

Parish of St. Mark the Evangelist, Fitzroy

**Saint Mark's Community Centre**  
*in partnership with*  
**Anglicare Victoria**

*Loving God, by serving the community*

# **THIRTY SECOND ANNUAL REPORT**

**Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011**



250, George Street,  
Fitzroy,  
Victoria. 3065

Tel: (03) 9419 3288

Fax: (03) 9417 5398

Email: [robin.ellwood@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:robin.ellwood@anglicarevic.org.au)

ABN: 97 397 067 466

*All donations of \$2.00 and above are tax deductible*



## **Foreword to the St. Mark's Community Centre Annual Report 2011**

It is a pleasurable honour to write this foreword to the Annual Reports for the St Mark's Community Centre for 2011 for the first time.

Enclosed within this report are accounts of the extraordinary work and dedication of many people to keep this centre alive. In so doing we are serving some of the most vulnerable people in our society – being Christ to them so that we might see Christ in them. I am grateful especially to Fr Graham Reynolds, Robin Ellwood our Coordinator, Louise Lang and so many others who work so hard to facilitate this link between parish, agency and the community.

Since my induction as the Parish Priest of Saint Mark's I have been introduced to many clients, workers, volunteers and donors. I am inspired by your dedication and commitment to the work of the centre. It has been a year of great transition and these changes enhance the dignity of every human person that encounters the centre and thus we embody Christ's love.

I am eagerly looking forward to working closely with all of you to enable the centre to be enriched and grow in its service of the Lord Jesus Christ who came to proclaim the 'year of the Lord's favour'. (Luke 4:19)

Fr. Stuart Soley,  
Parish Priest

**Agenda**  
**For the Annual Meeting**  
**of**  
**Saint Mark's Community Centre**

**Thursday 18 August 2011**

1. Present
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of last meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Co-ordinator's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Election of Officers
8. Any other business
9. Provisional date of next Annual Meeting: **Thursday 16 August 2012 at 12.00 noon.**

***Special thanks to Lois & Harold Peters for arranging the catering today..***

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

### Saint Mark's Community Centre

Thursday 25 November 2010

*The Meeting began with prayers at 12.00 noon*

**1. Present:**

Fr. Graham Reynolds; Fr. Jim Pilmer; Angela Eustace; Jean Daniels; Martyn Smith; Brian Clark; Graham Baker; Colin Simpson; Celia Sweetman; John Neale; Rev. Margaret Burt; Andrew McComas; Joan Hill; Tim Clark; John Swanland; Lois Peters; Harold Peters; Martin Dickenson; Jenny Dickenson; Elaine Miller; Graeme Miller; Leon Warden; Marlene Beattie; Jacquie Joslin; Cherie Brockbank; Meredith Bartlett; Robin Ellwood.

**2. Apologies:**

Dame Elisabeth Murdock; Maureen Cawley; Wendy Dickeson; Yvonne Doig; Fran Henderson; Gary Simmons; Judy Crake; Paul McDonald; Alan Phessey; Betty Knorr; Kent Bloxham; Robin Croton; Fr. Philip Murphy - Fr. Philip's letter of apology was read out.

**3. Minutes of last meeting (19<sup>th</sup> November 2009).**

Proposed to be accepted by Robin Ellwood & Seconded by Graeme Miller.  
Accepted by all present.

**4. Matters arising:**

No matters arising.

**5. Co-ordinator's Report:**

Proposed to be accepted by Robin Ellwood & Seconded by Colin Simpson.  
Accepted by all present.

**6. Treasurer's Report:**

Proposed to be accepted by John Neale & Seconded by Celia Sweetman.  
Accepted by all present.

Graham told the assembly that with effect from 01 July 2010, the accounts were now subject to Anglicare Victoria's procedures and audited on a regular basis. Monthly copies can always be provided by Robin

## 7. Election of Officers:

- **Brian Clark** (Holy Trinity, Surrey Hills) was re-elected as the **Supporting Parishes Representative** "for one more year".  
(Proposed by John Neale & Seconded by Margaret Burt)
- **John Swanland** was elected as the **Volunteers Representative**  
(Proposed by Robin Ellwood & Seconded by Tim Clark)
- **Roger Davis** was elected as **Auditor for the Opportunity Shop accounts**  
(Proposed by John Neale & Seconded by Celia Sweetman)
- **John Neale** was appointed as the **Church Wardens Representative**
- **Jacquie Joslin** was appointed as the **Vestry Representative**
- **Robin Croton** was appointed as the **Opportunity Shop Manager Representative**
- **Wayne Harris** was appointed as the **Client Representative**

