

# HOPE STREET

Spring 2009 NEWS



## REACHING OUT TO THE HIDDEN HOMELESS

'Single homeless women are often described as the hidden homeless.'<sup>1</sup> Sadly this hidden issue is also a growing issue with the number of women as a percentage of the homeless population growing from 42% in 2001 to 44% in 2006.<sup>2</sup> In real numbers this is a staggering 46,057 women who are homeless across our nation.

Within this group are those who are chronically homeless. For these women their lives often revolve around daily survival. This survivalist orientation makes it difficult to focus on longer term goals. In order to maintain any level of improvement in the quality of their lives, women in this

group require a continuing level of care.

For the past 18 years HopeStreet has been reaching out to a small group of the hidden homeless through The Women's Space. The focus of The Women's Space is women who are involved in the sex industry, and in particular those who work on the streets. These women regularly experience abuse, rejection, and violence which contribute to an overwhelming sense of worthlessness and a destructive and low self-esteem. For most there is a sense of futility that precludes any thoughts of having a future, an alternative career, or a safe lifestyle.

The Women's Space provides an environment where women are respected and valued in a safe and alternative community. Women are offered ongoing support via warmth, acceptance, and love. Experiencing the genuineness of this and the interest of the staff, each woman is empowered to slowly explore change through positive life affirming choices.

Our desire is that the hidden homeless will find a home amongst the community at HopeStreet, and that this may be a stepping stone to finding a home within and amongst the wider community.

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# HOPESTREET CITY2SURF TEAM EVENT 2009



*"It was an excellent day for a run; the sun was bright and the air was cool. When we ran through the tunnel at the top of William Street, I got a shiver down the spine as a couple of thousand people started "Aussie, aussie, aussie.... oi, oi, oi-ing" together. The highlight for me was the bands along the side of the road belting out rock covers, or the brass band at Dover Heights that got things moving as we headed down into Bondi."* - Joanna Sinclaire.

Joanna was one of many HopeStreet supporters who participated in this



year's City2Surf. Not all of us ran but it was equally enjoyable for those who walked the 14km from Hyde Park in Sydney to beautiful Bondi.

I'd like to express a huge thank to everyone who participated, and to your generous supporters who together raised almost \$7500 for HopeStreet's Homeless Person's Outreach Program.

A special thank you also to Tom Kerr Mazda at Ryde who helped us stand out in the crowd through the donation of HopeStreet t-shirts.



**Top left: At the finish line. Top Middle: Some HopeStreet supporters amongst the crowd. Top Right: At the start line. Above: Some of the HopeStreet team who participated in the City2Surf.**

## CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE

HopeStreet packs and distributes over 500 hampers just prior to Christmas each year as part of our outreach to the homeless community, and those who are doing it a bit tough in the Glebe and Woolloomooloo Housing Estates. Details of the items we are seeking to be donated for the hampers will be available at [www.hopestreet.org.au](http://www.hopestreet.org.au) on the News and Events page from Monday 19th October, with delivery dates for the goods usually falling in the third week of December. The information sheet will also include an invitation for volunteers to assist in sorting and packing the hampers. Stay tuned!



### PEACE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

ART EXHIBITION

9 - 22 NOVEMBER  
1PM-6PM DAILY  
182 CAMPBELL ST  
DARLINGHURST

ANNUAL CELEBRATION  
15 NOVEMBER  
6-7.30PM  
TICKETS \$15

FOR TICKETS AND  
MORE INFO PH. 9358 2388

<sup>1</sup>Casey, S. (2002), 'Snakes and ladders; women's pathways into and out of homelessness', in T. Eardley and B. Bradbury, eds, *Competing Visions: Refereed Proceedings of the National Policy Conference 2001*, SPRC Report 1/02, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney, 75-90.

<sup>2</sup>Australian Bureau of Statistics



## HOPESTREET WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

We are pleased to welcome Andrew Dawkins as our new Director and he shares with us here a bit about himself.

### 1. WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THE ROLE OF DIRECTOR AT HOPESTREET?

Over recent years, my awareness has grown of the issues facing the poor, marginalised and forgotten of society and the need for the Church to be there in the heart of it representing the very passionate heart of Christ for such people. To be offered the role of directing such a ministry is a great privilege that humbles me. I look forward to bringing to HopeStreet my experience as both a Pastor and a Commercial Manager to assist in streamlining our structures and maximising our fruitfulness. Since commencing I have already grown to appreciate the extensive giftedness

and passion of the HopeStreet staff and look forward to co-labouring with them.

