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BROTHERHOOD OF ST LAURENCE

2001









The Brotherhood of St Laurence

2001

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The Brotherhood of St Laurence cares for between 30,000-50,000 people, has 600 staff and 40,000 financial supporters.



Executive Director,
Father Nicolas Frances.

'Taking the Lead'

From the Executive Director

Being at the forefront of innovation and creating the sort of change that others follow is what the Brotherhood of St Laurence has always been about.

In his autobiography, Brotherhood of St Laurence founder Father Gerard Tucker wrote about the need to provide decent housing for people on low incomes: "The state is doing little. The church took the lead in the matter. Later government followed. Such to my mind should always be the case."

Four decades later, our intention to take the lead continues to underpin all Brotherhood activities, from programs and services for the unemployed, the elderly, children, families and asylum seekers, to the outstanding research, policy development and advocacy from its Social Action Research area.

We seek not simply to provide welfare services, but to understand the causes of poverty and inequality, and bring about change that will help us achieve our stated aim of an Australia free of poverty.

Committed to serving the most excluded, we work to strengthen the best of what we've already done and respond to a changing environment with new ideas and solutions.

This often requires a different mindset from the norm. So I'm pleased to say the Brotherhood is continuing in this tradition and embracing true partnerships with a diverse range of associates. We see this as at the heart of the burgeoning social entrepreneurship movement in Australia, which the Brotherhood helped to found last year and which I currently chair.

Our relationship with the Westpac Bank, for instance, began with a philanthropic gift from the Westpac Foundation and has now progressed to an alliance that has helped create the concept of the Community Store, allowing people on low incomes to buy good quality furniture and other goods and gain a credit rating at low interest rates (see page 5).

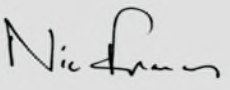
We want to welcome organisations – and the people who work within them – to become active collaborators in the creation of new Brotherhood programs and services. As with the HIPPY program, we look to ways of sharing our work with communities across Australia (see page 4).

To achieve an Australia free of poverty, we will have to work with all stakeholders and helping the corporate world find the social element in its triple bottom line, will be a component of this change.

Of course, changes have to come from within and we are very focussed, not only externally, but on the work we will have to do within the Brotherhood of St Laurence, to be the kind of organisation that can live with, and lead, change.

Areas within the Brotherhood are getting better at working together in a concerted way and crossing our own internal boundaries. In all that we do, we continue to acknowledge how the work of our volunteers allows us to maximise relationships both within the BSL and the wider community.

You, our supporters, have been more involved than ever. Thank you. If we can make a difference it is because we make it together.



Father Nicolas Frances
Executive Director
Brotherhood of St Laurence

'Extending the Vision'

From the Chair



Chair,
Brotherhood of St Laurence,
Professor Stephen Duckett.

The past 12 months has been an exciting period for the Brotherhood of St Laurence to build on its foundations and history and develop our vision for the future.

Working with its entire staff of more than 600, the Brotherhood has formalised an organisational Vision that encapsulates its goals and aspirations, laying out the ideals the organisation will work towards.

Below is full version of the Brotherhood of St Laurence's Vision.

We continue to build an organisation able to meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world. We have restructured the way we organise our services and have made some excellent new appointments to some of our senior positions.

Our work with the whole organisation on the Vision has set us up to undertake a full strategy review for the coming years, with a focus on our role as innovators.

There is a great need for the leadership, Vision, services, research, policy and advocacy of the Brotherhood of St Laurence. I am hopeful about the contribution we will be able to make.

Professor Stephen Duckett
Chair, Brotherhood of St Laurence

The Vision of the Brotherhood of St Laurence

Established during the Great Depression, the Brotherhood of St Laurence was the vision and creation of Fr Gerard Tucker, a man who combined his Christian faith with a fierce determination to end social injustice. The BSL has developed into an independent organisation with strong Anglican and community links. Today, we continue to fight for an Australia free of poverty.

The Vision

Australia free of poverty

The Brotherhood of St Laurence will work with others to create:

- an inclusive society in which everyone is treated with dignity and respect
- a compassionate and just society which challenges inequity
- connected communities in which we share responsibility for each other
- a sustainable society for our generation and future generations.

In working towards an Australia free of poverty, we recognise the indigenous custodians of this country. We are committed to understanding the effects of the dispossession of indigenous Australians and to achieving reconciliation.

How we do it

Ensure that what we do for one we do for many

Wherever we work with people who are disadvantaged or excluded, we will use what we learn to improve the situation for others. We will share our service, research and advocacy experience to bring about change towards a more inclusive society.

Establish the eradication of poverty as a national priority

We will establish the eradication of poverty as a primary objective for all governments and communities in Australia. Our work will be principally informed by the experiences of those who are disadvantaged, but we will seek to involve all people in establishing this national priority.

Promote a movement for social change

In partnership with others, we will promote a movement for a just and compassionate society. Within our workplace, we will develop models of service provision, leadership and participation that embody our values and aspirations.

Support a sustainable society

In keeping with our global responsibilities, we will work towards a society that balances social, environmental and economic benefits. In all our work, we will contribute to change that supports communities, protects the natural environment and promotes good governance. ■



A Leading Role

The Ecumenical Migration Centre

Ecumenical Migration Centre Manager, Sarina Greco.

"Fleeing a country that you love ... is hard. Leaving all that one is familiar with is even more heartbreaking... People don't just pack their bags and leave through the proper channels, as if they are going on holidays."

asylum seeker

'Illegal immigrants'. 'Queue jumpers'. 'Fortress Australia'. As these divisive and misleading concepts appear to take hold in our culture, the Ecumenical Migration Centre (EMC) has taken a leading role in questioning Australia's treatment of refugees seeking asylum here.

"This is a critical time when the challenge of responding to the presence of asylum seekers in our midst is not matched by the courage of leadership for the common good," says EMC Manager, Sarina Greco.

"We are all diminished by the absence of moral and political leadership on the issue of how we treat the 'stranger amongst us'. The poverty issue is not just that refugees are excluded – it's the effect on all of us who are part, willingly or not, of a wealthy society that excludes."

Speaking out in a particularly turbulent political environment for the human rights of detainees and Temporary Protection Visa holders, has catapulted the EMC in the national limelight.

Part of this advocacy effort has been co-convening the Justice for Asylum Seekers alliance, a coalition of more than 20 welfare, community, faith and ethnic community agencies.

Migration Action, EMC's independent journal on refugee and immigration issues remained a key resource of critical analysis of refugee policy, with Dr Paul White and Sarina as co-editors.

EMC's continuing advocacy and policy work has also been strengthened by its close working relationships with the Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria and the Refugee and Immigration Legal Centre, all of which operate from the same BSL/EMC site.

"All three agencies work across ethnic, language and faith boundaries and combine casework and community development with advocacy and policy. So it brings together the legal expertise with our knowledge of community," explains Sarina.

"It's also brings together in one place, work based in the Islamic faith perspective, with EMC's ecumenical tradition and the Brotherhood's Christian basis," she says.

"My hope is that we can re-invigorate our efforts to build an inclusive Australia, not one built on unacknowledged dispossession and tough policies of exclusion." ■

"As never before, the Australian community is being challenged morally and politically on how to respond to refugees in our midst. Each of us has an important role to play, because in the end, we know how we treat 'the stranger amongst us' has serious implications not just for the stranger, but also for us."

Sarina Greco
Manager
Ecumenical Migration Centre

Facts

- **Among the programs developed by EMC this year has been the Family Support Volunteer Program, which trains volunteers to assist newly arrived families who have often been released from detention.**
- **The EMC's position within the Brotherhood of St Laurence allows it to continue its role of advocacy and support for refugees and asylum seekers, under the Brotherhood's broader goal of an Australia free of poverty.**

A National Direction

HIPPY Throughout Australia



HIPPY Coordinator, Joanne Donne.



Leon Dowsett and his daughter, April-Renee read together.

"With the granting of the national licence and the establishment of the national HIPPY resource unit, the Brotherhood of St Laurence has been able to help create an independent model of community development that can enrich and empower diverse communities throughout Australia. Most importantly of all, it gives them a sense of ownership."

Joanne Donne
Coordinator
HIPPY

Facts

- **The HIPPY Resource Unit will initially be funded by a three year grant from the Westpac Foundation. After this, the Unit will seek to become self-funding.**
- **The Brotherhood pioneered HIPPY in Australia in 1998. It now auspices three programs – in Fitzroy, North Melbourne and Flemington. A fourth program in Geelong has been auspiced by Glastonbury Family Services.**

SIX-year-old April-Renee Dowsett is a picture of confidence as she reads to her father, Leon. She happily picks out words and eagerly turns each page.

'Shrek' is her favourite cartoon character. She is used to picking out her own books and looks forward to reading them at home.

April-Renee is progressing well in her second year of school, thanks in no small part to an innovative preschool program that the Brotherhood of St Laurence is extending nationally.

Originating from Israel, the Home Instruction Program for Parents of Youngsters (HIPPY) was introduced to Australia by the Brotherhood of St Laurence in 1998.

Now the BSL has been granted the national licence by the international HIPPY body and with funding from the Westpac Foundation, has established the HIPPY National Resource Unit, to assist other communities to set up their own programs across Australia.

The Unit will provide resources, support and training for the establishment of quality HIPPY programs around Australia.

"The brilliance of HIPPY is its simplicity," says coordinator Joanne Donne. "It's a model that crosses language and cultural barriers and invites the community to work on a local level with local business and early childhood services."

The 30-week program for preschool children helps foster child development and further bond child to parent, through simple but stimulating exercises that can be done at home. These exercises prepare children for a successful transition to school.

Leon and April-Renee are among 100 families who have participated in the Brotherhood's HIPPY programs. It has also attracted children and parents from Vietnamese, Hmong, Turkish and Somali communities.

Joanne says HIPPY's magic is instilling a love of learning in children and helping their parents, who may have little cultural experience of formal schooling, become valued and confident participants in their child's education.

