

MU Australia

Social Responsibility Department

Welcome to **enews No 1** for 2008.

MARCH

Dear MU Friends,

Welcome to the first edition of **enews** for 2008. For several people this will be their first edition. Welcome, and I hope you find something of interest in it for you. The idea of the Social Responsibility **enews** is to not only to have regular contact with both diocesan and branch SR coordinators but also to give you a taste of some of the information that I receive regularly. Much of it comes by email, but some of the contacts still send their magazines and newsletters in the usual way. If you would like further information about any of the articles, please be in touch.

From time to time I include internet addresses of sites that may be useful. If you have found any that may be of use to others or sites that MU SR should be aware of for any reason, please share them with us.

There are still several Diocesan SR Coordinators that I have not received email addresses for. If you have one and have received this by snail mail please send your address to me.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS, HOW ABOUT LEARNING HOW TO USE IT? MOST LOCAL LIBRARIES HAVE FREE ACCESS. TO MY WAY OF THINKING IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL SR CONTACTS ARE UP TO DATE WITH MODERN COMMUNICATIONS

FAIR DINKUM – THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TOOLKIT

The Australian version of *Straight Talking* (the Social Policy Toolkit from Mary Sumner House) is finally in the throes of being distributed along with the CD-ROM containing 2 Powerpoint presentations. More of this below. Each diocese will receive **TWO** copies of the Toolkit and **ONE** CD-ROM. There is one copy of the Toolkit for the Diocesan President and one for the Diocesan Social Responsibility Coordinator. In the near future the Toolkit will be in a **read only** format on the MUA website. The web edition will be updated regularly and members will be able to print pages they require from time to time.

I welcome feedback on the Toolkit and I would *really* like to know how useful it is and how the format works. There is no charge for either the Toolkit or the CD-ROM.

MU Australia Social Responsibility Department CD-ROM

Included with your copy of Fair Dinkum you will find a CD-ROM that contains two presentation – the first a presentation on what Child Abuse is and the second, a short presentation that is an introduction to the Social Responsibility Department. Also on the CD-ROM there are guidelines on how to use each of the presentations and the software programmes to enable you to use them.

Once again I invite feedback. If the CD-ROM concept proves to be useful I am happy to continue producing these on an annual basis to compliment the other ways of presenting SR information.

And finally.....

My sincere apologies for taking so long for this issue to hit your screens, but time has been limited. As many of you are aware I am a fulltime parish priest in a busy rural community and my work must take precedence. However, I love my MU work and find it a wonderful antidote when times are busy.

May this Lent be a time of spiritual growth and encouragement.

God bless,

Libbie Crossman

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FOR INFORMATION:

This section contains just glimpses of what is available. In this edition of enews I will explain where some of the information has come from.

MU Australia pays an annual subscription to *small screen* and receives its regular newsletters. Since the advent of the internet it is now possible to share the newsletters with all SR contacts. It contains much important information on a large area of SR interest, the media, and how it affects the young. Each enews contains much of the same following information and the password so that you can view the newsletter.

small screen

Issue 237 November 2007

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The password protected PDF version of *small screen* 237 November is available on our Web site:

<http://www.youngmedia.org.au/pdf/smallscreen/ss-237-Nov.pdf>

Password: tetru2e7

Australia E-News (email Marg.christensen@anglicare.asn.au for a copy if you haven't seen one).

- Minister Gillard reminded us also of the truncated budget process this time as the government lost the time involved in the election campaign but talked of new policy ideas beyond the 2008/09 budget.

Employment and workforce participation

- We will be meeting with the Minister for Workforce Participation, Brendan O'Connor, shortly but also discussed this issue with Minister Gillard as she has a strong interest and Tom Bentley will be keeping across the submissions to the review of the Job Network.
- Minister Gillard stressed the tight timeline for the review pointing out that the new contracts to agencies must go through a rigorous tender process which constrains the review time.
- The intricate connectedness of joblessness or tentative attachment to the workforce; housing and homelessness; mental health and disability were highlighted in the discussion and the Minister reiterated the government's commitment to those with mental health and disability issues.

The Minister also mentioned some upcoming, yet to be publicized initiatives to which we gave our support.



Another article from Anglicare:

Families Through Life — 10th Australian Institute of Family Studies Conference

The conference will focus on five major themes: Family Relationships; Children, Youth and Patterns of Care; Families and Work; Families and Community Life; Violence and Protection Issues. Within the framework of these broad themes there are sub-themes covering an extensive range of topics related to families that allow a broader scope for discussion.

9–11 July, Melbourne Exhibition Centre.
Full details



Mission Statement

Anglicare Australia promotes a just and caring society through the Christian ministry of the Anglican Church and its agencies.

