



*"We support, promote, value and encourage volunteering"*

Kia ora and hello again

I keep saying that I cannot believe where time is going and yet again here it is end of April and already the Start of a new financial year is almost a month in.

### **Volunteer Recognition Awards**

The first thing that I want to share is our Recognition Awards – Nominations are open, and they close on April 29<sup>th</sup> end of workday 4pm. So please think about those awesome volunteers that you have and consider spending time putting pen to paper or fingers to the keys and send us your nomination.

**UPDATE:** Closing date now extended till May 6<sup>th</sup> 3.30pm

Categories this year are:

**YOUTH**  
**COUPLE**  
**INDIVIDUAL**  
**LONG SERVICE**  
**TEAM**

**TUKU IHO** (3 generations or more from one family / Whanau) – they do not necessarily need to all volunteer for the same organisation / group.

Please don't leave this to the last minute – make that time and get it started now.

The nomination forms are available from [www.volunteeringnewplymouth.org.nz](http://www.volunteeringnewplymouth.org.nz)

Scanning the QR code or Ph: 06 758 8986



## Future Important Dates for your Diary

Date	Reason	Who	Where
06.05.2025	Nominations close for Volunteer Recognition Awards	Volunteering NP	
21.05.25	Rights & Responsibilities and Safety for Youth Volunteers in the Workplace	Taranaki Community Law	Microsoft Teams
27.05.2025	Managing People	Shona Implement	ACT Hall 33 Liardet St, New Plymouth
11.06.2025	Health & Safety in Workplace for Volunteers	Taranaki Community Law	Microsoft Teams
14.06.2025	Volunteer Recognition Awards	Volunteering NP	NPDC Chamber
17.06.2025	NFP Community Board Members morning tea	Hosted by Age Concern	33 Liardet St New Plymouth
25.06.2025	TBC 1	Shona Implement	TBC
23.07.2025	Privacy Act	Taranaki Community Law	Microsoft Teams

### Access Radio Taranaki – Volly Voices

Each fortnight Graham Ault & myself rock up to Access Radio Taranaki venue in Top Town complex to prerecord our Volly Voices Radio show that is aired on Sunday at 2pm – this show is aired twice and is also available to listen to on Spotify and Apple Podcast on the Monday after the show has aired - to find this go the either Access Radio Taranaki website and these recordings can be found under Community or to Volunteering New Plymouth website and look under Volunteers and Volly Calls - this is where we have guests from Organisations share what their roles is and what that Organisation does and how volunteers can and do help.



Here are a few photos from our Show guests



We are also hoping to have some volunteers share their stories for the shows that will air during National Volunteer Week – so if you have a wonderful volunteer who would be happy to share their why and what benefits they receive from their work with you – please let me know if they would like to share their story on a podcast or be part of our recording on Access Radio Taranaki on Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – message me on 027 541 0577 for details and also -



## Volunteering New Plymouth Home Based Projects

### Knitting Projects

Now that the cooler weather is approaching would you like to keep those fingers warm by knitting items that we have had requests for and we are supplying:

**Te Whata Ora Taranaki Base Emergency Department, Child & Adolescence** with tiny teddies, squeeze balls and soon to be added beanies – **If need a pattern, contact us.**

**Gabby's Starlit HOPE** – with Tiny Teddies

**Heart Kids** – Red tiny teddies, beanies, cardies and booties

**WISE Winter warmers** – beanies, slippers, scarves

So if you have wool and needles – or if you need wool and needles and patterns contact us here at the office for these



**Sewing projects** – *this is another lovely project that you can work on in your own time at home.*

We have been providing and have an ongoing need to supply Organisations with a variety of bags and we have patterns for each of these projects.

Most often they are made with remnants, or old duvet covers or sometimes old curtains or even samples from furniture shops – we have one amazing sewer who makes patchwork bags and lines them for our special occasion bags

The following Community Organisations have recently received bags for their events

May / June 2024 Waitara Foodbank 47 bags

May 2024 On the House 10 bags

June 2024 Women's Refuge 20 bags

June 2024 Volunteering New Plymouth Volunteer Recognition Awards 24 bags

August 2024 New Plymouth Food Bank 21 Bags

March 2025 Age Concern - Conference – “Age is just A Number” 180 Bags



We have more events coming up and hope that there are some sewers that are able to gift to: Women's Centre 50 years Celebration as well as our Volunteer Recognition Awards and VNP attending the Careers Expo



We are also working with Taranaki Health Foundation and their project Hardship to Hope and repurposing the ALSCO Pillowcases for the Holdalls for the Pepi Pods – this is an ongoing project that utilizes the pillowcases given to THF to be gifted and we have a pattern to change those into the Holdall for the items that are given with the Pepi Pods to new Mums

Heart Kids and Gabby's Starlit HOPE take these flannelette material Love Hearts – these are for those who are being separated from their young babies for them to put their own scent on for Baby. If this sounds like something that you would like to be part of ensure that you contact us to get the instructions – they are very simple and there is no stuffing involved – just sewing.



We and the recipients really appreciate the time put into these projects and we have had wonderful feedback – one I will share is from Emergency department

*"Thank you so much for the tiny teddies that you delivered to us this week. IT was very timely as we had a couple of little people in tonight and the older one was quite unconsolable – but when I gave him the larger teddy this calmed him down a treat, he had a little sister who I gave one of the tinier tiny teddies and that was so special as they were so much more relaxed after that – so could you please share how much these tiny teddies mean to us having them here in ED, THANK YOU"*



Robyn from Just Quilting & Knitting gifting Bunnies for Easter to Gabby's Starlit HOPE



Claire from Child & Adolescence receiving Tiny Teddies

Check our Roles online for examples of what roles we currently have and some of the info you need to share with us

<https://www.volunteeringnewplymouth.org.nz/volunteer/roles>

Check out our Taranaki Daily News column on our website

<https://www.volunteeringnewplymouth.org.nz/vollycalls>

I hope that you have found this informative and helpful.

If you are interested in any of these and not yet involved please don't hesitate to contact us on 06 758 8986 or Marie 027 541 0577 email [manager@vnp.nz](mailto:manager@vnp.nz) or Wendy 022 571 4228 email [admin@vnp.nz](mailto:admin@vnp.nz)

Till next time

Marie R

Wendy R

#### THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND SPONSORS