## 8. Any other business:

- Graham mentioned that Yarra Valley Grammar School students had chosen to explore homelessness as part of their activities week and were currently having a 24 hour experience of being homeless in that they had slept in St. Mark's Centre last night & would be again this evening, and were going to manage without money or mobile 'phones, but simply with a small food parcel and have breakfast with the clients of the Lazarus Centre at St. Peter's Eastern Hill. They considered this to be an incredibly valuable experience and hopefully the first of many, and even complained that their food parcels contained too much food as they didn't want to take from those who were really in need. Graham acknowledged Robin's contribution to the success of this venture.
- The building is due to have \$15,000 of re-cabling & computer access and a \$6000 industrial clean in the near future. A new kitchenette and lounge area would also shortly be built thanks to a generous grant
- A new pilot scheme, "Change for the Better" had been launched whereby those who had holiday currency or even old Australian coins and notes could send them in and the proceeds generated would be spent on the Parish Partnership Programme of which St. Mark's was now a full member. All who attended the meeting were encouraged to take an envelope and bring it back with their unused coins. The parish of St. Silas in Albert Park had already generated c. \$600 in just a few weekends.

- A special “thank you” to the community of St. Mark's for embracing the partnership with Anglicare Victoria which had been a courageous step for them to take. Letting go of total control can be a difficult decision but this had been a timely decision and we acknowledge Fr. Philip's leadership in this area. Issues such as Occupational Health and Safety and Maintenance could now be dealt with effectively as well as Professional Development for the paid and unpaid staff. Recently a workshop on Challenging Behaviours took place and the participants were almost all unpaid staff. Another four or five similar workshops are planned for the coming year. Fr. Graham has enjoyed working with the clergy, Robin, the staff and the parishioners, and he was especially appreciative of Leon Warden's contribution to the celebration of the liturgy. The linkages with the Lazarus Centre programme were also important and we hope to build on this in the coming months and years. “Thanks to you as a community”.

9. The date of the next annual meeting is **Thursday 18 August 2011 at 12.00 noon.(Mass at 11.00 a.m.)**. It was felt more appropriate to have the meeting nearer the end of the financial year, and November is far too busy a month in the run up to Christmas.

*The Meeting closed at 12.16 p.m.*

## **Co-ordinator's Report:**

### ***Robin Ellwood writes:***

Welcome to this year's Annual Meeting and thank you for your support in the past year. This time last year we were just beginning our partnership arrangements with Anglicare Victoria so we are able to report on how that first year has progressed. A lot has happened in that time which will be covered within the scope of this report.

### **Comings and Goings:**

**Fr. Philip Murphy** left us to take up his new position as Executive Officer with Catchment Youth Services in September 2010. **Fr. Jim Pilmer** capably held the fort as locum in his absence, although I am sure he wasn't expecting to be in situ for quite so long. Our new parish priest, **Fr. Stuart Soley** was not inducted until 22 July 2011!

In November we officially joined forces with the Lazarus Centre to form Anglicare Victoria Homeless Services. We had some weeks of trial and error initially with no two weeks quite alike, but from January the main emphasis came to St. Mark's with the Centre opening full time from Monday to Friday, 10.00 a.m. until 4.00 p.m. (with food parcels and other assistance between 12.00 noon and 3.30 p.m.). The Breakfast Programme is open at St. Peter's, Eastern Hill from 7.30 to 8.30 a.m., and the Drop-in Centre at St. Paul's Cathedral now open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30 to 12.00 noon. We welcome former Lazarus Centre staff **Louise Lang, Campbell North, Yvette Armstrong, Alex Gamser, Elliott Bannan** and long term volunteer **Laurie Hannell**.

We also said 'farewell' to **Nicole Gould**, our Friday receptionist who relocated to Brisbane after her engagement to Patrick Robertson. They will marry after Patrick has completed his overseas Army posting. As I write he is still awaiting final details of the location. We wish them both well for the future.

After almost 20 years of faithful service to the Community Centre, **Tim Clark** retires this week as Sports and Recreation Coordinator. We will miss his kindly and gentlemanly ways. He is much loved by the clients and staff alike. Thankfully after a short break in Europe with his parents, Tim will be returning as a volunteer, freed from the responsibilities (and dare I say hassle?) of his current post. We hope he has an enjoyable time during his first trip to Europe and that he comes back renewed and refreshed. The place wouldn't have been quite the same without him.

### **A big Thank you:**

As always, St. Mark's could not operate without the good will and generous donations of so many individuals, parishes, schools and trusts who bring us foodstuffs and financial aid. Each week we receive deliveries from far and wide, with people giving freely of their time.