"This is an exciting national project which we believe will effect long term positive change not only on the lives of children but on parents, family members and the communities in which they live," she says. ■

Annual Financial Report

The Brotherhood of St Laurence

30 June 2001

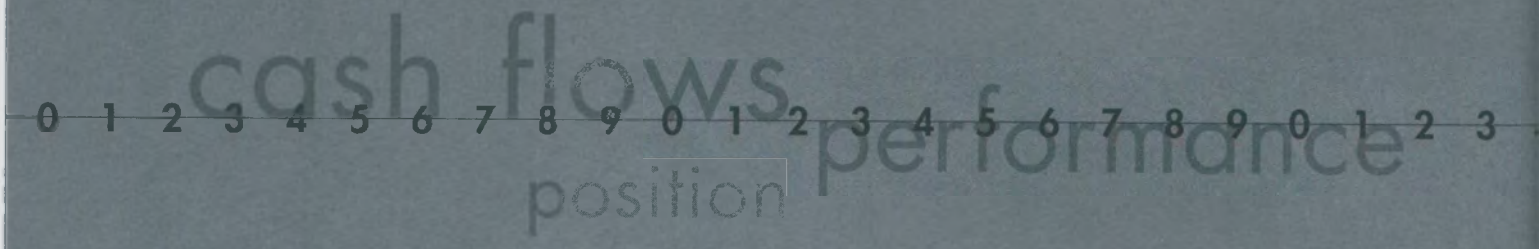
cash flows

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4

position performance

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Director's Report

The Patron, President and Directors present their report together with the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2001 and the auditor's report thereon.

The Patron-in-Chief of the Brotherhood is Mr John Landy AC, MBE, Governor of Victoria.

Lady Southey, A.M., Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, is a Patron of the Brotherhood. The President of the Brotherhood is The Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne, The Most Reverend Peter Watson.

The Directors of the Brotherhood at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Professor Stephen Duckett; Doctor Concetta Benn; the Reverend Ron Browning; Sandy Clark; Kerrie Cross, Michael Feeney; the Reverend Nicolas Frances; Associate Professor Brian Howe; Elizabeth Loftus; Patrice Marriott; Father James Minchin; Ian D Reid; Graeme Wise.

(For more information on members of the Brotherhood of St Laurence Board, please turn to Page 2.)

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Brotherhood during the course of the financial year were the provision of community services in Victoria, the recycle and sale of recycled goods, the import and wholesale of optical frames and to conduct research and advocacy work on behalf of all Australians.

Review and results of operations

The operating result for the year was a surplus of $471,563. The key factors affecting income and expenditure during the year were:

- A strong first year contribution from Mod Style acquired in July 2000;
- Deficit incurred in providing employment services in Fitzroy, Frankston and Mornington;
- Strong support from our donors particularly in relation to the amount received through bequests; and
- The donated goods division result not meeting expectations, reflecting stock and debtor writedowns and increased WorkCover costs.

A number of decisions and initiatives have been made during the year aimed at ensuring the continued financial stability of the Brotherhood. These are:

Establishing a new business structure for the recycled goods division. The new structure contracts out the collection of goods, the export of unusable goods and the management of the sorting process. This structure has had a positive financial impact since year end;

Refocussing employment services and establishing clear goals to ensure outcomes reflect contract performance and budgeting criteria; and

Approval of an operational plan and budget by the Board for 2001/2002 which includes key performance indicators and other tools to ensure, as far as practicable, that budget outcomes are achieved.

These initiatives will also assist in the improved management of the Brotherhood's services and programs.

Events Subsequent to Balance Date

Since the end of the financial year the Brotherhood has agreed to sell the Care Manager Software enterprise to Database Consultants Australia in return for a royalty on future sales. It is expected this transaction will be completed before the end of October 2001.

Other than the matter discussed above, no matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial year, which is not otherwise dealt with in this report, that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Brotherhood in subsequent financial years.

Likely Developments

There are no likely developments or foreshadowed developments that have not otherwise been disclosed in this report.

Environmental Regulation Performance

The Brotherhood's environmental obligations are regulated under both State and Federal Law. The Brotherhood has a policy of complying with its environmental performance obligations. No environmental breaches have been notified by any government agency during the year ended 30 June 2001.

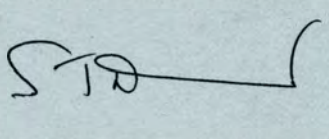
Indemnification of Officers

The Brotherhood has agreed to indemnify to the extent permitted by law, each current and former officer. The indemnity of these officers is against any claim or for any expense or cost, which may arise in the discharge of the duties of the officers in relation to the Brotherhood.

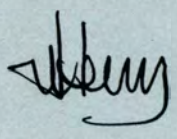
Insurance is provided to the Brotherhood through the Department of Human Services Insurance Scheme for Non-Government Organisations.

This report has been made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Dated on this 28th day of September 2001.



Prof Stephen Duckett
Chair of the Board



Michael Feeney
Director

The Brotherhood of St Laurence has undertaken a process to realise the new Vision of the organisation.

Board Profile



Brotherhood of St Laurence Board members: Kerrie Cross, Father James Minchin, Father Nicolas Frances, Professor Stephen Duckett, Elizabeth Loftus and Michael Feeney. Absent: Associate Professor Brian Howe, Patrice Marriott, Ian Reid and Graeme Wise.

Current Members

Professor Stephen Duckett BEc MHA PhD. (Chair) Prof of Health Policy and Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, La Trobe University. Former Secretary, Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health. Chair, Bayside Health. Appointed to the Board November 1996. Member of the Audit and Finance Committees.

Kerrie Cross BA, BSW, MHA, AFACHSE, Regional Chief Executive Officer, Sisters of Charity Health Service Melbourne. Former Chief Executive Officer, North West Hospital, Melbourne. Board member of St. Vincent's Hospital Melbourne Ltd, Caritas Christi Hospice Limited, Prague House Ltd, St. Vincent's Institute of Medical Research, St Vincent's and Mercy Private Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital Launceston. Appointed to the Board in November 1999.

Michael Feeney BComm. Corporate adviser and company director. Executive Director, Collins Associates Limited, Director Simsmetal Limited, Ausdoc Group Limited, Feltex Carpets Limited and Carpet Call Pty Ltd. Chairman Audit Committee and Finance Committee. Appointed to the Board in November 1996.

Father Nicolas Frances Anglican Priest. Business Studies (HND – Portsmouth Polytechnic). Career: Hotel Management, sales and marketing and stockbroking. Founder and Executive Director of the Furniture Resource Centre in Liverpool, UK, for 10 years. Established the UK national charity CREATE. Awarded MBE for services to charity and the economically disadvantaged people of Liverpool, England. Appointed to the Board in July 1999. Member of the Audit and Finance Committees.

Associate Professor Brian Howe Professorial Associate in The Centre for Public Policy at the University of Melbourne. Research Fellow in the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton. Board member, Victorian Council of Social Service. Former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia (1991-95), a member of the Federal Cabinet (1984-96) holding a range of Ministerial portfolios in the fields of Defence, Social Security, Health, Housing and Community Services. Appointed to the Board in November 2000.

Elizabeth Loftus BA, LLB (Hons) BComm, BBus, Grad.Dip. Edu and Tng. Solicitor. Executive Director, Leo Cussen Institute, Board Member, St Laurence Community Services (Barwon) Inc. Appointed to the Board in November 1993. Member of Audit Committee since November 1999 and former member Finance Committee.

The Ecumenical Migration Centre will celebrate its 40th anniversary next year.

Board Profile

Patrice R. Marriott BA (Hons) LLB (Melb);LLM (Monash); Graduate, Senior Executive Program, London Business School (1988); Accredited Mediator and Conciliator, Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators, Australia (2001); PhD applicant, Faculty of Law (Melb), current. Non-executive Director of a number of entities and Chair of the Commonwealth Child Care Advisory Council, the Hearing Services Advisory Committee and Melbourne Port Corporation.

Father James Minchin BA (Hons) [Classics], MA [Politics], ThL(Hons). Vicar of Christ Church, St Kilda. Executive member: Archbishop-in-Council, Melbourne; Provincial Council, Victoria; the national Anglican Church's General Synod Standing Committee; and the National Council of Churches' Commission for Christian World Service. Chairman: Gospel and Cultures Commission, Victorian Council of Churches; and Board member: Anglican Superannuation Australia; and AngliCORD. Appointed to the Board in June 1998.

Ian D Reid BE (Chem) ASA, FIE Australia, MAICD. Chairman, St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research, Director, Advanced Riverina Holdings Ltd, Melbourne Anglican Foundation Ltd. Appointed to the Board in November 1993.

Graeme Wise BEc. Manufacturer and Retailer. Managing Director, The Body Shop; Director, The Big Issue. Director, First Australian's Business. Appointed to the Board in November 1996; Chair, Building Better Lives Appeal Committee.

Retired Members

Dr Concetta Benn MA, DipSocStud (University of Melbourne), Doctorate of Laws (Honoris Causa) (University of Melbourne), Doctorate of Social Science (Honoris Causa) (RMIT), AM. Consultant. Former Professor of Social Work, University of Melbourne; President, Broadmeadows Craigieburn Community Health Services; Board Member, President of Victorian Court Network; Senior Associate, School of Social Work, University of Melbourne; Foundation Chairperson, Adult Community and Further Education Board 1992-95. Board member of Northern Health Service. Appointed to the Board in November 1991.

Sandy Clark BComm, Dip Ag Econ. (Chair). Finance and Investment Consultant and Company Director. Director, Southern Cross Broadcasting (Australia) Limited; Director, CGU Insurance Australia Limited; Director, New Zealand Insurance Limited; Director, Select Harvests Limited; Deputy Chairman, Legal Practice Board of Victoria; Chairman, Mitchelton Wines Pty Ltd. Appointed to the Board in June 1993 and elected Chair in July 1997. Retired November 2000.

The Reverend Ron Browning BA BD STM. Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Williamstown. Appointed to the Board in November 1996. Retired August 2001.

56 people have completed training at the Frankston Furniture Works Training Centre this year. 31 have gained jobs or gone onto further study.

Corporate Governance Statement



Brotherhood of St Laurence Executive members (from left): General Manager, Social Action Research, Stephen Gianni; General Manager, Aged and Community Care, Sandra Hills; General Manager Employment Services, Joanna Dimopoulos; Executive Director, Father Nicolas Frances; General Manager, Community Services, Cath Scarth; General Manager, Finance and Administration, Ian McHutchison.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence ("Brotherhood") is incorporated under the Brotherhood of St Laurence (Incorporation) Act 1971, number 8188 of the Victorian Parliament.

The following principles, practices and committees establish the framework for the governance of the Brotherhood.

Role of the Board

The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction and establishing the policies of the Brotherhood. It is responsible for monitoring the performance of the activities of the Brotherhood and overseeing its financial state on behalf of the Charter and Life Members. It also addresses issues relating to risk management.

