

EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEER WELLINGTON ■ TE PUNA TAUTOKO ■ YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTOR



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Entire government department volunteers

The Ministry of Innovation and Employment – CRM department decided to volunteer early in 2020. The ambitious project: **250** volunteers to **22** projects across **3** weeks in **Feb/Mar**. The result: a roaring success. In the future: an excellent model for employee engagement. Win, win for the community as well.

Eco Warriors – Remutaka Forest Park



St Vincent de Paul



Bring Back the Natives



Kiwi Community Assistance



Huntleigh Home



Te Rito Gardens



Upstream – Central Park



Great work all!



Employee Volunteering Programme 2020

Pre Covid: We were tracking to complete **122** projects, including **1200** volunteers from **22** businesses and government departments deployed to 30+ community organisations. **An increase of 20%.**

Post Covid: From July 2019 to June 2020 projected to complete **75** projects involving **744** volunteers from **20** Employee Volunteer Partners.

Going forward: Planning for the Victoria University Corporate Challenge event for 2020 is proceeding. The awards during National Volunteer week on **22 July at KPMG** will celebrate projects that have contributed to two UN Sustainable Development Goals: Reduced Inequalities and Life on Land. Also special awards to frontline champions who went the extra mile during the Covid-19 response.



RECENT PROJECTS

Happy weed cutters at Bring Back the Natives (Newtown)



Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Manawa Karioi (Island Bay)



Inner city clean-up by ENGEO



ANZ beach clean (Porirua)



ANZ and IAG at Remutaka Forest Park (Wainuiomata)



Mercer go to Matiu/Somes Island



“ Had a fab day yesterday. It is great to get colleagues out of the office, you get to know them so much better. ”

MERCER LTD

Z Energy volunteer at Manawa Karioi (Island Bay)



“ We had a cracker late summer day for it and boy, did it get sweaty! The result is a simple demonstration of the power of united effort towards a common vision – putting our collective energy into the same mission. ”

Z ENERGY

Connections made for VUW staff through volunteering

Victoria University have initiated an EV programme. The uptake by staff has been enthusiastic with **19** projects completed or in the pipeline. Here is a sample.



MATIU/SOMES ISLAND

“ We are very grateful to have had the opportunity to volunteer for the Vinnies warehouse yesterday morning. It gave us great insight into what is involved in your organisation and how you reach out to all groups in the community. ”

MARIE PATERSON STUDENT LEARNING



ST VINCENT DE PAUL



TE RITO GARDENS

2020 Victoria University Corporate Challenge!

Join up!
Become volunteering heroes.

For more info email
ev@volunteerwellington.nz



COOLIDGE RESERVE



TRELISSICK PARK

“ Congratulations everyone for making it through! Employee Volunteering will remain important as we move into uncertain times socially and economically. The connection across sectors that has emerged during the current crisis provides a roadmap for a way forward. Next month we will host the Victoria University of Wellington Corporate Challenge to celebrate civic engagement and social responsibility through volunteering. Putting into practice the notion of ‘he waka eke noa’ – we really are all in this together. ”

LYNE PRINGLE EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING COORDINATOR



REMUTAKA FOREST PARK



UPSTREAM – CENTRAL PARK

Employee Volunteering Partners

ACC; AJ Park Ltd; ANZ National Bank; AsureQuality; IAG New Zealand; IBM New Zealand; KPMG; Massey University College of Creative Arts; Mercer Ltd; Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment -Legal; Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment – Capability Services; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Ministry of Justice; Parliamentary Counsel Office; Parliamentary Services; NZ Post Group; Pynenberg & Collins Architects; The Treasury, Victoria University of Wellington; Vocus Group; Wellington Electricity Corporation; Z Energy.

Employee Volunteering impact on Zealandia Ecosanctuary

Ash's journey: from volunteering to leading groups of volunteers



As we are gaining a sense of normality again, we want to share some news from one of our Community Partners: Zealandia Eco-sanctuary.

We spoke to Ashley Joy – part of the infrastructure team – to find out what has been happening during lockdown. This led us to find out more about his own inspiring journey at Zealandia.

What has 'business as usual' looked like for Zealandia throughout Covid-19? The health and safety of the local residents – among them kiwis, kākās, kererūs and many more – has been the number one priority. During lockdown the staff of Zealandia have been checking the all-important perimeter fence daily. This task is usually carried out by volunteers.

Ash – now 24 – started volunteering

“ I really love working with the teams. It gives me great satisfaction. ”



weekly at Zealandia in 2012, when both he and the sanctuary were only 16 years old. This experience changed his entire perception of the sanctuary, and he realised that it's not just "a big garden with caged birds". This insight allowed him to understand Zealandia's mission and positive impact on Wellington.

His initial passion was sparked by his uncle who was a ranger, leading Ash to want to volunteer somewhere in the outdoors. After his first year of volunteering, Ash was offered casual work throughout school holidays – his first official job!

Scrub-barring was hard work, but he was eager to prove himself and continued to work in the holidays until he finished school. But when it came time to find a full-time job or go to university he didn't want to leave his volunteer position behind. He approached his manager and mentor to share these concerns and see if there might be a position for him at Zealandia. This conversation turned into something he had never expected. His manager expressed that there was no position, but that they would create an apprenticeship for him – and so Ash became one of Zealandia's only two apprentices!

After completion of his course 2.5 years later, one of Ash's co-workers resigned, giving Ash the opportunity to be hired full-time and finally resume the ranger position he had aspired to. But this is not the end of his inspirational journey! Assuming more tasks and responsibilities led Ash to work closely with employee volunteer groups and coordinating projects that keep improving Zealandia's infrastructure.

Ash's absolute passion and excitement for his role

“ I have been really appreciating the previous work of employee volunteers. Feeling relieved that they have done such valuable work keeping vegetation away from the fence. This has made our job easier during lockdown and the sanctuary a lot more secure. ”

and the teams of volunteers he works with are apparent, and he describes it as a 'win-win' situation. Not only does Zealandia receive help with urgent projects that would usually take weeks or months to complete, but the employee volunteers get to spend time in nature, further their skills and experience this truly educational experience. He sees the impacts they have on the sanctuary and values their contribution.

BY SHIRELLE SCHUBERT



IAG VOLUNTEERS



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