

Volunteering Ballarat

A Directory of Volunteering Involved
Organisations in Ballarat



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Key

* Centrelink approved

^ Minimum age of 18 applies



About the Ballarat Foundation & this resource



The Ballarat Foundation is a not-for-profit benevolent institution which has been supporting the Ballarat community for more than 35 years.

Our vision is to have a Ballarat region where everyone is free from disadvantage and empowered to prosper.

As part of their work with the community, the Ballarat Foundation offers “Volunteering Ballarat”. This service offers industry support to volunteering involved organisations (VIOs) in Ballarat to increase their skills and knowledge in volunteering management and to make volunteering more inclusive.

This directory is a resource for anyone in Ballarat who wants to volunteer and is looking for an organisation that provides volunteering positions.

“

Volunteering is crucial to a healthy and vibrant community and there are multiple reasons to volunteer your time. These include meeting new people, maintaining and developing new skills, gaining on-the-job training and even enjoying social interaction by supporting another person in the community.

”

Volunteering Directory

Aged Care Volunteer Visitor Scheme with GenU * ^



The Aged Care Volunteer Visitor Scheme (ACVVS), funded by the Australian Government, helps improve the life of an elderly person experiencing social isolation, through friendly volunteer visitations in an aged care facility or in their own home. We are looking for volunteers to support this program.

Who can be an ACVVS volunteer? People who feel they would enjoy spending time with an older person, people with excellent conversation and listening skills, people who are reliable, confident, and able to work independently, people who have 1 hour a week or a fortnight to give to visit their client, people who genuinely care about the wellbeing of older people and are aged 18 years and above as per the ACVVS guidelines.

Join us to make a difference in the community! Ongoing support and training are provided to ensure that you have a safe and fulfilling volunteer experience. GenU is an ACVVS auspice organisation

 1300558368



connect@genu.org.au



<https://www.genu.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/>


Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme with Elder Rights Advocacy*



Elder Rights Advocacy supports older people, their families, and representatives in Victoria to address issues related to aged care services. Our advocates provide free independent and confidential information and advocacy. At Elder Rights Advocacy we also deliver the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme (ACVVS), a social-based program for people who could benefit from having a dedicated volunteer visitor. We connect older people with caring volunteers for friendship and companionship. Visits are relaxed and social, focusing on conversations, sharing a hobby or interest, and having fun together.

If you enjoy spending time with older people and have 1 or 2 hours a week to volunteer, we'd love to hear from you.

Together we can reduce loneliness and social isolation for older people across the region.

 1800 022 887



acvvs@era.asn.au



<https://elderrights.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/>

Anglicare * ^



Anglicare Victoria's Community Breakfast Program and Emergency Relief Centres in Ballarat and Creswick assist individuals and families in crisis. We couldn't meet the increasing demand for these services without the dedication of many volunteers. Current work experience programs available to primary & secondary schools. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact our Ballarat office



03 5333 0600



samantha.mackay@anglicarevic.org.au



<https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/get-involved/volunteering/>

Aussie Action Abroad



For volunteers with a desire to make a difference in Nepal, Aussie Action Abroad is an experienced (over 25 years) humanitarian adventure provider, who works with and in communities on community-led projects, so they can make a real, lasting difference for all involved. We provide opportunities for participants of all background over 18 to volunteer on Construction, Health, Education and Community Action projects. Ages 23-25 for our time in Nepal



0409 954 782



graemekent@aussieactionabroad.com



<https://aussieactionabroad.org.au/>

Australian Camps Association / People Outdoors



People Outdoors is a program of the Australian Camps Association (ACA). We have been in providing supported camps in Victoria for individuals (6yrs+) living with disability for 35 years. In 2024 we expanded our program to service Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. We have delivered hundreds of camps and outdoor experiences for people living with disability. Our Camps focus on individual and social development, skills and independence in a group setting in the outdoors. Activities may include canoeing, high ropes and low ropes courses, bush exploration and cycling, as well as less adventurous activities such as orienteering and archery. Each camper has a nominated support worker as required on a ratio of 1:1, 1:2, 1:3 (depending on the complexity of their needs). Our camps are for children, teens and adults living with disability. Volunteers support our team for the duration of camp.



03 9863 6824



peopleoutdoors@auscamps.asn.au



<https://www.auscamps.asn.au>

Ballarat Aviation Museum ^



Ballarat Aviation Museum is located within the grounds of the Ballarat Airport Victoria. We are a non-for-profit museum and welcome interested volunteers. Our volunteer roles include hosting visitors to the museum (training provided) and / or be part of our workshop team helping us to refurbish and maintain our exhibits and the museum buildings. No particular skills required as we will provide skills building, however if you can do carpentry, metal work, electronics etc, we'd be very appreciative. Periodic working bees for volunteers.



0429 947 853



ballarataviationmuseum@gmail.com

Ballarat Carols by Candlelight ^



We welcome volunteers to help us run our annual Ballarat Carols by Candlelight community event at the new Ballarat Showgrounds and Events Centre on Saturday 20 December.

This event attracts approximately 6,000 people, and is a wonderful, vibrant, family orientated, inclusive event for Ballarat and surrounds. Volunteering for us is one night only, on the Saturday prior to Christmas.

Duties might include: Checking bags at the gate, Helping usher people in, Keeping isles clear, Selling candles, Collecting donations for our charity partner



secretary@ballaratcarolsbycandlelight.org.au



www.ballaratcarolsbycandlelight.org.au

Ballarat Community Health



Our volunteers are an essential part of the services we provide and their work is hugely appreciated by staff and clients alike.

Volunteering with us can include:

Helping prepare program materials and information packs, assistance in health promotion programs, supporting staff with their program delivery, community events, leading/assisting with walking and exercise groups, mail delivery and errands, food rescue, research, gardening, and more!

We encourage people with a range of skills, knowledge, and experience to apply. We prefer that you commit to a minimum of 6 months as a volunteer. Minimum age for volunteering at BCH is 18 years. All volunteers will undergo a National Police Check and Working with Children Check as part of the recruitment process.



