



11 June 2009

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## Government Media Statement

**DAVID BARTLETT**  
Premier

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### **Over \$1 million to Reinvigorate Volunteering**

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Premier David Bartlett today said the State Government would focus on reinvigorating volunteering by providing \$1.04 million over four years to implement the Supporting Tasmanian Volunteers Program.

“Volunteers are the lifeblood of local communities.

“The Supporting Tasmanian Volunteers Program aims to reinvigorate volunteering across the state by developing a statewide network of access points for people willing to volunteer.

“The program will also focus on creating opportunities for excluded groups and the next generation of volunteers to get involved in their local communities.

The Premier also announced the inaugural Celebrate Tasmania Day will be held on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2009.

“Celebrate Tasmania Day will be an annual day dedicated to volunteerism in our State.

“\$190,000 has been budgeted this year for Celebrate Tasmania Day. Grants will be provided to APEX, Rotary and Lions clubs to create events in local streets and parks across our State.

“Community organisations are the natural choice to lead a day on which to celebrate all that we enjoy in Tasmania. They consistently contribute their time and energy to improve the lives of their neighbours and their communities.

“Volunteerism is a part of Tasmanian culture that we can all be incredibly proud of, and something I believe we should celebrate and encourage.

“Volunteering not only has social benefits, but also economic – people develop new skills and make an important contribution to delivering services and support in their communities.”

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Contact: Vanessa Fabris on 0419 006 572  
<http://www.tas.gov.au>