



Yarraville resident Ewa Lobaza is living on \$2 a day this week. 80750

Picture: DAMJAN JANEVSKI

Living on just \$2 a day

By CHARLENE GATT

AT THIS very moment, Ewa Lobaza is living under the poverty line.

The 20-year-old Yarraville resident will be living on \$2 of food and drink a day for five days to gain an insight into what it feels like to live in extreme poverty as part of the Live Below The Line Challenge.

Ms Lobaza started the challenge yesterday and will finish on Friday.

Ms Lobaza, who volunteers for the Oaktree Foundation, which runs the challenge, has also enlisted her mum to also take part.

The pair went to the market over the weekend to stock up on specials, and had also gathered some easy, cheap ingredients, such as rice, lentils and beans, prior to the challenge.

"I'm a politics student and I have a keen interest in development studies and really what grabbed me was the shocking figures," she said.

"There's 1.4 billion in the world that do live under \$2 a day and a lot of these people are in our local regions – East Timor, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea.

"This is just something really small we could do to make a massive impact on a lot of

lives."

The challenge means the self-confessed coffee addict will have to forgo her daily \$3.20 regular latte.

Last year, more than 6500 Australians joined the Live Below the Line challenge and raised \$1.4 million for educational projects in the developing world, and advocacy and community engagement programs in Australia.

Footscray resident Sharee Rigg is also taking part in the challenge and has raised just under \$1000.

To donate, go to livebelowtheline.com/me/ewalobaza



Mum's the word

IT'S the one day to celebrate the woman that brought you into the world. Mother's Day is around the corner, and Floriography owner Christie McIntosh, above, said a simple, thoughtful bouquet speaks volumes. "There is a stunning array of floral colour available during autumn, so whether you visit your local florist, or find them in your own garden, it's easy to let the flowers do the talking this Mother's Day," she said. Ms McIntosh recommends red carnations, peach or light pink roses, Casablanca lilies and pink tulips as the best blooms for mum. 80907

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