

Volunteer Update

This month we celebrated some of our volunteers who were nominated at the **2025 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards** at the Illawarra Steelers and Goulburn Workers Clubs. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the incredible work our volunteers do at Warrigal and to see their contributions recognised alongside so many inspiring people from across the region.

Although we didn't take out a win this time, the achievements and dedication of our volunteers remain something we are truly proud to celebrate.

Congratulations to the following volunteers:

0-24 years – Lily Harrington

25-64 years – Karina Budd, Scott Matthews, Stephen Brogan, Lee Karssen, Dwayne Fogg

65+ years – Don Burgess, Deb Stevens, Alan Smith, Mary De Haas, Bill Leggo, Helen McNeill, Jennifer Rogers, Alana Walker

Volunteer Team of the Year – Warrigal APR Cafe

Nominations are now open for the ACT Volunteer of the Year Awards, so watch this space as we continue to celebrate and cheer on our amazing volunteers later this year.

Michelle Chate
Volunteer Manager



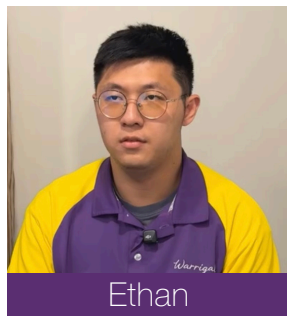
Taipei Medical University



Donovan



Ann



Ethan



Julian



Meet Donovan, Ann, Ethan and Julian, international exchange students from Taipei Medical University who recently took part in an immersive volunteering experience at our Warrigal Wollongong home.

Over four weeks, they supported our lifestyle team with activities, connected with PhD students from the University of Wollongong, and engaged with various members of the Warrigal team.

What are the main differences between aged care in Australia and Taiwan?

"In my hometown, we give more treatment like wound care and medication, but in Australia it is more mental health and wellbeing". – Donovan

"The cultural diversity would be the biggest difference. Australia has more residents and workers from overseas, but most of the residents in Taiwan are all from the local people". – Ann

"They treat the seniors like friends". – Julian

What is your impression of Warrigal?

"Friendly, people are very friendly here". – Ann

"Every time I come here the seniors will say hi, how are you. I think it's wonderful". – Julian

"We think this is a very warm and comfortable place. I believe that the residents living here will feel like they are at home". – Ethan

The experience has given them valuable insights into aged care in Australia. Through their interactions with our residents, the volunteers have contributed to the warm atmosphere in the home, including singing happy birthday in Taiwanese at a birthday celebration.

"We're learning off each other. From their feedback we found that Australia has a much more holistic view of the care that we give to our elderly". – Ayleen, Lifestyle Officer

The King Comes to Coniston

Volunteer Bill brought the house down at Coniston with a wonderful Elvis performance. Going all out in true rock and roll style, he even looked the part as The King himself. Staff joined the fun by dressing up, creating an afternoon filled with music, laughter and toe tapping favourites for the residents to enjoy.



500th Meeting of the Warrigal Care Auxiliary

On Monday, 4 August, the Warrigal Care Auxiliary, together with the Board, CEO, and Executive, held a special celebration at Warrigal Central to mark the Auxiliary's **500th meeting**. This incredible group of women continue a proud 49 year legacy, with some members having served for more than 25 years!

In addition to their longstanding commitment, the Auxiliary also manage the Warrigal Op Shop which is a much-loved and highly popular hub within the Warilla community. We are extremely proud of their achievements and deeply grateful for the invaluable contribution they make.



Excellence in Sustainability

Warrigal has been awarded **Highly Commended for Excellence in Sustainability** at the recent 2025 Illawarra Business Awards!

From expanding rooftop solar and introducing energy-efficient systems, to creating circular economy initiatives through our Warilla Op Shop and embedding sustainability champions across our homes and villages, this recognition highlights our team's ongoing commitment to sustainability and the implementation of these initiatives across our services.

Our CEO, Jenni Hutchins, Chair of the Board, Wyn Janssen, along with members of the Board, Executive Team and Support Services Team, attended the awards ceremony.

We especially thank our Warrigal Op Shop and Warrigal Care Auxiliary for their incredible contribution towards this award. Their dedication to sustainability and reducing landfill has been instrumental, and we are truly grateful for their efforts.

Warrigal Op Shop

George Street, Warilla
Open Wednesday to Friday
9am to 2pm



Bus Drivers (Illawarra)

We recently met with some of our Illawarra Bus Drivers, and officially welcomed our newest volunteer bus driver, Kerry Ryman. Our bus drivers play such an important role in ensuring residents enjoy meaningful outings and remain connected with our communities, and we sincerely thank each of them for the time, care, and dedication they bring to every journey.



Bundanoon

Our residents, staff, and volunteers recently came together to farewell Wyn Janssen, Chairman of the Board. Wyn has been busy visiting and saying his goodbyes across all our homes and villages. These farewells have been a wonderful opportunity to wish him all the very best in his retirement.



Stirling

The residents at Stirling love their weekly craft sessions with volunteer Marilyn, enjoying the chance to get creative and have fun together.



Goulburn

The Warrigal Goulburn Auxiliary work tirelessly throughout the year to raise funds for special items that bring joy to our residents. They also make sure residents receive gifts on significant days such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Easter, and Christmas, and recently enjoyed touring the newly decorated dining rooms within the home with General Manager, Kat Withers.



Community Facilitator

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Warrigal Social

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Lifestyle Team Leaders

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