

EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON ■ TE PUNA TAUTOKO ■ YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTOR



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Big Time Blitz – Connections in Porirua

At Volunteer Wellington we are great at making connections. This project was a case in point with these participants: Employee Volunteering partner Z Energy, Community Partners Bishop Viard College and Te Rito Gardens; funding partners Titahi Bay Lions Club, Porirua Rotary and Pub Charity. The result was a sensational collaboration that will have an impact in the future for the students at Bishop Viard College. These connections are at the heart of everything we do and we are immensely proud of our capacity to bring people together.

**LYNE PRINGLE EMPLOYEE
VOLUNTEERING COORDINATOR**

How it came about

Bishop Viard joined Volunteer Porirua/Wellington in August 2017. We have already referred lots of volunteers to their reading programme for students needing extra practice.

Late in 2017, Lyne Pringle connected Bishop Viard College with Z Energy, and with support from Resene, a big make-over project on the school grounds



was completed by volunteers from Z. Recently, Volunteer Porirua and Bishop Viard College have been making plans for a youth volunteering programme to be launched in the school. They are currently seeking funding for this project.

**JULIA DONOVAN, MANAGER
VOLUNTEER PORIRUA**

The results

Dear Volunteer Wellington

A big thank you for coordinating the Z Energy Volunteer Day. We know you put a lot of work into enabling this to happen. First of all getting our attention that this day could be a real benefit to us (which it was!), then liaising the Z Energy team of 60 volunteers for a day. On top of this you sourced funding grants to cover expenses, went out a bought the paint and joined the other volunteers on the day and much more.

When our staff and students came back at the beginning of this year they loved the much needed spruce up of internal bathrooms, outside changing rooms, fences, outside tables and gardens and more.

Thank you again, for having the resolve to see this worthwhile project through.

Kind regards

**PAULINE HARLAND
BISHOP VIARD
COLLEGE**



**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR
FUNDERS – YOU ROCK!**



MEMBERS OF PORIRUA ROTARY



2018 Victoria University Corporate Challenge!

Aligning with UN Sustainable
Development Goals

For more info email
ev@volunteerwellington.nz



The corporate challenge is in full swing with 43 projects under way engaging close to 400 volunteers, 20 businesses and 30 community groups. Projects broaden a team's outlook, extend thinking beyond a work desk to community need and is generally fun in the process. Business skills applied to community projects add capacity and new ideas. Get involved and support the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The focus for 2018 is on SDGs 10 and 15.



Business Friends recently completed these projects ...

Habitat 4 Humanity

NZ Post Group stepped in at short notice to help this group create a new retail shop in Lower Hutt. The profits from the shop go to building projects for those in need.



Te Rito Gardens Gorse Demons.

Dealing to the Rodents

NZI and **Chorus** get the all-important Health and Safety briefing from **Conservation Volunteers** before heading to check predator traps on the Miramar Peninsula. Great partnering also with **Predator Free Miramar**.



ANZ Champions

ANZ employees have been everywhere in the last couple of months: **Upstream**; **Beaches** with **Upper Hutt** and **Wellington City Councils**.



Painting at Karori Normal School and Kaibosh.

Fabulous Zealandia

What do you do when you stumble across Tuatara eggs on the track? All hands on deck from **Massey** and Ranger Ash to move them to safety.



KPMG also put in some valuable work at **Zealandia** on the all-important perimeter fence.



Great work by MBIE

'St Michael's continues to enjoy the fruits of labour of last year's group. The painting of the entrance way fence continues to provide a neat approach to our school for which we are very thankful.'

**CATE WAFER, PRINCIPAL
ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Big time blitz!

A huge team from **Z Energy** achieved a massive amount at **Bishop Viard College** in one epic day.



On the island

Members of the legal team from **MBIE** got stuck in on **Matiu Somes Island**.



Student Volunteer Week

During **SVW** there was a flurry of activity from Victoria University students at: **Ronald McDonald House; Vincentian Home; Volunteer Wellington; SVDP.**



St Vincent de Paul's spruce up

This awesome team from **ANZ** cleared the floor of the SVDP warehouse for the first time in 3 years!



FIVE MINUTES WITH LEANNE HENDERSON Vocus NZ Volunteering Champion

How long have you been in your current role at Vocus Group NZ?

I've been in my current role for 6 months, and I've been with Vocus for 9½ years.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself?

