



Ballarat **Health** Services
Putting your health first

Volunteer News

Spring 2015

Engaging Students in Volunteering

While our 'average' volunteer at BHS is 'female aged 59', we are engaging more and more younger people in our programs, and a lot of them are students of nursing, aged care etc. Of course, not all students are necessarily 'just out of high school'. There is a growing number of people returning to study, and choosing another career path, and many of them are interested in volunteering.

Partnerships and collaborations with local education providers are a great way to engage with students, and gives me the opportunity to 'sell' our programs in the community.

In August I was invited to have a stand at the *Student Volunteer Week Expo*, hosted by Federation University, at the Mount Helen campus. It was a lovely opportunity to chat with many students about how they can engage with BHS. We haven't been inundated with applications as yet, but more people now know about volunteering at BHS, and that's an opportunity never wasted!



Food Safety Information Session



On Thursday 22 October 2015, ten volunteers attended the food safety information session. Our Catering Manager, Robert Fraser, presented a very interesting session where volunteers were encouraged to learn and discuss many points about food safety.

The session proved to be very informative and we hope to have another session in 2016.



'Cheerful' volunteer thanks

article from Health Matters

The following email was received from a friend of a patient who attended BHS in October.

"I arrived at the drop off point on Sturt Street with a woman who needed help getting to pathology, somewhere on the first floor.

She was greeted by Philip, a wonderfully helpful and happy Welcome Team Volunteer, with a wheelchair. She and I were then cheerfully taken to exactly where we needed to go.

Once her blood tests were done, a quick phone call was made and Philip was back to wheel my friend down to the ground floor.

When I returned with the car, there she and Philip were, waiting for me at the curb. Philip then helped my friend into the car.

I want to commend BHS for the Welcome Team service and to recognise the volunteers for their attentive and cheerful service."

Well done to Philip and the entire Welcome Team for the wonderful job they do assisting patients and visitors.



Mandatory Fire and Emergency Training

By now, you would all be aware that **ALL** volunteers are required to update their Fire and Emergency Training every 12 months. To ensure you are compliant, you will need to complete **ONE** of the following:

- Attend one of Sue's sessions, run on the *fourth* Wednesday of each month from 2-3pm at QEC Education Centre (phone to confirm attendance)
- Attend one of Don's sessions at different sites around BHS (phone to confirm)
- Complete the online version - again phone to register
- Complete booklet - read and answer questions, and return to office.
- **Please contact the office to book your place or for more information- Sue on 5320 6931 or Gayle on 5320 3789.**

2016 Session Dates :

2pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Level 1, QEC.

- 24th February
- 23rd March
- 27th April
- 25th May
- 22nd June



BHS by numbers.... Interesting facts

A new Drummond Street entrance is being built and expected to be in operation by end of 2016. It will have three storeys (and additional 32 beds)

There are 13 off-site facilities in Ballarat and a number of community based psychiatric services in Horsham, Stawell, Ararat and Bacchus Marsh

The helipad has already transferred over 14 patients to Melbourne. It takes 20 minutes flight time from BHS to the Royal Children's and the Alfred hospitals

BHS has approx. 4,500 employees (and grows by approx. 30 per month) and 300 volunteers

BHS has approx. 35,000 patients through beds each year

The operating suite consists of six theatres, two endoscopy rooms and a 13 bed recovery room

BHS has approx. 450 beds in Residential Aged Care and approx. 224 acute beds at the base site

BHS services a region from Bacchus Marsh to the south Australian boarder, an area of 48,000 square kilometres

Emergency department had 51,433 presentations in a year

Approx. 12,503 operations are performed per year

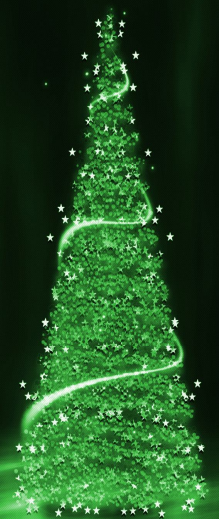
BHS is the largest organisation in Ballarat after the Department of Education

BHS getting a second cardiac catheterization Lab

Please note:
Volunteer Services will be closed 17th December, 2015 and re-open 25th January, 2016.

We hope you have a safe and happy Christmas.

From Sue and Gayle.



Volunteer Vacancies

Oct/Nov 2015

There is a variety of Volunteer roles available at BHS, but we are specifically seeking to fill the following vacancies at the moment:

- **WB Messer Hostel and PS Hobson in Ballarat North are seeking some volunteers to join in and assist with fun activities with residents, such as outings, games, beauty care (i.e. nail painting) crosswords**
- **We require more volunteers to assist visitors to the Emergency Department. 3 hour shifts available, across 7 days.**
- **Do you have an interest in working with people living with dementia? Eyres House Day Centre would like volunteers to assist with activities including cooking.**
- **We are taking expressions of interest from entertainers- singers, groups, musicians, to provide entertainment to our residents in Aged Care facilities. Great opportunity to practice in front of an audience!**
- **Taking expressions of interest for the Cancer Centre- Greeting patients/ providing practical support/ driving. Training in 2016**