I would also like to thank especially the non-paid staff or volunteers, who give many hours of their time freely. In the past year we have enjoyed the support and dedication of the following team members who on average give 266 hours per month of their time:

<i>Quyen Bach</i>	<i>Cherie Brockbank</i>	<i>John Buckingham</i>	<i>Maureen Cawley</i>
<i>Lap Dang</i>	<i>Tony De Fazio</i>	<i>Wendy Dickeson</i>	<i>Kirk Vandegriff</i>
<i>Nicole Gould</i>	<i>Esther Lang</i>	<i>Alfredo Perri</i>	<i>Sam Robb</i>
<i>Antoinette Scaramal</i>	<i>Martyn Smith</i>	<i>John Swanland</i>	<i>Celia Sweetman</i>
<i>Marion Tallis</i>			

Plus, of course, the team of enthusiastic volunteers from the Holy Trinity Parish, Doncaster, ably organised by Judy Crake:

Judy Crake	Mel Bartholomeusz	Dorothy Bartholomeusz	Bev Rees
Pat Edwards	John Bartholomeusz	Marg Jacobs	Barry Jacobs
John Wedd	Allan Schurmann	Bev Schurmann	Joyce Feldt
			Rupert Feldt

Thanks also to the Management Committee who have been there as my support this past year. We are grateful for their time and contribution:

Fr. Graham Reynolds	Anglicare Victoria
Fr. Philip Murphy	Parish Priest until September 2010
Fr. Jim Pilmer	Locum Priest – September 2010-July 2011
John Neale & Rod Conn	Church Wardens
Robin Croton	Opportunity Shop Manager
Jacquie Joslin	Parish Representative
John Swanland	Volunteers Representative
Brian Clark	Supporting Parishes Representative
Wayne Harris	Client Representative

### **Food:**

As part of the **Feed Melbourne Campaign**, we are regularly supported by the following organisations:

- **SecondBite** who bring us fresh produce twice weekly, sometimes this will include bread, eggs, yoghurts, soups, ice cream as well as the usual Fruit and vegetables. We are grateful for their generosity, regular support and friendly service.

- **FareShare** also provides us with good quality freshly cooked frozen meals, pies, quiches and sausage rolls made up from foodstuffs that would otherwise be wasted by other organisations. We now collect these from Foodbank Victoria.
- **Foodbank Victoria** (formerly VicRelief Food Bank) – we now collect food and other produce on a weekly basis from the warehouse in Yarraville. This can also include material assistance in the form of mattresses, bedding and sheets. The staff of Foodbank Victoria always make us welcome.

We are fortunate in that we have a large number of parish communities and individuals who support us with foodstuffs, monetary donations and stock for the opportunity shop. The staff, students and parents of **Brighton Grammar School** visit four times per year with increasingly generous donations of food and household goods. Over the past 12 months they have donated something in the region of \$22,430 for which we are very grateful. The stock levels after their quarterly visits keep us going for the months in between. We are grateful to **Monty Stephens** who coordinates the school appeal and supervises the students when they come on site. Some of the boys visit over a period of years and always make themselves at home.

#### **Change of Focus:**

With effect from 01 July we changed our focus at the Centre in that we restricted our client base to the homeless and asylum seekers. Our resources had become overstretched and a large number of clients were shopping around to get assistance from a number of different agencies locally. It was felt that those living within the City of Yarra either in their own homes or housing commission properties should go to Anglicare's Mission House in Napier Street whilst those who were primary homeless (living on the streets or couch surfing) or secondary homeless (those living in transitory accommodation, hostels and rooming houses), plus our asylum seekers, would be serviced by ourselves.

This change of emphasis, together with the increased opening hours, has completely transformed the dynamic of the Centre and the drop-in aspect of our work has become our main focus in creating a safe environment for our clients to gather. The place really *feels* like a community centre nowadays rather than the supermarket feel it used to have as people came to fill their shopping trolleys! Now that we are supporting a smaller client base we are able to distribute food parcels on a weekly basis rather than a monthly basis as before. Needless to say, the homeless are able to obtain food and other assistance at any time.

As regards financial aid, our main area of assistance is towards accommodation expenses. We try to keep people off the streets where at all possible, even if it just means a couple of nights in a motel or guest house. Sadly the number of places available to the clients are few in number. We have tried to liaise with the charity **Melbourne Streets to Home** who over the last 10 months or so have worked hard with the long term homeless (10 plus years) to gain permanent accommodation. In recent weeks and months 35 clients have been housed which is a great achievement. We have assisted the clients and Streets to Home with bedding, household goods and some smaller items of furniture as they first move into their new homes.

