

MISSION AUSTRALIA

Together, we can make
sure there's always

A Way Forward

"We're all wired for connection." Those are the words of a woman who lost her home, but found strength, when the Mission Australia community rallied around her.

You'll read about Susan* in this newsletter, along with stories of hope, resilience, and kindness. The stories were all made possible thanks to generous people like you, who choose to create a world where love and optimism endure.

How fitting, then, that Include a Charity Week is coming up soon. It's a time to reflect on the power of giving and the legacy we want to leave.

Thank you for your support, and please enjoy your newsletter.

Sharon Callister

Sharon Callister
Mother, Hidden Homeless Ally,
Mission Australia CEO



Include A Charity Week

1-7 September 2025 • www.includeacharity.com.au



Sometimes Mission Australia receives lovely notes of thanks. They're addressed to us, but it's really your love and kindness that make people feel looked after.

Hambledon House is known as "the heart of the community" in Cairns South. People of all ages – from babies to oldies – come for play, music, support if they're struggling, and a beautiful sense of belonging.

This is what you create with your support for Mission Australia.

Change the future in Include a Charity Week

It's your chance to make sure kindness, compassion and hope live on.

Each September, Mission Australia joins other charities to celebrate the transformational difference that generous Aussies make through gifts in their Wills.

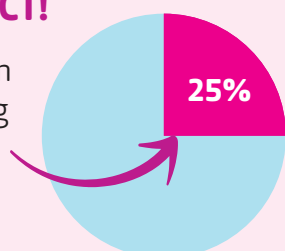
While very large bequests might make the news, gifts of all sizes are felt every day in homes and communities.

Here at Mission Australia, around a quarter of our fundraising income is from gifts in Wills. That's huge. Just think about the children, families and individuals whose lives are changed by gifts in Wills.

It's fitting that the theme for this year's Include a Charity Week is 'plant a seed today, change the world tomorrow.'

INTERESTING FACT!

Around ¼ of Mission Australia fundraising comes from gifts in Wills from generous people like you.



Today, we're seeing the impact of little seeds planted by supporters like you many years ago. Those supporters chose to shape a future where there is always a chance, always a helping hand, and always possibility for Australians going through a hard time.

The contents of your Will reflect what matters most to you, so it's natural that family and loved ones should come first. But perhaps give some thought to how a little seed that you plant today could change even more lives tomorrow.

SCAN TO WATCH A MESSAGE FROM OUR FRIENDS AT INCLUDE A CHARITY.



"Giving is such a rich and wonderful thing."

The inspiration behind Beryl's gift to the future.

Beryl grew up watching her father Ulrich put his values into action. He was kind and compassionate. He loved to give.

"He gave visitors what he made from his breadmaking and beekeeping hobbies," she says. "And he was always giving clothes away, supporting charities, and writing to his World Vision daughter."

Beryl has included a gift in her Will to Mission Australia because she wants to continue her father's generosity. She has also experienced things in her own life which have inspired her to help others.

"I've had a chance to live with, and make friends with, people in Malawi, Africa," she told us.



Beryl in Malawi

"They are often without food, money or medicine, yet generally they are supported by family and community.

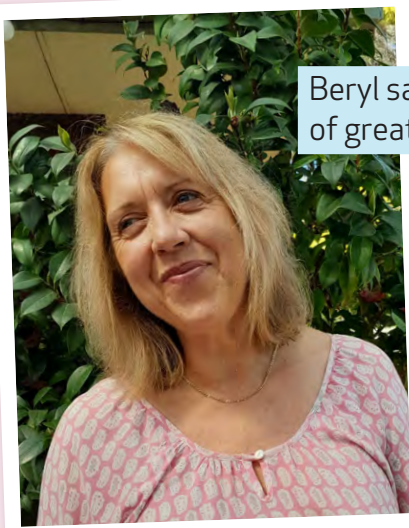
How is it that people here in Australia can live in poverty without help?

My heart goes out to these people. I put myself where they are...and I can imagine how hard and awful it is."

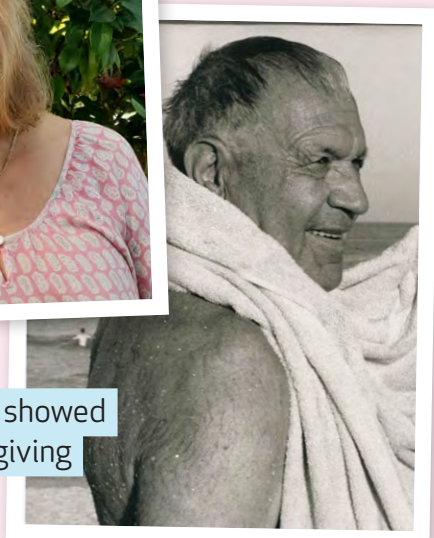
As a Christian, Beryl believes helping people find a way forward is more meaningful than wealth.

"I've never seen wealth as something that is the answer to a successful life," she explains. "It makes for less worries but doesn't fill me deep inside. Yet the sharing of riches has been joyful and satisfying.

Mission Australia gives people hope for the future and support to overcome their challenges."



