

The HU4K Focus



A few words from our President...

Here we are, four years after the introduction of Hands Up 4 Kids and we now have 15 partner Primary Schools and YOU – one of the VIP's who make up the 150-strong team of fabulous volunteer readers! What a difference we are all making in helping young kids gain the knowledge and skills to read confidently!

HU4K received The Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a community group or event - "Local Government recognising local achievement" states "Presented to Hands Up 4 Kids for fostering Australian pride and spirit through active citizenship and outstanding contribution to community". In accepting these certificates we proudly acknowledged that the awards applied to every one of our volunteers.

Special thanks to the Lions Club of Australind who nominated HU4K for this award in the Harvey Shire.

Thanks to all of you for your ongoing support and commitment.

Jan Pedersen
Hands Up 4 Kids President

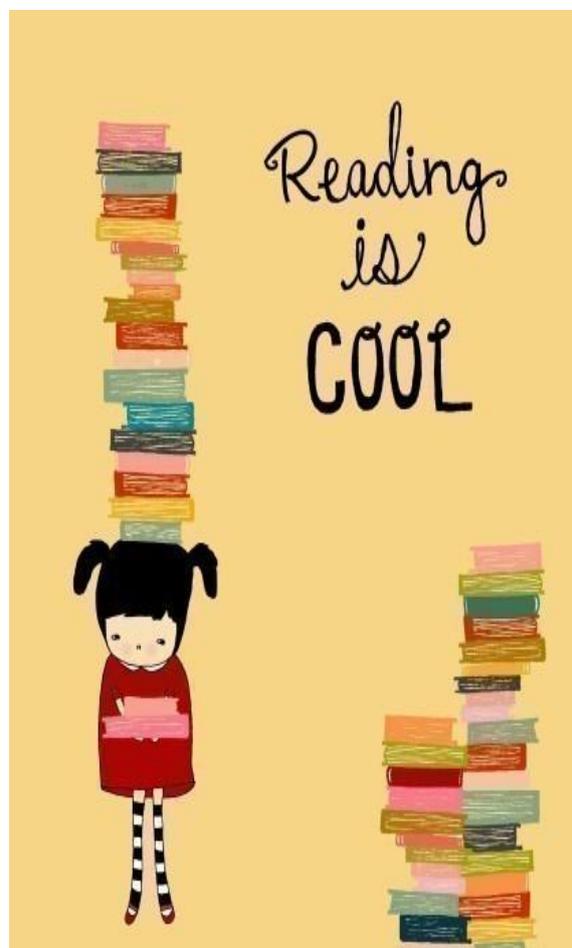
Volunteer Attendance Hours – a valuable contribution

Figures collated from the Sign in Registers at our partner schools (Feb-Dec 2015) show that volunteer attendance hours accounted for 3107 donated hours (accuracy allowing for a ½ - 1% variation).

To put that in dollar terms, costed at the recognised volunteer rate of \$25 per hour, it equates to \$77,690.

Thank you to David Parson who took on the time consuming task of collating the hours.

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HU4K Wins Australia Day Awards

Hands Up 4 Kids was awarded the 2016 City of Bunbury and Shire of Harvey's, Premier's Australia Day Active Citizenship Award for a Community Group.

This award recognises the fantastic contribution made by everyone involved in Hands Up 4 Kids. Well done and give yourselves a pat on the pack.

Special thanks go to Jan Pedersen for her winning submissions.



Regional Coordinator Jan Akaczzonek accepts Bunbury City Council's Premier's Australia Day Award from Mayor, Gary Brennan, on behalf of HU4K.

Three additional local schools have joined the HU4K Partnership

The 2016 school year is rapidly passing and I'm sure that it seems to many of us that the months are speeding by. It has been a very busy school year so far as we have partnered with three new schools and signed on an additional 40 new volunteers. We welcome Eaton Primary, Bunbury Primary and South Bunbury Primary and all of our new volunteers.

Rotary District Conference 19/20 March 2016

We were given the opportunity to spread the HU4K message to over 400 Rotary delegates who attended the recent conference held in Bunbury.

Special thanks to our members who helped out with staffing our information booth during the weekend – Helen Foan, Deanna Lefler, Judy Dunbar, Gaye Archer, Helen Ewers, Rhonda Jones, Lyn Devereaux, Lee Mead, Shahn Paganini, Rosemarie Williams, Jenny Pyper, Maureen Tepper and Lorraine Schram – plus - of course - the two Jan's.

Our information booth and HU4K presentation resulted in several promising enquiries from delegates who were interested in how the program could be replicated or started in their own regions.

We also took advantage of this opportunity to present a Certificate of Appreciation to the Rotary Club of Bunbury Leschenault for their consistent assistance and support since the inception of HU4K.

Volunteer Network Exchange (VNE)

Our final VNE for 2015 was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy catching up and socialising.

Dot's Place proved to be a very nice venue. We would like to thank Helen Ewers for suggesting the venue, and the Cancer Council of WA, who operate the facility, for allowing us to use it free of charge.

Special thanks to Jan A's husband - Peter - who once again was our BBQ Chef, and thank you to all our HU4K home "chefs" – for the lovely range of salads and sweets we all enjoyed so much!

Our latest get together was also well attended and judging by the noise level

and smiling faces everyone made the most of meeting new people and catching up with old friends and colleagues.

Our Zone Coordinators, Helen and Lorraine, were once again invaluable with their assistance.