<https://www.bchc.org.au/volunteer-with-us/>

Ballarat Girl Guides ^ *



Ballarat Girl Guides are seeking dynamic women who are kind, enthusiastic, optimistic, trustworthy, thoughtful, creative, positive and have fun bringing different skills and experiences to enable our girls and young women to grow, explore, and believe in themselves. We offer many different volunteer opportunities:

- helping weekly with a local Guide Unit
- administrative tasks such as finances, PR or fundraising
- leading other volunteers.

Girl Guides Victoria is a Child Safe Child Friendly organisation and requires all volunteers to have a current Police Check, Working with Children Check and undertake child-safe training. Additional training/mentoring is provided as appropriate. Girls aged 15-18 also welcome to volunteer



1800 447 548



ballarat@guidesvic.org.au



www.guidesvic.org.au/volunteer/

Ballarat Hospice Care



Ballarat Hospice Care is a home-based palliative care service, caring for people living with a life limiting illness and supporting their family and carers in their place of residence. We are a team of specialist palliative care nurses, supportive care advisors, volunteers and compassionate administrative staff. We work closely with GPs, local hospitals, specialist doctors, nursing and community services, all to meet the varying and individual needs of the people we care for.

Volunteers 18 years and over have always been an integral part of our not-for-profit organisation. Volunteers provide an important connection to our community; they extend and enhance our palliative care service and contribute to a compassionate and caring community. Volunteers also assist us in sharing the message that palliative care is everyone's business



: 03 5333 1118



www.ballarathospicecare.org

Ballarat International Foto Biennale

**BALLARAT
INTERNATIONAL
FOTO
BIENNALE**

The Ballarat International Foto Biennale is a world-class event that draws renowned photographic artists and curious audiences from across Australia and the globe. Held every two years and running for 60 days in September and October, the Biennale transforms Ballarat into a hub of creativity and inspiration.

Why Volunteer with Us?

Volunteers are the heart of our festival. As a volunteer, you'll:

- Gain enriching experiences and valuable skills.
- Meet amazing people and grow your network.
- Help create the welcoming atmosphere our festival is renowned for.

Whether during the festival or throughout the year, your contribution is essential to our success. Come and be part of the fun!



03 5331 4833



info@ballaratfoto.org



www.ballaratfoto.org

Ballarat Mechanics' Institute



When you become a volunteer at the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute you enter into a world that reaches into the very history of Ballarat. Since 1859 the Ballarat Mechanics Institute has provided a wide range of services to the City of Ballarat and its citizens. The Institute has many historical resources, and as volunteer you will join a team of passionate volunteers who participate in a broad range of activities including archiving, maintenance and cataloguing of historical records and books to name just a few.

Following the extensive restoration of the building, volunteers assist with tours and event activities such as bar operations and welcoming guests, as well as fund-raising undertakings within the gorgeous Victorian era building



03 5331 3042



volunteers@ballaratmi.org.au



www.ballaratmi.org.au

Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre *



If you're here, you probably already know that being a volunteer is an AMAZING thing to do for our community. It's an opportunity to help others, give back, make a difference, and to leave a legacy. But, do you also know that volunteering can help you find paid work, it builds your confidence and skills, and it's a brilliant way to make new friends.

The Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre has a wonderful group of over 50 volunteers, and we're so grateful for their commitment. We're always ready to welcome new members to the team, and there are so many ways you can help. Do you like to garden, cook or tutor? Maybe you're an admin guru or you'd like to create a new social group? As a Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre volunteer, we work with you to ensure your volunteering experience is rewarding and meets your needs to find employment, meets your mutual obligations requirements, or just to connect with our community. Whatever your skill or need, give us a call, or come and meet us, we'd love to have you volunteer with us



03 5329 3273



reception@ballaratnc.org.au



www.ballaratnc.org.au

Ballarat North United Soccer Club



Ballarat North United Soccer Club (North United Panthers) is one of Ballarat's biggest and longest running clubs. Formed in 1974, the club is located at Russell Square in Brown Hill. BNUSC has numerous volunteer opportunities for people from a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences from fundraising to facilities and maintenance, line marking to canteen service, bar service to ball pumping. Opportunities range from a few minutes per week or once off jobs, to more ongoing roles. BNUSC also welcomes Jobseekers over 55 years to work within the club in place of job search obligations particularly for the roles of Canteen Manager, Sponsorship Coordinator and Facilities Manager.

Visit the BNUSC website to see the Volunteer Structure and roles available, and if you have skills or experience that you would like to offer that are not listed, please get in touch

 0409 943 862



secretary.bnusc@gmail.com



www.bnusc.org.au/volunteers

Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council *



Become a BRMC Volunteer – Make a Difference in Your Community!

Volunteers are the heart of Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council (BRMC), creating a welcoming, thriving hub for community connection and services. By sharing your time, talents, and skills, you can make a meaningful impact in the lives of others.

We have a wide range of volunteer opportunities, including:

Reception & Office Administration – Assist with front desk duties and admin tasks.

Senior Programs – Help with catering, setting up, arts and crafts and more.

Volunteer Tutors Needed – Make a Difference BRMC's Diversity Homework Club is looking for volunteer tutors to support multicultural students (ages 5-17) in their learning. If you are a retired teacher or someone who enjoys working with children and would like to share your knowledge and skills, this is a wonderful opportunity to make a positive impact. Help multicultural learners build confidence, enhance their skills, and develop a passion for learning.

Assist with our Multicultural Playgroup, Bus Tours and events.

If you're passionate about giving back and building an inclusive community, we'd love to hear from you!

 03 5329 3273



volunteer@brmc.org.au



www.brmc.org.au

Ballarat Repair Cafe



Ballarat Repair Café is a not-for-profit group run solely by volunteers, where expert fixers mend broken items brought in by members of the public, at no cost. It aims to strengthen community and create connections by sharing repair skills, while reducing waste through extending the life of household items.

Volunteer repairers are essential, but there are also other integral roles that do not involve fixing, including greeters, café attendants, repair assistants and photographers etc. It is an environment that encourages learning, so owners of the items are encouraged to observe and participate in the repair so they may learn.

