

The Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Bishop Michael Challen plants an apple tree commemorating the creation of St Laurence Community Services watched by its new Chief Executive Officer, Graeme Bound.

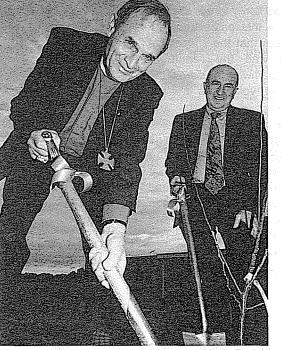


Photo courtesy of Geelong Advertiser

Good work and goodwill continue at Barwon

Following the tradition set by founder of the Brotherhood, Father Gerard Tucker, the Brotherhood of St Laurence transferred its Barwon regional services on 30 June to the local community through a new independent charitable welfare organisation.

The creation of this new independent body, St Laurence Community Services (Barwon) Inc., arose from a two-year divestment process set in motion by the Brotherhood's 1994 internal review, *Directions 2000*.

Although the Brotherhood has divested its services and property to the Geelong community, its Commercial Enterprises Department will still have a local presence in collecting and sorting local donations of clothing to supply the St Laurence Community shops in Geelong, and employing local people. Initially the Brotherhood will be represented on the new organisation's Board of Management, made up of local people and representatives from the Anglican Church of Greater Geelong.

Bishop Michael Challen, Executive Director of the Brotherhood, said that the history and tradition of the Brotherhood is about going in where there is a need not being met by others, and then letting go so that the service can either run itself, or be run by others in the local community. One of the many examples of this is Community Aid Abroad.

'Located in the proud, confident and community-oriented city of Geelong, it makes good sense that the services provided for people in the Barwon and Geelong area should arise from the goodwill, community spirit and experience of the Geelong people', he said.



Viewpoint

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