

Send us
your stories

What's across my desk?

I am absolutely delighted to be the bearer of great news of our growth funding.

People Who Care received a whopping 1.3 million dollars in growth funding for the 2015-16 year to increase the number of Home and Community Care services we provide throughout the metropolitan area.

We were also extremely fortunate to receive some funds to run a small pilot project for our south west aboriginal services and undertake some much needed refurbishments of the Mirambeena Centre. Over the next few months we will be reviewing the number of new positions and the structure to ensure our staff and volunteers are adequately supported to provide the new services.

Our Wangara office and Op Shop opening are scheduled for March 5th, between 3-5pm where you can Bag A Bargain or Bag A Donation. We look forward to seeing many of you there during the afternoon where we will be holding a sausage sizzle.

The Wangara Op Shop also commenced weekend trading in February and kept our volunteers run off their feet with sales. We are crossing our fingers that weekend trading will continue to be very successful so we can offer new opportunities for employment for those who face challenges in finding work.

The work on our strategic plan continues with our facilitator and Board as we head towards finalising the plan and then producing a publication which will be distributed to all our members and volunteers. I will be coordinating a roadshow across all our sites to unveil the new Strategic Plan and share with you the steps of our organisational journey over the next three years.

Lastly I have very much enjoyed the Coffee Club gatherings in the East, South East and North regions where I have been listening to our volunteer workforce share their ideas, suggestions and concerns. I am attending the South West Coffee Club next to hear the ideas and thoughts of our South West volunteers.

The information I have so far gained has been both enlightening and a catalyst for change in process and am very keen to hear from the workforce at the coal face of our operations.

I look forward to a bright and busy 2015 and see you all in the coming months.

*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.

Head Office:

48 James Street
GUILDFORD WA 6055

Telephone: 9379 1944
Facsimile: 9379 1955

North Metro Office:

2/77 Motivation Drive
WANGARA WA 6065

Telephone: 9379 1944
Facsimile: 9303 2166

South West Metro Office:

423 Pinjarra Road
COODANUP WA 6210

Telephone: 9535 3433
Facsimile: 9535 5433

SW (Kwinana) Day Centre:

13 Leasham Way
MEDINA WA 6167

Telephone: 9439 1179
Facsimile: 9419 7328

Postal Address:

PO Box 26
Guildford WA 6935

Email: pwcinc@peoplewhocare.org.au

www.peoplewhocare.org.au

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.

Meet Brian Atkins

Many of you won't need an introduction, as Brian has been a volunteer with People Who Care for an incredible 30 years this year.

Brian's story is one of incredible strength and resilience. Brian became a double leg amputee after five tonnes of steel crushed him in a workplace accident in April 1972.

Since then he has completed the Rottneest swim three times, competed and placed in two world water ski titles and is a very active member of a number of community groups including the Canning South SES, Samaritans and Lifeline.

Needless to say, Brian has not let his adversities inhibit him.

Brian has provided hours upon hours of companionship to many aged care residents over the years and for the last 13 of those 30 years he has had his beloved dog Casper at his side.

Unfortunately Casper passed away last month and on behalf of everyone at People Who Care we are so very saddened by the news. We know that Casper

will be missed dearly by Brian, his family and all of the staff and residents that were fortunate enough to have had a visit from Casper over the many years of his service.

Casper and Brian have provided an immeasurable amount of joy to aged care residents across many facilities over their years visiting together.

Brian now hopes to purchase and train a lorikeet to be his new visiting companion to continue to provide the wonderful service that is the Community Visitors Scheme.

*Emma Costello -
Community Visitors Scheme Coordinator*



Cultural Day a Big Hit at Mirambeena!

On February 11th a Cultural Day was held in the Mirambeena Day Centre and a great day was had by all. We had a yarning circle going and played Aboriginal themed games which everyone joined in. We served a big pot of Kangaroo stew that our very own Jill Henry prepared which was the talk of the day, and everyone loved it. We also had a delicious Damper, which didn't last long on everyone's plates, prepared for us by one of our clients Lynette Smith aka "Swaggy".

*Rikita Ryder -
ATSI Support Worker*



Lynette Smith preparing food for the Cultural Day.

Would you like to support
People Who Care?

You can support People Who Care
either by a monetary donation or
volunteering your time.

If you would like to, please fill in the
form on the other side and post to
PO Box 26 Guildford WA 6935

Thank you

Hot off the press from our Volunteer Services

Let me extend a warm welcome to all of the new volunteers, it is really great to see so many new people coming through the doors.

My first bit of news is that Celine, our ever capable Volunteer Service Officer for the South West region secured a position at Mandurah within the Social Support team and she is really enjoying the role. Congratulations Celine and I look forward to seeing you at Mandurah.

Also exciting was receiving some news that People Who Care was one of the Fancy Big Help Mob Competition winners.

The prizes of the competition are:

- One Year of our new Unlimited Mission Membership (usually there is a cost to the organisation so this is a great boost for us).
- A Co-Design workshop where we help you find and design great volunteering experiences in your organisation, and
- Our 2015 Coupon Book which includes priceless deals on Compliments, High Fives and Dad Jokes.

