

Refugees find home
Where is God in a disaster?



Come and dance

Amy Gascoigne has started a ball at Elizabeth, but it is these young students who will be leading the dance.

Amy is pictured lively young dance teachers Kay-Cee Hayes and behind, Stephanie Hayes, Emerson Alfaro, AJ Blancaver and Anthony Maurangi.

See full story, page 3

When disaster strikes...



Dr Lynn Arnold AO,
Chief Executive Officer of
Anglicare SA

Cyclone Yasi, devastating floods in Queensland and Victoria, and the bushfires of WA have been in all our minds lately. And we shouldn't forget the terrible floods in Brazil, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and South Africa.

Seeing terrible images and hearing stories of loss, some ask the question: "When disasters strike, where is our God. Does he not care?"

Yes, he does care. When his son wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41), he was weeping for a suffering world made more so by its own actions.

He wept because his heart is for all humanity to have life in abundance (John 10:10).

Well then, why doesn't God just fix it?

But then, why don't we? God gave us the power to help, to be a brother or sister to those in need.

In James 1:26 we are told: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress..."

So, as people endowed with freewill, with the wonderful power to act, we must ask the question of "where are we?" rather than "where is God?" when disaster strikes.

I recall a colleague, touring an area where there had been a dreadful earthquake, encountering a woman whose young son whose legs had been crushed.

The image of the woman coming up to his vehicle as he was driven off haunted him. He felt troubled until it dawned upon him that maybe God wanted him to be the

answer to that woman's prayer for help. He then sought her out and provided the help the boy needed to walk again.

You be the answer

How can we be an answer to prayer in times of disaster?

Through our Anglicare affiliates, Spiritus, Anglicare Central Queensland and Anglicare Victoria, help has been given to those who have been affected by floods and cyclones in Australia. And various Anglican organisations have been providing assistance to those affected by disasters overseas.

If you would like to make a donation, please go to (our national Anglicare body) www.anglicare.asn.au

Helping in times of disaster, however, is not just a case of being there when it strikes, it is also about being prepared ahead of time. This is true not just of sudden disasters like floods, but of the challenges of life generally. Anglicare exists to help people confronted by the storms of life, be they physical, economic, social or emotional.

By your support to Anglicare, be it financial or by means of a helping hand, you may be an answer to someone's prayer for help.

God bless

theSupporter

news and views
about the work of

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'Yes... Anglicare
SA is a QIC
accredited
organisation'

Thanks for your help at Christmas

Thank you, to all our faithful supporters, for your donations to Anglicare at Christmas. While many charities noted that cash donations at Christmas were slightly lower than in previous years, Anglicare staff were delighted by the donations of goods and toys for needy families.

Marketing Director Joy King said she was "staggered by the generosity of individuals, schools and companies."

Staff at many businesses joined together to contribute boxes and baskets of Christmas treats.

"Donating a Christmas treat is a tangible way for people to get involved," Joy said.

"Children, particularly, learn that some people really struggle at Christmas, and that they can really do something to help."

So our thanks to all our supporters for your contributions at Christmas, especially:

The Fairies in Norwood • Hills Industries, Netley Commercial Park • Department of Transport Energy and Infrastructure • Delfin Lend Lease • Mercer • Sims Refrigeration • Air Apartments • Haigh's • Bernie Lewis • Commonwealth Bank Glenside • BankWest • Walkerville Post Office • Alspec • St Andrew's School, Walkerville • Highgate IGA • The Bombay Bicycle Club — and of course Mitsubishi Australia for their kind loan of the hope mobile (right) to collect and distribute all these goods in!

And of course, special year-round thanks to the people who have signed on as hope partners.



Leading the dance from page 1



Amy Gascoigne has them jumping up north.

Amy, a youth worker at Anglicare's Platform in Elizabeth, has responded to local young people's desire for accessible dance classes.

Dance is not only fun and good teamwork, it's great exercise. Young people engaged in the Shop Skate Create program said dance classes would be a good link to other

community activities and services.

Thanks to a special purpose grant from the St Peter's College Mission Guild, Amy was able to organise a choreographer to teach routines to student leaders, and they will be running the after-school classes.

They are working on hip hop, contemporary, jazz, cheerleading and freestyle, so the kids will have plenty of choice. They are also planning some performances for

the year ahead. The young mentors have been working on this for some time, and have done other training including coaching and first aid. All of this will be credited to their school work.

Kay-Cee Hayes, front, a dancer and Year 12 student at Fremont Elizabeth High School is already a leader in her community. Kay-Cee has just been named young citizen of the year in Playford.