Beryl says giving is a source of great joy in her life



Beryl's dad Ulrich showed her the power of giving

The power of second chances

A story of hope and healing – made possible by you.

I'll never forget George*. He was a fisherman who'd always worked hard until he was hurt in an accident. He couldn't go out on the water anymore, and couldn't earn money. He lost what he loved, then lost his home too. George ended up sleeping rough.

I'd look for George in parks or wherever I could find him. We talked about his life, his regrets, his family. He carried so many physical and emotional wounds, and at

times I feared for his life.

It took a lot of time and work, but eventually we found a home for George. When I told him, he started to cry. He said he'd been close to giving up.

George once said to me, "All I need is a second chance".

Thank you for giving him – and so many other people – that chance.

– Rob, Mission Australia Case Worker



Dana's* found a place where she belongs

Support like yours made it possible.

I grew up in the foster system, always moving from one house to another. When foster care ended, I had nowhere to go and was couch surfing.

I cried when Mission Australia told me there was a place for me at Willow House. I'd actually have a little space that I could call my home.

It's changed everything in my life. With a stable home, I can focus on work and education. My mental health is loads better and I'm making good choices. There are supportive people here teaching me about things like making a budget and managing bills.

Sometimes I can't believe I've got my own space that I can fill with things that make me happy.

I'm 18 now, and I feel like my future's going in a great direction. Thank you for everything you do to help people like me.

Dana 



Susan felt cast adrift

Connection brought her home.

After a divorce, the loss of her job in the pandemic, and the sale of the home she was renting, Susan had nowhere to go.

She was 64, and nothing in life had prepared her for this. *"I had to admit that I needed help,"* she says.

Talking to government housing agencies left Susan feeling judged, dismissed and lost. But just a day after contacting Mission Australia, she received a call from Fiona.

"Fi gave me a safe space so she could understand my story without any judgement," Susan says.

Fiona also understood the system. She accompanied Susan to appointments and helped her apply for housing.

"There is so much loss in not having a home," Susan says, *"but Fi gave me hope that things will get better."*

And things did get better. Thanks to Fiona, and to everyone who supports Mission Australia, Susan now has a home.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH MORE OF SUSAN'S STORY.



"I took this photo of things that are very special to me at a time when I felt isolated and disconnected from my life." - Susan

Mission Australia is driven by our founding purpose whilst always looking to the future. As the homelessness crisis deepens and cost of living soars, we know too many families will continue to struggle to overcome disadvantage.

When generous supporters choose to leave a gift to Mission Australia in their Will, they're creating a powerful legacy of hope for people like George, Dana and Susan. **Will you help shape a future where no-one must face their struggles alone?**

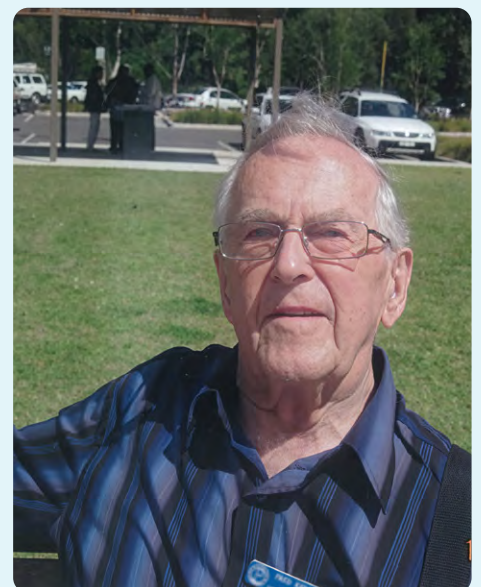
Fred's compassion lives on

Before he passed away at age 100, Fred Kewley had been a proud Mission Australia supporter for more than three decades.

"Mission Australia not only looks after people who are at the bottom of the ladder, they get them back up again as

well," he said during his lifetime.

Thanks to a gift to Mission Australia in his Will, Fred's care for Australians struggling through issues like domestic violence and homelessness, continues to this day.





"[Updating my Will] is something I've been thinking about for quite a while.

My previous Will was prepared when our kids were toddlers and didn't include a charity.

I've done a lot of 'growing up' since then and think it's important to model to them what is important to me."

- Phil, dad of 3, who is leaving a gift to Mission Australia in his Will.

Our friendly team is always up for a chat

If you'd like a confidential conversation about how a gift in your Will could make a life changing difference, our knowledgeable Gifts in Wills team is here to help.

Already included Mission Australia in your Will?

We are so grateful for your choice to make a lasting difference for Australians in need.

Please get in touch so we can thank you and find out which areas of our work are most important to you.

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**INCLUDE
A CHARITY**
Make your mark

Include A Charity Week

1-7 September 2025 • www.includeacharity.com.au

*Names and images have been changed to protect the identity of the people we help.

Mission Australia is one of Australia's largest, most trusted community service and housing providers. We're a national Christian charity delivering safe, secure homes and excellent community services, while advocating for a fairer Australia, to meet the growing needs of people across the country. Together, we're building hope and possibility for all.

**MISSION
AUSTRALIA**



Always a way forward

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