan for the future. With guaranteed funds in place, we can look to expand and develop our humanitarian activities with confidence.

If you would like to receive a copy of our bequest brochure, please complete and return the form on page 5.



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AUSTRALIA

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THE NEW NATIONAL EXECUTIVE: A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

The electoral process that commenced with the decree dated 23 May 2019 of His Most Eminent Highness the Prince and Grand Master and the Sovereign Council of the Order has been completed.

We are all deeply indebted to the members of the Transitional Council, particularly the former President, Dr Ian Marshall, the Pro-Chancellor, Mr Sean Farrell, the Pro-Treasurer, Dr Stephen Christie and the National Hospitaller, Dr Robert Costa, as well as to the regional hospitaliers.

Dr Marshall in particular, has worked tirelessly for the Order for many years and will be a valuable resource to be consulted to help maintain the Order's continuity under our new Executive.

The results of the election were released on 31 August 2019.

Visit orderofmalta.org.au for more information on our Executive Council including details from their election manifestos.

The new National Executive of the Order is:

- * **President**
Confrère the Hon Justice James Sholto Douglas
- * **Vice President**
Consoeur Professor Michelle Campbell
- * **Chancellor**
Confrère Scott Robert Samson
- * **Treasurer**
Confrère James Gurry
- * **National Hospitaller**
Confrère John Murphy
- * **Hospitaller North Eastern Region**
Confrère Daniel Higgins
- * **Hospitaller Central Eastern Region**
Confrère Dr John Stephen Quain
- * **Hospitaller South Eastern Region**
Confrère David Blackwell
- * **Hospitaller Northern Central Region**
Confrère Seán Clement Parnell
- * **Hospitaller Southern Central Region**
Confrère Noel Mifsud
- * **Hospitaller New Zealand**
Confrère Gregory Coyle



I am excited by the prospect of working with the new National Executive to set a program of action for the Order to increase the number and significance of our works for the poor and in defence of the faith. I expect to increase the level of national cooperation among our branches. I also hope that the spiritual lives of our members will intensify with their greater involvement in the Order's activities.

I propose to visit Rome and Hong Kong in October to help prepare for the Asia Pacific Conference in Victoria from 21 to 24 November 2019. I also wish to visit the different regions in Australia and New Zealand in the near future to meet as many of our members as possible. There is also the prospect of attending a communications conference in Rome at the end of March and the Lourdes pilgrimage at the beginning of May 2019.

The variety of talents in these new members of the National Executive will make us well equipped to take on the challenges of realising the aims of the Order in this region. With the help of your prayers and best wishes we shall do our best.

Confraternally yours,
James Douglas KHD



A MESSAGE FROM DR IAN MARSHALL

Many readers of this Newsletter are aware of the recent election of new office bearers of the Australian Association.

I welcome the new President, The Hon Justice James Douglas and members of the new Executive Council.

As the new management team takes the Order in Australia forward into the future, it is important to recognise the contribution of every member of the outgoing Transitional Executive Council: Chancellor, Confrere Sean Farrell; National Hospitaller, Dr Robert Costa; Treasurer, Confrere Stephen Christie and the hardworking Regional Hospitallers: Consoeur Maria Randazzo in the Northern Territory and Confreres Derek Pingel in Queensland, Mark Boffa in NSW, Sauro Antonelli in VIC and Damian Wyld in SA and WA, who have directed our charitable works across Australia must also be publically acknowledged. I also thank our Communications experts, Confreres Daniel Kwok and Anthony Gerada and the editor of this Newsletter, Michelle Rees.

The outgoing Council worked unobtrusively in the background but quietly achieved much and we look forward to the new Council maintaining the momentum

I wish to record our thanks to the very many readers who are not actual members of the Order but who have been loyal and



FIGHTING AGAINST LEPROSY – DETECTING NEW CASES EARLY TO CURB THE DISEASE

The Order of Malta has been active in the fight against leprosy in Cambodia for over 25 years. The work of its foundation (CIOMAL) is centred around the early detection of new leprosy cases so that those affected may be treated as soon as the first signs of the disease appear and thus avoid permanent scars.

In Cambodia, CIOMAL is tackling leprosy



Dr Ian Marshall (left) with the Hon. Justice James Douglas

generous supporters of our numerous projects.

In particular I wish to thank those who have been regular donors to our various charitable causes; some of the donations might appear modest, but regular donations over time certainly make a huge impact on the funds available to support our service to the poor and the sick.

