



**Volunteering Auckland**  
Where Volunteering Begins

Promoting and Supporting Volunteering

# Volunteer Trends

Volume 1, Issue 1

Summer Edition

## CEO Catch-Up



Welcome to the first edition of Volunteer Trends 2009. It's been a tumultuous summer with changes in government, the economy, as well as climate to contend with.

2009 is going to be a year of uncertainty for all of us, those of us working in the Not for Profit sector perhaps the most. Funding sources are already becoming problematic, and yet the services we and our member organisations provide through voluntary action are going to be needed even more by an increasing number of people! Keep talking with us about your needs, so we can best help you!

Our December 2008 Sylvia Park gift wrapping fund raiser was an outstanding success, thanks to Sylvia Park management and all 297 volunteers who made it possible! Not only did we raise much needed funds, but we and the organisation members who took part had the opportunity to interact with many thousands of people, with very positive responses!

Yours in Volunteering  
Cheryll Martin  
Regional Manager

## The Non Profit Sector in NZ

Important comparative research has been completed and published by the Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (Ministry of Social Development), in conjunction with Massey University and the John Hopkins University.

The research data identifies that the sector is very diverse - 67% of our Not for Profit (NFP) organisation workforce consists of volunteers, significantly higher than found anywhere else (Australia is only 40%). New Zealand volunteers work within and alongside cultural, sports and recreation, health education and social services, welfare and community support services, environmental protection and conservation, civic activism, unions and professional associations, and religious worship activities.

The NFP Sector currently contributes \$10 billion+ to the NZ economy in operation expenditure, employing approx 201,000 full time equivalent jobs, equating to 9.6% of the economically active population, and 4.9%

of the GDP. The sector engages a workforce larger than the Construction and Transport industries combined, and similar in size to the Manufacturing sector of NZ, an economic presence worthy of recognition in New Zealand, in addition to their social and political importance.

These figures are significant. Our society could not function without the services provided by NFP organisations, and yet few if any would survive without volunteers. Our NFP organisations have to rely greatly on goodwill, a high level of volunteer engagement as well as ongoing philanthropic contributions, in order to survive. They receive 75% of their income from fees and philanthropy and only 25% from government support, comparatively low compared with other countries.

The research findings suggest that the time for the Not for Profit Sector of NZ to be recognised widely as an important contributor to the economy as a whole is long overdue, especially by the commercial sector groups of this country, as well as the government. This document is an eye opener!

*The NZ Non-Profit Sector in Comparative Perspective, 2008*



A few of our 297 volunteer wrappers on the job at Sylvia Park 2008

### Welcome to our newest NFP Members:

Maungarei Youth and Community Trust, YMCA Akld, Akld City Council - Community Services, Henderson Budget Service Inc, Neighbourhood Support Waitakere, Henderson Riding for the Disabled, The Old Homestead Community House Inc, DoC - Akld Conservancy, Glen Eden Community Protection Soc, CAB-International Student Services, Te Ukaipo Mercy Initiatives for Rangatahi, Kenzie's Gift, Save The Children-Wgtn, Papatoetoe Residential Care, Friends of Te Atawhai Whenua, Avondale Union Parish ESF, Green Bay School, 10 NFS /Kids Foundation, Scripture Union, Parent Trust Akld Inc, Christian Healthcare Trust - Te Atatu, Devonport Historical & Museum Society, Skip for Life Charitable Trust, Papakura Christian Care Budget Service.

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## What's On:

- yMedia Workshop about IT development for organisations **31st March**. Look for the flyer coming out soon
- See back page for upcoming Training Workshops
- Next Covak Forum: **Tues April 28th**
- Watch for Employee Volunteering Health and Safety Guidelines coming from Volunteering NZ 2009.

## Volunteering Auckland

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## Board Message

*A taste of volunteering at Sylvia Park convinces this sceptical board member of Volunteering Auckland.*

I had been sceptical because our Sylvia Park project takes Cheryll and team away from VA business for 3– 4 weeks before Christmas. But Cheryll convinced me to take on a couple of stints of gift wrapping and see for myself what it was about. The prospect gave me goose bumps I must say.