Composition of the Board

The Brotherhood's constitution limits Board members to 14, including the Executive Director and at least two people who are clerics in Holy Orders of the Anglican Church of Australia. Further, the Chair is required to be a communicant member of the Anglican Church of Australia.

The Board meets at a minimum on a monthly basis.

Currently there are ten Directors including the Executive Director.

Charter Members

Up to 40 Charter Members are permitted under the Brotherhood's constitution, including the Executive Director, at least eight of whom must be clerics in Holy Orders of the Anglican Church in Australia.

The Charter Members at any time during or since the end of the financial year 2000-2001 are: Ernest Barr (from 21/11/2000), Di Batzias (from 21/11/2000), Dr Concetta Benn, Neville Brooke, Rev Ron Browning, Ruby Canham (retd 21/11/2000), Sandy Clark, Rev Ray Cleary, Kerrie Cross, The Rt Revd Andrew Curnow, Dr Terry Cutler, Tony Darvall, Ivan Deveson, Prof Stephen Duckett, The Rt Revd David Farrer, Michael Feeney, William Ford, Carrillo Gantner (from 21/11/2000), Susan Gribben, Cathy Hogan, Assoc Prof Brian Howe, James Jacoby, Sue Kirkegard, Elizabeth Loftus, Don Macfarlane (from 21/11/2000), The Ven Marjorie McGregor (retd 21/11/2000), John McInnes, Dr Ian Manning, Patrice Marriott, Rev Dr Peter Marshall, Fr James Minchin, Merle Mitchell (retd 24/4/2001), Baillieu Myer, Sue Norman (retd 21/11/2000), Ian Reid, Merron Rusden (retd 21/11/2000), Dr Nouria Salehi (from 21/11/2000), The Rt Revd Andrew St John, Rev Clemence Taplin, David Triplow, Angela Were, John Wilson (from 21/11/2000) and Graeme Wise.

Life Members

Life membership has been conferred on the following members who have given significant service to the Brotherhood: The Rt Revd Michael Challen, Kurt Eisner, Eric Hart, The Rt Revd Oliver Heyward, His Excellency the Rt Revd Dr Peter Hollingworth AC OBE, Jean McCaughey, David Scott, Catherine Smith and Thelma Tuxen.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence's fundraising department raised more than $3 million in tax deductible gifts and legacies this year.

Corporate Governance Statement

Under the constitution of the Brotherhood the Life and Charter Members receive and adopt the reports of the Board and of the auditors, receive and adopt the annual financial statements, elect Board members and fix the remuneration of the auditors as well as transacting any other business at general meetings.

Executive Council

The Executive Director is responsible for the day-to-day management of the activities of the Brotherhood as delegated by the Board. The following management team meets on a regular basis as an Executive Council to develop policies, monitor strategies, issues and performance:

- **Fr Nicolas Frances**, Executive Director
- **Joanna Dimopoulos**, General Manager, Employment Services
- **Stephen Gianni**, General Manager, Social Action and Research
- **Sandra Hills**, General Manager, Aged and Community Care
- **Ian McHutchison**, General Manager, Finance and Administration
- **Cath Scarth**, General Manager, Community Services

Planning and Control

The Brotherhood produces annual plans and detailed budgets, which are approved and regularly monitored by the Board and its Committees. A medium-term strategic plan is in preparation.

Risk Assessment

The Board, its sub-committees and the General Managers are responsible for identifying, measuring and assessing business, legal, financial, environmental and other risks in the activities of the Brotherhood. In particular, the Audit Committee and the Board consider all significant risks, their implications and strategies and the Finance Committee oversees the financial affairs of the organisation.

Independent Professional Advice

The Board, General Managers and senior staff has access to appropriate external professional advice. Legal, investment, tax and accounting advice is coordinated by the General Manager of Finance and Administration through Freehills, HSBC, and Arthur Andersen, respectively. Legal advice is provided by Freehills on a pro bono basis.

Audit and Accounts

The Brotherhood's constitution requires that proper books of accounts are kept, true and complete accounts are maintained and audited annually by a registered company auditor and the financial statements and the auditors' report are laid before the Annual General Meeting. In order that monthly management and annual accounts represent best practice and are of the highest standard, the Brotherhood complies with all applicable Australian accounting standards and guidelines, as well as relevant Corporations Law provisions. The Brotherhood's auditors are Arthur Andersen.

Audit Committee

Formed as a committee of the Board, the Audit Committee's role is to ensure that all significant financial and non-financial risks are identified and properly addressed by management on a timely basis. The Committee members are Michael Feeney (Chair), Stephen Duckett, Elizabeth Loftus, Jenny Trethewey, Roger Johnson, Bronwyn Constance and Fr Nicolas Frances.

The Committee meets quarterly.

Finance Committee

Formed as a Committee of the Board, the Finance Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to the financial position of the Brotherhood. The Committee members are Michael Feeney (Chair), Stephen Duckett, Melissa Field, Patrice Marriott and Fr Nicolas Frances.

The Committee meets monthly.

Mod Style Committee of Management

The Committee was formed to oversee the management of the Mod Style optical frames business acquired by the Brotherhood in July 2000. The Committee members are Ernest Barr (Chair), Ian Reid, Stephen Chisnall (GM Mod Style) and Ian McHutchison.

The Committee meets monthly.

Ethical Business Review Committee

The Committee was formed to assist the Brotherhood to develop frameworks for corporate, social and environmental decision making within all Brotherhood projects and units using the learnings from the Mod Style supplier investigations. The Committee members are Ian McHutchison (Chair), Jillian Murray, Sean Cooney, Alan Matheson, Jeff Atkinson, Michael Kerr, Chris Childs, Stephen Chisnall, Joanna Dimopoulos, Serena Lillywhite and Stella Mulder.

The Committee meets every two months.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence opened its first retail shop outside of Melbourne in Queanbeyan, ACT, in partnership with Anglicare Canberra and Goulburn.

Financial Performance

Statement of Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	Note	2001 $	2000 $
REVENUE			
Service Activities			
Employment Services		4,514,304	4,343,005
Aged and Community Care		11,599,348	10,811,378
Community Services		1,888,884	2,068,372
Social Action and Research		190,161	275,670
Other Activities			
Fundraising		5,096,135	4,091,323
Recycled goods sales		8,192,182	8,347,464
Mod Style sales		4,903,099	–
Care Manager Software sales		412,638	291,891
Investment and other income		358,327	259,874
Total Revenue from Activities		**37,155,078**	**30,488,977**
EXPENSES			
Service Activities			
Employment Services		4,882,965	4,301,043
Aged and Community Care		12,341,272	11,506,341
Community Services		3,111,392	3,018,441
Social Action and Research		879,593	835,306
Other Activities			
Fundraising		539,313	649,443
Donated goods cost of sales		3,573,406	3,484,732
Donated goods other expenses		5,060,638	4,824,358
Mod Style cost of sales		2,066,395	–
Mod Style other expenses		1,662,424	–
Care Manager expenses		450,987	318,398
Borrowing costs		121,146	28,280
Other expenses		1,993,984	1,871,978
Total Expenses from Activities		**36,683,515**	**30,838,320**
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		**471,563**	**(349,343)**
Grants and donations for capital projects	17	1,998,148	2,590,984
Non operating income		–	250,282
Surplus from Ordinary Activities		**2,469,711**	**2,491,923**
Transfer of insurance fund from equity to liabilities	14	(181,059)	–
Increase in asset revaluation reserve	16	7,505,951	–
Total income Recognised Directly in Equity		**7,324,892**	**–**
Total Changes in Equity		**9,794,603**	**2,491,923**

The statements of financial performance are to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 9-18.

Almost a million customers visited the Brotherhood's 26 shops last year.

Financial Position

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2001

	Note	2001 $	2000 $
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	3	3,511,387	5,367,355
Receivables	4	3,570,049	2,402,548
Inventories	6	1,308,166	756,450
Other financial assets	7	2,010,963	1,819,464
Other current assets	8	201,225	195,600
Total Current Assets		**10,601,790**	**10,541,417**
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	9	34,857,809	23,047,773
Intangible assets	10	1,038,048	–
Total Non Current Assets		**35,895,857**	**23,047,773**
Total Assets		**46,497,647**	**33,589,190**
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	11	3,565,513	3,514,467
Interest bearing liabilities	12	3,240,000	840,000
Trust funds	13	1,201,941	947,633
Provisions	14	2,264,274	1,794,233
Specified donations	15	876,413	1,091,799
Total Current Liabilities		**11,148,141**	**8,188,132**
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	14	370,933	316,629
Specified donations	15	100,000	–
Total Non Current Liabilities		**470,933**	**316,629**
Total Liabilities		**11,619,074**	**8,504,761**
Net Assets		**34,878,573**	**25,084,429**
EQUITY			
Reserves	16	20,813,560	16,531,904
Accumulated surplus	17	14,065,013	8,552,523
Total Equity		**34,878,573**	**25,084,427**

The statements of financial position are to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 9-18.

Hunter Gatherer breaks the 'op shop' mould with low-priced vintage and fashion clothing. It has achieved $500,000 in sales this financial year.

Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	Note	2001 $	2000 $
Cash Flow from Operating Activities			
Cash receipts in the course of operations		36,599,937	30,599,650
Cash payments in the course of operations		(36,772,976)	(30,253,464)
Interest received		243,909	179,198
Borrowing costs paid		(121,146)	(28,280)
Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Operating Activities	22	(50,276)	497,104
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		12,918	747,904
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(6,299,921)	(2,771,243)
Payments for joint venture investment		(50,000)	–
Net receipts to capital improvements reserve		1,998,148	2,590,984
Net receipts to/(payments from) trust funds		254,308	(58,657)
Net Cash Provided by/(Used in) Investing Activities		(4,084,541)	508,988
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Proceeds from borrowings		2,278,854	834,606
Net Cash provided by/(Used in) Financing Activities		2,278,854	834,606
Net increase/decrease in cash		(1,855,969)	1,840,698
Cash at beginning of financial year		5,367,355	3,526,657
Cash at End of Financial Year	3,22	3,511,387	5,367,355

The statements of cash flows are to be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 9-18.

The Brotherhood of St Laurence's Koori Community Aged Care Packages Program helps Koori elders or Koori people with a disability stay in their homes for longer.

Notes

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2001.

1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies adopted by the Brotherhood of St Laurence ("Brotherhood") in the preparation of this financial report are set out below.

a Basis of Preparation

The financial report is a general purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Law.

It has been prepared on the basis of historical costs and except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or fair values of non-current assets.

