



Storehouse seasons

Storehouse Steps up for Belinda

Nothing illustrates more clearly the good work of The Kogarah Storehouse than the joyful outcome for a desperate life impacted.

Jordanna Zammitt, our welfare officer and case worker related the following account of one of her clients.

This is a TRUE story about a lady who we will call Belinda, simply to protect her privacy, though what you are about to read details a REAL everyday situation dealt with by Jordanna and the team at The Kogarah Storehouse. And what this story shows is that just an available, caring, helping hand can achieve great things.

Belinda is a client of the Storehouse, who lives by herself, and who was suffering from mental health issues contributed, in part, by the parlous state of her rental home.

She has been living there for 7 years. When she originally moved in it was dirty, drab and horrible; the carpets were unclean, the walls weren't painted. And Belinda being a house proud lady was, because of these issues, embarrassed to have visitors

over and it led her into a deep depression. So, when Belinda came to see me she was very upset and at her wits end. She had tried to get her place fixed up by Housing NSW but they never followed through with their promises. She asked me if I would write a support letter for her, which she could take to Housing NSW, clearly stating all the facts of her situation.

But now we have GREAT news!!!!!! For the past 3 weeks her unit has been undergoing several renovations. They have painted it throughout and re-carpeted with new carpet. They are fixing up the kitchen, adding 10 extra cupboards and replacing the old ones. Additionally, they have added 3 cupboards to the laundry and a shelf. Also, she has new fly screens on all the windows and a new security screen door on the balcony.

Belinda is so happy that the work is finally being done. She loves being in her own place now and it is no longer making her depressed. I am delighted for her (and for her cat), in that they now have a lovely 'new' home.



Lala's Greetings

On Sunday 27th May 2018 we had a special service at Kogarah Uniting Church. The purpose of the service, apart from the usual Sunday worship, was to invest the new Church Council of the Brighton-Kogarah congregation and also to acknowledge the "work and workers" of The Kogarah Storehouse. It was a great morning of celebration made doubly memorable by the attendance of Peter Worland, the immediate past Executive Director of Uniting - which is one of the largest providers of community care in Australia.

Peter Worland gave the principal address in which he highlighted our aging population and questioned whether we can rely on Governments to provide adequately for the needy in the future. His view was that increasingly communities need to acknowledge the needy within their community and offer the support and comfort required. In short, he commended the great work The Kogarah Storehouse was doing and put it up as a model that other communities would do well to follow. Such commendation was timely affirmation of our God glorifying "work and workers" at The Storehouse.

Lala Noronha
Manager



CAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT SOCIAL SECURITY?

Figures from 2015 to 2018 Australian Budget broadcasts reveal spending on Health has likely grown from \$69billion to \$78billion whilst Social Security and Welfare has gone from \$152billion to an anticipated \$176billion. Contrast this to Government Revenues budgeted in 2018/19 which show individual taxpayers to account for \$222billion and the next major contributor to revenues being Company and Resource Rent tax of \$92billion.

The reality is that individual taxpayers make up the bulk of Government Revenues required for programs. But to quote from

an Australian Treasury paper "The number of Australians aged over 65 is expected to increase rapidly, from around 2.5 million in 2002 to 6.2 million in 2042.....In 2002 there were more than five people of working age to support every person aged over 65. By 2042, there will only be 2.5....."

A report by the Australian Government Department of Social Security sums up future care of the needy by: "We believe that if the community, businesses and the Government work together, great things can be achieved. We want to make it easier for people

to help the community through philanthropy..... We would like there to be more volunteering in the community. This is when people work without getting paid and, by doing this, they help their community".

In times past the care of the needy was provided by the Church and other benevolent organisations. For the last century Government stepped in. But it seems from reports Government is hoping to pass this responsibility, to a degree, back to the Churches and Social Welfare organisations of the future!

A WORD FROM REV ROBYN

Minister Brighton-Kogarah Uniting Church



As we enter the coldest part of our year, the needs of those who are homeless, sleeping rough, living in their cars, becomes a much harsher experience.

The 2016 Census revealed the extent of housing stress in this area and that has been reflected in the large increase in the requests for food parcels this year.

In his life Jesus spoke a lot about how we care for the poor and the vulnerable in our society and that

it is the quality of the way that we live our lives that is important in this life and the next.

We have moved from being a "society" to an "economy" where User Pays is the mantra.

There are so many inequities in this approach, especially for those who are starting from behind the line.

The challenge that we each have is – in what way do we care for the

poor and the vulnerable? How do we ease the suffering that we see around us?

Through The Kogarah Storehouse we have the opportunity to make a difference.

Every donation of time and money has more value than we can ever imagine.

Thankyou for the many ways, big and little that enable us to extend God's love to the people we serve.



About The Kogarah Storehouse

Our mission: "To be a haven of hope and practical help to people in need in our community"

Established in 1992, The Kogarah Storehouse Community Centre is a non-government, not-for-profit, registered charity with (PBI) Public Benevolent Institute DGR status. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. It operates from the Kogarah Uniting Church and is an outreach mission of the church.



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