



**February 23**

**Vinnies Queensland gets a new bale press for Lawnton warehouse**

Vinnies Queensland has more funds for its many community programs in Brisbane, with a recently installed bale press in its Lawnton distribution centre set to save the charity thousands of dollars.

A bale press is a device used to compress materials into a larger bale that is convenient for transport or storage.

Vinnies was successful in securing \$6,600 (inclusive of GST) in funding as part of the third round of the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Programme to install the bale press which will increase productivity at the warehouse.

Vinnies Queensland Brisbane Diocese Executive Officer Ray O'Donnell said the press will lead to savings which would be put back into the community through Vinnies local conferences.

"The bale press will enable volunteers to safely and efficiently pack excess stock for sale internationally," he said.

"Increased productivity at the warehouse will lead to increased revenue for our shops in Brisbane's northern suburbs.

"Our volunteers have also gained new skills in learning to bale press."

"Funds from selling bales is in part given back to our conferences to assist people in need in greater Brisbane.

As the Stronger Communities Program is a matched funding initiative Vinnies Queensland made a co-contribution towards the total cost of the bale press' installation.

Vinnies Queensland's Brisbane Dioceses provided support to 43,505 Queenslanders in 2017.

In 2017 Vinnies Queensland assisted 306,831 Queenslanders and provided \$191 million in services and support to people in need.

**ENDS**

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