

NATIONAL 16-22 MAY 2022 VOLUNTEER Better Together WEEK

National Volunteer Week 2022 Sponsors

AON




Volunteering
AUSTRALIA



Join the celebration of volunteering
We are, **Better Together**

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Join us in celebrating Australia's volunteers

Established in 1989, National Volunteer Week is the premier celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our community and to say thank you to the almost five million Australians who volunteer.

Our communities have taken a big hit in recent times and yet volunteers are always there when we need them. Volunteers across the country have stepped up to help their communities through bushfires, floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic in a most practical demonstration of Australian community spirit.

Join us as we celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in communities across the country.



Professor Michael E Drew
Chair



Mark Pearce
Chief Executive Officer

About National Volunteer Week

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. From Monday 16th to Sunday 22nd May 2021, NVW will celebrate the significant contribution of Australia's five million volunteers.

National Volunteer Week 2022 is proudly sponsored by Aon Australia and Streets, and we also acknowledge the support of The Department of Social Services.

This year's theme

The theme for National Volunteer Week 2022 is **Better Together**

This year's theme celebrates the power of volunteering to bring people together, build communities and create a better society for everyone.

**Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better.
We are, Better Together.**



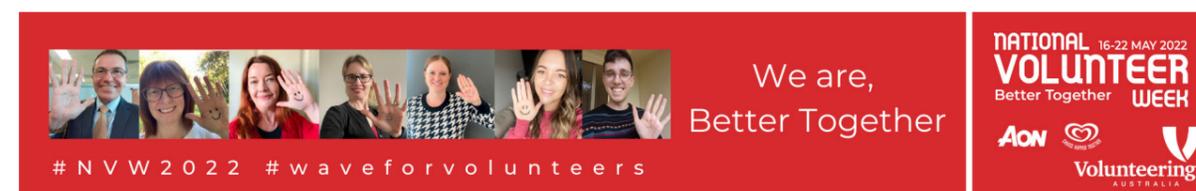
Wave Your Appreciation for Volunteers

The [Wave Your Appreciation](#) campaign is back. How will you Wave Your Appreciation for Volunteers?

You are invited to put your hand up and thank the millions of volunteers around Australia.

You can wave your appreciation for volunteers by adding a smiley face on your hand and uploading your photo to social media with **#WaveForVolunteers** and **#NVW2022**.

We will be featuring your waves throughout National Volunteer Week.



Resources

A suite of resources is available at the [Volunteering Australia website](#) for everyone to use and we encourage all volunteer involving organisations to proudly promote the upcoming celebrations. Please use the resources widely to help increase the awareness of the vital role volunteers play in our lives.



Send an online Certificate of Appreciation to your volunteers

Thank your volunteers this National Volunteer Week by sending a free [Online Certificate of Appreciation](#) directly to your volunteer's email.



Celebrate on social

Join in the conversation on social media using the hashtags **#NVW2022**, **#BetterTogether** and **#WaveForVolunteers**

Share photos of your National Volunteer Week celebrations using the hashtags above and by tagging Volunteering Australia.

Follow Volunteering Australia and your local State or Territory volunteering peak body.

 @volunteeringaus

 @volunteeringaus

 @volunteeringaustralia

 @Volunteering Australia (VA)

Sample Social Media Posts

- National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of volunteers. Let's recognise the significant contribution of Australia's volunteers with a #WaveForVolunteers this #NVW2022
- Join us as we celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in communities across the country this National Volunteer Week. Let's recognise that volunteers make our communities stronger, especially during times of need, crisis or isolation. #NVW2022 #WaveForVolunteers
- Let's celebrate the power of volunteering to bring people together, build communities and create a better society for everyone. Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better. #NVW2022 #BetterTogether
- This National Volunteer Week we are celebrating the power of volunteering to bring people together, build communities and create a better society for everyone. We are, Better Together. #NVW2022 #BetterTogether
- Did you know? Over one million volunteers supporting Australia's crisis resilience. Let's recognise our nation's volunteers are the country's backbone during crisis and emergency with a #WaveForVolunteers this #NVW2022
- A new report reveals volunteers are essential to Australia's crisis resilience. The Volunteering Australia research examines the volume and breadth of volunteers playing crucial roles in communities during natural disasters and COVID-19 outbreaks. #NVW2022 #BetterTogether
- Our communities have taken a big hit in recent times and yet volunteers are always there when we need them. Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better. #NVW2022 #BetterTogether
- Volunteers across the country have stepped up to help their communities through bushfires, floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic in a most practical demonstration of Australian community spirit. #NVW2022 #WaveForVolunteers
- This National Volunteer Week pledge to start your volunteer journey. Visit GoVolunteer.com.au to get involved and find a volunteer opportunity that suits you. #NVW2022 #BetterTogether
- This National Volunteer Week we encourage everyone to come together and support their communities by offering your time and skills to help others. #NVW2022 #BetterTogether

Tools to recognise your volunteers

Recognise your volunteers this National Volunteer Week with the [Volunteering Resource Hub](#). Find useful ideas to celebrate and thank your volunteers this National Volunteer Week and all year round.

