

News

VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON



“Be the voice”

International Volunteer Managers’ Day 2017



Make your pledge to ‘Be The Voice!’ for managers of volunteers and demonstrate how we are agents and advocates of change for volunteers and volunteering.

International Volunteer Managers Day is a global event celebrated annually on 5 November and provides an opportunity to celebrate the work of Managers of Volunteers.

The 2017 theme is ‘Be the Voice’, which seeks to recognise that the role of managers of volunteers is to be accomplished leaders, change agents and advocates for their volunteers.

Managers of volunteers change lives – both the lives of volunteers themselves and of those serviced by

well-led volunteers. They play a vital role in ensuring that individuals’ volunteering efforts are as effective and efficient as possible.

To celebrate and recognize Wellington’s Managers of Volunteers we invite you to join us for a breakfast event at KPMG on Friday 3 November from 7.30am to 9am. The theme ‘Be the Voice’ has inspired all sorts of ideas for the small team of managers of volunteers who are working with **Volunteer Wellington** to plan a lively and fun celebratory event. There will be delicious food, networking and sharing of ideas and raising of voices!

Diary Friday 3 November now and ask your CEO, colleagues, managers and board members to support you by coming along to the event. Invitations will be coming soon.



EVA KAPRINAY

Innovative group discussion at Volunteer Wellington’s 2016 IVMDay breakfast celebration.

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY 2017 TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER

Another key date to diary. Get your creative juices going with ways to thank and acknowledge your volunteer teams come December. *More information to come.*

Thoughts from a manager of volunteers

As we prepare for 2017 International Volunteer Managers Day, Christine Jones, Manager of Volunteers at Ronald McDonald House, shares her thoughts on her role:

- Coming from the corporate sector, I am always aware of the difference between managing a team in that environment and managing a team of volunteers. Volunteers willingly give of their own time.
- The relationship between other staff members is vital. The volunteers are not ‘my volunteers’, as an organization, they are ‘our volunteers’. We all have a responsibility to our volunteers.
- Be creative in the ways we recognize the contribution made by volunteers, and to acknowledge them appropriately find-

ing small and large ways to thank them. The contribution that volunteers make to our organizations boosts our capacity and capability to do more for the community.

- Remember our volunteers have a range of skills – some we may be tapping into, but some we may not. Keep talking to volunteers and checking in with them to see how they are going, and what else they might like to be involved with.
- Encourage volunteers to put forward ideas for organisational planning. Provide them with the parameters you are working within, and see what they suggest.
- Volunteers bring an interesting dynamic to our workplace, but they don’t always realise that they do – let them know!



Christine (R) with Ronald McDonald volunteers Diane (L) and Erana (M)

- To ‘Be the Voice’ as part of the 2017 International Volunteer Managers Day, my commitment is that our organisation recognizes the unique contribution volunteers make every day.

VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON | TE PUNA TAUTOKO | A CATALYST FOR INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

➤ VISIT US AT www.volunteerwellington.nz ➤ EMAIL info@volunteerwellington.nz

CHAIR'S COLUMN



Lately I have been going along to **Volunteer Wellington's** Volunteer Meetups, generously hosted

by the Southern Cross Bar on the second Tuesday of each month. At the Meetups, which are regularly attended by 20 to 30 volunteer seekers, we hear from four or five of our member organisations, and have a chance to talk with them about volunteering roles over a drink afterward. I love hearing about the huge range of opportunities there are to volunteer here in Wellington and encourage everyone to come along to the next Meetup on 10 October to join in the fun. You might think you know where you want to volunteer, then be taken in a completely different direction by one of our inspiring speakers. See you at the Southern Cross!

At the start of November we celebrate International Volunteer Managers Day (IVMD). We will recognise the many dedicated and enthusiastic managers of volunteers around Wellington and support and encourage them in this year's theme 'Be the Voice': a challenge to us and to managers of volunteers to speak up for volunteers and for volunteering.

Volunteer Wellington has a focus on building the capability of managers of volunteers through our professional development programme, which provides a wide range of training and support services for community organisations. We appreciate KPMG for once again hosting **Volunteer Wellington's** breakfast celebration on 3 November to mark IVMD. Take a moment on IVMD to thank those hard working managers of volunteers who provide the leadership to ensure that volunteers' time, talents and efforts are well managed and acknowledged.

Ngā mihi
Alice Verry
Trustee

Supporting people to participate

Drew Hadwen has been appointed the manager of our *Engagement in the Community* programme.

Having grown up in Porirua and lived in Wellington and the Hutt Drew says 'It's great to be working in a role that spans all the areas I call home. I've almost always worked in the community sector in paid and voluntary roles'.

