

UPDATE



volunteering waikato
"enriched lives and communities
through volunteering"

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2011

From the General Manager...

I think I can speak for my entire team when I say that the Volunteer Excellence Awards evening is the clear highlight of the Volunteering Waikato calendar!

These annual awards are held to celebrate and acknowledge the enormous contribution of volunteers in our community - both individual volunteers and volunteer teams.

Any community organisation in the Waikato, Thames/ Coromandel region can nominate, you do not need to be a member of Volunteering Waikato.

As well as an individual and a team category, this year also

sees the return of the youth category - celebrating the outstanding contribution of young people in our community.

Nominating is a simple process. The forms outline the information required, you just need to send us the completed form, information requested, and email us a digital photograph, by the closing date.

It is vital for the judging process that all questions are answered and all information is supplied.

Judging for the awards is done by a panel, which generally includes our Patron, one board member, a representative from a member organisation (who has not nominated) and a City Councillor

or other community representative.

We encourage all of you to nominate one or more of your volunteers, or your entire volunteer team! Nominations for the Volunteer Excellence Awards close on Friday April 15.

If you have any questions or need assistance with your nominations, feel free to give me a call. In my previous role I nominated both individual volunteers and my service delivery team several times! That makes me well qualified to help!!

Heather Moore
GENERAL
MANAGER



FOR YOUR DIARY

**March 01
TRAINING
WORKSHOP**

Retaining Volunteers
SEE PAGE 4

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**March 01**

2011 Volunteer  
Excellence Awards -  
nominations open

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**April 5
TRAINING
WORKSHOP**

Dealing With
Challenging Volunteer
Behaviour
SEE PAGE 4

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**June 19-25**

Volunteer Awareness  
Week

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June 22

Volunteer Excellence
Awards 2011

2011 Volunteer Excellence Awards

NOMINATIONS OPEN MARCH 1ST!

Volunteering Waikato's Volunteer Excellence Awards are a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together to recognise the contribution and achievements of outstanding volunteers.

Your organisation can nominate individual volunteers, including a separate category for Youth volunteers, and also volunteer teams, such as project teams, maybe your board of trustees or a group of volunteers who carry out a vital function in your organisation. Any community organisation in the region can nominate - you do not need to be a member of Volunteering Waikato.

Nomination forms will be sent to our member organisations on March 1, and can be downloaded from that date from:

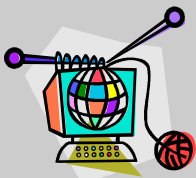
www.volunteeringwaikato.org.nz





"What the New Year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the New Year."

~ Vern McLellan



ARE YOU PROFILED ONLINE??

Are you aware that every one of Volunteering Waikato's member organisations has the ability to have a profile on our website?

These profiles give potential volunteers some information about your organisation and what you do - helping them to make an informed choice about who they choose to volunteer their time for.

Do you have a profile? Only 58% of our members have set this up - have you??! It's free!

If you are not sure whether you have a profile or not, or if you would like help setting one up, give us a call and we can help!

Any questions? Phone Heather or Veronica.

From the Volunteer Co-ordinator...

Expansion is an exciting time within any organisation and Volunteering Waikato is increasing our profile in towns throughout the Waikato Region. This will allow us to connect with more volunteers in Ngatea, Paeroa, Waihi, Coromandel, Pauanui, Tairua, Whanagmata, Whitianga, Matamata, Morrinsville, Te Aroha, Kawhia, Otorohanga, Putaruru, Tirau, Tokoroa, Thames, Huntly, Ngauruhia, Raglan, Te Kauwhata, Cambridge, Kihikihi, Te Awamutu, Ohaupo, Pirongia, Piopio and Te Kuiti.

We are currently advertising in at least one of the local newspapers in each of these towns, and have had lots of volunteers register online, just waiting to find the right volunteering opportunity to meet their needs.

If your organisation is already registered with Volunteering Waikato, and has branches in any of these towns, they can, in most

cases, be registered at no cost. If you are not registered with Volunteering Waikato, you can download an application pack from our website or call 07 838 3449 to discuss how membership can work for your organisation.

Membership with Volunteering Waikato allows you to expand your own team and therefore your effect in the community, open jobs to request volunteers, profile your organisation on our website, network with other organisations, access great training at a reduced rate, and receive fantastic support from the team here at Volunteering Waikato.

Once registered, you can advertise as many different positions as you choose, at no additional cost.

Expansion within your own organisation can be a daunting task with everything that needs to be done - funding applications, staffing, policies... Volunteers can provide excellent support to a new project or programme and can

allow your organisation to increase its positive impact within your community. Selecting the right volunteer can help turn your awesome ideas into reality and ensure the smooth running and success of new initiatives.

Volunteering Waikato also has the opportunity to raise the profile of organisations in Hamilton as well as some of the outlying towns. We are running press releases in the Hamilton Press and a reporter from the Hamilton News is doing a series of articles on different volunteers in our community. So if you have a volunteer who you believe goes the extra mile or is simply the bee's knees, get in touch.

In addition, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about how membership with Volunteering Waikato can help your organisation.

Veronica Keats

VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR

Volunteering New Zealand's national volunteering conference is now open for early bird registrations



Raising the bar
National Volunteering Conference 2011
23 - 24 May 2011 - Wellington Town Hall



For more information, including the programme visit:

www.volunteeringnz.org.nz

If you involve volunteers in your organisation, we recommend that you consider attending this very worthwhile conference - we'll be there!!

