

December 2018

EdConnect Australia

NEWSLETTER

Region:

**North West Metro - Perth
Liaison Officer's Round-up**



Welcome to the 'I can't believe it is the end of the year' newsletter for 2018.

I hope that you have all had a wonderful time out in your schools during the course of the year.

I have had the most lovely time visiting volunteers and schools for end of year morning teas, coffee catch ups and assembly's. It gives me great joy to see those schools who welcome and value our volunteers in their school community.

EdConnect works tirelessly with our schools, their management and School Coordinators (SC) to ensure that our volunteers are well supported and looked after. The SC is integral to supporting

placed volunteers and giving guidance and advice, especially to mentors needing support relating to mentee relationships. The role of EdConnect (recruit, screen, train, place and liaise) means that we are always here for additional help and support should you need us. We are only a phone call away!

Thank you to everyone this year who spoke with your SC or sought further advise from EdConnect, it shows great commitment to your role and dedication to your students.

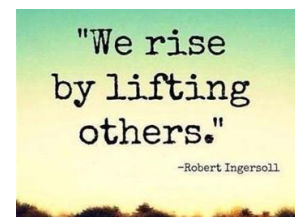
Surveys

Thank you to all of you who have returned your end of year surveys. If you have yet to do so, can you please

complete them as soon as possible so that we are able to update our data. If you are having any problems with the survey please contact me as soon as possible.

NCHHC – a reminder!

As of Term One 2019, to be a volunteer working in a Western Australian school, the Education Department will require a current NCHHC screening number. If you have not completed yours and intend to return to your school in 2019, could you please action this as soon as possible.



Sarah



Also in this issue:

- * Reflection on 2018
- * TED talks – a valuable resource
- * End of Year Morning Tea

Reflecting on 2018!



What a year we have had in 2018! One of the highlights for me was EdConnect being awarded the Volunteer Organisation of the Year Award at the Volunteering WA Awards. Thanks to each and every one of you who contributed to our success.

I loved getting out to have morning tea with you all at our 'thank a volunteer week' morning teas. The chat was lovely, the cakes were delicious and the company was wonderful.



I really enjoy the informal catch ups and getting to know each of you a little better!.

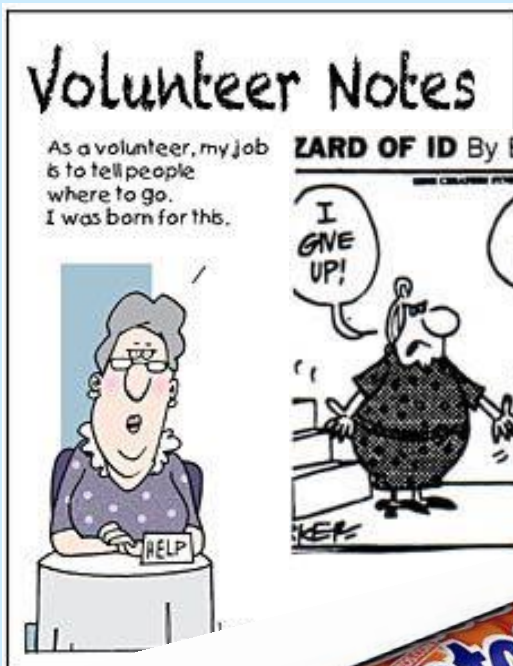


We had a wonderful day out at the Seniors Recreation Council of WA's 'Have A Go Day' for 2018. Held on the beautiful Burswood foreshore, it was a gorgeous (hot) day for meeting potential volunteers and partner agencies. It was lovely seeing all the options that exist for over 55's in WA.

We were also thrilled to learn that EdConnect was given another three year contract with the Alcoa Foundation to continue providing it's 'Connecting Generations for School Success' program in the Peel region. EdConnect first partnered with the Alcoa Foundation in 2016 and we look forward to growing our presence in the area.



Laughter is the best medicine!



ZARD OF ID By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



WHAT DO YOU CALL AN
EARLY MORNING
VOLUNTEER?

A DEW-SOMETHING.

TED talks – a talk on every subject

Some of you may have seen a TED Talk or two in your time but here's a little background for those who haven't and some Talks that may interest to you.

TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues in more than 100 languages.

Ramsey Musallam – 3 Rules to spark learning

Anindya Kundu: The boost students need to overcome obstacles

Angerla Lee Duckworth – Grit: The Power of passion and perseverance

Ken Robinson – Do schools kill creativity?

Rita Pierson – Every kid needs a champion

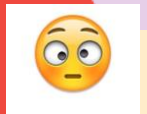
Lera Boroditsky – How language shapes the way we think

Sophie Andrews – The best way to help is often just to listen



Fun fact

You can always see your nose, but your mind just ignores it!*



Fast facts for the North West - 2018

*180 ongoing active volunteers *60 new volunteers *34 schools *6 new schools *countless children supported *4 North West newsletters *one National newsletter *2 mini newsletters *5 EdConnect morning teas *4 volunteer management meetings *one mentoring summit *one Volunteering WA Volunteer Organisation of the Year *Volunteering expo *one AGM *6 school morning teas *one Des Heenan *20+ volunteers emails *four Step into Volunteering sessions *hundreds of volunteer birthday cards *364 Facebook posts *one 'Have a go' day *one new computer *1000 km's travelled *meeting and reconnecting with fabulous people *immense job satisfaction

**If you are anything like me, you looked at your nose!*

End of Year morning tea

A wonderful time was had at our end of year Volunteer Morning Tea held on the 17th of December 2018. It was so nice to see all of you and share a little bit of end of term cheer. This year we were able to utilise one of the rooms at The Rise which meant a central location for some but also a bit of a journey for others. Thank you to all of you who made the effort to attend, we so appreciate you all!




The food was plentiful as were the smiles and laughter. Congratulations to those of you who won a prize for either your amazing knowledge of musical Western Australia philanthropists (Hugh Jackman for those playing at home), to the singers, dancers and clappers along.



The morning tea is one of my favourite events of the EdConnect Year as it gives us an opportunity to tell all the volunteers how important and ultimately valued they are. Without you, there would be no us!

The EdConnect Volunteer is an unique and special person. They are caring, kind, supportive and patient. They make a difference in the lives of children who may have no one else. They listen and never judge, they support and respect. They are all simply amazing.

 So **THANK YOU** for every minute you have spent in your schools this year, you are making a **HUGE** difference!



Visit www.edconnectaustralia.org.au or follow us facebook.com/EdConnectAustralia

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Or email us at edconnect@edconnect.org.au and we'll be in touch.