

MARCH/APRIL 2010

Greeting From Sharyn

HOW TO CONTACT US:

+64 (0)6 350 5920 (Phone)

+64 (0)6 350 5640 (fax)

info@lattice.org.nz



Sharyn Hight

Country Programme
Manager

shight@lattice.org.nz



Katie McCrae

Project Co-ordinator

kstalham@lattice.org.nz



Michelle Vooght

Admin Assistant

info@lattice.org.nz

March and April signal the start of our busy time of year at Lattice in New Zealand. Applications are coming in very fast and indications are that we will have our highest ever number of applications this year. A reminder to those of you who are planning to apply, please get your application in before our closing date of April 23rd to ensure you have a full range of options available. We will accept late applications but these will be on a first come first served basis and will be dependent on placements being available in the country you are wanting to go to. Placements to Boarding Schools in the UK in particular are likely to be full and you could miss out if your application is late. We are in the process of arranging interview dates and venues around the country. Please see page 3 for more information. We do like to interview applicants in person as this is a great opportunity to find out as much as we can about applicants strengths and interests so we can match them with a placement that utilises these skill and works well for them. Interviews are also a good opportunity to discuss options and explain how the process works in more detail. It is certainly okay to change your choice of country or placement type at interview. We want the Lattice experience to be a successful time away for our young people and believe it is important to match them to a placement where they will do well. We are excited to be able to offer placements in Argentina as a new option in 2011 and one which was not in our brochure. Some people may well decide they would like to change their first choice to Argentina. You can do this by contacting us or discussing it at your interview.

Scholarships News

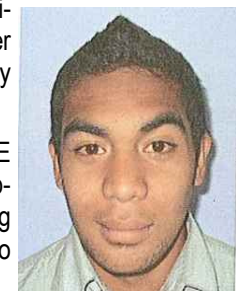


We are delighted to announce the recipients of the NZ Travelbrokers / Air New Zealand Scholarships for 2011. The first recipient is Nikola Fraser from Te Puke High School. Nikola will receive a scholarship for a placement at a boarding school in the UK in 2011. Her scholarship will cover her return flights, her Lattice fee, travel insurance and visa costs. Nikola will also receive a Contiki Tour of Europe sponsored by Contiki. Nikola is a fantastic young woman, her reference states that she is a superb student, a strong and positive role model, actively involved in all aspects of her school, including leadership roles, pastoral care, sports and service. Congratulations Nikola!

The second recipient is Ces-Ron Lupo-Moke from Wellington College. Ces-Ron will receive a scholarship for a placement at an outdoor education centre in the UK in 2011. His scholarship will include his return airfares to the UK, his Lattice fee, travel insurance and visa costs. Ces-Ron is hoping to pursue a career as an outdoor education specialist and we sincerely hope that this opportunity will see him well on the way to achieving this goal. Congratulations Ces-Ron!



We would like to thank NZ Travelbrokers, Air New Zealand, Contiki and QBE for so kindly sponsoring these scholarship opportunities. Their continued support means that we can continue to make available opportunities for all young New Zealanders. We believe that the opportunity to volunteer overseas adds so much to the development of young New Zealanders.



Placements Available for 2011

Applications are now open for departures in 2011. Our brochure and application form are available for download on our website www.lattitude.org.nz or you can email info@lattitude.org.nz with your postal address to have a paper copy mailed to you.

Applications close on Friday April the 23rd. Below is a summary of countries, work types and departure dates on offer:

Area	Country	Placement Work Types	Departure Dates
The Americas	Canada	Community	Jan or Feb or Mar
		Education—Schools Assistant	Jan or Sep
		Outdoor Education	Jan through to Jun
	Mexico	Community, Education—English Teaching	Feb or Aug
	Argentina	Community	Mar or Aug
Africa	South Africa	Education—Schools Assistant/Teaching, Environment, Outdoor Education	Jan or Jul
Asia	China	Education—English Teaching	Feb or Aug
	Vietnam	Education—English Teaching	Feb or Aug
The Pacific	Vanuatu	Education—Teaching	Jan or Jun
Europe	Poland	Education—English Teaching	Jan or Sep
		Community, Outdoor Education	Jan or Mar
		Education—School Assistant	Jan
	UK	Community, Outdoor Education	Jan or Mar
		Education—School Assistant	Jan

Fundraising

Here's some suggestions for fundraising activities for those looking to depart in 2011. We know that raising thousands of dollars can be a daunting prospect, especially when added to the commitments of school or university, but the earlier you start—the more time you have to get your funds together.

