



Volunteer Update

As we come to the end of 2025, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank each and every one of you for your enormous contribution throughout the year. Your time, care, and commitment have made a meaningful difference to the lives of our residents, clients, and the wider Warrigal community.

Earlier this month we were proud to celebrate some wonderful achievements at the Volunteering ACT Awards. Congratulations to **Jan Elliott** from Stirling, who was named Winner of the Senior Volunteer of the Year, and to **Kath McQuarrie**, who received a Highly Commended award in the same category. We also acknowledge **Marilyn Newham**, who was recognised with a recognition award on the night. These achievements reflect the incredible dedication and spirit that exists across our volunteer community.

As we wind down for the Christmas season, on behalf of the Volunteer Services Team and myself, we wish you a very happy and safe holiday season and a wonderful new year. Thank you for everything you have given in 2025. We look forward to welcoming you back and continuing this journey together in 2026.

Michelle Chate
Volunteer Manager



Message from our CEO

2025 has been an extraordinary year at Warrigal, and it is extraordinary because of you. Our 545 volunteers generously contributed more than 40,000 hours of time, compassion, and connection, enriching the lives of our older people every single day.

This year we celebrated many significant milestones together, including the Warrigal Auxiliary's 500th meeting, 10 years of the Bundanoon Café, and the dedication of 54 volunteers recognised for their Years of Service. We proudly acknowledged the outstanding contributions of our Norm Rowland Award recipients and those highly commended, along with the remarkable achievements of volunteers recognised at the NSW and ACT Volunteer of the Year Awards.

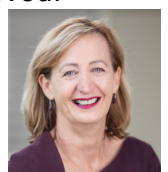
Programs such as the Know Me Dementia Program continue to show the powerful impact of volunteering, with university students creating meaningful digital life stories that honour the lives of residents. Projects like the Mystics Courtyard at Shell Cove also reflect how volunteers help bring our vision to life in lasting and tangible ways.

What stands out most is the strength of our volunteer culture. Achieving a Volunteer Net Promoter Score of 98% speaks volumes about the sense of purpose, belonging, and connection you experience and help create at Warrigal.

As we approach the end of the year, I want to sincerely thank you for the kindness, dignity, and care you share so freely. You are not just supporting Warrigal, you are the heart of it. I wish you a joyful holiday season and hope you take pride in all that you have achieved.

Jenni Hutchins
Warrigal CEO

Taken from the CEO's speech at the 2025 Volunteer Christmas Event



Southern Christmas

We celebrated Christmas at the Goulburn Soliders Club, with over 99 volunteers and were joined by our Board Chair, Sophie Ray, our CEO, Jenni Hutchins, Wendy Tuckerman MP, and Caitlin Flint, Deputy Mayor of Goulburn, who attended to help acknowledge the generosity, energy, and commitment of our volunteers across the southern region, including Bundanoon, Goulburn, Queanbeyan, Stirling, Hughes, and Calwell.

A real highlight was a heartfelt performance by our Fijian PALM staff from Warrigal Goulburn, who shared traditional songs, dances, and a few much loved Christmas favourites that had everyone up on their feet.

Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to view all the photos from the event.



Northern Christmas

Our Northern Volunteer Christmas event was held at Warilla Bowls & Recreation Club and brought together over 125 volunteers. We were joined by our Board Chair, Sophie Ray, our CEO, Jenni Hutchins, and Chris Homer, Mayor of Shellharbour, as we celebrated the year and recognised the incredible contribution of our volunteers across the Illawarra.

The Fijian PALM staff from Warrigal Shell Cove provided wonderful entertainment, sharing traditional songs and dances along with some much loved Christmas favourites. A standout highlight was the conga line that made its way around the room, bringing everyone together in celebration.

Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code to view all the photos from the event.



Farewell Linda

Linda has been volunteering with Warrigal for over 14 years. Linda has supported other homes with her group, DJ Barry and the Starlets, but Mt Warrigal is where her heart was. Linda's father was a resident at the home, and she visited regularly, continuing to come in even after her dear dad passed away.

Over the years, Linda has supported all of our multicultural events, going as far as learning Greek, Macedonian and Italian dances, and hand making cultural outfits for herself and the other members of her group, all in the name of making each event look and sound as authentic as possible. Linda and her group helped us make Mexican Day, Portuguese Day and Hawaiian Day absolutely amazing. These events were always spectacular, colourful, and thoroughly enjoyed by all the residents.

One thing that has always stayed with me is that days after each event, so many residents would say what a wonderful time they had watching the dancing and seeing all the bright colours. It also always made me smile that no matter what Linda had planned, she was happy to change it and adapt to suit whatever theme we had going.

Linda also played Mrs Claus for many years, buying gifts for all the residents, so it was our pleasure to host a morning tea to farewell her and wish her luck as she and her husband Barry embark on a new chapter of their lives.

On behalf of all the residents, staff and volunteers, farewell and best wishes.

Stella Banks
Lifestyle Team Leader, Mt Warrigal



Fleet Services

Kerin Knuckey 0477 793 833
kknuckey@warrigal.com.au

Community Facilitator

Shell Cove - Carly Tobias 0476 858 872
ctobias@warrigal.com.au

Warrigal Social

Illawarra - Lee-Anne Sutton 0436 815 911
lsutton@warrigal.com.au

Goulburn - Rachael Edwards (02) 4823 0600
redwards@warrigal.com.au

Lifestyle Team Leaders

APR - Natasha McAlister 0476 858 870
nmcAlister@warrigal.com.au

Bundanoon - Corae Marx (02) 4884 6100
cmarx@warrigal.com.au

Calwell - Belinda Huntly 0448 586 928
bhuntly@warrigal.com.au

Coniston - Kylie O'Brien 0458 114 410
kobrien@warrigal.com.au

Goulburn - Kirilee Luxford 0488 712 487
kluxford@warrigal.com.au

Hughes - Angie Falls (02) 6283 4903
afalls@warrigal.com.au

Mt Warrigal - Stella Banks 0458 110 571
sbanks@warrigal.com.au

Mt Terry - Amanda Brien 0436 631 170
abrien@warrigal.com.au

Multicultural Village - Rebecca Marshall
0418 977 433 rmarshall@warrigal.com.au

Queanbeyan - Aryan Sachdeva (02) 6298 5200
asachdeva1@warrigal.com.au

Stirling - Sushila Subedi 0427 013 890
ssubedi@warrigal.com.au

Wollongong - Michael Patterson 0458 068 486
mpatterson@warrigal.com.au