

# Volunteering AT VINNIES



A newsletter for Volunteers

APRIL 2024 • Edition 6

## ***Welcome to the latest edition of Volunteering at Vinnies!***

Welcome to the First edition of our volunteer newsletter for 2024, *Volunteering at Vinnies*. Let's take a moment to reflect on the incredible impact we've collectively made despite facing numerous challenges, your resilience, passion, and selflessness have been truly inspiring. From lending a helping hand to those in need to spreading kindness and hope, your efforts have touched countless lives and brought about positive change in our community.

Before we embark on the exciting journey that lies ahead, let's take a moment to reflect on the incredible impact we've collectively made in the past year. Despite facing numerous challenges, your resilience, passion, and selflessness have been truly inspiring. From lending a helping hand to those in need to spreading kindness and hope, your efforts have touched countless lives and brought about positive change in our community.

In this edition, we celebrate some significant volunteer achievements featuring a farewell to one of our valued volunteers Judy Mcdermott, Our Volunteer spotlight from Wyong VSC Bony Burian, and celebrating a special 100th birthday to one of our volunteers Annie Kersten.

As we look ahead to the new year, let's channel our collective energy and enthusiasm towards even greater achievements. Together, we have the power to create meaningful change, uplift those around us, and build a brighter future for all.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your dedication, passion, and unwavering support. Together, we can make this year our best one yet and continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those around us. Wishing you a year filled with joy, fulfillment, and endless growth opportunities.

If you would like to contribute to our quarterly newsletter, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the Volunteer & Associate Engagement Team at [volunteers@vinnies.org.au](mailto:volunteers@vinnies.org.au).

We hope you enjoy this edition.

Volunteer And Associate Engagement Team.

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## WHAT'S NEW



Welcome to the New Training Portal

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Your voice can help shape Vinnies' future online shopping experience!

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Safety and Wellbeing Matters

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## VOLUNTEER NEWS



### **Farewell Judy McDermott**

Tanilba Bay Shop is a little sadder this week as Judy McDermott the volunteer shop manager left to move closer to her family in Perth. Judy has been a volunteer with Vinnies for 18 years and was a beautiful volunteer and a very valued member of the Tanilba Bay Team.

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### **Volunteer Spotlight - Bony Kurian**

Volunteer Bony Kurian started his Volunteering journey with St Vincent de Paul at the Auburn Vinnies Support Centre (VSC) in 2023. Whilst volunteering with Vinnies, he is also attending university at Stotts College, working in the disability sector & raising a family.

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## Congratulations Annie Kersten

Annie started with The Society in 1976 and has a rich history with us at Vinnies. To this day, Annie still volunteers in our Corrimal Shop pricing Bric a Brac and bringing joy to her teammates and customers. Last year Annie celebrated her 100th birthday with the team at the Corrimal shop.

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## Migrant and Refugee Community of Practice supporting those working with migrants, refugees and people seeking asylum

Do you support migrants, refugees, or people seeking asylum? Are you looking to connect with others, share resources, or build your knowledge and skills based on best practices? We are forming a new 'Community of Practice' (CoP). It will be made up of members, volunteers, and staff across NSW who are actively supporting migrants and refugees.



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## Policy Update: Enhancing MAVs' Commitment to Excellence

In our unwavering commitment to providing the most current and relevant information to our members and volunteers, the MAVs website has undergone a comprehensive policy content review from September 2023 to the end of January 2024.

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## Creating our volunteer community: we welcome your newsletter contributions

Research shows us that feeling connected as part of a team leads to a greater sense of volunteer satisfaction. We would love to invite you to help strengthen our volunteer community by contributing to our newsletter.

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