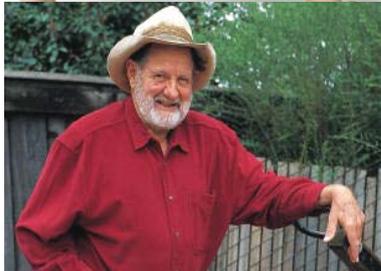


# Volunteering Barossa & Light



Dear Reader,  
I was doing some statistics the other day on volunteers who visit us here at the resource centre. It was straight forward stuff - gender, age, place of residence. However when I came to 'reason you want to volunteer' I soon came un-stuck as the range of answers on our forms varied so greatly. My reading had led me to believe that the under 30's are generally motivated to volunteer by passion for a cause; people in their 30's to 50's volunteer to gain entry into paid employment and the over 50's volunteer for social reasons. But my research soon showed me that it isn't that simple. We've had volunteers



in their 80's wanting to learn new skills and under 18's wanting to "help people in my community."



My favourite answer came from a gentleman in his 70's who simply wrote "to have fun" as his reason! It showed me that though looking at patterns and trends can be useful, they don't always tell the whole story. I for one am glad that people don't always fit into neat boxes and shall continue to marvel at the 101 reasons that motivate people to volunteer. Happy volunteering!

*To Parker Phillips,  
Co-ordinator Volunteering Barossa & Light.*

## Volunteering the Road to Paid Work?

One motivation that is always cited for volunteering is that it's a great step towards getting paid work; "It looks great on your resume and it tells prospective employers a lot about you." "It's a first step for people who have been out of the workforce for a while." "It's a great way to bring your skills up to date."

**All good in theory  
but does it ever really  
happen?**

We thought we'd put the theory to the test. We sent out an email asking for people who, in one way or another got their jobs through volunteering, to share their stories with us.

One of the first we heard back from was Pam Makin, Young Carer Support Manager for Carers Link. "That happened to me!" she enthused, "In

April 2010 I became unexpectedly unemployed and was quickly frustrated that my skills were going to waste. A friend told me about his volunteering role at Carers Link and it sounded good so I started volunteering there too. Four months later the Young Carer Support Worker resigned, the job was advertised and I applied. I think already knowing the organisation, it's missions and philosophies through



my volunteering role gave me a real advantage in the interview. The rest is history - volunteering led me to a job I love! When we asked Pam if she has any advice to share she replied, "Find what it is you want to do and go for it. Eventually, if you are lucky, someone will pay you for doing something you enjoy!"

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Volunteering Barossa & Light is a free service for volunteers and community organisations who engage volunteers.

We match volunteers to positions and provide help and advice on all aspects of volunteering.

Tel: 8563 8495 email [volunteering@barossa.sa.gov.au](mailto:volunteering@barossa.sa.gov.au) visit us at [www.barossa.sa.gov.au](http://www.barossa.sa.gov.au)

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Our Kapunda service (81 Main Street, Kapunda) is available Thursdays 9 till 12:30.



We'd like to say a **big thank you** to the **Tanunda Town Band** for their recognition and **support** of volunteering. They gave out ten free tickets for the **always-fun Melodienacht** in May.

The volunteers who attended from various organisations had a **wonderful night out**. One volunteer summed it up when she said "we definitely don't do it for the recognition but it's still **so nice** when someone **appreciates** what we do."



### Something for Nothing

It's not often you get something good for nothing but we think you'll like the free volunteering e-books written by Dr Judy Esmond available at [www.morevolunteers.com](http://www.morevolunteers.com)

Dr Esmond is a leading international expert on volunteering who hails from WA. Also available are weekly volunteer tips.

If you would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list - postal or email - contact us with your address and our newsletter will be sent straight to your door or email in-box!

### 2011 Volunteer Support Fund Open

The Office for Volunteers grants of up to \$3,000 are now open.

This year funding for events being held for International Volunteers Day (December 5) is available as well as the usual funding to support training and the purchase of resources.

**Who can apply:** Community based, not-for-profit organisations.

**How to apply:** Application forms and guidelines are available from the Office for Volunteers, visit: [www.ofv.sa.gov.au](http://www.ofv.sa.gov.au) phone 8463 4490 or email [ofv@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:ofv@saugov.sa.gov.au)

Applications close 5pm on Monday 22 August 2011.

