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1 James Street, Mount Gambier

November 11, 2021 Issue 1

# **VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to our first Volunteer Newsletter which will be emailed to you at the beginning of every month. If you would like to contribute something, please let me know. This could be general information, articles or community events.

Sandi and I have been busy making plans for the future so please take the opportunity of putting your feet up, having a cuppa and reading through the newsletter and mark any relevant calendar entries. We look forward to catching up with you in the near future.

#### **Our Clients**

Currently we have 6 clients, 1 of whom is a carer. We have matched 8 volunteers with these clients and the feedback from the clients, volunteers and Palliative Care has been very positive.

Some of the activities our volunteers have been asked to do:

- Taking to social and medical appointments; Playing board games and cards
- Doing some light housework; Going for a drive
- Sitting and chatting; Having a meal out
- Shopping

These may seem small requests, but they make a significant difference in our clients lives. You can never underestimate the importance of spending time with someone and making a connection.

# **Our Latest Get Together**

We had 9 volunteers at our last get together and Dave Sigley who has offered to provide Pastoral Care Support. He spoke about his experiences conducting funerals and supporting people who are grieving. Please contact me if you would like his phone number.

# **Funding**

We have been fortunate to receive some more funding that will enable us to keep running until end June 2022. Sandi is now working on another 2 funding applications to enable extension of the program until December 2023.



## **Better Impact**

The Better Impact program, is our client/volunteer data base. We will be in touch with you shortly to come in to the office and put the app on your phone so that you can log your volunteer hours. Better Impact is a very comprehensive program that will enable us to run reports, keep track of hours, send emails and text messages etc.



## **Boandik Update**

Sandi and I met with Claire Thompson and Gillian McGinty from Boandik and we are waiting to hear back from them.

#### **Comfort Crosses and Birds**



lan Bond from the Men's Shed has kindly made a batch of crosses and birds and donated these to us.



#### **Our FaceBook and Our Website**

Sandi has set up a facebook page, called In Home Hospice Care Mount Gambier. t would be appreciated if you would share and like the articles that are posted so we can connect with more people and make them aware of our service and what we have to offer.

Our website is also another method of advertising to our community. It gives a brief outline of our service and what we offer and the role of our volunteers. Anyone wanting to volunteer is able to fill in an application form and our brochure can downloaded.

Our website address is: https://www.inhomehospicecare.org.au/

## **Christmas Get Together**



be so grateful of any assistance.

Our next get together will be Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December or Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 1.00pm to 3.00pm at 1 James Street. Please advise which date you would prefer and the most popular will be when it is held. Afternoon tea will be provided and will be a great opportunity to get together with our staff and board. I will follow up with an email for your RSVP.

## **Christmas Holidays**

If you are going away during the Christmas period or the school holidays could you please advise us as soon as possible so we can make arrangements to continue client support during this period.

## **Office Cleaning**

If you like to clean and have a few spare minutes please consider volunteering to assist with cleaning our office. Tasks involved would be to wash the front window, some light dusting, stick vacuum clean, wash the floor, empty the bins, wipe out the fridge and anything else you may notice. This is not an arduous task (perhaps once per month), and a roster could be drawn up if there are enough volunteers or you could do it in pairs to share the load and time involved and perhaps have a coffee after. All equipment and cleaning products are supplied. This would be an enormous help to Sandi and myself and we would