

News from the Mission Outreach Ministry Team

November Pillow Bank Pledges: We are indeed grateful to Pam Caddy, Helen and Alf Swan, Beth and Ken Allen, Doris McClelland, Mary Rynne and the Stoel Family who responded to our call to pledge support for new pillows. (It is a health requirement to distribute only new pillows to families in need).

If you missed out on pledging, and would like to, be prepared for our next **Pillow Bank Pledge** in April next year.

Community Garden: Our Community Garden in Marlyn Court is being returned to its owners this month after 8 years. During this time our trading table has flourished with produce grown in the garden and we have raised over \$28,000 with the majority of sales emanating from the garden. We give thanks for our growers, pickers, and supporters who have all contributed to the money raised for church funds. **The Trading Table:** during December we will focus on 'giving'. Plan to buy some special gift for that special friend, or consider popping an item for sale on the table for others to purchase and enjoy.

Material Goods: During this year we have assisted 125 families with household furniture, linen, and crockery. Most of our material goods is donated to us through 'down sizing' families and our vans/utilities are on the road two and three times a week helping to move these donated items. We are often being called upon from Uniting Barwon for white goods. The Wesley Centre and the Lazarus Centre have also been assisted with furniture. **The Roslyn Room** continually changes focus as donated items are received. Most weeks 8 to 10 families visit to select much needed items.

Emergency Pantry: Thank you to all our Ladies Evening Fellowship who at their Christmas breakup, kindly gave pantry items which will help fill 'Christmas hampers' for families in need.

Friday Sewing Classes in the Chapel: Classes continue structured around the school term on a fortnightly basis. Val England heads up a energetic band of sewing instructors, and there is a dedicated group of ladies providing Child-Care in the hall. Usually 8 to 10 ladies enjoy learning to sew, new friendships and English conversation every fortnight.

Men's Shed: Some men have been busy making 'Insect Hotels' for Bunnings, Waurn Ponds, others have been painting and refurbishing furniture, others come along just for a 'chat', others help in the delivery of furniture to people in need. Monthly sausage sizzles at Bunnings, Waurn Ponds, prove to be very enjoyable and a money raiser at the same time. The next Sausage Sizzle is on Wednesday 6th Dec. A Christmas lunch is planned for Tuesday 12th Dec which is open to all men, come if you can.

See Ian Pooley about the details.

Rae Anderson – Mission Outreach Ministry Team