

Volunteer Edition

In the January edition of this newsletter I made comment about the distribution of this newsletter. Thanks to the feedback from several readers, I can report that the effective distribution is at least 120. Several people on the mailing list pass the newsletter on to friends or people on other community mailing lists. Our branch newsletter is also placed on the COTA NT website and Facebook page. In addition to this I can report that the NT Library has recently been put on our mailing list and our newsletter becomes part of the NT Library collection. This is great community networking.

Whatever we call ourselves, be it older people, seniors or anything else, many of us are volunteers in our community. The value added to communities by their volunteers, unfortunately, is hardly ever calculated in dollar terms. It is often the case, however, that older people are well represented in the ranks of volunteers.

Whether it is caring for children or someone who is ageing or has a disability, or whether it is working in a community organisation, older volunteers add value. It is all too often the case that we read or hear comment about the ageing population being a burden when the fact is that such a view is an over-simplification and in many ways just not true. If all the work that older volunteers do were to disappear, communities would have to go without or spend a great deal to replace what they would have lost.

The Coomalie Branch of COTA NT aims to add value to its community by finding ways to enrich community life particularly for people over the age of 50. We use volunteers to achieve this. Collectively we acknowledge all the untold contribution to community that seniors make and celebrate this with pride.

Darryl Butler

Editor

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Regular Events

Bus to Darwin

Fourth Monday of the month

Monday 27 February 2017

Booking essential

Call Jan on 89760255

Morning Tea

Friday 24 February

from 9.30am

Rum Jungle Bowls Club

Quiz Nights

First Saturday of the Month

Saturday 4 March 2017

7.00 for 7.30 pm

Rum Jungle Bowls Club

Bring Food to Share

\$5 to play

Men's Shed

2 Cutler Place Batchelor

Tuesdays 8.30-2.00

Call James Wright on 0488195410

Batchelor (B3) Exercise Group

Every Tuesday

5.00pm-6.15pm

Research Building BIITE

Call Darryl on 89760160

Adelaide River Exercise Group

Every Wednesday

3.30pm

Library, Adelaide River School

Call Darryl on 89760160

Gardening Group

Sunday 26 February

11.00am

Working Bee at garden of Lyla Wills

12 Turana Street Batchelor

Coomalie Branch Volunteers

In celebration of Coomalie Branch volunteers, they are listed in alphabetical order and with their main areas of activity. Other people also help us out while participating in our range of activities.

Volunteer	Activities
Cheryl Bruce	Gardening Group Committee
Chris Johnstone	Bus Trips (Driver)
Darryl Butler	Committee, Exercise Groups, Newsletter, Bus Trips, Gardening Group Committee
Denise Wright	Markets
Dianne Clough	Adelaide River Exercise Group (Group leader as needed)
Dick Skinner	Committee
Graeme Cheater	Quiz Nights
James Wright	Committee, Men's Shed, Markets
Jan Jewell	Committee, Morning Tea, Quiz Nights, COTANT Board, COTA Australia Board
Mary Ashley	Gardening Group Committee
Myra Skinner	Markets
Prue King	Batchelor Exercise Group (Group leader as needed)
Richard Luxton	Bus Trips (Driver), Markets,
Ross McGorman	Quiz nights, Markets
Sue Mornane	Committee, Markets
Sue Munro	Gardening Group Committee

Volunteer Vacancies

- Bus Drivers for monthly bus trips. Must have LR endorsement on their licence and be willing to drive the Coomalie Council 22 seater bus once or more times a year. The bus trips have been operating since 2009 and occur on the fourth Monday of every month. To volunteer or find out more information please call Darryl on 89760160 or email to cotacoomalie@gmail.com
- General Volunteer. If you would like to be a general volunteer who may help with activities or special events, please call Darryl or email cotacoomalie@gmail.com to go on a general list of volunteers without specific obligation.
- Your Ideas. If you have an idea for an activity focussed on people over 50 and would be prepared to organise it and sustain the activity under the COTANT banner, we would love to hear from you to discuss how we might provide you with support. Examples could include finding other interested people. We could assist in fund raising and managing finances. We could auspice applications for grant funding from government or other sources.

About Coomalie Branch of COTA NT

We are a branch of Council on the Ageing (NT) Inc. This is a community-based organisation, incorporated in the Northern Territory. COTA NT is connected to similar organisations in other states and together these organisations contribute to the federal organisation of COTA Australia.

Coomalie Branch is activity-based. Through its community activity receives information about the needs of rural seniors. Information the branch acquires is shared with COTA NT which networks with other community organisations and then advocates to the NT and Commonwealth Government on behalf all older people, not just COTA members.

Find more information about COTA NT click on this link [COTA NT website](#)