HU4K Christmas 2015 - Dot's Place, Bunbury

HU4K Northern Zone Coordinator Appointed

In addition to her Board duties, Lorraine Schram has agreed to take on the position of Northern Zone Coordinator.

Lorraine is also a volunteer at Brunswick Primary and brings a wealth of teaching experience and community service to the appointment. Lorraine coordinates the volunteers and is now the first point of contact for Parkfield, Kingston, Brunswick Junction, Australind and Clifton Park primary schools.

Lorraine joins our wonderful team of coordinators - Southern Zone Coordinator - Helen Ewers; and Central Zone Coordinator - Dianne Martin.



Northern Zone Coordinator, Lorraine Schram

Would you like to fly the HU4K flag whilst travelling elsewhere in WA?

Many of our volunteers travel on extended trips throughout Western Australia and we have been told that some, when stopped for a period in other towns, would like to continue helping children with reading.

Approaching a school in an area where you are not known can sometimes be a little daunting. We have produced a "letter of introduction" that can be used to prove your HU4K volunteering credentials and assist with the initial contact.

Please contact Jan A if you would like a personal letter of introduction.



National Literacy (& Numeracy) Week 2016 29th Aug to 4th Sep

Shopping centre promotions, and volunteer recruitment, are planned to coincide with National Literacy Week.

Please advise your Zone Coordinator if you would like to be involved or if you have any ideas to celebrate the week and to highlight HU4K.

An opportunity to support Rotary

Rotary have been supporters of HU4K from its inception. We now have an opportunity to support them in return by attending their Op Shop Ball.

The theme this year is "Rio". Attendees are encouraged to source costumes from their local Opportunity Shop. Leave the tags on costumes for a chance to win a prize.

BYO drinks and nibbles. Be prepared for a fun evening of auctions, games and dancing.

Proceeds to Rotary Sail into Life and local Rotary projects.

Saturday, 17 September 2016
6:30-11:30pm
South West Italian Club
White Street, East Bunbury
Tickets: \$40/person www.trybooking.com
Email: rotaryopshopball@gmail.com

HU4K 2016 AGM

The Hands Up 4 Kids AGM will be held on Thursday 15th September, 3.30pm in the Activities Room of the Bunbury City Library. Afternoon tea will be provided after the meeting.

If you would like to attend the AGM please RSVP to Jan A by Friday 9th September 2016.

Did you know...

It often surprises people to learn that Australia has a significant literacy issue.

- Figures from the [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) show that 44% of Australian adults don't have the literacy skills they need to cope with the demands of everyday life and work.
- The [Australian Early Development Census](#) shows that 24% of five year old children starting school in Western Australia are developmentally

vulnerable or at risk in their language and cognitive skills.

- A survey by the Australian Industry Group, carried out as part of their [National Workforce Literacy Project](#) in 2010 found that more than 75% of employers reported that their business was affected by low levels of literacy and numeracy.

Useful tips for volunteers

- Obtain a copy of the school newsletter as they always have an event calendar or similar that you can check to see if there is a conflicting activity on the day you normally volunteer.
- At the end of each session when saying good bye to your teacher, ask if the students will be in class for your next visit. This will jog the teacher's memory and save the possible frustration of turning up to find the class not in attendance or otherwise engaged.
- Every now and again reread your Hands Up 4 Kids booklet to refresh your memory. There may be information that you have forgotten and may help you.
- Remember that your class teacher is your first contact for help and that your Zone Coordinator is only a telephone call away

Working with Children Check

Moving with the times, the Working With Children Check renewals can now be made online.

(<https://workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au/applicants-card-holders/online-services/re-apply-online>)

Some volunteers have had a few problems navigating the site. To streamline the process, if you plan to renew your Working With Children check online please contact Jan Akacznek beforehand to ensure you have all of the required information to complete the application.

WA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS AND TERM DATES

2016

Period	Start	Finish	Length
Term 3	Monday 18 July,	Friday 23 September	10 Weeks
School Holidays	Saturday 24 September	Sunday 9 October	
Term 4	Monday 10 October	Thursday 15 December	10 Weeks
School Holidays	Friday 16 December	Tuesday 31 January	

2017

Term 1	Wednesday 1 February, 2017	Friday 7 April, 2017	10 Weeks
School Holidays	Saturday 8 April, 2017	Sunday 23 April, 2017	
Term 2	Monday 24 April, 2017	Friday 30 June, 2017	10 Weeks
School Holidays	Saturday 1 July, 2017	Sunday 16 July, 2017	
Term 3	Monday 17 July, 2017	Friday 22 September, 2017	10 Weeks
School Holidays	Saturday 23 September, 2017	Sunday 8 October, 2017	
Term 4	Monday 9 October, 2017	Thursday 14 December, 2017	10 Weeks
School Holidays	Friday 15 December, 2017	Sunday 28 January, 2018	

Source: <http://www.schoolholidayswa.com.au/wa-school-holiday-dates-2016/>

NB: The first day of a school term is often a pupil free day. Please check with your respective school regarding pupil free days.

Zone Coordinator Contact Details

Helen Ewers

Telephone: 08 9721 3035
Email: helenewers45@gmail.com

Dianne Martin

Telephone: 08 9791 4454
Email: kimmartin475@gmail.com

Lorraine Schram

Telephone: 0417 523 110
Email: lorijohn2@bigpond.com

HU4K Contact Details

Post: PO Box 715
Bunbury
WA 6231
Mobile: 0499 240 371
Email: handsup4kids@gmail.com

