Dear Reader
Welcome to our first issue!
Volunteering Barossa & Light is a community service that matches volunteers to positions, and provides help and advice on all aspects of volunteering.
We came about as a Barossa Council initiative and are working in partnership with Light Regional Council in order to create a central point for information across the two regions.
Perhaps you want to get involved in your community but don’t know where to start? Volunteering Barossa & Light can help you find out about the types of volunteering available and how to apply (see back page for a sample of our current vacancy list.)
For organisations looking for volunteers, our office can help you too by promoting your vacancy as well as advising on things like volunteer policy, training and grant applications.
Our Volunteer resource centre is located in Nuriootpa Library so do pop in and see us.
If you would like to contribute to our next issue or have any feedback for us we would love to hear from you.
Jo Parker Phillips
Volunteer Coordinator

Incoming Volunteers Minister Grace Portolesi has applauded the efforts of South Australia’s 600,000 volunteers on the eve of National Volunteer Week (May 10-16).
The Labor Member for Hartley says volunteers make a tremendous contribution to the South Australian community, dedicating an estimated 1.4 million hours of volunteer work every week.
“This is a huge contribution which gives us one of the highest volunteer participation rates in the nation,” Ms Portolesi said.
“Every day volunteers are out there doing important work in areas like culture, welfare, education, environment, safety and health.”

Volunteer Office
opening times are
Monday to Friday
9am to 12.30pm
Nuriootpa Library
43-51 Tanunda Rd
Nuriootpa, SA 5355
PS - If you need to arrange an afternoon appointment let us know.

Recognition for our ‘helping hands’

“We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.”
Winston Churchill

“The hard work, skill and dedication of volunteers help make SA a better place to live and work.”
Ms Portolesi was elected to parliament in 2006, and retained the key marginal seat of Hartley in the March 2010 State election.
Married with a young family, Ms Portolesi also holds the portfolios of Youth; Multicultural Affairs; and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation.

“Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.”

Contact us on 08 8563 8495, email volunteering@barossa.sa.gov.au or visit us at www.barossa.sa.gov.au
Many organisations struggle to survive without the support of volunteers. Volunteering SA&NT (VSA&NT), as the peak body for volunteering in South Australia and the Northern Territory, works in close collaboration with Resource Centres such as Volunteering Barossa & Light to build awareness of volunteering in their community and to help enrich the volunteering experience. VSA&NT provides advice, valuable training for volunteers and support through the volunteer matching service to give much needed support to the local community, enabling organisations to grow and flourish through volunteering.

‘Volunteers not only make a positive difference to the organisations they work with, but more importantly, they make a positive difference to the lives of the users or clients of those services’, says Evelyn O’Loughlin, CEO of Volunteering SA & NT. ‘We commend the partnership of The Barossa Council and the Light Regional Council in setting up Volunteering Barossa & Light, supported by a grant from the Office for Volunteers. The Advisory Committee and Co-ordinator Jo Parker Phillips (and Elaine Johnson previously) have worked hard to establish a first-rate centre to support volunteering in the Barossa and Light Region. The success of what they have achieved so far in the community is admirable and they and all volunteers who have stepped up to help others in need, should be justifiably proud of their work’.

Evelyn O’Loughlin - CEO of Volunteering SA&NT
Spotlight on Young Volunteers

When Ally Auld from Carers Link came into the Volunteering Barossa & Light office and talked to us about the Young Carers Program, we couldn’t wait to find her some helping hands. The Young Carers Program supports young people under 25, who have someone at home that they care for.

The program assists them with the difficult balance of leading their own lives along with the demands of caring for another person. It also focuses on giving them some down time from their hectic lives and gives them a chance to have some fun and forget about life’s pressures for a while.

The team placed an advert on the Volunteering Barossa & Light noticeboard looking for volunteers to help Ally and before too long it caught the attention of Isabelle Frater, 29. “It was New Year’s Eve when I saw the advert and thought I’d give Ally a ring right away,” says Issey. “Within a few weeks I was volunteering for the group!” Issey, always on the go, has a chock-full volunteering schedule.

A few weeks later Issey had spread the word and Andre Jablonski, 28, popped into the office to see us. We passed his details on to Ally and he was soon a member of her team too. Another long-time volunteer and fantastically community minded person, Andre has found that volunteering with the young carers is wonderfully rewarding. “Just to see the smiles of the young carers is great,” he says. “I wish when I was a kid there had been something like this for me.”

Wednesdays with Maurie

Maurie Dow was one of the first volunteers to put his hand up to work at our volunteer resource centre based in Nuriootpa Library. He answered an ad in the paper in March 2009 and has been an energetic and creative member of the team ever since.

Now retired, Maurie has had a mind-boggling array of careers, including teaching and running his own business, and he brings this wealth of experience to the role.

As our resident grant writing expert, he has experience compiling many grant applications as well as being on grant decision making panels. A recent Volunteering SA course added to this knowledge.

Maurie volunteers with us on Wednesdays and Thursdays as well as volunteering with Barossa Council Community Transport, Barossa Autism and the Kapunda Musical Society. You have to wonder when he finds time to sleep!

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Hands Up For Volunteering

Looking for that feel-good factor? Like to help but don’t know how?
Want a new interest? Want to meet new people?

If you have answered yes to any of the above, we can help. Volunteering Barossa & Light is a community service that matches volunteers to volunteer positions and provides help and advice on all aspects of volunteering.

Volunteer Vacancies

Barossa Bushgardens are looking for volunteers to help in the gardens; perhaps you would like to ‘adopt a patch’ or work in the nursery?

Would you like to learn first aid? This could be an invaluable skill in your family or work life. Fit, healthy and motivated volunteers will receive training in senior first aid.

Clerical positions are available in various medical records offices throughout the Barossa and Light regions. Volunteer and gain experience while updating your skills.

Green thumb? There are volunteer vacancies at The South Para Biodiversity Project Nursery, situated at the South Para Reservoir, Williamstown.

Like to help people and further your skills? Uniting Care Kapunda is looking for volunteers to pack food hampers and conduct general office duties.

If you have time to spare and would like to contribute to the arts community, the Barossa Regional Gallery need volunteers. Varied tasks with flexible hours.

Would you like to work with a happy team of volunteers? The Community Helpers Furniture Warehouse is looking for friendly men and women to assist at Railway Terrace, Nuriootpa.

The Barossa Village is looking for friendly and reliable people who can work within a team and are able to empathise with the aged. Come and help staff with supervision of group activities.

The Tanunda Lutheran Home is looking for a volunteer to assist in the café. A great opportunity to make friends and gain hospitality experience within a supportive team.

Do you have good communication skills? The Angaston & Penrice Historical Society are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to assist in the Doddridge Blacksmith Shop in Angaston.

For more info on any of these positions, give us a call

Remember… volunteering keeps you young!