Ten hours and two shifts later, my eyes had been opened. This has been a project that epitomises the spirit of Volunteering. It has given volunteering exposure to thousands of Aucklanders who queued, donated and above all talked to us. It has also given member organisations the opportunity to make a difference, and have fun in the process. The \$25,000 of donations raised will go a long way to develop services for member organisations and volunteers. Thank you to our staff for the huge hours put in to make this such a success. Thanks too to all the volunteers and very generous shoppers.

Robert Limb, Trustee, VA

## Back Page Trainer

Recent quotes from [www.thirdsector.co.uk](http://www.thirdsector.co.uk) :  
Recession is challenging for community organisations, and there are a number of areas you need to consider.

Ensure you are clear about which activities contribute most to your mission. If you have to cut or defer activity, you have a clear basis for doing so. Recession might also change the pattern of demand for your services, or affect campaigning activity. You might have to act quickly and decisively, and consider options in order to ensure survival. Diversifying income streams, working in collaboration and merging are some of the options you might have to look at. Staff might be anxious about what is happening to the organisation, so transparent consistent messages about the organisation's performance will help alleviate worries. Don't cut your training budget. Recognise the value of your people; retaining and motivating your best people is critical. Leaders have to be realists and optimists. Many managers in the sector are great at this, and their organisations will continue to make a huge contribution to society at a time when the need for our services is going to be greater than ever.'

## Upcoming Volunteer Management Training Workshops:

Workshops are 9.30am—12.30pm unless stated otherwise; venues/costs to be advised at a later date.

**Policy Development for Volunteer Involvement**—17 or 31 March: , North Shore

**Dealing with HR Difficulties [Volunteers]** - 12 May: North Shore

**Recruitment, Selection & Placement of Volunteers** — 26 May [day] & 27 May [evening] Waitakere; 19 August, Manukau: ,

**Motivation & Recognition for Retention of Volunteers** — 9 June [day] & 11 June [evening] Waitakere; 9 September Manukau

**Engaging Youth as Volunteers in your Organisation** — 16 June [Volunteer Awareness Week] North Shore. an additional one to be scheduled this week for Auckland City area

**Governance & Management: Sorting out the Roles** — 22 October Manukau

**COVAK Forums** — 28 April, 17 June, 25 August, 10 November

**Any enquiries about training workshops are most welcome!**

## COVAK Forums and Open Days

Volunteering Auckland has held regular COVAK (Coordinators of Volunteers, Auckland) FORUMS in the past for member organisations and other interested groups, but last year's **Open Day** was so beneficial that we are planning similar events twice yearly from now on. If you missed our September gathering, there will be more to come!

At the Open Days, you will meet CEO Cheryll Martin and have opportunities to discuss Volunteer management Training, or how to give input into submissions; talk to one of our Volunteer Interviewers on how the interview and referral of potential volunteers to your organisation works; you can find out how to involve a group of volunteers to complete that project you have; and speak with Marja van Straaten (Services Coordinator) about membership, listing your voluntary roles with us, and the Volunteer Now website. You can also peruse our specialised library of books research and manuals on volunteering and volunteer management

from NZ, Australia, USA, UK.

Our Open Days are an excellent way to find out more about us, where we are, what we do, and how VA services can be of benefit to your organisation. It's also a great time to update information about you, so look out for our next Open Day in the first half of 2009.



Open Day at Volunteering Auckland  
September 2008

Members: Shanti Niwas & Presbyterian Support

## Contact Details

**Chairperson**  
Dianne Denny

**Vice Chair**  
Robert Limb

**Treasurer**  
Pete Yates

**Trustees**  
Kit Howden, Paul Hutchinson,  
Tim Antric, Jon Brewerton,  
Kate Ashcroft

**Regional Manager**  
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**Services Coordinator**  
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### Quote:

*What you do for yourself alone dies with you.  
What you do for others and the world remains  
and is immortal.*  
Albert Pike, Philosopher