

MAY 2010

Greeting From Sharyn

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At the end of April we were lucky enough to have 3 new staff members join us at Latitude. Waipora and Jenn are returned Latitude volunteers and join us as interns, while Anna is our new project coordinator and will replace Katie who is about to go on parental leave for 12 months. We are delighted to have them in the office and would like to formally introduce them to you on page three.

April 23rd saw our official closing date. Our number of applications are very high for UK schools this year so we are not accepting any further applications at this point. We will review any vacancies once applicants who met the closing date have been interviewed and matched. There is the possibility that there may be some vacancies later in the year so watch this space.

We do however have a number of vacancies for all other countries and there are some great placements available to consider. We are therefore still accepting applications and these will be dealt with on a first come first serve basis and will be dependent on a vacancie being available. Please contact us urgently to ensure you have a full range of options. Application forms can be downloaded directly from our website www.lattice.org.nz or you can phone us in the office for more information. Please see page two for a full range of options that are available.

A royal occasion!

Kareta Williams-Paul, one of our successful 2009 scholarship applicants took a break from his sports coach duties to present the Princess Royal with a bouquet when she visited our headquarters



in Reading, United Kingdom. Princess Anne is the patron of Latitude Global Volunteering and during her visit she met the

Reading headquarters team, volunteer staff and its international programme managers. Several international volunteers were at the event to meet Her Royal Highness at the private visit. She also met a number of the charity's UK project hosts, including a representative from Abingdon

School in Oxfordshire, The Prebendal School in Chichester, West Sussex, and Sibford School in Banbury, Oxfordshire. Her Royal Highness was able to see first-hand the positive difference that Latitude makes to the communities it works within, and to the volunteers themselves.



Canada Vacancies

- ⇒ We have a male school assistant vacancy in Vancouver. A Volunteer is needed from September 2010 to December 2010. If need be, this placement could be combined with another starting in January at another school or after a short break a camp placement starting in January or February 2011.
- ⇒ We have five female vacancies for 10 -12 month school placements in September 2010. Must have the ability to coach soccer or basketball.



Placements Available for 2011

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

Below is a summary of countries, work types and departure dates on offer:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Placement Work Types</u>	<u>Departure Dates</u>
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
	Ireland	Community, Outdoor Education	Jan or Mar
	UK	Community, Outdoor Education	Jan or Mar

Note: At this time all UK/Ireland School placements are now full.

Important Dates for 2010 and 2011

- 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
- January 2011— Departures commence to the UK, South Africa etc

Focus on....New Staff



Kia Ora!

My name is Waipora Tia Tia and I'm one of three new members to join the Lattitude team in Palmerston North, New Zealand.

Last year I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to be a Lattitude Volunteer. I was placed at Dover College (a co-educational day and boarding school for pupils aged 3-18 years) in Dover, Kent, England. My jobs varied, starting my mornings working in the school office to playing sports games with the pupils in the afternoon and occasionally helping out in the boarding house.

For the 12 months I lived in England I was able to travel all over Europe. Each school holidays I found myself exploring a different country. This opportunity to travel helped me "open my eyes to the world" by learning and understanding different cultures. It was because of Lattitude that I was able to have such a great experience!

I'm really looking forward to working as part of the Lattitude team to provide current and prospective volunteers who will be coming to or leaving New Zealand with a truly incredible experience.



Dzien Dobry!

I'm Jenn, one of the newest members to the Lattitude team. I am originally from the Far North of New Zealand. I grew up in a tiny rural town called Okaihau, and boarded at Whangarei Girls High School.

In January 2009 (thanks to Lattitude and my parents) I packed up and jetted off to Poland. I was there for a five month teaching placement in an urban Junior High School in Warsaw. I had the coolest time getting to know the country and the culture. I surprised myself with the Polish language and my teaching, and had heaps of fun with my students, host family, and fellow Gappers.

After my placement finished, my Dad decided to cash in on the fun and we travelled a bit of Poland and Ireland together. It was fantastic to be able to travel with one of my parents and show them what I had been up to for the past five months, but after he returned home to NZ, I jumped on a Contiki tour for a whirlwind trip around Europe.