Charities more open

South Australians may notice a few changes to the way charities like Anglicare seek donations in the future.

A new code of practice for all charities is expected to take effect this month.

The changes are designed to make a common set of practices for collecting donations, and to make it clear to the donors how their donation is distributed.

Anglicare's Marketing Director, Joy King, said Anglicare has welcomed the code, and said it is largely in line with Anglicare's existing practices.

"One change people may notice is the provision of an automatic ten-day 'cooling off' period for people who make a pledge, or recurring donation.

"And Anglicare's charity licence number (CCP422) will now be appearing on all our printed documents and in radio advertisements, and the website."

Some of the other provisions include more prominent name tags and identification for people collecting for charities.

This does not affect Anglicare, as we have a long-standing policy never to use paid or volunteer collectors or telemarketers to doorknock or 'cold call' on our behalf.

CANTERBURY CLOSE residents enjoy a number of lifestyle activities every week: Friday cooking sessions are a favourite. The *Supporter* caught resident Mrs Gladys Youngberry, 101 with volunteer Anna Ryan last month, in the middle of baking an orange cake. Just the scent of the baking cake was delicious.

Staff member Steve Harbottle said it is so important for aged care residents to stay in touch with activities they have loved. Cooking seems a simple pastime, but people can really miss the activity and the taste of their own food.

Lifestyle staff all Anglicare sites work to make sure people feel both at home and in touch with their own hobbies and interests.



Finding their way home



Thebarton College students Daud Mahomed and Viana Vuguziga with teacher Kerrie Plummer. The students find street directories really helpful to find their way around – thanks to RAA for their kind donation of 100 new directories for new students

Refugees face a bewildering set of challenges when they arrive in Australia, from coping in a new land to learning a new language. A new housing course will make that just a little easier – both for refugees and people who have never rented a house themselves.

Anglicare, in partnership with the Migrant Resource Centre, houses refugees for six months while they get their bearings, and helps them to find and settle in their own homes.

New course

In collaboration, Anglicare and Thebarton Senior College have developed a course in housing education. The course has proved so effective it has been incorporated in the curriculum for all new arrivals, the refugees who have just settled in Australia.

Assistant Principal of Thebarton, Kay Astles, said the course was needed because students found the business of renting a home so complex. For students learning English, an introduction to the terminology in housing is just the beginning.

Michelle Davies, manager of Anglicare's refugee housing program, said the course starts at a very basic level, introducing things like:

- how to approach real estate agent
- how to understand classified ads
- how to fill in application forms
- paying the bond

- questions to ask
- how to maintain your house, and
- your rights and obligations as a tenant.

Michelle said finding a home is a huge challenge for young single people. There are simply no vacancies in public housing, so private rental is their only option.

Nightmare

"If they are on a Newstart allowance, they have very limited funds. But if you can rent anything under \$180 per week, you are doing very well."

"It can be a nightmare to find affordable accommodation," she said.

Anglicare is encouraging young men who share a language into shared accommodation. It's a good way to support each other, and it also makes the housing more affordable.

Single parents can also find housing difficult.

"Some women are just not used to running their own households. The prospect of doing it on their own can be daunting. On top of that, women with young children find it difficult to find the time for English classes," Michelle said.

The tenancy training courses have also proved particularly useful for young people who have arrived with younger siblings. They find themselves effectively head of the family for the first time ever, and the course is about ensuring they can cope on their own.

Service helps renters count \$



T I A S

TENANTS
INFORMATION
AND ADVOCACY
SERVICE

Anglicare has a new program to help private rental tenants whose tenancy is at risk because of financial problems.

The Financial Counselling and Advocacy Service is the new part of Anglicare's Tenants Information and Advocacy Service (TIAS). TIAS is a statewide program that provides free information, advice and advocacy to low income tenants so they understand their rights and responsibilities.

Financial Counsellor Sereena Huebler said one of the most common problems experienced by tenants is when they can't pay their rent.

Stop problems before they get bigger

"It can escalate into property managers taking them to the Residential Tenancies Tribunal, even ending with eviction," she said.

"Better results can be achieved for tenants, landlords and property managers if conflicts are resolved before disputes become too complex.

"We can help tenants who have a problem with their lease or their landlord, including maintenance, evictions and financial advice." Sereena said.

The free service is available to anyone in South Australia who is in private rental and who is on a low income.

Financial counsellors can help by:

- maximising rent assistance
- helping tenants to set up a budget
- negotiating a debt repayment plan
- liaising with Centrelink, and
- arranging direct debit payments for outstanding rent.

