

Brian Gallop – St John WA

1. Using examples tell us about your nominee's volunteering activities and achievements during 2024, including their key responsibilities and roles. Help us get to know your nominee by sharing how they have gone above-and-beyond in their volunteering efforts.

Brian Gallop ASM OStJ is a tireless volunteer whose dedication to serving others is unwavering. In 2024, his voluntary contributions have extended across multiple roles within St John WA and far beyond into the state and country, positively impacting countless individuals and communities. His commitment to improving the lives of others is evident in every aspect of his work, whether through emergency response, training and mentoring, community outreach, fundraising, or innovative care initiatives. As a Volunteer Ambulance Officer, Brian has responded to emergencies in remote and rural areas, providing critical pre-hospital care. His expertise and calm demeanor during high-pressure situations have saved lives, offering reassurance and high-quality medical assistance to patients in distress. In addition, Brian is an active Volunteer Development Officer, mentoring new volunteers, providing additional training sessions, and ensuring his peers feel supported and equipped to handle real-life emergencies.

Brian is also a Member of the Volunteer Advocacy Team, where he works tirelessly to represent the interests of volunteers at the organizational level. In 2024, he played an integral role in securing better resources and training opportunities for volunteers, ensuring they have the tools they need to serve the community effectively through fundraising and support. His advocacy work has made a measurable difference in shaping the policies that directly impact the volunteer workforce. Beyond St John WA, Brian's generosity and commitment to service are felt throughout the wider community. In 2024, he continued his tradition of anonymously donating Christmas presents to hospital patients, ensuring that those in care—who may otherwise feel isolated—experience a moment of joy and human connection. His support extends to anyone in need, where he dedicates time to teaching essential life skills, promoting independence, and fostering confidence in individuals who benefit from structured learning. Recognizing the enormous pressure faced by first responders and healthcare professionals, Brian has taken it upon himself to prepare and deliver meals to emergency department staff during peak times, ensuring they are well-nourished during their demanding shifts. He also provides coffee and refreshments to Royal Flying Doctor Service crews and retrieval teams at airports, demonstrating his deep appreciation for those who serve on the frontline.

One of Brian's most unique and impactful contributions is his MAVLAN FIDGETS initiative. Personally knitting and distributing sensory aids for dementia patients, Brian provides comfort and relief to those experiencing restlessness and anxiety. This project, entirely self-funded, has reached individual families, nursing homes and hospitals across Australia, bringing comfort to those in need. In addition, Brian's fundraising efforts in 2024 have significantly benefited remote ambulance sub-centres, ensuring financial sustainability for these critical services. His Cash for Containers initiative has generated funding to improve equipment and facilities, directly benefiting both volunteers and patients. Brian's relentless pursuit of making life easier for others is evident in every action he takes. Whether mentoring new volunteers, responding to



emergencies, advocating for his peers, or performing small but impactful acts of kindness, Brian's dedication to service is an inspiration to all who know him.

2. Using examples, describe the impact your nominee has had in 2024 through their exemplary volunteering contributions and how they've helped improved the lives of people around them. Include specific examples.

The impact of Brian Gallop ASM OSTJ's volunteer work in 2024 cannot be overstated. His influence extends across multiple domains—emergency medical care, community support, mentorship, advocacy, and fundraising—each of which has directly improved the lives of countless individuals and communities. As a Volunteer Ambulance Officer, Brian has provided life-saving emergency care in some of Western Australia's most isolated regions. His commitment sees him regularly travel over 1,000 km during his work breaks to ensure rural communities have access to trained emergency responders. His swift action and skilled care have brought comfort to patients and their families, many of whom had no immediate access to medical assistance without his efforts.

Beyond emergency medical response, Brian has profoundly impacted the training and development of volunteers. His work as a Volunteer Development Officer has enabled new and experienced volunteers to refine their skills, particularly in handling patient care with dignity and emotional sensitivity. In 2024, he dedicated additional hours to running specialized training sessions, offering personalized mentorship, and ensuring that volunteers are equipped with both technical expertise and emotional resilience. Brian's fundraising initiatives have strengthened ambulance sub-centres, ensuring they have adequate resources to continue operating efficiently. His Cash for Containers initiative, which he personally facilitated, has generated significant funding for essential medical supplies and improved working conditions for volunteers in remote WA. Furthermore, he has personally donated and transported supplies to remote sub-centres to use in fundraising activities, ensuring that even the most geographically isolated communities have access to life-saving equipment.

His MAVLAN FIDGETS project continues to make a remarkable difference in 2024. By knitting and distributing sensory aids for dementia patients, Brian has directly impacted the lives of vulnerable individuals, providing them with comfort and security. Families and caregivers of dementia patients have expressed profound gratitude, noting the calming effects these sensory aids provide. MAVLAN Fidgets now has members of the community that volunteer their time to knit or to sew on fidgets, not only supporting people with dementia but also encouraging others to volunteer. Brian's impact extends further into community well-being initiatives. He regularly prepares and delivers home-cooked meals to carers and palliative care patients, ensuring they receive nutritious meals during difficult times. His hands-on support provides not only practical assistance but also emotional reassurance to those facing immense personal challenges.

His advocacy work within the Volunteer Advocacy Team has led to tangible improvements in volunteer conditions, with his recommendations influencing changes that benefit frontline responders. His commitment to championing the needs of his fellow volunteers ensures that those who dedicate their time to helping others receive the recognition, training, and support



they deserve. Brian's ability to identify and address gaps in care, whether in emergency response, volunteer training, or community well-being, sets him apart. His work in 2024 has not only changed individual lives but also strengthened the resilience of the broader Western Australian community. His unwavering commitment to service, leadership, and innovation ensures his impact will be felt for many years to come.

3. Why are you nominating this individual to be recognised as the 2025 WA Volunteer of the Year?

Brian Gallop ASM OStJ is the embodiment of selflessness, compassion, and dedication. His tireless efforts in 2024—ranging from emergency medical response to volunteer training, community outreach, fundraising, and innovative care projects—have transformed countless lives. His commitment to making life easier for others is not just a choice he made, but a way of life which he lives. Whether providing critical first aid, mentoring new volunteers, cooking for palliative patients, delivering meals to first responders, or knitting sensory aids for dementia patients, Brian's impact is vast, tangible, and deeply personal. His instinctive readiness to help, even when off-duty, exemplifies true volunteer spirit. The Western Australian community is stronger, safer, and more connected because of Brian's efforts. Recognizing him as the 2025 WA Volunteer of the Year would honor the extraordinary work he does, and inspire others to follow his example.

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