

VOLUNTEERING *and* CONTACT ACT



May - Welcome from the CEO

National Volunteering Week was an event and fun filled week. The ACT Government released their Volunteering Statement, we hosted a Volunteer Manager's Forum, a Community Impact Day and Volunteering Open Day. But the highlight was the [2017 Volunteer Awards, Canberra Region](#), when we publicly celebrate the wonderful and talented people of Canberra, and their amazing contribution to our society through volunteering. Congratulations to all the award recipients, particularly our Volunteer of the Year, Mrs Jayanti Gupta. Everyone wins when you volunteer. Volunteers, individual, organisations, businesses and the community. Thank you to Beyond Bank, the Event Major Partner, and our other sponsors and supporters. A full list of recipients and a wrap up of the week are [here](#)

Engaging and keeping volunteers in our digital world -

How are you going to engage with volunteers in 2030? Or even in 2020? Technology is the biggest and fastest disruptor we have ever seen and it is changing the way we live so dramatically, that keeping up (or even ahead) is vital for business, and volunteering-business, survival.

The Chief Minister of the ACT, Andrew Barr, is sponsoring some places at our ['Volunteering in the Digital World' Symposium](#) on 13 July. The ACT's Chief Digital Officer will be joined by experts who will help us embrace this new technology-driven and changing world. Visit our website to find out more about this event, and coming soon is the opportunity to apply for a sponsored spot. If you have any questions in the meantime, [email us](#).

Implementing the changes needed to keep your organisation technologically adept will require nimble change management skills. Fortunately, VCA also has that covered for you in the next presentation of our [Specialist Knowledge Series – Change Management in VIOs](#) on 22 June. [Register here](#).

Changes to VCA memberships -

Thank you to all who completed our survey. The information we received is invaluable, and will assist us to continue to support you to address your organisational needs. We are very pleased that so many of our members think so highly of VCA, and our work in supporting you.

To this end, we have reviewed our membership service offerings and have aligned them more closely with our members' requirements. During June VCA staff will contact you to talk about your organisation's specific volunteering and community connections needs.

Yours Sincerely,
Glenda Stevens

Member of the Month



The Food Co-op Shop & Cafe

As a social enterprise, The Food Co-op are a not-for-profit food co-op that carries *local, fresh, organic, sustainable, natural, Fair Trade, ethical, bulk and affordable products*. Their members own the Co-op and act as volunteer coordinators staffing the store. Each member is invited to participate, with the store managed by consensus-based decision making, contributing to Canberra's original quality unpackaged organic food store and wholefood cafe. Visit their [website](#) or [Facebook page](#) to learn more about this group.

2017 Volunteering Awards Photos



With a record number of nominations; we had more than 200 guests gathered to recognise Canberra's best volunteer services. Across nine categories more than 50 individual volunteers and volunteer teams were acknowledged for their outstanding contribution. *For those of you who have not yet seen the photos*, please like our [Facebook page](#) and see the photo albums [here](#) and [here](#).

If you're interested in partnering with VCA on one of our future events, please email us [here](#).

Beyond Bank: A Strong Supporter of Your Community



Beyond Bank Australia was once again delighted to be a major partner of the Volunteer of the Year Awards held at the National Arboretum on Monday 8th May. This event allowed us the opportunity to rub shoulders with, and be in awe of, the amazing people that volunteer their time and skills and whose contribution provides amazing wealth to our city and region.

Volunteering is part of the social fabric of our society and the diversity of the nominees at the awards was a delight to see. We congratulate all the award winners, with a special mention to our Volunteer of the

Year Award winner Mrs Jayanti Gupta and our Go Beyond Award winner Mark Bell.

Beyond Bank has a strong affiliation with volunteering as demonstrated by the provision to our staff of 2 paid volunteer days per year. Our staff are also engaged with many of the community events and activities that take place across Canberra. In the last four months alone we have participated in O Week and Stress Less Week at the University of Canberra, COTA's Seniors Week and Expo, the Pegasus Open Day, Orange Sky Laundry's first birthday and provided budgeting and financial education for women who have experienced domestic violence.

Throughout the year we support community groups to fundraise by promoting their cause within our 9 branches which are located across the ACT region, as well as through social media.

As a bank that is 100% owned by our customers, we exist to create better products, services and return on value to the communities in which we live and operate. Our [community account](#) provides fee free banking and great rates to not-for-profit community groups. Our [community reward account](#) enables everyday citizens to save money at no cost whilst supporting your cause, as Beyond Bank will pay the community group an annual bonus payment, just because you care. Our [community reward package](#) provides benefits to the staff, volunteers and supporters of community groups through special rates with home loans, personal loans, term deposits and financial plans whilst also giving a bonus payment to the community group.

