

# LATTITUDE

## GLOBAL VOLUNTEERING

# Aotearoa- New Zealand Newsletter

## August 2010

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### Greetings from Sharyn

August 27 will see the arrival of our annual intake of volunteers coming to New Zealand for 12 month placements in schools all around the country. We would like to welcome to New Zealand and wish you all the best in your placements. Thank you again to all of our hosts. We look forward to seeing you all soon as we commence our visits of volunteers in their placements.

August has also seen the departure of our first ever NZ volunteer to Argentina. We are very excited to hear that Andrew has arrived safely in Argentina. We hope you are putting those Spanish lessons to good use! Good luck also to Teresa about to depart to Canada and Megan to Poland.

For those volunteers preparing to depart in 2011 don't forget to put in your diary Predeparture briefing. Please see the back page for dates. They are important days and we encourage as many of you as possible to attend, and parents and caregivers are invited too. Placement confirmations are at various stages with some people having had confirmations and receiving briefing packs and others applying late and just having interviews. We will let you know as soon as we have any updates but if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the office at any time.

We have been receiving a large number of enquiries from Year 13 students still undecided on what to do next year. If this applies to you it is not too late to volunteer overseas—you will see examples of the placements still available as you read on. However in an effort to encourage people to plan ahead and to reduce the anxiety of trying to organise placements in a rush Waipora and Jenn are preparing to do a series of presentations at schools in the South Island. If your school is interested please contact us in the office and we will try to include you in their itinerary.

We have received the exciting news that Katie, our Project Coordinator who has been at Lattice for 3 and a half years has had her baby! Luke Coupar McCrae arrived in the world only 1 day late and weighing in at 7lb 3oz. Congratulations to Katie and Graeme on the arrival of their first child!

### Focus on Community Placements

**Community projects allow volunteers to join forces with local communities and assist them to grow in a sustainable way, or help disabled and disadvantaged people to live more independent lives.**

Working alongside locals allows you to make a real and lasting contribution, and while each project comes with its own unique challenges, they are some of the most rewarding Lattice has on offer. Community projects aim to enrich lives, increase opportunities, and improve facilities in developing parts of the world. Volunteers are vital and give hope for a better future to people living with disadvantages.

Lattice volunteers can work in a variety of capacities, from supporting the homeless or orphaned, contributing to the work of NGOs, or doing outreach work with disadvantaged youth, to befriending, entertaining, and assisting with the day-to-day care of the elderly or people with disabilities. Everything you do will be helping individuals and communities to grow and prosper into the future. Please do not hesitate to contact the office to find out more about Community Placements.



**Our website address is: [www.lattice.org.nz](http://www.lattice.org.nz)**

## Vacancies

**We still have vacancies available for 2011 departures!!!**

**Below is a brief summary of some of the placements on offer. To find out more information please do not hesitate to contact the office.**

### **The UK**

**Findhorn Marina (Outdoor Education)** – This is a new and exciting Outdoor Education placement for Latitude New Zealand. This placement would suit volunteers with a interest in water activities. Volunteers duties will include sailing, powerboat and water taxi driver. There are 3 female vacancies starting in March for 6-8 month placement.



**Carers First (Community)** - Carers First is an independent charitable organisation which is working to support Carers living in the West Kent area. The organisation's mission is to ensure that Carers receive advice and information, practical and emotional support, time out from their caring responsibilities and opportunity to live their own life. Volunteers duties will be a mix of both office & activity based work, but always alongside a Young Carer Support Worker. During activities you will be expected to help facilitate support groups, events, days out and residential breaks. There are two vacancies starting in January for 12 months.



**Argentina (School Assistant)** - School placements in Buenos Aires for March and August 2011, one of the best bilingual schools in Argentina, preference is for 19+ university students, This placement would be great for those who really want teaching experience.

**Vanuatu**—Vacancies for June 2011 in teaching placements, boys especially wanted.



**South Africa**— Teaching and outdoor camp placements available in January.

## Eleanor in Vanuatu

Here are some photos of Eleanor who has just started a school placement in Vanuatu.

The photos are from the orientation week at Port Villa. Eleanor is having an amazing time and seems to be taking all the challenges in her stride-getting to grips with the language Bislama and many other cultural differences.



## Presentations



Earlier this month Latitude went along to Mcauley High School's career expo where we talked to the students about gap years. The students and their families were given the opportunity to learn more about our organization and the placements we provide. This was a well organised event and Jenn really enjoyed her day there. If your school is interested in learning more about Latitude, please do not hesitate to contact us in the office.



### **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 LATITUDE BAGS TO BE IN WITH THE CHANCE OF WINNING A PRIZE.**

**PLEASE EMAIL ANY NEWS AND PHOTOS TO:**

Add us as a friend on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/LatitudeNZ>

**We ask our volunteers to tell us some of the most RESPONSIBLE, EXCITING and DIFFERENT things they have done during their placements!**

The following information is from Alexej who recently returned home after a year of volunteering at Hato Pāora College in the Manawatū region.