The Brotherhood conducts all activities in its own name, apart from STEP Incorporated, a group training scheme and Mod Style, an optical frame wholesaler, both of which have been consolidated into these financial statements.

b Reclassification of Financial Information

Some line items and sub-totals reported in the previous year have been reclassified and repositioned in the financial statements as a result of the first time application on 1 July 2000 of the revised standards AASB 1018 Statement of Financial Performance, AASB 1034 Financial Report Presentation and Disclosures and the new AASB 1040 Statement of Financial Position.

Adoption of these standards has resulted in the transfer of the reconciliation of opening to closing accumulated surpluses from the face of the statement of financial performance to Note 17.

Revenue and expense items previously disclosed as abnormal have been reclassified and are now disclosed as individually significant items in Note 2. These items are no longer identified separately on the face of the statement of financial performance.

c Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognised at fair value of the consideration received net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised (net of returns, discounts and allowances) when control of the goods passes to the customer.

Government Grants

Statutory Subsidies are entitlements to government funding relating to the conduct of the Brotherhood's aged care hostels, nursing homes, child care, aged activities and respite care. These subsidies, which cover such items as salaries, rent, nursing home benefits, personal care and special needs funding, are tied to specific services, and cannot be used for any other purpose. These are brought to income as received.

Government Discretionary Grants are funds received for undertaking particular projects and are approved on a project by project basis. They particularly relate to employment services and the community care programs. Government Discretionary Grants received in advance of the year to which they relate are disclosed as part of "Accounts Payable" and are brought to income in future years on the basis that the Brotherhood must continue to provide services in these years.

Specified Donations

Specified Donations are received to fund projects specified by the donor. These donations are brought to income when received. A corresponding liability is recorded until the donations are used for the specified purpose. Any unspent specified donations are disclosed as "Specified Donations".

The $7.2million redeveloped Sumner House provides quality inner-city accommodation for older people on low incomes. It reopened in April 2001.

Notes

d Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a net basis.

e Foreign Currency Transactions and Balances

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to Australian currency at the exchange rate in effect at the date of each transaction. Amounts receivable by the Brotherhood in foreign currencies have been translated at the exchange rates ruling at balance date. Gains and losses arising from fluctuations in exchange rates are included in the Statement of Financial Performance in the financial year in which the exchange rates change.

f Income Tax

The Brotherhood is a "Public Benevolent Institution" as defined in the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 and is therefore exempt from Income Tax.

g Receivables

Debtors are carried at amounts due. The collectability of debts is assessed at balance date and specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts.

Rent debtors are to be settled within 14 days, all other trade debtors are to be settled within 30 days.

h Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of processing cost and net realisable value. This includes collection costs, direct labour and materials costs.

i Investments

Investments are recorded at the lower of cost or recoverable amount. Investment income is recognised when earned.

j Property, Plant and Equipment

Freehold Land and Buildings are brought to account at independent valuation less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The carrying amount of Plant and Equipment is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of the assets.

Certain Property, Plant and Equipment used in providing direct welfare services cannot be sold or encumbered because government grants have been received towards their cost. These grants may be repayable should the Brotherhood discontinue the service that was the initial object of the grant. Provision for the repayment of any grant is only made when such a decision is taken.

k Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciation is provided on all Property, Plant and Equipment, except freehold land, at rates based upon their expected useful lives using the straight line method of depreciation.

Depreciation/amortisation rates used for each class of assets are:

Buildings	2.5%
Furniture and fixtures	10.0%–15.0%
Plant, equipment and motor vehicles	10.0%–15.0%
Computer equipment	25.0%
Goodwill	20 years

l Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase consideration plus incidental costs over the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired.

m Payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received. Trade accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days.

n Loans

Loans are carried on the statement of financial performance at their principal amount. Interest expense is accrued at the contracted rate and included in "other creditors and accruals".

The Brotherhood's employment services assists the long-term unemployed, jobseekers with disabilities and those with severe barriers to employment.

Notes

o Employee Entitlements

Annual Leave

The annual leave provision represents present obligations resulting from employees' services provided up to balance date, calculated at undiscounted amounts based on current wage and salary amounts and including related on-costs, specifically superannuation and Workcover.

Long Service Leave

Although pro-rata leave is not payable until after ten years of service, provision for long service leave is made in the seventh year of service being the time when the future liability can be predicted with some certainty. This method has been tested against AASB1028 and shown to satisfy the requirements of the standard. All on-costs including Workcover and superannuation are included in the determination of the provision.

Superannuation Plans

The Brotherhood contributes to a defined benefit and a defined contribution superannuation plan. Contributions are charged against income as they are made.

p Insurance Fund

In 1991/1992 the Brotherhood established an Insurance Fund to provide for a significant element of self-insurance, thereby limiting the cost of providing full insurance cover through traditional means.

q Provision of Accounting Services – Trust Funds

The Brotherhood provides accounting services and holds funds on behalf of a number of projects run and managed externally to the administration of the Brotherhood. Any funds of these projects are shown separately in the Balance Sheet as part of the liability entitled "Trust Funds".

Notes

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $
2 SURPLUS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
Individually significant items included in surplus from ordinary activities		
Writedown in value of inventories	422,999	90,420
Additional long service leave provision	165,000	–
Surplus from ordinary activities has been arrived at after charging/(crediting) the following items		
Depreciation	767,996	777,886
Amortisation of goodwill	54,673	–
Total depreciation and amortisation	**822,669**	**777,886**
Borrowing costs	121,146	28,280
Net bad and doubtful debts expense including movements in provision for doubtful debts	31,749	–
Operating lease rental expense	1,209,582	945,507
(Profit)/loss on sale of plant and equipment	122,250	(16,203)
Profit on sale of Gore St	–	(176,017)
3 CASH ASSETS		
Cash	857,809	1,137,872
Cash on deposit	2,653,578	4,229,483
Total Cash Assets	**3,511,387**	**5,367,355**

Included in cash is $1,201,941 (2000: $947,633) of money held on behalf of associated organisations and residents. A corresponding liability is shown in Note 13.

4 RECEIVABLES		
Trade debtors	2,783,255	1,216,468
Provision for doubtful debts	(47,750)	(25,845)
Net Trade Debtors	**2,735,505**	**1,190,623**
Other debtors	834,545	1,211,925
Total Receivables	**3,570,049**	**2,402,548**
5 PROVISION FOR DOUBTFUL DEBTS		
Recycling enterprises	23,512	11,430
Other	24,237	14,415
Total Provision for Doubtful Debts	**47,750**	**25,845**

The provision for the recycling enterprises division is net of any trade indemnity insurance.

6 INVENTORIES		
Recycling enterprises division	249,821	664,578
Retail	258,407	74,000
Mod Style	796,742	–
Other	3,196	17,872
Total Inventories	**1,308,166**	**756,450**

Banksia provides flexible respite care for older people with high-needs, their carers and families. It has opened a second centre in Carrum Downs, providing social activities.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $
7 OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Investments in other entities	31,550	31,550
Investment in joint venture (a)	54,117	–
Marketable securities (b)	1,925,296	1,787,915
Total Other Financial Assets	**2,010,963**	**1,819,464**
a In March 2001 the Brotherhood established a 50/50 joint venture recycled goods store in Queanbeyan, NSW, with Anglicare Canberra. The Brotherhood's 50% investment in the store is accounted for at cost plus our share of earnings.		
b Market values of marketable securities	2,340,970	2,036,723
Investments are recorded at lower of cost or recoverable amount (see also Note 1).		
8 OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments	201,225	195,600
9 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Land		
At independent valuation 30 June 2001	12,824,500	–
At independent valuation 30 June 1998	–	8,550,642
Total Land	**12,824,500**	**8,550,642**
Buildings and Fixtures		
At independent valuation 30 June 2001	20,093,500	–
At independent valuation 30 June 1998	–	13,253,873
At cost	1,187,045	147,951
Construction work in progress	–	2,066,056
Accumulated depreciation	(793,714)	(2,444,143)
Total Buildings and Fixtures	**20,486,832**	**13,023,737**
Plant and equipment		
At cost	4,433,490	4,407,618
Accumulated depreciation	(2,887,013)	(2,934,224)
Total Plant and Equipment	**1,546,477**	**1,473,394**
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	**34,857,809**	**23,047,773**
Reconciliations		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment are set out below:		
Land		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the year	8,550,642	8,750,652
Disposals	–	(200,000)
Revaluation increment	4,273,858	–
Carrying amount at the end of the year	**12,824,500**	**8,550,642**

Three year federal accreditation was achieved for all four Brotherhood of St Laurence residential aged care facilities.

Notes

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $
Buildings and Fixtures		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the year	13,023,737	11,377,609
Additions	4,706,662	2,384,045
Disposals	(63,234)	(325,125)
Depreciation	(412,422)	(412,793)
Revaluation increment	3,232,089	–
Carrying amount at the end of the year	**20,486,832**	**13,023,737**
Plant and Equipment		
Carrying amount at the beginning of the year	1,473,394	1,437,491
Additions	519,642	455,462
Disposals	(90,985)	(53,947)
Depreciation	(355,574)	(365,612)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	**1,546,477**	**1,473,394**

Valuations

The valuations of land and buildings were based on their estimated market value for existing use. The valuations were performed by W. Keebaugh FAPI (Val) FREI and R. I. St. Clair – AAPI, AAIM and dated 30 June 2001.

Revaluations of land and buildings are made in accordance with the policy of revaluations. Capital gains tax has not been taken into account in determining the carrying amounts of these assets as the Brotherhood is tax exempt.

10 INTANGIBLES

Goodwill – at cost	1,092,721	–
Accumulated amortisation	(54,673)	–
Net Goodwill	**1,038,048**	**–**

11 PAYABLES

Trade creditors	1,037,086	907,603
Project funds in advance	239,417	121,772
Government grants in advance	807,748	718,754
Other creditors and accruals	1,481,262	1,766,338
Total Payables	**3,565,513**	**3,514,467**

12 INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES

Bank loans – secured	2,240,000	840,000
Other loans	1,000,000	–
Total Interest Bearing Liabilities	**3,240,000**	**840,000**

Financing Arrangements

The Brotherhood has access to the following lines of credit:
Total facilities available:

Bank overdraft	200,000	200,000
Bank loans	3,120,000	1,240,000
	3,320,000	**2,240,000**

The Brotherhood of St Laurence provided support and services for more than 2000 elderly people on low incomes.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $
Facilities utilised at balance date:		
Bank overdraft	–	–
Bank loans	2,240,000	840,000
	2,240,000	**840,000**
Facilities not utilised at balance date:		
Bank overdraft	200,000	200,000
Bank loans	880,000	400,000
	1,080,000	**600,000**

The Brotherhood's bank also provides clearing facilities directly related to the payment of salaries. Interest on the bank loans is charged at market rates. The rate at 30 June 2001 was 5.6%.

