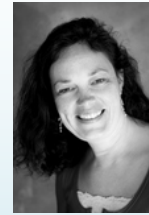




Hi everyone, my name is Philippa Winch and I am the Nelson Area Council Vinnies Youth Co-ordinator. One of the things that I love about my job is the positive values that the Vinnies programme offers our younger generation; the opportunity to reach out to so many people in need in the community and see the huge benefits for all concerned as well as the continued variety this job offers, each day is never the same!

Working with the youth is a total buzz. I am constantly inspired by these amazing young people who have so much life, enthusiasm and energy! It's awesome to see just how motivated these young people are to use their skills, talent and time to go out there and make a positive difference in their communities.



Sarah Helm, Executive Officer for the NZ Association for Adolescent Health and Development once said, "If their parents, caregivers, adult role models, support people and teachers have taught young people generosity and kindness then those values are likely to stay with them."

The Vinnies programme has a lot to offer in shaping the future leaders of our nation. I hope you will be equally inspired as you read the first of our Vinnies e-newsletters and see for yourselves the stories and comments these Vinnies share about what they have been involved in and learnt throughout the term.

God bless, Philippa

### **Garin College Vinnies**

This year I am the President of the Garin College Vinnies and we have recruited a good amount of people to help us undertake and complete some interesting tasks around the school and in the community. We began the year by selecting the roles amongst the seniors, and began brainstorming some good ideas for our group project which we need to accomplish in order to attain our accreditation and certificate at the end of the year. We have decided we will host a Tongan themed dinner night in order to raise funds for the Tongan islands, which are in desperate need of medical supplies & school supplies. We will hopefully be able to find help and advice from some of the Island communities living within Nelson and with their help have a more authentic menu, theme and overall night.

This term the Vinnies at Garin have been focusing on the school garden which since the Christmas holidays has been VERY overgrown. We've now salvaged an actual garden out of the weeds and have planted some seeds to create small seedlings and hopefully they'll grow so that we can plant them into the Garin garden. We'll hopefully grow some produce from there. We also began to plan how we could make the Garden seem appealing and not just a place for green thumbs to hang out. We designed and made a scarecrow to sit in the garden to give the place a bit of life, this was accomplished through purchasing second-hand clothes and stuffing them full of hay; adorning it with a handbag to give it a somewhat trendy look.

Finally, regarding the garden - we organised a watering/weeding roster so that the garden would get some daily attention and won't return to its original overgrown form.



- *Contributed by Joey Sauer*



## **St. Joseph Vinnies**

### **Meals-on-Wheels**

During Term One the St. Joseph Vinnies have once again been delivering Meals-on-Wheels once a week. For many of the Vinnies that have just joined up this year, it has been a fantastic experience learning the ropes in this community service. When the Vinnies were asked what they enjoyed about going out and delivering meals to people in the community, here are a few of their answers...

- Meeting new people and helping the elderly
- Seeing how happy the people are to see us and that I get to help them
- Seeing people happy when they receive their meals
- Fun because the people are very nice and they like to stop and talk to you
- Being able to help those who are in need
- That I get to help my community



The St. Joseph Vinnies made cloth bunnies out of facecloths and Easter cards for the people on their Meals-on-Wheels round. They donated Easter eggs to put with these and had great fun delivering the gifts to the Meals-on-Wheels recipients on the last Monday of term.

The St. Joseph Vinnies have participated in Meals-on-Wheels for two years now. They gained community interest throughout the term when Fraser Benson, Tasman Area Manager of Red Cross asked if he could join us on one of our rounds to take a few photos for a feature that Red Cross are doing for the International Year of the Volunteer.

### **Relay for Life**

During the term the St. Joseph Vinnies also assisted the Cancer Society in preparing for Relay for Life. When the Vinnies were asked as to what they learnt from helping the Cancer Society with this event, they made the following replies...

- That many hands make light work
- That there are lots of teams that enter to help the Cancer Society through Relay for Life
- That I was making life easier for someone

Linda Lucre, Acting Manager of the Cancer Society writes, "I would like to say what a pleasure it was to have some Vinnies come in over lunchtime and help out at our office."



### **Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser**

Last but not least, the St. Joseph Vinnies Leadership team organised a sausage sizzle to raise funds so that they could assist the Cancer Society by purchasing 150 postage paid envelopes for them. This was a new adventure for the Leadership team who had to organise this event themselves. Some of the things this involved that they had never done before was writing a formal letter to a business asking for sponsorship and liaising with members of the community such as the Acting Manager of the Cancer Society. The sausage sizzle went well and \$88 was raised through this event to purchase the envelopes.





