

Kelmscott CRE volunteer hangs up her books after 46 years

IN 1970, The Beatles released their final album, Queen Elizabeth II visited Australia, Margaret Court became the second woman to win the Grand Slam of tennis and a young Christine Mounsey started running Christian Religious Education programs at Kelmscott Primary School.

Now, 46 years later, Mrs Mounsey has decided to retire from YouthCARE CVE.

She said that her biggest tip for new volunteers going into a classroom or a Treasure Hunters Club is to be firm but fair.

“They need kindness but they also need firmness so they don’t walk all over you,” she said.

Her other tip was prayer.

“You need to be in prayer for the kids and the school you have permission to be in, you can’t do this without it,” she said.

One thing that really impacted her was noticing how much had changed over the generations.

“There was a time where all the kids in a classroom knew about the Christmas story and had heard of Jesus, but now, more than half the kids have no idea,” Mrs Mounsey said.

“Years gone by, you might have had the odd one or two children in a class that had parents who were divorced and working through that.

“Now you have half a class of kids whose parents are separated and divorcing.

“This makes the work we do, all the more important and significant.”

CVE Field Officer Katie Sargent said Christine has been a faithful and loyal hearted person to the ministry.

“We have been incredibly blessed to have her on board with us for such a long time,” she said.

“She came into the ministry with a lot of experience as a former teacher and her ability to connect with the kids using those skills has been a huge bonus.

“I know the students and school will miss her.”

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