



Dear Volunteer

We are well into the year now with the start of our third month and the autumn season starting. I wish to thank you for contributions you have already made to the year and the successes we have been enjoying.

We are a very fortunate organisation. Recent visitors to our offices, and centres, have passed lovely comments as to the environments we have, and the staff who have greeted and assisted them in a friendly manner.

We continue to receive great comments about you, and the smiles you give when delivering or assisting on outings. These, and the quick welfare checks we conduct at homes, and when clients are with us, stand us apart from other organisations.

I recently was on a panel about the new Aged Care Act and there were questions about volunteers and what has been the impact upon you because of the Act.

There were a number of points noted including

- New expectations when delivering meals through the collection of times of attendance at a home; and for those on buses, the collection of times when the trips stop and start.
- Volunteers are wanting to help people not be data collectors for the Government.
- Organisations which rely on volunteers are being told by big providers that volunteers are not welcomed at their sites.
- Cleaners and gardeners working for organisations were having to monitor every travelled kilometer as well as the time spent with a client while doing the work they need done.
- People not stepping forward to assist in the community as they once did -for any type of volunteering eg helping us, coaching sport, taking Scouts or St Johns classes, coaching soccer or netball etc. Such a cultural and community shift.

As you know, we do not agree with the additional tasks we are asking you to do, and it was obvious

that other organisations are also having issues with the



FIRST AID COURSES

2026

We will be offering two courses again this year.

Wednesday 22nd April

Batemans Bay

Tuesday 23rd June

Ulladulla

If you would like to attend one of these courses, please let the office at Batemans Bay know on **4474 4464**.

The list is open for both courses.

High Tea 2026

We are looking at a revamp of what we do and where we provide this occasion.

We are looking at holding one in Batemans Bay or Moruya and one in Milton.

Locations are being sourced and the format is being discussed.

Do you have any ideas or comments as we think this is a highlight of our year and wish it to be most successful.

Please let me know by email manager@eurobodallamealsonwheels.org.au

Or by calling the Batemans Bay office on 4474 4464.

use of volunteers as data collectors as well. The community spirit is being knocked out of us.

There are so many benefits to volunteering and the Huber Social Report did find that Meals on Wheels volunteers across the country appear to get more out of their role than volunteers working in other areas. They were happier and more satisfied with their work.

I did say at the Forum, that volunteers want to visit people, deliver meals, have a happy chat and discussion, and check that the client is well. But we can not do this alone, anymore.

So for the second time of saying, thank you for what you do

Did you know....??

We have CATS Teams established at each office? What are these? They are Client Assistance Teams and the objective is for experienced volunteers to visit home of new clients and help them complete the necessary paperwork. We have found these teams to be very caring and professional. They are gentle and supportive of clients and thankfully they have time and patience as clients have to look for reports, and materials necessary for the forms.

We have staff additions at the Batemans Bay office? We have Janette Metters started on Monday 9th as our new receptionist. She will also be responsible for the onboarding of all new Batemans Bay clients.

Matte Willis will be coordinating future community events and completing Research and Development tasks each Monday. These two roles go well together and will allow us to better tell what we are doing and to argue our case for the continuation of programmes such as the CHSP (Commonwealth Home Support Programme) and its ongoing funding.

Our Individual Social Support programme is an exciting area and going forward we wish to develop its potential. We have very special people who work with our clients in this area I am looking to have a new person to coordinate your efforts.

Future events

We are looking to hold events at various locations over the year. The following are hopefully going to happen so to tell about our services.

April 15th- Batemans Bay

May 13th- Tuross Heads

June 10th -Narooma

July 15th Lake Conjola

August 27th -National Meals on Wheels Day

September 16th-Ulladulla Expo

October 14th -Moruya

November 18th -Sussex Inlet.



"Yes, sir. I'm a fully-experienced flood relief volunteer..."

Volunteer Forums

Your chance to meet with the Manager to discuss the business, your ideas for future developments and any feedback you may wish to give.

Batemans Bay

Wednesday 25 March 10.30-11.30am

Ulladulla

Friday 27 March 1-2pm

It is said that for people to remember an important message, you should say it at the beginning, middle and end...so...Thank you for all you do for us.

Alan Russell,
Manager

There is no "I" in Team, but we sure are glad there is "u" in our volunteers!