

## The Big Issue celebrates iconic vendors with 2022 calendar

Much-loved social enterprise The Big Issue has officially released their annual calendar – with 2022 calendars on sale from today!

This year, The Big Issue celebrates the magazine vendors and their connection to their local communities, from Melbourne's laneways to a local shopping strip in Canberra; Adelaide's Rundle Mall to Fremantle Markets; New Farm Park in Brisbane to a coffee shop in Newcastle. In a year when many vendors were unable to work at their regular Big Issue selling spot – or "pitch" – the calendar recognises the important place vendors hold on the streets of cities, suburbs and towns all over Australia.

There are stunning photographs and stories of *The Big Issue* vendors all over Australia, and as always, hilarious cartoons by Andrew Weldon.

Amy Hetherington, The Big Issue editor, speaks about the inspiration for this year's calendar.

"*The Big Issue* vendors are beacons of hard work and hope, selling the magazine on streets all around Australia. And the 2022 Big Issue calendar celebrates both our vendors and their cities and towns, and those communities that make them so special.

"As we head into the festive season, the calendar is a great way for people to support their local *Big Issue* vendor. It's a much-welcome income boost after an extraordinarily tough year."

The Big Issue 2022 Calendar is available from vendors around the country for \$20. Vendors purchase the calendar for \$8 and sell it for \$20, earning 60% of the cover price and a meaningful income during a very challenging time.

Vendors are back on the streets, selling safely with hand sanitisers, masks, and the option for contactless digital payments. Our street vendors are required to comply with state government vaccination regulations, in line with the retail and/or social services industry. If you are not close to a vendor, you can pick up a copy from our <u>online shop</u>.

## ENDS

*Big Issue* vendors, staff and spokespersons are available for interview. For more information or to confirm media opportunities contact:

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## About The Big Issue:

The Big Issue is Australia's biggest social enterprise, best known for *The Big Issue* magazine. Since starting in 1996, more than 13 million magazines have been sold, putting more than \$33 million into vendors pockets nationally.

Alongside the magazine The Big Issue has additional programs such as the Women's Subscription Enterprise, Community Street Soccer Program and The Big Issue Classroom. For more information visit <u>thebigissue.org.au</u>.