We were fortunate to obtain a \$10,000 grant from the Sidney Myer Fund which enabled us to increase our monthly grants to the asylum seekers we support from \$30 to \$90 for the single clients and from \$50 to \$150 for the couples and families. We are hoping to be awarded a similar grant for this financial year. The extra assistance has really helped the clients pay rent and other essential expenses as they do not qualify for Centrelink payments and some do not qualify for Red Cross assistance either. One of the clients was able to take part in a course at the University of Victoria with the grant assistance and we have helped with other expenditure such as children's school trips, household items and even wheelchair tyres. Many of our asylum seekers have waited years for Permanent Residence in Australia, with no indication on the horizon as to if or when this might be granted.

**Statistics:**

Within the financial year St. Mark's assisted clients in the following ways:

	<b><u>2010-11</u></b>	<b><u>(2009-10)</u></b>
Single Food Parcels:	2633	2554
Double Food Parcels:	82	993
Family Food Parcels:	28	189
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2743</b>	<b>3736</b>
Plus something in the region of	<b>155</b> Christmas Parcels	<b>350</b>
PBS Prescriptions:	<b>714</b>	<b>1054</b>
Drop-in Centre	c. <b>6434</b> people	c. <b>1608</b> people
Accommodation Assistance	c. <b>\$9,287.00</b>	
Asylum Seekers	<b>\$15,571.30</b>	
Non PBS Medication	c. <b>\$1,789.12</b>	
Other financial assistance	c. <b>\$1,990.20</b>	
Food donations received	c. <b>\$84,902.00</b>	

**The Lounge:**

Due to a grant of US\$12,000 from the Newman's Own Foundation, plus monies raised from the filming of Underbelly and hosting the Federal Election in November, we were able to install a new kitchenette and lounge area in the main hall. The toaster has become an important item and is in constant use as is the microwave and dishwasher. Together with donated soft furnishings and a thorough spring clean in February the place is looking much better. We hope to be able to decorate in due course and include some art works to improve the ambiance of the Centre.

Thanks to those who regularly supply us with coffee, tea, Milo, milk and sugar – as most of our clients cannot afford to visit a café, the opportunity for regular refreshments is important. Just recently we have been able to obtain hot foods from The Vine Hotel in Collingwood in addition to the pies, quiches, sausage rolls, soups and garlic breads we have been able to prepare on site. During Homeless Persons' Week we hosted a barbecue which proved to be popular and the clients have requested that this become a regular feature of Centre activities.

**Relocation of Rooms:**

Whilst the spring clean was taking place, a certain amount of rewiring and cabling was installed which allowed us to create an office, meeting room/staff room facility in the former lounge. This in turn freed up office space in the Reception area so that we now have three interview cubicles available for semi private conversations. The cabling has allowed us to access the Anglicare Victoria network facility and a server has also recently been installed, improving our computer facilities.

In addition we have been able to relocate the food distribution area into the former back office which offers better safety for the staff and volunteers and a brighter place to work from – one cannot smell the Gents' Toilets either which was always a problem in the existing food distribution area! With last year's grant from Woolworths, our sneeze/chiller counter and pie warmer were also installed which allows us to display foods more hygienically.

**Students:**

The following students have completed placements or are currently on placement with us as a part of their study programmes:

**University of Melbourne**  
**Master of Social Work**

Daniel Dadich  
Amanda Robins

**Student Ambassador Leadership Programme**

Lawrence Lam  
Seok Mei Lim

**ACU National School of Business, Melbourne, Faculty of Arts and Science**  
**Professional Experience Programme (PEP), BIPX 100 Professional Experience A:**  
**(Personal Service)**

Tan Huynh  
Tram Le  
Zengxu Li  
Andy Nguyen  
Thien Thuong Nguyen  
Jia Wang  
Yang Zhang

**Monash University – School of Medicine**  
**Community Based Practice Programme**

Zoë Marks  
Henry Badgery

**Cambridge International College, Adelaide**  
**Diploma of Community Welfare**

Daljit Singh

**Kangan Institute**  
**SRJA Work Experience**

Quyen Bach  
Hailee Dromi  
Anthony Nandlal  
Tina (Minh) Pham  
Hyat Yesuf

We are grateful to them for their contribution and the many hours of voluntary work undertaken. It is good that the Centre and Opportunity Shop are recognised as training centres for those studying welfare and retail

In November a group of students from **Yarra Valley Grammar School** experienced homelessness first hand for 36 hours in an attempt to live the life of someone living on the streets by carrying their possessions with them, no access to mobile 'phones, cash or luxuries. They were also given a small food parcel and slept on the Centre hall floor (for safety reasons). The experiment was a great success, although the young people complained that our food parcels were too generous! In addition to this practical example of homelessness they also had some input from the Brotherhood of St. Laurence on what it means to be homeless.

**Christmas Appeal:**

Once again thank you to everyone who so generously supported our Christmas Appeal. The clients were very appreciative of the food parcels and toiletries they were given at this time. Thank also to everyone who gave up their time to make up the parcels with us.

