

In Loving Memory of

The Good Weekend

For a volunteer patrol cruising the western suburbs after dark in search of those who need help, the hardest job can be coping with those who just want to cause harm.

LOOKING FOR TROUBLE

By COLIN ALLISON.

IT IS Thursday, 9:30 pm, Liverpool railway station. The Search Patrol team from St Anne's Crisis Centre pulls up in its detective van and the three volunteers cast about for people in distress.

But there are no obvious derelicts, no supine teenage drunks or "druggies" in the car park. The cops must have been through," observes Alan Hawkins, 18, the team leader and a former Police Department clerk. He is working full time for St Anne's in Green Valley, paying board from his date cheque.

There are plenty of standing-on-drunk, though. Hawkins points out the "two heads" (flat driving licence photos) and the "lameys" (legally fit young girls he knows living outside the Commercial Hotel). They are usually checking papers by and drinking beer on the footpath.

Over the rail, not three metres from where a teen out young man is paying his train fare, a large over from the "lameys" and a chinking "Vines" in big bold letters on a ticket office wall.

One group of ruffians from across the way pulls out in a hot Holden. Two blonde heads poke from the passenger windows showing cigarettes, at us. With blundering forward pressure, the group starts off in a cloud of burnt rubber towards the bright lights of Cabramatta.

The night is just beginning for Hawkins and his companions: Ian Randolph, a 22-year-old medical clerk, of Liverpool; and Mark Ryan, 21, a technician from St John's Park. Back at base, manning the CR control, is 15-year-old Pat Cox, a local council mill worker.

They are among 38 concerned young people who have given up their free time three times a week for almost a year to seek out and help the less fortunate late at night.

The teams operate on a roster, a night about...

from 9 pm to about 3 am. The young patrol officers escort drunks home, often after a clean-up and a wash; they help drug addicts over their arms; blindfold referring them elsewhere for assistance; and find jobs and comfort for homeless teenagers thrown into the streets by uncaring parents.

Many of the so-called "night people" who tend up to a week at St Anne's have been referred there by welfare workers, the police and doctors. These interventions are the focus and focus of Liverpool-Cabramatta-Fieldfield society: a 14-year-old girl who has been a professional prostitute for three years, stand-over merchants, attempted suicide victims, and teenagers who know no love and react angrily to offers of help.

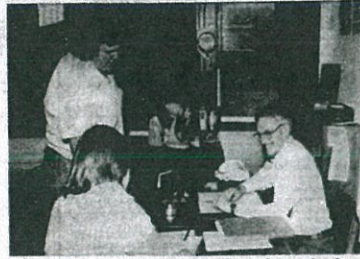
Since last March Search has made contact with 1,500 young people in distress, and 312

have been booked in for extended care at St Anne's.

St Anne's offers probably the most balanced program in the country for youth in need. Funded largely by the St Vincent de Paul Society, its outreach program includes the Search Patrol, an \$80,000 farm where unemployed can be introduced to the daily work routine, the crisis centre and a home for school-age girls. There are plans for a home for girls.

All programs are supervised by the suitably Dominican priest, Father Luke Rawlings, a "top" figure who wears long hair, a beard, pins and granny white T-shirts. He looks like a disc jockey and he is every Sunday from 6 pm on Radio 2CA.

Father Rawlings readily acknowledges that most of his volunteers aren't practicing Catholics and there is virtually no spiritual content in



Alan Hawkins (left) and Theo Van Gestel, projects officer at St Anne's Crisis Centre, advise a person in need.

his programs. He hopes there will be later, but at present, he says, "the hopeless cases we deal with need more immediate and practical help."

Father Rawlings has a collection of knives he has taken from youths who have attacked him during drunken or drug-induced brawls. Two weeks ago, while talking in a fast-food palace in Liverpool, he was flattened by a long bit to the jaw from a bike who apparently took an unthinking dislike to him.

He laughs about such incidents and says it is par for the course at Search. Alan Hawkins was once bled up at shot-gun point when he went to a dentist's house near Cabramatta. He has also been attacked by a knife-wielding shop, another time the patrol was walled four times by a vehicle driven by a young woman.

The patrol accompanied started at 8:20 pm when the trio reported to Liverpool police. The station officer seemed bored but said he would let the late shifts know that Search was out.

At 1:50 pm we visit Liverpool Hospital, where an obliging sister deals the sound of Casually, informing us with a shake of the head that no drunks are waiting, no drug OD (overdose) victims have been reported.

Outside the hospital, Graham Teagle, who owns a security company which patrols the extensive hospital grounds, saunters across 30 class. "These guys are first rate," he says. "Many youngsters who would end up in police

cells for sure, get home safe and sound. The word could see Search Patrols in every trouble spot."