The Volunteering Resource Hub helps volunteer managers embrace the National Standards of Volunteer Involvement in their everyday practice. Visit the Volunteering Resource Hub for resources to support your organisation to meet National Standard 7, Volunteer Recognition: "Volunteer contribution, value and impact is understood, appreciated and acknowledged."



Say thank you to your volunteers with a gift

Giving a gift is a great way to say thank you and the [Volunteering Australia shop](#) remains open all year round. Say thank you to your volunteers with high quality, volunteer-specific gifts, while supporting Volunteering Australia in advocating for the volunteering sector in Australia.

As well as the hugely popular lapel pins we have pens, lanyards, post-it notes and eco cups. We will again have a limited number of 'V' volunteer anniversary pins for volunteers who have volunteered for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 years as well as the sought-after Red V lapel pins.



Reimagining the future of volunteering

Volunteering Australia is leading the development of Australia's first [National Strategy for Volunteering](#) in ten years. The National Strategy will be designed and owned by the volunteering ecosystem and will provide a blueprint for a reimagined future for volunteering in Australia. Visit the [project website](#) to learn more.

Key Messages

- National Volunteer Week (16th – 22nd May) is the premier celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia.
- This National Volunteer Week, we celebrate and thank volunteers for the vital role they play in communities across the country.
- This year's National Volunteer Week theme recognises the power of volunteering to bring people together, build communities and create a better society for everyone. Together, through volunteering, we are changing communities for the better.
- The Wave Your Appreciation campaign is back to recognise the great work volunteers do each and every day.
 - » You are invited to put your hand up and thank the millions of volunteers around Australia with a special smile.
 - » Upload your wave photo to social media during National Volunteer Week and share using the hashtags #NVW2022 and #WaveForVolunteers.
- Our communities have taken a big hit in recent times and yet volunteers are always there when we need them. Volunteers across the country have stepped up to help their communities through bushfires, floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic in a most practical demonstration of Australian community spirit.
- Volunteering Australia's new report '[Volunteering and Australia's crisis resilience](#)' reveals volunteers are essential to Australia's crisis resilience:
 - » Over one million volunteers support Australia's crisis resilience, of which more than 400,000 work directly in emergency response and relief.
 - » This resilient and skilled workforce includes over 200,000 volunteers in fire services organisations and around 25,000 volunteers in State and Territory Emergency Service.
 - » A further 200,000 volunteers are engaged in over 1,000 registered emergency and relief charities.
 - » On top of this, many thousands of often 'invisible' volunteers help informally and spontaneously to support communities before and after crises.
 - » While the efforts of volunteers in crisis response and recovery are widely known, volunteers also contribute significantly to prevention and preparedness.
 - » The aftermath and the impact of disasters are felt long after an event has taken place. Volunteers provide support to those affected by crises, including in mental health and suicide prevention services, which typically experience a surge in demand during and after disasters
 - » As the frequency and scale of emergencies in Australia increases, a nationally co-ordinated approach to volunteer involvement during and after crises is becoming more pressing. This will help to mobilise volunteers rapidly, safely, and effectively
- Volunteering Australia encourages everyone to come together and support their communities by offering their time and skills to help others. To get involved and find a volunteer opportunity that suits you, visit [GoVolunteer.com.au](#) or contact your local State or Territory volunteering peak body.

Research links

[Volunteering and Australia's crisis resilience](#)

Get volunteering

Volunteering is a proven pathway to participation and social connectedness and provides a wealth of opportunities, including contributing to the social fabric of our society.

This National Volunteer Week pledge to start your volunteer journey. Visit the [GoVolunteer website](#) or download the [GoVolunteer App](#) to search for a volunteer opportunity to suit you. For more information about how to start your volunteer journey contact the [volunteering peak body](#) in your State or Territory.



Start your volunteer journey
Download the GoVolunteer App today



About Volunteering Australia

Volunteering Australia is the national peak body for volunteering, working to advance volunteering in the Australian community. Volunteering Australia's vision is to create a strong, connected and resilient community through volunteering. Our mission is to lead, strengthen and celebrate volunteering in Australia. We work collectively with the seven State and Territory volunteering peak bodies to deliver national, state/territory and local volunteering programs and initiatives.

As the national peak body for volunteering, Volunteering Australia is the lead agency for National Volunteer Week and, in consultation with the State and Territory volunteering peak bodies, sets the theme, develops collateral and co-ordinates merchandise for the sector.



National Volunteer Week 2022 Sponsors

National Volunteer Week is supported again in 2022 by Aon Australia. Aon has been a proud supporting partner of Volunteering Australia for over 20 years and we thank them for their continued support. Aon is this year joined by Streets in a new partnership with Volunteering Australia to celebrate the impact volunteers make in our community.



Level 2, 202 City Walk, Canberra ACT 2601

PO Box 128, Civic Square ACT 2608

P: 0480 258 723

E: hello@volunteeringaustralia.org

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