A bank deposit of equal value secures the bank overdraft. The bank loans are secured by a first mortgage over property valued at $3.5 million and an equitable charge over the business assets of Mod Style (net assets at 30 June 2001 equalled $1.1 million).

13 TRUST FUNDS

Residents	107,212	71,320
Hostel	3,200	12,000
Accommodation bonds – Aged Care	308,218	223,920
Residents committees	63,548	39,042
Child poverty trust funds	–	1,772
Capital base of no interest loans scheme	24,997	22,742
Auspiced projects	663,797	543,607
Others	30,969	33,230
Total Trust Funds	**1,201,941**	**947,633**

These items represent amounts held on behalf of other organisations and residents.

14 PROVISIONS

Current

Provision for annual leave	1,301,773	1,037,859
Provision for long service leave	766,450	570,815
Provision for sick leave	–	4,500
Insurance fund	196,051	181,059
	2,264,274	**1,794,23**

Non-Current

Provision for long service leave	370,933	316,629
Total Provisions	**2,635,207**	**2,110,862**

Number of Employees

Number of employees at year end	345	265

Superannuation Plan

The Brotherhood provides a defined benefits superannuation plan to a closed group of about 30 employees. An actuarial valuation was completed as at 1 July 1999. At that time the actuary concluded that the assets of the fund were sufficient to meet all the benefits payable in the event of termination of employment of each member employee.

The net assets of the plan at 1 July 2000 were $2,498,000 and vested benefits $1,976,000, excess being $522,000.

About 50 families per year, many from non-English speaking backgrounds, utilised services at The Cottage – Centre for Families and Children.

Notes

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $
15 SPECIFIED DONATIONS		
Opening balance	1,091,799	971,718
Net transfers (to)/from income and expenditure account	(115,386)	120,081
Total Specified Donations	**976,413**	**1,091,799**
Classified as follows:		
Current	876,413	1,091,799
Non-current	100,000	–
	976,413	**1,091,799**
16 RESERVES		
Capital improvements reserve	616,023	3,340,317
Asset revaluation reserve	20,197,538	12,691,587
Legacy reserve	–	500,000
Total Reserves	**20,813,561**	**16,531,904**
Movements during the year		
Capital Improvements Reserve		
Opening balance	3,340,317	3,089,298
Government subsidies received	483,666	432,197
Government capital funding received	500,000	–
Capital appeal donations received	925,825	2,109,785
Other	88,657	49,002
Transfer to accumulation account	(4,540,927)	(2,066,056)
Funds utilised	(181,515)	(273,909)
Closing Balance	**616,023**	**3,340,317**
Asset Revaluation Reserve		
Opening balance	12,691,587	13,193,110
Revaluation increment	7,505,951	–
Transfer to accumulation account	–	(501,523)
Closing Balance	**20,197,538**	**12,691,587**
Legacy Reserve		
Opening balance	500,000	500,000
Transfer to accumulated surplus	(500,000)	–
Closing Balance	**–**	**500,000**

The Transition Project 'bridges' the gap between school and the labour market for young people in the Frankston area. It assisted 207 clients this year.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $

Nature and Purpose of Reserves

Capital Improvements Reserve

The capital improvements reserve segregates capital income arising from donations and Government Subsidies specified for capital works, pending completion of the related fixed asset.

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of non-current assets.

17 ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

Balance at beginning of year	8,552,523	6,084,005
Surplus from ordinary activities	2,469,711	2,491,923
Transfers to capital improvements reserve	(1,998,148)	(2,590,984)
Transfer from capital improvements reserve	4,540,927	2,066,056
Transfer from asset revaluation reserve	–	501,523
Transfer from legacy fund	500,000	–
Balance at end of year	**14,065,013**	**8,552,523**

18 AUDITORS REMUNERATION

Auditing the financial statements	48,300	46,000
Providing other audits required by government	28,100	18,300
Total Auditors Remuneration	**76,400**	**64,300**

19 FAIR VALUE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The carrying amounts of trade receivables, trade creditors and bank loans approximate their fair values (refer also Note 7 for valuation of Marketable Securities).

20 COMMITMENTS

Non-cancellable Operating Lease Commitments

Future operating lease commitments not provided for in the financial statements and payable:		
Within one year	2,304,958	1,939,849
Between one and five years	2,192,687	2,315,296
More than five years	672,500	–
	5,170,145	**4,255,145**

Capital Expenditure Commitments

Buildings – not later than one year	–	4,692,335

21 RELATED PARTIES

The names of each person holding the position of director of the Board of the Brotherhood of St Laurence during the financial year were Dr C Benn, The Revd R Browning, CG Clark, K Cross, Prof S Duckett, JM Feeney, Fr N Frances, Assoc Prof B Howe, E Loftus, P Marriott, Fr J Minchin, I Reid and G Wise.

CG Clark and Dr C Benn retired as a director during the year. Assoc Prof B Howe and P Marriott were appointed during the year.

No remuneration was paid or is payable to the directors in their capacity as board members.

Social Action and Research carries out extensive and high quality research into poverty and inequality, advocates for positive social change and encourages community action.

Notes to and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2001

	2001 $	2000 $

22 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

Reconciliation of Cash

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, "cash" includes cash on hand and on deposit. Cash at the beginning and end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the balance sheet as follows:

Cash	857,809	1,137,872
Cash on deposit	2,653,578	4,229,483
	3,511,387	**5,367,355**

Reconciliation of Cash Provided by Operating Activities to Surplus Before Appropriation

Surplus from ordinary activities	2,469,711	2,491,923
Add/(less) items classified as investing/financing activities:		
– Capital income	(1,998,148)	(2,590,984)
– (Profit)/loss on sale of non-current assets	122,201	(16,203)
– Profit on sale of Gore Street	–	(176,017)
– Borrowing costs	121,146	–
Add/(less) Non cash items:		
– Depreciation and amortisation	822,669	777,886
– Write off of bad debts	9,844	6,834
– Writedown in value of inventory	422,999	90,420
– Other	–	(74,265)
Net cash provided by operating activities before change in assets and liabilities	**1,970,422**	**509,594**
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
– (Increase)/decrease in receivables	(1,204,875)	(588,973)
– (Increase)/decrease in inventories	(974,715)	115,606
– (Increase)/decrease in investments	(141,499)	(62,096)
– Increase/(decrease) in creditors	83,822	458,549
– Increase/(decrease) in accrued employee entitlements	531,258	187,191
– Increase/(decrease) in insurance fund	14,992	31,061
– Increase/(decrease) in capital improvements reserve	(181,516)	(273,909)
– Increase/(decrease) in specified donations	(115,386)	120,081
– Increase/(decrease) in government funds in advance	(32,778)	–
Net Cash Generated by Operating Activities	**(50,276)**	**497,104**

23 EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

Since the end of the financial year the Brotherhood has agreed to sell the Care Manager Software enterprise to Database Consultants Australia in return for a royalty on future sales. It is expected this transaction will be completed before the end of October 2001.

Other than the matter discussed above, no matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial year, which is not otherwise dealt with in this report, that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Brotherhood in subsequent financial years.

More than 200 community services throughout Australia now use The Care Manager a software program designed at the Brotherhood of St Laurence.

Directors' Declaration

In the opinion of the directors of The Brotherhood of St Laurence:

a The financial statements and notes, set out on pages 6 to 18, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

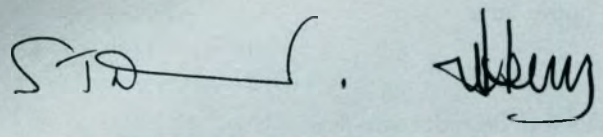
   i giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the organisation as at 30 June 2001 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows for the financial year ended on that date, and

   ii complying with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations; and

b There are reasonable grounds to believe that the organisation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Dated at Melbourne this 28th day of September 2001.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors:



Prof Stephen Duckett
Chair of the Board

Michael Feeney
Director

Independent Audit Report

To the Members of the Brotherhood of St Laurence,

Scope

We have audited the financial report of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence for the financial year ended 30 June 2001 as set out on pages 6 to 18. The company's directors are responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the company.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements, in Australia so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

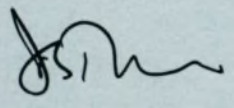
In our opinion, the financial report of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence is in accordance with:

a the Corporations Act (2001), including:

  i giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2001 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and

  ii complying with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations (2001); and

b other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



Denis J Thorn
Arthur Andersen Chartered Accountants

Homeless young people can access training and accommodation assistance through the BSL's Job Placement Employment and Training (JPET) program.

Thank you to our Supporters

In Recognition of Your Generosity

The following individuals, trusts, foundations, groups and estates have provided assistance of $1000 or more through direct donations, grants or the provision of goods and services towards Brotherhood of St Laurence services.

J Adams
R Albert
Allen Foundry Co Pty Ltd
Amcor Limited
A Anagnostou
J Anderson
S Anderson
The William Angliss (Vic) Charitable Fund
Anonymous (10)
ANZ Banking Group Limited
Aston James International
S Atallah
Australia Council for the Arts
The Avenue Uniting Church Blackburn
M Bahm
D Baillieu
The Baker Foundation
M Batten
C Bayly
O Beaton
J Begg
D Behrend
Bell Charitable Fund
Blake Dawson Waldron
L Bodman
The Body Shop
M Boffa
M Bolton
M Bond
Box Hill Friends of BSL
P and V Brass
Brigidine Provincial House
G Brown
D Brownell
F Browning
R Buchanan
G Buckman
Bulleen Village Pharmacy
M Burn
J Burnside
W Bush
M Butcher
M Buxton
A Buzzard
D Byrne
Cadbury Schweppes Pty Ltd
Cambrose Pty Ltd
M Capp
Carleton Family Charitable Trust (Perpetual Trustees)
Carroll Marsh Investments
G Carson
C and A Carter
Fred J Cato Charitable Fund
J Chappell
C Cheers
P Chester
J Chester
Christ Church Ormond/East Brighton
D Clark
C Clark
J Clark
E Clark
P Clemenger
W Collier
Collier Charitable Fund
J Conochie
Construction Engineering Pty Ltd
B Cook
U Cookson
G Cooper
D Corke
W Corker
J Coulson
E Curwen-Walker
The Danks Trust
D Danks
P Day
J De Campo
C Delany
J Dempster
A Douglas
D Dow
P Drake
S Duckett
J Dyer
P Ebeling
K Eisner
J and P Elvins
Eurochimie
R Evans
Ivor Ronald Evans Foundation (Equity Trustees)
C Fellows
Fern Tree Investments Pty Ltd
U Fernando
FHB Holdings Pty Ltd
The Marian and E H Flack Trust
Flagstaff Consulting Group
N Foster
N Frances
M Freeman
R Fynmore
The Gandel Charitable Trust
C Gantner
N Gantner
R Garratt
R Geer
H Glascodine
GMH Settlement Trust
B Goddard

The Brotherhood of St Laurence supports the work of Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation (ANTaR).