Ballarat Repair Café is held on the last Saturday of each month, from February to November, from 1pm- 4pm, at Barkly Square in Barkly St Ballarat.



repaircafe@breaze.org.au



<https://www.facebook.com/ballaratrepaircafe>

Benefits of volunteering

1

Improve your mental health and wellbeing

Volunteering is linked to reduced stress, improved mood, and a greater sense of purpose. It can combat loneliness and depression by fostering connection and routine.

2

Skill development and experience

Volunteers often gain valuable skills—such as teamwork, communication, leadership, and problem-solving—that can enhance employability or support career transitions.

3

Stronger community and social connections

Volunteering helps build more cohesive communities by fostering trust, mutual support, and active civic participation. It brings people from diverse backgrounds together around common goals.

4

Enhanced Purpose and Fulfillment

Helping others and contributing to meaningful causes can give volunteers a sense of identity, belonging, and contribution beyond their personal or professional lives.

Ballarat RSL Sub-Branch Inc



The Ballarat RSL Sub-Branch has been serving the citizens of Ballarat and surrounds for over 100 years with welfare support, advocacy and pension applications. The sub-branch also has a home and hospital visiting program which has been in operation for over 50 years.

As well as supporting veterans and their families the Ballarat RSL Commemorative Days Committee also arranges the services for ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day in conjunction with the Ballarat City Council. The RSL is a volunteer run organization with minimal paid staff and has over 300 sub-branches in Victoria, most of which are traditional clubs with no commercial interests.

 03 5332 3300



admin@ballaratrsl.com.au



www.ballaratrsl.com.au

Big Brothers Big Sisters Ballarat – Mentors for Young People ^

Big Brothers Big Sisters Ballarat – Mentors for Young People

Become a Mentor – Change a Life!

Big Brothers Big Sisters is an international mentoring organisation offering volunteer opportunities in:

General Volunteer - fundraising, events, and community networking.

Community-Based Mentoring (1-2 hours weekly for 12+ months)

- Support young people (7-17) through friendship, fun, and connection.
- Low/no-cost activities.
- Free training, screening, and ongoing support.

Small Group Mentoring

- Three mentors guide up to 10 young people.
- Weekly activities focus on confidence, teamwork, and social skills.
- Includes recreational activities and community visits.

Get Involved!



 0437 247 911



Jodie.downey@bbbsau.org



bigbrotherbigsisters.org.au

Ballarat Tramway Museum



Australia's most authentic tram museum. We are all volunteers. We have a variety of jobs that keep our 100-year-old trams moving including Driver, conductor [we train you], Retail and visitor information, Workshop skills – mechanical, electrical, metal and woodwork.

Most volunteers work a couple of days a month.

 03 5334 1580



volunteer@btm.org.au



www.btm.org.au

BGT Styled for Success



Styled for Success is a free program offered by BGT (Ballarat Group Training), a not-for-profit organisation that provides professional attire to help support people in Ballarat and surrounding areas find an outfit to suit their needs, whether it be for a job or volunteer interview, starting a new job, an important appointment or event/function. Volunteer stylists assist clients in selecting an outfit to suit their needs



5333 8600



styledforsuccess@bgt.org.au



www.bgt.org.au/styledforsuccess

Ballarat Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation Inc (BWRAC) ^



Ballarat Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation Inc (BWRAC) is a not-for-profit charity, run by volunteers. It was established by Ballarat wildlife carers and veterinary professionals to respond to the growing need for specialised care of sick and injured wildlife in Ballarat and surrounding areas. BWRAC also support and promote wildlife conservation through education, advocacy and research.

We have a variety of volunteer roles available for interested people which include: pouch sewing, tree planting, writing, social media, fundraising, advocacy, newsletter, community education, graphic design, nest box building



admin@bwrac.org.au



www.bwrac.org.au

Child and Family Services Inc (Cafs)



Cafs provides a range of programs and services including out-of-home care for children, family violence, housing, men's support, financial counselling, problem gambling and community development. Cafs is a Child Safe Organisation, is Rainbow Tick accredited, is a White Ribbon accredited workplace, and is strongly committed to reconciliation. Cafs has several volunteering opportunities, and we'd love to hear from you.

Foster Care

Cafs' Foster Carers provide safe and loving homes for children aged 0-18 who can no longer live in their own home. Being a Foster carer includes caring for children in your home from one night emergency accommodation through to short and long-term placements.



cafs.org.au/fostering

Thread Together

If you are passionate about making a difference and enjoy retail and customer service, volunteering with Cafs' Thread Together clothing hub is for you. Thread Together volunteers help customers in a welcoming and dignified way, building trust and rapport in a safe, positive environment. The Ballarat clothing hub provides free clothing to people in need. Thread Together is a not-for-profit organisation driving social and environment change by redistributing excess clothing stock through clothing hubs. Those in need are referred to us and can then shop for free for a new outfit. For more information about volunteering with Thread Together.



<https://cafs.org.au/cafs-thread-together-is-leading-the-change-in-the-local-community/>

Ballarat Tool Library



Our organisation is run 100% by volunteers and we encourage all our members to be involved by volunteering. We're on the look out for people interested in sharing their time, knowledge and skills. Volunteers get great opportunities to meet and work with other members of the community and support from our volunteer coordinator. There's plenty of different roles available to match your skills and interest. We're always keen for people to assist with tool maintenance, cataloguing, loaning out tools during our opening hours, social media, events etc.

If you're interested in volunteering with us complete the contact form below including what skills you'd like to bring to the Tool Library and your availability. We'll be in touch with you as soon as possible.



volunteer@ballarattoolibrary.org



www.ballarattoolibrary.org

Cancer Council Victoria



Relay for Life is a community fundraising challenge for Cancer Council. Teams of friends, families and colleagues raise money in the lead up to the event, where team members take turns walking around a track to signify that cancer never rests, and neither do we.

Organised by passionate, local volunteers, each Relay event is an experience that will stay with you forever. We host activities designed to celebrate Survivors and recognise their Carers. We honour those we've lost during our candlelight ceremony, and we continue to raise funds to support people affected by cancer, fund research and improve cancer prevention.



