



March 8, 2018

St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland – Autumn Appeal

To the Editor,

The story of Brisbane burns survivor Doug Herrington is an example of how donating to St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland's annual fundraising appeals can change lives. After a house fire nearly claimed his life in 2011 and left him with third degree burns to over 50 per cent of his body, Doug faced a long road to recovery which included more than 200 operations.

When Doug first got out of hospital he was a recluse, concerned about how others would react to his burns, our dedicated volunteers arranged a special hospital bed at a South Brisbane hostel to help in his recovery and brought meals up to his room.

Slowly, through the helping hand and friendly ear of Vinnies volunteers, Doug regained his confidence and when he wanted to become an Uber driver to help support himself, we were able to help again with some of his vehicle costs.

St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland has been there for Doug from his extended stay in hospital, until this day.

Doug is now a motivational speaker who conveys a message of hope at corporate events and most importantly when speaking with other burns victims.

Doug's positive outlook and message of hope was instilled in him through the ongoing support of organisations like ours.

The St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland runs a number of appeals throughout the year which help us to raise vital funds to continue changing the lives of people like Doug Herrington.

Our current Autumn Appeal runs until May and tax deductible donations can be made at vinnies.org.au/donate (select QLD) or call 13 18 12.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Maher OAM

Chief Executive Officer, St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland

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