

# Media Release

## Lynne's story of volunteering hopes to inspire

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Assisting families in need, and being a part of the solution to prevent health issues affecting mothers and babies, continues to inspire volunteer Lynne McHale.

Previously the volunteer coordinator with The Women and Infants Research Foundation (WIRF), Lynne found the bonds of volunteering too hard to break and re-joined the fray in the King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH) Op Shop in July 2015.

"I loved the shop and the team so much. I just wanted to continue to help in any way I could," Lynne said.

"The Op Shop fulfils a vital role to families who need a little bit of extra help and in raising awareness and funds for WIRF.

"We like to boast that our little 'baby boutique' Op Shop has the best high quality baby stock in Perth. Most of our stock is pre-loved and sometimes new. We also sell, toys and baby equipment and women's clothes."

Despite generously volunteering her time as often as possible, Lynne believes it is her that benefits most from the volunteer work she does.

"One of the things that I love most is getting to know the mums to be, who may have had to spend lengthy periods of time at the Hospital, and having them pop into the shop on their way home for us to meet the bub," she said.

"Every customer is special and every dollar that we take does go to such a worthwhile cause. It really does feel like we are part of the KEMH family."

Jenny, WIRF's Volunteer Coordinator believes that volunteering is a great way to meet people, make friends and belong to a cause that helps others.

"Our Volunteer Shop Assistant role is ideally suited to people with a cheerful outgoing personality, with a friendly approach and desire to make a difference," she said.

"You don't need to commit to entire days. Giving as little as three hours a week is enough to feel part of our team."

To learn more about volunteer for WIRF visit [www.wirf.com.au/volunteer](http://www.wirf.com.au/volunteer) or contact Jenny on 9340 1387 or [jreid@wirf.com.au](mailto:jreid@wirf.com.au)

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**Background:** The Women and Infant's Research Foundation is Australia's leading independent research institution dedicated to improving women, infants and reproductive health. We have a proud 40-year history of scientific discovery and public health achievement centred on the eradication of disease and the reduction of illness in women and babies of all ages. WIRF are closely affiliated with King Edward Memorial Hospital (the only tertiary level perinatal centre in Western Australia) and the School of Women's and Infants' Health at The University of Western Australia.