

*People Helping People*



*St Vincent de Paul Society  
Wellington Area  
Annual Report 2008 - 2009*

## Presidents Report

The year under review has been a particularly busy one. Special works have included the Home of Compassion's Soup Kitchen, Wellington Night Shelter, English Classes and Welfare Support at the Newtown Centre including Bill Pay and Food Parcels. Welfare funding was also allocated to our Wellington Conferences to assist financially with their Parish based activities. In addition, funding of overseas appeals was undertaken and the joint venture with IHC in manufacturing Altar Breads in a sheltered workshop environment achieved another successful year. The joint venture with Catholic Social Services that provides budgeting and advocacy assistance for special cases in support of the Conferences and the Pregnancy Assistance operation were all effective in assisting over 1,600 individuals and families.

A decline in Conference membership continues to be a concern and steps are being taken to address this problem. Our Secondary School Conferences have had a positive year under the guidance of our Youth Coordinator and Directors of Religious Studies. We have put structures in place that will aid the transition of our youth to the senior Conferences in the area.

During the year the Council closed its Taranaki street shop and warehouse operation and continued to trade with shops in Miramar, Newtown and Johnsonville, opened a further shop in Island Bay and Wellington City Council consents for enlarging and refurbishing the Newtown shop were obtained and that work is underway.

The Wellington Catholic Homes Trust had a positive year and continued to develop its facilities at the Berhampore Rest Home and Hospital and its Retirement Village at Waikanae.

The full year's trading from four shops helped to increase our revenues however a decline in our altar breads sales revenues was disappointing. The final result from all operations was a loss of \$25,500 for 2008 after adjusting for Other Income and providing for Welfare expenditure.

The annual Street Day appeal was well supported by members in June with a collection value of \$13,500. The result was an increase on the previous year and a very useful contribution towards the support of our ten Wellington Conferences. Several grants were received during the year to assist with the Newtown upgrade and I take this opportunity to thank our benefactors for their valuable contributions to the work of the Society.

I would like to extend my thanks to all Council members for their support over the past year and to the Manager/Secretary and all the staff and volunteers who assisted with our Area Council and Conference activities during the past year.

Looking ahead, increases in Conference membership will continue to be a focus as we continue to publicise the work of the Society in our Wellington Parishes and the wider Wellington community. Council is well positioned to provide support to our Conferences and Special Works in the year ahead and we look forward to being of service to those in need in the Wellington Area.

Mike Keenan  
President



*Newtown Shop and Welfare Centre*



*Johnsonville Shop*



Our shops are a valuable resource for people on low incomes, enabling them to buy quality clothing, furniture and other household items at an affordable price.

The profit from the sale of stock from the shops goes directly towards providing resources and support to needy people with much of the money raised from our shops used to buy food for families in need.

*Miramar Shop*



*Island Bay Shop*



Our shops are often the first point of contact a person in need has with the Society. The people in our shops take their role of connecting people in need with the Society's other members and volunteers seriously. Centre volunteers and staff aim to offer assistance to those in need in a way that allows people to retain their dignity.

**We're on the web!**

[www.vinnies-wellington.org.nz](http://www.vinnies-wellington.org.nz)

## Babies and Mums helped

The Society's Pregnancy Support program, led by Frances O'Brien, has helped dozens of pregnant and recently pregnant mothers and their babies throughout the year. Bedding, nappies, layettes and other clothing has been supplied to ensure that every mother and baby that came to the Society for help got the physical help that was needed to give baby a head start and where referrals to other agencies was an appropriate course of action that help was offered too.

Missing from the photo opposite are the twenty five or so other people who knit, wash, iron and mend to ensure that clothing and bedding supplied to mother and baby is in tip top condition. Thank you to all of those people.



Frances O'Brien Jill O'Brien Margaret O'Sullivan Five members of the Ladies Auxiliary

## National AGM

Wellington Area Council hosted the Society of St Vincent de Paul National Annual General Meeting in September 2008 at the Kingsgate Hotel in Wellington. The AGM themed "Our Future" was attended by 65 delegates and partners. The weekend was filled with a great Vincentian spirit and was enjoyed by all. Saturday evening's guest speaker, Norm Hewitt, was a highlight of the weekend and was impressive in his message, presentation and delivery. The intention was that he would motivate the Vincentians present to continue their efforts with energy and passion and judging by the comments that came back to us on Sunday that was achieved.



