

Media Release Let's make Australia the happiest place on earth: with the Give Happy, Live Happy web portal

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Today Volunteering Australia launched the Give Happy, Live Happy web portal at <u>www.volunteeringaustralia.org</u>. The web portal will help the community celebrate the vital work of more than 6 million Australian volunteers during National Volunteer Week, 11-17 May.

The Give Happy, Live Happy web portal features resources for individuals and organisations including posters, invitations and certificates, all aimed at acknowledging the hard work of volunteers. The website also features fun facts, a media centre, and merchandise will also be available to purchase from March.

"The theme for National Volunteer Week 2015 is Give Happy, Live Happy and we want your help to make Australia the Happiest Place on earth. The web portal has a range of resources for organisations and individuals to help celebrate National Volunteer Week," said Brett Williamson OAM, CEO, Volunteering Australia.

"Just a few hours of volunteer work makes a difference in happiness and mood, so we are asking Australians to give as much time as they can!"

Beyond Bank Australia's General Manager Community Development, Peter Rutter said Beyond Bank is proud to again partner with Volunteering Australia for National Volunteer Week.

"Beyond Bank recognises the critical role that volunteers play in our communities, and we are honoured to support them through our relationship with Volunteering Australia."

"National Volunteer Week provides a great opportunity for us all to say thanks to the many volunteers who help make our communities stronger, and let them know their efforts and commitment are appreciated – it's also an appropriate time to encourage more people to get involved," said Mr Rutter.

If you are interested in volunteering go to <u>www.govolunteer.com.au</u> to search over 10,000 vacant volunteering positions to find the perfect role in your region.

Volunteering Australia will be releasing more information about the 2015 National Volunteer Week campaign over the coming months (keep an eye on their website and social media platforms to stay up to date).

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About Volunteering Australia

Volunteering Australia is the National peak body for volunteering working to advance volunteering in the Australian community. Its role is to represent the diverse views and needs of the sector and it promotes volunteering as one of the enduring social, cultural and economic values of our society. Additionally, Volunteering Australia strives to engender recognition for volunteer effort through support and consultation with organisations dependent on volunteers. For more information visit www.volunteeringaustralia.org

About Beyond Bank Australia

With more than 190,000 members and assets under management worth more than \$4 billion, Beyond Bank Australia is one of the nation's largest 100% customer-owned financial institutions. It operates 47 branches across South Australia, Western Australia, Wagga Wagga, the Hunter Valley and the ACT, and provides banking services and wealth management. It also supports a range of community endeavours via the Beyond Bank Foundation. For more information please visit www.beyondbank.com.au