



# ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (NSW)

## METROPOLITAN SCHOOLS & YOUTH NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Vinnies Schools and Youth Newsletter for Term 3. We hope that you have had a safe holiday in lockdown and that you are ready to go for another term of the Holy Spirit working through you. We also pray that you and your school community are strengthened during these particularly testing times with the current NSW restrictions.

### Vinnies 2021 Winter Appeal

Schools in the Metropolitan region have once again demonstrated incredible generosity in Term 2 through their support of the 2021 Winter Appeal with donations to their local Conferences, Vinnies Support Centres and Vinnies Van Services.



We welcome all schools to participate in the [#FAMILYWINTERSLEEP@HOME](https://bit.ly/ChristinaGilioSydVinnies) initiative in Term 3 and cannot wait to see your incredible results! Thank you so much for the ongoing support!

### Vinnies Van Services Programs

Is your school community interested in supporting Sydney, Bayside, Liverpool, or Greater Western Sydney Vinnies Van Services?



You can help by joining a Night Patrol roster; preparing and donating sandwiches, snack packs and/or toiletry packs on a regular or ad hoc basis; or by helping in our Night Patrol Kitchen. For more information, please contact your Schools Engagement Officer.

Vinnies is delighted to announce that **Woy Woy Night Patrol** is coming soon, if you would like to join any of the abovementioned rosters, please contact:

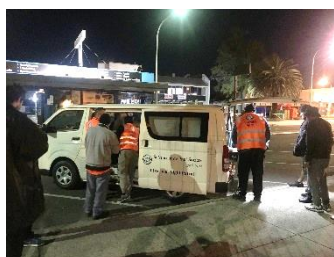
[fiona.pelosi@vinnies.org.au](mailto:fiona.pelosi@vinnies.org.au)

**Greater Western Sydney Night Patrol** is seeking schools to join our Sandwich Making Roster with the start of Merrylands stop in Term 3, please contact:

[roydon.ng@vinnies.org.au](mailto:roydon.ng@vinnies.org.au)

### Liverpool Vans now at Mt Pritchard

Liverpool Night Patrol Base has relocated from Liverpool to Mt Pritchard (Vinnies Mt Pritchard Store - 248 Humphries Road, Mt Pritchard). All donations and sandwiches for Liverpool Night Patrol can now be dropped off here. If you have any queries, please contact your Schools Engagement Officer.



### Mini Vinnies Gathering – 23rd July (Cancelled)

The Vinnies Metropolitan Schools Engagement Team regret to advise that the 2021 Mini Vinnies Gathering has unfortunately been cancelled, considering the most recent COVID situation. We are however still inviting schools to book in tailored Reflection Days for their Mini Vinnies group and/or select year group(s).

## Term 3, 2021

We love to hear from you!

Metropolitan Schools & Youth  
Engagement Team

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Book a Meeting/Presentation:  
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Mini Vinnies Formation Program

<https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>  
[formationprogram@vinnies.org.au](mailto:formationprogram@vinnies.org.au)

Vinnies Youth NSW

<https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au>

## Mini Vinnies Formation Program

My classmates when they realise

I received my MVFP

Gold Award



Looking for an extracurricular program for your students to engage in about social justice?

The Mini Vinnies Formation Program (MVFP) is open to all students from Year 4-6. Participants will gain a better understanding of Vinnies and learn about how they can be a light in the world by making a positive difference.

For more information, please contact your Schools Engagement Officer.

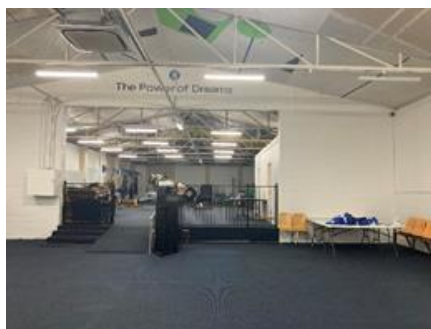
## Starting a Mini Vinnies or Teen Vinnies Group

The Metropolitan region has seen several new Mini Vinnies and Teen Vinnies groups initiated in 2021 – all of which have hit the ground running with fantastic social justice initiatives to support those living at the margins of society.

If you would like to introduce this program in line with your school's ethos and values, or arrange a time to discuss this further – please contact your Schools Engagement Officer.

## VYCC Available for Bookings

Vinnies Youth and Community Centre (VYCC), Brookvale, is a space for school communities to attend half or full day retreats to learn about the St Vincent de Paul Society and participate in hands-on activities. The venue is also available for hire to schools looking to host their own events. Please note bookings are subject to COVID restrictions.



