



# THE HEART OF VICTORIA

11 May 2017

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SUMMIT DRAWS VOLUNTEERS FROM ACROSS THE REGION**

The Goulburn River Valley Visitor Information Centre Volunteers Summit was held in Shepparton on Tuesday 9 May 2017.

The Summit saw over 120 volunteers and staff from across the Goulburn River Valley region in attendance for a one-day professional development and networking opportunity held this year at the Woolshed Emerald Bank in Kialla.

Guest speaker comedian and screen-writer Tim Ferguson headlined the event by sharing his experience directing the film 'Spin Out' in the Shepparton region and giving insight to his time with the Doug Anthony All Stars while also offering words of inspiration from the obstacles he has faced since being diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

Commenting on the success of the Summit, the Executive Officer of Goulburn River Valley Tourism Wendy Jones said "The Summit brings together volunteers from across the region who are committed to ensuring visitors can discover the best of what the Heart of Victoria offers.

Volunteers are able to familiarise themselves with destinations and tourism product from across the region as well as share ideas and network throughout the day and the Summit makes the perfect way thank each volunteer for being a key part of the visitor experience." Ms Jones said.

The Summit also saw the launch of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the 'Discover the Heart of Victoria' Planner which provides visitors to the region with the ultimate guide to discovering and exploring the townships and destination of the Goulburn River Valley.

The Visitor Information Centre Volunteers Summit, now in its eighth year, rotates yearly between the municipalities of Greater Shepparton, Strathbogie, Mitchell and Murrindindi, the four councils which make up the Goulburn River Valley region - the 'Heart of Victoria'.

The event coincides with National Volunteer Week which ran nationally from 8 – 14 May to acknowledge the generous contribution of volunteers across Australia.

Goulburn River Valley Tourism calls on anyone who is passionate about the region to contact their local Visitor Information Centre for more information about volunteering opportunities.

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For further information and photo opportunity contact:  
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