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BOB'S STORY



YOUTH ART PROJECT



BABYMUM COTTAGE

*"Caring and Sharing in Jesus' name"*

# City Action

ISSUE NO.5  
SUMMER  
2011

## 2011 Christmas Appeal

### Helping Other People Excel

I found this acronym of HOPE the other day while doing a bit of web browsing. I thought, "Wow! How true this is of many organisations like us who have a mandate to bring hope to people who are surrounded by circumstances full of despair and hopelessness." When you work with an organisation serving a community of needy people you quickly learn that providing a meal or a warm place to sleep is only part of the solution. The rest of the solution can't be bought or sold. It involves an engagement of the mind and heart.

Many people we help have lost their way in life. They see no bright light in the future, their self-esteem and their dignity are at an all-time low.

As Christmas approaches we are reminded of the hope that came on that special night so long ago; the hope of reconciliation, of forgiveness and the hope of a new start. These are the things you can't buy but they can change a life.

Please help us bring hope to those who need it most this Christmas by making your donation to the City Mission Christmas Appeal so we can continue **H**elping **O**ther **P**eople **E**xcel.



## Christmas drink marks turning point in Bob's life

Bob (not his real name) came to Serenity House, our sobering up and time out centre near Burnie, showing signs of damage from long term heavy alcohol abuse. He was unable to maintain the thread of a conversation, finding it difficult to make sentences that were more than a few words long. He was not eating and he was not able to understand the simplest of instructions.

Bob was not at Serenity House for long when he was diagnosed with Korsakoff's syndrome. This condition is associated with large gaps in the memory, inability to take on new information and is almost always permanent. With this condition Bob was not suitable for the Missiondale Recovery Program.

Support workers at Serenity decided the best option for Bob was to refer him to a place where he could live an independent life until eventually he passed away as that was the ultimate prognosis. Unfortunately they were unable to find anywhere in Tasmania that could offer Bob the facilities and services he needed. They tried a transitioning program with Nexus House, our supported accommodation units in Latrobe but Bob wasn't keen to go to live at Nexus because it meant another unsettling relocation for him. Finally the support workers were forced to tell him that if he wanted to stay on with the Mission he would have to eventually go to Nexus House. Within a few days of this conversation, Bob said that he wanted to leave and, "go get a drink." We were gutted! Bob had been with us for a year and it was Christmas Eve! Ultimately the

support workers had to let him go. They couldn't make him stay and there were no other options. Bob left that night and spent Christmas with the Pokies at a hotel in Burnie.

*“ Within a few days of this conversation, Bob said that he wanted to leave and, “go get a drink.” We were gutted! Bob had been with us for a year and it was Christmas Eve! ”*

Eventually Bob found some accommodation in Burnie and although this was not ideal because he could still have a drink it was better than sleeping on the beach.

Bob became involved with the Salvation Army's Bridge Program, going along to their groups. As time went on he started to improve. On several occasions Bob was sent back to Serenity for sober up or time out, never for as long as before, but he was always open to coming in to visit for a short stay and we never failed to be amazed at the differences in Bob. He could converse on a normal level and his memory for sports was nothing short of miraculous.

Eventually Bob decided to take the next step and apply for a place in the Missiondale Recovery Program. After several weeks he was admitted and moved down to Missiondale. Bob still has many mountains to climb but he is making good progress. His story



shows there is always hope and we should never give up. People like Bob may not always adhere to our expectations or achieve the goals we think they should achieve. It is our task to remain focused on their needs, help them realize they are valued and strive to help them achieve the goals *they* have set for themselves.

### Mission core values

As a Christian mission organisation the core values of The City Mission relate directly to Christian ethics and moral standards and are stated in the Mission's Motto:

*“Caring and Sharing in Jesus' Name”.*

#### **FAITH**

Confidence that actions rooted in good character will yield the best outcome, even when we cannot see how.

#### **JUSTICE**

Taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure right and true.

#### **COMPASSION**

Investing whatever is necessary to heal the hurts of others.

#### **GENEROSITY**

Carefully managing resources so we can freely give to those in need.

#### **VIRTUE**

The moral excellence evident as we consistently do what is right.

#### **DEPENDABILITY**

Fulfilling what we consent to do, even if it means unexpected sacrifice.

