Approximately 120 volunteers celebrated International Volunteers Day with a breakfast sponsored by Volunteer Network and Burwood Council at Burwood RSL on Friday 6th December. “We see it as a one of the ways in which we can recognize the work of the volunteers in our community and thank them for their efforts.”

Both the Cr John Faker Mayor of Burwood, Clr Angelo Tsirekas Mayor of Canada Bay Council; Clr Mark Drury of Ashfield Council and Clr Daniel Bott Mayor of Strathfield Council and Guest Speaker Noeline Brown – Ambassador for Ageing addressed the volunteers and thanked them for their contribution to the community.

International Volunteer Day is celebrated each year on 5 December and was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985. International Volunteer Day provides volunteer organisations and individual volunteers with the opportunity to raise the public awareness of their contributions to economic and social development at local, national and international levels.

Volunteering is an international movement which is celebrated worldwide with thousands of volunteers involved in a range of events as diverse as the volunteers themselves. These volunteers have a great impact on our way of life – in fact, without volunteers our communities and way of life would be far different from what they are today.

It is a day for all volunteers to take pride in what they do and to promote the benefits of volunteering to others. It is a day when volunteers, volunteer-involving organisations and their work should be recognized and celebrated.

People who volunteer come from all walks of life, are of different ages, are of many races and cultures, they have a vast array of skills knowledge and experience which they share for the benefit of others.

Australian volunteers are essential to our society and many charities would struggle without the support of their volunteers.

Australian volunteers contribute more than 700 million hours of community service to so many areas of society including community health care, heritage and arts, environment conservation, emergency services, education, social justice and sports. International Volunteer Day provides a platform to pay tribute to these volunteers who donate their time and energy to help others.
Photos of Volunteer Breakfast

Cr John Faker Mayor of Burwood, Clr Angelo Tsirekas Mayor of Canada Bay Council; Clr Mark Drury of Ashfield Council and Clr Daniel Bott Mayor of Strathfield Council and Guest Speaker Noeline Brown – Ambassador for Ageing
If you are a community organisation that utilizes volunteers in the running of your service and would like to have a copy of the Volunteer DVD & Booklet - Lend a Hand

Please contact Julie Stralow on:
P: 02 9911 9855
E: julie.stralow@burwood.nsw.gov.au

Volunteer Network Brochure & Volunteer Information Booklet

Volunteer Network has a new Volunteer Brochure, the brochure has information about how to get involved in volunteering and who to contact in the Inner West.

The brochure has been translated in Chinese, Korean, Arabic, Italian, Greek, Vietnamese.

“Volunteering is an excellent way to provide meaning in your life and help give back to your local community.”

A new Volunteer Information Booklet has been produced promoting volunteering in the Inner West.

The twelve page booklet covers how to get involved, training, rights & responsibilities, insurance, confidentiality, and advocacy, as well other information about volunteering.

The booklet has been translated in Chinese, Korean, Arabic, Italian, Greek and Vietnamese.

Please contact us, if you would like us to send you some copies.
P: 02 9911 9855
E: julie.stralow@burwood.nsw.gov.au

The statement outlines seven principles of best practice in volunteer management.

**Statement of Principles for the Recognition of Volunteers**

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

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

Volunteer-friendly organisations are able to **Adopt the Principles** and demonstrate their commitment to their volunteers.

To Adopt the Principles go to the Office of Communities website.

MEDIA RELEASE

4 November 2013

TIMEBANKING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM TO EXPAND ACROSS NSW

Minister for Citizenship and Communities Victor Dominello today joined volunteers in the Illawarra to announce a significant expansion of the NSW Government's volunteering initiative – Timebanking.

Timebanking is a NSW Government initiative which is based on a barter system allowing volunteers to exchange 'time credits' for time they volunteer. The pilot commenced in the Hunter and Central Coast region in August 2012 and will now be expanded following the successful pilot which included 3600 people signing up.

Mr Dominello said the local volunteers in Warilla, who are working to create better play facilities for children, are a great example of the kind of community spirit Timebanking aims to support.

"Timebanking has been very successful in the Hunter and Central Coast pilot sites since launching in August 2012, attracting more than 3,600 members, so I’m excited to invite 30 additional communities to come on board,” he said.

"Timebanking is a new concept in Australia and allows members to earn 'time credits' for volunteering. They ‘bank’ these time credits and redeem them later on a service of personal value, such as help around the home, support with shopping or getting the car washed.

"The evaluation of the pilot that is underway already shows the NSW program is attracting new people to volunteering; extending social networks; creating a sense of community; and improving the quality of life for those involved.

"For example a resident from the Hunter and Central Coast region is giving their time mowing lawns for the elderly, and in exchange is receiving assistance with house work he is unable to complete due to Parkinson’s disease.

"To build on this success, we are now calling on volunteer groups, local councils and communities to learn more about the program and then register their interest, as I hope to have 30 new groups established in 2014."

Mr Dominello said he was also happy to announce two new apps to support Timebanking, which can be downloaded for free from Apple and Google.

