

# TEAM TALK



**Volunteering Auckland**  
Where Volunteering Begins

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## From the Team and Employee Volunteering Coordinator

Welcome to the second edition of Team Talk, Volunteering Auckland's employee and team volunteering newsletter. We have had a busy six months working to place teams with our community member organizations. Since July last year the Employee and Team Volunteering Programme has placed a whopping 901 volunteers in 83 community projects. We would like to thank all of those people who volunteered and assisted our Not for Profit Members. We would also like to welcome new Corporate Members to our employee volunteering community, Lego, Grant Thornton, and Ernst and Young. We are looking forward to a busy time leading up to Christmas and encourage staff to join in our Xmas Wrap Challenge in December.

Team and Employee Volunteering  
Coordinator

## BNZ wins Corporate Challenge



This year a staff team from the BNZ won the Xmas Wrap Corporate Challenge. The Corporate Challenge is part of Volunteering Auckland's yearly fundraising event. The team worked alongside other volunteers to wrap gifts for customers at the Mall. Members of the team had volunteered at the Syliva Park event in previous years. They very much enjoyed the champagne and cupcakes delivered to them for morning tea - well deserved.



## IAG Community Volunteering Expo

Volunteering Auckland assisted IAG with organizing their Community Volunteering Expo in June. The Expo was intended to raise awareness with staff about IAG Employee Volunteering Programme and to make a heart connection with community organizations who they might consider volunteering with. .



## ANZ Muck in at Shakespear Regional Park



A team of 18 staff from ANZ Finance went to Shakespear Regional Park at the end of Whangaparaoa Peninsula. Their main job was to dig trenches, lay water run-off pipes and spread gravel. They say that it was 'a very rewarding day, doing something different to our day jobs and above all giving back to our community'.



## “Head projects”

e.g. – capacity building projects e.g. IT projects; business analysis; project management; development of profiles for organizations to better market themselves including identifying and designing specific marketing tools and content development of risk management evaluation tools; also funding planning, policy development etc.

## “Heart” projects

e.g. – social activities with elderly e.g. having a ‘cuppa and a chat’, reading the newspaper, assisting with exercises, art & craft activities; collecting on appeal days and awareness weeks; assisting with games days with people with disabilities or elderly, etc.

## “Hand” projects

e.g. – spring and autumn planting; weeding and garden maintenance; painting – internal and external; animals; beach clean-ups; rubbish clean ups and spring cleaning; walking track maintenance; garage sale preparation; furniture bank – sorting and boxing household items; building houses, conservation and environmental restoration projects; etc.

# BNZ Closed for Good - community volunteering

This year Volunteering Auckland's Employee and Team Volunteering Coordinator Kym Burke worked with BNZ to organize projects with Volunteering Auckland's Not for Profit Members. As part of BNZ's Closed for Good Corporate Volunteering Day BNZ staff went to a range of projects with Volunteering Auckland's member organizations. The Team and Employee Volunteering Coordinator caught up with teams on the day. Below are some of the photos from the events.



### BNZ at Youthline

Paint brushes and rollers were the order of the day at Youthline Manukau's new Youth and Family Centre.

### BNZ at Age Concern Counties Manukau



A great team of guys came and assisted staff at Age Concern Counties Manukau. An extremely successful skills based project.

### BNZ at Eden Gardens

Staff got stuck in and did a range of tasks right at the top of the Eden Gardens.

### BNZ at Lifewise

A team worked with staff at Lifewise to help with a promotions plan for their new Community Cafe.

### BNZ at Oakely

A team went to Oakely Creek and did planting and weeding to assist in the restoration of the urban green belt





## Grant Thornton Plant Trees for the Future



A team from Grant Thornton went to volunteer on Motutapu Island for a day in May. They enjoyed working together as a team as well as planting trees that they know will be there for many years.



## Motuihe Island Ecological Restoration

ANZ staff also had a couple of employee teams volunteering on Motuihe Island this year. The exciting event on the Island this year was the release of 50 Tuatara. One of the teams assisted with digging the holes, some of these for planting and some needed to house the Tuatara on their arrival. One team member commented about the day, *'How great it will be to come back in years to come look at "our" trees and how they have grown!'*



## IAG Mulching at Orakei Marae



IAG had a team helping with the Ko te Pukaki Project at Orakei Marae in March. The team spent the day mulching, planting seedlings and weed-busting. They enjoyed learning about the plants, the processes and the project vision.



## Dotterels get a Helping Hand

Auckland Council Regional Parks Programme is made up of 26 different parks, covering 40,000 hectares of land. In April a team from General Mills went out to Duder Regional Park to dig out Buffalo grass which hinders the nesting of the endangered Dotterel. The teams



day out included a barbecue while also assisting with the conservation of one of our national treasures.



## Current Projects

1. **Special Olympics**  
Assisting with scoring and refereeing at games for disabled children on the North Shore.
2. **Mega Minds Challenge**  
Supporting children with Autism by volunteering at a fab fundraising event
3. **Help Raise Awareness**  
Sticking labels and putting newsletters in envelopes to raise awareness of sexual exploitation of children.
4. **Bandanna Challenge**  
Supporting CanTeen through selling bandannas to raise money to support young people living with Cancer.
5. **Abilities for Sustainability**  
Volunteering alongside people with disabilities to recycle and reuse materials .
6. **Motutapu Island Care**  
Spending a day in the Hauraki gulf doing conservation activities contributing to the restoration of Motutapu Island
7. **Operation Whau River**  
Assisting in urban stream care projects including river cleanup, weed busting, and making bamboo stakes.
8. **Christmas Wonderland**  
Helping with the café and shop at this fantastic Auckland event raising funds for the Rawene Centre.

## BNZ at Sailability doing Boat Maintenance

Sailability Auckland is a great organization that teaches people with physical and intellectual disabilities to sail. Throughout the year teams assist with boat maintenance and this year a team from BNZ went along to help. The women got stuck in and scrubbed and shifted boats and stepped up to the challenge. What the team enjoyed most about the day was learning about the programme, how the yachts were equipped for people with disabilities.



## Birkdale North School Playground Painted

A team from Northcote Baptist Church spent a Saturday helping Birkdale North School to sand back and repaint the student playground. The group said that it was such a fantastic opportunity for young people to do some volunteering and to serve the community.



## IAG Team Paint Kokako Lodge



Kokako Lodge has a fresh coat of paint thanks to a team from IAG. The team were rained out the first day but persevered and got most of the job done another day - and plan to go back! They enjoyed working together out of the office, being involved in the community and having a sense of accomplishment at the end.

### Corporate and Academic Members

ANZ

BNZ

Ernst and Young

Grant Thornton

IAG

IBM

Lego

Microsoft

PricewaterhouseCoopers

## Abilities for Sustainability

Abilities Incorporated is a new Member of Volunteering Auckland. Abilities focuses on reuse and recycling and employs people with intellectual or physical disabilities. In June Volunteering Auckland organized a team from Telecom to work alongside their staff for a day. The team had a great time and made new friends.



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