

HELP NAME ME

Volume 1, Issue 2

May 2011

VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE MANAWATU & DISTRICTS

An update from the Volunteer Resource Centre

Another Big hello from the team here at the Volunteer Resource Centre... We are now well settled into our new home at the Community House in King Street, and welcome visitors to pop in and say hi (and of course find out more about what we do!)

Our Volunteers Ariunaa and Karl are doing a great job running the office, and can answer all your questions! We are still recruiting volunteers to assist in the office to ensure we can open the doors regularly! If you are keen to help or know someone who might be interested we would love to hear from you!

We have already had two of our volunteers move on into paid employment and this is the perfect reminder that Volunteering does present well to potential employers!

Karl is also working for us in a part time paid role (so he wears two hats!). He is overseeing the development and delivery of our Community Training programs! More details of these are on the back page!

We have had a great response to the training we have delivered to date and



[Have you joined us on Facebook yet?](#) Check out our new link to all our Radio Show Archives.

look forward to seeing more representation from across the community groups in our region! The variety of groups already attending is amazing!

We are especially enjoying the opportunity to work collaborative with other local organisations to deliver these programs!

We have more training plans in the pipeline for 2012!! But if there is something in particular you would like to find out about let us know! And we can add it to our "wishlist". You just never know what might happen!

We have also had further developments with our Facebook Page and hope to see more activities on here in the near future. The newest addition is the "Radio Shows" page which will take you to either our Ondemand shows we air on Access Manawatu or you can go back through our

Archives and hear some of our older (but still relevant) shows!

Remember if you would like your group on air we are always looking for more groups to interview! It is EASY! And a great opportunity to get your message out there!

We have a fabulous variety of members coming on board recently—which is opening up a huge variety of Volunteer Opportunities! And we are currently investigating new and innovative ways of advertising these to recruit volunteers to fill these roles!

Our mailing list is also growing, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their positive comments and support during this process!

Please keep your comments coming, about our Newsletters, our Facebook and Website and its content, and of course what you like about our services, what you would like to see, and of course—what we are missing! We are growing because of your input! We are here to help!

Finally we are working on plans for International Day of the Volunteer on the 5th of December.. If you have ideas around this—get in touch! The more the merrier!

Norelle Ward, Chairperson.

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!](#)

Inside this issue:

Update from VRC	1
Events Calendar	1
Visitors to the New office	2
Volunteer Awareness Week 2011	2
Pass the Ball Mate!! Flash Mob Event	2
The Referral Process Explained	3
Volunteer Opportunities— Vacancies	3
Community Training	4

Visitors to the new Offices



Pictured: Hon Tariana Turia, PNCC Mayor Jono Naylor

On 9th August 2011, the Hon Tariana Turia officially opened the Community House. Unfortunately Tariana was not able to spend time in the office—BUT we had a number of other visitors during the evening.

Pictured here are a number of representatives from funders and supporters of the centre, including DIA, PNCC, CET & ECCT! A mouthful of acronyms!

It was great to be able to show these folks and other visitors exactly what we do and how they have enabled us to do it.

It is also very encouraging that since our move we have double our registrations, and our drop-in enquiries have nearly tripled!



Pictured: Craig Campbell (DIA), Duncan McCann (PNCC), Margaret May (Central Energy Trust), Adrian Broad (PNCC), Barbara Cameron (ECCT), Norelle Ward (VRC)

Pictured:

Phil Goff (Labour Party Leader), Karl Pearce (VRC)



On the 15th September Phil Goff & Iain Lees-Galloway visited our office during a tour of the Community House and a variety of businesses in the Manawatu.

Again, the opportunity to share our activities, intentions/dreams and needs with others from outside our area, but who have seen what a fully functioning centre can do in their home electorates was too great an opportunity to let go!

We look forward to welcoming more guests into our office and educating EVERYONE as to what we can do and how we can help. But also how YOU can help us!

Volunteer Awareness Week 2011

We wish to thank everyone who was involved in Volunteer Awareness Week 2011! It was a fun (and busy) week of activities all over the city (not all run by us!) and we feel that Palmerston North does a great job of recognising the various ways Volunteers contribute to the way our city runs!

