

VOLUNTEERING NEWS

February 2012

An update from the VRC MD

Welcome to all our members, volunteers and supporters.

Well, the New Year is truly in full swing and we are busy planning exciting events and activities for this year!

The Volunteer Resource Centre has successfully secured limited funds from Lotteries towards a Managers Salary, and the VRC Board have now employed a Manager to support the on-going growth of the Volunteer Centre. The Board are pleased to announce Norelle Ward has accepted the role of Centre Manager and has started in this role this week.

This appointment has also created a change in the office holders within the VRC Board, as Norelle has resigned her positions. Audrey White now holds the Office of Chairperson, and Cheryl Martin and Wendy Bennett have also recently joined our ranks. Refer to page two for our updated contact details and opening hours.

Events Calendar Don't forget we have an Event Calendar on our Website on which any Not For Profit can request a listing!

Currently we are updating it as items come to hand, and as we receive newsletters etc, but you can request your event be listed any time!

Events can include, street appeals, other funding raising activities, AGM's or public meetings, training session (which will also be recorded in our Training Listing), Speakers or other activities you would like to publicize.

There is NO charge for this and no requirement to be a member. Just email us on infor@vrcmanawatu.org.nz. Please ensure you notify us about these events well in advance so we can ensure they are listed in a timely fashion!

[Check out what we have listed currently!](#)

VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE MANAWATU & DISTRICTS



[Have you joined us on Facebook yet?](#)

Norelle will be familiar to most of you and has been working within the Volunteer Resource Centre since before it opened. She will be working 10 hours per week, with the aim of increasing both our profile and those of our members through the support of volunteer activities.

Norelle has a lot of work to do and we have a number of events and activities planned this year, including activities around Volunteer Awareness Week (17-22 June 2012), The Careers Expo, and we will soon begin Networking meetings for Volunteer Managers and coordinators. We are looking at a Speed

Dating event to introduce you to other organisations who work in our community & we are investigating an evening opening time to cater for people interested in volunteer but unable to visit us during business hours.

We have other activities on the horizon and will keep you informed of these as they develop. We look forward to helping you and your volunteer activities this year, and welcome your input, advice and feedback around all we do.

We will continue to look at training opportunities; however we are also in the process of seeking additional funding for this purpose. If there is something in particular you would like to see on our Training Schedule please let us know. Remember also, if you have training that is open to others to attend – we will happily publicise this.

So, finally Happy New Year to everyone, we look forward to more developments and growth this year and welcome your involvement and ideas.

The Volunteer Resource Centre Manawatu & Districts Board

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Volunteer Awareness Week 2012

VAW will be held from the 17th—22nd June 2012.

We are in the process of shifting through plans and welcome your ideas and input to help make this year even better than previous events!

It might also be a good time to think about what you and your organisations are going to do to raise awareness of the fabulous work done by your own volunteers.

We are looking into the expo ideas, speed dating, a march, radio & newspaper exposure along with smaller things to help support the entire week. Your feedback, ideas and activities would be a welcome addition to the plans and final calendar.

We look forward to hearing from you and encourage you to participate!

**VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE
MANAWATU & DISTRICTS**



	<u>Opening Hours</u>
Ground Floor	Mon 10-12
Community House	Tue CLOSED
77-85 King Street	Wed 10-12
Palmerston North	Thur 10-12
P O Box 12199	Fri CLOSED
<u>Palmerston North 4444</u>	Subject to change
0800 865 2687 OR	and alteration
06 354 6027	

Closedforgood—BNZ

In November 2009 Bank of New Zealand ran it's first 'Closed for Good'. The project was so successful it was repeated in March 2010, and we are pleased to let you know that we will be 'Closed for Good' again on Tuesday 8 May 2012. This means that BNZ stores, Partners Centres and offices will be closed for one day to allow staff to work on community projects. We will be open for business as usual on 9 May 2012.

BNZ is now calling for submissions from community groups for projects that need doing in your local community. Last year 'Closed for Good' saw more than 3,000 BNZers working all around New Zealand on over 500 projects such as building walk ways, assisting with strategic planning, providing marketing, IT and HR support and training, painting schools and youth centres and helping at kindergartens and play centres.

This year for the first time BNZ is expanding the 'Closed for Good' initiative, and welcomes members of the community to volunteer to help alongside BNZ staff on nominated projects.

All community groups need to do is to submit their project online at www.closedforgood.org before 16 March 2012. Applicants do not have to be BNZ customers to apply – the key criterion is that the project benefits the community. I would ask you to let any community groups that could use an extra hand, or any people who may wish to lend a hand for a day - know about 'Closed for Good'.

On the day a skeleton staff will be at work and the BNZ contact centre will be available to assist customers with banking needs. Regular settlements and payments systems will continue, along with ATM's and Internet Banking being operational as usual. This week we begin in-store advertising and will also be using a range of communications to inform all our customers.

For more information please visit www.closedforgood.org or you are welcome to contact Lindsay Faris, BNZ Government Relations Advisor Tel. 09 976 5654 or 021 228 5613. Email: Lindsay_Faris@bnz.co.nz.

Thank you for helping us to serve our community.
Kind regards
Andrew Thorburn
Managing Director and CEO



Training Wrap Up... & moving forward

Thank you to everyone who has helped develop participated and attended the training opportunities we have offered over the past 8 months!

We have enjoyed working with a range of organisations to bring you locally developed and delivered programs as well as bringing Cheryl Martin from Volunteering Auckland and Martin J Cowling from People First Total Solutions in Melbourne. The feedback we have received has been truly positive and very useful in planning forward for new programs and in how we develop and deliver them! If you have more to provide feel free. We love to hear from you.

We look forward to bringing you more workshops during 2012, and let us know your ideas of what you would like to see us hold, we encourage your input into developing these and of course your participation at the events as well! Remember these are for your benefit so your involvement is vital and of course we aim to make them fun!

Please ensure you have our contact details correct!

Chairperson—**Audrey White**—chair@vrcmanawatu.org.nz
Manager—**Norelle Ward**—manager@vrcmanawatu.org.nz
Office for general enquiries—info@vrcmanawatu.org.nz

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