If you are interested in joining the 3000+ community organisations who already partner with us or would like to know more about how Beyond Bank can assist you, please contact our Community Development Manager, Wendy Prowse on 6286 0561 or wprowse@beyondbank.com.au.



As a volunteer you do fantastic work for our organisation and we are proud to have your support. We understand that you make considerable sacrifices to be a volunteer, and we want you to be rewarded for the work you do. Beyond Bank Australia shares this idea. In order to say 'cheers' for the time and effort contributed by volunteers, they have created a special banking package.

The Community Rewards package provides volunteers with a range of banking benefits. You will benefit by saving your money or switching your banking to Beyond Bank and your chosen cause will benefit with another way to raise funds.

For more information drop into a Beyond Bank **branch** visit beyondbank.com.au/community or phone **13 25 85**, and discover the other way to bank.

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Beyond Bank
AUSTRALIA

#NVW2017 Wrap-up

We had a wonderful National Volunteer Week! And so did many of our members from around the Canberra Region. Here are some photos of the action. Thank you St Vincent de Paul's and Goodwin for sharing some of your #NVW2017 photos with us.





Mission Australia's Youth Survey 2017



Young Australians are being called on to express their "thoughts, concerns and aspirations" as part of the largest annual nationwide poll of young people. It aims to identify the issues and values that most matter to them in a bid to provide them a chance to help inform policy and decision making. Volunteering and Contact ACT is urging all those aged between 15 and 19 to fill out Mission Australia's Youth Survey. If you or anyone you know may be interested, [complete the survey here](#).

Members' Events

St John Ambulance ACT are offering the following free first aid information sessions targeted at retirees, seniors, the elderly and their families.

- [28 June – What if the worst happens](#) – 2:00pm-3:30pm (CPR, defibrillation & choking)
- [26 July – Medical emergencies](#) – 2:00pm-3:30pm (heart attack, stroke, burns, anaphylaxis & asthma)
- [26 August – What if the worst happens](#) – 2:00pm-3:30pm (CPR, defibrillation & choking)
- [16 September – Medical emergencies](#) – 2:00pm-3:30pm (heart attack, stroke, burns, anaphylaxis & asthma)
- [24 October – What if the worst happens](#) – 7:00pm-8:30pm (CPR, defibrillation & choking)
- [21 November – Medical emergencies](#) – 7:00pm-8:30pm (heart attack, stroke, burns, anaphylaxis & asthma)

All sessions are at 14 Thesiger Court Deakin. RSVP at 6282 2399 or admin@stjohnact.com.au (please note these sessions are up a flight of stairs).

YWCA Canberra

- [1 June – She Leads Conference](#) – Save the date, registrations open soon, [read more](#)

ACTCOSS

- [16 June – Financial Acumen \(Free workshop\)](#) – Read more about this event and register to attend [here](#).

If your organisation would like to share any events with our community please [email us](#).

Volunteering and Contact ACT Events

- [6 June - Volunteering Essentials](#)
 - A free one hour workshop that gives a comprehensive understanding of what is involved in volunteering for a not-for-profit organisation.
- [13 June - Volunteering Open Day](#)
 - On the second Tuesday of every month, the Volunteering Open Day provides a great opportunity for anyone to find out more about volunteering!
- [14 June - ACT Community Directory Essentials](#)

- A free 90-minute talk focusing on how to find everything you need in the ACT Community Directory and Diary.
- [13 July - Volunteering Symposium - Volunteering in the Digital World](#)
 - Please note the date change here - The 2017 Volunteering Symposium is a one-day workshop, where we will have four speakers talking to us about Volunteering in the Digital World.



SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE SERIES

Doing volunteering business better

Topic 5:
Change Management

Thursday 22 June | 9am - 11:30am

[Register here](#)

The 21st Century has been characterised by increasingly fast change, greater interconnectedness, and a fundamental shift in the way the world does business. For the non-profit sector keeping up with the pace of change presents unique challenges to managers and leaders. This seminar will show you how to implement strong change management practices to weather any storm.



MEET YOUR COMMUNITY

ACT Together & Valerie Albrecht

Friday 23 June | 10am - 2pm

ACT Together is a new consortium created to provide quality services for children and young people in out-of-home care in ACT. Specific services include Foster and Kinship Care space, Therapeutic services, and Residential services.

Valerie Albrecht from Oceans of Energy assists those who aspire to find their voice through speech pathology, story healing telling and yoga for seniors, wheelchair and disability.

Come in and find out more.



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www.vc-act.org.au

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