

HOW TO MAKE AN AUSTRALIAN QUILT



(Left to Right) Standing: Val McKelvie, Jeanne Harper, Jacqui Ronchi, Pam Richardson, Archbishop Barry Hickey, Palmina La Frenais, Anne Simmons, Vicky Kohlshein and Ellis Murphy; Sitting: Marita Sommerford, Janice Hunt, Jennifer Rose, Brenda Auret and Danuta Walus

These women are affectionately known as the "quilting ladies" of the Catholic Education Office... excluding Archbishop Hickey of course!

Editor's Note - just kidding Your Grace - sorry!

Each year, these fantastic women get together and produce a quilt which is then raffled and the proceeds donated to a specific charity.

Throughout the 2005 year, the group would meet and the ladies would hand embroider the squares of the beautiful quilt shown in the photo above.

The squares were then put together and padded by Cathy Carr to complete the quilt and cushions. The hard working group then enthusiastically sold raffle tickets to the staff and friends of the CEO.

The raffle was drawn at the Staff Christmas party and we are very pleased to report that over \$500 was raised with the entire amount donated to LifeLink in support of the Archbishop's Christmas Appeal.

Archbishop Barry Hickey warmly accepted an invitation from the "quilting ladies" to attend a special morning tea in December where he was officially presented with a cheque for LifeLink.

His Grace sincerely thanked the group for their generosity and compassionate support for people in need and congratulated them on their magnificent quilting skills.

Editors Note: From all of us at the LifeLink Office, we would just like to add our thanks to all of our friends at the CEO - we really are so very grateful for all your help throughout the year in so many ways!



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LifeLink™ - CATHOLIC CARING AGENCIES
21 VICTORIA SQUARE, PERTH WA 6000

Telephone
Facsimile

08 9223 1315
08 9221 3903

Email
Website

admin@lifelink.com.au
www.lifelink.com.au

the official newsletter of LifeLink™

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A MESSAGE OF THANKS



Bishop Don Sproston at the Liturgical Launch October 2005

At the time of preparing this latest edition of LIFELINKS for print, I am delighted to report that the Archbishop's goal of raising \$375,000 from his annual Christmas Appeal for LifeLink is now within sight.

LifeLink has already received and receipted almost \$370,000 and we are confident that with donations trickling in on an almost daily basis, the target will soon be achieved.

I am not sure whether everyone knows this or not, but every year, the Archbishop hosts a special Liturgical Launch function for invited parish priests and appeal representatives.

It is an occasion for us to join together in prayer and song to ask for God's blessing for

the forthcoming appeal and an opportunity for the Archbishop to officially commission appeal reps.

A big thank-you to Sr Kerry Willison for another fantastic liturgical event and for the beautiful music provided by the Quartessence group... anyway, I digress, so back to the matter at hand.

As is usual at this event, I was personally inspired by the words of the Bishop and Archbishop (as I hope were all the guests). It was a real joy to hear Bishop Don Sproston's reflection on the Gospel reading. He urged Catholics "To go beyond the sentimentality of Christmas to God's passionate desire to be with us".

A MESSAGE OF THANKS

He said (at least in part) "Christmas represents God's passionate desire to be with us all in our humanity, our disappointments and fractured relationships, our deaths, difficulties and addictions.

Our challenge at Christmas and beyond is to share God's passion and to reach out to those in need and to share what we have with those who need it.

The LifeLink Christmas Appeal is an ideal way to join ourselves to the Church's local agencies which seek out and support those whom God himself desires to be with."

In his personal Christmas appeal letter to parishioners, His Grace said (and I paraphrase here) "that it was not always easy to recognise people in need – those who are lonely, isolated, confused or marginalised.

However our LifeLink agencies sought them out and helped in whatever way they could. By doing so, the work of our agencies is a powerful and practical example of Catholic Faith in Action".

There is no question that the work of the LifeLink social service agencies would not be possible without the very real and direct help we receive from so many people - especially at this all important appeal time.

On behalf of LifeLink, we would like to take this opportunity of acknowledging the fantastic support we receive from all the parish priests.

Reverend Fathers', without your assistance, the Archbishop's appeal would simply not be possible. Whilst it is not enough, we hope you accept our sincere and heartfelt thanks.

To the parish appeal representatives commissioned by the Archbishop as "his special assistants", we also say a big thank you. Every year you make time to lend a hand and help spread the good word of LifeLink to your parish - we are most grateful.

And finally to everyone who made a donation to the Archbishop's Appeal, we also extend our warmest thanks and genuine appreciation for your generosity and compassion for people in need here in WA.

There are undoubtedly many worthwhile organisations seeking assistance within our community. That you choose to support our LifeLink social service agencies uplifts us all.

It strengthens our commitment to people who most need our help and who have the courage to reach-out.

May we continue as Bishop Don suggested - sharing God's passion - to reach out to those in need and to share what we have with those who need it.

God bless each and every one of you.



Brett A Mendez
Consulting Manager,
LifeLink



Pictured: Bishop Don Sproxton and Mr Gary Louth, Operations Manager, HPA.

Bishop Don visited HPA's production centre in Northbridge to bless the special prayer card for children provided during the Christmas appeal.

St Simon Peter Catholic Primary Receives Archbishop's Award



Principal Richard Cavanagh (left) celebrates with Jim Thomas, Parish Priest Father Bronek and Assistant Principal (RE) Stephen Harris while Head Boy, Thomas Mooney and Head Girl, Li-Ann Koh proudly display the Archbishop's Award.

The St Simon Peter Catholic Primary School Community in Currambine was the proud recipient of the 2005 Archbishop's Spirit Award.

At a special assembly held at the school, LifeLink Board Member Mr Jim Thomas presented Principal Richard Cavanagh with a special commemorative plaque on behalf of LifeLink and Archbishop Hickey.

In presenting the award, Mr Thomas shared stories with the students about the work of the 13 social service agencies supported through LifeLink that help those in need within WA.

"While individually, it may be difficult to help people, by working together we certainly can and do make a difference", said Mr Thomas.

The Spirit Award was established by Archbishop Hickey in 1999 to recognise an individual school's outstanding support for and positive participation in his LifeLink Day initiative.

The award is not based on how much money a school raises - it is presented to just one primary or secondary school each year that:

- Demonstrates active support for the Archbishop's LifeLink Day Initiative.
- Embraces the goals of LifeLink Day, that is, to not only learn about what the Church's response to people in need is within the Archdiocese, but also to undertake some form of fundraising in support of the social service agencies funded through LifeLink.
- Is committed to educating students on their responsibility to care for those who are less fortunate in our community.
- Promotes an ethos of caring and compassion to students, teachers, parents and the wider community. That we all have a responsibility to show love and compassion not just on LifeLink Day, but every day!

Editor's Note:

LifeLink Day 2006 will be officially launched to both primary and secondary schools within the Archdiocese on Wednesday 7 June. We are delighted that both Archbishop Hickey and Bishop Sproxton will be "online and interactive" in a special webcast at www.lifelink.com.au