Returning home I was excited to be back in NZ and see my family and friends, but also feeling a little bit sorry for myself, now unable to skip from European country to European country. I was back up north working when I applied for the Lattitude Internship position and in just over a month from interview to starting the job, I am now living in Palmerston North, my car filled to the brim with my belongings, working as an Intern for Lattitude New Zealand. I'm very excited to meet new applicants and in country volunteers and help them have the same cool experience which I received.



Hola!

My name is Anna, and I am the new Project Coordinator in NZ taking on Katie's role as she goes on maternity leave. I hail from the chilly south of NZ and have recently finished an honours degree in Political studies at Otago.

Last year I took the opportunity to volunteer in the cactus filled desert of northern Chile, and taught English in a public school for four months. It was an incredible experience and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I lived in a Chilean ghetto, picked up some unique Chilean Spanish, learnt how to control a classroom of Chilean kids that normally would be getting into fights at the back of the classroom, while the girls straightened their hair and touched up their make-up. To top off all the hard work I backpacked round the north of Argentina at the end. I've also previously volunteered short term in Cambodia visiting orphanages and prisons.



After volunteering and evidently enjoying it, I decided to work with Lattitude as I believe in the value of volunteering overseas, especially for young adults. I'm filling some big shoes here at the NZ office and I'm very excited about learning all the crazy ropes of Lattitude as well as getting to meet all the volunteers.



News and Photos from Volunteers in New Zealand



Time is flying and it's already May. Joe and I have been in Whangarei as Gappers since August 2009 and all I can say is that we've had such a great time so far. Apart from all the travelling, sky diving, bungee jumping, rafting, hiking... one of the main reasons why this year was so amazing is Trish Holloway our boss at the Whangarei Boys' High School Hostel. She can be strict, and I have to admit it might be with reason every now and then, but she also supports us whenever and wherever we need help - no matter if it's a friend who needs a place to sleep or advice in female affairs...

That's why I would like to take this opportunity to thank her representatively for all the people that make experiences like ours possible: Cheers guys!

Max-Bastian Horn

News and Photos from Volunteers Overseas

Dzien dobry Lattitude!

I am placed at "Klasztor Siostr Niepokalanek" aka "Convent of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady" in Jaroslaw, which is in South East Poland. I am living with another volunteer, Georgina from Melbourne, in a Convent with 34 nuns (that wear habits and all!)



Poland is (in as few words as possible) simply amazing, charming and beautiful! I have been to Warsaw, Krakow, and the Tri-City (Gdansk, Gdynia and Sopot) so far and have been amazed at the amount of hidden gems this country has. From the quaint and beautifully preserved Old-Towns and Church's to the extravagant Castles, like Wawel, this country does nothing but impress. The same goes for it's people too. The Poles are... different, but delightful! And the other volunteers, Kiwi's and Aussie's, are priceless. The trips with them have been beyond memorable! The other NZer's, Suzanne, Johanna and Charles are quite amazing. I am so lucky to have met them and to have become so close with them. They're Family, minus the bloodline.



The fact that we, especially coming from little wee NZ, are surrounded by History every day (some of Jaroslaw's buildings date back to the 13th century) is probably one of the most incredible parts of this experience for me. Especially this week, and in particular this weekend; Poland is mourning and grieving for their President, his wife and several other leading members of their Government, and we (the volunteers), are experiencing this with them. History is taking place right before our eyes and I am learning so much as it happens!

I am so pleased I am here and chose to take a year "growing up" rather than another year with my nose in books! The members of staff here laugh at Georgina and I on a daily basis, because we look like Cheshire cats; always smiling and overly enthusiastic, but it's hard not to be. After all, WE ARE IN POLAND! The language can sometimes be a small barrier, but also highly entertaining. Many memories have been made with our Polish skills, or lack of, but in the end, the meaning or main gist, usually gets across with the odd phrase.

Anyone that is second guessing a gap year in Poland shouldn't. Maybe easier said than done, but of all the doubts or second thoughts I have had, I can firmly say, that now, I have none. I am so happy where I am, what I have seen and am yet to experience. There is nowhere else I would rather be right now. Poland and its People; young, old and nuns, have found a very firm and cosy spot in my heart!



Grace



Volunteers in Scotland

Scott Holland, Alysha Simensen, Robbie Robinson, Courtney Reynolds, Nick Porter, Tristan Menzies

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.