



### Thank you to our Committee of Management and welcome to our newest members

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to our serving committee and also our newest members.

It can be a constant challenge to find members to serve on a not for profit committee but in the last few months our numbers have grown, so thank you to our existing members and also our newest. This diverse group enables the organisation to benefit from their wealth of experience, knowledge and know how that can only strengthen Community Accessibility.

The Executive are

- Jason Osmand – Chairperson
- Marg Darmody – Treasurer
- Peter Bennett – Secretary

General Member

- Joyce Ransley

Our newest members are:

- Jacqui Thomson – Volunteer driver
- David Allen – Volunteer driver and general jack of all trades
- Graeme Simpson – local accountant with time to spare

I would also like to farewell one of our committee members, Shannon Adams, who has served for a number of years and most recently as Chairperson. His support over the years has been greatly appreciated and we wish him and his family well.

But don't let this increase in numbers stop you from joining the Committee. The more the merrier and it would be wonderful if we could have a greater representation from our satellite offices and communities. With the improvement in technology, members can now phone or skype in to meetings, so distance need not be a barrier.

**So contact me if you would like to know more.**

Regards  
Helen Hunter  
Acting General Manager

### VALE - COLIN WILSON

**14 JANUARY 1945 – 3 MAY 2015.**  
**Volunteer driver with CA Inc**  
**since 2007 and for 9 years prior with**  
**Upper Hume Community Transport**

Colin Wilson will be sadly missed by not only Community Accessibility & the Kiewa Valley Community Car Program, but the Mt Beauty community as a whole.

Colin was a volunteer with many organisations in and around Mt Beauty and often gave his time 'unofficially' just because he was such a fabulous man. Colin was a volunteer driver with CA Inc for 8 years and often would be driving for the service at least once a week.

Colin volunteered in many other capacities throughout his local community as well, including the local Lions Club, Men's Shed and even as a dog walker for many local elderly residents.

He was a very gracious man who helped anyone he could and will be sorely missed.



**Rest in Peace Col.**

### Save the Date

### Annual General Meeting and Christmas Party

**When:** Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
**Where:** Benalla Bowls Club  
**Time:** 11.00am – AGM  
12.30pm – Lunch

We are expecting a special guest to drop in.  
**Who will it be this year?**  
Invitations will be sent out closer to the time.



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info@gettingthere.net.au

**Tilly the Wodonga mascot is now too big and too distracting to visit the office.**

**Sorry!**



### **Making the Volunteer Friends Program More Accessible**

With the implementation of a new membership model our program has become accessible to people who normally would not be eligible. Currently we have two participants under this model and we are happy to say they are joining VFP for regular activities and specially designed outings and holidays.

The feed-back from support workers and residential care staff have been extremely positive. The participants are gaining a new lease on life and we can confidently say we are making a huge difference.

So if you or someone you know is interested, please contact the Volunteer Friends Office nearest you for more information.

### **Great fun in Echuca for our Volunteer Friends**



### **Mornington Peninsula Holiday**

What a great week away! We started our holiday at the Peninsula Hot Springs and immediately relaxed our way through the day followed by some shopping. We also visited the

- Enchanted Adventure Garden and the tube slides
- Moonlit Sanctuary where we were able to get up close and personal with the Dingo, Kangaroos, Koala and an Owl.
- Visited the beach (too cold to swim).

Thanks to our wonderful staff/volunteers and thanks to the amazing participants who made this trip great fun for all.



### **Changes to our Yarrowonga Community Transport Program in**

Many of you will be aware, but some may not, that we are part of a community partnership in Yarrowonga that provides community transport in that area.

Our part of the partnership is to provide coordination of the service. Mike and his team from the Shepparton Office have been doing an amazing job in this role, but due to their ever increasing workload, we have decided that it was time to spread that load around a bit, enabling Shepparton to continue providing high quality services throughout the remainder of the Goulburn region.

Edwina and Bridget will be picking up the baton as of the 1<sup>st</sup> July, from our Wangaratta office. I have no doubt that the high level of service will continue, enabling members of the Yarrowonga community to continue accessing this invaluable service.

So contact our Wangaratta office for bookings or further information

**Ph: 03 5721 3045**



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## Volunteer Update

April and May saw a number of our volunteers gather together in Mount Beauty, Bright, Shepparton and Katamatite for an opportunity to share some delicious sustenance, socialise and to take in some basic updates and training. It was also a great opportunity for me to finally meet some of our valued volunteers, especially those from Cobram, Yarrawonga and Numurkah, who I have not had the opportunity to meet.

