



Volunteering Northland



SPRING/SUMMER EDITION 2018/19 | ISSUE 5

Who Are We?

Volunteering Northland is an organisation that connects people with opportunities at non-profit organisations all over Northland.

We support volunteer coordinators and provide advice, advocacy, and recognition for volunteers.

THE KINDNESS ISSUE

"Perhaps then it is time to step back from the chaos and ask what we want. It is in that space that we'll find simplicity. The simplicity of peace, of prosperity, of fairness. If I could distil it down into one concept that we are pursuing in New Zealand it is simple and it is this. Kindness."

Jacinda Ardern addresses the UN Assembly, Sept 17, 2018.



Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern at Waitangi 2018 Photo: Michael Cunningham (Northern Advocate)

Contact us

Online

www.volunteeringnorthland.nz

On Foot

Suite 11, 71 Bank St. Whangarei

By Phone

09 945 4984 or 0800 865 268

By E-mail

info@volunteeringnorthland.nz



Find Us On Facebook
Volunteering Northland

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted
- Aesop

Kindness; The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. We at Volunteering Northland have to deal with it all the time. Strangers sending messages, offering time, skills and energy.

Volunteering is a meaningful and purposeful activity, and all motives for volunteering are valid. Free will and fun are key; "Doing more than you have to, because you want to, for a cause you consider good".

Newcomers to the region, looking for ways to get connected and to feel included.

Youth, keen to learn what citizenship is all about.

Some people are looking for a place to give back, others want to demonstrate they are motivated and can handle a commitment.

Volunteering can help with removing loneliness and boredom; It can improve self-esteem and confidence, gain a sense of achievement and satisfaction, develop patience and compassion.

Showing your skills in a new setting, and gaining recognition for your abilities. Listening and sharing a smile are skills, as is beautifying and enjoying the environment we live in.

As well as working with the generous and kind volunteers, we are privileged to work with many volunteer leaders at almost two hundred non-profits. They are crucial making it happen, all those services we take for granted and community led initiatives that shape our future.

Volunteer leaders embrace people who do not quite fit in, they might amend a role, define a new one or refer them to another place that works.

We do our best to connect all that kindness, grow participation, and to keep Northland at the top.

Congratulations Toss



Colin (Toss) Kitchen MNZM just celebrated 50 years service to NZ Fire and Emergency in November 2018.

The Board and staff of Volunteering Northland, and also so many people from Kaitiaki and wider Northland wish to say congratulations to Colin on his tireless work in the Northland Community.

While he says he is semi-retired, Colin is keeping busy within the Northland Region. He is currently still working with the Kaitiaki Volunteer Fire Brigade where he has just received his 50 year service medal. Colin is also a Far North District Councillor, a Member of the Northland District Health Board and is Chairperson of the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group. Last but not least he is a Trustee on the Board of Volunteering Northland.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE
TEAM.**

*"Christmas is doing a little
something extra for someone."*
- Charles M. Schulz

**We will be out of the office
23rd Dec - 13 Jan**

**Emails and messages will be
checked regularly**

Events of the Summer

Pop Up, episodic or one-off volunteering offers an opportunity to volunteer quite quickly without a long-term commitment.

It is also a great way to engage in a variety of roles with different activities for different organisations.



Volunteering Northland has 'partnered up' with a range of event-organisers to help recruit volunteers for festivals, arts, cultural, education and eco events this summer.

Hop on-line and check out all the one-off events, learn new skills, meet new people, become part of a fun crew and add to your CV.

See below for some of the events that are online.



Introducing Volunteering to Northland's Newcomers

Migrant Volunteering Programme

Volunteering New Zealand in 2018 has been developing and delivering a nationwide programme to support better volunteering outcomes for recent migrants to Aotearoa New Zealand. The aim is to strengthen volunteering opportunities for recent migrants and demonstrate how volunteering can make an important contribution to their positive settlement and inclusion in communities.

Volunteering Northland was the first Volunteer Centre in NZ to come on-board for this initiative. This was an easy programme to implement as our office is next door to Multicultural Whangarei who immediately came onboard as a partner in the project. We are also fortunate to share a floor with WINGS (Women's International Newcomers Group - Social) alongside other non-profits.

Working closely with Multicultural Whangarei, we started with a community presentation to introduce volunteering which was then followed by a 'guided' volunteering that offered a 'hands-on' introduction to various non-profit organisations in the area.

We agree that volunteering offers new migrants the opportunity to contribute to and be engaged with their new communities, offer their wide range of skills and experience to Northland non-profits.

Most importantly, we have seen newcomer's thrive with renewed confidence in their community, happy to engage, learn new skills and participate in the 'kiwi' way of life.



Time to Celebrate Neighbours 22-31 March 2019

Neighbours Day Aotearoa is a collaborative campaign organised and supported by Lifewise, Inspiring Communities, The Mental Health Foundation, Christchurch Methodist Mission, New Zealand Red Cross, Neighbourhood Support New Zealand and Housing New Zealand.

Whether you live in a suburb, on a city block, in an apartment or on a rural property, you have neighbours – and knowing your neighbours matters. We believe that every connection you have with your neighbours makes your neighbourhood more friendly, fun and safe. By encouraging better connected neighbourhoods and more everyday 'neighbourliness', neighbours can be stronger and more resilient, significantly enhancing the wellbeing of individuals, family/whanau and the wider community. We know that stronger neighbourhoods can be part of the successful antidote for many social issues within Aotearoa.





What does kindness mean to you?



Volunteering is about kindness. Kindness for others, the vulnerable, for children, for animals, for the environment, for sharing joy and knowledge through culture, sports, music and the arts, and much more.

We have a huge range of volunteering roles that are about being kind but will also enable you to share your skills, make friends, alleviate boredom and simply feed your soul.

Red Cross Community Transport Drivers

IT Tutors for SeniorNet

Support for Hospice Northland Wide

Ambulance and Event Volunteers

Fire and Emergency

Open Arms Homeless Day Stay

Riding for the Disabled

Community Mentor & Prison Visitor

Literacy Tutors

Addiction Support Workers

Victim Support

Special Olympics Coaches and Events

Swimming Pool Supervisors

Supporting SPCA

Feeding the Hungry and Homeless

Animal Rescue and Fosters

Caring for our Natural Environment

Habitat for Humanity

Citizen's Advice Bureau

Fighting Weeds (Weed Busters)

Companionship for the Older Person

Community Gardens

City Safe Carpark Ambassadors

Activity Tutors

Hospital Help; Emergency Department and Children's Wards

Our Thanks

We at Volunteering Northland extend to all our volunteers, staff, board, sponsors and supporters, and their families, our very best wishes for a very happy, joyous and safe festive season and for the New Year 2019



Kaikohe News

Do you have time to help people in your community?

St John Health Shuttle is a community service that transports people to and from essential medical and health related appointments.

Team Leader and Drivers required.

Other opportunities:

Prison Visitors and Mentors

Fire & Emergency / Youth Leaders

Hospice Op Shop / Bald Angels

Pioneer Village Guide Hosts

Sports Board Members