Schools and organisations who made donations included:

Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy  
Brighton-on-Bay Retirement Village  
Bunnings Warehouse, Hawthorn  
Camberwell Grammar School  
Dance of Life & Upstairs Tenants at St. Mark's  
Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School

Mentone Grammar School, Mentone  
Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School - Tay Creggan Campus, Hawthorn  
Westpac Bank, Abbotsford  
Westpac Bank, Fitzroy

**Media:**

If you haven't already visited our website, you can do so on:

<http://www.stmarksfitzroy.com/centre/>

We also try to keep our **Facebook** page up to date with photos and details of events at the Centre. This can be visited on:

<http://www.facebook.com/stmarksfitzroy>

**Lion Tales**, our newsletter is published four times a year and increasing numbers of our supporters are choosing to receive this via email, thereby saving us on the expense of postage. We are grateful to our editor Lyn Wilson who works hard to present this in a professional manner.

**The Lazarus Centre:**

**Louise Lang, Coordinator writes:**

*"The Lazarus Centre continues to provide practical support to those of our community who are homeless and marginalised. The breakfast program that we run from St Peter's Eastern Hill continues to provide a great service to these people. More recently we have seen an increase in demand for the breakfast service of about twenty percent. The service provides breakfast to between 35 and 70 people every day, with average numbers around 55. This service is provided 365 days a year that is nearly 20,000 serves of breakfast in a year, that is a lot of toast, cereal and coffee!*

*This year we have continued a cooked breakfast on the first Wednesday of the month. This consists of eggs and bacon cooked on barbeques by some staff recruited from Anglicare Victoria's Central Office, a team headed up by Graham our General Manager. This seems to be very much appreciated by all and our numbers often swell to eighty plus on those mornings.*

*The advice/referral program based at Saint Paul's has also had a successful year. We continue to have our weekly barbeque there on Fridays starting around 11am. Just recently other foods have been introduced to that, we now regularly have eggs, bacon, sausages, onions, tomatoes, mushrooms, coleslaw and cheese. We are always looking for ways to serve and include our clients in and with our programs.*

*Up until the beginning of 2011 the Lazarus Centre was open 5 mornings a week, this year it now opens on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, this has been since the collaboration*

of all Anglicare Homeless Services and the opening of St Mark's five days a week. Through these changes we hope to consolidate and continue to improve the service provided across all our Homeless Services sites.

We have had a number of changes in staffing. We have said goodbye to Ken and more recently Mofi & Shree and have welcomed Yvette, Alex and Elliott. We continue to work as a team of three permanent staff, three casuals and a great crew of volunteers. I wish to express our deep gratitude to our volunteers. Without their help we would find it much more difficult to continue our service. In fact on a good number of days we could not operate without our volunteer assistance.

I would also like to express a particular thanks to all the congregations and clergy who support our work. We appreciate the support we receive in maintaining supplies for our food parcels. Many have opened their hearts and have been most generous in providing us with the material aid and finance to continue this invaluable service to the people we support.

Thanks to all those who have supported us throughout the year and we look forward to this rewarding partnership continuing in the future."

**Fr. Philip Murphy writes:**

"Having left St Mark's in September of 2010, I cannot report on a great deal of the financial year. However it was certainly an active and interesting time with the parish partnership with Anglicare Victoria coming into effect on 01 July.

The results of that partnership were already visible in the lead up to the official date with an even more exciting future ahead for the Centre. The increase in opening hours, staffing and programmes on offer have had an immediate benefit to the clients and the 'vision' is gradually unveiling.

In all of this I must record my thanks to Robin Ellwood for his work and support. I am glad that our working partnership has not ended as St Mark's Community Centre supports the work of Catchment Youth Services which I now run. St Mark's has been very generous in making collections on our behalf from Foodbank Victoria and also passing on donated items which are more suitable to youth homelessness rather than St Mark's.

There were other great changes down the road at the Opportunity Shop. A conversation I had with my friend Trevor Whittaker led to his interest in using his shop design and marketing skills for the benefit of the shop. The launch of the new look shop by Jenny O'Keefe, Presenter of Breakfast Spread at PBS Community Radio and the then Minister for Housing, Richard Wynne MP took place in September, together with a blessing by Bishop Philip Huggins. But the upgrades and improvements to the shop have not ended there and continue to be seen and appreciated by customers. I would like to say a very sincere 'thank-you' to Trevor for his hard work and dedication and the way in which he has passed on his vision for the shop to the staff and volunteers there. It has all helped allow the shop to do what it is there for, to give financial support to the work of the Centre and to be a visible sign on a busy street of the existence of the work of the Centre.

The shop continued to be separate for the time being from Anglicare Victoria in a transitional period with the view to being incorporated into Anglicare, but still serving the purpose of supporting the work and witness of St Mark's Community Centre.

