



## **International Volunteer Day at Grey Roots – December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

### **For Immediate Release – November 27, 2009**

Grey Roots, as well as thousands of visitors, have benefitted from the dedication, expertise, and hard work of more than two hundred volunteers. On this special day, Grey Roots would like to say thank you!

International Volunteer Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985. Since then, governments, the UN system and civil society organizations have successfully joined volunteers around the world to celebrate on December 5th.

Grey Roots volunteers bring a world of experience to the Museum and Archives, with skills ranging from construction to teaching to handicrafts. They speak a variety of languages and come from all over the world including Australia, Germany, Scotland and England, as well as our local community. They have worked on village building projects, catalogued the collection, researched in the Archives, and shared the stories of Moreston Heritage Village in the summer.

In addition to our fabulous individual volunteers, we have wonderful groups of volunteers such as: The Rice Family, who built the new George Rice Blacksmith Shop; the *Scenic City Order of Good Cheer*, who are building the historic Bandstand; and the *Retired Teachers of Grey*, presently putting the finishing touches on the replica SS1 Derby Schoolhouse.

*"So far in 2009 alone, volunteers have offered nearly 7,000 hours of service. This is an amazing contribution which has allowed us to preserve and share our heritage in ways that would have been simply impossible without them"* says Brian Manser, Grey Roots Museum & Archives Manager. Time and time again Grey Roots' visitors have commented on the high quality of the volunteers and that they are *"the best part"* of Grey Roots. We think so too!

Grey Roots always welcomes new applicants to join the volunteer program. There are many volunteer positions available, so there is an opportunity to fit anyone's interest and schedule. For more information on volunteering at Grey Roots, visit <http://www.greyroots.com/get-involved/volunteering/>

**About Grey Roots Museum & Archives:**

Grey Roots Museum & Archives has grown and developed into a unique facility from the County Museum's beginning in 1955 and the later establishment of a County Archives in 2000 in order to promote and preserve the heritage of Grey County. With the consolidation of the Grey County Museum, Grey County Archives, and Tourism in 2004, Grey Roots has become a multi-faceted attraction with innovative and informative interpretive programs and demonstrations, rotating exhibits, a heritage village, archival resources and superior customer service which create an exciting and educational visitor experience.

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