



Corporate Returns Program

VOLUNTEERING ILLAWARRA

Ocean Room
Wollongong Town Hall &
Community Centre
Cnr Crown & Kembla Streets
Wollongong
Locked Bag 8821
South Coast Mail Centre
NSW 2521

Phone: 4225 7812

Fax: 4225 9620

Email:

lbrazier@wollongong.nsw.gov.au



What Is Corporate Volunteering?

Also known as

- ◆ employee volunteering, or
- ◆ employer-sponsored volunteering,

corporate volunteers are paid employees of a company who, with the support and encouragement of their employers, are involved in some form of community based volunteer activity.

Corporate volunteering is not new; the idea of corporate volunteering as something definable started in the USA in the late 1970 's and has been a growing trend ever since.

In the UK in 1998 approximately one-third of large corporations had formal volunteering programs. *

In Australia many large corporations have formalised volunteer programs written into company policy – for example: Westpac, Ford Australia, National Australia Bank, Shell, The Body Shop, NRMA, Lend Lease and Esprit, to name a few.

Corporate volunteering can range from individual volunteer effort through to team or whole of company involvement. It can occur wholly within company time, or a combination of company time and the employee 's own time.

There are lots of *volunteering opportunities*:

- ◆ community transport
- ◆ service clubs
- ◆ schools
- ◆ environmental work
- ◆ meals on wheels
- ◆ sporting organisations
- ◆ youth tutoring and mentoring
- ◆ special community events
- ◆ fundraising

* Lee, Louise; *Employee Volunteering: More than Good Feelings*