We went through some very general topics and updates including what to do if clients aren't at home, vehicle breakdowns, parking permits and infringements and right through to Social Media protocol, Cultural Awareness and a demonstration of the new Body Fluids Clean up Kit.

We are still in the process of organizing these get togethers for Murrindindi and Mitchell volunteers, so don't worry, you haven't been forgotten. Our long term plan is to hold these sessions twice a year in all area's, keep an ear out for dates in October and November.

I hope to see and meet many more of you, very soon.

Thank you one and all.  
Rikki Raadsveld  
Volunteer Liaison Officer



**Special mention to David Prestley for the fabulous photos he took at the recent Bright Volunteers get together and agreeing to be the photographer at the AGM and Christmas Party. Thanks David.**

## Who is Community Accessibility?

As you all know, getting people to know who we are and what we do has been an ongoing issue for many years. We have been trying to increase that awareness in a number of ways by changing the way that information is distributed:

- New signage at all the offices
- All vehicles will soon carry the new logo, side and back
- All forms have been updated to be the same in each office
- Our appearance in local media is increasing
- Utilising social media including facebook & twitter
- We are increasing the number of information sessions we deliver
- All our collateral is being updated to enable uniformity
- We have made new partnerships i.e. V/Line and Travellers Aid
- We now sell V/Line tickets in our Wodonga Office and will soon be selling myki
- Access to our websites is steadily increasing
- We continue to work with local communities to look for transport solutions



Due to the introduction of our new logo, we thought it was the right time to bring in branded shirt (insert). Due to the sheer number of volunteers that we have (over 230) it is not possible for us to provide them for everyone. This being the case, if any volunteers who would like to purchase a shirt, can do so (it is not mandatory, the cost is \$15).

We will continue to try and get our brand out there and increase public knowledge of who we are. If you have any ideas of things that we haven't yet tried or places where we should be placing our brochures, please let us know. You never know where the next great idea will come from.





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## Coming Events and Activities Volunteer Friends Program

### Day Activities

Wodonga Ten Pin Bowls	Every Tues
Wodonga Indoor Cricket	Every Thurs
Wangaratta Ten Pin Bowls	Jul 11 & 25 Aug 8 & 22 Sept 5 & 19
Wangaratta Country Dance	Ring Wang Office
Wangaratta Pub Pool	July 6 & 20 Aug 3 & 17 Sept 7 & 21
Friday Night Fun	
Laser Tag & drink \$35	June 26
Footy Night & food \$25	Jul 3
Movies \$30	Jul 10
Hollywoods Pizza \$35	Aug 7
DVD night \$25	Aug 21

## Coming Events and Activities Volunteer Friends Program

### Program Holidays

AFL Trip Bulldogs V Collingwood	July 26
Falls Creek Snow Trip	Aug 24 - 28
Royal Melbourne Show	Sept 26 - 27
Mystery Day Trip	Oct 8
Gold Coast Theme Parks	Oct 19 - 23
Warnambool/Great Ocean Rd	Nov 16 - 20
Wakiti Creek Resort Weekend	Nov. TBC
Melb Xmas Windows & Shopping	Nov 22
VFP Christmas Party	Dec 6

## Free HACC training for volunteers and staff

Community Accessibility receives HACC funding, which in return means all our staff and volunteers are entitled to access the HACC Training Calendar. The calendar offers training throughout Victoria and there are too many courses to mention here.

The other advantage is that the training can be offered anywhere, so if one of our offices or a group of our volunteers want a particular course run, they just need to contact our Volunteer Liaison Officer and she will make contact with Chisolm to arrange a date and a venue. We just have to guarantee 5 participants. And it is all free.

Some of the courses on offer include Mental Health Awareness and Mental Health First Aid, Understanding Grief and Loss, Managing Behaviours of Concern, which some of our volunteers have accessed.

So have a look on their website at [www.hacc.chisolm.edu.au/training](http://www.hacc.chisolm.edu.au/training) and use the search tool to find out which courses are available.

**Thank you to Cathy McGowan for cutting the ribbon at the Access Spot launch.**



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To receive our newsletter via email, contact us on [info@gettingthere.net.au](mailto:info@gettingthere.net.au)