Good Shepherd Sisters
N Grabau
C Grainger
R Gregory
C Gunst
J Habersberger
D Habersberger
M Haines
K Hall
L Hancock
M Hanlon
R Hardcastle
F Harding
J Harley
C Harris
J Harrison
H Haynes
H and L Hecht Trust
M Henderson
W Henderson
G Hess
I Hicks
Hofmann Co Aust Pty Ltd
E Hollingworth
B Holloway
Holy Trinity Anglican Church
East Melbourne
The Honda Foundation
G Hone
J Houghton
J Howqua
M Hoyle
W Hunt
P Hutchins
D Ingram
P Innes
The Invergowrie Foundation
D Jackson
M Jeffrey
C Johnson
R Johnson
L and P Kamener
Kay and Burton Pty Ltd
Kenneth James Pty Ltd
W Kimpton
E Kingston
Kingston Sedgefield (Australia)
Charitable Trust
A and R Kirsner
The KPMG Foundation
Kyabram Motor Wreckers
A Kyle
N Lakkoju
V Lanzarone
M Lawrence
G Lefroy
Flora and Frank Leith Trust
G Lewin
J Lewis
V Lienhop
G Limb
M Lipshut
T Little
R Loder
E Loftus
Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
J Lyne
D MacFarlane
T Mackay
J MacKenzie
The Scobie and Claire Mackinnon Trust
P Maclagan
E Mahlab
I Marek
C Maxwell
Mazda Foundation
M McArthur
R McDonald
G McDowall
McPherson's Limited
E Miller
J Molony
Jack Moody Charitable Foundation
L Morgan
G Moriarty
B Morrow
S Murdoch
E Murdoch
G Murphy
B Myer
P Myer
P Myer
R Myer
R Myer
National Mutual (AXA)
Staff Community Fund
W Nettle
D Newton
A Nurse
F O'Brien
M O'Halloran
D Ogilvy
Omninex Pty Ltd
Order of St John of Jerusalem
J Palfreyman
F Panetta
Paper Agencies (Aust and NZ) Pty Ltd
G and J Pappas
W Papst
B Parncutt
R Peate
Permanent Trustee Foundation
P Petschack
Pierce Armstrong Foundation
Pivotal Management Consultants
Plasmatronics Pty Ltd
M Prendergast and J Loder
J Prescott
H Raysmith
K Rea
M Reid
I Reid
Right D and A
I Robinson
C Robinson
A Roseler
The R E Ross Trust
Rothschild Australia Limited
P Row
S Rubinstein
M Rusden
N Saporta
G Scholz
Helen M Schutt Trust
S Schutz
J Serle
P Shaw
Alan (AGL) Shaw Foundation
T Shek
Shell Australia Ltd
(Employees Payroll Deductions)
Skal Club of Melbourne No 222
J Smith
J Smith
R Smith
S Spencer
St Andrews Brighton Opportunity Shop
St Faiths Anglican Church Burwood
St Philips Anglican Church Mt Waverley
M Stewart
R Stewart
J Symington
Tactix Creative Pty Ltd
Tadem Pty Ltd
L Targett and J Ponsford
N Tatnell

 The Brotherhood of St Laurence is a founding member of the Australian Social Entrepreneurs Network, established in February 2001.

N Tetley
P Thomas
M Thomas
M Thompson
Toorak Village Medical Centre
J Tootell
M Tozer
R Tucker
A Turner
G Uren
Veetemp Heating Australia
Victorian Community Foundation
Hector Waldron Pride Trust
A Wall
H Wallace
Ward Laboratories
C R Ward-Ambler
R Warren
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G Watson
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P Wellington
J B Were and Son Charitable Fund
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L Williams
D Williamson
J Willis
Edward Wilson Estate
J Wissenden
Olive Woods Trust
H Wu
S Wylie
P Yewers
D Young
M Young
J Yowell
Zenith

The provision of bequests and legacies has long been significant in the life of the Brotherhood of St Laurence. We gratefully acknowledge bequests from the Estates of:

L J Baldy
HG Batten
F Bauer
L A Baynes
B B Bourke
M E Bowley
J Broadfoot
C and F Broadhurst
M Chomley
A M Clark
A Cockerill
J Cornish
B W Coxhead
P W Crohn
E Dailey
T K Davidson
Dibbs and Massie Foundation
G J Dickson
C H East
N Elliott
R Exiner
G E Fitzgerald
T I Geoghegan
L F Gill
G F Green
K Hinde
A E Holland
G C Inson
K Johnston
M A Lambe
A I Lavis
E C Logan
J E Lyons
I M McCabe
I M W McDonald
M S Melvin
C Mercer
V Molony
C F Moore
J Moore
A I C Ostberg
A R Page
W Peters
R G Pitt
C Proud
P J Provelson
J L Rivis
E G Roberts
A Robertson
J M Robinson
T Silver
E Smedley
H B Smith
M Sofeldt
H Stevens
E B Stewart
M E Thomson
F Thornton
D A Wall
E G A Weiss
C M G Willett
M Willoby

We wish to acknowledge supporters of the Brotherhood who have made a bequest to us in their Will. We have named this group 'Friends of St Laurence' after our patron Saint.

J Anderson
Anonymous 102
M Austin
D Beare
J Blackwell
V Brand
E Britten
G Britten
J Brumley
D Clark
M and A Clausen
M Cochrane
P Cohen
D Cousins
M Craig
J H Dyer
M Eardley
K Eisner
E Ellis
B Fagin
J Fell
L Foxcroft
B Francis
B Glascodine
H Glascodine
D J Habersberger
L Hancock
K and Y Hansen
J Hardie
M Harry
J Hicks
R Higgins
J Hillard
K M Holgate
J Holt
J Howqua
R and M Hoy
J Jukes
M Kemp
D Kingston
PG and MJ Madder Trust
R McDonald

A three year communications and community mobilisation campaign to raise awareness and action around poverty in Australia has been established through funding from a private charitable trust.

G Mitchell
J Morris
J Mortimer
P Myer
J Nicholson
L O'Dea
R Parnell
T Roseaur
A Shaw
I Sheppard
R Simpson
R C Smith
J St John
MA and MJ Stratton
E Strump
A Tobin
C Toh
S Walker
R Wallace
G Watson
K Westfold
R Wetherell
J Williams
J Young

The following individuals, groups and organisations assisted specific Brotherhood of St Laurence services, programs and research activities, with generous donations of time, funds, energy, or all of the above.

Admissions

Bob Lyford
David Marks
Bill Williams

Banksia

Lions Frankston
Rotary Club of Long Island
Wranglers Club of Frankston

Brotherhood Community Access

Frank and Trevor Rees

Coolibah Day Centre

Australian Football League
Channel Seven
Geelong Football Club
Kangaroos Football Club
Kmart Australia

Cottage – Centre for Families and Children

City of Yarra
Lisa Kingman
Rao Lakkoju

Craigieburn and Districts Family Day Care

Jane Kernaghan
Josie Mitzi
Leanne Conn
Roy Garro

Ecumenical Migration Centre

Australia Council of Arts
FJ Cato Charitable Fund
City of Yarra
Collier Charitable Fund
Department of Human Services
Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
Equity Trustees
Neilma Gantner
Invergowrie Foundation
Parks Victoria
Rotary Richmond
VicHealth
Victorian Multicultural Commission
The William Angliss (Victoria) Charitable Fund

Employment Opportunities

Community Business Employment Program
Department of Education, Employment and Training

Community Support Program

Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
Sport and Recreation Victoria
Sophie Bibrowska

Furniture Works Training Centre

Al-KO International
Chris Arnett
Andrew Price Antiques
Department of Education, Employment and Training (DEET) Community Jobs Program
Centrelink
Cherrybrook Furniture
Fleetmark
Framework Racks
Department of Human Services Seaford
Juvenile Justice Unit
Made in the Shade
Nulene Furniture
Monica Parnis
Peninsula Mirrors
R and L Smith Plumbing
Skills Plus
STEP
Jenny Stow
The Furniture Restoration Centre
Volunteers
Yvonne Teoh Bource

Gapco

CERES Brunswick
City of Yarra
Department of Family and Community Services
Fitzroy Learning Network
FORMAC, Kew
Headway, Victoria
Monash University
Red Cross Asylum Seekers
Tangelo
Ultra Furniture, Maidstone

Homework Centre

The Body Shop
Volunteers of the Homework Program

JOB futures

Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business

Job Network

Citibureau
Cobra Cane
Coogi Australia
Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
Diver Consolidated
Endless Spirit Clothing
Infoxchange Australia
Moonee Valley Racecourse
News Direct
The Windsor
Job Placement Employment and Training Program (JPET)
Department Employment Training and Youth Affairs
HSBC

Return to Work

Bennettswood Neighbourhood House
Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
Employment Focus/Job Futures, Heidelberg
JobCo/Jobfutures, Northcote

416 families and 638 children used the Craigieburn and Districts Family Day Care Service this financial year.

