

The 28th Annual Report of Southern Peninsula Food for All Inc.

1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

Thank you for being with us at our 28th Annual General Meeting of The Southern Peninsula Food for All Inc.

I begin this year with our condolences to the family of Fr Bart San, our Rosebud Parish priest who died on Thursday 10 October 2019. Fr Bart had been ill for some time. It was with the support of Fr Bart that we were able to obtain the approval of the Archdiocese of the Catholic church to build what we call our Distribution Centre on parish land at Hinton Street, Rosebud. Father Bart was always consistent in his support for Food for All.

The year under review has been another “steady as she goes” year.

We packed and distributed a total of 4208 emergency food parcels which represented a slight drop on the last couple of years.

In our 2019 Christmas Giving program we provided 480 hampers and toys for 492 children. We continued our practice of donating 110 hampers to our friends in Westernport to help families on that side of the peninsula.

I am pleased to be able to report that our financial position continued to improve during 2019. If you turn to our Statement of Income and Expenditure which is attached to this report you will see that our gross income was \$170,647.50 and gross expenditure was \$143,449.58 of which \$85,608.18 was spent on food at local supermarkets for our emergency food parcels. The cost of food for our Christmas hampers was \$26,774.36. Our surplus as at the end of the financial year increased from just over \$5000 in the previous year to \$27,197 for the financial year ended 30th June 2019. Donations for the year under review from all sources totalled \$92,025.75

Savings by taking advantage of “half price specials” at local supermarkets together with discounts was less than last year but still \$25,189.17.

A guesstimate of value of toys required and distributed last Christmas is just on \$24,500. Thanks to the wonderful assistance with the donation of good quality toys from our various supporters the actual amount we were required to spend on toys was limited to \$3,965.75 which was a significant reduction on last year.

Alan Hawkins is available to answer any questions you may have with respect to our accounts.

At the end of May this year our team held a strategy meeting to consider where we want to be in the next three to five years. There was much discussion. Probably the main points were that while adhering to our core business we will look at ways we might extend our assistance to the community with respect to the supply of food. This is still under consideration. We decided that we should confine our assistance to the Southern Peninsula and like so many volunteer organisations we need to redouble our efforts to attract younger, particularly male members, who are better able to lift and carry.

In the last few years it has been increasingly difficult for us to be able to store the toys for our Christmas program. Earlier in the year we were able to earmark funds to purchase another “40 foot” container in which we propose to store all of our toys. We estimate that this will cost approximately \$7000.

Because of his failing health Fr Bart San thought it appropriate to leave the decision to approve our placing another container on the church land to an incoming parish priest. It now seems highly unlikely that we will be able to have the benefit of this additional storage this year. This will be a major project in 2020.

During the year we have expanded and will continue to expand our assistance to The Southern Peninsula Community Support and Information Centre Pantry program. While supplying our standard items we have also begun supplying free of charge items which do not appear in our standard food parcels. Examples are shampoo and deodorants.

The Peninsula Toy Run was again very well supported last December. The costs associated with the toy Run amounted to \$1514. The costs would have been significantly higher but for the continuing generous support from Patties Foods. Mr Phil Mathews on behalf of the bikers’ clubs presented a donation of \$3000 and a representative of the Mornington Peninsula Shire staff presented at the Toy Run a donation of \$3,058. This continued the wonderful support from Shire staff over many years.

The proceeds of the Toy Run benefit the members of the Christmas Giving Committee. From the total of \$6208 received from the 2018 Toy Run our share was \$4,022. As they always do, the bikers also brought with them a large quantity of food and toys. Our sincere thanks go to Phil, his wife Barbara and their helpers, but most of all to the wonderful men and women who support the function.

One afternoon in late September I was assisting with St Vincent de Paul home visits. Included in the visits were three single mother families. One mother selected two beautifully knitted jackets for a baby girl, a boy aged about nine agonised over which of about five beanies he would choose and to enable us to get home before dark we gave him two beanies. The third mother selected two larger jackets for each of the two children. For different reasons all families were really struggling. All were on some form of Centrelink payment. All were delighted with such beautifully knitted garments. All of these garments came from the Winter Woolies Team organised by Fran Henke and with assistance from Bendigo Bank, Dromana branch. To the Winter Woolies Team - your wonderful work is greatly appreciated, and it is a pity you do not see how much pleasure your skills give the recipients.

You might recall that last year we flagged to the meeting that there was a need to change auditors. We thank Stephen Jolly & Co for their many years of support for Food For All and we also thank Accounting Solutions Group at Mornington for agreeing to act as our auditors going forward.

Our major donors and supporters provide us with unflagging support year after year. They have all helped us again this year. The level of support we are able to provide is really due to them and they all have our sincere thanks. Just two examples. Looking back over our records I see that the Mornington Village Craft Group have been supporting us

every year since 2005 and the Rosebud Country Women's Association except for a gap in the late 1990's every year since 1997.

At least for the last twelve years Tony Green formerly president for many years of the Dromana Conference of Saint Vincent de Paul has been a member of Food For All. Tony has now moved away from us. I take this opportunity to thank Tony for all his years of support to our committee and our team.

Finally, I thank our management committee and all our happy band of volunteers for assisting us with all aspects of our work in the past year.

Ken Northwood
President
20 October 2019