## **St. Paul's Vinnies**

### **Starting day**

On Wednesday, 10 February, there was the very first St Paul's vinnies meeting for 2010. We were all excited! The first 4 to join in the first vinnies meeting were Julia, Jordan, Jamie and I. First we watched a short video of what the vinnies from last year did, that was cool! After that we talked about what we as vinnies could do this year. Finally we went back to lunch. I mainly thought it was awesome. Just looking at the help the vinnies put into the community was amazing!

### **Gardening at Garin**

About 3 weeks after joining vinnies, we were told we were going gardening at Garin. When we got there we were told what to do. We saw lots of bugs and spotted about 10 daddy long legs! Pulled out lots of weeds and finished one small garden and started another one. After that we found lots of carrots and got a photo of us pretending to eat them! Later we all piled into the van and quickly went back to school. When we got to school we piled out of the van and went back to class.



### **The Quiz**

We went to vinnies with our folders because we knew there was going to be a quiz but before that we watched a short video of why vinnies from around N.Z wanted to join. Then we played our quiz. Once the question was asked, we frantically searched our folders for the answer. At the end of the quiz most of us answered at least 1 question but Jordan didn't answer any questions and Julia answered the most!

### **Making paper blocks**

After the quiz was finished 4 girls went out and got shredded paper mixed with water in big boxes. We all put our hands in to see what it felt like. It felt weird, like squidgy. Then we saw a weird looking machine thing which we had to put the paper in and squish it all together until there was no water left and then we took the paper blocks out and by the end of lunch time we made two paper blocks.

And that is what the vinnies have been up to this term

*Contributed by Samantha Smith*





## **St. Peter Chanel Vinnies**

### **Community Garden**

During Term One, a group of the St. Peter Chanel Vinnies has been busy establishing a community garden at their school to assist people in need in Motueka. This project couldn't go ahead without the fantastic support of Glen Galbraith, one of the parents at the school. When the Vinnies were asked as to what they have enjoyed about creating a garden at the school, most have said planting the vegetables although one of the Vinnies also felt teamwork and having fun definitely added to this enjoyment.

As to what they have learnt from establishing a community garden

- The importance of watering the garden
- To use compost
- Digging a trench
- How to plant food
- Turning the ground



All going well, we should hopefully have a good crop of vegetables to pass on to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to distribute to people in need in the Motueka Community later in the year.

### **Paper Brick Making**

A group of the St. Peter Chanel Vinnies also spent time making paper bricks. These paper bricks are made from shredded paper and water using a paper press and are an eco-friendly alternative to using firewood. They are believed to have 1-2 hour's burning time. The paper bricks once made and dried are stored away in boxes. They will be given to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Motueka to distribute to people in need in the community over Winter.

When the Vinnies were asked as to what they had learnt from making paper bricks, their replies were...

- That you have to get all the water out of the bricks otherwise they don't stick together
- That you know that you've got all the water out if you can see holes (the indented pattern at the top made by the paper press)
- To push down hard to get all the water out
- That in a shared activity it's important to take turns

### **Car-Wash for Motueka Night Shelter**

The St. Peter Chanel Vinnies Leadership team organized a carwash at New World Supermarket to raise funds in order to purchase items for the Motueka Night Shelter. This activity required the Vinnies to network with other people in the community such as the manager of New World Supermarket, the organic shop and the Motueka Night Shelter as well as their teacher and Principal at school in order to achieve their goal. The whole of the senior class was involved with this activity on the 25 March which couldn't have gone ahead without the wonderful support of the parents who also came with us. When the Vinnies were asked as to what they thought went well with this project, their replies were...

- Teamwork and co-operation
- We raised lots of money
- Everyone helped with washing the cars
- Everyone had fun and we washed a lot of cars



As a result \$100 was raised for the Motueka Night Shelter which we will be able to use to purchase the items the Motueka Night Shelter needs.



**Out-of-College Vinnies**

**Assisting the Refugee Homework Academy**

Throughout this term I have been spending Wednesday afternoons at Victory School. I have been helping and supporting the year 5 and 6 refugee students with homework and also playing some games. On hot afternoons we went out on the sports field to play some games that will help them with their numbers and English. They really seem to enjoy our company and like spending time with us Kiwi's. Lately my friend and I have been teaching them some Jump-Jam dance. It is nice seeing them try a different style of dance and see that they really enjoy it.

I have found this a great experience. It has taught me lots of ways to interact with culturally different children and I admire their bravery in taking on a new language and a new country.

- *Contributed by Lily Warner*



**Reflection on 2009**

I have had heaps of people inquire as to Vinnies photos that have been taken throughout last year and how they can get copies of some of these photos to remember events such as our awesome Vinnies camp; the constructing of our entry into the Collingwood Derby Challenge and other fun and zany moments along the way. The great news is, now's your chance to recapture all those moments and order copies of any particular photos you would like as keepsakes to look back on in the years ahead.

