

Volunteering Barossa & Light



Issue 7



Dear Reader

It seems like only days ago that the Volunteering Barossa and Light Team were putting together the 2010 end of year newsletter and here we are again! 2011 has been a great year for us with our service being used by almost twice as many prospective volunteers as 2010. It's great that the word is getting out. We've met such fantastic people this year; we've talked to lots of school students about the benefits of volunteering and at the Barossa Careers expo we were able to spread the word to young people about the volunteering sector as a career choice and a pathway to employment. An

abundance of conferences, training and networking opportunities have been available this year too. It's always invigorating to take time to see the bigger picture and be inspired by what others are doing. The coming together of the local volunteer managers network has been a personal highlight and I can't wait to see how this dynamic group evolves over the coming year. Happy volunteering!



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



Thinking About Volunteering?

When first thinking about volunteering, the wide range of choices available can be a bit daunting. Here are some questions you may want to ask yourself before you go in search of that perfect volunteering role.

The answers will inform your volunteering choice. Remember YOU have to get something out of your volunteering experience.

What am I hoping to gain from my volunteering experience?

Friendship, community contribution, new skills, utilising existing skills, a pathway to employment, confidence building?

Is there a particular organisation or cause that I am interested in?

Perhaps you are passionate about the environment or there is a charity that is close to your heart. Maybe you want to focus on a particular town or age group?

What are your skills and interests?

Think about the skills you have or would like to have. It may be that you want to do something similar to what you do at work, or perhaps you want to do something completely different?

How far am I prepared, or able to travel?

Do you need to be able to walk there, would you like to volunteer from home, are you prepared to travel for the ideal position?

How much time can I spare?

What hours / days are you able to commit to? Are you looking for something on-going or a short term project based activity? Do you want to help out once or twice a year?

What kind of environment do I want to volunteer in?

Do you want to be outdoors, in an office, in a shop?

Still confused?

Chat to other volunteers to find out about their experiences; personal anecdotes and stories are a valuable source of information. Or contact Volunteering Barossa & Light to find out what's available locally. Our website at www.barossa.sa.gov.au (listed under council services) has a volunteer expression of interest form that will step you through the questions you need to think about.



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 visit us at www.barossa.sa.gov.au

Our office in Nuri Library (43-51 Tanunda Rd, Nuriootpa) is open Monday-Friday 9 till 12:30

Our Kapunda service (81 Main Street, Kapunda) is available Thursdays by appointment.



The family that volunteer together stay together!

Here's an idea; how about creating opportunities in your organisation where families can volunteer together? We all know that our busy lives mean we don't always have enough time for the things we want to do, like volunteering and family activities. Why not combine the two?

This concept can bring challenges for not-for-profits, but it also provides opportunities to fill volunteer vacancies, especially on weekends.

Let us know if you think of a project; Volunteering Barossa & Light would love to help you promote it!



International Year of the Volunteer Plus Ten - IYV+10 pins are now available to purchase from Volunteering SA-NT. These are a great volunteer thank you gift

and memento of this special year. \$3.50 for non-members, \$2.80 for members. To order email reception@volunteeringsa-nt.org.au or call 8221 7177.

“Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless”

Volunteer Managers in the Spotlight

Volunteer management within organisations comes in a whole range of shapes and sizes, and under a whole range of titles.

In some organisations the person looking after the needs of volunteers is a dedicated Volunteer Manager; sometimes it's someone who has taken on these responsibilities as part of another role and volunteer management isn't even in their job description.

Often it's somewhere between the two extremes. What we have noticed is that volunteer management is often a fairly isolated role and it was with this in mind that the Volunteer Managers Forum was set up. The first meeting was held in August and was extremely well attended by



Volunteer Manager Forum members - Ruth Murton, Pam Payne, Annie Chambers, Elspeth Herring, Denise Maule, Trish Brydson, Jo Feltus, Julie Combe, Pam Makin, Debbie Carter, Caroline Letchford, Pam Young, Mary Ann Murphy, Renee Hutchinson, Jo Parker Phillips, Rita Britton, Elly Milne, Judy Viney

enthusiastic volunteer managers keen to share information, ideas and resources.

The next meeting will be held at the Barossa Council on Tuesday 8th November with special guest Andy Fryar of Oz VPM coming to talk. If you've ever wondered within your volunteer management role 'how did I get here', and 'what difference can I make?' then Andy's

presentation 'from obsession to profession' is for you!

All welcome, regardless of if you are able to be part of the on-going volunteer managers forum group.

Call Jo Parker Phillips 8563 8409 for more details.

Triple the Volunteer Fun at Triple B

Whenever you mention the word “volunteer”, be ready for its partner “surprise”. It seems that every time we begin to find out more about a volunteer or volunteer program we come across another surprise.

A visit to Barossa Community Radio – bbbfm – at Tanunda is a case in point; On a recent visit to the radio station we asked Production Coordinator / Presenter, Sandie McConnell what percentage of the staff were volunteers “all of them!” she replied. Who knew?

