

GLENNON HOUSE NEWS



Open afternoon
Saturday, October 16th
to celebrate 10 years since
Glennon House Inc. was formed

- 1.30 p.m. – Fashion Parade sponsored by J & K Creations
- Bush Croquet or Boccia
- 2.30 p.m. – Afternoon Tea
- Review
- Future plans



A small plate would be appreciated

This is our chance to show our faith in the continuation of Glennon House, and to ask for support in its relocation.

J & K Creations

- Classic country clothes for women
- Local design and manufacture
- Natural fibres



Working Bee
Annual Spring Clean-up at Glennon House

inside and out.
Saturday, 11th September
from 9 a.m.
Sausage sizzle lunch



Help us look our best for the Open Afternoon on October 16th.

Annual meeting
Wednesday Sept. 22
9.30 Morning Tea for 10 a.m.
All Welcome.

The Committee has been devastated by the passing of our President, Don Eather OBE after a courageous battle against cancer. We were blessed to have such a dedicated and capable leader, and he is sorely missed. We extend our sympathy to his wife Dot and their extended family.

VOLUNTEERS' MEETING
Tuesday, October 5th at 2 p.m.
To finalise details for the Open Afternoon on October 16th



Dear Diary

Busy time ahead!
Time to update your diary.

Saturday, September 11:
Wednesday September 22:
Tuesday, October 5:
Saturday, October 16:

Working bee 9 a.m.
Annual meeting 9.30 a.m.
Volunteers' Meeting 2 p.m.
Open Afternoon 1.30 p.m.

MOTEL NEWS

Dear friends and supporters of Glennon House,

As you know, we have been renting the former Clewley's Motel for the past three and a half years, but with the site scheduled for redevelopment, we must be prepared to move in about two years. The ideal would be to build our own premises, to include accommodation, communal rooms (kitchen, dining room, lounge and outdoor areas), with a chapel for quiet times, retreats and a healing ministry.

Our present complex offers bed and a light breakfast for a cost equal to the state subsidy that eligible people receive when they must come into the city for medical purposes, currently \$33 per day. As you can imagine, this does not go very far towards providing accommodation and living expenses in a strange city. We owe a great debt to our manager Jenny Burling, former managers Roger Digges and Warren Sealey and our treasurer Barb Sealey for their prudent management of our limited resources. We could not have survived without our volunteers, but with their help we have built up a viable operation which has helped hundreds of people through difficult times. One of the volunteers' main contributions is as a friendly listening ear for people who need someone to talk to. Some of our volunteers offer to pray with guests where it seems appropriate, and this is very much appreciated.

The Toowoomba Base Hospital and regional hospitals have become our staunch supporters, and we have established a routine with them for handling the subsidy scheme for people who cannot cope with the paperwork involved on top of all the other stresses and financial problems caused by moving to the city, often for weeks at a time, for example for cancer treatment or awaiting the birth of a baby.

As well as our "medical" guests, we have travellers and visitors to Toowoomba, workers who have moved into town and are looking for affordable housing, migrants and homeless people waiting on affordable housing, even a few who have served time in jail and are trying to get their lives going again. The hospital, the Salvation Army, Spiritus, Ozcare and other groups call on us for crisis accommodation if we have room and if the guests can fit into our community setting. The communal areas encourage social interaction, and guests are welcome to join in other activities, which welcome day visitors, such as our music mornings and the quilters' group. My dearest wish is to have a live-in prayer warrior who is available for listening and prayer, and to have visiting clergy hold regular healing services in the chapel.

When we started out on this road ten years ago, it was a journey of faith, with nothing but a determination to keep going until we hit a brick wall. Many times we thought we had hit the wall, but it collapsed into a pile of rubble over which we have been able to climb, though often with great difficulty. One of the big hurdles was gaining DGR status, which means that donors can claim their gifts to us on their tax returns. Many generous people who gave time or money, plus a number of grants, have helped us when we needed it most, a series of miracles for which we give grateful thanks.

Now we need to start again, but we have proved that Glennon House is not just a dream but a very worthwhile and viable project. Now we need all the help and encouragement we can get, financial, practical, and through an expanded team of members and volunteers. I know that your prayers will be with us.

Yours sincerely,

Esther Cook

Acting President,

Glennon

It is good to report that everything is running fairly smoothly at Glennon House. In fact, we get a bit worried when everything runs *too* smoothly – it doesn't feel natural!

Kev McGrath is counting down on the refurbishment of the Stephen Street units – his team is on to the last one! Any help with removing wallpaper and painting would be appreciated (Glennon House phone 4638 3466). Mr. Bernoth is supplying the paint and replacing the blinds with curtains as the blinds get wrecked too easily.

Sue Baker has joined our team of cleaners after 4 weeks as a volunteer as part of the Bridgeworks Employment training program. Welcome, Sue. Also welcome to Mrs Lorrie Jillett who comes in from Nobby to do a mixture of casual cleaning and volunteer work each week. Sue and Lorrie join Mrs Michelle Taylor and Chris Burling to provide a very efficient and cheerful team of casual cleaners

We would like to have enough volunteers who are not afraid to answer the phone and take messages for an hour or two each day. This would give Jenny a chance to attend to essential shopping or have a rest. Her day runs from 5.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. (if there are no late night emergencies) so a midday break is a blessing.

We are still looking for a regular or casual relief manager/couple for two days and nights a week (usually Friday and Saturday). This would be a good way for retirees to earn something extra without affecting their pension.

At the July meeting it was resolved to form a Relocation Sub-committee. Mrs Barbara Sealey accepted the position of Chairman. Anyone who would like to join the Relocation sub-committee would be more than welcome. We especially need extra people with business and building experience. The ideal would be to build the new Glennon House to our own design on our own block of land but there may be a suitable complex somewhere in the city. We need to be poised to move within two years.

The motto on an historic sundial in Los Angeles could well be ours:

*Vision to See,
Faith to Believe,
Courage to Do.*