We cruise the hospital grounds and then check the glory until we see and railway line near Cabramatta, Australia. Old clothes are scattered here and there, but nothing seems amiss. On the way back to the car, Alan Hawkins says casually that he found a rape victim near the rear one night. She had been "unconscious" by a gang of bikies.

At 10:45 we take the long, winding road down through the bush to Caulfield railway station. "The railways took all their staff away from here, it was so dangerous. The attendants kept getting beaten up," Mark Ryan says.

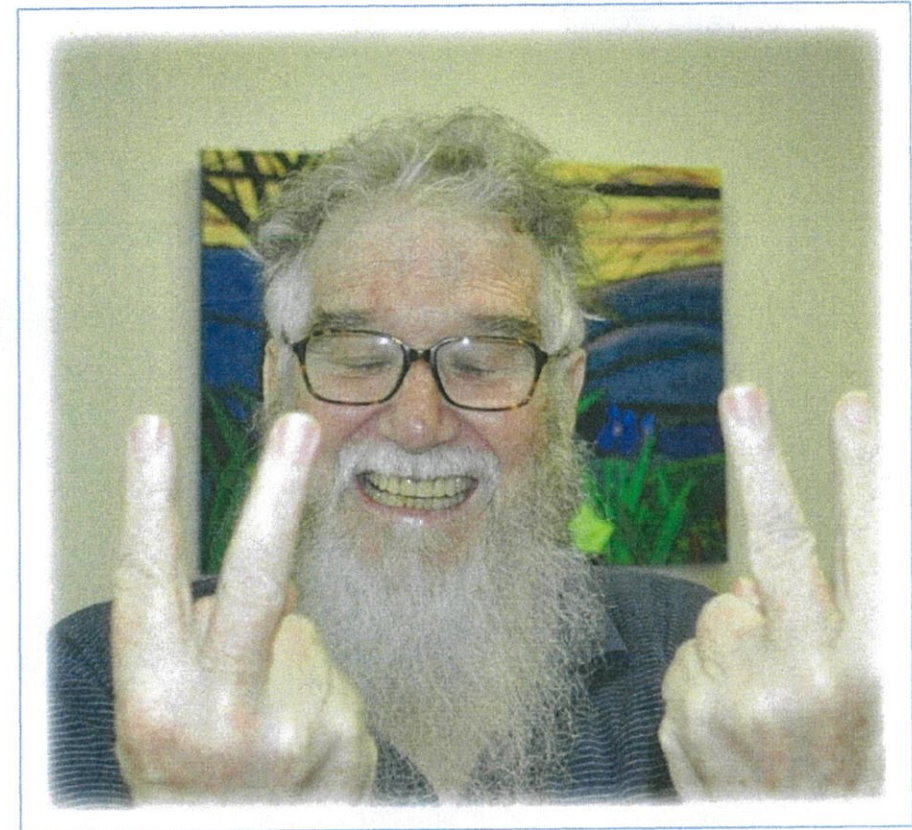
You can believe it. Eerily it with single bullet, surrounded by bush, and with every panel in the fibres waving room attached by rocks, the station is a perfect out-of-the-way setting for mayhem. "Young girls won't get off here, they go to Liverpool and catch a cab home," says Ian Randolph, hunched behind as we look under the room for drunks.

At 11 pm we are at a food bar on the highway at Liverpool. Two well-dressed members of the Street Squad occupy a booth a few metres away. "They're walking on the disters," Mark says. "They don't worry too much about outsiders here, they want problems."

The call is some over-run with tough looking customers. A group of bikies wearing T-shirts with the slogan "Triumph" ... The best - the



Father Luke Rawlings ... being flattened by a bike is "par for the course" in his job.



Celebrated at St Dominics Catholic Church
34 Bolton St, Blockhouse Bay
Saturday, 7th November, 2020 at 12.00pm

The Dominican Family in NZ, Australia and Melanesia, and the Adelaide Rawlings families, thank you for your kind expressions of love, support and sympathy with the passing of Luke. Following the Mass, you are warmly invited to the church hall for a time of sharing and light refreshments. The cortege will leave for Waikumete Cemetery at approximately 1.45pm.



Father Luke Robin Rawlings OP.

7 February 1943 - 3 November 2020

Professed Religious: 27 Feb 1964

Ordained Priest: 25 Feb 1969

Requiem Mass Celebrated for

Luke

Officiant

Rev. Friar Joseph Parkinson OP

Organist

Sister Cecily Sheehy OP

Order of Mass

Entrance Hymn:

Come As You Are

*Come as you are, that's how I want you
Come as you are, feel quite at home.
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;
Come as you are, why stand alone?*

*No need to fear, love sets no limits.
No need to fear, love never ends.
Don't run away shamed and disheartened.
Rest in my love, trust me again.*

*I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.
I came to bring peace, not to condemn.
Each time you fail to live by my promise,
Why do you think I'd love you less?*

*Come as you are, that's how I love you.
Come as you are, trust me again.
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.
All will be well, just come as you are.*

Welcome

Eulogy

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1st Reading:

Galatians 3:26-28; 4:4-7

Children of God
R: *Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 145

R: *All the world, bless the Lord*

Celtic Alleluia

Gospel:

Matthew 11:25-30

P: The Lord be with you.

