



The Wayside Chapel launches 'Stories from the Wayside'

The Wayside Chapel has provided unconditional love, care and support for people on and around the streets of Kings Cross since 1964.

Forty years after its establishment, in 2004, The Wayside Chapel welcomed current CEO and Pastor, Reverend Graham Long. For the past seven years Reverend Long has shared his extraordinary stories from Wayside – stories of love, laughter, torment and tears. His words documented and shared through regular emails to a diverse community of more than 6000 supporters who make up Wayside's 'Inner Circle'.

Captured by the honesty, integrity and inspiring stories shared with the Inner Circle, a community member approached Reverend Long with a vision to capture the essence of the stories he'd read - the day to day life at Wayside, and the beauty, heart and soul of its visitors.

Andrew Henderson, a Sydney based Creative Director collaborated with Reverend Long on the conceptual idea of a book, to not only raise much needed funds, but to raise awareness of the positive influence Wayside has on our community.

Reverend Graham Long said, "The inspiring thing about this book is that it is a rare insight into the community of people who live in and on the streets of Sydney – people who are normally invisible are made visible and the result is a revelation of beauty.

"This book has given something back to our community – dignity and strength – this is all I could've hoped for. Every day I see the beauty, even when it's not beautiful or pretty, and I am immensely proud to see this perfectly captured and recognised," said Reverend Long.

Stories from the Wayside, is a collection of photographs taken by leading Australian photographers Gary Heery, Hugh Stewart, Grant Matthews and Paul Westlake. The photography, celebrating humanity and Wayside beauty in all its forms, is accompanied by the stories shared with the Inner Circle by Reverend Long, revealing all aspects of the life and landscape at Wayside.

Stories from the Wayside is a 192 page hardback book, published by University Queensland Press (distributed by Penguin) on 28 February 2011 and retails for AUS\$80.00. All proceeds from books sold directly by Wayside go to the Chapel, hoping to raise funds in excess of \$60,000.00

Foreword by NSW Governor Marie Bashir AC and Preface by Actor and Wayside Ambassador, Claudia Karvan.

To make an advance purchase or donation to The Wayside Chapel visit www.thewaysidechapel.com



THE WAYSIDE CHAPEL - COMMUNITY, NOT US AND THEM

- Each year, thousands of people visit Wayside for assistance in gaining equitable access to essential health, welfare and related services.
- In the past year alone Wayside has provided, amongst other services, 8275 meals (either for free or a handful of change), 4370 changes of clothing, 2120 counselling sessions and over 1790 referrals to services and agencies.
- A further 50,000 visits were made by people just stopping by for a chat, a coffee or a quiet place where they can find company and acceptance.
- Anyone can find themselves fallen by the wayside, 80% of visitors to Wayside experience some form of mental health issue

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The Wayside Chapel has provided unconditional love, care and support for people on and around the streets of Kings Cross since 1964. Each year, thousands of people visit the Wayside for assistance in gaining equitable access to essential health, welfare and related services. The Wayside Chapel is well known for its Youth Service, Community Services Centre, Nomad Cafe and Day to Day Living Programs.

