Hello there,

What wonderful spring weather we are having at the moment. Such a pleasure to be out in the sunshine again!

This month we have a lot of information for you which we hope you find useful. Please mark your calendar for our upcoming Volunteer Coordinators meeting, we would love to see some fresh faces and of course our regular faces as well.

If you have any articles or information for our October edition please send your information in so we can put it in our October edition.

cheers Rachel

Has your organisations adopted the Principles of Volunteering Yet?


Statement of Principles for the Recognition of Volunteer Rights

1. This organisation demonstrates a commitment to best practice in volunteer management and all our people respect and support this commitment.
2. Our volunteers are involved in the life of the organization and are included in decisions that affect them.
3. This organisation provides volunteers with clarity about their roles and is clear about expectations and policies that impact on their roles.
4. Our volunteers respect the roles of everyone in the organisation.
5. This organisation recognizes and celebrates the contribution of volunteers.
6. Our volunteers are provided with training and professional development for their roles.
7. This organization provides all our people with the opportunity to resolve disputes with respect and dignity.

Organisations that endorse the principles of Volunteering and adopt them will be sending a clear signal to current and potential volunteers that their contributions are valued and their rights respected.

Volunteer friendly organizations are able to Adopt the Principles and demonstrate their commitment to a “Bill of rights” for Volunteers. By going to the website – www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au and following the links.

“Volunteers should be treated with fairness, respect and dignity and have their rights recognized. That’s why the NSW Government has introduced a statement of seven principles outlining best practice in Managing Volunteers” said Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello.

So get online today and pledge your organisations support to these Principles.
“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore is not an act but a habit”

Aristotle

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<th>September</th>
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<td>29th Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch Meeting</td>
<td>9th Compassionate Friends</td>
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<td>13th Pedal the Peel Cycling Challenge</td>
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<td>16th RSPCA Meeting</td>
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<td>19th &amp; 20th Biennial Open Gardens</td>
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<td>21st Country in the Courtyard—Bruce McCumstie</td>
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<td>27th Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch Meeting</td>
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<td>29th TVCN Meeting</td>
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<td>31st Dementia Training—Alzheimer's Australia</td>
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<td>13th Compassionate Friends</td>
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<td>15th &amp; 16th Can Act Consumer Advocacy Training</td>
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<td>18th Country in the Courtyard—John Grills</td>
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<td>20th RSPCA Meeting</td>
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<td>24th Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch Meeting</td>
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<td>25th ACMF Fundraising Concert Kootingal Bowling Club</td>
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<td>27th Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch</td>
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<td>30th Party in the Paddock</td>
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<td>4th Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch Christmas Luncheon</td>
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<td>5th Gift of Time</td>
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<td>15th ACMF Christmas Fundraising Concert—LBS Sudios</td>
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<td>16th Country in the Courtyard—Tom Maxwell</td>
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If you have an upcoming event that you would like promoted in the Tamworth area then please forward your information to r.palmer@tamworth.nsw.gov.au or call me on 6766 4480.
**Oxley Community Transport Acknowledges Principles of Volunteering**

On Wednesday 4th of September Oxley Community Transport Management Committee signed the Statement of Principles for the Recognition of Volunteer Rights with the Minister for Citizenship, Communities and Aboriginal Affairs Hon Victor Dominello at the Tamworth Community Centre.

The Minister congratulated Oxley Community Transport on signing the Principals of Volunteering. As well as congratulated them on their ongoing commitment to their volunteers and the wonderful service that they provide in our local community.

Oxley Community Transport Volunteers with Member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson and Minister for Citizenship, Communities and Aboriginal Affairs Hon Victor Dominello.

**2013 Biennial Open Gardens**

Tamworth Cottage Gardeners Inc. Presents the 2013 Biennial Open Gardens. Eight established gardens will be open. A Weekend Garden Pass will cost $20.00 or you can pay $3.00 to visit each individual garden. Children under 16 years old have free entry. All profits will be donated to local charities.

Brochures about the gardens will be available in June 2013.

**When**—Saturday 19th October and Sunday 20th October 2013, 9am to 5pm

For more information please contact Sandra on 6766 2272 or email ph360420@bigpond.net.au or Beryl on 6766 1614.

“Setting an example is not the main means of influencing others; it is the only means.”

*Albert Einstein*
Tamworth Volunteer Referral Service Survey

A big thankyou to the 21 Organisations who completed our recent Survey. We will now use the information gathered from this survey to help us plan our activities for the 2013/2014 period.

The winner of the $100.00 gift voucher from Bellepoque was the Cancer Council a big congratulations to them. They are going to use the voucher for their upcoming Relay for Life Raffle so make sure you get your tickets.

Tamworth Volunteer Coordinators Meeting

The next Tamworth Volunteer Coordinators Meeting will be held in the Britten Room at the Tamworth Community Centre on Tuesday the 29th of October. Commencing at 10am. All Organisations utilising volunteers are more than welcome to attend. This meeting is a great way to learn what is currently going on in the volunteering sector. If you would like to attend or would like more information please contact Rachel on 02 6766 4480.