Outside of work I'm a Mum, a nice wee home-baker and an avid reader. I have a weakness for chocolate, (especially Lindt Dark Chocolate with Chilli); and I think I'm slightly addicted to Pinterest!

What is your background?

For the last 9½ years I've worked for Vocus, and I've been grateful for the experiences offered to me during my time; I've worked in Service Delivery, and in our Operations arm of the business where I've been able to engage with our customers on a daily basis.

Prior to my time with Vocus my roles have always been centred around customer service; something I enjoy.

What is your take on the interface between Vocus and the community?

I think we all have a responsibility to our local and wider communities to do our part to help where we can; whether it's a beach clean-up, tree planting, or helping a school or community group with a project. It's often morale boosting for those involved, and satisfying knowing you're helping out and doing something to improve areas of our community for all to enjoy.

We're lucky that the Vocus Group NZ feel the same, and all staff are given one volunteer day a year to take part, help out and do our bit.

What other volunteering do you do?

Currently my volunteering tends to be for my son's school or our local Cubs troop, but in previous years I volunteered for the Wellington SPCA which was very rewarding.

I like the idea of taking part in other local community events, and the knowledge that I've helped in some way, and as my son gets older I want to involve him as well to share that experience and help educate him on what we can do to help our local and wider Wellington communities.



Current Business Friends

ACC; ANZ National Bank; BNP Paribas; The Commerce Commission; Chorus; 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; Parliamentary Counsel Office; The Treasury, Thomson Reuters; Victoria University of Wellington; Vocus Group; Z Energy. **One-Off Business Partners:** Office of the Clerk; Texas A&T University; Wakefield Lawyers.

ACC at Ngā Hau e Whā Marae

'Our volunteer day was pretty much the only talking topic within our Business Group last week! Everyone had really enjoyed their experience.'



Life's a Beach

"No-one in their daily life within a period of 10 minutes isn't touching something that is made of plastic," Professor Andrew Holmes, emeritus professor at the University of Melbourne.

At last year's International Film Festival, *Blue* – a potent and shocking movie about threats to our oceans made me sit up and take notice. Scientists working on sub-Antarctic islands are uncovering the impacts of pollution on young seabirds – chicks are dying because adult birds are mistaking small

plastics for food, and then regurgitating these for their progeny to eat.

With images on our screens of giant gyres of junk swirling in the Pacific and statistics like an estimated 51 trillion particles or 236,000 tonnes in oceans worldwide, in 2018 it seems the critical mass has tuned into the dangers of plastic.

Consequently, we have been inundated with groups keen to do beach clean-ups. To manage the demand, I have formed partnerships with Brian Thomas of Wellington City Council and Alan Pope of Upper Hutt City Council to ensure a more streamlined approach to sending groups out.

One of the joys of my job is meeting people on site, taking them through the logistics of their day and having a chance to talk about the 'bigger picture stuff' like: 'even though it may only be a tiny piece of plastic or rubbish that you pick up, it is one less bit in the oceanic food chain'.

One morning with a group from The Treasury, over a quick coffee at the Chocolate Fish café, the discussion around the table ranges from, how difficult it is to shop without buying

group wanting to go out and do beaches, do you have a heads up on where they should go?' He responds: 'That's great. We've had so many groups lately that it is all looking pretty pristine, with the local people who adopt a beach, the work of Sea Shepard's and Conservation Volunteers we are really getting on top of the rubbish. That said there is always a lot of plastic that blows down from the airport.'

I meet a group from Chorus at the Spruce Goose and they deploy themselves around the southern end of the airport and out towards Moa Point. There is laughter all round and great enthusiasm for the task at hand.



TEAM TREASURY



TEAM CHORUS

something wrapped in plastic, to whose responsibility is it to deal with the plastic left after a person buys a product – private profit with socialized costs for the impact on the environment.

Good meaty stuff that gets this group of volunteers fired up to go seek out the inorganic matter on the Miramar Peninsula. It is a grey and storm threatening morning when I drop them off with their hi viz vests and rubbish bags. They are enthusiastic and focussed and throughout the day I receive updates and photos of the location piles of rubbish so that I pass on to the City Council for pick up.

The liaison with City Council colleagues goes like this: 'Hi Brian I have another

It is enormously heartening that our beaches are in such good hands and that the ecosystems are being protected and valued. Over the past few months teams of volunteers from The Treasury, Chorus and ANZ have been so efficient that it is becoming harder and harder to find rubbish – a good problem to have. However, as the next big storm will bring in more, it is an ongoing process.



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