

Founders and Lifetime Members



Ian Pullen

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Not many people can say that they have been a volunteer for most of their life but for Ian Pullen now 88 the desire to help out started at the tender age of ten when he was at boarding school in Western Australia. Just like his father before him Ian was a “joiner and a doer” which resulted in him becoming a volunteer across a vast array of activities over his lifetime “My arm automatically went up as soon as someone said, is anyone available?” His volunteering experiences include helping out at school during the war when staff were in short supply, in West Africa where, in addition to a United Nations posting he was a locum University lecturer in production management for a year and more recently in Tasmania with the National Trust. He joined Volunteering Tasmania in 2001 as a recruitment officer and soon became part of the Board of Management from which he became instrumental in helping VT move to a Board of Governance. Ian is an Honorary Life Member of Volunteering Tasmania, continues to attend the AGMs and maintains a keen interest in the development of opportunities for volunteers in Tasmania.

Ian sees volunteering as opening the door to wonderful experiences and meeting interesting and inspiring people. He has enjoyed the challenges that volunteering brings and has delighted in utilising his skills in public speaking and being able to share his knowledge as a manager in business and finance, as a teacher and educator and as a committee and Board member. Volunteering can also be challenging and this is something that Ian has relished over the years in meeting people who have helped shape and enhance his thinking and perceptions. He sees the future of volunteering as being exciting and providing opportunities for people beyond the perception that “you can only volunteer in the welfare sector or through saving trees”. There is a wide world of opportunities and Volunteering Tasmania is a fantastic place for people to find their place.