

intouch

June 2014 | issue 111

People Who Care
Founded 1980

Welcome to the latest issue of In Touch, the newsletter that keeps People Who Care's employees, volunteers, supporters and clients up to date with all that is happening in the organisation.

National Volunteer Week 2014

National Volunteer Week 2014 presented itself with a deluge of celebrations.

People Who Care had a display at the Midland Library, encouraging people to "lend a hand". A display stall was present at Mandurah Forum shopping centre to promote volunteering and to "thank" volunteers.

Luncheons were hosted at each of the People Who Care regional offices.

Guildford was host to approximately 50 volunteers. Ali White, General Manager, thanked all volunteers for their wonderful contribution throughout the years and staff and volunteers all came together and exchanged many stories and smiles. The food must have been ok as there was nothing left at the end of the day – well either that or everyone was really hungry. For me the highlight of the whole week was the smiles. Smiles and stories. It always amazes me just how much joy it gives to share and swap stories.

North region also celebrated in style with approximately 20 volunteers enjoying the food and company. More than 35 volunteers came to the lunch organised for the South West region's volunteers. This was a great turn out, filled with lots of chatter, laughter, stories and yummy food!

Overall it was a really successful week for all of the so deserving volunteers. I hope you all enjoyed your gift and those messages from the People Who Care staff. You all deserve the best and you give it so freely. Thank you.

Samantha Hrubos –
Volunteer Services Manager



Thank you to our Wonderful Paper Guys

From time to time throughout the year we often receive requests from the community to assist people who are disadvantaged in some way. We try to help as often as we can.

We never get to hear much about our paper guys as they work quietly and tirelessly everyday to run our paper business. They are committed to helping us raise funds to support our seniors and the only thing they ask of us is to have sweet biscuits to have with their coffee – although they have recently changed their minds and want cheese and biscuits! Gee, you can't say no to that! I'd like to formally thank every one of them: Allen, Glenn, Denis, Brian, Chi, John, Ian and Bill. Thankyou so much from everyone at People Who Care for all the extra things you do to help our seniors and for the work you assist with in the Mandurah community.

Annabelle Calvert –
Regional Manager – South West

What a Wonderful Anzac Day!

A lovely letter from one of our Social Support Clients, Muriel Watson –

“My grateful thanks to everyone involved in People Who Care for the beautiful day, 24th April. Morning tea when we arrived along with a friendly chat to those already there, then I watched a group of those ladies putting together a beautiful wreath (shop bought could not have matched it), then we set off for the Guildford War Memorial where Christine Wilder made a touching rendering of “At the Going Down of the Sun”, a special moment for us all as we stood with our own private memories.

I was given the special honour to lay the wreath on the steps before taking one step back to salute the memorial and all those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

We returned to People Who Care to a wonderful lunch and afterwards I played a few games of dominoes which I really enjoyed, another long ago thing.



Before leaving on our return journey home, we were each given a set of photographs, Anzac biscuits and a chocolate egg.

A very special meaningful day, slotted away with my memories of long ago.

Thank you all. As the old song goes “When you come to the end of a Perfect Day”.

Muriel Watson –
Social Support Client

Volunteering



My name is Naomi Wilson. I have two daughters and one due in two weeks. I came to People Who Care in November 2013, as a Community Services Diploma Student. I needed to complete 120 hours of a student work placement. I completed my student hours in January 2014.

I enjoy my role assisting Kathryn and Sam so much I have continued to stay on as a volunteer at People Who Care until I have my baby.

My role is to assist the Volunteer Program.

- I communicated and liaised with Sam and Kathryn about what takes priority for the day
- I have made invitations to past volunteer events
- I have organised mailouts to volunteers
- I have phoned volunteers to confirm their attendance and invite them along to events
- I have assisted in organizing a group induction
- I make up the induction kits for the new applicants

- I assist with the various administration tasks under the direction of the Volunteer Service staff

These are a quick overview of some duties I complete on a daily basis. The list may be simple but it can be very time consuming and there are many processes to follow in order for my duties to be completed in a timely and efficient manner.

I am now handing on what I have learned to a new student volunteer.

The duties I complete make me feel very accomplished and confident within my role. I am always excited and eager to come in to maintain my duties.

I've enjoyed being part of the People Who Care family.

The staff and other volunteers are amazing people and fun to be around.

I wish Sam, the staff, and all the volunteers all the best for the future.

To quote Arnold Schwarzenegger: **“I’ll be back”!**

New Staff Member

Hello Everyone,

If I have not had the chance to introduce myself in person, I am Navodini Withanage, a new staff member for People Who Care. I am the new 'Community Visitor Coordinator' for North and South West Metropolitan areas and I am super excited to get myself into this great cause and to work alongside Emma Costello in this Community Visitors Scheme (CVS) program.

I have successfully completed the Bachelor's Degree in Community Development at Murdoch University and worked in the 'Not-For-Profit' sector both locally and internationally. I was previously employed at UnitingCare West as the Volunteer Coordinator within their Food Rescue program.

