



ST. PATRICK'S

COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTRE
Serving - Supporting - Caring



Anita's Story

Anita has been volunteering at St Patrick's Community Support Centre (St Patrick's) for over 25 years.

This is her story:

"I came to St Patrick's in 1984 after hearing about it from my good friend Billie Edwards. We

were working in the tuckshop at the convent where our daughters went to school and she mentioned that she volunteered at St Patrick's.

The following week I read about it in the Parish newsletter and decided to start volunteering in the kitchen on Wednesday's shortly after that. Besides having two years off to visit my daughter overseas and the occasional holiday, I have been volunteering here ever since. After my overseas trip it was my daughter who prompted me to return to St Patrick's to give me something to do.

My experience at St Patrick's has been very positive. The staff has always been very good and I've really enjoyed getting to know them and the clients as well as the other volunteers. Companionship is something I really value about my volunteering experience. That and helping someone. I like having a routine, it gives me a purpose.

I have made many friendships with the other volunteers that have lasted so long, a few for almost 30 years. I really enjoy the company and we all have our different roles in the kitchen. Being a sweet tooth, I usually do the desserts! Morning tea is always a social time; I remember having coffee with Brother Hannick years ago.



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St Patrick's has gradually worked up from what it was when I first started. They used to give things for free, maybe 50c. But they also didn't get things like we do now. It was adequate; we used to say you can have apples and custard or custard and apples, but now it's like the Ritz! We get so much more, particularly donations from Woolworths and Coles. The services offered have extended too, with the nurses, physio, counselling, St Patrick's has become such a vital part of the community. “