

# Jump on board the volunteer train at Moonta

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JOURNALIST

HERITAGE tourism is booming and, with Moonta Mines recently being added to the National Heritage List, there is no better time to get involved with the National Trust Moonta branch.

"Volunteering is so rewarding for anyone of any age," tourism manager Glenys Blacker said.

"It gives people the opportunity to connect with their community.

"It has also been proven retired people who volunteer have fewer physical health problems and better mental health."

There are about 150 volunteers on the Moonta National Trust books but not all are active and, as the adage goes, many hands make light work.

"We have lots of new things happening at the tourist office," Glenys said.

"We are planning sound and light shows to go with some of our tourist attractions and then there is our bid to be added to the World Heritage List.

"It's a really exciting time to get involved with volunteering in Moonta."

Di Perkins has volunteered with the Moonta National Trust for the past three years and encouraged others to get involved.

"I do 15 hours a week in the Moonta Tourist Office and the Moonta Mines Sweet Shop and I really enjoy it," Di said.

"You meet a variety of people not just from South Australia but also interstate and overseas.

"I'm a talker, and I learn so much about

other people, their countries and what they do."

Di enjoys volunteering in the sweet shop and said it gets very busy.

"Especially when the tourist train stops, our little shop gets packed," she said.

"As well as serving people, we make our own confectionary spuds and have to package up all the lollies from the big bags.

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*- Glenys Blacker, National Trust Moonta  
branch tourism manager*

"It is fun working there when kids come in, they think it's wonderful!"

Di said volunteers receive plenty of support.

"Someone will help teach you the ropes, you have to learn about what attractions there are in Moonta and about the mining history," she said.

A variety of volunteer roles are available including at the sweet shop, tourist information centre, museum, cottage, tourist train and tram, and resource centre.

You can commit to as many hours as you choose.

For more information, or to apply, phone the Moonta Tourist Office on 8825 1891 or email [info@moontatourism.org.au](mailto:info@moontatourism.org.au).



■ **VOLUNTEER...** Di Perkins volunteers at the Moonta Tourist Office and Moonta Mines Sweet Shop, and encourages other people to get involved.