## Altar Breads

We say thanks to the dedicated group of people who manufacture altar breads each day from our premises in Newtown. The Society in the Wellington Area is the major supplier of altar breads throughout New Zealand and the breads are baked with great care and dedication by people with intellectual disabilities. This special work of the Society ensures that the people who do the work, gain valuable employment and are paid for what they do. It is truly a win - win situation.



Some of our altar breads manufacturing team

## Thank you to our benefactors

The financial assistance received from our benefactors is invaluable. We take this opportunity to formally recognise and thank them.

- The Salem Wakem Trust
- The New Zealand Lotteries Grant Board
- The Wellington Children's Foundation
- The Catholic Foundation
- ZB Foodbank Appeal

And to the many dozens of individuals and families that have contributed both financially and in other ways to the work that we do, we say thank you.

The generosity of those who assist *St Vincent de Paul Society* to assist those in need is very much appreciated.

## We Always Need Help to Be Able to Help Those in Need!



## The Wellington Area Council

Under the direction of its Area Council members, the Society in Wellington has a strong network of Conferences that provide grassroots contact to those in need. Throughout the year it has continued to build a strong reputation with those it helps and has collaborated with other organisations where necessary to provide a defined range of services to individuals and families.



Missing from the photo is Mike Keenan (President), John Woods, Ross Difford, Diana Garmonsway, Josephine Lawrence, Peter Woods, Eddie Thomsen, Rachel Compton and John McCarthy

Pictured L to R are James McIntyre (Vice President), Rev Fr Frank Maguire (Spiritual Advisor), Justin Shaw, Ann D'Souza (Youth Coordinator), James Webber (Immediate Past President).

## St Vincent de Paul Society Wellington Area

*Consolidated Statement of Financial Performance - for the year ended 30 June 2009*

Income and Expenses	This Year	Last Year
<b>Trading Income</b>		
Shop Sales	508,841	464,372
Altar Bread Sales	110,680	121,921
Internal property rental	92,400	92,400
Other trading income	16,306	25,935
<b>Trading Income</b>	<b>728,227</b>	<b>704,628</b>
<b>Plus Other Income</b>		
Donations	53,316	20,162
Grants	19,938	23,500
Interest	28,508	32,468
Street Day Appeal	13,583	12,036
Other	7,045	1,459
<b>Other Income</b>	<b>122,390</b>	<b>89,625</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>850,617</b>	<b>794,253</b>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Cost of Goods Sold	616,339	635,899
Other Expenses	169,484	203,384
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>785,823</b>	<b>839,283</b>
<b>Net Income before welfare expenditure</b>	<b>64,794</b>	<b>- 45,030</b>
<b>Welfare Support</b>		
Organisations	13,695	24,226
Families and Individuals	65,260	60,278
Other	11,293	2,587
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>90,248</b>	<b>87,091</b>
<b>Net Income after all expenses and welfare support</b>	<b>-\$ 25,454</b>	<b>-\$ 132,121</b>

### *Consolidated Statement of Movements in Equity - for the year ended 30 June 2009*

	This Year	Last Year
Opening balance as at 1 July 2008	1,942,587	1,725,728
Adjustment to opening balance	238	
Increase to the value of shop stock		24,980
Net loss	- 25,454	- 132,121
Revaluation of land and buildings		324,000
<b>Closing balance at 30 June 2009</b>	<b>\$ 1,917,371</b>	<b>\$ 1,942,587</b>

### *Consolidated Statement of Financial Position - for the year ended 30 June 2009*

	This Year	Last Year
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	512,383	562,204
Accounts receivable	21,467	16,754
Other financial assets	90,813	92,805
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>624,663</b>	<b>671,763</b>
<b>Non Current assets</b>		
Land & buildings	1,228,860	1,234,000
Furniture & equipment	62,898	128,649
Plant & equipment	4,515	
Motor vehicle	33,383	- 42,963
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>1,329,656</b>	<b>1,319,686</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,954,319</b>	<b>1,991,449</b>
<b>Less Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Provision for doubtful debts	1,924	5,063
GST payable	- 2,359	- 7,562
Accruals liability	37,383	51,361
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>36,948</b>	<b>48,862</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>36,948</b>	<b>48,862</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Opening balance equity		- 238
Retained earnings	856,435	988,556
Property revaluation reserve	1,086,391	1,086,391
Net income	- 25,454	- 132,121
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>1,917,371</b>	<b>1,942,587</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$ 1,954,319</b>	<b>\$ 1,991,449</b>