I would also like to make mention of Tim Clark as he looks forward to his retirement. Tim brought a great calmness to the Centre and always dealt with the clients in a very professional and caring manner, whilst trying to provide the best possible sports opportunities for them.

Finally my thanks to the Volunteers, to Father Graham Reynolds and all at Anglicare Victoria and to all the staff of the Centre and Shop for their hard work and commitment to seeing the vision of St Mark's Community Centre realised."

Fr Philip Murphy (Parish Priest 2004-September 2010)

CEO, Catchment Youth Services, Reservoir  
<http://www.catchment.org.au/>

### **Anglicare Update:**

#### **Fr. Graham Reynolds writes:**

"The 2010 - 11 year has been a very full one. We have witnessed a lot of change and development at the Community Centre.

The most significant has been the resignation of Fr Philip Murphy as Vicar of the Parish. He was a great supporter of our Program and was instrumental in the Development of the Partnership with Anglicare Victoria, which has proved a great boon to the life of the Centre.

We are delighted with the physical improvements that have taken place. As you enter the centre you will notice that we have done some major rearranging of the reception space. This allows for a private staff office/meals area. The reception area now includes three cubicles for case work with clients, and food parcels are now collected from the room adjacent.

The Hall now includes a modern kitchenette, and has benefited from a thorough clean from ceiling to floor. There is a pool table, table tennis and other activities are available for all our clients.

As you enter the Community Centre there is a sense of "community" and "well being" amongst both the clients and the staff. We are too, now beginning to see regular visits from some of the allied health services which service the area.

St Mark's Community Centre is now working closely with the Lazarus centre programmes and Mission House in Napier Street.

All the staff meet together each fortnight and there is both a sharing of ideas and resources. This is strengthening each program as well as providing greater support and "team spirit" for our staff and volunteers.

Fr Stuart Soley's Induction as Vicar of the Parish begins a new chapter for us, he is a long time friend of Anglicare and a great worker for both social justice and social inclusion.

Your continued interest, prayers and support for the Community Centre are greatly appreciated by all of us and you are welcome to visit at anytime."

Graham Reynolds  
General Manager Parish Partnerships and Community Development  
Anglicare Victoria

### **St. Mark's Recycled:**

#### **Robin Croton writes:**

"This year we have all concentrated on consolidation after the major upgrade last year. With very few exceptions customers have been overwhelmed by the 'new look' shop and the display of merchandise. Even after many months we are still receiving compliments on the changes and especially on our novel window displays.

We have started gingerly venturing into e-bay, at this stage only to find the value of some goods that are given to us. In the future we hope to also put some goods on e-bay for sale.

Most people have heard of the downturn in retail sales around Australia and we are very fortunate in not having been hit by this.

Although none of us expect to make our fortunes in an Opportunity Shop we have continued to trade well. We are planning to gather some statistics in the latter part of the year about how many customers come through the door, what times of day they come to shop and how many of them actually purchase goods.

We now have a person who has completed the tag and test course for testing electrical goods and hope to be doing this later in the year.

Sadly more volunteers have retired and we still have a need for people who are prepared to work for some time in the shop. Some volunteers such as Trevor Whittaker have worked many days and nights during the year. Lois Peters not only works in the shop but makes moonlight trips to deliver goods dropped at the Centre.

Gill Sullivan and Denise Walsh have been responsible for keeping the shop open on Mondays which we had stopped because of a lack of volunteers. Laurie McMahon and Alan Gross are our two remaining men from our original group and they are shortly to be joined by a new volunteer.

*I would like to very sincerely thank all of our volunteers who have done a fantastic job. There are many more people who have helped in less obvious ways, but who also deserve our thanks, Robin Ellwood who has helped develop an ongoing working partnership with the Centre and Shop, John Neale who pays our bills and the many men and women who donate not once or twice but so often it has become a part time job for them."*

Our current list of volunteers:

Denise Walsh	Lois Peters	Alan Gross	Spiros Katsikas
Gill Sullivan	Laurie Mahoney	Trevor Whittaker	Trish Lambert
Henry Maas			

**Sporting Programme:**

**Tim Clark writes:**

*"The end of the football season led us into spring with lots of cricket, lawn bowls and pool. The cricket programme was divided into smaller sections: Laneway Cricket in the City; two weeks of Indoor Cricket and finally we played The Clem Briggs Junior from October until the end of November. We played at Warringal Park, Heidelberg, finishing up in the top rankings and playing off against the Salvos. We went down narrowly, but our team's skills improved and attitudes were good.*

