



# KOONGGA

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Rotary serving humanity

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## Rachelle Elphick Mission Australia

### Rachelle Elphick



There is no consistent definition for homelessness, but Mission Australia sees it as being a problem that goes much further than just not having access to safe shelter. It goes beyond 'rooflessness'.

People experiencing homelessness include those who sleep rough on the streets or under makeshift dwellings. Although people who sleep rough are most visible to the public, they only represent 7% of the homeless population. Women, young people and families staying in refuges or crisis accommodation or who move from one temporary accommodation to another are also considered to be homeless.

Then there are Australians of all ages who 'couch surf' or stay with friends and family for limited periods of time. Some people also stay in cheap hotels or even

in their cars.

People living in severely overcrowded dwellings or accommodation that falls well below basic community standards, such as boarding houses and caravan parks, can also be considered to be homeless.

### Who is at risk of homelessness?

Australians of all ages and backgrounds become homeless. However, some people are more vulnerable to homelessness than others. Aboriginal and

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Torres Strait Islander Australians, for example, account for a quarter of all people who are homeless. This is despite making up only 2.5% of the population.

And while 56% of homeless people are male, the number of women experiencing homelessness has risen significantly. Being over the age of 45, renting and single increases a woman's risk of becoming homeless.

Sadly, children and young people are disproportionately affected by homelessness. In 2010, half of the people who sought help from a specialist homelessness services were under 25, and a third were under 17. Two-thirds of these children were with mothers escaping domestic violence.

### **The causes of homelessness**

#### **Domestic violence is the single biggest cause of homelessness in Australia.**

Homelessness can be the result of many social, economic and health-related factors. From our experience, people can become homeless after many years of experiencing poverty, poor relationships and drug, alcohol or mental health issues.

Sometimes it affects people who have been managing well in life, but are thrown off course by a stressful episode like a relationship break-up, job loss or death of a loved one. This can set off a chain of events that leads to a person being without a place to live.

A quarter of people seeking accommodation at specialist homelessness services are there because of domestic and family violence

A further 15% seek help because of financial difficulties, while 12% are in housing crisis

Another 10% of people who are homeless have been living in inadequate or inappropriate dwelling conditions.

A shortage of affordable housing and declining home ownership rates also contribute to the nation's homelessness problem.

### **Preventing homelessness**

Helping people to get on top of day-to-day issues – not just while they are in crisis but throughout their lives – goes a long way towards breaking the cy-

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cle of homelessness. We offer tenancy support to help people at risk of eviction and teach people life skills such as cooking, grocery shopping and cleaning, so they can maintain their homes and their health.

### **Support to maintain tenancy**

Mission Australia provides life skills and tenancy training, skills such as cooking, grocery shopping and cleaning, so they can maintain their homes and their health, as well as other support as required, to help people vulnerable to homelessness to maintain their leases.

Our staff can also work with people experiencing alcohol and drug problems, mental health issues or gambling addictions – factors that can affect their ability to hold a lease.

### **Financial counselling**

Learning basic money management skills early in life can help people to gain control over their finances and housing situation as adults.

Mission Australia offer financial counselling and education programs to help people work out household budgets, shop around for the best deals and gain a better understanding of how to pay bills and save for the future.

Learning basic money management can make the critical difference between staying housed and becoming homeless.

### **Public perceptions of homelessness**

The common perception of a homeless person is an older man with a drinking or drug problem who sleeps in an inner-city park or street. However, we know from our experience and Census figures there is no “typical” homeless person.

Homelessness can affect men, women and children from a wide range of backgrounds living in our cities, suburbs and country towns.

Yet the problem is often masked by the fact that people experiencing homelessness move from one temporary solution to another, making do until they can find permanent accommodation.

These people – the ‘hidden homeless’ - move between the homes of family

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members or, as is often the case with young people who 'couch surf', a series of friends. Some stay in refuges, boarding houses, cheap motels, caravans and even cars. As you can imagine, such uncertainty can take an enormous toll on a person's self-worth and capacity to go to school, find work and stay healthy.

Homelessness also comes at a high social and economic cost to our society, which is why prevention is so vital.

## Bobbo Rider Bibs

### Rider bibs

17 Volunteers from Ku ring gai Rotary club are assembling 3.500 envelopes in the week starting March 6 with bibs, 5 inserts two plastic ties and three adhesive labels.