I thank all those who have donated to our charitable works, no matter what the amount. This applies also to our supporters in New Zealand, Thailand and Korea

It has been my privilege since this journal was first printed to see numerous projects come to fruition; especially the project to distribute warm coats to the homeless to become truly Australia wide (as well as in New Zealand). The Order's Medical clinic in Timor-Leste has rendered free medical assistance to over 25,000 poor in Dili since it opened.

You, our readers, helped make this possible and I trust you will continue to give the new Council the same support in the future.

by actively searching for new cases. Teams visit former patients in order to detect new cases among their neighbours and relatives and treat them as soon as possible so that the bacillus does not spread to healthy people.

In 2018, five campaigns were carried out in the provinces of Kampong Thom, Kampong Chhnang, Kampot and Kampong Cham. The teams visited 268 former leprosy patients and examined 470 relatives of theirs and 3,743 neighbours. 57 new leprosy cases were detected, including 6 children under 15.

In 2019, the teams have travelled to Rattanakiri in the Northeast of Cambodia to carry out a pilot project. In the neglected province, the fear of exclusion runs so deeply that villagers would flee when they realized they had leprosy. Local beliefs require that any person struck by a serious disease be banished from the village so that other members of the community may avoid the same fate.

In these remote areas, much work remains to be done to raise awareness and spread information so that villagers are no longer scared to receive treatment.

Learn more about the work of CIOMAL at www.ciomal.org/en/

COATS FOR THE HOMELESS 2020 DISTRIBUTION

As the weather across Australia starts to warm up, our Coats for the Homeless project managers are planning the 2020 distribution. To ensure the coats arrive in time for winter, the manufacturing order must be placed in the coming months.

"Our 2019 project resulted in 6,000 Coats for the Homeless being distributed Australia wide by our members and partner organisations. Whilst this is a huge achievement, many homeless organisations contacted us in winter for Coats and our limited quantities had already been allocated" explains National Hospitaller John Murphy.

"I strongly urge any interested organisations to contact us now regarding purchasing additional coats so that we can do our best to increase our reach and distribution across the country to those in need" he went on to say.

The number of Coats the Order of Malta can distribute each year is largely determined by funds available for the project on ordering.

"Ideally we would like to increase our distribution numbers next year but that will rely on additional donations" said John. "Any financial support will be gratefully received."

Donations to Coats for the Homeless can be made on page 5.



RIDE LIKE A GIRL ADELAIDE MOVIE FUNDRAISER

As a little girl, Michelle Payne dreams of the impossible: winning the Melbourne Cup – horse-racing's toughest two-mile race. The youngest of 10 children, Michelle is raised by single father Paddy.

She leaves school at 15 to become a jockey and after early failures she finds her feet, but a family tragedy, followed by her own near fatal horse fall all but ends the dream. But with the love of her Dad and her brother Stevie, Michelle will not give up. Against all the medical advice, and the protests of her siblings, she rides on, and meets the Prince of Penzance. Together they overcome impossible odds for a shot at the dream: a ride in the

2015 Melbourne Cup, at odds of 100 to 1. The rest is history. Ride Like A Girl is the incredible true story of Michelle Payne.

When
Sun 10 Nov 2019 at 5pm
Where
Regal Theatre, 275 Kensington Road, Kensington Park South Australia 5068
Tickets
\$25 AVAILABLE NOW at www.orderofmalta.org.au

AUSTRALIAN LOURDES MASSES

Members know well the importance that Lourdes has for the Order of Malta and many have taken part in the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. Unfortunately many Australians, due to age, infirmity or expense, never have the opportunity to visit Lourdes.

Consequently, Members of the Order "bring" Lourdes to Australia at our Lourdes Masses hosted across the country. Those who attend receive a blessing for good health and a bottle of water brought from the shrine at Lourdes.

On 17 August, Members and Volunteers in Queensland hosted 180 people at their annual Lourdes Healing Mass at

St Paschal's Church Wavell Heights. They were led by their Magistral Chaplains, Fathers David Pascoe and Gerard McMorrow, assisted by Fr James O'Donoghue.

On 13 August, the Lourdes Mass was celebrated at the Italian aged care facility, the Assisi Centre in Victoria, by the Order's Conventual Chaplain Ad Honorem, Bishop Terry Curtin. Over 150 people were present and Bishop Terry, in immaculate Italian, gave the homily on the Assumption which was to be celebrated two days later.



UPCOMING LOURDES MASSES:
* Melbourne - Sat 7 Dec 2019 at St Patrick's Cathedral, 10.30am
* Sydney - Sat 7 Dec 2019 at St Mary's Cathedral, 10am
* Adelaide - Tue 11 Feb 2020 at Francis Xavier's Cathedral, 10am

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
- Breakfast Program
- Asia Pacific Camp for Disabled Youth

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