Scheme for Training and Educating People – STEP Group Training Company
The Body Shop
Bonza Balloons
Broughton Aged Care Facility
City of Boroondara
Cox Collins Hostel
Dental Health Services Victoria
Dr Patrick Ruso
Eatons Elements
Frankston Furniture Training Centre
Furniture Restoration Centre
Ginger
GRS Marketing
HIS Accountants and Business Advisors
Inner South Community Health Service
Made in the Shade
Peninsula Health
(Community Dental Program)
Peninsula Mirrors
Royal Children's Hospital Dental Clinic
Sambell Lodge
Seniors Aged Care Sommerville
Sumner House
Transfield
Glenvale Dental Group
Vertigo

The Transition Project
Karingal Park Secondary College
Link Employment
– Job Pathways Program
Monterey Secondary College
Enterprise and Career Education Foundation

Greater Dandenong Early Childhood Psychology Service
Jane Davies
HIPPY
BHP
The Body Shop, staff and customers
Pearl Lipshut
Mrs Elizabeth Smart
Mr and Mrs Suni

Income Support Services
FJ Cato Charitable Fund
Coles Myer
Ingham Somerville
Kmart Australia
Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
The Myer Foundation
Office Works
The RE Ross Trust
Independent Living Centre Carrum Downs
Freeman Dann Trust
Joe White Bequest

Organisational Development
Disability Employment Action Centre (DEAC)
Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council (VALBEC)

Public Housing Advocacy Program/Community Facilities
City of Bayside
Department of Human Services Tenancy Services
Rotary Club Hampton
St Matthews Anglican Church Cheltenham
Rob and Helen Lyon
Red Gum Supplies

Rental Housing Support Program/Public
Housing Advocacy Program
Infoxchange Australia
RACV Foundation

Retail stores
ACK Marketing
Advantage Solutions Pty Ltd
Apelbaum and Co Pty Ltd
APR Trading
Brolga
Russell Chalkey Fashions
CMD
Corporate Express
Deltune Pty Ltd
Desktop Skills
FOO QUAN ENG Holdings Pty Ltd
Haley Skurowski, Such
Hardan
J Thompson Marketing Pty Ltd
Juma Signs
Kwik Kopy Pty Ltd
Leader Newspaper Group
Peter McLean Security Pty Ltd
Monarch Paxar
Nylex Corporation
Rebecca Thompson
David Rosendale
Shiva's Regal
ZXS
Sambell Lodge
City of Yarra

Social Action and Research – Research and Policy
Atherton Gardens Project
– Carleton Family Charitable Trust
Community Support Program evaluation
– William Buckland Foundation
Developing Dialogue
– The Diana Browne Trust;
Hector Waldron Pride Trust
HIPPY evaluation
– Australian Research Council SPIRT grant
Job Network evaluation
– Australian Research Council SPIRT grant
Life Chances Study
– The Bokhara Foundation,
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Kingston Sedgefield (Australia) Charitable Trust
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Rooming House project
– funds to Social Issues Network from the City of Yarra
Anna Charlton
Peter Hardy
Peter Loukopoulos
Colleen Schirmer
Toy Library
City of Yarra

Volunteer Services
City of Whitehorse

The Coolibah Day Centre assists older people, those with intellectual, psychiatric or physical disabilities, the socially isolated and people on low incomes in the Melbourne metropolitan area.

Thank you to our Committees

Thank You for Your Generous Support

The following people have contributed their time and expertise as members of Brotherhood advisory groups and committees:

Audit Committee
Michael Feeney, Stephen Duckett, Elizabeth Loftus, Jenny Trethewey, Roger Johnson, Bronwyn Constance and Nicolas Frances.

Community Support Program Evaluation Advisory Group
Sally James, Michael Horn, Meg Montague, Janet Taylor, Del Nightingale, Jeff McIntyre, Bedellu Desta and Pam Beaumont.

Creating Employment Pathways Advisory Group
Liz Dearn, George Giuliani, Sally James, Cath Scarth, John Spierings, Helen MacDonald and Michelle Wakeford.

Ethical Business Review Committee
Ian McHutchison, Jillian Murray, Sean Cooney, Alan Matheson, Jeff Atkinson, Michael Kerr, Chris Childs, Stephen Chisnall, Fiona Macdonald, Joanna Dimopoulos, Serena Lillywhite and Stella Mulder.

Evaluation of the Banksia Host Home Respite Program Research Advisory Committee
Stephen Ziguras, Sonya Holm, Ila Howard, Pamela Forster, Jill Thompson, Elizabeth Ozanne and Philippa Angley.

Finance Committee
Michael Feeney, Stephen Duckett, Melissa Field, Patrice Marriot and Nicolas Frances.

HIPPY Committee
Carol Allen, Suzanne Dean, Joanne Donne, Vera Dorovitch, Cynthia Fan, Annette Mutimer, Fairleigh Nassau, Sue Parsons, Leanne Reynolds, Natalie Savin, Jill Webb, Cath Scarth and Carol Allen.

Housing Issues Forum
Alla Shehrbakova, Janet Taylor, Jeff McIntyre, Kevin Rogerson, Bernie Durkin, Lee-Ann Boyle, Terry Porter, Alan Grunner, Theresa Ssali, Jeannette Mayhew, Lydia Wheeler, Lola McHarg and Sandra Hills.

Human Research Ethics Committee
Angela Clark, Janet Cohen, Nicolas Frances, Stephen Gianni, Susan Giles, Helen Glezer, Tony Kelleher, Fiona Macdonald, Frank Oberklaid, Don Siemon, Cath Scarth and Janet Taylor.

Job Network Evaluation Advisory Group
David Abello, Tony Eardley, Robert Tickner, Michael Reffshauge, Catherine Fletcher, Mark Lyons, Pat Ranald, Peter Saunders and Janet Taylor.

Mod Style Committee of Management
Ernest Barr, Ian Reid, Stephen Chisnall and Ian McHutchison.

Peninsula Community Care Advisory Committee
Heather Burns, Di Farmer, Dawn Fisher, Nanette Mitchell, Anne Schrader, Lyn Wright, Tim Pownall, Glenda Valentine, Janeen Rees, Judy McKee and Catherine Healion.

Promotion and Communication Advisory Committee
Nicolas Frances, Peter Beales, Carolyn Mancuso, Jonathon Rowe, Alastair Campbell, Maria Prendergast, Ian Reid, Di Clark, Helen Fenney, Stephen Gianni and Chris Gill.

Residential Aged Care Continuous Improvement Working Group
Bernadette Mundy, Robyn Fuller, Robyn Pendlebury, Alan Gruner, Sandra Hills, Margo Roest, Clare Ploughwright, Jenny Dawson, Stacey Van Duren, Kath Dean, Joyce Hossack and Paul Brophy.

Social Issues Group
Meg Montague, Dimity Fifer, Russel Rollason, Prof. Stephen Duckett, Michael Horn, Ilen Wolcott, Janet Taylor, Basil Varghese, Don Siemon, Helen MacDonald, Fiona Macdonald, Patricia Newell, Sally Jope, Amra Pajalic, Mas Generis, Nicolas Frances, Natalie Savin, Joanna Dimopoulos and Ainslie Hannan.

STEP Board (Scheme for Training and Education People)
Angela Jolic, Sue Farrugia, Louisa Wallace, Clive Langdon, Joanna Dimopoulos, Ian McHutchison, Caterina De Nino and George Housakos.

 The Homework Centre provides one-on-one school work tutoring for young disadvantaged people. Numbers have tripled this year.



Strategic Alliances

Doing More With Our Resources

Left Brotherhood staff members, Trevor Hopkins and Ray Bennett.

Right General Manager of Community Services, Cath Scath.



"It is only the poor who pay cash, and that not from virtue, but because they are refused credit."

Anatole France, poet. (1844-1924)

More than 11,000 families asked the Brotherhood of St Laurence for linen, blankets, clothes, beds, toys and furniture this year.

With demand increasing, the burning issue for the Brotherhood of St Laurence has been how first to meet the needs of people on low incomes for quality goods at reasonable prices – and then go further.

The Community Store Proposal, with the Westpac Bank as its partner, is a great example of how the Brotherhood of St Laurence is establishing partnerships with other stakeholders to allow us to achieve something bigger.

Since 1994, the Brotherhood of St Laurence has provided no cost loans to people on low incomes to buy whitegoods from mainstream retailers. But the problem remains that they still don't qualify for a line of credit in the usual banking or credit union system.

"The concept of the Community Store is to set up a retail shop where people can shop for new and recycled household items at competitive prices and apply for a micro-loan through the Westpac Bank to pay for it," says Cath Scarth, General Manager of Community Services.

"By using a partner such as the Westpac Bank, the Community Store can create a credit history for them. Importantly it will help us form the sorts of strategic alliances critical to the success of the project – for instance, to give us the buying power to secure goods at a reasonable price.

"And of course, there are special mechanisms within the system to help protect people from defaulting on the loans."

Another major change in the Brotherhood's approach to helping meet people's material needs has been a major restructure of its Income Support Services. The material aid service, Just Essentials, has been replaced by an innovative project called the Resource Bank.

The Resource Bank will help the Brotherhood of St Laurence concentrate on accessing quality furniture, blankets, linen and stationery, to pass them on to individuals and other emergency relief agencies.

"The Resource Bank came about because of a continuing down-turn in quality donations that meant we had to find other ways of meeting the clothing and furniture needs of our clients," explains Income Support Services Manager, Wendy Rose.

"While it won't be offering goods for direct distribution, the Resource Bank will now be able to focus on sourcing out better quality goods and distributing them through partnerships with other agencies statewide.

"Essentially, the changes mean that more people in need can be reached than ever before, but in a more strategic way." ■

Facts

- **The Westpac Bank will provide training and ongoing support to the Brotherhood's Community Store staff. The new store will open in Greater Dandenong this year.**

"While we are a big agency, there will always be things we can't achieve on our own, so it's a better use of our energies and resources to develop partnerships with others to achieve our goals."

Cath Scarth
Brotherhood of St Laurence
General Manager Community Services

Maximising Relationships

The Work of Our Volunteers



Right Brotherhood volunteer Eddie Reynolds, with Broughton resident, Jim, and Manager of Volunteer Services, Peninsula, Heather Ingram.

Left Metropolitan Manager of Volunteer Services, Rosa D'Aprano.



"Volunteers undoubtedly maximise the capacity of Brotherhood services to meet their outcomes. Our challenge now is to continue fostering that enthusiasm and commitment in a way that can only keep expanding our programs and helping more people."

Heather Ingram
Manager of Volunteer Services
Peninsula

In the International Year of the Volunteer, a lot has already been said about the enormous contribution made by people who give their time to organisations.

But to someone bed-bound or without regular visitors, this effort represents more than just congratulatory words. It's a conversation, an outing, a walk, or a laugh. It's the simple human contact that conveys more than speeches possibly could.

Whether they are caring for residents, serving meals, driving the bus, working in the retail shops or fundraising, volunteers really enhance BSL programs – and vice versa, says Metropolitan Manager of Volunteer Services, Rosa D'Aprano.

"We are seeing a lot more people who have previously never thought about volunteering, but are feeling a strong motivation to give something back," she says.

"And one of the emerging areas for the Brotherhood has been an increasing interest from corporate organisations in the concept of triple bottom line accounting – that is, addressing not only their financial, but social and environmental obligations.

