



Storehouse Seasons

30 Years of Service . . . The Kogarah Storehouse

The Kogarah Storehouse will soon celebrate 30 years of Service to the community. A celebratory dinner is planned for September 15 to mark this important occasion.

But how did The Storehouse begin this life of service?

St George Hospital, founded in 1894, was steadily growing and by necessity needed to acquire properties around it so it could expand. Two such properties, acquired in 1986, were the former Methodist Church building in Kensington Street together with the former Congregational Church in Gray Street. Both Churches had amalgamated only some few years earlier to become the Kogarah Uniting Church. Now, the parishioners had to find a new place to worship. After a lot of prayer and faithful trust in God's plan for His Church, the parishioners were led to renovating and revitalising a derelict 100 year old factory on the corner of Gray and Kensington Streets Kogarah.

This "New" Uniting Church in Kogarah, situated in a discarded factory, was not your typical vision of how a traditional church might look. Rather, this lowly building, to which the parishioners were prayerfully led, was to be a humble place from

which to express the love of God – John 13:34 "My command is this: Love one another as I have loved you" – a love to be shared with the community.

This old building, now with a new mission as a house of God, reminded someone of the biblical passage Malachi 3:10: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

And so "The Kogarah Storehouse" found its name and God has kept his word, in that The Storehouse continues to bless so many people by the work being done there.



Lala's Greeting

The current war in Ukraine is a tragic affair. The senseless waste of life, on both sides, civilian and combatant, is absolutely shocking. Ordinary, fiercely nationalistic, men and women of Ukraine - "Citizen Soldiers"- line up to sacrifice their lives for their fellow citizens against the injustice being wrought on them.

It is the ultimate sacrifice to lay down your life for the benefit of others. The Bible instructs us of God's heart for us. That same heart for others is hardwired into us too. "Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friend". (Jn15:12-13)

I contend, "Citizen Soldiers" also include those who fight against injustice of every form, though not all require the supreme sacrifice of one's life. Whistleblowers, missionaries, medicines sans frontier workers come to mind, so do some journalists, politicians and, may I nominate, those dedicated volunteers of relief organizations, such as we are blessed with at The Storehouse. People who daily go into various "battles", for the sake of their fellow man, often indifferent to the hardship they themselves may encounter in the process.

Blessings,

Lala Noronha,
General Manager



The Storehouse Reaches Out to the Mongolian Community

One important feature of the Kogarah Storehouse Centre are its meeting rooms which provide a great resource for community groups to use. One such group is the Aus-Mon Community Services & Development (Incorporated) (AMCSDI), a non-profit organisation, aiming to support the health and social wellbeing of the Mongolian community, endorsing the Mongolian language and culture.

The emerging Mongolian community in Australia is diverse with a large population living in the Bayside area, near Kogarah. Many Mongolians find it difficult to integrate due to their language and cultural differences. AMCSDI aims to facilitate and integrate the Mongolian Community into the general Australian society.

The Kogarah Storehouse has partnered with AMCSDI to support the Mongolian community through the services it offers. The Storehouse has helped more than 300 Mongolian families this year with emergency food parcels, plus they have organized 13 Women's Health & Wellbeing information sessions and activities, which has reached out to more than 200 Mongolian women with much needed help.

Additionally, to help combat COVID-19 The Storehouse has provided hand sanitisers, masks, and rapid antigen tests, which has been very much appreciated.

The Storehouse also assisted in registering the organisation, facilitating connections with other service organisations and even facilitated in securing their first funding grant through Bayside City Council.

An AMCSDI spokesperson has made this comment: "It would have been difficult without The Kogarah Storehouse's help. Obviously, we would have struggled to find a way to run our information sessions and reach out to our community.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to The Kogarah Storehouse for their continuous support and assistance."



Tax Deductable Donation Appeal

The demands on the resources of The Kogarah Storehouse are escalating. We need your help, more than ever at this time. Please consider giving tax deductible financial support to this very humanitarian need.

GO TO:

<http://www.kogarahstorehouse.org.au/donate>

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 Institution, DGR status. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. It operates from the Kogarah Uniting Church and is an outreach mission of the church.



CONTACT US - The Kogarah Storehouse: Cnr of Gray & Kensington Streets Kogarah NSW 2217. MAIL: PO Box 67 Kogarah NSW 1485
T: (02) 9587 5761 | E: enquiries@kogarahstorehouse.org | W: www.kogarahstorehouse.org.au | ABN: 83 458 985 477