I will be asking volunteers to send in ideas on how we will use these fantastic prizes.

Great events are being planned for our wonderful volunteer workforce this year including

- a sit down Christmas dinner.
- An annual Volunteer Gala dinner.
- A new Rewards and Recognition program.

I will be discussing these ideas with the Volunteer Advisory Group who are meeting on Wednesday 26th March (please note change of date due to Corporate day being held in the Leisure Centre). If you wish to attend or put in your ideas to VAG members and are unsure who these people are, please let me know and I will steer you in the right direction.

Volunteer Services are constructing a preferred communication list of how you prefer to receive updates, invitations etc. It is important that the information that we have for you on file is correct so we will be asking you to submit and/or update your preferred contact details.

Another bit of exciting news is that we are assisting with the "Suburb Sales" within the City of Swan over February and March. Residents are invited to host a garage sale and are then invited to donate their quality unsold items to People Who Care to on sell in the Op Shops. All monies raised will go back



into the provision of charitable activities within the community, for which People Who Care are known. If you would like to help with pickups etc. please let me know as we may have a lot of donations coming through really soon.

Do you know someone who would like to volunteer for People Who Care? If you do, let us know.

New volunteers referred to People Who Care by you will win you either a \$150 grocery or fuel voucher (you choose your preferred prize) if someone you refer to us commences as a volunteer.

See the advert on the next page for further detail.

Just a quick reminder about the monthly coffee clubs... it's a great forum to relay a message or just get the chance to catch up with others. The next coffee clubs will be held:

- Wangara (1st Tuesday of each month) – 7th April
- Guildford (1st Wednesday of the month) – 1st April (no pun intended being April Fool's Day) and
- Mandurah (2nd Thursday of every month) – 9th April

Note: If you are out and about and one of the other days suits you better then come along. The more the merrier.

Sam Hrubos –
Volunteer Services Manager

Update from the Mandurah Office

Some of our seniors who attend the Leisure Centre are currently working on a Project for The City of Mandurah called the Mandurah Anzac Centenary Poppies Project. The Project is about joining in to honour Australian service men and women. Our seniors have been crocheting and knitting red poppies to donate to the project. It is expected that they need 30,000 poppies. The poppies will be used to 'plant' a field on the Mandurah Foreshore and at the War Memorial.

I was privileged to attend with some of my team to witness the Aboriginal Flag launch at the City of Rockingham on the 9th February 2015. The launching of the Aboriginal Flag is part of the Reconciliation and Action Plan between the City of Rockingham and the Aboriginal community. The ceremony was opened by the Mayor, Barry Sammels. Lyndsay Calyun was introduced to do the Welcome to Country and Trevor Walley did the Traditional custodians of the land in the Nyungar language. Ashley Garlett was called to speak on behalf of the traditional land owners/custodians which was followed by a 30 second silence. The Aboriginal flag was raised by an Aboriginal student from Rockingham High School.

Annabelle Calvert –
Regional Manager, South West

Refer a friend program

People Who Care would like to see a full circle when it comes to volunteering. If you refer a friend, who joins the volunteer team you will get the opportunity to redeem your referral for a \$150 voucher once your friend has been with us for three months.

Share your enjoyment and good news story and invite someone to join the team.

If you want to know more call Sam on 0404 014 236.

What's new from the Board

As this is my first newsletter article I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that Cecilia Broderick, our former Chairperson and longstanding Board Member has left People Who Care and I have been duly elected by fellow Board Members to the position of Chairperson.

I would like to formally acknowledge the invaluable contribution Cecilia made to the organisation and thank her for sharing her wisdom and support with the Board which will be sadly missed.

Cecilia like all other People Who Care volunteers represents the core of People Who Care's early beginnings and without our workforce of 400 strong volunteers, People Who Care would not be the successful organisation it is today. It is important we remember that People Who Care started out in 1982 as a group of three community minded volunteers who saw a need to help others who were unable to live independently at home without the practical assistance of transport or gardening.

Our strategic planning journey is taking us back to those early beginnings to ensure we remain true to our purpose. Recognising our volunteers' critical contributions is an important part of staying true to our core purpose.

I must say how delighted I was that People Who Care received such a significant increase in our Home and Community Care growth fund allocation which will allow us to support more frail aged and younger people with disabilities to stay at home longer. This could not have been achieved without the tireless efforts of our volunteers and staff to deliver the current levels of services to People Who Care clients.

I look forward to assisting my fellow Board Members and our General Manager, Ali White in planning the organisation's journey towards its new objectives and embracing the challenges and opportunities that 2015 will bring.

Andrew Allsop –
Chairperson, Board of Management

Please accept my gift of (please tick):

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

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

Please debit my credit card

VISA MasterCard American Express Diners Club International

Card Number: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Exp Date: _____ / _____ / _____

FOLD HERE

Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr Other _____

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Postcode _____

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

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