"So our challenge is to harness that potential, to offer true participation to people and organisations in a way that will help us achieve more than we can as just one organisation."

At the Broughton aged care facility, the ongoing partnership between the Brotherhood and its 25 dedicated volunteers is essential both to the wellbeing of its elderly, high-care residents and to functioning of the facility itself.

For the last two years, volunteer Eddie Reynolds has visited Jim, a resident who is in a wheelchair, one day a week. Together, the two take long walks, go shopping, or occasionally go to the beach.

"I think volunteering is a necessary part of life and that it's important and all that stuff – but I really enjoy it," says Eddie.

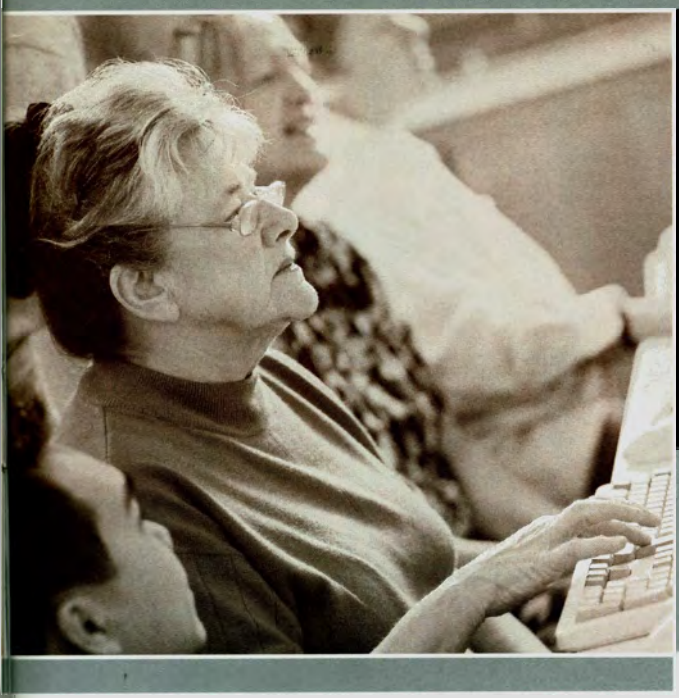
"I look forward to seeing Jim. I like the expression on his face when he sees me and we understand each other. I know what's he's talking about."

According to Eddie, it's not about duty; it's about enjoyment. And enrichment.

"I'm not usually an outgoing person, but I think my experience at Broughton has changed that a little," he says. "Talking to elderly people means you have to be more outgoing – that's just part of being here." ■

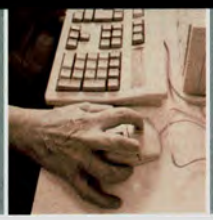
Facts

- **The Brotherhood of St Laurence has more than 1100 volunteers working across most of its programs and services, including providing crisis support for recent arrivals holding Temporary Protection Visas.**
- **Broughton is a high-care facility that caters mainly for the frail elderly, with 54 clients and their families using the service in 2000-2001. It has 25 volunteers.**
- **The Brotherhood is developing relationships with corporate organisations that will give their staff an opportunity to meaningfully engage with Brotherhood services.**



Making the Connections

Working With Community and Government



Left Infoxchange Australia's Tuah Trinh assists public housing residents Val, Kaahu and Marlene.

This is a story about becoming connected – to local needs, to local networks, to government – and finally, to the world.

The need to improve access to the World Wide Web for people on low incomes was the starting point for a successful social entrepreneurial partnership between the Brotherhood of St Laurence, public housing tenants and Infoxchange Australia, with initial funding from the Victorian Department of Human Services.

Thanks to this collaboration between welfare, community and government, public housing residents have joined the information highway. Three Internet Cafes have been created on public housing estates, with four more to come.

The idea came from staff at the Brotherhood of St Laurence's Public Housing Advocacy Program (PHAP), which provides independent advice, advocacy and support for people living in public accommodation in Melbourne's south metropolitan region.

Workers heard how residents whose children used computers at school wanted to gain better access to the Internet, but struggled to get on-line, unable to afford their own, or living too far from public libraries.

"According to research by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, only 5.7 percent of households with incomes of less than $20,000 per annum are online, compared to 66.4 percent of households with incomes of $150,000," says Alex Francis, Manager of Special Projects at Infoxchange Australia.

"While the use of computers is becoming far more commonplace in daily life, a 'digital divide' between those who can access them and those who can't, is definitely emerging."

After an initial small-scale program on one of the estates proved successful, PHAP approached the Victorian Department of Human Services for funding.

The partnership with Infoxchange Australia, a non-profit organisation dedicated to providing a quality up-to-date information service to the Australian community sector, has provided computers, software and training. Residents were given 10 hours training.

"Our idea to target estates with elderly residents, to introduce them to new technologies, has been particularly successful as they have been amongst the most avid users," says Public Housing Advocacy Program community facilities manager, Diana Haward.

"There are also plans to set up after–school programs. There's been a lot of interest and we'll be working hard to make sure the programs keep running." ■

"While Internet use is growing rapidly many households still have no computer and fewer still have Internet access. Computers are usually inaccessible for people on low incomes. The Internet Café program is a good example of how listening to local needs and linking into local networks can help people."

Diana Haward
Public Housing Advocacy Program
community facilities manager

Facts

- **In the last financial year, 6,359 people contacted Brotherhood housing programs for advice on issues such as rent arrears, repairs and transfers.**
- **The Brotherhood's Internet Café pilot program, in partnership with Infoxchange Australia, has set up cafes in South Melbourne, Clayton and St Kilda. More are to come in Prahran, Moorabbin and Highett by December this year.**

Walking the Talk

Partnerships Within the Brotherhood of St Laurence





Right Sambell Lodge trainee Joy and resident, Beverley.

Left Sambell Lodge Manager, Paul Brophy and STEP training and liaison officer, Maree Bovell.

"We're asking for business and external organisations to chip in, help out and take on trainees and one of the questions that is always asked is: how many have you got within your own organisation?"

Maree Bovell
Training and Liaison Officer
STEP Group Training Company

"It helps the network of the Brotherhood to work together – STEP working in collaboration with aged care and the retail shops, other areas. Now we're starting to move in that direction, which is fantastic."

Paul Brophy
Manager
Sambell Lodge

Facts

- **STEP currently has 55 trainees placed across 13 different industries.**
- **75-80 per cent of STEP trainees complete their 12-month traineeship.**
- **STEP program provides a staff mentoring system for its trainees within the Brotherhood of St Laurence.**

Not all fruitful partnerships are forged outside of organisations.

This year, a significant new alliance between different areas of the Brotherhood of St Laurence provided important training opportunities for long-term unemployed people, as well as employees in a sector facing a staff shortage.

For the first time, the STEP (Scheme for Training and Educating People) Group Training Company, which specialises in finding industry traineeships for people who have barriers to employment, has placed 10 trainees into 12-month traineeships within the Brotherhood's aged care and retail facilities.

The work of STEP involves finding industry traineeships for all sections of the community, allowing people to gain nationally accredited qualifications by studying with a TAFE institute.

In April 2001, the Brotherhood's aged care hostel, Sambell Lodge took on its first trainee personal care attendant. Joy, 36, had been out of the workforce for 13 years.

All going well, when Joy completes her 12 months training at Sambell, she will possess a Certificate III in Personal Care, through Chisholm TAFE, allowing her to go onto further nursing training.

"When it was proposed that aged care facilities would take trainees, I personally thought it would knit quite well with the vision and mission of the Brotherhood; to put into practice our philosophies on creating further opportunities for people," says Paul Brophy, Manager of Sambell Lodge.

"Trainees have also been an invaluable addition to Sambell Lodge in that aged care is currently having difficulty in attracting appropriately qualified staff, so we see it as one way of addressing that need.

"Ultimately it's providing an opportunity for the students to advance professionally – and we would hope, creating a positive spin-off in both their private and community lives."

STEP Group Training Company Training and Liaison Officer, Maree Bovell says the hope is for students to either stay within the Brotherhood or go into other organisations.

"But if the trainees gain their qualification and move on; that's terrific. Another lot will move through. So it is ongoing," she says. ■

Contact other Brotherhood of St Laurence services:

Donated Goods Division
8-14 Childs Road, Epping 3076
Tel: (03) 9408 2111
Fax: (03) 9408 2101
email: mjarmuz@bsl.org.au

Services Carrum Downs
G K Tucker Settlement
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Carrum Downs 3201
Tel: (03) 9782 1203
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Community Support Services
Level 1, Suite 10
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Employment Services Fitzroy
109 Victoria St, Fitzroy 3065
Tel: (03) 9419 0888
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Employment Services Peninsula
3d Rossmith St, Frankston 3199
Tel: (03) 9770 1633
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email: bconnelly@bsl.org.au
and
170 Main St, Mornington 3931
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Craigieburn and Roxburgh Park Family and Community Centre
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Ecumenical Migration Centre (EMC)
95-97 Brunswick St, Fitzroy
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Fax: (03) 9416 1827
Email: emc@bsl.org.au

Want to Do More?

Contact Us

www.bsl.org.au

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Go online... visit our website at **www.bsl.org.au** for more information on our innovative services, partnerships with others, publications, media releases, library resources and ways you can participate in the Brotherhood's vision for an Australia free of poverty.

Volunteer... for information about becoming a volunteer at the Brotherhood, contact:

Manager of Volunteer Services – Metropolitan (03) 9483 1390

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Read about our work... information sheets and reports about the Brotherhood's research and services are posted on our website and also available in our library and by phone/mail order.
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Donate... financial donations can be made at any time by calling the Development Department directly on **(03) 9483 1301** or by fax on **(03) 9483 1336** and quoting your credit card number. Cheque and money order donations can be mailed to the Fitzroy office. Donations via the website can also be made.

Donate... the Brotherhood will pick up furniture donations from your home in metropolitan Melbourne. We need well-looked after furniture and small electrical goods in good working order. **Furniture Donations Call (03) 9385 6111.**

Donate... take your good quality clothing donations to the nearest Brotherhood bin or shop. **Phone (03) 9408 2111 for your nearest shop or bin.**

Leave a bequest... the Brotherhood has been able to broaden its services and strengthen its advocacy thanks to those who have remembered the organisation in their Will. For further information contact: **Planned Giving Officer (03) 9483 1183.**

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The Brotherhood provides a wide range of services and activities to people in need.

BROTHERHOOD
of St LAURENCE





