

# Red Cross Australia



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The Australian Red Cross is part of a worldwide organisation that tries to make the world a better place. In 1863 Henry Dunant started Red Cross to help people in wars. Today, 120 million people in 175 countries do all sorts of work to make his dream a reality. The Red Cross has rules to make sure that everyone is cared for equally. In Australia, Red Cross also works to make local communities better places to live.

Charlie joined the Junior Red Cross which is part of the Australian Red Cross for young people because he wanted to help people. He volunteered to become a group leader:

In our group we learn about the work of the Red Cross, first aid, health and safety. We helped in a safety check at school and made the playground safer. We have raised money for the Red Cross by having a disco at school and organising a horror house at the local fete. We also visit the local kindergarten to read stories and help elderly people with jobs that they can't manage.

We meet fortnightly at my school. We have a President, a Vice-president, a Treasurer and a Publicity officer whom we elect at the start of the year. Each meeting has an agenda and we decide what we want to do by voting and then plan how to do it. Everyone plans the part they are good at. After the meeting we have games and supper.

This is the way our group works. I know other groups work in different ways that suit them.