



Tuesday 22nd September 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

New Hobart Visitor Volunteer Program

There has been a great deal of interest generated with the Council holding an information session today for volunteers wanting to participate in an exciting new 'meet and greet' program for the City of Hobart this summer 2009/10.

Earlier this year, the Hobart City Council incorporated the Tasmanian Travel and Information Centre (TTIC) in Hobart into Council operations. One of the TTIC's first major initiatives is to run the Hobart Visitor Volunteer Program.

Lord Mayor of Hobart, Alderman Rob Valentine said the Council is seeking to put together a team of enthusiastic volunteers who want to share the story of Hobart with and assist visitors to our great City.

"The aim is to improve visitor experiences and satisfaction in Hobart, complement the existing visitor services offered by the Tasmanian Travel and Information Centre (TTIC) and encourage visitors to return to Hobart and Tasmania," Alderman Valentine said.

"Initially we are seeking volunteers for the days that cruise ships are visiting Hobart. However, we would like to see this program develop to be run throughout the whole of summer and perhaps even into winter. There is also potential for the program to expand to include major events in Hobart."

“Volunteers will meet and greet cruise ship passengers as they disembark on to the wharf, provide information on-board the shuttle bus service bringing passengers into the City and also be centrally located in the Elizabeth Street Mall to answer questions and help give directions to visitors,” he said.

Alderman Valentine said the volunteer group will be provided with ongoing training and taken on familiarisation tours to enhance their knowledge of Hobart experiences and services. They will also be provided with a uniform to make them recognisable to visitors.

The current Cruise Ship Schedule indicates that Hobart will host 31 separate cruise ship visits during the upcoming season, bringing an estimated 45,767 passengers and 18,982 crew. The first cruise ship is scheduled to arrive 6 November 2009.

The Council is currently receiving expressions of interest from applicants eighteen to eighty years of age to be involved in this exciting initiative. Applications need to be received by close of business 5 October 2009.

Further information is available from the TTIC on the corner of Elizabeth and Davey Streets or from the Volunteer Coordinator, Jenna Paul on 6238 4255.

For further information contact:
Alderman Rob Valentine-Lord Mayor
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