

# Shop's hidden gems

By Lauren Birch

KITTY Dawes says volunteering at the Doncare op-shop in Templestowe Village has helped build her confidence and allowed her to come out of her shell.

"I look forward every morning to coming to this shop," said Ms Dawes, who works at the shop six days a week.

Doncare operates four op-shops — in Doncaster East, Lower Templestowe, Templestowe Village and North Blackburn.



**Book worm:** Hilary Jose has a laugh while reading a second-hand book on sale at the op-shop.

Picture: Darren H

Customers can find anything from clothes, shoes, linen and furniture, to bric-a-brac, books, toys and games.

All money raised through the shops is used to fund Doncare's community support programs.

Annette Rohr has been volunteering at the Templestowe Village op-shop since it opened six years ago and said she found it rewarding — "I think you get more out of it than you give".

Hilary Jose of Donvale

lends a hand whenever she can, and says an op-shop is a "place of history".

■ Doncare desperately needs more volunteers. If you can help, call Doncare manager Barbara Zeller on 9848 44