*A full set of St Vincent de Paul Society Wellington Area Accounts is available from the Manager/Secretary upon request*

## People helping people

The Society in Wellington undertakes general works in the form of food, clothing and furniture assistance, it provides emergency accommodation when needed, budgeting assistance to assist people to manage their finances more effectively, family support so that people don't need to feel alone, and advocacy to ensure that injustices are addressed. We offer pregnancy support to pregnant and recently pregnant mothers and their babies who require support to enable them to meet their own and their baby's physical needs pre and post pregnancy.

Special works undertaken and/or supported by the Society in Wellington include the Night Shelter, a Refugee support and settlement program, the Suzanne Aubert Soup Kitchen, English language classes for anyone who has difficulty with the English language and monthly Tai Chi classes.

The Society's aim is to help people in their time of need, to help them stand on their own feet and to take control of their own destiny.

Vincetians are keenly aware that poverty, loneliness and suffering are present in our communities for thousands of people. The Society is concerned with relieving need and also with redressing the situations that cause it. Through personal contact, conference members in local branches help with a hand-up, not a hand-out.

A Conference is the main link between disadvantaged people and the Society. In visiting people, members find out what a person's or family's needs are and how they can best assist that person or family. Their needs may be:

- Material** - food, clothing, shelter, warmth.....
- Social** - isolation, violence, unemployment.....
- Personal** - physical, mental health, addiction, grief, loneliness.....

If you need help or you know of another person or family that needs help then call us and we will contact them to offer assistance.

## Help when it was needed

Sometimes we sail along day after day and forget to look back and reflect on what we have achieved. It is good for us, who work closely with people to enjoy the successes we have. Not only is there satisfaction in knowing we are doing our job, but that we have given someone hope and pride in themselves once again. When we are at the bottom of the ladder it can seem impossible to get on that next rung upwards. I want to share with you a recent success story I had with one of my clients. For privacy reasons I will call this person Jim.

I had known Jim for a few years and had assisted him with budgeting at one time. Following this he went off quite happily. However recently I received a telephone call from a friend of his to say Jim's power had been cut off due to him not paying his bill and could I help. I contacted Jim and met with him. Jim told me he was suffering with severe depression and was no longer working and as he had no intention of being in this world for much longer he had not bothered to pay any of his bills. This included his rent and he had received an eviction notice. I also found out that he was not taking his medication. The reason why he was still so depressed. His friend

had taken it into his hands to make an appointment for Jim with his psychologist to review his medication. So knowing this would be dealt with I was able to concentrate on sorting out the issues around rent, power, benefit entitlements, getting child support payments lowered to an affordable amount, and making arrangements with his creditors for more realistic payments. I also suggested we make an application to Housing New Zealand for cheaper accommodation. For the next three weeks I attended numerous appointments and made many phone calls with and for Jim. The outcome of this intensive piece of work is that Jim has now moved into much more affordable (and better) accommodation, his creditors are off his back, his benefit has been sorted and he is taking his medication. When I visited him the other day he met me at the door with a smile and told me he had applied for a job and got it.

This is where I can say goodbye to Jim knowing he does not need me anymore but also knowing that he will have a great Christmas.

Trish Heward  
Social worker



## YES! I would like to make a donation

I would like to make a donation of \$ .....

Donations over \$5.00 are tax deductible. Please post this form to  
St Vincent de Paul Society Wellington Area, P O Box 7319, Newtown, Wellington

Thank you!

I would like to make a regular monthly donation of \$ .....

Please send me a receipt

I would like to make a "one off" donation of \$ .....

Name

Address

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Email

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Method of payment

Bill me       Visa  
 Cheque       Master Card

Credit card #

Expiry date

Signature

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