1300 65 65 85



BallaratRFL@cancervic.org.au



www.fundraising.cancer.org.au/ballarat

City of Ballarat *



Volunteers are an integral part of our team, regularly giving their time and energy to help others in the community across a variety of Council services. Opportunities to volunteer at City of Ballarat include:

- Youth Services - offering an exciting and innovative range of programs for young people aged 13 -25 to share the vision, voices and creativity of young people in our community.
- Parent Place - helping families with young children to thrive, providing useful information and community links in an inclusive and safe space.
- Ballarat Ambassadors - providing information on Ballarat to a large number of visitors each year. Their love and knowledge of the city and its rich history adds to Ballarat's reputation as a friendly, welcoming and culturally vibrant city.

We are an equal opportunity organisation committed to providing a safe, inclusive environment that values child safety, diversity and flexibility. We welcome applications from all walks of life and celebrate the diversity and richness this brings to our community

 volunteer@ballarat.vic.gov.au



<https://www.ballarat.vic.gov.au/volunteer>

Delta Dogs



Delta is a national leader in the delivery of Animal Assisted Interventions, with over 1,200 volunteers delivering Animal Assisted Activities, Animal Assisted Therapy and Animal Assisted Education in hospitals, aged care facilities, youth services, mental health services, correctional facilities, and other health and community services right across Australia.

Delta's Therapy Dog Teams are an amazing group of volunteers and their beloved pet dogs, who willingly give their time and commitment to support our program delivery. Volunteers are recruited against a set of selection criteria and their dogs against strict temperament and skills assessment. They are trained and supported to deliver our programs in conjunction with our program partners.



Info@deltatherapydogs.org.au



[Website: www.deltasociety.com.au](http://www.deltasociety.com.au)

Elders Rights Advocacy



Elder Rights Australia supports older people, their families, and representatives in Victoria to address issues related to aged care services. Our advocates provide free independent and confidential information and advocacy. At Elder Rights Australia we also deliver the Aged Care Volunteer Visitors Scheme (ACVVS), a social-based program for people who could benefit from having a dedicated volunteer visitor.

We connect older people with caring volunteers for friendship and companionship. Visits are relaxed and social, focusing on conversations, sharing a hobby or interest, and having fun together.

If you enjoy spending time with older people and have 1 or 2 hours a week to volunteer, we'd love to hear from you.

Together we can reduce loneliness and social isolation for older people across the region



1800 022 887



acvvs@era.asn.au



<https://elderrights.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/>

Eureka Mums



Every small job that is done saves another item ending up in landfill and helps another family out. Eureka Mums operates on the generosity and talent of our volunteers and all contributions of time are valuable. We need help with all sorts of tasks big and small including:

- Repairing and safety checking prams, cots, highchairs, car restraints etc
 - Cleaning and packing donations of bottles, nappies, and toys
 - Accepting and sorting donations as they come in
 - Meeting with social workers to help them choose the best items for their families
 - Sorting donations and making up linen and clothing bags
 - Pack clothing bundles in [your own home](#)
- If you are keen to get involved, please contact us:



1300 789 509



www.eurekamums.org

Fiona Elsey Cancer Research Institute



The Fiona Elsey Cancer Research Institute is proudly a Ballarat organisation making an international contribution to cancer research. As a community funded organisation, the Institute relies on the community's support to maintain and build our research program. The Institute has many community fundraising events and activities that need volunteer support to make possible. Can you support cancer research? We have a variety of roles available. Including: Collecting donations, Selling raffle tickets in shopping centres, Letterbox drop flyers, Packing of volunteer packs, Assisting at the annual Ballarat Cycle Classic- third Sunday February each year, Cheer on riders as a course marshal, onsite Registrations, as a course marshal



03 5331 3101



admin@fecri.org.au



www.fecri.org.au

Flashdrive



Flashdrive is a non-profit community enterprise that empowers individuals to reconnect socially through ICT (Information and Communications Technology) and E-waste management and learning environment.

We provide a welcoming environment that values individuals, to improve social skills, self-esteem and confidence to enhance the social, physical and mental health and wellbeing of the community. We also provide ICT training and support, recycle and rebuild ICT equipment and sell refurbished ICT equipment. We are a NDIS-registered provider. Volunteers assist with admin, equipment refurbishing and recycling. New volunteers are welcome.

☎ 03 5339 9537

✉ manager@flashdrive.org.au

🌐 <https://elderrights.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/>

Food is Free



Food Is Free Inc is a community-led not-for-profit benefitting all Ballarat citizens, focusing especially on those experiencing disadvantage, with the purpose of assisting food security education and community inclusion.

Food Is Free Laneway (now part of Food Is Free Green Space) solves food waste issues whilst assisting those food insecure. Visitors access free, fresh food (fruit/veg/herbs only), seeds and seedlings donated from citizens' gardens and from our own garden beds at Food Is Free Green Space (est. 2018). Food Is Free Green Space is a purpose-built, 40+ garden bed classroom, for all community members to enjoy, particularly at-risk/marginalised community members. We specialise in accessible, skills and empowerment-based building workshops. Anyone is welcome to pick food from this space at any time. We also host monthly markets here, first Sunday of the month 11am – noon

✉ volunteer@foodisfree.com.au

🌐 www.foodisfree.com

Grampians Community Health ^



Volunteers with Grampians Community Health help our community by working with people in need of support. We welcome people of all ages, and our times are flexible to suit your commitments.

Volunteers fulfil diverse roles:

- Visiting people from diverse backgrounds, assist people by driving to non-urgent medical appointments, hospitals for operations and other medical services.
- Helping people to get to social inclusion activities across regional Victoria and to metropolitan Melbourne

- Calling in on families with a member with a mental health issue and help them to engage in our communities.

Volunteers help provide a service for people who may be elderly, frail aged, people with a disability or those no longer able to drive themselves.