## It's Good To Share calling all volunteer managers

If you manage volunteers in a small or large capacity; paid or unpaid, and are interested in meeting with other local volunteer co-ordinators and managers, then this could be the group for you.

The first meeting of the Volunteer Managers Network will be held on Tuesday 23rd August, 10am to 11:30am at the Barossa Council Offices, 43-51 Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa.

Things that a volunteer network might do are :

- Share information, experiences and knowledge
- Provide networking opportunities
- Provide a forum for discussing volunteer issues
- Arrange training and speakers
- Arrange volunteer recruitment expos
- Advocate on volunteer issues
- Help find information and resources for your program

Everyone is welcome regardless of levels of experience, as knowledge and good practise can be shared for the benefit of all.

If you work with volunteers in small or large community organisations including sport, arts, environment, social action and support groups, health, education, tourism, service and recreational clubs and groups, emergency services, welfare, government agencies, churches and community services then ...

### THIS COULD BE YOUR NETWORK - MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU!

If you would like to know more or would like to register your attendance please contact Jo Parker Phillips on 8563 8409 or email [jparkerphillips@barossa.sa.gov.au](mailto:jparkerphillips@barossa.sa.gov.au) or just come along to the meeting.

If you are unable to attend but would like to be kept up to date with minutes and next meeting dates contact Jo (as above.)

# Tanunda Lutheran Home Volunteers

## Community within a Community

Often mentioned as an issue within the volunteering world, retention clearly isn't a problem at The Tanunda Lutheran Home. "Just this month we've celebrated two volunteers who have sixty five years of volunteering between them," Elspeth Herring, Volunteer Co-ordinator told us. "It's amazing, I was just twelve months old when Gertrude Fischer started volunteering here - that's what I call dedication!"

So at Volunteering Barossa & Light we thought we'd better get along and check out what makes volunteering at the TLH so good. We'd been lucky enough to attend the opening of their volunteer office earlier in the year and that began to give us a clue. The fact that the volunteers have a dedicated space where they can meet, share information, keep their belongings and use the computer, shows how highly they are regarded within the organisation.

On the wintry Wednesday we paid them a visit, we found a whole host of volunteers doing different things. We met Margaret and Wes who were hosting a very lively 'wedding day' celebration where residents reminisced about their weddings, sharing photographs and memories. "Each week we organise something different; recently we've had 'trips' to Japan and Hawaii and a chocolate fountain day. The residents love it" said Margaret.

We went on to meet another regular volunteer, Trevor Gibbons who was having a great time being master of ceremonies at the Down Memory Lane Quiz.

On the other side of the building we met volunteer Elaine Leditschke who showed us round the beautiful courtyard garden that she and husband Rex have completely renovated, to make it the gorgeous and tranquil space it is today. "We feel blessed to be part of this place" she said.

This as it turned out was just the tip of the iceberg. The Home has approximately 120 volunteers across a wide variety of programs, from floristry to medical escorts, from drivers to café assistants and everything in-between!

If you are interested in joining the team there is sure to be an interesting and worthwhile role for you. For more information call Elspeth Herring on 8563 7759 or email [volunteer@tlhome.com.au](mailto:volunteer@tlhome.com.au)



From the top :

Volunteer Trevor Gibbons as master of ceremonies at the Down Memory Lane Quiz.

Volunteer Elaine Leditschke and Volunteer Co-ordinator Elspeth Herring in the courtyard garden.

Volunteers Margaret Jasper and Wes Liersch at the 'wedding day' celebration.

## Volunteering the Road to Paid Work? Continued ...

Another person we heard from was Elaine Kidner, Co-ordinator of the Kapunda Visitor Information Centre.

"I enquired about volunteer work at the centre about five years ago," she said.

"I started with a few shifts a week and found it to be an excellent place to work. I learnt a lot about the Light Region, about the tourism sector and gained cash handling and customer service experience." She went on to explain;

"Over the next few months I was given more shifts and was eventually offered a casual position. In what seemed no time at all I was offered a full time position and worked my way up to my current role." She added,

"It's a demanding job but my fellow staff members are really supportive and I get great satisfaction out of helping customers.

