

LATTITUDE GLOBAL VOLUNTEERING

Aotearoa- New Zealand

May 2011

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

Anna Burgin

Volunteer Co-ordinator

aburgin@lattice.org.nz

Maarten Bazuin

Volunteer Co-ordinator

info@lattice.org.nz

Lorna Murrell

Volunteer Co-ordinator

admin@lattice.org.nz

Greetings from Sharyn

May has been a great month as our Lattice staff have been travelling around the country interviewing applicants for 2012. This is one of my favourite times of the year as although it is very busy it is also very inspiring as we get to meet some very talented young new Zealanders. This is what makes the job so rewarding and gives us faith that the future of New Zealand will be in safe hands!

May has also seen Lattice Global Volunteering registered as a Charity here in New Zealand. While we have always been a British based Charity, being registered here in New Zealand will hopefully enable us to access funding to be able to provide more scholarship opportunities for young new Zealanders to have the opportunity to volunteer overseas. Watch this space!

We are still receiving large numbers of enquiries from people wanting to volunteer in 2012. I would like to reiterate yet again that we will accept late applications as long as there are vacancies available in the country people would like to go to. Our placements are full for both UK and Canadian schools. However we have vacancies in all other countries. If you are interested please see our vacancy section and contact us as soon as possible.

Scholarship



We are delighted to announce the recipients of the NZ Travelbrokers / Air New Zealand Scholarships for 2011. The first recipient is Tegan Birchall from Westlake Girls High School. Tegan will receive a scholarship for a placement at a boarding school in the UK in 2012. Her scholarship will cover her return flights, her Lattice fee, travel insurance and visa costs. Tegan is a fantastic young woman, her reference states that she is a thoughtful, perceptive, mature student who, besides achieving well academically, has been involved in a variety of extra curricular activities, both in school and outside school. Congratulations Tegan!

The second recipient is Jonathan Tevita from Wellington College. Jonathan will receive a scholarship for a placement at a boarding school in the UK in 2012. His scholarship will include his return airfares to the UK, his Lattice fee, travel insurance and visa costs. Jonathan will also receive a Contiki Tour of Europe sponsored by Contiki. Jonathan is planning to study accountancy however this is his back-up plan as he would like to be a professional rugby player first. Congratulations Jonny!

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.



Fundraising

We would like to encourage all of the applicants for 2012 to think about fundraising now rather than leaving it until very late in the year. While most of our applicants are in year 13 which is a very busy year, if you do a little bit regularly you will be in a great position later in the year. We do encourage all volunteers to contribute financially towards their Lattitude experience, even if it is only a little bit, as having to work hard to achieve something does make it more rewarding. There are many of our volunteers who are paying for their whole experience themselves which is great. If you need any help from Lattitude in terms of letters of support, posters, promotional material please do let us know. We are happy to promote your schemes and projects in our newsletter also, and would love to hear how you get on. It can help give ideas to other volunteers who may be struggling so do send us in your fundraising ideas and news.



In the meantime here are some ideas you may want to consider or support.

- Many of our applicants were studying photography or art – hold an art auction between you to raise some funds
- Talia and Te Awhiorangi in Palmerston North are regularly selling rewana bread on a Saturday morning at the local market – get up early and buy some to help them achieve their goal of going to the UK.
- You may like to look at Breakout : <http://www.fis.org.nz/index.php?page=BreakOut> It is an online database of scholarships, awards and grants for individuals. The schemes cover various areas of funding, including secondary and tertiary scholarships, arts and sports activities, and funding for personal and professional development. It contains 3380 schemes, with 2002 currently open for applications (as at 26 May 2011). They add about 8 to 10 new scholarships to the database per week. There is an annual subscriptions for organisations such as Lattitude but individuals can access this at their local library. You may want to check this regularly.

Morgan Watkins

My thing is volunteering overseas with Lattitude!

I want to volunteer with Lattitude to work with youth overseas, to help the youth in my placement grow - as they deserve - even as I grow myself.

The nature of my goal

My goal is to go on a Lattitude program in 2012 as either a Schools' Assistant, English Teacher, Teacher or Community Worker.

Just thought that I'd let you all know that I entered myself into the AMP Do Your Thing People's Choice Scholarship! It's a \$10,000 scholarship that is awarded to whoever has the most votes by the 17th of July.

This scholarship would put me in to a Lattitude volunteer program in 2012. I'd love to go to Poland to teach English to the people there, and learn about Polish culture, and to learn the language. It'd be an amazing six months of my life in a foreign country surrounded by a rich culture and history, though there is no definite plan as to where I'm going yet. If I were to receive this AMP scholarship, then I'd be enabled to experience this life-changing opportunity with Lattitude!

