

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Exclusive Third Sector Review celebrates Volunteering research

Volunteering Australia and The Australian and New Zealand Third Sector Research Inc (ANZTSR) are working in partnerships to promote the benefits of volunteering and volunteering research, with the forthcoming release of a special issue of the Third Sector Review.

The partnership aims to promote engagement, critical investment and constructive outcomes for the volunteering sector into the future.

Volunteering plays an integral role in the social capital of strong and resilient communities. With 5.8 million Australians engaged in volunteering, it is essential to have robust, evidence-based research to support policy and advocacy initiatives.

Volunteering Australia CEO Ms Adrienne Picone said, "Evidence-based research is critical for ongoing policy development, future planning and long-term service delivery. Research on volunteering allows us to be responsive and advocate on the benefits of volunteering with rigour."

Collaboration from the third sector and researchers present a range of benefits for wider Australia, allowing for improved social and economic planning for the sector. Current research is critical for the way we plan and manage; keeping volunteering visible and giving value to the sector.

Director of Postgraduate Research, Senior Lecturer at the Management School of Business and Governance at Murdoch University, and Editor of the ANZTSR special edition, Dr Megan Paull said, "Volunteering as a research subject is a shared interest for both academics and those in volunteering sector."

This special issue is an outcome of last years' national volunteering conference, hosted by Volunteering Australia and Volunteering and Contact ACT. The release is timely, coinciding with National Volunteer Week 2017, where people across the nation acknowledge and celebrate the many achievements of Australia's volunteers.

The Third Sector Review is a voluntary journal that has been produced by volunteers, for volunteers. The publication of this edition is a great way to celebrate the breadth and varied elements of volunteering research, and to highlight the contributions of ANZTSR during National Volunteer Week.

The special issue will be released today, 12 May 2017. To find out more about the Third Sector Review visit: <http://anztsr.org.au/third-sector-review/>.

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