 03 5358 7400



gch@gch.org.au



www.grampianscommunityhealth.org.au/volunteers

Grampians Health Ballarat * ^



Grampians Health Ballarat has a strong and vibrant volunteer workforce, providing support and assistance to patients, clients, residents and their families, right across the organisation. To volunteer with Grampians Health no previous experience in a healthcare setting is required. We offer a range of flexible volunteering opportunities for 18+ age with over 28 active programs across the following areas:

- Base Hospital
- Queen Elizabeth Centre
- Residential Aged Care Facilities
- Community programs



0429 268 361/
03 5320 6931



volunteers@bhs.org.au



www.grampianscommunityhealth.org.au/volunteers

Haddon CLC ^



The Haddon CLC is a locally managed, not-for-profit community centre operating under the Neighbourhood Houses Victoria program.

We are a small, safe, semi-rural Neighbourhood House that runs groups and activities that work to bring our community together.

We have programs across Health and Wellbeing, Art and Craft, Digital Literacy, Gardening and Horticulture, and Lifestyle and Personal Development.

We welcome volunteers with focused and fulfilling work that empowers people to feel like they are making a difference.



03 5342 7050



manager@haddonlearning.org.au



www.haddonlearning.org.au

Heart Foundation



Since 1995, Heart Foundation Walking has supported thousands of people in Australia to walk more for a healthy mind, body and heart.

We support volunteer Walk Organisers set up and lead walking groups, and provide training, resources and ongoing support. The Walk Organiser role is a volunteer opportunity that allows you to reap the health benefits of regular physical activity and witness the positive impact you have on the health wellbeing of your community!

If you'd like to start a local group, we'll help you every step of the way.



13 11 12



walking@heartfoundation.org.au



<https://walking.heartfoundation.org.au>

Hepburn Shire Council



Hepburn Shire Council has a range of opportunities for people interested in becoming a volunteer with the community. These include Activity Groups & Visitor Information Centres. Visitor Information Centres are located in Daylesford, Creswick, Clunes and Trentham. Volunteers assist visitors and locals with what to see and do in the region. Council provides a number of Activity Groups for both older people and people with dementia in Creswick and Daylesford. Volunteers are an integral part of the group – assisting staff to provide social opportunities and group activities for clients.

Council provides extensive training to all volunteers. Volunteers are selected through an application process and undertake checks as required.



03 5348 2306



shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au



www.hepburn.vic.gov.au/work-for-council/volunteers

John Curtin Aged Care



We provide welcoming and friendly residential care which supports independence and personal choices. We are situated in Creswick.

Are you interested in volunteering and meeting interesting people? We are a 65 bed not for profit organization with a strong community involvement. John Curtin Aged Care provides a vibrant 7 days a week lifestyle and we are always looking for volunteers. Ways in which you can be involved:

- Art and Craft,
- Quizzes
- Gardening
- Bingo
- Knitting
- Morning Walks
- Nail Station
- Café Work
- Reading
- Hand Waxing
- 1 to 1 Visiting



03 5345 9999



info@jcac.org.au



www.jcac.org.au

Knitted Knockers Ballarat



A NATIONWIDE volunteer organisation which provides knitted prosthesis for breast cancer survivors now has a branch in Ballarat. Knitted Knockers are special handmade breast prostheses for women who have had breast cancer and undergone mastectomy or lumpectomy. Each set of prosthesis is provided free of charge minus shipping costs and hand knitted by volunteers with cotton from Bendigo Woollen Mills.

You can receive a set of prosthesis or become a volunteer knitter by contacting Karen Daniell

 0428 563 394

 knittedknockersaustballarat@gmail.com

L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program



A driver's licence can mean the difference between employment and unemployment but not everyone has someone to supervise the 120 hours of driving practice needed to sit the driver licence test. Help change a young person's life. Become a volunteer supervising driver for the Ballarat L2P program. Mentors are matched one on one with a young person who needs support to learn to drive and we ask for a commitment of two hours per week in an L2P car. All training provided as is a car and comprehensive insurance. Volunteer mentors must hold valid full Victorian driver's license, have or be able to apply for working with children check and national police check.

 0422 809 587

 l2p@ballaratfoundation.org.au



www.ballaratfoundation.org

Learning For Employment



Volunteer Tutors help new migrants and refugees to learn English. As a Volunteer Tutor you can completely change a new migrant or refugee's experience, helping them to become more independent and comfortable with the Australian way of life. As a Volunteer Tutor, you'll meet with your student for at least an hour a week. These regular meetings are informal, friendly and at a pace you're both comfortable with. You don't need teaching experience to be a Volunteer Tutor because we'll provide free training that gives you all the skills you need. We provide flexible training that you can complete at your own pace, giving you all the skills you need

 03 5339 3180

 contact@learningforemployment.org.au



<https://learningforemployment.org.au/volunteer-with-us/>

Lifeline



Lifeline Ballarat supports the national Lifeline network. Our volunteers provide confidential telephone crisis support and referral services to people in crisis. We offer:

- A journey of self-discovery and development
- A nationally accredited training course
- The opportunity to participate in a unique form of community service
- Ongoing support, mentoring and supervision within a community of friendly, committed people.



9051 7471



lifeline.ballarat@vt.uniting.org

Little Dreamers



Little Dreamers is Australia's leading support organisation for Young Carers, working with young people under the age of 25 in families affected by disability, illness or addiction.

By volunteering at Little Dreamers, you'll get the chance to change the lives of some incredible young people who are often forgotten and unsupported due to no fault of their own. We believe in a world where every Young Carer is supported by someone or something.

We have plenty of volunteer opportunities to suit every personality and schedule. Whether you're interested in becoming a mentor, helping with office/admin work, or volunteering at one of our fun-filled school holiday programs – we've got the role for you



1800 717 515



olivia@littledreamersonline.com



www.littledreamers.org.au

Mercy Works



The broad vision of the Mercy Connect project is that families from refugee and /or humanitarian backgrounds are supported through improving their children's capacity to negotiate mainstream schooling (government and non-government) with volunteer mentor assistance and integrate into the wider Australian community. Specific Responsibilities:

- Mentoring students, supporting their learning
- Support to nurture student's well-being and self esteem
- Liaising with classroom teachers and the relevant in-school coordinator
- Providing brief monthly reports
- Attending training sessions/meetings (2-3 times a year)



0425 246 640



Katherine.cooney@mercyworks.org.au



www.mercyworks.org.au

Mercy Place Ballarat



Mercy Place- Ballarat, is a residential aged care facility. The facility provides support for 112 residents who live in small household communities.