"These apps will provide a new tool to help make it easier for people to bank their credits and redeem services,” he said.

"Organisations selected for the expansion will be supported to establish and run the program through access to tailored software, the Google and Apple apps and a package of ‘how-to’ Timebanking resources.

To find out more about Timebanking phone (02) 8762 9825 or visit www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au/volunteers/timebanking. The apps are available from the Google and Apple app stores – just search ‘Timebanking Volunteering’.

Media contact: Michael Evangelidis 0428 975 461
Volunteer Network is looking for Expression of Interests from Volunteer Organisations to take part in Way2Go Volunteering Training

The Way 2 Go training is supported by the NSW Government for best practice volunteer management.

In 2012 The Hon. Victor Dominello, Minister for Communities and Citizenship released the NSW Volunteering Strategy to increase volunteering participation and provide better outcomes for volunteers. The Strategy responds to priority needs articulated by the volunteering community. One clear message from the consultation was that volunteer managers should be better supported. In response to this the Government is providing better access to Way 2 Go training as a strategic initiative.

Way 2 Go is a training system for volunteer management developed by the Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau based on the National Standards for Volunteer Management and is regularly updated. Way 2 Go is delivered in a ‘train the trainer’ model to encourage organisations to pass on their expertise and experience and promote good volunteer management practice more broadly. The training includes a resource kit for participants that contains generic policy guidelines and adaptable templates to enable organisations to apply the best practice principles with minimal effort or cost.

The Office of Communities is subsidising 100 places for volunteer organisations to attend Way 2 Go training. Training is being delivered regionally through the Volunteer Centre Network to ensure that participants understand how to use the resource kit which includes information on the governance and workplace safety regulation applicable to volunteer organisations.

Volunteer Resource Centres hosting training sessions will build capacity within their local community networks, improve volunteer management standards and increase community participation through local engagement with volunteering.

Please contact Jacqueline Martins at Volunteer Network on
P: 9911 9856
E: jacqueline.martins@burwood.nsw.gov.au

Training and purchase of Way2Go Toolkit - $75.00

For more information check out Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau website:
# Volunteer Network

## Training Calendar
(February to June 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Thursday 13 February 10am to 12pm | **Good Practice in Home Visiting**  
- To gain a fuller understanding of how you can ensure best practice when carrying out your work within a client's home environment.  
- To understand rights and responsibilities of your role as well as the client/caregiver's role.  
- Work in a professional and effective manner whilst still being empathetic and cari... | Burwood Council  
*Hennessy Room*  
Suite 1, Level 2,  
1-17 Elsie Street, Burwood |
| Thursday 20 March 10am to 1pm         | **Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTI) Sensitivity for your Service**  
- increase understanding of LGBTI aging issues and the obstacles to accessing services.  
- Best practices for how to create services that are more accessible and welcoming for LGBTI clients.  
- Strategies for accessing existing resources and information available to your LGBTI clients. | Burwood Council  
*Hennessy Room*  
Suite 1, Level 2  
1-17 Elsie Street, Burwood |
| Wednesday 9 April 10am to 1pm        | **Aboriginal Cultural Awareness**  
- Learn more about Australian history from an Aboriginal perspective  
- Develop informed understanding of Aboriginal people  
- Increase connection with Aboriginal people, communities and organisations | Burwood Council  
*Hennessy Room*  
Suite 1, Level 2  
1-17 Elsie Street, Burwood |
| Wednesday 28 May 10am to 2pm         | **Working with Guide Dogs for Volunteers**  
- The Guide Dog Motivational Speakers will give you a true-life account of what it is like to live with a disability but still live an amazing and inspiring, independent life. | Burwood Council  
*Hennessy Room*  
Suite 1, Level 2  
1-17 Elsie Street, Burwood |
| Thursday 19 June 10am to 2pm         | **Changing Behaviours in people who have Dementia**  
- Common behaviour changes that may occur when a person has dementia,  
- Why do these changes occur?  
- Answers to this and some general guidelines for coping with them. | Burwood Council  
*Hennessy Room*  
Suite 1, Level 2  
1-17 Elsie Street, Burwood |

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR ALL COURSES on 9911 9856 or jacqueline.martins@burwood.nsw.gov.au

**Training Fees**
Training delivered by our staff is $10.00 for HACC volunteers, $20.00 for non-HACC volunteers, $40.00 for Volunteer Coordinators.

**Please Note:** A higher fee may be charged for specialised training provided by consultants.

**Training Conditions**
Volunteer Network reserves the right to cancel or postpone training if there are an insufficient number of people enrolled in courses. Please see Volunteer Network Training Fees & Conditions Policy for further information on registration and cancellations.
Volunteer Network is an organisation for people wishing to become actively involved in the local community.

We can help you find a rewarding volunteer position within a community service organisation of your choice.

Your gift of time will help older people and those with disabilities live independently and comfortably in their homes.

You can choose when and where you work, within the Inner West area.