

VOLUNTEER TRIBUNE



Inside this issue:

NVW VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD	1
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS	1
NVW VYA PHOTOS	2
CRAIG CRAWFORD VYA SPEECH	3
VOLUNTEERING AUSTRALIA NEW STANDARDS	3
WORK FOR THE DOLE HOST FORUM	4
FNOVI AGENCY VISITS	4
JCU CAREERS DAY STALL	5
NOTICES AND NEW MEMBERS	6
FNOVI BIRTHDAYS AND INFO	7



Volunteer of the Year Award Winners with Craig Crawford after their award presentations

“STILL THE BEST JOB IN TOWN”



Since the early 2000s, FNOQ Volunteers Inc. (FNOVI) has held its Volunteer of the Year Award in conjunction with Volunteering Australia's National Volunteers Week (NVW).

This award recognizes the contribution to the community from FNOVI's member volunteers—their strengths, courage, determination, resilience and tireless efforts to assist their not-for-organizations to strengthen community support.

Nine member organizations nominated 16 volunteers in 2015 (listed right).

After *Traditional Owner* acknowledgements, FNOVI Services Coordinator Oni Vuniyaro welcomed all volunteers and thanked his staff volunteers for their organization.

Craig Crawford, MP for Barron River Qld, presented NVW certificates to all nominees, followed by presentation of the Runner-up and Winner's trophies announced by Rev Doug Foster (FNOVI Board Vice President).

The event began at 9:30am following a lovely buffet breakfast at Rydges Esplanade Resort. Feedback was that the event was well-received - short and succinct—allowing plenty of photo opportunities and networking.

Media releases were sent to all radio, TV and newspapers, and we thank the Cairns Sun in particular for their great article on Page 3 of that newspaper Wednesday 20 May 2015.



Recognizing 2015 Volunteer of the Year Nominations

Salvation Army
Hartley Dentith
Kaylene Burrows
Glenn Edwards
Onokura Kata
College Jacob
John Burton
Jennifer Minniecon

Mossman Community Centre
David (Tom) Burgess

ARC Disability Services Inc.
Noel Gibbs

Career Employment Australia
Brendan Russo

Kuranda Conservation Community Nursery
Betty Timmins

Real Living Options
Margaret Watson
Elsie Butler (Winner)

Marlin Coast Meals On Wheels
Margaret Scammell (Runner-up)

Leukaemia Foundation
Shawn Wright

Kuranda Envirocare
Margaret Zehntner

NVW VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR PHOTOS 2015



L-R: David Burgess, Kaylene Burrows, Margaret Scammell, Jennifer Minniecon, Craig Crawford, Shawn Wright



Wendy Thygesen and Allen Minniecon



Paul Carney with Rosy in background



Elsie Butler and Mandy Neilson



L-R: Betty & Shawn Wright with Annette Jarrett



Margaret Watson after receiving her award from Craig Crawford



Sibi Torrisi (R) chatting with Shawn and Betty Wright with Onokura Kata in background



NVW Certificate being received by Noel Gibbs from Craig Crawford



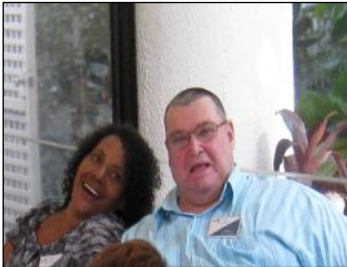
Brendan Russo and Jax Bergesen



Oni Vuniyaro at the podium, with Rev Doug Foster (seated) and Billy Lee Long (foreground)



L-R: Alison Geno, Kaylene Burrows, Jennifer Minniecon



Pellista Lammon and William Kolln having just too much fun!



Pre-presentation networking...



...and more networking...



...and everyone's happy!



Some nominees L-R: Onokura Kata, Glenn Edwards, Margaret Watson, John Burton, David Burgess, Kaylene Burrows, Margaret Scammell, Jennifer Minniecon, Shawn Wright, Brendon Russo, Elsie Butler with Craig Crawford

NVW VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR 2015

Speech by Craig Crawford MP for Volunteer of the Year Award

"This week, we have the opportunity to celebrate our local volunteers and the incredible contribution they make to our community.

I know that many of you here today are volunteers, and I am glad we are here today to celebrate the amazing work you do.

Queenslanders are a resilient and generous people. We are a people who have shown time and time again that we will support each other when times are tough.

For many Queenslanders, when times do get tough, volunteers are there to lend a helping hand.

