

VOLUNTEERING *and* CONTACT ACT

November - Message from our CEO



Dear Friends,

On Tuesday afternoon we held our AGM, and celebrated the successes of the last year. We welcomed Shivani Gounde and John McKee onto our Board, and networked with many of our valued members. Thank you to those of you who came along.

Next Tuesday 5 December we celebrate International Volunteer Day. The theme for IVD 2017 is *Volunteers Act First. Here.*

Everywhere. It recognises the contribution of volunteers in times of crisis. IVD is a chance for us to recognise and celebrate the work of volunteers at a local, national, and international level. If your organisation is holding a recognition event this IVD please let us know!

This month we welcome our new member the [Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies \(AIATSIS\)](#). AIATSIS is a world-renowned research, collections and publishing organisation. They promote knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, traditions, languages and stories, past and present.

Enjoy this month's newsletter and please contact us if you need more information on any of our services and support.

Warm Regards,

Vicky

Vicky Darling



New Giving Australia research released!

This week the latest Giving Australia research report was released on the Nonprofit Perspective. The Giving Australia series is the largest ever study into giving and volunteering behaviours, attitudes, and trends in Australia's history. The report found that managers of volunteers were seen as critical to the success of an organisation. To read the full report [click here](#).

Submission into Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools

We recently contributed to Volunteering Australia's response into the [Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools](#). The response outlines ways in which volunteering can improve educational outcomes for young people, and why it should be embedded in the Australian Curriculum.

Read the submission [here](#)

ACT Community Directory & Diary

Over the past few years, we have been working towards using [My Community Directory](#) as our one-stop shop for community information in the ACT region.

Any health or community organisation can list for free on the [ACT Community Directory](#) and can add events to the ACT Community Diary. Members of the public can find information for free by typing what they are looking for in the search box or browsing through the different categories.

If you are a community or health organisation and are not already listed, we would like to invite you to list the services your organisation provides to the ACT community in My Community Directory. If you know of a community or health service not currently listed on the Directory, you can also [Suggest a Listing](#).

It's free to list and update your information. My Community Directory allows you to be in control of information about your organisation.

As your details change, you can update your community organisation's information. By working together to collect and keep the information on the Directory up to date, we are better able to connect the ACT community.

Please have a look at this interactive online directory by going to the [ACT Community Directory](#) and register your listing in My Community Directory [here](#).

My Community Directory has also recently launched the [Access My Community App](#) available to download on iOS or Android devices. This app includes both the directory and the diary, as well as maps with services and points of interest in the community (such as parks and public toilets) to support better community access.

If you have any problems creating a listing or updating your information on the [ACT Community Directory](#), please email support@mycommunitydirectory.com.au or call 1300 762 515.

Volunteer & Business Breakfast - Sold Out!

In the spirit of [International Volunteer Day](#), [Volunteering and Contact ACT](#), in partnership with the [Canberra Business Chamber](#), is holding its inaugural Volunteer and Business Breakfast.

The breakfast will bring together skilled professionals and volunteer involving organisations (VIOs), along with our panel – *Robyn Hendry, Canberra Business Chamber, Vicky Darling, Volunteering and Contact ACT, and John Lewis, Callida Consulting* – to rethink workplace giving and employee volunteering.

We are pleased that the Breakfast is a sold out event in 2017! We look forward to seeing many of our members at the event next week.

We thank [Callida Consulting](#) for their sponsorship of the Volunteer and Business Breakfast.

Canberra Citizen of the Year Award

The Canberra Citizen of the Year is someone who makes an outstanding contribution to our community without expectation of remuneration or reward. They are someone who is motivated to act for the good of the community and is a participating member of the Canberra community.

They make an outstanding contribution across any endeavour, including, but not limited to, the areas of education, business, health, charity, the arts, the environment, disability, youth, research, medicine or the media.

Nominate [here](#). Nominations close Friday 15 December 2017.

#NVC2018 - Exhibit at this National Event!

Does your organisation help community groups achieve their goals?

Showcase your innovative products and services to non-profit leaders, and volunteer managers, at the **2018 National Volunteering Conference in Sydney next June**. Our theme is Ignite, Invigorate, Inspire.

Get in fast and secure your spot to demonstrate how you can help our delegates deliver the best outcomes to their communities. [Find out more here.](#)



VCA December Events

4-8 Dec - [Community & Philanthropy Partnership Week](#)

Celebrating the wonderful things that happen when community and philanthropy come together.

5 Dec - [International Volunteer Day](#)

A day to recognise and celebrate volunteers across the world.

5 Dec - [Volunteer and Business Breakfast](#)

VCA's inaugural breakfast bringing the Canberra community together with business to explore corporate volunteering and workplace giving.

5 Dec - [The Science Behind the Helper's High](#)

The neuroscience behind volunteering - understand why volunteering is so great for your mental health!

12 Dec - [Volunteering Open Day](#)

This is a great opportunity for anyone to drop in and find out about Volunteering and how you can get involved.

Quarterly Forum - Wed 8 Nov

Our most recent Quarterly Forum was held in celebration of International Volunteer Managers Day. The Forum focused on the theme 'Be the Voice', and explored how managers of volunteers can be champions of volunteering. Attendees workshopped how to be agents and advocates of change, through agitating the status quo.



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Volunteering and Contact ACT · Level 2 · 202 City Walk · Canberra, Act 2600 · Australia

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