100 Years TRAVELLERSaid 1916-2016

WELCOME ABOARD

SPRING 2016

HOW TO FIND US

FLINDERS STREET STATION
Flinders Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
(Between Platforms 9 & 10 on the concourse level)
Phone (03) 9610 2030
Fax (03) 9614 1249
Email fss@travellersaid.org.au
Mon–Sun 8.00am–8.00pm

SOUTHERN CROSS STATION
99 Spencer Street
Docklands VIC 3000
(Under the Bourke Street Bridge opposite the Luggage Hall)
Phone (03) 9670 2072
Fax (03) 9600 1174
Email scs@travellersaid.org.au
Mon–Sun 6:30am - 9:30pm
Travellers Aid Access Service (TAAS):
Mon–Fri 11am–5pm
Sat–Sun 11am–4pm

SEYMOUR STATION
BUGGY SERVICE
Seymour Station, Railway Street
Seymour VIC 3660
Phone (03) 5799 2965
Email buggy@gettingthere.net.au
Mon–Fri 10.00am–6.30pm

MEDICAL COMPANION SERVICE
Phone 1300 700 399
(48 hours notice required)

CITY VILLAGE (ADMINISTRATION OFFICE)
Level 3, 225 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Phone (03) 9654 2600
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Email info@travellersaid.org.au
Mon–Fri 9.00am–5.00pm

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100 years and counting!

Travellers Aid officially launched its 100 year celebration on Thursday 14th July at Southern Cross Station, with the unveiling of a V/Line train carriage emblazoned with the Travellers Aid 100 year celebration livery. Our special guest was Jacinta Allan, Minister for Public Transport.

Joining the Minister were senior representatives of our key delivery partners and supporters: V/Line, Southern Cross Station and Public Transport Victoria. Our thanks go to their continued and vital support as well as to the YWCA and the Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.

Also in attendance were Board members, our CEO Elias Lebbos, and a number of our staff and volunteers who were resplendent in period clothing, adding a touch of heritage glamour to the proceedings.

Channel 10 covered the launch event and showcased the story in that evening's news, reaching the wider public with our message of continuing service. We hope you were able to watch the coverage.

Securing the next 100 years

Over the last 100 years, we have been fortunate to have had numerous benefactors and supporters who have made it possible for Travellers Aid to continue to offer essential assistance. We would like to reflect on how their generosity has sustained this organisation over the years, enabling thousands upon thousands of people to benefit.

Costing nothing today, a bequest is an ideal way to say thank you for the past, in the future.

Each story is different and yet there are similarities. Each person does what is within their power to do to ensure that people are not left behind because of circumstance, opportunity or ability. We are proud to have such a community and know that this aspiration and vision flows through from those early supporters and donors. At this historic juncture in our history, we would like to acknowledge and thank you - and all those who came before you – for your unstinting dedication that continues to add value to those we serve.

Over the years, there have been many ways in which people have shown their support. One way, not often spoken about, and still available to us today, is how we can make the kind of gift we truly want to by including a bequest in our Will. Making provision in your Will for Travellers Aid is a very special way you can help preserve and strengthen our work for future generations and the next 100 years. In addition, these gifts are a very tax efficient way of donating and reduce the taxable amount on your estate.

The two brothers were very relieved and found that they were able to take another step towards a better future.

Did you know?

In order to leave a bequest you need to create a Will. If you do not have a Will, you will need to get some legal advice in order to create one. If you already have a Will, then all you need to do is add a codicil (a short legal amendment) to your existing Will. We can provide some codicil wording that may be used and your solicitor will advise you on the best way to achieve your intentions.

There are many different types of gifts, so obtaining legal advice is essential to be sure that you choose the one that best suits you and your family.

For further information and one of our information packs about leaving a bequest, please contact: Andrea Diem, Fundraising & Communications Coordinator Tel: (03) 9654 2600 Email: andrea@travellersaid.org.au Or Robin Dick, Business Development & Stakeholder Engagement Manager Tel: (03) 9654 2600 Email: robin@travellersaid.org.au

"I was on the Board for 9 years and have witnessed the remarkable difference this organisation makes in the day-to-day lives of people living with mobility needs. I made the decision to include Travellers Aid Australia in my will. I urge you to do the same. By leaving a little I can make a great difference."

Bernie Delaney, Past President

Victoria's Seniors Festival rocks October

The music of the 60s is as popular as ever. An unparalleled burst of musical creativity during that memorable decade gave us The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Doors, Bob Dylan, Simon and Garfunkel, The Byrds, Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin amongst many others.

And now with the Victorian Seniors Festival the beat will go on.

People turning 70 this year were 20 in 1966 – right in the middle of a great decade of music!

This festival gives both young and old the opportunity to enjoy some great entertainment from the 60s. Celebration Day at Federation Square in Melbourne on Sunday 2 October will be going off – the Plaza area will have seating for 1,000 and a big dance area if you feel like a groove.