#### **ENTHUSIASM**

Expressing joy in each task as we give it our best effort.

# For a dollar a day you can help change a life!

One dollar doesn't seem much these days but when it is accumulated over a year it's enough to buy three family food packages or six back pack swags for the homeless.

"**mission360**" is a new way you can get involved in bringing hope to people in desperate circumstances. Most of us can afford to spare a dollar a day

especially when it is something that has a positive impact in people's lives.

By being part of mission360 you will be regularly contributing throughout the year to the ongoing work of the City Mission. You will receive regular updates on latest Mission developments and be invited to special functions where you will be further

enlightened on how your contribution is changing lives.

All you need to do to become a member of Mission360, is to arrange a deduction of \$30.00 from your bank account for twelve months paid to the City Mission, complete the form below and forward it to us. A staff member will contact you in due course.

## mission360 membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to join **mission360** and be a part of changing somebody's circumstances.

I have arranged twelve \$30.00 monthly transfers to your account (BSB 067 600 Acct No. 28005964) commencing from (date) \_\_\_\_\_ And referenced it "mission360".

I understand that a City Mission staff member will be in contact with me shortly to confirm these details.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## New art brightens hospital's corridors

If you have visited the Launceston General Hospital recently you may have seen the new murals on the walls of the corridors.

The murals are a result of an initiative from the people at Youth on Paterson, an arm of the City Mission. A number of amazing murals have been created by a consortium of young people and hung in the corridor leading into Ward 1E.

The launch was well attended and Tim Keogh, Youth on Paterson's Manager, spoke about how important it was to value young people and see them make good contributions to our community.



## New arrival for Babymum

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011, friends and family members of both Babymum Australia and City Mission came together for a house warming party to celebrate the recent arrival of Babymum Cottage.

"Babymum Cottage is a dream come true and an answer to the prayers of many over the past decade", Noelene Booth, the proud founder said. "It is everything we asked for and is just the perfect place for young mums and their little ones."

The cottage, situated in Launceston will provide supportive accommodation for up to four new mums and their babies.

Babymum Australia has partnered with City Mission to help them

achieve their goal of making life better for young mums and their babies. Babymum works with young new mums who would otherwise find their role as a parent challenging in their current circumstances. It does this by providing accommodation and 24/7 support.

If you would like to join the Babymum community, visit their web site at [www.babymum.org.au](http://www.babymum.org.au).

### GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Join the Babymum family to become their first live-in cottage parents—check out our website for details or phone 0488 99 66 33.



City Mission Board member, Elaine Bushby & babymum founder Noelene Booth at the Cottage opening

# City shop continues trading

Our City shop in Wellington Street lost a few days trading in September after a driver lost control of his vehicle and caused major damage to the building where the shop is located. After a major clean up and assessment for damage the builders moved in to make the shop safe to reopen. The shop has been operating since a few days after the accident occurred with approximately half the normal floor space.

The accident occurred early in the morning of September 12 when a car collided with the building, knocking out two window areas and causing significant damage to a

support column and walls. Much of the stock in the store had to be withdrawn and destroyed.

Store manager Miranda Garcie said that her regular customers are happy the store is still open in spite of the restricted room.

Repairs to the building should be completed by mid-December then the store will resume to its original capacity.



# New look website

Over the winter months our web site has been completely updated. We have been working with Walker Designs to create a fresh new site and the results have been very pleasing.

All the information has been updated and added to. There are four distinct sections: Get Involved, Need Assistance, What's on and Support and Services. The news section is constantly changing, bringing you up to date information about what is happening at the Mission. So check the site out at [www.citymission.org.au](http://www.citymission.org.au).

We hope you like what you see.



## Thankyou.

*Thankyou to the many organisations who endorse the work of City Mission through their valued support.*



## Yes! I want to bring hope.



Please fill in, cut out and post together with your donation to: Launceston City Mission, PO Box 168 Launceston 7250

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorised by: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT OPTIONS:** (Please Tick) (all cheques must be made payable to 'City Mission')

Bank Transfer: Account Name: Launceston City Mission BSB: 067 600 Account #: 28005964 Ref: Christmas 2011

Please find my donation enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque  Direct Deposit/Bank Transfer  Credit Card  VISA  MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_