To cash in on this opportunity go to the Vinnies website [www.svdp-vinnies.org.nz](http://www.svdp-vinnies.org.nz) and click on the link **photos 2009**. The camp photos are under the link 2009 Camp Photos. You are able to order these photos by clicking on the image to enlarge the photo that you want and writing the number at the top of this image. Photos cost 50 cents for a 6"x 4" or \$1.50 7"x5" and will be edited to bring out the best of the image. Orders of 10 or more prints in the one order attract a 15% discount.

Order and payment can either be given to me at our Vinnies meetings or you can e-mail your orders to [philippa@svdp-vinnies.org.nz](mailto:philippa@svdp-vinnies.org.nz)



## Coming Events

### YOUTH WEEK

Youth Week is coming up from May 22 – 29. This is a fantastic week celebrating young people. Nelson Tasman Youth Workers Collective together with a variety of youth focussed agencies is this year planning and delivering several exciting events to celebrate youth week.

The following events are happening around the area so definitely get on board by checking out these great opportunities...

#### **That Cool Photo!**

A photo competition and exhibition. Positive images relevant to young people in Nelson/ Tasman. Open to entries from all 12-25 years old non-professional photographers.

Closes May 7<sup>th</sup>, judged by a professional photographer and on display at the events on May 22 and May 29 with the top 20 photos printed and displayed for a public – people's choice competition.

Download the poster here <http://www.svdp-vinnies.org.nz/downloads.html>

#### **Youth Hui 10am-2pm May 22**

This is open to all young people involved in youth leadership. Starting at 10am on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at The Recreation Centre, Motueka.

Free vans will leave from outside the Hub at 9am.

This hui will include a workshop delivered by Annie Henry and Mike Milstein on internal and environmental factors that build youth resilience, networking opportunities and a facilitated conversation / discussion about the joys and challenges of being a young person in youth work today. Lunch will be provided.

There are a limited number of spaces available so please have interested young people register by contacting Deanne 548 0560 or email [coordinator@ntywc.org.nz](mailto:coordinator@ntywc.org.nz)

#### **Youth Expo 2-5pm May 22**

This is also an opportunity for your young people to come and see what is out there to do, to help, to become involved in.

This event is held at the Motueka Recreation Centre gym. It is open from 2-5pm.

#### **SUPERSTARS**

A performance competition being organised and run by Arlo Harrison.

Entry open to all 12 – 25 year olds. SIX categories - shuffle, singing, air guitar, beatbox, dancing and random. Limit of ONE entry per person. From 1-5pm on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Hub. Entries close May 14<sup>th</sup>, limited entries so register early by contacting Arlo – [arlo.harrison@whakatumarae.co.nz](mailto:arlo.harrison@whakatumarae.co.nz) or text

0276633104. Download the poster here <http://www.svdp-vinnies.org.nz/downloads.html>

Send name, age and category.

#### **X Box Challenge**

As it sounds an X Box competition /challenge happening on the 29<sup>th</sup> at That Cool Thing! At the Hub.



### Voices

Next term groups of Vinnies will have the opportunity of putting together a 25 minute Fresh FM radio programme about their involvement in Vinnies. This will go to air on Wednesday **9 June at 4:10pm** and Saturday **12 June at 9:10pm**.

### Youth Volunteer Awards

Nominations are now open for the 2010 Youth Volunteer Awards. This year the awards event is being held in Youth Week in May, earlier than last year when we had Youth Awards as our main focus of Volunteer Awareness week in June.

We welcome your nomination. Students have this year been encouraged to nominate their peers if you feel there is some young person you know who deserves to be nominated. You can access the nomination form on-line by going to [www/tyc.co.nz/yva2010](http://www/tyc.co.nz/yva2010)

Nominations close 30 April, and this year, nominator's names go in the draw for a prize!

Jan & Jude  
Volunteer Nelson

### **Contact Details...**

St. Vincent de Paul Nelson Area Council Vinnies office  
P.O.Box 3391  
Richmond  
Nelson  
Ph: 544 1973  
Mobile: 027 544 1973  
E-mail: [Philippa@svdp-vinnies.org.nz](mailto:Philippa@svdp-vinnies.org.nz)  
[www.svdp-vinnies.org.nz](http://www.svdp-vinnies.org.nz)

*Yours must be a  
work  
of Love,  
Kindness,  
you must  
give of your time ,  
your  
talents,  
yourselves*

*Whatever may be the extent  
of my instruction, it will not  
have been wasted if I have  
rekindled hope in young  
souls, hope which is not only  
the inspiration of what is  
beautiful, but the principle of  
good which enables us to do  
good deeds...  
-Frederick Ozanam*

*You must study  
their condition,  
and  
often injustices  
which brought  
about such  
Poverty,  
with the aim of a  
long term  
improvement'*