R: *And with your spirit.*

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

R: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

R: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

Homily

Prayers Of The Faithful:

P: JESUS, hear us.

R: *"JESUS, hear our prayer"*

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn:

Come to the Water

Refrain:

*Come to the water you who are thirsty
Though you have nothing I bid you come
And be filled with the goodness I have to offer
Come, Listen, Live.*

*Why spend your money on what cannot fill
The emptiness deep in your heart?
Listen to My word and you will enjoy
Goodness and peace in your heart! (R)*

*Just as the heavens are high above earth
My ways and thoughts beyond you!
Call me your Father and know I am near!
I will be Father to you. (R)*

*Just as the rain falls to water the earth
Just as a seed becomes bread
My word upon you can never return
Until my longing is filled. (R)*

F.Anderson

P: Pray, brothers and sisters, that ...

R: *May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.*



Holy Holy:

Holy, holy, holy
God of all creation!
Heav'n and earth are full of glory,
Sing Hosanna, sing!
Blest the One who brings Good News,
Sing Hosanna, sing!

Memorial Acclamation:

When we eat this bread, when we drink this wine, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, till you come again. We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, till you come again.

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

Lamb Of God:

Jesus, Lamb of God, Saviour of the world.
Give us mercy, give us mercy, grant us peace,
O God. Give us mercy, give us mercy, grant us
peace, O God.

C.Sheehy op



Communion Hymn:

I Am The Bread Of Life

*I am the bread of life;
They who come to me shall not hunger;
They who believe in me shall not thirst.
No-one can come to me unless the Father draws them*

Refrain:

*And I will raise them up
And I will raise them up
And I will raise them up
On the last day.*

*The bread that I give
Is my flesh for the life of the world;
And they who eat of this bread
Eat it forever, they shall live forever ... (R)*

*I am the Resurrection
I am the Life
They who believe in me
Even if they die, they shall live forever ... (R)*

*Yes, Lord, I believe
That you are the Christ
The son of God
Who has come into the world ... (R)*

Richard Proulx

Rite Of Commendation:

R: *"Receive his soul
and present him to God the most High"*

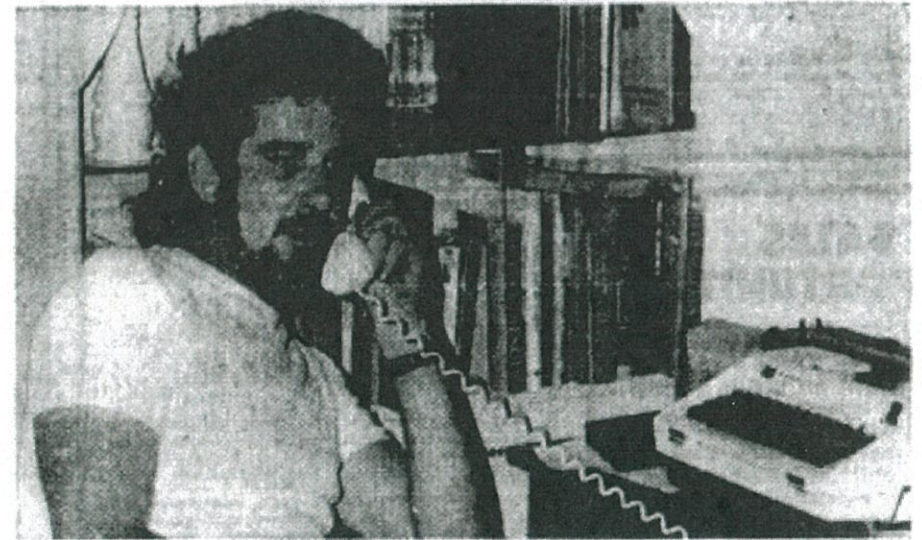
Recessional Hymn: Hail St Dominic

*Hail! St Dominic Holy Father. Hail, O friend of God to thee!
Chosen knight of Christ and Mary, guardian of the Rosary.*

Refrain:

*Guide us ever, sainted Father, as through life's dark night we pass.
Keep thy children ever faithful to their motto, VERITAS*

*In the sacred cause of Jesus, bravely Father thou did'st fight
Leading souls from paths of darkness, shedding forth the Gospel light. (R)*



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