For Volunteer Awareness Week 2012, we have all sorts of ideas! And we found the feedback we were provided by various groups who participated this year, to be useful and enlightening! We will be doing things a little different in years to come and continue to welcome further ideas and comment about things we could do to recognise the contributions made to our communities.



Rugby World Cup Event!

The VRC would like to acknowledge and thank all those who are volunteering their time to the Rugby World Cup events all over NZ & particularly in Palmerston North!

Although we were not established in time to assist in this fabulous event we hope you enjoy your experience and consider other opportunities in the future!

You never know where volunteering might lead you!

Pass the Ball MATE!!! Flash Mob in Palmerston North

Want to be part of a "Flash Mob" that will see rugby balls being passed furiously around the Square?

Be standing between the Te Awe Awe Statue and the Charles Monro statue next to the NZ Rugby Museum at **12noon on 28 September**. Line yourself up with one of the coloured dots on the ground and wait for the fun to begin.

At 12noon a whistle will blow, and all those taking part are asked to step out on to the dots. Rugby balls will be passed from person to person all the way around the Square ending at Te Manawa.

There's prizes too – with more than one line operating, the first ball to make it to Te Manawa will earn a free Rugby Museum pass for members of the winning line.

The event will need about 600 people to jump on board & join in the fun! Road restrictions will apply (safety first!)—so come along early and grab your spot!

Get involved, have fun and celebrate our city!

The Referral Process! Explained!



Part of the role of the Volunteer Resource Centre is to match Volunteer Vacancies within our Organisation Membership with Volunteers with interests and skills who ask us to help find them a volunteer position!

We spend quite a bit of time chatting with members' about themselves, and their, current, potential and vacant roles so as to gain a good understanding of their needs and expectations around volunteers and their activities (we have a few new organisations we need to chat with over a coffee soon too!).

We also have a robust interview process we take potential volunteers through when we register them on to our system as seekers of volunteer opportunities.

By doing this we can narrow down the types of roles and activities a volunteer might be more interested in and ensure a better match when we refer a volunteer to a member organisation.

Of course we are not perfect (nor is our database which

provides matches) so we also give our volunteers the opportunity to browse roles, and see if anything else takes their interest.

Remember though that any volunteers we send to a Member Organisation are not guaranteed a placement, and that the final decision always rests with the Organisation as to suitability.

So, what is the point of all this??? Well—it is to remind you all what it is we do to help you as either a volunteer or a member organisation. Also, lead in nicely a random selection of roles we currently have available within our membership!!!

We will soon have more of these roles on our website too! So keep an eye out there!

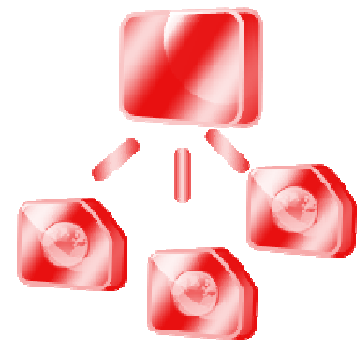
And remember many of these roles are flexible in their time each week/month etc, as well as day or time of day! So do look through! We really can find something for everyone and support is available for all our roles!

If you are interested in any of these positions please contact our office ASAP!!

And feel free to share this with your friends, family, co-workers, cousins, aunts uncles... well you get the idea!!!

Ph 354 6027 or 0800 865 2687

info@vrcmanawatu.org.nz



Volunteer Opportunities—Currently OPEN!

Looking for a challenge, big, small, short term, one off or for longer we can help you find the perfect match!

Governance Roles: We have a number of organisations looking for additional skills and support on their Governance boards. At present we have a particular need for **Treasurers & Secretaries!** Support is available.

Sectors include, Disability, Animal, Social, Media & Environmental! We have something for everyone!

Radio Interviewers: We have two organisations who have regular radio slots on Access Manawatu and are looking for additional people to help with the interviewing, and potentially the program making of their shows.

If you are looking to improve your public speaking, interviewing general media skills, consider these positions. Again training and support is available.

Gardeners: there are a number of opportunities for budding, novice, and experienced Gardeners around the region at present, from helping to create and

grown veges for those perhaps struggling to make ends meet, to teaching and mentoring new gardeners in the basics, and assist others to maintain what they have!

We can find the right fit for you.

