

Outback Helpers Scheme



*A helping hand
is on the way*



We have many people on stations who are desperately seeking assistance

Outback Helpers - Hosts Checklist

Important information to be obtained and discussed with the 'Helpers' before arranging for their visit.

- > Are the helper/s suitable - do they 'fit the bill'?
- > Will their vehicle make it along the roads? (No point in arranging for them to come and then finding out their very low sports car, or that on-road caravan, won't make it along your road)
- > What does the 'helper' expect of you, what type of work will they be doing? Discuss their skills with them.
- > What do you expect of them? Remember this is their holiday, so leave time for recreation, sightseeing, reading a book ... whatever. Keep in mind that they are helpers, not employees, albeit willing helpers.
- > Remember, also, they are visitors to your property, and it is important for them to liaise with you before venturing away from the homestead and civilization – directions, destination, approximate time of return (safety reasons).
- > How long can they stay, how long do you want them to stay ... a week, a month, or until the job is done?
- > Are they happy to do voluntary work, or will you pay them? (Anyone who is doing paid work must fill out a TFN Declaration form and will be covered by worker's compensation insurance whilst working at your place.)
- > **Voluntary workers will not be covered by worker's compensation insurance and must either have their own, or explore other options, in case of an accident. (Public Liability Insurance – another option is to fill a TFN Declaration Form to hold on file just in case - tear it up when they leave – should there be an accident you can then post the TFN to the ATO and the 'helpers' will be covered by your worker's compensation.) Only fair – considering the help they are giving you.**
- > Do the 'helpers' require accommodation, keep (food) fuel, access to bathroom facilities, or are they self contained?
- > You can offer them keep in lieu of, or as part of, their payment (if you are paying them).
- > Fuel - where is the last place they can fuel up, and can they obtain fuel from your property, if need be? (Once again, this can be in lieu of, or as part of, their payment.) If you are not paying them it would be courtesy to give them food and fuel in return for their help.
- > Directions, or course (!) and an update on road conditions just before they leave.
- > Do you require the 'helpers' to have police clearance or a First Aid Certificate?
- > There is no requirement for the 'helpers' to work any specific amount of time – this scheme is purely to give travelers the opportunity to experience something different, to help out, maybe supplement their income, to give something back to those of us who need the help, and for the 'hosts to benefit from meeting new people and having work done that normally doesn't get done due to the lack of time, skills, etc. Remember they are on holidays and are willingly volunteering their time for the experience.
- > Do the 'helpers' have pets they wish to bring along?

Unfortunately for the 'hosts', we have to wait for the 'helpers' to be in our area before we can expect a visit – patience is the name of the game. It is up to the 'Helpers' and 'Hosts' to negotiate the suitability, financial and pet arrangements before the visit. Remember the helpers are on holidays, so it is important to respect this fact and negotiate. Some of the helpers may not be self-sufficient and will require food and accommodation and/or connection to power and access to bathroom facilities.

> It is up to the Helpers and Hosts to negotiate the suitability, financial and pet arrangements before the visit.

> Remember the helpers are on holidays, so it is important to negotiate with them regarding hours worked each day, yours and their expectations, length of stay, tasks expected etc.

Disclaimer: While the 'Outback Helpers' scheme has attempted to ensure the information passed on in our publications and other communications is correct, we cannot warrant the information is accurate and complete, nor will we be liable for any loss suffered by any person because they rely on it in any way.

Greg & Jenny Watters, Mount Clere Station, MEEKATHARRA. WA. 6642
Phone no: (08) 9981 2943 - Fax: (08) 9981 2959 - Email: mtclere@gmail.com

Ted and Jean Winterfield, 34 Acacia Street, MT GAMBIER. SA 5290
Phone no: (08) 8725 4463 - Mobile: 0407 973 059 - Email: jeane6@bigpond.com

Rosie Bryant, Albury Station, Mungallala, Qld 4467.
Ph: 07 46231 839 Email: byrantalbury@bigpond.com

Ron and Janis Smith
Mobile: 0429 955 935 Email: Ronald_smith2460@hotmail.com

Our website is <http://www.outbackhelpersscheme.com>