



## VOLUNTEER NEWLSETTER



### 2018 AUTUMN EDITION



#### ***ANOTHER RECORD YEAR. A TERRIFIC TEAM EFFORT!!***

By now most of our volunteers are aware of the massive stats we accrued by years end. 4,900+ Hampers to 2,000+ families- over 12,500 people and over 141 tonnes of tucker. WELL DONE everyone  
The stats speak for themselves and our data keeping continues to offer surprises. For example, last year we only did another extra 2 Family Hampers than in 2016 but 600 extra single person hampers. Our stats reveal startling trends of need from within our community.  
Most importantly, may I extend out thanks to those who worked extra shifts in January to allow some of our regulars to rest up and now with autumn finally here, some are again off on holidays and even overseas. Thank you all and enjoy your well-earned vacations.

#### ***NEW VOLUNTEERS***

To meet this drifting of availability I have deployed a number of new volunteers through the summer. We say a big hello and welcome aboard to Judi, Casey, Michelle, Sandra, Barbara and Jeremiah. Welcome also to new Board Member Tonia Wilcox. It's great the way our regulars welcome a new Volunteer. Also through the summer I have initiated training sessions for new TAFE, Callaghan's and Wannon Water volunteers who will join us when rostered by their respective firms.  
The 2018 Volunteer Handbook has been prepared and we are asking especially our experienced and long-time volunteers to download the version attached to this newsletter so that you too can re-fresh and re-visit the information put together for all our benefits. Please read your volunteer handbook

#### ***CORPORATE VOLUNTEER NEWS***

I am happy to announce we now have 7 corporate volunteer groups. We welcome back into the fold the staff from Peoples Choice Credit Union who along with Ceebeks, Callaghan's, Silvan Ridge, Wannon Water, Roma Britnell's staff and TAFE staff to make up our 7 corporates. This additional weekly support is terrific and helps us cope better with the high demand and our retiree holidays.  
In addition we also have a fortnightly hourly visit from Southern Way clients with Anna or Mark who tend to some of our tasks that require bagging and boxing etc. Welcome to all of you!!

#### ***VOLUNTEER HELP WITH WEEKLY CLEANING.***

I am trying to gain some volunteer support of a Friday from 12-1.00pm to assist me with the weekly mopping and cleaning. It takes 2 hours to sweep, vacuum and mop solo but time is halved with help. I am aiming to have a roster giving willing volunteers one Friday a month to pop-in and assist me with this necessary task. If you would like to be rostered and have the time, please let me know.

#### ***WAREHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS***

We are indebted to Cliff heath (Handy Andy) who recently undertook some improvements around the warehouse. We have new entry steps to our fridges and a back cover on our drink shelf stopping the inevitable food falling behind. A big, big thanks to Cliff for this extra help.

- **TROLLEY PAINTING** Leon Carey has a couple of trolleys at Warrnambool College for painting. We hope to upgrade their look too in coming weeks...this will take some time though

- OTHER IMPROVEMENTS planned once funding arrives is to put stainless steel tops on our benches, a new central table top and some extra floor coverings.

#### **EASTER CLOSURE**

***Please note we will be closed over the Easter break on both Good Friday and Easter Monday.***

#### **SOME HELPFUL REMINDERS.**

- Always wear adequate footwear when on duty- no open shoes, thongs, or sandals please- for your own safety.
- ALL gifted food is to be recorded on the sign-in table in the folder provided. You must always clear with me please?
- Newer volunteers need lots of support from experienced volunteers in hamper packing and the many processes we put into place...never be frightened to seek advice or ask for guidance...we are lucky to have many experienced volunteers. I like to think we work as a team.
- It's great also to see the levels of Volunteer initiative in undertaking regular daily cleaning tasks- this too is greatly appreciated. You are a great mob to work alongside!!

***I continue to be amazed at how well we are all coping and working well together to meet the "new normal" We are now producing over 100 Hampers a week and the help from you all is the backbone of what we are trying to achieve together. Thanks for your continued support, your cheery smiles and constant weekly assistance....I feel very privileged to work alongside you.***

***Cheers***

***Dedy Friebe      Executive Officer***