All it takes for you to help me get there is forwarding this on to a few people you think would be interested in voting, and voting yourselves here: <http://www.doyourthing.co.nz/2011-01346/morgan-watkins>

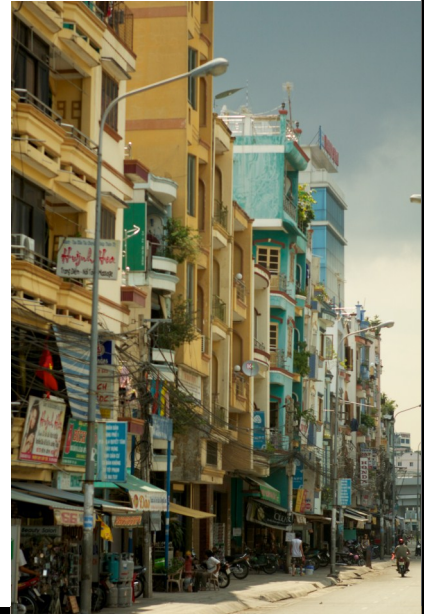


Vietnam

Hiya

Arriving in Vietnam I was overwhelmed, the heat hit me as soon as I stepped out of the plane and new, different sights and smells were everywhere. I was greeted by a chorus of beeps and toots and the traffic was unlike anything else I had ever experienced. In fact, it took me a while to realise that in Vietnam they drive on the right-hand-side of the road! I think that for me it is the little things that made this trip memorable for me, the little old lady on the bus feeding me pieces of mango, the kids giving me drawings and cards and people greeting me with the one word of English they know 'Hello' as I walk through our town. The Vietnamese people are friendly, generous and welcoming and I looked forward to walking into class every morning to my kids smiling faces. While the language barrier made things difficult, my pupils took it upon themselves to teach me as much Vietnamese as I taught them English. Teaching in Vietnam was an amazing experience in an amazing country, and the memories I have and friendships I made, made the trip something I would recommend to anyone.

Lauren Swasbrook—DongNai University, Ho Chi Minh City



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.



Argentina -There are still 4 month school assistant placements in Buenos Aires in Argentina for August 2011, these placements are for 19+, and are more a cultural experience as volunteers will be assisting at one of the top bilingual schools in the country and will be well looked after in one of the most exciting cities in South America! Anyone interested contact Anna pronto! aburgin@latitude.org.nz

- **Vanuatu**—Vacancies for Jan and June 2012 in teaching placements,
- **South Africa**—Vacancies for Jan 2012
- **Fiji**—Vacancies for Jan and August 2012
- **Vietnam**—Vacancies for February and August 2012



- **Argentina**- Vacancies for March and August 2012
- **India**—Vacancies for Jan/Feb and August 2012
- **Costa Rica** Vacancies for Jan and May 2012
- **Australia** Vacancies for Jan and July 2012
- **Poland** Vacancies for February and September 2012

Hello,

Catching the bus here is always a funny and sometimes traumatising experience. Perhaps this is because I never really caught buses in Wellington and never really took notice of people whenever I was on them. My favourite scenario is what I call 'The Free Seat Showdown' (the FSS). As most of the time the bus is full of people, this is where someone gets off the bus and leaves a seat free.. The resulting situation is the FSS between normally about 4 or so people near the free seat. No one ever says anything.

No one wants to take the seat. Everyone wants to take the seat. No one ever takes the seat.

It's beautiful. And so on any given bus ride there is normally 1 or 2 free seats with about 3 or 4 people surrounding it caught in the FSS. People sometimes pretend to look away or pretend not to care about being in a FSS, but they do care, and I see them caring.

The sometimes traumatising aspect of my frequent bus journeys takes place when I decide to take one of many free seats at the start of the trip. Somehow I never learn. I know, I know for a fact that by the time the bus trip is 3/4 of the way through, the bus will be full. And I know that if I take a seat at the start I will be stuck in the same situation as I was stuck in the day before - happily seated, then joined by normally an older person sitting next to me, then the bus fills up, then I'm stuck on the inside seat whilst some old man who talks to himself and struggles to lie on the floor without holding on, is left without a seat. I cannot move for I am on the inside seat and so I wear the face of a naive tourist who hasn't any decent manners. I no longer bother taking a seat when I get on the bus.

I also saw a sausage Labrador. Selective breeding gone horribly wrong. The best traits of both breeds were diminished into an awkward wobbly log whose head was too big and seemed to dictate the direction that it moved. If its head tilted slightly to the left it would end up running a circle to its left. Simply imagine a bumper boat (we all know how damn difficult bumper boats can be to steer). If it were my dog I would call it Bumper, although such a useless pest should be used only as a warning to any aspiring dog breeders not to ever combine sausage with lab.

Regards, Chris



Careers Expo



To everybody who came to see us at one of the Careers Expo's we've been doing, it was great to see you: All you returned volunteers who came by to tell us about wonderful your overseas experiences, those of you who brought your siblings or friends to meet us so that they could find out where in the world they could go volunteer and have an adventure like yours, current volunteers enjoying your GAP year in New Zealand, and even those of you who just wanted a lolly...

We will be at the Coco Cola Careers expo in Auckland on the 9th-11th June, then at the Wellington expo on the 27th-28th June and lastly the Palmerston North expo 3rd-4th July.

So next time you see us at an Expo, come on by!



Important Dates for 2011

Departure Dates 2011

- **25th June 2011**—Second departure to Vanuatu
- **10 August 2011**—Second departure to Argentina
- **27th August 2011**—Second departure Vietnam
- **31 August 2011**—First New Zealanders depart for Fiji
- **September 2011**—Second departure to Poland
- 9th January— First UK departure for 2012
- 21st January—First departure for Canada
- 24th January—First ever departure to Australia

Interviews -We already have some interview dates set - with more to follow!

- 9th June—Whangarei
- 9th June—Gisborne
- 10th-11th June—Auckland
- Pre departure Briefings
- 28th October —Christchurch—Time and venue to be advised
- 5th November—Palmerston North
- 6th November—Auckland

