

mini MICAH

November 2007

Hello, and welcome to *mini MICAH*.

What's been happening

- Γ During Anti Poverty Week, staff of all the agencies of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne conducted their own Stand Up Day on 17th October in the Fitzroy Gardens in solidarity with those who live in poverty.
- Γ For the people who use St Mary's House of Welcome **suffering, personal crisis and poverty** is their reality. As part of **Anti Poverty Week 14th-20th October** St Mary's House of Welcome raised awareness of the cause and consequence of poverty and hardship by inviting members of parliament to serve meals to those whom in reality may live next door to all of us.
- Γ Congratulations to St Mary's House of Welcome who received a Federal grant of \$2.5 million to support the redevelopment project. Their current building is 'past its use-by date' and this grant will assist in the development of a health clinic, a designated space for women, education and training facilities, consulting rooms and a safe refuge for the homeless.

What's coming up

- Γ Shekinah Homeless Services will hold their annual Community Ball on 16th November at Collingwood Town Hall. For further information, please contact Debra Evans on 93331444.
- Γ Project Dreaming Tracks runs a pot plant and an art program for members of the Indigenous community. The art program runs on Wednesdays from 11.00am - 2.00pm and the pot plant program is on Tuesdays from 11.00am - 1.00pm. For more information please call 9471 1410.
- Γ Mercy Care has a Christmas card fundraiser. A pack of ten cards will cost you \$15 with money going to help victims of domestic violence. For further information please email mercycares@bigpond.com

Who am I?

Each issue, we profile someone in the CSSV community. In this issue, we hear from Peter Bearsley, Chair of the CSSV Council.

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

I work from home and at various places around town, mainly as a Director / trustee and on advisory bodies.

Q: Has something interesting or funny happened to you recently?

I left my glasses at one place; then lost my car keys at another and had to get a lift home; wondered if I was losing my marbles... Three different people said: "Pray to St Anthony". Not quite my style, but...

two hours later the phone rang: “I’m standing in front of a set of keys hanging on the church noticeboard...” I wonder what he has done with my glasses... and perhaps my marbles...

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

Do what you love and love what you do.

Do what you can and can what you can’t.

Sometimes the hardest people to love are those you live with (my wife is an exception, you understand!) and the easiest people to demonise are those you don’t talk to.

Q: How do you wind down or relax?

Go running.

Q: Have you a particular role model?

My parents worked very hard for years to give us kids a good (Catholic) education and a better chance at life than they had. I admire them deeply.

But I think our task in life is to find and be our unique true selves.

Q: Which footy team do you support and why?

If “footy” means AFL, then it’s the Kangaroos (they were near the top when I first arrived in Melbourne in the 1970s).

But my real team is the Wellington Hurricanes (rugby union Super 14s) and of course the legendary All Blacks (too bad about the World Cup - again!)

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.

Catholic Social Services Victoria

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