

Volunteering Tasmania and UTAS to challenge the 'me generation' myth #kindsnaps

Wednesday 11 March 2015 – For immediate release

Volunteering Tasmania, in conjunction with the University of Tasmania, is showing all the different ways that young people give back to the community.

They are raising awareness of youth community participation via an Instagram competition: 'Random Snaps of Kindness' for this year's National Youth Week.

"Young volunteers give an average of 12.5 hours a month to benefit our community. Our goal is to give those hard workers the recognition they deserve, and break down the myth that young people don't demonstrate care for others or give their time," said Volunteering Tasmania CEO Adrienne Picone.

"Through working with University of Tasmania Researcher, Dr Nicholas Hookway, we know that young people show kindness every day in many different ways, including volunteering" she said.

Any Tasmanians between the ages of 13-25 can submit photos on Instagram using the #kindsnaps hashtag, and @volunteeringtas to win prizes.

The photos should represent the donation of time or another act of kindness, and entrants are reminded that they must read the terms and conditions found at www.volunteeringtas.org.au prior to entry. Prizes include iPod Nanos and gift vouchers.

In addition to prizes, the images will be displayed from 13th – 15th April during National Youth Week, at both the Hobart and Launceston University campuses. A launch event will be held for each region on that week. Entrants from anywhere in Tasmania are eligible to enter, win prizes, and attend the events.

This event was made possible by a grant from the Department of Premier and Cabinet.



Background:

Dr Nicholas Hookway is a sociologist in the School of Social Sciences at the University of Tasmania. His research is driven by a fascination with how people care and connect in a changing world. The kindness study – completed with UTAS colleagues Associate Professor Daphne Habibis and Dr Anthea Vreugdenhil – is the first in the world to examine the social composition of kindness and how it is changing across generations.

As Tasmania's Peak body for volunteering, Volunteering Tasmania (VT) makes a positive impact on volunteerism, and as a result, helps to improve and sustain our wonderful community and the people within it. VT believes that all members of our community equally deserve the right to be included in volunteering, and experience the benefits. Their mission is to create an environment which promotes and sustains effective volunteerism.

Photo opportunities with Youth Advisory Council members and Volunteering Tasmania staff at Elizabeth St Mall, Hobart, today Wednesday 11th March 10am – 4pm.

Words: 248

www.volunteeringtas.org.au

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