Our volunteers, time and time again, have selflessly put the well-being of others first. Whether it be braving life threatening floor waters, at sports clubs, school tuckshops, or at local neighbourhood centre, Queenslanders from all ages and demographic show their true spirit every day lending a helping hand.

Volunteers, such as you here today, make me incredibly proud to be part of this great state.

This year's National Volunteer Week theme, "Give Happy Live Happy" is based on research that says volunteers are happier, healthier and even sleep better than those who don't volunteer.

I myself have volunteered with the Country Fire Association from 1987 to 2008, and can testify to the fact that there is no better feeling than knowing you are helping someone in need.

Volunteers are often the core of our strong and resilient communities. Volunteering allows people to use and develop skills, while engaging with their community and helping others.

With one in three Queenslanders volunteering each year, it is not surprising then, that we have such strong and active community groups throughout the state.

This Labour government knows, through volunteering ourselves, and from seeing the amazing work of our people across our state, just how important volunteering is to Queensland.

The Queensland Government is proud to be the major sponsor for Volunteering Queensland's National Volunteer Program. This year, our events are reaching more areas of Queensland than ever before.

I encourage all of you here today to get involved and to help your community organizations.

To those of you that do this already, I say thank-you. Queensland volunteers just like yourselves consistently make this state an even better place to live.. I am truly grateful for your selflessness and generosity".

NEW VOLUNTEERING STANDARDS



New volunteer standards were released in conjunction with 2015 National Volunteers Week in May. They provide benefits to volunteers via helping to improve the volunteer experience. Benefits to organizations include providing "good practice guidance and benchmarks to help organizations attract, manage and retain volunteers", and helping to "manage the risk and safety in their work with volunteers".

1. **Leadership and Management:** The governing body and senior employees lead and promote a positive culture towards volunteering and implementing effective management systems to support volunteer involvement.
2. **Commitment to Volunteer Involvement:** Commitment to volunteer involvement is set out through vision, planning and resourcing, and supports the organization's strategic direction.
3. **Volunteer Roles:** Volunteers are engaged in meaningful roles which contribute to the organization's purpose, goals and objectives.
4. **Recruitment and Selection:** Volunteer recruitment and selection strategies are planned, consistent and meet the needs of the organization and volunteers.
5. **Support and Development:** Volunteers understand their roles and gain the knowledge, skills and feedback needed to safely and effectively carry out their duties.
6. **Workplace Safety and Wellbeing:** The health, safety and wellbeing of volunteers is protected in the workplace through.
7. **Volunteer Recognition:** Volunteer contribution, value and impact is understood, appreciated and acknowledged.
8. **Quality Management and Continuous Improvement:** Effective volunteer involvement results from a system of good practice, review and continuous improvement.

Each of these standards have various sub components regarding policy and procedure of the organizations involved. The full document on the new standards is available [here](#).



VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS NETWORK MEETING (VCNM)

At the 18th March meeting of the VCNM, a presentation was given by Greetje Mann-Baas from the Anti-Discrimination Commission of Queensland. The objective of the presentation was “to understand what unfair treatment is about”. You have a right to be



Greetje from ADCQ beginning her presentation

treated fairly which is enforced by the Federal Human Rights Commission in Australia. Queensland has its legislation covered in One Act.

DIRECT DISCRIMINATION involves attributes where the person is too old, coloured or otherwise. Any mention in advertisements of “attributes” is regarded as discrimination. Only if the legislation contains an exemption, then the advertised attribute is not considered discrimination. The Work Health and Safety legislation overrides general areas because it contains safety reasons. Exemptions need to be proven and can be challenged. Challenges can be made to the exemptions, and these apply mainly to family responsibilities. Examples here include sacking threats to workers if immediate family care is needed, or where cultural issues apply. The largest



FNQ Volunteers staff with Greetje at ADCQ presentation.



Work for the Dole (WFD) Host Forum

On Thursday 28 May 2015, the Australian Government – JobActive Services (Department of Employment) - conducted an information forum at the RSL Cairns.

Robyn, Oni and William attended the Work for the Dole (WFD) Host Forum to hear more about the new contracts and procedures that were going to start on July 1, 2015 for WFD JobActive participants.

The objective of the Forum was to advise possible host organizations with some ideas how the new contracts will work. The overall objective of the Work For the Dole is similar to previous schemes in that it provides opportunities for identified participants to obtain training and be upskilled in readiness toward gaining employment.