Volunteers have an integral role in supporting the residents and lifestyle team in various roles such as providing social interaction, assisting with lifestyle activities, gardening, and helping with facility events and bus outings. These significant contributions from the volunteers support our residents to actively participate in life and maintain independence and social connections.

If you would like make a positive difference to an older person in your community by joining the volunteer team, Mercy Place-Ballarat would welcome you to share time, energy and unique skills

 03 5327 1888

 volunteering@mercy.com.au



www.mercyhealth.com.au

Pinarc Disability Support



Pinarc Disability Support is a community not-for-profit organisation providing services to around 1,000 children and adults with disability, their families, and carers across the Grampians and Melton regions. We provide direct support through therapy services, education support, social work, case management, adult day programs, recreation, advocacy, support groups, respite, community education and early childhood programs.

Volunteers assist our customers to participate in programs that include sport, art, cooking, music, wood working, gardening, independent living skills, social groups, and more. Volunteers bring their own unique skills and passions to the organisation and are encouraged to share any particular skill they may have.

 03 5329 1300

 volunteering@pinarc.org.au



www.pinarc.org.au

Royal South Street Society Ballarat Eisteddfod ^



The Royal South Street Society Ballarat Eisteddfod stands as Australia's premier, oldest running Eisteddfod, boasting an illustrious heritage of delivering outstanding performance opportunities for well over a century, commencing in 1891. Our enduring commitment to fostering and showcasing talent confirms the Royal South Street Society as integral to the cultural fabric of our region and the Australian artistic landscape. The Royal South Street Society relies on the dedication of volunteers who spend countless hours covering various roles including ushering, backstage, registration, ticket sales and administration.

If you love the excitement of the theatre and performing arts, and are passionate about supporting young creative talent, or if you are simply interested in learning new skills and meeting new people... contact the Volunteer Coordinator of the Royal South Street Society for further information. Please email us at volunteer@royalsouthstreet.com.au or phone 5332 1054 for more information.



03 5332 1054



info@royalsouthstreet.com.au



www.royalsouthstreet.com.au

Royal Victorian Association of Honorary Justices (RVAHJ) Ballarat



Honorary Justices are volunteers appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Attorney General. They are expected to adhere to the highest standard of personal, social and community standards of integrity and professionalism. RVAHJ is the peak body for Honorary Justices in Victoria.

The RVAHJ, Ballarat Branch is proud to offer their document signing services to the greater Ballarat area at the following locations:

- Police Station, Dana Street Ballarat. Monday- Friday 11am -6pm
- Stockland, Wendouree. Tuesday 10am-2pm
- Barkly Square, Ballarat. Thursday 12noon-1.30pm



justice.vic.gov.au

Rotary Clubs in Ballarat



The six Rotary clubs in Ballarat offer a vast array of projects to get involved with locally, nationally, and globally.

Clubs support local youth assisting with career paths in agriculture through their 'Defying the Drift' program, youth leadership via the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award), teenagers via the RYPEN (Rotary Youth program of Enrichment), supporting students to spend a year studying overseas through RYE (Rotary Youth Exchange) and 'Eat Up' providing sandwiches to schools for local children in need (40,000 sandwiches delivered so far).

Providing dental clinics to the Pacific Islands, helping flood or fire victims in Australia, setting up schools and medical centres in many overseas locations, mental health awareness programs, preventing family violence programs, sending End Trachoma toiletry kits to indigenous Australian communities and training firefighters in Portugal, are just some of the innovative projects the volunteers from Ballarat Rotary clubs are delivering, as well as raising funds for many local groups in need through events such as Springfest and the Ballarat Swap Meet.

The Rotary Clubs in Ballarat each meet at various times and days throughout the week. There is something to suit anyone interested in giving back to their community including becoming a 'Friend of Rotary' – volunteers who get involved assisting their community without becoming a full Rotary member. Contact the individual clubs through their Facebook page or website



www.rotary9780.org

Red Cross *^



Red Cross is there for people in need. For over a century, through everyday acts of humanity, Red Cross volunteers have helped people in crisis, strengthened communities and changed lives for the better.

We invite you to join more than 20,000 other Red Cross volunteers in Australia who provide much needed support to those who need it most.

Our volunteer network is made up of a diverse range of people of varying ages and backgrounds, speak many languages, have different skills and a vast array of experiences.

Just as our volunteers are diverse, so too are the range of volunteering activities we offer. Our volunteers are active across the Ballarat Region supporting the Community, such as the Red Cross Retail Shop, Patient Transport Service, Emergency Services, Telecross and Telechat Programs, as well as our Trauma Teddy Knitting Circle. You can also join our Ballarat Member branch to participate in community activities.



03 9345 1862



vicvolunteer@redcross.org.au



www.redcross.org.au/volunteer

Ryder Cheshire Foundation



Ryder-Cheshire Australia is an organisation that is making a real difference to the lives of people who are sick, have a disability, or who are destitute. The organisation is run entirely by volunteers.

Ways to volunteer:

- Volunteer at the homes in India and/or Timor-Leste
- Volunteer at the homes in Ivanhoe and/or Mt Gambier
- Volunteer in Ballarat to assist the homes by becoming a member or assisting in fundraising events and activities for raising awareness

Volunteers must be 18+ of age.



0411874756



dimcgrath@me.com



www.ryder-cheshire.org

Salvation Army * ^



The Salvation Army Ballarat are always looking for individuals to bring fresh energy and ideas to a range of volunteer roles. Whatever your skillset, availability or areas of interest, you may surprise yourself with the different ways you can make a difference.