Phone Support: Are you patient, understanding and kind, do you have a couple of hours a fortnight (flexible) or even perhaps 15mins ever other day. Could you help someone through a tough time, or just lend an ear to a lonely soul?

We have a variety of roles (from your home or at a fixed location) for Phone Support volunteers dealing with all ages, issues, backgrounds.

You do NOT need a counselling background, just a good heart, a little time and some life experience is helpful.

Training is provided (length of training varies group to group) along with ongoing support and mentoring.

Migrant Support: The Manawatu is a Key Refugee Resettlement area, especially with the current situation in Christchurch, we are helping more people

settle here that usual! And we love it! There are a number of groups who assist in this process, and who could use your skills to help our new neighbours to feel welcome!

From hands on to assisting in the background we can find a way for you to help!

Mentoring: Again a "generic" title for a fabulous opportunity! We have groups who provide one on one mentoring to groups, passing on knowledge, upskilling or just support and encouragement!

You DO have something to offer and again time commitment is flexible. This might be for you!

"Got a Dream Role"???? Come and see us ... we can help you find the Perfect role even if it is not yet on our database! Or if you have a Volunteer Role that seems slightly from left field!

We love to help match these "challenges" and with our ever growing networks we are confident we can help!

Never be afraid to ASK!

**VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE
MANAWATU & DISTRICTS**



0800 865 2687

OR 06 354 6027

Ground Floor

Community House

King Street

Palmerston North

P O Box 12199

Palmerston North 4444

Opening Hours

Mon—Varied

Tues 10-12, 2-4

Wed 10-12, 2-4

Thur 10-12, 2-4

Fri 10-11.30

Subject to change
and alteration

Community Training

We have some fabulous opportunities coming up of the next couple of months to help up-skill, review and support the Wonderful Volunteer Managers & Coordinators in our region (and beyond!).

With great thanks to the Department of Internal Affairs, Support for Volunteering Fund, we have created a training schedule which includes local and national speakers, at heavily subsidised rates! The workshops will compliment each other, and can be attended as a whole, or just select the one or two that grab your attentions!

We hope that these workshops will give you a taste of the support and opportunities out there for Volunteer Managers & Coordinators. We know that often the work you do you need to fit in around other responsibilities, and you do not always have others in your organisation who do what you do. So, these courses are for you!

We have plans for more sessions in the New Year, we just could not deliver everything we have been asked for in the time available! We are also very open to ideas for future course! These are to assist you so let us know what you need!

Next year we will also begin regular meetings for Volunteer Managers & Coordinators, so that your can grow your networks, and share your skills!

We are looking into other training opportunities to help support your volunteers.. And will keep you posted as to these developments in 2012.

We look forward to seeing you at some of our workshops in the near future!

Further information on all our workshops is available on our website:

www.vrcmanawtu.org.nz & [Facebook](#)

4 October 2011—RSVP by 30 September 2011

Recruit Screen & Select The Right People for your Volunteer Programme with Cheryl Martin from Volunteering Auckland

Cost—\$ 20 Members & \$40 non Members

18th October 2011—RSVP by 14th October 2011

Mind the Law! HR, Risk management, Immigration, Legal issues relating to Volunteers with Michelle McManus from Community Law Centre.

Cost—Free for members—\$20 Non-members

1 November 2011—RSVP by 28th October 2011

Retention - How to keep the right Volunteers for your Vol Programme with Cheryl Martin from Volunteering Auckland

Cost—\$ 20 Members & \$40 non Members

Week of 14th November — Details to be confirmed

Working with Diversity - Migrants -

Cost—Free for members—\$20 Non-members

End November 2011— Details to be confirmed

Creating Pro-Volunteering Culture with Martin J Cowling

Please bear with us as we finalise some details around our workshops. Your feedback and involvement is what will make these really worthwhile!

We encourage you to join the Volunteer Resource Centre Manawatu & Districts as a paid member, as you do then receive a discounted rate on workshop attendance (along with many other benefits!). [Click here to download the Registration Pack.](#)

If you have any questions about the registration process please let us know. We are here to make it easy!

We will update any changes or alterations or additions to these workshops on our [website](#) and via [Facebook](#) information becomes available.

We hope to hold another Volunteering in Aotearoa workshop in the near future, aimed at new arrivals in New Zealand! Again, this will be placed on our [website](#) & [Facebook](#) page once details are finalised.