FNOVI meet with Paul Carney from MY Pathways (old ITEC Employment Services) who is going to be the new JobActive Coordinator organisation, the equivalent of the former Community Work Coordinator that many agencies were contracted to previously.

Job Future, NEATO and O.I.T.E. will be the new JobActive agencies that Work For the Dole participants will be linked with.

The forum was interesting with lots of host questions and some good advice coming from the presenters and participants.

discrimination area is that of physical and mental impairment. Outcomes of the complaints don't have to be financial and depend on the complaint.

INDIRECT DISCRIMINATION involves situations where a term or condition is not met. For example where disabled access is not met, or disabled access is not at the front of the building. It can also involve an activity where the wearing of a uniform cap is allowed but a hijab is not allowed. Situations where a vision-impaired person is required to have driver's license but the license is never going to be used can also be seen as **UNCONSCIOUS DISCRIMINATION**.

In regard to **SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION**, for both public and private cases, discrimination is not allowed on the basis of sex. In cases where the discrimination is quite severe, police are also an avenue of resort.

For more detailed information, please refer to the [ADCQ website](#) or contact the Cairns staff on Telephone: 1300 130 670 (Toll Free) or (07)4037 2100



Do you have a presentation you wish to make?

Contact FNQ Volunteers on Ph: 4041 7400

Next Meeting: 15th July 2015

FNQ VOLUNTEERS AGENCY VISITS

Following up from agency visits before the March newsletter, referrals to St John's Community Care Redlynch, and Anglicare NQ Ltd are continuing well and the organisations are very happy with the volunteers referred.

Services Coordinator Oni and JCU volunteer Robyn attended the National Volunteers Week (NVW) function at St John's in Redlynch and Oni presented St John's volunteers with their NVW certificates. On 4 June, Juan from St John's also called in to the FNQVI office and made contact with Oni about service and referral processes, as well as possible new job descriptions. There may be several opportunities for volunteers to work with St John's in new roles in the near future.

The purpose of agency visits is to build rapport with the visited organisation, update information and provides FNQ Volunteer staff with first hand knowledge of how the organisations work. Agency visits also allow the organisation a review of volunteer jobs listed with FNQVI. This then provides FNQ referral officer volunteers with better and more accurate information in the volunteer interviews. The visits build community spirit by working with the organisations to achieve the best outcomes for all parties.

Agencies can look forward to further liaison with Services Coordinator Oni to further develop the network. Agencies can also contact FNQVI to request a site visit should they require.

Building Networks

FNQVI presence was on display at the Employment Forum held at the TAFE in March. A number of FNQVI pamphlets were provided to extend awareness to potential agencies and participants in the region.

FNQVI has observer member status with the Cairns and Region Multi-cultural Association (CARMA). CARMA was established to provide support, assist coordinate activities, promote and link with local services and all levels of government to strengthen community cultures. CARMA is currently headed by Billy Lee Long. Service Coordinator Oni is on CARMA's committee. FNQVI Board President Annette Shepard recently did workshops with CARMA on good governance.

FNQVI also has observer member status of the Cairns Regional Council Multicultural Advisory Committee. Both CARMA and MAC have dual attendees and coordinate activities.

FNQVI has full member status with Local Area Coordinating Committee (LAC) which is coordinated by Centacare.

FNQ Volunteers booth at JCU Careers Day



Above: FNQ Volunteers Inc. staff Joanna, Rosy, and Evelyn pose for a photo op while discussing member options with Richard from the SES at the Careers Day booth.



Stean and Joanna at the Centacare booth



Paul at the ACT FOR KIDS booth with Joanna



Joanna visits with Megan from Cairns Regional Council and other staffers

FNQ Volunteers participated in the James Cook University Careers Day with a stall and enticing lots of sweets.

The purpose of the stall was to provide exposure to university students about the agency and enhance their opportunities for volunteering while they are doing studies.

Joanna (Board Member) and William visited at FNQVI member booths as shown in these accompanying photos as well as Uniting Community Care and Conservation Volunteers Australia booths.

Interest from approximately eighty (80) students was expressed, but not all students made any commitments. Of late however, there have been some expressions of interest in the follow-through process. Some students have been referred to members organisations for volunteering positions.

The event was an excellent outcome for FNQ Volunteers.

