



Lodge Amicus No 928

“Swags for the Homeless Appeal”

“That is just incredible.

You have no idea what a huge difference you will make for so many people”

Lisa Sammut. Manager Ozanam House North Melbourne.

This was the reaction from Lisa Sammut Manager at Ozanam House in North Melbourne when Graham Shoter Secretary of Lodge Amicus rang her to confirm that Lodge Amicus will commit to underwriting the cost of providing a minimum of 50 “Swagpacks” for the many homeless men who are turned away from the Ozanam men’s shelter every night.

The custom designed 100% Australian made “Backpack Bed™ will be the cornerstone of the Lodge Amicus *“Swags for the Homeless Appeal”* It will be supplemented with a warm beanie, gloves and a neck scarf.

The “Backpack Bed™ (swag) is the strongest, most waterproof, breathable, fire retardant, mosquito mesh ventilated, zippered outdoor bed available . It also converts into an outdoor shelter and has a thick built-in 6ft 2inch (190cm) insulating and comfy mattress which is also non water absorbing and is fire retardant.

Very importantly it looks like a genuine back pack or sports bag and so can be carried around without the stigma of looking like a “homeless person carrying a bedroll”

The “Backpack Bed™ is nothing short of being a absolute godsend for the homeless who, with winter rapidly approaching, are now confronted with sleeping rough out in the open in the cold and the wet.



The contribution we are seeking from you for the *“Swags for the Homeless Appeal”*, to cover the cost of the Backpack bed and the warm woollen gloves etc. is only \$75. We encourage you to donate more than one, if you are able. Maybe one for each person who curls up in a warm dry bed in your house each night!

“Swags for the Homeless Appeal”,

**C/O Lodge Amicus No 928
6 Werder Street, Box Hill North
Victoria 3129. Mobile 0418 540 643**

I am a member ofLodge

I would like to provide a “Swagpack” for ? (.....) homeless persons at \$75 each. Total cost (\$.....)

Please post a cheque payable to Lodge Amicus to the above address

Payment by EFT is preferred . Our Bank Account details are :

Name of Account **Lodge Amicus No 928** BSB **083 266** Account Number **57 530 5972**

Account description <**surnameSwags**> for example **SmithSwags**

An account description is essential so our Secretary can reconcile the Bank Statement with who, how much and what for!

To receive a receipt please provide the following details. Complete and post to the above address.

Name

Address

P.C.....Phone contact.....

Email address

Scary facts about your backyard.

Where are the Homeless?

Homeless people are in all cities and towns in Australia - not just in large cities.

Who are the Homeless?

Individuals & families living in accommodation which falls below general community standards detrimental to physical and mental well-being with no access to personal amenities, no security, privacy and autonomy

Where do they sleep?



On the streets and parks squatting in abandoned buildings in a car with friends or extended family emergency accommodation & youth refuges boarding house, caravan park or hotel

How many are Homeless?

There are over 104,600 homeless in Australia:

Improvised Dwellings, sleepers out 16,375

Boarding houses 21,596

(Supported Accommodation Assistance Program) accommodation 19,849

Friends & Relatives 46,856

How did they become homeless?

Family violence - standover, incest, rape, sexual abuse, assault

Relationship breakdown

Periods of mental illness

Gambling addiction

Drug and alcohol addiction

Unemployment / Financial problems / Eviction

Facts*

People on park benches don't want to be there

Most Homeless people are too scared to ask for help

Many Homeless are men with kids

56% of Homeless are males over 25

This is what makes the Backpack Bed™ the ultimate interim crisis measure for street sleeping homeless:

- ◆ Waterproof
- ◆ Breathable
- ◆ Windproof
- ◆ Fire Retardant
- ◆ Anti-mildew
- ◆ Fast drying
- ◆ Dignity tested
- ◆ Fast setup / packup
- ◆ Can be used to sleep on concrete
- ◆ No silly poles needed
- ◆ No dangerous PVC
- ◆ Ultra strong weight balanced fabric
- ◆ Industrial strength base fabric:
- ◆ Tape sealed seams on main seams
- ◆ Super long EVA foam mattress 190cm
- ◆ Silver insulated backing (space blanket)
- ◆ Fire retardant foam mattress which is
- ◆ Non water absorbing



- ◆ Anti-mildew treated
- ◆ Environmentally friendly
- ◆ Tough Mosquito fine mesh protection
- ◆ Ultra light weight approx. 4kg
- ◆ Adjustable backpack straps (reinforced)
- ◆ Padded Backpack straps
- ◆ Double stitched seams
- ◆ Heavy duty No.10 & No.8 zips
- ◆ No rust fittings
- ◆ Carry handle
- ◆ Peg loops on all corners
- ◆ 3 x Built-in ropes with storage
- ◆ Zipped internal lockable pocket
- ◆ Brass key lock supplied
- ◆ Foot zipped protected mosquito air ventilation
- ◆ Extendable floor
- ◆ Outdoor shelter feature (wind, sun protection)
- ◆ KEVLAR external cable lock security..