All 52 members of staff ; board members, cleaners, announcers, programmers, receptionists, technicians and sales staff are all volunteers!

We talked with Rob, who presents a Monday night request show with support from wife Lyn, and got caught up with the excitement and enthusiasm that seems to bounce off the walls. “It keeps me and the community informed”, Rob enthused. Rob is a long time entertainer who says his



Joshua Begbie (15) and Dylan Evans (14)



volunteer involvement “keeps me feeling young.”

Another big surprise was the age range of volunteers; from octogenarians to new teenage announcers, Josh and Dylan who present “Y Time”. each Wednesday.

Sandie enthusiastically talked about State awards won by the station this year: Rhonda Fietz won the Bilby Award Volunteer of the Year, youngster Joseph (JJ) Coventry won runner- up Best Radio Interview and Sandie herself won a SACBA Presenters Promo award.

It never fails to surprise us what the community spirit of volunteers is able to achieve!

Sandie is always looking for more volunteers. All you need is enthusiasm and a love of music. Full training is provided for on-air and behind-the-scenes positions.

If you would like to join this fantastic team, contact Sandie at: Tanunda Railway Station, PO Box 654 Tanunda. Phone 856 33788 or Email mail@bbbfm.com For more info try www.bbbfm.com

Golden Gurus comes to the Barossa

A fantastic new opportunity has opened in the Barossa with Volunteering SA-NTs Golden Gurus program finding a new regional home at the Volunteering Barossa & Light office in Nuriootpa.

Golden Gurus is a mentoring service for professionals in the not-for-profit sector that enables peer support outside of the mentee's organisation. Studies have long shown that there are huge personal and professional benefits to having an external, like-minded mentor.

Alongside his role at Volunteering Barossa & Light, Maurie Dow will be promoting and co-ordinating the Golden Gurus program for the Barossa and Light Region. “It's a fantastic program” said Maurie, “and I want it to be available to people in our region. The mentors have a wealth of knowledge and experience and I want them to be able to share it with people here.”

VSA&NT would like to invite local people working for Not for Profits, or government organisations that engage volunteers, to come to an information event at the Barossa Council Chambers, Thursday 24 November, from 4.00 – 5.30pm. They will hear from their peers about the benefits of mentoring and how to get involved.

Also invited are people interested in becoming mentors. (This is a program run under the auspice of the federal government where volunteers need to be aged 50+ and retired / semi-retired to become Golden Guru mentors.)

Please call Maurie Dow 08-8563 8495 to register your interest in attending or email golden.gurus@volunteering-sa-nt.org.au



Save the Date

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

5th November - International Volunteer Managers Day

28-30 November - National Conference Volunteering: www.volunteeringaustralia.org for details - please *note change of dates*

8th November - Local Volunteer Managers Forum - The Barossa Council - Jo Parker Phillips 8563 8409 for information

24th November - Golden Gurus information session - The Barossa Council - email golden.gurus@volunteeringsa-nt.org.au for details

5th December - International Volunteers Day



For those of you with your finger on the pulse of new technology - why not scan our QR Code and see where it takes you!

websites we love

when we are looking for inspiration, motivation or information these are some of the websites we turn to

volunteering.com.au
govolunteer.com.au
ozvpm.com
worldvolunteerweb.org
volunteeringaustralia.org
volunteeringsa.org.au
volunteer.com.au
ofv.sa.gov.au

Volunteer Vacancies



Abbeyfield Little Shop of Treasures - Friendly volunteers are required at this delightful shop in Williamstown. Choose hours to suit you, weekdays or weekends. Training given. Centrelink approved.



Conference Call Group Leaders - UniitingCare Wesley require leaders for their Telink program. You will need good conversation & listening skills. Calls can be made from your own home.



Barossa Health Service - Do you have experience or would like to gain experience in a medical records/admin environment? Choose hours to suit your needs. Training for your role will be given.



Lutheran Community Care Emergency Relief Counsellor - required to assist clients with food material and/or information on Monday or Friday mornings. A four day training course is provided.



Community Garden Nuriootpa - This garden has been set up for local people who have a disability or are disadvantaged to grow vegetables, herbs & fruit for their own use. Would you like to help?



Side by Side - Carers' Link Young Carers Program supports carers under the age of 25. Mentors are needed to support young people in education, training and employment pathways.



Barossa Regional Gallery - If you would like to contribute to this valuable community — based organisation, we would love to hear from you. Varied tasks & flexible hours.



Visiting Program - Various health centres are looking for volunteers to make ward visits to hospital patients in Angaston, Eudunda, Kapunda and Tanunda. Choose the hours that suit you.



Chat 'n Chow - A friendly social lunch gathering held every other Tuesday at the Hub in Tanunda. Assistance is required with meal preparation, serving and to socialise with lunch guests.



St John Ambulance - Would you like to learn first aid? Anyone who is fit, healthy and motivated can have the opportunity to attend great events, help people and have up to date first aid skills.

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 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)

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

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