- ⇒ Hold a Sausage Sizzle
- ⇒ Apply to local Lions and Rotary clubs for funding
- ⇒ Approaching local businesses for sponsorship
- ⇒ Selling raffle tickets (and try to get your prizes donated if you can!)
- ⇒ Getting together with a group of volunteers and hold an art auction
- ⇒ Mufti Days (try approaching your school to hold a mufti day)

Please keep us informed of any ideas you have so that we can pass them on to others around the country and if possible, send us a photo of your fundraising event! If you need posters etc please let us know in advance.

Potential new country available...Argentina



After receiving lots of requests and enquiries regarding volunteer placements in Argentina we are now considering opening up Argentina as a potential placement country choice. The next departure would be around August this year and then there will be 2 departures in 2011 around March and August time. Placements last for around 4-5 months. An example of a Community work placement available is a home for some 300 children, in 17 houses, who are unable to be looked after by their parents and have been placed there mostly by a court of law. As a volunteer at this placement your most important asset will be a positive attitude and your willingness to take the initiative and find out

how you can help, as there are no set tasks as such. The children range from babies to 16 years old. There is a very strong community atmosphere in the centre and you soon become one of the family! All the volunteers who have been there have loved it and don't want to leave. If you might be interested in going to Argentina please call or email us for more information.



Focus on...Poland



There are 2 departures to Poland each year. Our next departure is September 2010 and then there will be more volunteers departing in late January/early February 2011. Placements last approx 5-6 months. The type of work our volunteers do in Poland is Teaching English. We have always had great feedback from New Zealanders that have volunteered in Poland and it's a great choice for those of you that are keen to go to Europe but are perhaps looking for the challenge of a non-English speaking country. There is no language pre-requisite although we do suggest you learn the basics to make things easier on arrival.

Hannah went to Poland in September 2009 and we were pleased to receive this message from her recently about her time there...

"I got back to New Zealand mid February after being in Poland for 5 months on a TEFL placement, I had about 10 days in Wellington before heading straight down to Dunedin to start University. The last 2 months have been a bit of a whirlwind, carrying on the buzz from overseas, and starting a new life down here in Dunedin. First of all, I want to say a big THANK YOU for all the time and effort you put into preparing me for my amazing volunteer experience. Lattitude is a fantastic programme, and I cannot express how much I have learnt from my time in Poland.. about volunteering, experiencing another culture and about myself! I had an amazing time. Before I left my school in Warsaw, my Australian partner Emma and I both wrote a message into "The Golden book". This was a book that has been kept at our school, Warsaw 61, for the past 2 or 3 years. At the end of a placement, one can write a message into the book, whether it is advice for future volunteers or reflecting on their own personal experience. I want to share part of my message that I wrote for future volunteers at my placement, about what it meant to me to be a volunteer (TEFL). "As a volunteer you are here to help, to give up your time in order to make a difference. Always remember that you are here for a reason, you were chosen by Lattitude to represent yourself, your town, and your country in a volunteering role overseas.



There are going to be ups and downs, you will experience the challenges and joys of teaching, but it all adds to the experience. Not only have you signed up to be a volunteer in Poland, you have signed up for the experience. I didn't realise how vital my role in the classroom was at first, we have the power to inspire and make a difference in a child's education. We can be that 'little extra thing' that can change a child's attitude towards a particular subject. In our case, English. This is really special.."

"Looking back on my time at Warsaw 61, I feel great satisfaction and fulfilment. I am proud of myself and what I have achieved. We are ambassadors of our countries, whether it is Australia or NZ, the kids and teachers will look at us as a representation of the youth in our society. It's important to bare this in mind

as it is up to you what image you portray.."

This was some of the advice I gave future volunteers; ... "I'm going to repeat the cliché 'the more you put in; the more you get out' which in my case was very true. Try and get involved with the school life, inside AND outside the classroom. Learn about the Polish culture and take part in some of the traditions. Try and learn the language, it can come in very handy =) Travel the country, and beyond if you want. One important thing I found is that you learn a lot through general experience. **Get out there and grab every moment, and you will have the time of your life!..**" - Just like me! ;) Like I said before, I cant emphasise enough how much of an impact this experience had on me! It was HUGE. I loved every moment, got involved with several aspects of school life, built so many strong friendships with fellow volunteers, had a great relationship with the kids and staff at school. The English host Zosia at my school was incredible, the most inspiring woman I have met in a long time - very supportive, friendly and enthusiastic!! =) I also had a fantastic relationship with my host family - they really feel like a second family on the other side of the world to me, and we are keeping in touch. I was fortunate enough to do a lot of travelling during my placement, to cities around Poland and across Europe too =).. Overall, a very memorable experience! Hannah =)"