*In early February and March we played in the Super 8's Competition, every Wednesday. Our early rounds featured good cricket despite a loss to Odyssey House. In the semi-final we beat one of the favourites, The Outer East Trail Blazers. In the final we lost to Sacred Heart for the second year in a row.*

*Bowls continued throughout the summer season with numbers high at times as well as low. Three of our players continue as members of the Fitzroy Victoria Bowling & Sports Club. Here they play Thursday evenings with Pennant on Sundays. It is tremendous to see them associating with the locals.*

*The tournaments at Ballarat were organised by Ballarat Bowling Club and Lilydale Bowling Club plus ReLink. We had a nice lunch provided before trophies and medallions were presented. Our team won the Lilydale tournament and narrowly missed the trophy for the A Grade at Ballarat.*

*Football is underway with three wins under the Collingwood Knights banner. The side is still young but they are getting bigger and stronger. St. Mark's are working with a big selection of other agencies. The Collingwood Knights have been sponsored by the Collingwood Football Club. They wear magpie football colours on the field, get free tickets for games and have been shown the Lexus Centre facilities. After three wins at the turn of the financial year, there is surely more to look forward to!*

Thanks once again to Tim for all his hard work behind the scenes and in maintaining his working links with ReLink and the other agencies. It can be frustrating when only one or

two people turn up to play a game he has spent a lot of time and effort organising, but also very rewarding when the team do well and come back flushed with the joys of success.

### **Volunteers' Representative report:**

#### **John Swanland writes:**

*"There have been many changes at St. Mark's during the year! However, I will leave it to others to report on change. I will report on what hasn't changed.*

*What hasn't changed:*

- 1. The heavy reliance on volunteer labour to help accomplish our mission.*
- 2. The support of the parish. On a personal note I must acknowledge the support and leadership of Fr. Jim Pilmer during this year. Also, John Neale has given so much of his time, energy and expertise to the centre. We are certainly grateful for what he has done!*
- 3. Our non-judgemental approach to whomever walks through our doors seeking assistance*
- 4. The commitment of **all** staff, whether paid or unpaid, to our mission*
- 5. The continued working through of our partnership agreement with Anglicare Victoria*

*In May I was honoured to represent the volunteers at a function at the Fitzroy Town Hall, where Councillor Alison Clarke, the Mayor of the City of Yarra made special mention of the work of the volunteers at St. Mark's and presented us with a certificate recognising our work.*

*I continue to be involved in management meetings and try to faithfully represent the volunteers in that forum. We have a great mix of volunteers. We have the "old hands" and some new recruits this year. Both are of critical importance. The "old hands" are invaluable in passing on the culture and knowledge that has accumulated over so many years whilst our new recruits bring new ideas, new energy and new life to the place."*

**DONATIONS OF MONEY, FOODSTUFFS, GOODS & OTHER SERVICES**

**Parishes & Organisations**

St. Barnabas	Balwyn
St. John's	Blackburn
St. Agnes	Black Rock
Bread & Stuff	Burwood
St. Andrew's	Brighton
Brighton Grammar School	Brighton
BICCYS Opp Shop	Brighton
Dockendorf's Supermarket	Brighton
St. Peter's	Brighton Beach
Affordable Trade Services and JLD Car Care	Bundoora
Bundoora Senior Citizens' Club	Bundoora
St. Bartholomew's	Burnley
New Wave Christian Fellowship	Burnley
St. Faith's	Burwood
St. Thomas	Burwood
Church of the Ascension	Burwood East
St. Paul's	Canterbury
Quest Clocktower on Lygon	Carlton
Newton & Leung Pharmacy	Collingwood
St Matthew's Mission Group	Cheltenham
Holy Trinity	Doncaster
St. Margaret's	Eltham
St. Mark's	Essendon
St. Mark's	Fitzroy
St. Mark's Recycled	Fitzroy
St. Mark's	Forest Hill
St. Stephen's	Gardenvale
Anglican Parish of	Gisborne
St. Andrew's Opportunity Shop	Hampton
Odd Bods	Heidelberg West

**St. Mark's Annual Report 2011**

Holy Trinity	Hughesdale
St. George's	Ivanhoe East
St. Paul's	Kew East
All Saints	Kooyong
St. George's	Malvern
St. John's	Malvern East
CMC Cleaning Maintenance, Property Services	Melbourne
Holy Trinity	Melbourne East
All Saints	Mitcham
St. Augustine's	Mont Albert North
St. Philip's	Mount Waverley
St. Stephen & St. Mary	Mount Waverley
St. Peter's/Holy Nativity	Murrumbeena/Hughesdale
Christchurch	Ormond
Yarra Valley Grammar School	Ringwood
All Souls Opportunity Shop	Sandringham
All Saints	St. Kilda
St. Aidan's	Strathmore
Holy Trinity	Surrey Hills
St. Mark's	Templestowe
Christchurch	Yarra South
Royal Society of St. George's Ladies' Group	Yarra South
The Order of St. Lazarus	