### 2. CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY?

I have been married to my wife Raelene for 27 years. I have three children; Josh who is married to Megan and lives in Brisbane; my daughter Hannah who is studying Journalism at University; and Michael who is completing Year 12 this year.

### 3. WHAT WERE YOU DOING PRIOR TO THIS ROLE?

I worked for five years in management at Vision Valley Conference Centre. Prior to this, apart from a few "treading water" roles, I worked as a Senior Pastor of Churches in Sydney and Brisbane.

### 4. WHAT INTERESTS OR HOBBIES DO YOU HAVE OUTSIDE OF WORK?

I am a passionate supporter of the Sydney Roosters and a member



of the club. They need as much support as possible at the moment! My other interests are fishing, computers, spending time with my family and good friends.

### 5. WHAT'S YOUR VISION FOR HOPESTREET FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?

To assist in building efficient structures and systems to streamline our ministry. I want to expand our premises to overcome the limitations we currently are facing. I want to affirm and support our excellent staff members. I want to support the ministers of our three Churches to help them fulfil their visions under God for their ministries. I want to work closely with MSD, HopeStreet Board to fulfil our current vision and begin exploring new opportunities.

## THE BAZAAR AT BLACKSTUMP

**Imagine...a place where you could discover that your own neighbourhood is ripe with opportunities for creative Christian action; where tiny and massive acts of beauty, love and compassion are practised as acts of worship to the most high God.**

Imagine a place that enjoys your company no matter who you are; a place where important conversations and listening out for the marginalised voice is a discipline, and a holy undertaking. The Bazaar is that place.

HopeStreet and Salvos Edify are teaming together to bring you the Bazaar at this year's BlackStump Music and Arts Festival. It will be a venue that promotes local

mission, transforming conversation, and retro chic. You will be able to experience the generosity of community with the opportunity to buy, donate or swap funky op-shop threads. You can be a part of forums and workshops, film screenings and performances all of which will reflect the vibe of local mission. You can reflect upon (and even buy) artwork from HopeStreet's Art Space; be challenged about Australia's homeless population; access the internet; and enjoy some reflective time in the chill space.

For more information visit [www.blackstump.org.au](http://www.blackstump.org.au)



## HOW YOU CAN HELP!

HopeStreet exists thanks to the generosity of our faithful donors and supporters. You can help bring hope to the people of the inner-city by:

- Checking out our current volunteer opportunities regularly updated on our website at [www.hopestreet.org.au](http://www.hopestreet.org.au)
- Donate Gifts In Kind by contacting Brendan Wood at [support@hopestreet.org.au](mailto:support@hopestreet.org.au) or on 9358 2388. Note that due to our limited resources goods must be delivered to HopeStreet at a pre-determined time and place. Large items are difficult for us to receive unless we have a specific need at the time. Second hand clothes, books, and other small items can be delivered direct to the Op Shops at Glebe or Woolloomooloo.

## WHAT'S COMING UP AT HOPESTREET

**September to November** - Spring Appeal 2009. Please support HopeStreet as we reach out to the hidden homeless. Donate via the form below, by calling 9358 2388, or online at [www.hopestreet.org.au](http://www.hopestreet.org.au)

**October 2nd-5th** - BlackStump Festival

**November 9th-22nd** - Art Exhibition

**November 15th** - HopeStreet's Annual Celebration

**December** - Christmas Appeal and Hamper Drive

Please call 9358 2388 or visit [www.hopestreet.org.au](http://www.hopestreet.org.au) for details about these events.

## PRACTISING JUSTICE, COMPASSION AND HOPE IN THE INNER CITY

- > Homeless persons program
- > Employment training program
- > Community development
- > Safe house for women sex workers
- > Inner city gambling counselling
- > Christian fellowships

### HOPESTREET

HELP US BRING HOPE TO THE HIDDEN HOMELESS THIS SPRING

Donation amounts:

- \$..... for The Women's Space     \$75: Women's Space Outreach     \$..... Wherever is most needed

I authorise HopeStreet Urban Compassion to automatically debit my charge card every  month /  quarter (tick appropriate) for the amount shown, until I revoke this authority in writing to HopeStreet Urban Compassion.

I enclose a cheque/money order made out to HopeStreet Urban Compassion for the amount shown, or

Please charge the amount to my card  Visa /  MasterCard

Name of Cardholder \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Annual receipts - please send a receipt at the end of the financial year

No receipt required

I do not wish to be informed about the continuing work of HopeStreet

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Rev/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Name on tax receipt \_\_\_\_\_

#### DONATIONS OVER \$2 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Please send this completed coupon to

HOPESTREET 91 Forbes Street

Woolloomooloo NSW 2011

Or Fax to (02) 9358 4128