## Volunteering and Formation Opportunities

Students are invited to complete their Community Service, Work Placement and/or Duke of Ed hours with Vinnies! Some options are to volunteer in our Night Patrol Kitchen or in a Vinnies retail store.

Students may also like to prepare and donate snack packs, toiletry packs, cards of hope and/or no-sew fleece blankets to be distributed to the people we serve.

## Vinnies CEO Sleepout Results (17<sup>th</sup> June 2021)

This year, over 1,500 CEOs took part in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout, with over 400 in NSW alone, to raise awareness on the growing issue of homelessness.

Not only was a NSW record set, having raised \$3,116,646, but a national record was also set having raised a total of \$9,274,631 to date. We are extremely grateful for everyone who made the event possible and who donated to the fantastic cause!



## Collection of Donations

Vinnies thanks our school communities for the generosity shown towards our Winter Appeal.

To arrange a pick-up of donations, please request an advance booking (at least 7 business days) with your Schools Engagement Officer.

Please note that bookings are subject to availability of our Logistics Team and the current COVID situation.

## New Shop: Ermington!

Vinnies is proud to announce our newest Shop located at 531-537 Victoria Road, Ermington.

With the current COVID situation – some of our shops have been designated as Vinnies Collection Stations. Please check our website for opening hours and locations.  
[www.vinnies.org.au/page/Shops/NSW/Donation Drop-Off Stations](http://www.vinnies.org.au/page/Shops/NSW/Donation_Drop-Off_Stations)

## Got a Good News Story?

Do you have a good news story about how your school community supports Vinnies that you think is worth sharing? We'd love to hear from you!

## Prayer of Solidarity

For all who are impacted by COVID, we pray for care and healing.

For all who are vulnerable or afraid, we pray for safety and protection.

For all who are experiencing loneliness, we pray for comfort and support.

For our sisters and brothers in NSW and beyond, we pray for shared solidarity.

Lord, may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort, and love to all. Be with us as we navigate through these difficult times.

Amen.



# Vinnies Metro Youth

## Young & Young Adult Conference Spotlight - UNSW Vinnies Society

During Term 2 Welcome Week, UNSW Vinnies held a stall to introduce new students to the work that Vinnies conducts to help those experiencing disadvantage in the community and how students can get involved in the multitude of volunteering opportunities provided by Vinnies. They then held a Meet and Greet to welcome new members to the Society, in addition to bonding over the Society's shared commitment to offering a 'hand up' to people in need within the community, members enjoyed board games, trivia, and food and snacks. UNSW Vinnies collaborated with the UNSW Volunteer Army on an Amazing Race held on Friday 18 June. Teams embarked on a journey through some of Sydney's top not-for-profit organisations, completing a series of rewarding challenges and volunteering tasks along the way. To raise student awareness of the work and functions of Vinnies stores, Amazing Race teams were tasked to make their way to the Vinnies Darlinghurst Store on Oxford Street. Upon arriving at the Store, teams were informed of the core functions of Vinnies Stores, specifically to offer affordable and high-quality items to the public, foster a greater sense of community, and provide referrals to essential services for those in need. To emphasise the affordable and high-quality nature of Vinnies Store items, teams were presented with a fun, creative challenge: create two complete outfits under \$100 in under 15 minutes. UNSW Vinnies greatly looks forward to the many more events planned, including a Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser, collaborating with the UNSW Engineering Society, and the annual Vinnies Community Sleepout on Friday 27 August.



## Vinnies NSW Community Sleepout 2021



Many of the Vinnies Metro Youth & Young Adult Conferences and University Society's are participating in the Vinnies NSW Community Sleepout throughout August.

If you're over 18 and keen to participate you're welcome to join one of the Sleepouts. To find out what's happening when get in touch with Kate Conroy – Youth Engagement Officer

## State Youth Team Retreat

Youth Representatives from around the state recently gathered in the Blue Mountains to hold their State Youth Team Retreat, it was the first time the State Youth Team have had the opportunity to meet in person in a long time, and everyone was very excited to connect and spend time together. The group spent the weekend upskilling on communication, marketing and self-care skills, they spent the afternoon with Members from the State Council, who shared their Vinnies stories. These youth leaders represent the passion, creativity and unique voices of the young adults of the Society.



If you're aged 16-35 years and want to know more about how you can join a local Vinnies Young Adult Conference or volunteer on a Vinnies Youth Program, get in touch with Vinnies Metro Youth Engagement Officer, Kate Conroy. For more information about Vinnies Youth, check out our website <https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au/>