NOTICES

New Positions Urgent Positions

Position Number	Position Title	Suburb	Time(s) Required
887	TOY LIBRARY ASSISTANT	BENTLEY PARK	WEEKDAY
888	PARENT AND LEARNING ASSISTANT	BENTLEY PARK	WEEKDAY
889	PLAYGROUP AND CENTRE ACTIVITIES ASSISTANT	BENTLEY PARK	WEEKDAY AM WEEKDAY PM
891	JOB POSITION UPDATE OFFICER	CAIRNS	WEEKDAY AM WEEKDAY PM
198	SALES ASSISTANT	CAIRNS	WEEKDAY
815	ENGLISH CONVERSATIONALIST	CAIRNS	WEEKDAY
828	LANGUAGE AND LITERACY TUTOR	CAIRNS	WEEKDAY AM WEEKDAY PM
890	RETAIL ASSISTANT	CAIRNS	WEEKDAY AM WEEKDAY PM
695	FORK LIFT DRIVER	INNISFAIL	WEEKDAY
829	LANGUAGE AND LITERACY TUTOR	MOSSMAN	WEEKDAY AM WEEKDAY PM
892	REGIONAL MANAGER	WESTCOURT	WEEKDAY AM WEEKDAY PM

Position Number	Position Title	Suburb	Time(s) Required
854	BUS DRIVER VOLUNTEER	ATHERTON	WEEKDAY
198	SALES ASSISTANT	CAIRNS	WEEKDAY
858	MEDIA / PROMOTIONS OFFICER	EDMONTON	WEEKDAY
878	MEDIA OFFICER	EDMONTON	WEEKEND
879	MEDICAL / QUALIFIED FIRST AID OFFICER	EDMONTON	WEEKEND
880	OFFICIALS (STEWARD) GRADE 4	EDMONTON	WEEKEND
881	STARTER	EDMONTON	WEEKEND
882	TECHNICAL OFFICER	EDMONTON	WEEKEND
455	COOK'S ASSISTANT	TRINITY BEACH	WEEKDAY
456	KITCHEN ASSISTANT	TRINITY BEACH	WEEKDAY
885	GEN. GROUNDS GARDENER / HANDYMAN	WONGA	WEEKDAY

NEW MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

CAIRNS LITTLE THEATRE, EDGE HILL (also known as the Rhondo Theatre) has a volunteer **MEDIA DESIGN/MARKETING** position available. The organisation, founded in 1953, has a



charter "to choose, produce and stage the works of the finest Australian and international playwrights in a professional manner for the training, benefit and appreciation of its membership at all levels, of students and of the theatre-going public. CLT also supports not-for-profit organisations through some fund-raising activities.

WONGA BEACH STATE SCHOOL P & C. Formerly known as the Rocky Point State School, Wong Beach SS was opened in 1999 has a deep cultural belief that every student is capable of successful learning. The P & C operates



a tuck-shop every Friday. The school is also trying to establish comfortable surround gardens. Two volunteer positions are available: for **GENERAL GROUNDS GARDNER/HANDYMAN**.

GIRL GUIDES QUEENSLAND has a volunteer position for a **REGIONAL MANAGER**. Girl Guides Queensland



takes all reasonable steps to ensure that, through relevant procedures and training, children, young people and adults taking part in Guiding activities do so in a safe and friendly environment.

FOR REFERRAL CONTACT: FNQ Volunteers on 07 4041 4700 or email: info@fnqvolunteers.org

VOLUNTEER STAFF BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



L-R: Loani, William, Judy and Oni (rear), Evelyn (front), Sharon, Maria and Joanne—celebrating William’s birthday.



Services Coordinator Oni cutting his birthday cake on his special day.

FNQ VOLUNTEERS LOCATION

Suit 13
Virginia House
68 Abbott Street
Cairns Qld 4870

Phone: (07) 4041 7400
Fax: (07) 4041 7500
E-mail: info@fnqvolunteers.org
Website: fnqvolunteers.org.au



We’re on Facebook:
FNQ Volunteers

FNQ Volunteers Mission Statement:
To develop and strengthen volunteering in
Far North Queensland for the mutual benefit
of the individual and the community

Leukaemia Foundation has moved.
New Addresses:

Physical: Cnr Comport and Buchan Street,
Portsmith, Cairns Qld 4870
Official address: 52B Comport Street,
Portsmith, Cairns Qld 4870

**Volunteer positions are not only
available on [FNQVI website](http://fnqvi.org.au),
but also on [GoVolunteers](http://GoVolunteers.com.au)**



an initiative of volunteering australia

**Want your event listed in our newsletter? Email us...
info@fnqvolunteers.org...Attn: Newsletter**

*FNQ Volunteers Inc. wishes to express thanks to the Australian Government’s
Department of Social Services through the Volunteer Management Program.*