Volunteering is an invitation to demonstrate care for others in our local communities; it is the everyday embodiment of love in action. Those who give up their time so freely are some of the greatest contributors and advocates of Salvation Army mission and vision.

It takes an army of volunteers to provide and enable practical care for Australians every year. Volunteers bring life to our values of integrity, compassion, respect, diversity and collaboration



5337 0600



karen.thomas@salvationarmy.org.au



<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/>

Sovereign Hill Museums Association * ^



Sovereign Hill is living history. We proudly and boldly tell the many stories of the goldrush. Out past unlocks our future as one of the nation's most significant and enduring tourist venues.

We would love you to become part of us to share in our storytelling adventures where the real treasures are our people. Step into another world to play many roles at our museum. Wear a costume and attitude that takes you to the 1850s where you shape the stories that visitors take home locally, interstate or internationally.

Be a big part of bringing to life the streets, the sights, the sounds and the colours of the goldrush at Sovereign Hill including behind the scenes jobs at our living museum, or with our new deep learning centres, The Australian Centre for Gold Rush Collections and the Australian Centre for Rare Arts & Forgotten Trades. We welcome people of all ages, all backgrounds, all abilities



03 5337 1156



volunteering@sovereignhill.com.au

Steptoe's Op Shop - Ballan



A community-based op shop being managed by the Ballan Community House, where all profit goes straight back into the community! Roles include customer service and donation sorting. Open to the public Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm and Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm. Sorting day Monday 10.00am to 3.30pm. Located at 111 Inglis St, Ballan 3342



(03) 5368 1934



info@bchvic.org.au



www.ballancommunityhouse.com.au

Special Olympics Ballarat

If you love sport and enjoy helping others to engage in sport, then Special Olympics Ballarat is the place for you!

Special Olympics Ballarat is a sporting community for local children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Through sports participation Special Olympics Ballarat provide their athletes with the opportunity to develop fitness, experience success and create life-long friendships. Special Olympics Ballarat is constantly on the lookout for people to volunteer as coaches, officials, fundraisers, administrators and committee members. Volunteering with the Special Olympics is a truly rewarding experience that brings great joy and satisfaction to all involved



 0408 520 813

 ballarat.secretary@specialolympics.com.au

 ballarat.secretary@specialolympics.com.au

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. The Society aspires to be recognised as a caring charity offering “a hand up” to people in need. In Australia we have 60,000 members and volunteers, who work hard to assist people in need and combat social injustice.



In Victoria we have over 100 Vinnies Shops, and without our wonderful volunteers these shops wouldn't be able to run. In the Ballarat region alone, we have shops located in Wendouree, Sebastopol and Alfredton. If you would like to become a volunteer please visit our website, or feel free to give our Shops a call and speak to the Shop Manager.

 5339 4817

 volunteer@sudp-vic.org.au

 www.vinnies.org.au/page/Get_Involved/Become_a_volunteer/VIC/

St John of God Ballarat Hospital ^

St John of God Ballarat Hospital was first established in Bailey's Mansion in 1915 as a division of St John of God Health Care, an Australia wide Catholic not-for-profit health care provider. In addition to Emergency Medicine, Oncology/Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedics, Obstetrics, Cardiology and Home Nursing, the Hospital also has a strong social outreach program. Volunteers play a vital role in the provision of services and compassionate care complementing the clinical care provided by the medical staff.



 03 5320 2111

 info.ballarat@sjog.org.au

 www.sjog.org.au/ballarat

The Smith Family ^



Discover the joy of making an impact on young lives by becoming a volunteer tutor at The Smith Family Learning Club!

Learning Clubs are the heartbeat of academic empowerment, creating a vibrant space where students receive personalised assistance and engage in enriching activities after school. As a dedicated volunteer, you'll embody qualities like excellent interpersonal skills, a friendly demeanour, and a positive attitude. Your role is pivotal – guiding students through activities, fostering positive relationships, and ensuring a supportive atmosphere where they can thrive academically and socially.

No need to be an educational guru from the start – we provide support and training. All you need is a commitment of 1 ½ hours per week, for a minimum of two school terms.



0408 602 298



Holly.Carter@thesmithfamily.com.au



www.thesmithfamily.com.au/get-involved/volunteer

Traveller's Aid * ^



Travellers Aid is about access and inclusion. We deliver a range of services to support travel-related accessibility for people with disability or mobility impairment and it is our volunteers that make it possible. We operate from four service hubs at Southern Cross and Flinders Street Stations in Melbourne and Seymour and Ballarat Stations in regional Victoria.

Travellers Aids workforce consist of 75% dedicated volunteers and 25% committed staff who are motivated by creating real outcomes for the people we serve.

Our Ballarat service hub will offer a friendly helping hand to people with disability, older Patrons or those with ill health or injury. As a volunteer you will support people with a mobility impairment to connect to their train from the station car park, taxi drop off or bus zone.



0475 231 526



ballarat@travellersaid.org.au



www.travellersaid.org.au

Uniting Ballarat (Uniting Victoria and Tasmania)*



By volunteering with Uniting Ballarat, you will become an important part of our team, helping to create positive change for people and communities. Working to inspire people, enliven communities and confront injustice brings its own rewards. We want you to thrive your role at Uniting. In joining us, you'll have access to a range of initiatives, opportunities, training, and support. There are lots of different ways you can get involved across Victoria and Tasmania. In joining Uniting, you will be warmly welcomed into a safe, inclusive, and non-discriminatory workplace. Our local programs include:

- Breezeway Meals – provides a nourishing meal for people in crisis, our community meals programs offer a safe place and a friendly face – a chance to make connections people can count on.
- Emergency Relief – supports people experiencing financial hardship in a safe, welcoming environment where people are heard and respected.
- Op Shops – Our op shops raise funds for vital programs and services in local communities.
- Lifeline – Provides 24-hour crisis support through our Melbourne and Ballarat Lifeline services. Volunteers are required to undertake accredited training.
- Social Support – supports people to get back to the things they love. Volunteers support older people and adults with a disability to stay active and connected to their community.