Skills

Anglicare teaches people skills so they can solve their debts, budget their finances and negotiate with their landlords for a mutually satisfactory result. This helps them to keep their tenancy and the landlord to recoup their rent money, so everyone is happy.

Sereena said many clients felt very anxious about paying their rent but with the help of Anglicare's financial counsellors they are able to relax, knowing they can pay their rent on time.

TIAS is a free and confidential service for eligible renters and is funded by the Government of South Australia's Department for Families and Communities. Anglicare's Financial Counselling and Advocacy Service is a joint collaboration with the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs.

For more information, please contact TIAS on (08) 8305 9459 (country callers 1800 060 462) or you can email tias@anglicare-sa.org.au.

• in brief •

Green Anglicare

Staff in different Anglicare sites, from aged care to child care, are working really hard to reduce our rubbish, and recycling whatever we can. Thanks to a mammoth effort from staff, and with the help of waste company Remondis, we have already reduced our landfill by over 70 per cent in the past year.

Anglicare has a quarterly award for the best site: last month, St Laurence's, Grange took the honours. Staff there have been working hard to sort paper, organic and other waste, and they do a great job with a impressive variety of bins!

Bikes and bits

Communities for Children in Onkaparinga is running a Bike and Bat day for National Youth Week in April.

For the bike section of the program, they are seeking donations of bikes or bike equipment (helmets, pumps, etc). They are planning to run workshops on how to fix bicycles and bike safety. At the end of the day, they will be giving away newly fixed bikes to young participants who do not have bikes of their own.

If you have some equipment you can donate, they would love to hear from you! Phone Belinda on 8392 3183.



New units blessed

At the opening of the new Northfield units, resident Mr Peter O'Dare joined Bishop David McCall, who blessed the homes and residents, and Minister Jennifer Rankine.

The State Minister for Housing, Jennifer Rankine opened a new development of affordable housing units on 8 December.

The Northfield Affordable Housing Units are a joint project of Anglicare and Laura & Alfred West Cottage Homes and have become home to 40 people.

Anglicare's housing general manager Andrew Davis

said the project began because of the shortage of secure and appropriate accommodation for people over 65.

Anglicare is working to increase the choices for older people, to provide not just a house, but a whole 'village'.



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To order, call Tim on 8305 9234 or visit www.hopesa.com.au/entertainmentbook

Hope. For breakfast!

Join Peter Goers for the hottest breakfast in town. Continuing the great tradition of Anglicare's hope debate and launch of our Winter Appeal, join us on

Wednesday 8 June
at the new Adelaide Oval
Function Centre
7.15am for a 7.30am start.

Tickets \$65 each — and tables of eight are available (\$520). Come and have more fun than you can imagine at breakfast.

Bookings to Emma Yeend 8305 9230 or book online at www.hopesa.com.au/breakfast

New corporate hope partners



Kristy Wildy

Anglicare welcomes on board four new corporate hope partners this month.

- MIMP, Hilton
- Cleaning Details, Kensington
- Howard's Storage World, Mile End Homemaker Centre
- Positive Rehab, a mobile physiotherapy company.

Anglicare's new Business Development Manager, Kristy Wildy, said she is delighted at the response

from companies which already have an association with Anglicare.

Most people have seen Anglicare's recent advertising campaign, which has lifted our profile in the community.

Corporate Hope Partners are businesses which make a regular commitment to Anglicare, which is a great way for the business world to declare their support for their local community.

MIMP

MIMP, a local company which does data cabling, microwaves and wireless networks, supports a number of local ventures, including Anglicare.

"You can't help everyone, but you do what you can," General Manager Allan Aitchison said.

"We believe in business giving back to the community."

hope

Become a hope partner with us

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

I would like to make a one-off donation (please enclose cheque or fill out credit card details below)

\$ _____ or

I will become a Hope Partner with Anglicare with monthly support of

\$30 My choice \$ _____

I would like my monthly pledge to be by Direct Debit Credit Card

Month of first payment _____

I/We request that Anglicare SA arranges for funds to be debited from my/our account identified below for two years, and understand that my/our account will be debited on the first Wednesday of each month for the amount shown above.

• Direct debit details

Financial institution name and branch _____

Account name _____

BSB _____ Account no _____

Authorised signature _____ date ___ / ___ / ___

• Credit Card details

Visa Mastercard Diners Club Amex

Credit card no _____ Expiry date _____ / _____

Authorised signature _____

Send to Anglicare SA 18 King William Road
North Adelaide, SA 5006 SA charity licence no CCP422

Thank you!

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HOPE IS HERE. SA.