Interview Schedule

We are starting to schedule dates to interview applicants for 2011 departures. We already have some dates booked but may have to add more dates for some areas depending on the number of applications we receive. We are also waiting to see how many applicants we receive from some areas before we schedule any dates. Interviews are normally arranged by email so if you have submitted an application and are waiting for an interview date please remember to check your emails regularly. Please also read through the email carefully as it lists some documents you will be required to bring with you. Dates arranged so far are:

27th/28th April—Palmerston North/Manawatu

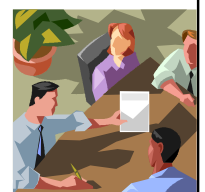
11th May—Hawkes Bay

13th May—Auckland

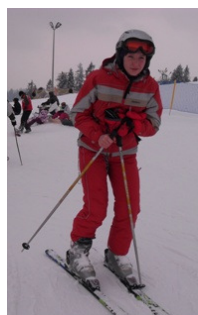
17th May—Christchurch/Canterbury

24th May—Hamilton/Waikato

Interview times and venues will be confirmed in the appointment emails we send out to you.



News and Photos from Volunteers Overseas



Hi to all in New Zealand! Its **Suzanne** here and i am placed in **Poznan, Poland!** We have been here just about 5 weeks now and the amount of things i have done is truly incredible! Have been to Krakow, Warsaw and just got back from a week of skiing in Biakel with my host sister. What can i say about Poland IT IS STILL SNOWING!!!!!! Everyone is very welcoming and if you are worried about the language don't be, quite a few people speak English and you pick bits and pieces up as you go. Also if you worry about not knowing anyone

when you leave seriously don't be! There are 4 volunteers from New Zealand and 22 from Austraila, and people always ask, you are all so close and the simple answer is you have to be after 5 weeks these people are my family pretty much! They are all going through the same things you are and its something you are all sharing together! Kieran who i am at school with is now my closet friend and we are traveling together after all around western Europe! **If anyone is thinking about going to Poland I'd say grab it, the chance to be thrown out of your comfort zone completely means that you gain so much more!** Suzanne



An update from **Becky** who went to the **UK** to an **Outdoor** placement in March...

"I just thought I'd send you a little update about the last couple of days since we arrived in England. The UK Latitude staff were there to pick us up after we came through customs (although compared to NZ, Heathrow customs is nothing major). Thanks to the flights and orientation we all made some great connections and some of us are hoping to catch up in the next couple of weeks. Blacklands Farm in East Sussex is interesting—there's a lot of mud and a lot of farm! We're starting our training today and that should be interesting."



An update on **Tristan** who went to the **UK** in January to an **Outdoor** placement... "My husband has just phoned from Scotland where he has dropped into the Belmont Centre where Tristan and Brad are posted. He says the set up is great and the people friendly. He especially liked Angus, the boss. Angus spoke well of the 2 boys, calling them "country lads". "When you give them a job, they go and do it!" Tristan is having a ball. Every weekend he goes somewhere. Over Easter he went to Inverness, Loch Ness, Fort William, Glencoe and ended up in Aberfeldy to visit the Menzies castle. Due to a constant state of poverty they hitched. I must say I like the poverty - makes them aware and appreciative perhaps. Tristan sees a lot of the other volunteers at the other centres because they mix and swap centres. He is about to go to Dounans centre for a week of archery with the other volunteers - they are all happy and well. Thanks for the opportunity."

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On the 23rd March we said goodbye to 18 more New Zealanders heading to the UK to Community and Outdoor placements. Here's a picture of some of them ready to leave Auckland.



Important Dates for 2010

- April —NZ departures to Canada
- **April 23rd—official closing date for 2011 departures**
- April to June—interviews for 2011 departures to take place
- June 5th—Get-together for Volunteers currently placed in New Zealand (in Palmerston North)
- June—Vanuatu departure
- July—South Africa departure
- August— Mexico/Argentina departure
- 27th August—incoming volunteers arrive into New Zealand from the UK, Canada and Germany
- September—Poland and Canada departures
- November/December—Pre-departure briefings for 2011 departures

ATTENTION: VOLUNTEERS IN NEW ZEALAND AND OVERSEAS

DON'T FORGET TO KEEP US UPDATED ON WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN UP TO. WE LOVE TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS AND FEATURE THEM IN OUR NEWSLETTER.

AND DON'T FORGET TO SEND US PHOTOS WITH YOUR WORLD FAMOUS LATTITUDE BAGS TO BE IN WITH THE CHANCE OF WINNING A PRIZE PLEASE EMAIL ANY NEWS AND PHOTOS TO INTERN@LATTITUDE.ORG.NZ BY THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.