There will be a mix of styles including country-influenced Aboriginal music from James Henry, grandson of Jimmy Little, singing a selection of Jimmy's hits plus Robbie Bundle (a songwriter and musician who has been playing around the scene for 35 years) as well as cover band The Substitutes belting out the great British hits, and Normie Rowe and 60s pop and rock phenomena, The Playboys.

Normie Rowe and the boys were one of the most successful pop acts in 60s Australia. Finding their way from the town hall dances from Melbourne's northern suburbs to Channel 0's GO!! Show, they proceeded to produce a string of hit singles that remain on the soundtrack of a generation. Normie says 60s music endures for older Victorians because it was the background to their youthful, formative years.

'It was the time when we were discovering the benefits of adulthood with few of the responsibilities. It's the soundtrack of the best years of our lives,' he says. Normie's own inspirations from the era are Ray Charles, Mahalia Jackson, Aretha Franklin and The Beatles.

'We just love to remember our most loved years,' he adds, 'and the evocative nature of music does that for us.' As Stan Rofe might have once said – 'We had so much fun then, we're doing it again!'

The Victorian Seniors Festival sees over 1600 mostly free events running throughout October and across the state. From 30 August you will be able to pick up free festival programs located at most libraries, councils, neighbourhood houses and Coles supermarkets or go online from that date to see event listings at **www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/festival**.

James Henry, grandson of Jimmy Little will be performing for Victorian Seniors Festival in October. Photo credit: Tatjana Plitt.

Travellers Aid will be running CTT sessions, for more info visit **www.travellersaid.org.au**.

Meet the volunteer

Sena Kodituwakku moved to Australia from Sri Lanka over 20 years ago. He has a professional background in marketing and customer relations that he has put to good use in his volunteer role at Flinders Street Station.

When asked why he decided to volunteer his time, Sena explains that there were two main reasons for him: feeling strongly about being able to help others in need of assistance; and participating in his community in a way that keeps him healthy in mind as well as body. He adds: 'All these people who come here, need something. Many people are from the country and don't know how to get around the city and I can relieve the pressure for them'.

In summing up, Sena was keen to add his thanks to the work done and the strength of TAA.

'I was surprised to learn that TAA has been going for 100 years! The only other things around here that old are buildings. That this one service has been going for 100 years is unbelievable and we must thank the donors and state government for the support that has made it possible.'

Medical Companion Service – new initiative

More than 50,000 regional Victorians travel to Melbourne each year for medical treatment. This year shows a 33% increase in service users compared with the same time last year. This month, we are pleased to be able to share news about even greater enhancement to this service.

We have developed a new initiative with City of Melbourne to extend this service to assist deaf blind people as well as our current users. Our services will naturally always include accompanying people to medical appointments, as well as helping them get to legal appointments, educational venues, work and meeting appointments.

From now on, the service will simply be called The Companion Service and we are sure that this will remain a vital service which will continue to grow in demand.

Travellers Aid Australia welcomes a new addition to the team

Robin Dick has joined the Travellers Aid team in the new role of Business Development and Stakeholder Engagement Manager.

He was previously employed at On the Line Australia, a not-for-profit providing telephone and video counselling in the mental health and suicide prevention sectors. Robin is a passionate advocate for social justice and has 16years experience of working in the community and tertiary education sectors in Australia and the UK. Over his career he has worked in areas such as: Dementia Care; Homelessness; Health and Wellbeing; Social Enterprise; and, the delivery of Public Private Partnerships. In particular, Robin has a penchant for human-centred design approaches and the effective utilisation of place and space, including 'fit-for-purpose' applications. He believes Travellers Aid is in a unique position to drive forward service innovation opportunities that leverage place and space to achieve greater social outcomes and impact.

Robin is excited to be part of the Travellers Aid team and is amazed at the breadth and spread of the services provided, as well as the diversity of the people supported:

"I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone and getting to know you all much better. The welcome has been excellent so far, and if my experience is anything to go by, I can only imagine how positive the customer/ client experience must be on a daily basis. Hopefully I too will contribute positively to the Travellers Aid experience and assist in sustaining the quality delivery of frontline services."

Robin's role is focussed on building our external partner relationships, and securing new sources of income (e.g. fundraising support, social enterprise, in-kind contributions) to sustain Travellers Aid's social mission and innovate existing service provision. This includes developing the Travellers Aid value proposition, and leveraging new strategies

that will bring both tangible and intangible long-term benefits to the organisation. The main objective is to deliver improved social outcomes across Travellers Aid's suite of services and interventions.

Hailing from Scotland, Robin is a passionate follower of the round ball and he supports Aberdeen FC (the Dons!). He also dabbles with a bit of golf and fishing in his spare time. If you ever want to make him a coffee, it's a flat white!

Congratulations Travellers Aid

on 100 years of providing help to people in need

V/Line is a proud supporter of Travellers Aid

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