From the Community Project Co-ordinator...

January was actually a very busy month for me, which was awesome. I had a girls group here from Sydney and they excelled themselves with volunteer projects throughout Hamilton, armed with a Google map to find where everything was.

The girls spent the day at Hamilton Riding for the Disabled, and had a good day with some weeding and painting. On the same day a different group helped out at Plunket, painting kids furniture in beautiful bright colours, and tidying up in the garden also. At Plunket Richmond St it was a spring clean, washing windows, some garden tidy up work, and they helped to pack up there kitchen as it was ready for a revamp.

They also really enjoyed

spending time out at Atawhai Assisi Home and Hospital, and as one of the girls was a very gifted pianist, the residents were treated to an afternoon concert which everybody thoroughly enjoyed.

The final project which they completed was for Rauawaawa Kaumatua Charitable Trust, where they helped to revamp the garden for a member of the trust who had been having some difficulties. She was left with a wonderfully tidy garden and veggie patch, and she treated the girls to homemade scones, so everybody felt blessed by a hard day's work.

February is looking a little quieter for me... we still have three projects on the books, but I would love some more.

We are currently on the

lookout for projects throughout Hamilton and Waikato. No matter how large or small the project, I have the volunteers to complete it. I would also be happy to come out and visit any member organisation that is thinking of a project and needs a little guidance. My days of work here in the Volunteering Waikato office are Wednesday and Thursdays.

Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer, so let's pull together and help each other to ensure that the Waikato is a buoyant and special place to live. Have a great month!

Charly Ainscough
COMMUNITY PROJECT
CO-ORDINATOR

Could one of our volunteer teams help your organisation?

We currently have several groups of 6-10 volunteers, and a few bigger groups, who are looking for group volunteering opportunities. If your organisation is a member of Volunteering Waikato, and you have a project that needs doing, give us a call!

Ideally we would like projects that can be completed in one day or half a day.

Ideal projects include:

- Garden revamps
- General maintenance / painting
- Tree Planting
- One off events / functions
- Big admin tasks such as pamphlet folding, large mail-outs, information pack collation

Basically any project that can be done by a group in one day will be considered!!



Email Charly with your project idea: projects@volunteeringwaikato.org.nz or phone 07 838 3449 Wednesdays and Thursdays.



Volunteering Waikato thanks the following Funders, Sponsors and Supporters:

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Thai Classic,
The Base, Trust
Waikato,
United Video,
Waikato Times,
WEL Energy Trust,
W3



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through volunteering"

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Upcoming Training Workshops

Retaining Volunteers

Tuesday, 01 March, 2011, 9am – 1pm

How to keep them engaged, productive and happy.

"Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed citizens to change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that has." Margaret Mead was so right and volunteers have the capacity to transform your organisation if you provide the conditions to encourage and support them.

This workshop will cover:

- Understanding the motivation to volunteer
- Key principles of volunteer connection
- Managing the critical points of the volunteer lifecycle
- Rewarding the behaviour you want in ways that they will appreciate

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Dealing With Challenging Volunteer Behaviour

- Tuesday, 05 April, 2011, 9am – 1pm

Problems with volunteers don't go away if you ignore them, instead learn useful techniques for dealing with them – even the ultimate of 'firing' a volunteer.

Facilitator: Jenny Magee. Places are limited.

Registration forms available from www.volunteeringwaikato.org.nz

I haven't got enough time, there's so much that needs doing...

Seth Godin's writing is inspiring me at the moment – he wrote Lynchpin, Purple Cow and other great books. His blog (<http://sethgodin.typepad.com/>) in my inbox each morning always gives me a kickstart. This week he wrote, 'You don't need more time... you just need to decide.'

Ouch! So here I am wondering where the first six weeks of the year have disappeared, already feeling like I'm on the back foot with work, and he tells me to prioritise? The time management gurus tell us to make to-do lists and then set the priorities. Then the advice gets murky – tackle the little jobs first for a feeling of achievement? Do the one that scares you most? Only do the top three?

Which ever system I choose, Seth Godin's right. I need to

decide what's most important to me. Right now. And do it. Right now. Take action. Right now.

Managing volunteer teams is complex. There are lots to consider and always more that could be done. At this time of the year many organisations are in recruitment mode – advertising and promoting widely to capture the New Year's resolution volunteers – you know, the ones who vowed on the stroke of midnight they would offer their time in community service.

That's great – new volunteers are always welcome. In the rush to recruit, train and place the new, remember that the existing volunteers are already fans. They have already bought into your vision, into the work that you do. They are already out there performing daily miracles in your

programmes.

Decide to support them so well this year so that you won't need quite so many new recruits. Decide to use your valuable time in keeping the volunteers you have and helping them to work even more brilliantly for and with you.

For inspiration and ideas, join us on Tuesday 1st March, 9am-1pm at the first workshop for 2011.

Retaining Volunteers – how to keep them engaged, productive and 'happy'.

Jenny Magee

Jenny Magee has spent almost 25 years immersed in community organisations, managing, growing and supporting large teams of volunteers. As a trainer and coach she helps organisations with volunteer management, governance and diversity. Contact her on 0274 863 623 or visit www.jennymagee.com.