

DANNA VALE MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR HUGHES

Media Release

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Digging Deep Into the Christmas Spirit

Christmas means vastly different things to different people. For many, it's simply a blessed relief from the daily grind of work and meeting the financial needs of dependants and family. For others, the joy of Christmas will only be a faint glimmer of hope. All they would wish to hear is that at least someone out there understands and cares.

St Vincent de Paul Society certainly cares; volunteers and staff have been working tirelessly to raise \$4 million for the needy as part of the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

President of Sutherland Shire Region's St Vincent de Paul, Peter Cobcroft says the Christmas period stretches their resources to the limit.

"This year the Society will distribute 600 hampers and toys to families in need. Our Disaster Recovery people are also at the ready, if the occasion arises. But we all pray that we do not have to put our training into practice," he said.

Mr Cobcroft was today presented with four specially designed "Swags" (fire retardant/waterproof backpack beds) donated by Federal Member for Hughes, Danna Vale MP, for use by St Vinnies in helping people affected by major disasters.

Danna Vale said whatever our activities over this festive season, Christmas is about being prepared to reach out to those around us in need in our local communities.

Mrs Vale urged everyone to dig deep into the Christmas Spirit and support our local charities like St Vinnies, the Salvo's and Anglicare.

To make a financial donation to St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal and support the Society's good works, please call 13 18 12.

Ends

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