

Kathy Pfeiffer

Do what needs to be done

Kathy was born in Adelaide but moved to Mt Compass when her father bought a dairy farm. The family moved to Victor Harbor where Kathy did her schooling, and her father tried poultry farming while her mother taught (this caused some bullying for Kathy as she was an 'old school' teacher).

On completing Matric, Kathy was offered a SA public service position at the Department of Chemistry in the cereals sections, in the days when TNT was stored in the cellars! Kathy boarded at Houghton and despite the long bus trip she enjoyed living in a smaller community.

Once Kathy married she left the laboratory to work as a courier driver and in the family service station. They moved to Windsor Gardens where they bought a fully furnished house for \$12,000! Kathy still has much of the furniture they purchased with the house. In 1975, Kathy had her first child and then a second child.

Kathy moved to Athelstone on December 26, 1976 and had her second baby on January 6! Addison Avenue was then half built with a few older homes and Johnson's poultry farm. Kathy loved the big trees, community vibe and more connected neighbours. Kathy's children went to kindy and school at Athelstone and were the last students through Campbelltown High School.

When her husband set up a mechanic workshop at Holden Hill, Kathy worked under the hoist and cleaning to make ends meet. Kathy didn't enjoy getting mucky but 'you just did what needs doing' a motto she lives out in the organisations she supports.

Kathy's husband retired and she became his full-time carer until he entered a nursing home; this was a difficult time with daily visiting, no longer having a carer role and needing to find work to qualify for support.

Kathy started volunteering to meet the government Newstart allowances requirements. She responded to an ad for Council's Home Support program. Since then Kathy has joined the Fruit Crew and the Community Orchard. Kathy enjoys mixing with the range of people and ages involved and her time outdoors.

Kathy is a regular volunteer in the Council 'Give an Hour' program and the Repair Café. She values their reuse/recycle/repurpose philosophy and helps with administration and as treasurer.

Kathy helps at Highbury Primary School weekly to support her grandchildren and covering books at Surrey Downs Primary School. She has been a regular Red Cross blood donor since she was 18 (initially as you got a free beer!).

As a volunteer, Kathy enjoys the purposeful tasks, relaxed atmosphere, meeting community members and the fact that she can fit tasks that benefit the community, around her availability. Through her involvement Kathy has gained confidence, developed skills and been able to share some of her own.

Kathy sees success in her children who are happy, positive, productive citizens.

**“Don't take life too seriously
or worry about tomorrow; run
with today as nothing stays the
same forever or starts perfectly”.**

Celebrating International Women's Day with the 'Women of Campbelltown' project – inspiring stories of local women, their achievements and contributions to the Community.

To see the full stories visit: www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/iwd

Thank you to the women who participated and volunteer interviewers Di Booker and Katrina Spencer.