Event Volunteers Needed

Ronald McDonald House currently have 2 fundraising days coming up. The first is the Pedal the Peel Cycling Challenge being held in Tamworth on the 13th of October. The second is the Party in the Paddock on Saturday 30th of November at Kitty Crawford Estate. If you would be able to volunteer your time on these two days then give us a call on 67 66 4480 or contact Chris at Ronald McDonald House on 6767 8900.

Remembrance Day Commemoration

Tamworth RSL Sub-Branch invites all ex-service and serving military personnel, family, friends and members of the general public to attend our annual Remembrance Day Commemoration to be held at the Tamworth War Memorial Hall on;

Monday 11th November, commencing at 10.15am

Enquiries to The Secretary—Ph 6762 1244 9am—3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

North West Winter Volunteer Sporting Spirit Award

The North West Winter Sport Volunteer Award is an opportunity to recognize volunteers who are the life-blood of grassroots sport in country NSW. Sporting club and association members are invited to nominate individual volunteer (s) who would be deserving of such an award. To be eligible for the winter award the nominee must have been a volunteer with the club or association during the period April to October 2013. For more information on the award or to nominate to http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/volunteeraward/index.asp or contact Sam Erickson on 6766 1200.

Nominations open on the 8th of October and close at 4.30pm on 8 November 2013.
Tamworth Boccia Club

The Tamworth Boccia Club – the Tamworth Boccia Bronco’s – is desperately seeking volunteers to help keep the club alive. Volunteers are needed for just 2hrs on the third Saturday of the month.

Boccia is a game very similar to lawn bowls where the player propels a ball toward a jack. The player closest to the jack wins – simple! Boccia is modified so that participants of varying disabilities can participate and compete competitively on a level playing field. The Boccia Bronco’s has on average 16 participants each month who come along to sharpen their skills in Boccia and enjoy the social atmosphere.

The club is entirely financially self-sufficient and relies on the time of volunteers. Volunteers are desperately needed to share the work load helping at the meets to prevent this positive and growing club from folding.

For more information about Boccia or to discuss the possibility of volunteering phone Sam Eriksson on (02) 6766 1200.

Tamworth’s Women Shed

The Tamworth Women's shed meet at the Craft Shed (opposite Northgate Coles shopping centre) every Friday morning at 10am for 10.30am. The morning starts with a tea or coffee and then they get into an activity. In recent weeks they have participated in Yoga, learnt to text on their mobile phones, various craft things and numerology. The group have had a variety of guest speakers on wills, conflict resolution, advice from vets about ageing pets, outings etc. However the main aim of the shed is to provide companionship, friendship, and ongoing growth in a supportive situation.

If you think you maybe interested in the women's shed then call out to the Craft Shed to get more information.

Tamworth Access Awards are now Open!

The Tamworth Regional Council Access Awards recognize their invaluable contribution of businesses and community groups who have shown initiative in making their business or service accessible to all people in the community.

An accessible community is one in which all facilities and services are open and available to people with disabilities, providing them with the same opportunities, together with the rights and responsibilities enjoyed by all others.

The Tamworth Access Awards are an initiative of Tamworth Access Group and Tamworth Regional Council. Nominations are currently open and will close on Friday 22 November 2013. Winners will be announced at the International Day of People with a Disability on Monday 2 December 2013. Nomination forms can be collected at the Tamworth Community Centre or online at www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au For further information please contact Kerry Little on 6766 4480.
Are you involved with a community organisation? Do you have a project that will benefit your community?

BEST Employment’s BEST in the Community Program is giving organisations, groups and charities the opportunity to apply for a share in $15,000 to run activities or programs that will assist impoverished or otherwise disadvantaged people within our local communities.

Round 1 Applications close 5pm Friday 27th September 2013

For more information and to view the program guidelines visit www.best.com.au, phone 1800 660 660 or call into your local BEST Employment Office.

To receive a BEST in the Community application package email marketing@best.com.au

Our Vision
“to see our community (particularly those most disadvantaged) independent and free from disadvantage”
CONSUMER ADVOCACY TRAINING

Friday 15 & Saturday 16 November, 2013
The Playhouse Hotel
121 – 123 Queen St, Barraba

Crowded outdoor areas now smoke-free; more funding for bowel cancer screening; better financial assistance for country patients...

Wins like these were achieved because people like you chose to speak out about health issues that are important to them and the NSW community.

Cancer Council NSW, in collaboration with Cancer Voices NSW is conducting this free two-day workshop to give people who have experienced cancer and their carers the skills and knowledge they need to become active and effective advocates for improved health policies and systems.

From campaign strategy, understanding media and Government structures through to visiting MPs, we will empower you to fully participate at all levels where decisions about cancer policy are made – giving you the tools to campaign on issues you care about.

At the end of the training participants will take home a toolkit containing the resources they need to take action and engage others within their local community.

MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER

CONTACT: Shaen Fraser, Community Programs Coordinator, Northern Region
PH: 02 6763 0904
EMAIL: shaenf@nswcc.org.au
Enjoy a day in the garden with 

Duri Branch of UHA of NSW Inc. and 

Des & Dawn Reading at their garden

7 Pages Lane Kingswood.

on Thursday 14th November 2013

commencing at 10.30am

Entry Fee: $10.00 (includes Morning Tea)

Trading Table & Raffle