03 9051 6844



volunteers@unitingvictas.org.au



<https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/volunteer/>

Uniting AgeWell – Social Support * ^



Uniting AgeWell recognises that most people want to continue living independently at home. We also understand that personal connections are an important part of life. Our Social Connections Program supports people aged over 65 to get back to the things they love and reconnect with their community through Volunteer Engagement. Our Social Connection Program is led by Volunteers, who provide meaningful support through a range of activities including; Local group outings, Special interest groups, One on one visits, Phone-based connections, Community Transport

Whether it's enjoying a conversation over a cup of coffee at someone's home, learning a new hobby together or getting out and about in the community to do something fun, we have an opportunity for everyone. Our volunteers have such a positive impact on the people they connect with and their local communities. Uniting AgeWell provides volunteers with training and induction, supervision and ongoing opportunities for learning and development



13 93 75



volunteers@unitingagewell.org



www.unitingagewell.org/get-involved/volunteering



Uniting AgeWell – Community Transport



Our Community Transport Program supports older people to remain healthy, active and connected to their community by assisting them to get to appointments and social activities:

Volunteer drivers are needed to support our program. All you need is a valid Australian driver's licence. Be a part of a supportive team with an opportunity to give back to your community.

Training and car provided.



13 93 75



volunteers@unitingagewell.org



www.unitingagewell.org/get-involved/volunteering

Very Special Kids



We are a children's charity that helps more than 900 families across Victoria who have a child with a life-threatening condition. Sadly, many of the children we care for will not reach adulthood.

Free-of-charge family support services include counselling, advocacy, sibling support, bereavement support, and linking families with trained family volunteers. Each family is supported in unique and varying ways according to their personal needs. Every family service volunteer completes a 27-hour training program to equip them with the skills and knowledge needed to support families. Volunteers receive ongoing support and supervision.



0457 727 505



ballarat@vsk.org.au



www.vsk.org.au

Victorian State Emergency Service (SES)



We rely on our volunteers to provide on-the-ground support in emergencies due to natural disasters such as flood, storm, tsunami and earthquake. Volunteers also support other Emergency Service Organisations such as the Country Fire Authority during major bushfires and some units are accredited to perform road rescue.

Hands -on operational roles include:

- General rescue
- Road rescue
- Rescue boat operations
- Land search
- Urban search and rescue
- Traffic management
- Rope rescue
- Community education

Non-operational support roles

Rescue-focused roles are not for everyone. There are important non-operational support roles that provide valued assistance to the unit and also help you to build professional skills. Non- operational support roles available to our volunteers may include:

- Administration
- Fundraising
- Media and public relations
- Community education



03 9256 9000



www.ses.vic.gov.au/join-us

Vision Australia



Each month thousands of volunteers contribute their time and skills working in a range of capacities across our organisation. Their inspiring generosity helps Vision Australia to manage costs and provide a broader range of services to tens of thousands of people who are blind or low vision

Volunteers help with:

- Seeing eye dogs/training
- Events
- Recreation and client support
- Administration and IT
- Community work
- Information services

 1300 84 74 66

 volunteer@visionaustralia.org

Wendouree Neighbourhood House



We always welcome volunteers to our Centre. Without their help the Centre could not run. The main areas where volunteers are involved are:

- Gardening/Lawn Mowing
- Newsletter/Activity Flyer Delivery
- Kitchen Program
- Literacy & Numeracy Volunteers

 03 5303 0507



www.wnc.org.au/volunteering

Women and Mentoring



Women and Mentoring (WAM) offers a unique, early intervention support to women (including cisgender and transgender women) and non-binary people who have legal system involvement, who may have been charged with a criminal offence or are at risk of offending. With the support of a trained volunteer mentor WAM empowers women to create positive change in their lives.

Mentoring matches usually catch up weekly for a couple of hours per meeting. Matches can go from six months up to two years depending on the woman's individual support needs, with the average match lasting approximately twelve months. Mentors support women in a variety of ways including navigating local services, attending court, fostering life skills, going for a walk and a coffee, and providing practical assistance to improve life outcomes.

WAM requires volunteers to commit for a minimum of twelve months. Volunteers are provided with full training, ongoing support and connections with like-minded people.

 0403 584 015



ballarat@womenandmentoring.org.au



www.womenandmentoring.org.au

Women's Shed Ballarat



The Women's Shed Ballarat was created to support women and gender diverse people to gain valuable skills and empower them to become more independent.

Women's Shed Ballarat are looking for a diverse range of volunteers with a variety of skills including but not limited to administration, social media leader / creators / moderators, leadership fundraising, demonstrating how to use tools, workshops to build items, events and much more.



volunteerswsb@gmail.com



www.facebook.com/groups/womensshedballarat

YMCA



Volunteers at the YMCA share their time, skills and passion, and make a real difference to our work creating healthier, happier and more connected communities. Volunteering with the YMCA is an opportunity for personal and professional growth through assisting with the delivery of programs and services. Through volunteering, you'll also be making a valuable contribution to your community.

YMCA Ballarat is an Australian Childhood Foundation accredited child safe organisation, and we are committed to safeguarding children and young people in our care. We require all people applying to undergo a screening process prior to appointment. We offer opportunities across Ballarat and rural Victoria in all our program areas. Including Children's Programs; Out of School Hours Care; Youth Programs and more. Interested in volunteering with the YMCA? Contact the Volunteer Coordinator.



03 4311 1500



volunteers@yballarat.org.au



yballarat.org.au

Young Parents Campus



Getting a qualification like a VCAL Certificate can mean our Young Parents gain valuable employability skills and experiences to take into the workplace or further study. Help support our Young Parents by volunteering to assist in the care and developmental play of their babies/toddlers.

You will need to have a current working with children check, good mobility and a keen interest in supporting children's wellbeing. Volunteers will work under the guidance of our staff in our Creche area while our Young Parents are studying. It would be ideal if you could commit approximately 2-3 hours per week, Tuesday to Friday 10.00am-1.00pm.



0439 358 152



hillas.megan@education.vic.gov.au



www.yuileyoungparentscampus.com



This booklet was made possible with funding from the Victorian Government
and support from Volunteering Victoria

