



VAOAT Achievements 1996 - 2000

- ✓ ***First Response newsletter*** to all Volunteer Ambulance Officers
- ✓ **Website set up**
- ✓ **First ongoing Educator for volunteers funded by Ambulance Tasmania (1999)**. By 2011 there are four Educators
- ✓ **VAOAT has representatives on Ambulance Tasmania committees**, such as fleet, equipment, uniform and OH&S
- ✓ ***More than a Band-Aid***, project defined strategies training, uniform, vehicles and support in recruiting and retaining volunteers that was funded by Emergency Management Australia
- ✓ **Ambulance Tasmania strategic planning invites volunteers participation**
- ✓ **Parliamentary Inquiry into Ambulance Services input**
- ✓ **VAOAT is the accepted & ongoing voice for volunteers** by Ambulance Tasmania management and the Tasmanian Government
- ✓ **Development of a national, ongoing, accredited course for volunteers**, including standardised, protocol training packages



VAOAT Achievements

2001 - 2006

- ✓ **Part of *Stand Up and Be Counted* national research** on factors affecting Australian and & New Zealand ambulance volunteers
- ✓ **Direct representation on the *Australia Emergency Management Volunteer Forum***, which looks at issues common to all emergency service volunteers
- ✓ **Driver training for all volunteers**, was a volunteer initiative done through Tasmanian Community Funds and facilitated by VAOAT
- ✓ **A MegaCode Kelly manikin provided to each region**, with funds from several volunteer units, VAOAT, and Tasmanian and Australian Government funding
- ✓ **Recruitment booklets** developed to use by local volunteer groups
- ✓ **Ongoing improvements to vehicles and equipment**, including automatic external defibrillators for all volunteer groups
- ✓ **Improvements to Uniforms**, second jumpsuits available; two piece suits are an alternative for female volunteers.
- ✓ **Standardised reimbursement process**, out-of-pocket expenses.
- ✓ **Access to Computers & e-learning** for all volunteer groups



VAOAT Achievements 2007 - 2012

- ✓ **Annual VAO ‘Gatherings’ commence**, so volunteers can spend a funded weekend sharing experiences and learning from one another, and participate in the VAOAT AGM and General meeting.
- ✓ **First ambulance volunteer on the national Volunteer Leadership Program (Wayne Doran, 2007)**. This is by the Australian Emergency Management Institute with emergency services volunteers applying to attend from all over Australia
- ✓ **Keynote speech by Dianne Coon** at Forum by *Ambulance 2020*, a grouping of the Australian College of Health Professionals, Health and Community Services Union and the VAOAT
- ✓ **Recruitment website** to make it easier for prospective VAOs to access information and make contact with Ambulance Tasmania
- ✓ **Recruitment DVD “Making a Difference”**, VAOAT helped develop this resource and support volunteer participation in the filming. Organised the launch to media
- ✓ **VAOAT Professional Association Badge** is free to members, and has official approval for it to be worn on volunteer uniform



VAOAT Achievements 2007 – 2012 continued

- ✓ **vGate website - developed by a volunteer for volunteers** - for access to rosters, training, e-learning & protocols. Also provides information and reports to Ambulance Tasmania
- ✓ **Gathering Information Booklet** for volunteer units wishing to host an annual Gathering, including Gathering policies & procedures
- ✓ **Coordinator Volunteer Strategy**, assisted the creation of an Ambulance Tasmania position dedicated to the support of volunteers
- ✓ **Recruitment Vehicle**, is a high profile year-round recruitment tool. VAOAT gained ongoing sponsorship for running costs from MAIB, RACT and Searoad Shipping
- ✓ **Two VAOAT volunteers (Cheryl Wilson and Pat Taylor) are part of team delivering the Australian Emergency Management Institute's Volunteer Leadership Program.** This is national program with emergency services volunteers applying to attend from all over Australia



VAOAT Ongoing Support and Action

- ✓ **VAOAT is the accepted, ongoing, external voice for volunteers** by Ambulance Tasmania management and the Tasmanian Government
- ✓ **Providing a combined and united voice for all volunteer units**, countering prior isolation or 'squeaky wheel' issues
- ✓ **Involvement in reviewing, negotiating and updating all Ambulance Tasmania policies and procedures** which impact on volunteers (E.g. Volunteer Ambulance Officers Procedures Manual, Financial Policy, Statement of Duties, and many others)
- ✓ **Representing the Tasmanian volunteer perspective**, VAOAT promotes opportunities for volunteers to attend
- ✓ **Promoting opportunities for volunteers** to attend Leadership courses and Conferences
- ✓ **Facilitates volunteer units applying for grants** and acts as an incorporated body for grant acquittal
- ✓ **Ongoing activities to increase profile of volunteers** at statewide events / rural shows where volunteers demonstrate their skills
- ✓ **Proactive in securing grants and gaining on-going sponsorships**