**When I first started volunteering I never thought that it would develop into a full time job. Volunteering transformed my life."**

Tracey Kibblewhite, Case Manager, Centacare Outer North Youth Homelessness Services, is another to kick start her career by

volunteering. She began with a variety of volunteering activities through Carers Link and was encouraged to attend some courses. This led to studying at TAFE and eventually gaining a Diploma and going on to University. She also volunteered as a counsellor with Operation Flinders and helped establish the Barossa Autism Awareness Team, a volunteer group to provide services and support for families dealing with autism.

**"All the practical experience and networking helped when I applied for a paid position" she said.**

**"These activities gave me an extra tick in the experience boxes at interviews."**

So there we have it, real stories from real people that prove volunteering really can lead to paid work, even when you're not expecting it to!

# Save the Date

**International Year of the Volunteer +10 (IYV+10) events being held throughout the year: [www.iyvplus10.com.au](http://www.iyvplus10.com.au) for details**

**23rd August - Barossa and Light Volunteer Managers Network - 1st meeting - 10am - The Barossa Council, Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa**

**27th October - please note change of date Seniors Expo - Barossa Mall**

**9th to 11th November - National Conference on Volunteering: [www.volunteeringaustralia.org](http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org) for details**

**5th November - International Volunteer Managers Day**

**5th December - International Volunteers Day**

## Northern Volunteering Training - August 2011

### Introduction to Volunteer Management

Wed 10th August, 9.30am-12.30pm. NVSA Conference Room, 39 John Street, Salisbury. Members \$15, Non-Members \$44

### Apply First Aid & CPR (Formally Senior 1st Aid)

Participants to complete online reading and assessment prior to one day session. **Class Date:** Thu 18th August, 9.00am-5.00pm. NVSA Conference Room, 39 John Street, Salisbury. Members \$110, Non-members \$169. Must be booked and paid 2 weeks prior to class date to enable distribution of online login

### Administration Principles

Wed 24th August, 9.30am-12.30pm. NVSA Conference Room, 39 John Street, Salisbury. Members \$15, Non-Members \$44

### Working with Customers & Clients

Tue 30th August, 9.30am-12.30pm. NVSA Conference Room, 39 John Street, Salisbury. FREE

### Communication & Conflict Resolution

Tue 30th August, 1.00pm-4.00pm. NVSA Conference Room, 39 John Street, Salisbury. FREE

**For more information and bookings please phone Northern Volunteering SA on 8250 1582**

## Volunteer Vacancies



**Friendly visitor** - Pay social visits to the elderly in their homes. Uniting Care Wesley is looking for people with good listening and conversation skills and empathy for older people.



**Youth focus** - Community minded volunteers needed by Fusion International at Kapunda. Get involved with schools work, community festivals and general youth work.



**Café volunteers** - Would you like to make friends and gain hospitality experience? Café volunteers are needed at the Tanunda Lutheran Home. Enjoy preparing and serving food!



**Nuriootpa Seniors Citizens Op Shop** - You will be part of a friendly, helpful team of volunteer shop assistants. Negotiate a work time to suit you. No experience necessary.



**Girl Guides Volunteers** - Learn new skills, make new friends and help the community. Volunteer with the Girl Guides! You will be given the appropriate levels of support and training.



**Volunteer Drivers** - Carers' Link require volunteer drivers for their In Out and About Program. This program focuses on giving young carers aged between 5 and 14 a break from their caring duties.



**Host a radio show** - Here is your chance to host your own radio show! Triple B FM is looking for volunteers to be radio presenters. Be involved in a valuable community venture.



**Reception/Administration** - Learn new skills in a friendly team environment at Lutheran Community Care. Provide reception & admin support for a busy office. Training will be given.



**Barossa Area Fundraisers for Cancer Inc.** - Are you a person who shows empathy, enthusiasm and has a sense of fun? Fundraiser activities include raffles, grants, special events to raise awareness.



**Doddridge Blacksmith Shop** - Is looking for enthusiastic guides with an interest in gaining local history knowledge and who have good customer service skills. Full training provided.

**For information on any of these positions or if you would like to see your vacancy advertised here contact Volunteering Barossa & Light on 8563 8495 email [volunteering@barossa.sa.gov.au](mailto:volunteering@barossa.sa.gov.au) [www.barossa.sa.gov.au](http://www.barossa.sa.gov.au) (listed under Council Services)**

**(This is just a small sample of positions available; get in touch for a full list)**

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