Our *Engagement in the Community* programme supports people to participate in their communities through meaningful volunteering. It provides an opportunity for people receiving a Work & Income (W&I) benefit to learn new skills, gain confidence and independence, develop networks, be part of a workplace environment, and meet and engage with people.

Being a volunteer can lead to community connection, help people get up-to-date work experience, boost self-esteem and contribute to health and well-being.

The programme provides W&I volunteers with a personal development plan, identifying goals and motives and the steps required to achieve them. We work with our member organisations to create voluntary roles that will assist clients on this often life-changing journey.

This programme provides a mutually beneficial and positive outcome for volunteers and the organisations that support them.

If your organisation would like to find out more about this exciting programme, please contact Drew on engage@volunteerwellington.nz



New staff member joins Volunteer Hutt team

Volunteer Hutt is delighted to have Belynda Jack join the staff as a Member Liaison Coordinator. In this five hour a week role she will be contacting our member agencies to ensure they are aware of our services and that we are meeting their volunteering needs.

Belynda will promote some of the more unusual skills that volunteers offer and also encourage our members to create voluntary roles for young people who bring youthful energy and enthusiasm to their volunteering activities.

Belynda has been involved in volunteering since the age of 14. Her volunteering has included annual appeals, organising sports teams, helping to build a house in Nepal, taking care of Kakapo food hoppers for DOC on Codfish Island (Whenua Hou). She is currently assisting at Zealandia and interviewing volunteer seekers at the **Volunteer Hutt** office.



Managers of Volunteers peer support group going strong

The Hutt Valley Managers of volunteers' peer support group led by facilitator Paula Connolly is going strong. Established two years ago the group of 12 managers of volunteers from a wide range of agencies meet monthly with a common goal to support each other, share their experiences and challenges and develop best practice.

Recent meetings have focused on role descriptions, ensuring that legal requirements are met as well as the essential information that is relevant to a particular role.

Members of the group appreciate the opportunity to connect with other managers who can often feel isolated in their work. One group member recently said "This is my 'me time', my down time, and I really value it".

For further information contact Katie on managerhutt@volunteerwellington.nz

Look out for our 2018 training survey...

Start thinking about your professional development needs for 2018. Make sure you complete our training survey coming to you soon and be in to win!

Make the most of the last training opportunities in 2017

Making rights real

17 OCTOBER

Exploring attitudes and actions to include people with intellectual disabilities. Come along to this interactive workshop to learn how to be more inclusive of people with intellectual disabilities. Led by members of the IHC Community Advocacy team we will look at what it means for a person with an intellectual disability to live a full life and contribute to an inclusive community. During this interactive workshop you will:

- Learn what it means to have an intellectual disability
- Learn about Human rights and our obligations as New Zealanders
- Identify barriers to inclusion
- Increase your language and communication skills
- Gain some practical tips and tools to use everyday
- Share ideas about some of the challenges
- Develop an Action plan for inclusiveness

There will be opportunities to learn from other people and to discuss issues and solutions to equality and inclusiveness. To find out more and register click [here](#)

Telling and selling your story

Hold the date for the Community Comms Collective's last workshop of the year.

Friday 1 December, 10-11.30am, St John's in the City.

Further details will follow.

↘ FRIENDS OF VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON

BUSINESS MEMBER FRIENDS: ACC; ANZ National Bank; BNP Paribas; The Commerce Commission; Chorus; Contact Energy; DAC Beachcroft; IAG New Zealand; IBM New Zealand; KPMG; Massey University College of Creative Arts; Mercer Ltd; Ministry of Business Innovation and Enterprise; NZ Post Group; Office of the Clerk; Parliamentary Counsel Office; The Treasury, Thomson Reuters; Wakefield Lawyers; Z Energy **INDIVIDUAL FRIENDS:** Sue Hine, Sue Hobbs, Ann Hodson, David Loveridge, Helen Middleton, Raewyn Sinclair, Chris Streatfield, Olwen Taylor, Celia Wade-Brown

Building blocks to successful volunteer management

15 NOVEMBER

Myths, tips and strategies Not to be missed if you work with volunteers!

International trainer Rob Jackson, a leader in the UK volunteer management field, is touring New Zealand in November and **Volunteer Wellington** is thrilled to be hosting him in Wellington. Rob will deliver a workshop that will cover three of his most popular topics to get you thinking about your volunteer programme:



- The top 10 tips for making your organisation attractive to volunteers – from the importance of simply thanking volunteers to principles of leadership.
- How great customer service can improve your volunteer programme, and your organisation, and consider what you can do to improve the service you provide
- Look at commonly held myths of volunteer management, and how to effectively respond to these.