There are 42,000 items in the assembly. A different assembly sequence is being used for the first time this year to save time in the later weeks

## Registrations to yesterday 2017, 2016 2015

	2017	2106	2015
104 km - Bobbin Head Cycle Classic 2016	963	848	1098
80 km - Bobbin Head Cycle Classic 2016	285	269	222
57 km - Bobbin Head Cycle Classic 2016	270	259	279
27 km - Bobbin Head Cycle Classic 2016	109	82	40
Total to date	1627	1458	1639
Total 2016 & 2015 without 11k riders		2384	2530

## Bobbo 2017 and 2016 P&L income to date

	2017 to date	2016 to date	2015 to date
	Total	Total	FR only
<b>Income</b>			
4100 Rider Registrations			
4105 - 27k	3,488.88	2,725.03	
4107 - 57k	14,641.74	14,126.43	
4109 - 80k	21,247.23	19,306.36	
4111 - 104k	74,436.45	60,068.12	
<b>Total 4100 Rider Registrations</b>	<b>113,814.30</b>	<b>96,225.94</b>	
4200 Sponsorship			
4210 Income from Sponsor	55,813.63	43,295.45	
<b>Total 4200 Sponsorship</b>	<b>55,813.63</b>	<b>43,295.45</b>	
4300 Donations & Fundraising			
4310 Rider Donations	14,354.00	15,835.00	18374.05
4315 Fundraising	15,361.25	9,328.84	13749.31
<b>Total 4300 Donations &amp; Fundraising</b>	<b>29,715.25</b>	<b>25,163.84</b>	<b>32123.36</b>
4500 Other Income	646.96	1,068.69	
4510 BBQ	19.49	19.15	
4520 Interest	<b>666.45</b>	<b>1,087.84</b>	
<b>Total 4500 Other Income</b>	<b>200,009.63</b>	<b>165,773.07</b>	
<b>Total Income</b>			
<b>Cost of Sales</b>			
Cost of sales-1	1,471.18	1,244.66	
5820 Payway Merchant Fees - GST	<b>1,471.18</b>	<b>1,244.66</b>	
<b>Total Cost of sales-1</b>	<b>1,471.18</b>	<b>1,244.66</b>	
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>198,538.45</b>	<b>164,528.41</b>	

## Coming Guest Speakers

### Permanent committee to manage Gordon Markets

Turrumurra and Ku ring gai Rotary clubs have a joint venture with Gordon Markets

A permanent committee has been established to oversee the markets with a view to increase income. Tis Shea is manager.

A new book and pay program will be introduced which will remove the hassle of collecting money on the day

Our club needs two volunteers for the committee

### Door Team

Feb	March	April	May	June
Elsworth	Forsythe	Hungerford	Kenyon	Manning
Forrest	Hall	Hoch	Ivey	Lewis

<b>President</b>	Michael Midlam
<b>Vice President</b>	John Aitken
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Graham Timms
<b>President Elect</b>	Malcolm Braid
<b>Secretary</b>	Lindsay Forrest
<b>Treasurer</b>	Chris Lewis
<b>Director</b>	Greg Newling
<b>Director</b>	Linda Lam Rolfs
<b>Service committee chairpersons and committees</b>	
<b>Administration (Club Service)</b>	Gary Keating
<b>Vocational Service</b>	Lou Coenen
<b>Community Service</b>	Roger Desmarchelier
<b>International Service</b>	Georgina Manning
<b>Youth Service</b>	Linda Lam-Rohlfs
<b>Social events</b>	Joy Newling
<b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic</b>	Tony McClelland
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Graham Timms
<b>Club committees</b>	
<p><b>Administration:</b> Gary Keating, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall (Program), Bob Ivey (Web and social media), Graham Maslen, Tony McClelland (Koongga)</p> <p><b>Bobbin Head Cycle Classic:</b> Tony McClelland, John Aitken, Ross Egan, Bob Elsworth, Peter Kipps, Michael Midlam, Gary Keating</p> <p><b>Club History:</b> Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson</p> <p><b>Community:</b> Roger Desmarchelier, Gary Dawson Rob Hall Geoff Hungerford (Gordon Markets) Gary Keating Ross Egan (Daffodil Day) Chris Hoch (Red Shield) Anil Fulwaria Nick Kenyon Ted Price Cathy Jackson</p> <p><b>International:</b> Georgina Manning, Rob Hall, Graham Timms, Graham Maslen, Greg Newling, Anil Fulwaria, Emyr Evans</p> <p><b>Membership:</b> Tony McClelland,</p> <p><b>Public Relations:</b> Emyr Evans, Georgina Manning,</p> <p><b>Rotary Foundation:</b> Chris Hoch, Peter Tang, Lindsay Forrest, , Greg Newling</p> <p><b>Social Events:</b> Joy Newling, Ross Egan, Georgina Manning,</p> <p><b>Vocational:</b> LOU Coenen, David Forsythe, Peter Kipps, M Tyler</p> <p><b>Youth:</b> Linda Lam-Rohlfs, , Cathy Jackson, Gary Keating, Chris Lewis, Matt Mahjoub, Andrew Marselos, Joy Newling, Don Riddell</p>	