- 1)The most exciting experience that I recall was getting up early one morning, to put a hangi down for the investiture ceremony of Sir Archie Tiaoroa.
- 2)The most responsible thing I recall doing, was when I worked with a Year 8 student who required learning support. I had to think of work that was appropriate for his level, but fun for him and I had to keep him focussed on achieving (learning new things). When he worked well we would play some board games. The longer he remained on task, the longer we got to play the board games (which were also good for building his vocabulary and thinking). We Both learnt "heaps".
- 3) The most different thing between here and home (Germany) was the cultural aspect of my placement. Hato Pāora is a Māori school and the school life embraces this. And of course the friendliness of the people of Aotearoa.



I have been working at Nelson College for Girls in the school and in the boarding house (CJ House). I have absolutely loved it and am really going to miss it a lot.

At CJ House it tradition that the gap students put on a gappers quiz just before they leave. Me and Natalie did a WOW (world of wearable arts) recycled themed quiz. We got all the girls to dress up in clothes they had made from recycled things and take part in the quiz. It was a really fun night and everyone got into the spirit of it.



The most exciting thing I did whilst at NCG was probably going on the kayaking trip with the year 13's to Abel Tasman. It was such a fun trip and we got to kayak for 3 days as well camp and tramp.

The most responsible thing that I have done in my placement would probably being on overnight alarms at CJ. 3 times a week me and Natalie would be responsible to turn off any of the burgalar alarms that went off and also respond to texts from girls in the night if there were problems.

I would say that the thing most different between NZ to England is that NZ as a country seems much closer and the people seem to want to help each other more. It just seems a much more laid back place to be. I have loved my time in NZ and have made some great friends from all over the world. Travelling NZ in the holidays has been the most amazing thing and I will miss it a lot. I want to thank Lattitude and NCG/CJ House for all they have done for me over the last year and for giving me such an amazing opportunity.

Laura

1. Responsible— Coaching an unbeaten Rugby team as well as a football and hockey team. This involved training throughout the week and taking them on Saturday morning.
2. Exciting— The 124m bungee in Queenstown, unbelievable experience.
3. Different- Attitude towards sport from a young age. A lot more serious and professional.

Andrew

1. Responsible— I run (supper) toasties on Wednesday night, with efficiency, speed and authority.
2. Exciting— Completing the Tongariro Crossing with the year 13's was an exciting accomplishment
3. Different—Generally more laid back society.

Ben

**Both Ben and Andrew have been volunteering at Palmerston North Boys High School.**



I had a really good placement: St Patrick's College Silverstream. The school as such is not too big and I had heaps of diffrent tasks during the day. The facility I was staying in was the best possible I think.

1. a) In my freetime: The traveling around New Zealand is just amazing.
- b) During work: The McEvedy Shield competetion and the Wellington College Traditional were just amazing!
- 2)Proabaly the afternoon in the boarding house when I was in charge of the kids and when I coached the a team at the Triathlon Secondary Schools Nationals.

3)The people and their attidute towards other people. The people are very friendly and allways open for small talk. Hendrik

## Lattitude Bag competition

The winner of this month's world famous Lattitude New Zealand bag competition is Laura. This photo was taken from the top of Table Mountain in South Africa where Laura has just completed a school placement.

Laura — email Waipora to collect your prize! You can choose between the Kiwi Speak book or the Great NZ Songbook CD—hopefully your prize will be a nice reminder of New Zealand!



### Placements Available for 2011

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

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

- **Canada School Placements are now full.**
- **UK/Ireland School Placements:** We are currently running a waiting list for school placements in the UK. We are still accepting applications on a limited basis but all new applicants should expect to be put on the waiting list with no guarantee that we would be able to offer a school placement

### Important Dates for 2010 and 2011

- 27th August—incoming volunteers arrive into New Zealand from the UK, Canada and Germany
- September—Departures to Poland and Canada
- 30th October— Christchurch Pre-departure briefing
- 6th November—Palmerston North Pre-departure briefing
- 7th November — Auckland Pre-departure briefing
- 11th January 2011— Volunteers arrive in the UK
- 16th January 2011—Volunteers arrive in South Africa
- Late January 2011—Volunteers depart for Vanuatu
- 12 February 2011— First NZ volunteers arrive in Vietnam!
- 20th February 2011—Volunteers arrive in Poland
- February 2011—Applications Open for 2012 departures!
- 8th of APRIL 2011— Applications Close for 2010 departures (Please note this date is essential for volunteers wanting to go to a school placement in the UK. Applications will be received after this date for placements only if there is a vacancy in that country and will be accepted on a first come first served basis)