The workshop will be highly interactive, a bit provocative, and a lot of fun. For further information and registration click [here](#)

Governance in not-for-profit organisations – building the CEO–Governance partnership

20 NOVEMBER

Leadership in a not-for-profit organisation sits within the CEO–Board partnership. Good relationships, clear roles and great communication are key components to success. This workshop looks at governance from both the Board and the CEO's point of view. It will clarify the role of the board, look at responsibilities of both parties in maintaining good governance plus provide 7 tips for building and maintaining the right partnership.

Topics covered in this workshop include:

- The difference between governance and management
- How Boards can add value
- The roles and tasks of the not-for-profit governance Board
- The CEO–Board partnership – getting the best from your Board
- Keeping it legal
- How to have effective Board meetings
- Board reports – how to create Board engagement without inviting micro management

To register click [here](#)

Volunteers 'Take the cake'

The Wiki Kaumātua Seniors' Week – 11 until 20 October – is a week of community events and activities planned with older residents in mind. The events offer a great opportunity for senior residents to be celebrated, acknowledged and to socialize with a wide range of people.

Volunteer Wellington and six Wellington Community Centres are busy planning morning and afternoon teas for senior residents in Churton Park, Strathmore Park, Seatoun, Aro Valley, Karori and Kilbirnie/Lyall Bay. Recipes for delicious muffins, scones, cakes and tasty sandwiches are being pored over. "Together they'll be cooking up a storm!" says **Volunteer Wellington** programme manager Aileen Davidson.

Community Centre staff and a range of volunteers, including from the NZ Police, NZ English Language College, and Victoria University will play hosts welcoming people to the events, serving high teas and joining in for a chat.

For more information or if you would like to offer any home baking for this week, please email aileen@volunteerwellington.nz



Relaxed environment for Southern Cross Meetups

On 12 September Volunteer Wellington held its eighth Volunteer Meetup at the Southern Cross Garden bar. These Meetups are proving popular with more than 30 potential volunteers attending the September one. They get to mix and mingle in a relaxed environment while finding out about the diverse range of volunteering opportunities available in the community.

Speakers from the Wellington Welfare Guardian Trust, Mary Potter Hospice, St John NZ, Enliven's Kilmarnock Home and IHC spoke with passion about their work and the volunteer roles they have available.

Here is what some of our community members who have presented at the Volunteer Meetups have said: 'Thank you for the chance to speak about our organisation and to explain the volunteer roles'; 'That was fun! So good to talk with people and explain what volunteering for us is about'; 'Lovely and relaxed atmosphere with lots of good chat!'

The last two Volunteer Meetups for 2017 are on 10 October and 14 November. If you are keen to be involved this year or in February 2018, please email aileen@volunteerwellington.nz.



Volunteer Wellington board member Alice Very speaking at the September Volunteer Meetup.

The Employee Volunteering Think Tank report!

Three inspiring speakers, who are totally passionate about the work that they do and the potentials for the interface between businesses and communities, set the scene for a rich and thought provoking Think Tank forum held in September

The purpose of the forum was to brainstorm how our business friends can assist our community members to think about creating interesting projects for teams of employee volunteers to engage with.

From Zealandia we had Nikki Oesterle – the Guide and Volunteering Coordinator and Ashley Joy – Ranger, Sanctuary Care. Since stepping into her role, Nikki has done some fabulous work around defining the kinds of 'skilled volunteering' roles that people can engage with.

On the look-out

Ashley spoke about his process for finding work for teams of volunteers. 'I might notice some small totara too close to a track, then file that away as a task that could be completed by a small team of



Solicitors from DAC Beachcroft with students from Porirua College.

volunteers – I am always on the look-out for potential projects.' He also spoke about how important it is for volunteers to understand the wider context of their work. 'I'll point out a saddleback when we are going on a tour of the sanctuary and explain how the work they are doing on clearing vegetation from the predator fence protects that bird.'

Our third speaker was Amelia Goodall – a solicitor with legal firm DAC Beachcroft. She talked about targeting their volunteering around the interests of her firm. They now have an ongoing relationship with Porirua College. As well as

going out to the school to help create a vegetable garden, they have also developed a programme for hosting students at their premises in the CBD. This latter initiative arose after discussion with the school, where a need was identified, to broaden the horizons of the students by giving them an experience in the city and in a workplace.

We are keen to broaden our Employee Volunteering programme to involve more of our community members, so please get in touch if you would like to brainstorm project ideas to engage a team of employee volunteers.

Contact Lyne Pringle on ev@volunteerwellington.nz or phone 499 4572

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