



January 2026 Newsletter

Greetings to all our fantastic volunteers



It is a new year and it will no doubt be full of joys as well as difficulties, but my hope for you all is that it is a good year. We all know some difficulties end up being a blessing or at least good for our souls AND on that note, I have some very gratifying news:

On international volunteer day the 5th December 2025 the United Nations declared 2026 the INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER YEAR (IVY2026) to recognise volunteerism as a key driver of sustainable development and humanitarian action.

IVY 2026 is a call to governments, organizations, and communities worldwide to champion volunteerism in all its forms—formal and informal, local and global—while fostering inclusive policies and ensuring volunteer contributions are recognized and measured.

Volunteering has long been a part of human society – from mutual aid traditions to organized movements – and is embedded in traditions and values across cultures. It fosters solidarity, civic engagement, and a sense of belonging. If you want to learn more about volunteerism go to the link

<https://www.unv.org/recognition-volunteerism-ivy-2026>

Support and training opportunity:

January 15th 9am I will be attending a workshop on Suicide Prevention for Seniors, run by Anglicare, via zoom. I will be at the Uniting Church in Merimbula to attend this workshop and you are all welcome to come along. I will have the jug on and tea or coffee and maybe even a biscuit for those that want to join me.



With true appreciation

Sincerely, Lee & Ali