**Individual Donors**

Mrs S Aurisch  
The Hon Justice Batt  
Mr Noel Belcher  
Mrs Janet Bell  
Mr Max Bigmore  
Dr David Bolzonello  
Mrs Elizabeth Burton  
Ms Helen Campbell  
Mr Bill Carless  
Mrs Maureen Cawley  
Dr Catherine Cherry  
Mrs J Chester  
The Rev'd Vernon Collins O.A.M. J.P.  
Mr Christopher Cook  
Mrs C Cooke  
Mr A & Mrs E Coutts  
Mrs H Daniels  
Mr P Demaine  
Mr Martin & Jenny Dickenson  
Mr T Dixon  
Mrs Audrey Dobbie  
Ms Ruth Donaldson  
Mr & Mrs David & Mary Doublet  
Mr J & Mrs M Down  
Miss E Dyer  
Mrs Roslyn Feeney  
Dr Hugo Fernandes  
Miss Bee Glascodine  
Miss Helen Glascodine  
Ms Mary Good  
The Rt Rev J Grant  
Mrs Ellen Green  
Mrs J Greilach  
Mr Lyle Hagan  
Mrs Jane Hall  
Mr K & Mrs C Hall  
Mr F & Mrs O Helmut  
Mrs Joan Hill  
Mr John Hyde  
Mr D & Mrs J Ikin  
Dr H Irish  
Mrs V Jackson

Mrs K Jansen-McMaster  
Mr Mark Jewell  
Mr Neil Jewell  
Mr B Johnson  
The Honourable Justice J V Kay  
Mrs Elaine Keenan  
Mr Ross & Mrs Ruth Kennedy  
Mr I & Mrs I J Little  
Mrs Angela Lorient  
Mr L & Mrs J Mansfield  
Mr Andrew McComas  
Mrs Ruth McGahy  
Mr M & Mrs L McGuire  
Ms Marie McKellar  
Ms Margaret McKinnon  
Mr Michael Mihajlovski  
Mr E Oldham  
Mrs Catherine Pearson  
Mrs D Phillips  
Mr Kevin Plumridge  
Miss Betty Powell  
Mrs E Puckridge  
Mr John Quinton  
Mrs Margaret Reid  
Mrs Betty Richardson  
Mr L Ritter  
Ms Suzanne Savona  
Mrs J Seibel  
Mr L & Mrs R Smart  
Mr I Smith  
Ms Margaret Smith  
Mr Martyn Smith  
Miss J Stamps  
Mr L Thomson  
Mrs Joy Waller-Ogden  
Mr J Wangerek  
Ms Margaret Whelan  
Mr Trevor Williams  
Mr & Mrs J Wilmshurst  
Ms Cecilia Wong  
Mr D & Mrs G Wood  
Mr Peter Young

**Trust & Corporate Funding**

The following have provided financial assistance to St. Mark's Community Centre in 2010-2011:

The William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund	\$7,000
Estate of Marian and E. H. Flack Trust	\$25,000
The Frank & Flora Leith Charitable Trust	\$15,000
Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund	\$7,000
Melbourne Magistrate's Court	\$4,000
R.E Ross Trust	\$12,100
Newman's Own Foundation	\$11,816
Sidney Myer Fund	\$10,000

We also acknowledge with gratitude the many individuals who send financial assistance, the many donors, known and unknown, of bread and all types of foods and goods to sell in our Opportunity Shop, those who help in the Centre or Shop and all who support us with the power of their prayers.

**ST MARK'S COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

**2010 – 2011**

**INCOME:**

Donations:	77,757	
Trusts:	46,100	
Rental	10,210	
Anglicare Victoria	87,862	(Anglicare Victoria makes up the difference between all other income and the total expenditure.)

**TOTAL INCOME:            \$221,929**

**EXPENDITURE:**

Employment Costs	118,005	
Occupancy Costs	30,451	(Cleaning, Electricity, Gas etc)
Pharmacy Scheme	4,725	
Programme Expenses	5,297	
Phone & Technology	4,889	
Staff/Programme	9,756	
Support		

Repairs/maintenance    9,549

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE:    \$221,929**    These figures do not include some \$25,000+ of capital expenditure by A.V. in the upgrading of the Community Centre facilities.

**Please note:** This is a brief financial summary of the Cost Centre 1178 “ St Mark's Fitzroy”, it forms part of the overall Anglicare Victoria Accounts.

The complete Accounts are currently being Audited and will be presented to the A.G.M. of the Council of Anglicare Victoria, this year to be held on 12<sup>th</sup> October.