



September Newsletter

Finally Spring is in the air! However it is great that your items keep coming in, because the nights are cold and so the need for warm winter woollies is still there - especially as we have started to distribute to Tasmania.

Your wonderful support is reflected in our distribution figures - so far this year it is 61,285 which is nearly 12% increase to the same time last year.

Now that the Footy season is nearly over, our thoughts turn to Christmas which will be here before we know it!

Can you be a kogo Angel this Christmas?

This year, as in previous years, we will be running the kogo Christmas Angel project.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of kind people like you, we distributed 3000 Christmas gifts to children living in difficult circumstances.

As in the past we will have a **“Wrap and Pack” Day**. Last year our wonderful 80 volunteers wrapped 1728 gifts in just over 2 hours! This year’s wrapping day is on **Sunday November 19th November** and all the gifts wrapped on this day are to be given to children living in refuges from domestic violence. Please help us by donating from the following list:

- New toys/games/books/puzzles (must be in original unwrapped package)
- Electronic games or gadgets or headphones
- Products (in original packaging) such as makeup, perfumes, aftershaves and nail polish that are suitable for teenagers
- Sporting goods and gear

- Make a monetary donation via the website www.kogo.org.au

The goods can be dropped off at your regular kogo drop off point (please note: Lincraft stores are **NOT** able to accept Christmas gifts for logistics reasons) and we need to receive them in time for our wrapping day on November 19th.

One of the other very worthwhile areas that we are targeting this year is children who are living in foster care and are supported by the Mirabel Foundation.

Mirabel is a charitable organisation set up in 1998 to assist children who have been orphaned or abandoned due to parental illicit drug use. These children are now in the care of extended family (kinship care), more often than not elderly grandparents. It is often a struggle for these kinship carers to provide for necessities let alone Christmas gifts. Mirabel is currently supporting over 1500 children throughout Victoria and NSW.

Our research has shown that teenagers are often the forgotten ones at Christmas time, despite being the age group that is most at risk. For this reason, we have decided to give \$50 gift vouchers to the 627 teenage children who are supported by Mirabel. This will enable the teenagers to have the joy of selecting their own gifts and increasing their self- esteem.

If you have any queries about the Christmas Angel project, please contact Miri on 0414 970 100

From Our Community Partner Organisations

From Tweddle Child and Family Health Service



From Life's Little Treasures Foundation

“On behalf of the Life’s Little Treasure’s Foundation I would like to say a very big thank you to you and your fabulous community for the beautiful knitted goods you had delivered to us a couple of months ago. The blankets, toys and jackets etc will bring a lot of joy to the many families we support with the various programs we have to support families of premature and sick babies.

Hopefully you saw the post on our LLTF main Facebook page thanking your wonderful community on August 10th. We really couldn’t help support our families without the amazing support of community groups like yourselves, so thank you from all of us here at the Life’s Little Treasures Foundation for all that you do.”

Warm Wishes

Maggie Lloyd

Product and Services Administrator

From The Lighthouse Foundation

“Thank you so much for the absolutely beautiful knitted blankets, hats, scarves and baby clothes that you kindly made and donated to us for the Lighthouse Foundation!

It’s so lovely to have handmade cosy things for our young people. They love curling up with the blankets. It makes them feel more at home and can be very comforting for them. And the baby clothes! So cute! It’s wonderful to have handknitted things made with love. A lot of our young people haven’t had the experience of having something so lovingly made for them so this is a wonderfully therapeutic addition to our community and we can’t thank you enough for all your time and effort”.

Kind regards,

Thanks Very Much Pam



These gorgeous dolls that are being admired by some of our kogo workers were crocheted by 82 year old Pam – who in the past year has had two rounds of chemo and countless blood transfusions but despite her severe illness she has continually crocheted dolls for our Christmas Appeal! Making these dolls for little girls has been what kept her going this year.

A Very Special Blanket

Earlier this month we received a parcel containing a blanket and this note:

This blanket has been knitted by a young woman with a disability. She buys one ball of wool at a time when she can afford it and wanted this blanket to be given to a charity. She had given it to our local yarn shop in Geelong who in turn have asked me to give it to kogo. I do hope someone in need will enjoy it. Naomi is the knitter's name.

(We are trying to trace Naomi to thank her and see whether we can supply her with wool.)

Warm regards,

Ros

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