



Meals on Wheels
Eurobodalla

VOLUNTEER WORKER NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018

The new year has arrived and Christmas may now feel that it was some time ago. I hope it was a happy time for you and your family. January has been busy time as family and friends continued to visit and enjoy our wonderful coast. We are lucky to live in such an idyllic area.

It is great to have our teams back assisting our clients and I thank those who worked through the festive season to make sure everyone was cared for so well.

February is now here already and life is settling back into its usual routine. In the office there is much happening as this year we have our Third-Party Verification (TPV). This happens every three years. An assessor comes to look at our operation see us on March 19th to see if we are meeting the legislative requirements. All our documentation needs to be prepared and sent by the February 20th. We may need to ask a volunteer or two to meet with the assessor to answer questions on our operation. More to come on this once we know her schedule.

Our staff are now well established and each of them contributes so much to our organisation. I am most grateful for their professionalism and dedication. For those who are new to our organisation, the team consist of Alan (Manager), Mim (Administration), Bethany (Client Services), Jann (Out and About Coordinator) and Keith (Out and About Assistant). We are developing a casual staff list as well to cover illness and leave. We have Rosie for Out and About, and Jane, Denise and Nikkita are starting work/training at the office. We will also have Joel McCubben joining for three months us to look at our social media outputs and we welcome back our two office volunteers Amy and Jeanette.

The Board held their first Board meeting for 2018 on January 29th. The Policy Committee and the Finance and Audit Committee also met in January and sent reports for the Boards consideration. The Food Panel met on February 6th and the Finance and Audit Committee meet again on the 14th Feb. We continue to seek to strengthen our Board and its committees and we continue to encourage interested people whose skills assist us in providing the best service to our clients

A special thank you to the students and staff from St Mary's Catholic School in Moruya who created Christmas Cards which went to each client with a calendar and pen. It was great to have the support of the school and made Christmas a little more special for our clients.

The Out and About Christmas Party was a great success. Congratulations to Jann and Keith and their wonderful helpers who made the day great fun, and the food was exceptional!

You may have noticed our bus has new signwriting and it has been repaired. It is like new!



It now advertises our organisation throughout the Shire as well as acknowledging the Soldiers Club, Club Catalina and Club Narooma for their assistance in purchasing the bus and the support we received from Community Underwriting. Many thanks to these organisations.

There are new signs for the volunteers cars and these have already been well received by our clients. They like to know who is pulling up at their door. Thank you for your cooperation in putting these on your vehicle.

The signs, shirts and badges make our organisation more obvious to the community and our clients. During the first week of the car signs being used we had a number of calls from people interested in our services.

THE MANAGERS MEMO



Our organisation is **More than just a meal!** We have a wonderful community of people who quietly assist others and take great enjoyment from being useful.

20 new volunteers completed our Induction training in November and December. It was fantastic to welcome them.

Thank you also to those of you who have “shown the ropes” to these new people as they have started their work. This training will continue through our Volunteer Forums.

These are an opportunity for us to meet and discuss issues which will enhance our operation and for you to be briefed on new procedures and the happenings of the organisation.

The dates for the **Volunteers Forums** are:

Batemans Bay (Venue: The Out and About Cottage Time: 10am)

Moruya (Venue: The Office Time: 10am)

Narooma (Venue: Community Centre Time: 10am)

March 6th June 5th

March 8th June 7th

March 9th June 8th

BOARD NEWS

How many of the Board do you know? We have Phil (President), Jim (Vice President), Margaret (Secretary), Linzea (Treasurer), Les (Food Panel Chair), Cathy and Allan. As Manager (and Public Officer) I attend the Board meetings and report on our activities. The Board meets monthly.

The Board is working on many matters but our Strategic Plan is the basis of our future. We continue to seek ways to strengthen our Cooperative. One area which is vital is Succession Planning. We are always looking for new people from within, and outside of the organisation who may have the skills to serve on the Board.

Please us know if you, or someone you know may have the experience to assist with the Governance of our Cooperative. We will be delighted to arrange a meeting.

MEALS NEWS

The Christmas Menu was a great success! Thank you, Bethany for the care and thought which went into making up the menu.

New Rosters are being developed and thank you for letting us know in advance if you cannot attend on particular dates. If you do have to make a late change, please try to find a replacement from within the listed names. If you are unable to find a replacement please contact your Roster Co-ordinator to assist you. If all else fails of course you can contact the Moruya Office. **If there are any changes in rosters you need to advise the office of these changes.**

OUT & ABOUT NEWS

Out & About started on January 8th and this month the Lunch About on Tuesday started again. Thank you to Jann who did the first week with the support of our great volunteers. Welcome back Keith from his holidays and thank Rosie for here assistance in Keith's absence.

We also offer Individual Social Support through Mim at the Office. This is where a volunteer can take a client shopping, to medical appointments or simply have a Cuppa Chat. If you are keen to assist in this area, or know of someone who could use our service, please let Mim know at the office.

MARKETING OURSELVES - SELF PROMOTION!!

Yes....we are proud of what we do for others!!

We had a great deal of press coverage just before Christmas in local papers, on radio stations and our Facebook site has been filled with what we have been doing. This has led to an increased number of enquiries by volunteers and clients.

Thank you to radio 2EARfm for their support and encouragement.

Your WHS Rep: Les Carter

Contact on 44723632 or 0491441968 or email proteaplace6@gmail.com

