Pat McIntyre

MUNDARING resident Pat McIntyre has spent a staggering 72 years volunteering and is one of thousands of people who donate their time to others in the Shire of Mundaring.

Shire President David Lavell said National Volunteer Week runs 9 - 15 May and was a fantastic way to acknowledge people who contribute to the community.

"Pat is a shining example of the difference one person can make to many lives and exemplifies the caring hills spirit," he said.

Mrs McIntyre (88) began volunteering at the age of 16 when she changed beds for servicemen in Perth, as well as serving in the canteen.

She continued volunteering in many capacities and was heavily involved in her four children's schooling, starting a kindergarten and continuing with school P&Cs until they finished school.

"I think the saying is - once a volunteer always a volunteer," Mrs McIntyre said.

"I guess I've always liked helping people. When you can see a need for something, someone has to make a move."

Mrs McIntyre moved to the area in the late 1980's after her and her husband retired. The pair quickly joined the Stoneville Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, where Pat was Treasurer for more than 10 years. She then began volunteering at the Mundaring Visitor Centre in 1988, where she still volunteers every Saturday.

"You've got to do something when you retire and I love meeting people," she said. "I'm enthusiastic about the Hills and I love to share with people how good the area is and all the wonderful places to visit."

Mrs McIntyre is also involved with a number of other local groups, including the Happy Wanderers walking group which she began many years ago.

"There are around 80 of us and the group meets every Friday for a walk," she said.

"We walk with different groups of people and it's a great way to make friends."