



Brotherhood of St Laurence

Working for an Australia free of poverty

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 20 February, 2008

Brotherhood seeks donations through stores after closing bin network

The Brotherhood of St Laurence today asked its supporters to make donations of clothing and household goods through its network of stores as it announced the closure of its network of kerbside collection bins.

“We aim to increase donations through our stores, all of which now have new bins in-store where our many generous supporters can leave donations of quality goods during opening hours,” said Tony Nicholson, the Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

Mr Nicholson said that the experience of the organisation’s Social Enterprises division was that the average quality of goods donated via stores was far better than that of goods left in kerbside bins – or dumped beside them.

He said the outdoor bin network and associated sorting equipment had been sold to Southern Cross Recycling. While it would sell goods from its bins to the Brotherhood, the goods left in them would no longer be the property of the Brotherhood.

“Some bins will retain the Brotherhood logo until April 30 – this is the busiest time of the year for recycling businesses so the company needs some time to complete the operation. However goods left in those bins will no longer go automatically to the Brotherhood, so from now on those who want to donate goods directly to us need to take them to one of our stores during opening hours,” Mr Nicholson said.

“We are sure that many members of the public will continue to show their generosity by giving us quality unwanted goods. These donations help us to help disadvantaged people as we work towards our goal of an Australia free of poverty.”

Mr Nicholson said the Brotherhood would continue to pick up suitable donated furniture. “We also collect fridges free of charge in Melbourne as well,” he said. “Through our Phoenix Fridges scheme we pick them up, then either recycle them for parts or refurbish them so that they use less electricity, which is good for the environment, then sell them at low cost to families on low incomes.”

Mr Nicholson said the bin collection network had become uneconomic due to the increase in the amount of dumping, and the increased cost of paying for rubbish to be removed.

“While most people are careful to leave only good quality unwanted goods, the cost of dealing with substandard goods and outright rubbish unfortunately outweighs the benefits of the donations,” he said. “Each pick-up of dumped rubbish has been costing the Brotherhood hundreds of dollars.”

The phone number for Brotherhood furniture collections and Phoenix Fridges is 1300 DONATE (1300 366 283). The email address for both services is collections@bsl.org.au

Brotherhood of St Laurence stores

Balwyn

609 Whitehorse Road
Ph: (03) 9880 7848

Bentleigh

518 Centre Road
Ph: (03) 9557 6130

Brunswick

109 Brunswick Road
Ph: (03) 9387 9519

City

Ground Floor
Royal Arcade
Ph: (03) 9650 1843

City

Basement
Royal Arcade
Ph: (03) 9650 3011

Croydon

24 Hewish Road
Ph: (03) 9725 7921

Dandenong

235 Thomas Street
Ph: (03) 9792 4414

Deer Park

114 Westwood Drive
Ph: (03) 9361 2180

Eltham

Eltham Mall,
17 Arthur Street
Ph: (03) 9439 3483

Fitzroy (Hunter Gatherer)

274 Brunswick Street
Ph: (03) 9415 7371

Footscray

462 Geelong Rd
Ph: (03) 9325 1903

Frankston

27 Keys St
Ph: (03) 9769 6142

Glenhuntly

1143 Glenhuntly Road
Ph: (03) 9571 3879

Greensborough

Rear Shop 6, Main Street
(cnr Para Road)
Ph: (03) 9434 4221

Grovedale

194 Torquay Road
Ph: (03) 5241 9066

Heidelberg West

Shops 40-44, The Mall
Cnr Bell Street and Oriel
Road
Ph: (03) 9456 9350

Ivanhoe

220 Upper Heidelberg Road
Ph: (03) 9499 1111

Malvern

215 Glenferrie Road
Ph: (03) 9509 2443

Moonee Ponds

24 Margaret Street
Ph: (03) 9375 3551

Mount Waverley

11 Hamilton Walk
Ph: (03) 9807 6449

Northcote

All Saints Parish Hall
12a High Street
Ph: (03) 9489 6183

Ormond

5 Katandra Road
Ph: (03) 9578 1912

Pakenham

166 Main Street
Ph: (03) 5941 4343

Rosebud

Shop 1a, Rosebud Central
Nepean Highway
Ph: (03) 5981 1201

Seaford

Shop 1, 3 Station Street
Ph: (03) 9786 7015

St Kilda (Hunter Gatherer)

82a Acland Street
Ph: (03) 9593 8168

Wantirna South

Shop 1113-1114
Knox City Shopping Centre
Cnr Burwood Hwy and Stud
Road
Ph: (03) 9887 1979

Watsonia

Holy Spirit Church
78 Watsonia Rd
Ph: (03) 9435 5964

Windsor

149 Chapel St
Ph: (03) 9521 5213