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Turning Point Camden Newsletter Summer 2023



What an incredible end to the year. 125 Christmas Hampers were distributed throughout our community with loads of toys blessing our young families. Through your generosity, each hamper had a \$20 gift card included to purchase those extra food items for Christmas celebrations.



We welcomed so many new community groups and businesses as well as connecting with our long-standing donor family members, who together make our Christmas Relief Program such a successful and heart felt experience for the recipients and everyone involved.

The lead up to the festive season was huge, beginning with our relocation back to Edward Street post flood, then straight into organising our new process of Christmas Hamper/Toy distribution with the team at the Baptist Care's Narralling Community Centre. We are incredibly grateful for this support.



We also had two fundraising events, both at the historic Denbigh Property Cobbitty. First was the Garden Open Weekend where over 500 people from all over Sydney visited these historic gardens and had the opportunity to purchase and see demonstrations from the Macarthur Ceramics Group and the Denbigh Studio, plus local wood turners and stone masons. Proceeds raised through gate entry were used to purchase food supplies for our Crisis Food Pantry. This was followed by Opera In The Barn where 200 music enthusiasts enjoyed a perfect evening of world class entertainment from Australian Opera singers, local vocalists, musicians and our own Cobbitty Community Choir led by Jodie McGuren. It was an incredible team effort and an annual event definitely missed during Covid-19. Sincere thanks to the McIntosh Family, Camden Hire, Cobbitty RFS, Cobbitty Public School and all the Turning Point team. Proceeds raised will go toward our goal for the purchase of a minibus, so we can offer further support to people in the community.



Denbigh Open Studio
 531 Cobbitty Road, Cobbitty
 10am - 4pm on 12 & 13 November



Second Bite
 Ending Waste. Ending Hunger.



This Christmas Season we met groups of children from local Family Day care and Pre-schools incredibly keen to deliver their food supplies. Full credit to their educators who gently delivered information about families needing this support in an age-appropriate way. Its exciting to see our next generation of social warriors developing an “other centred” mindset.



We celebrated Christmas lunch with our men and women’s groups. This was a particularly exciting time as we christened our new back deck. It was truly amazing and heart-warming to fit all our visitors on the one table, just as a family would enjoy a celebratory meal. There were plenty of smiles and laughter as they enjoyed the Christmas Season with their Turning Point family.



We thank our local MP Peter Sidgreaves and his team for opening his office at Narellan Town Centre as a second drop off point for gifts during our Christmas Appeal. This was particularly helpful for donors unable to donate during our operating hours.



Christmas is also an incredibly sad time for many people. Life’s stresses can really be exasperated during the holiday season, so we try to check in with as many of our visitors as possible before the end of year closure. This will include extra food point support and connecting them with each other so they can act as a support for one another.



We sincerely thank all of you for your kindness and generosity throughout the Christmas Season and throughout 2022. You provided the funds and supplies for our Crisis Food Pantry that was accessed on 1,330 occasions and provided funds to purchase 1,423 gift/fuel vouchers. So please continue to hold cake stalls, barbeques, sell donuts, entertain, co-ordinate boxing events, recycle through Return and Earn, publish books, purchase handmade greeting cards, hold staff mufti days, display food donation stands and spread the word about our service and how the community can contribute.



We look forward to another incredible year of blessing individuals and families in our community facing insurmountable pressures.

