

mini MICAH

August 2007

Hello, and welcome to *mini MICAH*.

What's been happening

- Γ On 24 July, St Vincent de Paul released a major paper on homelessness entitled *Don't Dream it's Over - housing stress in Australia's private rental market*. The report can be viewed at <http://www.vinnies.org.au/UserFiles/File/DONT%20DREAM%20ITS%20OVER%20-%20St%20Vincent%20de%20Paul%20Report.PDF>.
- Γ Bethlehem Community farewelled one of their long-term residents, Val, in a moving liturgy on 30th July. Val had lived at Bethlehem for 22 years and it was fitting that she die there in her home.

What's coming up

- Γ MacKillop Family Services' ***Soul Art*** will come to Federation Square from 13 - 30 August. Soul Art is artwork from the souls of kids who have been victims of child abuse, children with significant disabilities and kids who have not experienced the love of family.
- Γ CSSV will hold its Annual Dinner on Thursday 30th August at Moonee Valley Racing Club from 6.30 - 12.30 at \$55.00 per head, with drinks at bar prices. Please make a note in your diaries and gather your work colleagues together and book a table. This is not a fundraiser; it is a community building event. We do hope you can come along and join us for a fun evening with other committed people from the sector.

Our guest speaker, **Sir Murray Rivers QC (Retired)** is one of Australia's most controversial legal and political figures. He is a former Victorian Supreme Court Judge and an outspoken media commentator on ABC Radio.

He is currently "Ambassador At Large" for the Howard Government, touring the colony and addressing the party faithful on the current state of the colony. His wide ranging address is constantly updated and includes current, topical subjects ranging from Corporate Governance and Ethics, to his views on the Opposition parties, the environment and whatever else he feels he might like to pontificate on to a grateful nation.

Sir Murray is, of course, one of the stage persona of celebrated satirist **Bryan Dawe**.

Who am I?

Each issue, we profile someone in the CSSV community. In this issue, we hear from Brian Dalton from St Vincent de Paul Society.

Q: Brian please tell us about where you work and what you do.

I am the CEO, St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Inc - head office located at Box Hill. Works of the Society operate throughout Victoria. I work with the State Council (Board of Management) in the ongoing development of the vision, values and strategic direction of the organisation in Victoria.

I enjoy getting time away from the office and meeting the members and volunteers who are involved at the “coal face”

Q: Has something interesting or funny happened at your work recently?

The job I do is never dull - I come across a number of members who provide the latest jokes and yarns - have a great staff and support from members.

Q: Have you a piece of advice or words of encouragement that has helped you in life or work?

Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Q: How do you wind down or relax?

I enjoy walking the dogs (or being taken for a walk), dining with family and friends. I regularly attend AFL games and will watch a neutral game if my team are playing interstate. In summer I enjoy Test and 1-day cricket and family BBQ's at home.

Q: Have you a particular role model?

My parents have been and are great roles models. From an early age and by their example I and my six brothers and sister were encouraged to be involved in a range a voluntary activities.

Q: Which footy team do you support and why?

I support Western Bulldogs (Footscray). I grew up in the Footscray area and experienced the great EJ Whitten attend our primary school at a footy clinic. I remain a passionate, patient and paid up member of the Club. My two sons have also followed my lead.

My second team is Sydney (South Melbourne) and I had the great pleasure in taking my father (long time suffering supporter) to the 2005 successful Grand Final win.

Send us your news – any information on what your agency is doing will be greatly appreciated.

mini MICAH thrives on news! Send your news, updates, and any items of interest to miniMICAH@css.org.au.

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