With a diverse range of experience within the community programs and projects, I am confident that I will be able to fully contribute to the progress of the Community Visitors Scheme program. Apart from that I always enjoy and I'm passionate to get myself involved in community events and to volunteer myself regularly whenever I find some spare time.

I am proud and delighted to accept this new challenge offered to me and look forward to a successful time ahead...

Navodini Withanage -
Community Visitors Scheme Coordinator



Free Call Us on 1300 739 319

You can now contact People Who Care's Head Office in Guildford on the above number. Calls to this number are free for the first 15 minutes.

What's new from the Board?

We are delighted to welcome Shane Hamilton who joined the Board of People Who Care in April this year.

I am honoured to share a little background on Shane for your interest. Born in Brisbane Qld, Shane has lived in WA since 2000. Shane's family are WAKA WAKA people from the South Burnett region of Queensland and Shane has indicated a strong interest in our work within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

He is currently the WA and SA State Manager of Community Housing Limited, an organisation providing affordable housing for people on low incomes and is also a Board Member of the Community Housing Coalition of WA and the Aboriginal Lands Trust.

Shane has an extensive working history in senior government roles with the Department of Housing and Corrective Services across Qld, Victoria and WA. Shane's skills and experience will be of significant value to our Board as we navigate People Who Care to success and growth in the next phase of our journey.

We are delighted to welcome Shane to the Board and particularly look forward to working with Shane during our strategic planning journey in August this year.

Peter Varris -
Chairperson

Corporate Services Update – Lotterywest Grant for IT Upgrade

Recently, People Who Care was notified that we have been successful in receiving a grant from Lotterywest for our IT hardware and networking system across the organisation.

This will ensure robust and efficient IT systems to improve service levels to clients by significantly reducing lost time due to IT outages and poor and unreliable infrastructure. People Who Care's computer system was out of warranty and unsupported.

The implementation of this IT update will occur over the next few months.

Thanks to Lotterywest for supporting our organisation in this way.

Cathy Ray -
Corporate Services Manager

Send us
your stories

What's across my desk?

It's that time of the year when we tip our hats to our wonderful volunteer workforce. May 12-18 is a week of thanking our 370 strong volunteer workforce who assist People Who Care to deliver our services. Our willing and committed volunteers work across all our metropolitan offices, in our call centres, op shop and day centres, gardening and home maintenance, driving buses and cars, visiting clients or volunteering as Board Members. We thank them, for without them People Who Care would not be the active community organisation it is today.

It is also the time of year that applications for an increase in funding from the Department of Health are opening which will keep me very busy over the next few months as we decide where and how we might best serve our local communities.

Some of you may have heard our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander program promotion by our popular ATSI program manager David Bell on the Noongar radio recently. We have a fantastic program calendar, so if you know of anyone who would like to get out and about with a fun mob, give David a call.

I look forward to seeing many of you as I make my way around the sites for Volunteer celebrations and extend a warm welcome to our new staff members: Navodini Withanage, Celine Brun, Annette Costello, Ben Jaworski and Annette Newman. We hope you enjoy working in the People Who Care family.

We hope you will join us in thanking our volunteers.

*Ali White -
General Manager*

If you have a story that you think would enhance the next edition of InTouch, send it in by post or email to Head Office.

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COODANUP WA 6210

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Facsimile: 9419 7328

Postal Address:

PO Box 26,
Guildford WA 6935

Email: pwcinc@peoplewhocare.org.au

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WIN for Paying it Forward!!

Congratulations to Anna Mrkic who won our April "In Touch" Competition for her lovely Easter Story. Anna received a \$50 Wish Gift Card to spend.

You, too could be a WINNER for your Story! This time we are giving away another \$50 Wish Gift Card to the best "Pay It Forward" story. We are looking for a story where you have done something thoughtful for someone and your kindness has

come back to you, or simply made you feel warm inside.

You can send your story to us through the post to our Head Office at Guildford or via email to pwcinc@peoplewhocare.org.au



Please support People Who Care

Whether you are able to make a monetary donation or volunteer your time your contribution is vital to the work we do and is greatly appreciated.

Please fill in the form on the other side and post to **PO Box 26, Guildford WA 6935**

Thank you.

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr Other

Name

Company

Address

Postcode

Phone Email

I would like :

- to make a **once-off donation** (please fill in the details to the right)
- information on how to make a monthly donation**
- to **volunteer my time**
- more information on how to make a bequest**
- a copy of the People Who Care Annual Report**

FOLD HERE

1

Please accept my gift of (please tick):

\$35 **\$50** **\$100** or my choice \$

2

My cheque / money order **payable to People Who Care** is enclosed

or

Please debit my credit card



Card Number: / / / /

Cardholder's Name:

Signature: Exp Date: /

Thank you for your generosity.

Gifts of \$2 and over are tax deductible. A receipt will be sent to you shortly.