Tūao Te Matau-a-Māui
Volunteering Hawke's Bay

A CELEBRATION OF

20 YEARS

2006–2026



Celebrating Twenty Years

A commemorative record of community impact

For twenty years, Volunteering Hawke's Bay has connected individuals with opportunities to make a difference, strengthened community organisations, and championed the valuable contribution volunteers make throughout our region.

This booklet celebrates the people, stories, achievements and milestones that have shaped our journey from 2006 to 2026.

> ***Twenty years of connection, generosity and meaningful community impact.***

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PAGE 04 • WELCOME

Celebrating Twenty Years

Service, connection and community

Paul Grundy | Chairperson

Ngā mihi mahana nui kia koutou katoa.

Welcome to this special celebration marking twenty years of Volunteering Hawke's Bay.

We recognise the volunteers, organisations, staff, trustees, funders and community partners who have helped strengthen Hawke's Bay through service, generosity and aroha. Volunteers support whānau, care for our environment, mentor rangatahi and step forward in times of challenge. Their contribution helps shape stronger, kinder communities across our region.

We also acknowledge those instrumental in forming Volunteering Hawke's Bay, our staff and board members over the years, our national and regional colleagues, and the funders whose consistent support enables our work to continue.

The quality of nominations for the 2026 Excellence Awards reflects the value Hawke's Bay places on volunteering and the outstanding calibre of local mahi. May this celebration be an opportunity to reconnect, create new relationships and recognise the achievements of our finalists and award recipients.

Thank you for being part of our story. Kia ora tatou.



Paul Grundy
Chairperson
Volunteering Hawke's Bay

How It All Began

From an idea to a community legacy

Renata Lehmann | Founding Manager

The journey began while I was Volunteer Coordinator at IHC/IDEA Services. My manager asked whether I would be interested in helping establish a volunteer centre in Hawke's Bay. With six volunteer centres already operating in Aotearoa New Zealand, I had a step-by-step template to use. I said yes to the challenge and developed a feasibility study.

It was a time of strong community vision. Networks formed, supporters came forward, a steering committee and board were established, and we set up an office in the community centre. In 2006, Volunteering Hawke's Bay opened its doors.

I was nervous about whether it would work. Then, on the first day, Vietta arrived looking for an opportunity with Dementia Hawke's Bay. That first connection captured exactly what the centre was created to do.

Over the years, we developed systems, websites and databases, built relationships with other volunteer centres, and created training for boards, managers and volunteer coordinators. We promoted the importance of volunteer management and strengthened the wider non-profit sector.

Twenty years is no mean feat. The organisation's continued relevance reflects the support of volunteers, managers, funders, councils, board members and the wider community.

> ***It is the spirit of volunteering that counts—contributing to the fabric of our region.***
>
> *- Renata Lehmann*



Founders & Early Champions

The people who helped make it possible

Renata Lehmann

Founding Manager whose vision, determination and leadership helped transform the concept of a volunteer centre into a lasting regional organisation.

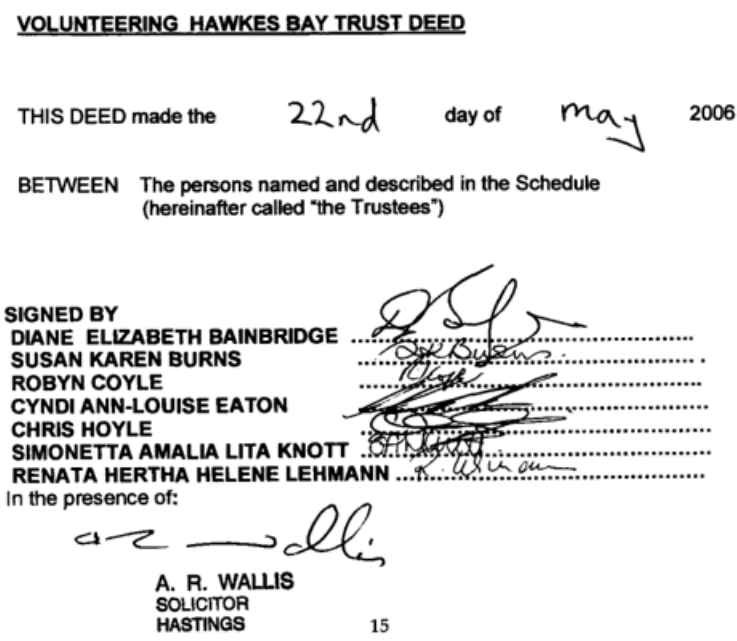
Dave Pipe

An early supporter of stronger community connections and the community hub concept, and Master of Ceremonies for the 20-year celebration.

Ken Simons

A long-serving trustee and former Chairperson whose governance contributed to the organisation's continuity and development.

Founding Signatories



VOLUNTEERING HAWKES BAY TRUST DEED

THIS DEED made the 22nd day of May 2006

BETWEEN The persons named and described in the Schedule (hereinafter called "the Trustees")

SIGNED BY
DIANE ELIZABETH BAINBRIDGE .....
SUSAN KAREN BURNS .....
ROBYN COYLE .....
CYNDI ANN-LOUISE EATON .....
CHRIS HOYLE .....
SIMONETTA AMALIA LITA KNOTT .....
RENATA HERTHA HELENE LEHMANN .....
In the presence of:

A. R. WALLIS
SOLICITOR
HASTINGS

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2005–2010

Establishing the foundations

FROM VISION TO OPENING

2005	A feasibility study was undertaken, and a steering committee was formed.
2006	Volunteering Hawke's Bay opens at the Napier Community Hub.
	The first volunteer placement is made when Vietta seeks an opportunity with Dementia Hawke's Bay.
	The first corporate volunteer placement is recorded.
	The first website and early volunteer connection systems are established.
	The founding Board begins its governance role.
2007–2010	Out and about in the community promoting the organisation and recruiting volunteers.

"

The first year in action placed volunteers with IDEA Services, Napier Community House, Cranford Hospice, Hastings Parents Centre, the Alzheimer's Society, the MS Society, Riding for the Disabled and Sport Hawke's Bay. Referrals also supported Restorative Justice, Hawke's Bay Regional Council, Care and Craft, the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind and Meals on Wheels.

The team built relationships with community organisations, identified where volunteers were most needed and encouraged local involvement. A new website promoted opportunities, while the Napier Community House centre in Raffles Street offered a welcoming place to connect.

By the end of the period, 17 volunteers had been matched, 31 people referred, eight organisations welcomed as financial members and four volunteers had joined the centre's own team—an encouraging start as awareness grew.

Source: Historical Report, 3 May 2010

2011–2015

Growing awareness and recognition

Volunteer awareness, networking and recognition remained important themes as Volunteering Hawke's Bay continued to support volunteers and community organisations across the region. National Volunteer Week campaigns provided a visible way to celebrate service and strengthen understanding of volunteering.

MILESTONES IN CONNECTION & CAPABILITY	
2011	**Governance development:** The first Building Better Boards workshop is held, offering free practical support to trustees responsible for leading their organisations.
2012	**Excellence Awards:** The inaugural Excellence Awards celebrate and recognise the valuable contributions of our volunteers. **Sector support:** The Not for Profit Toolkit is developed.
2013	**Inclusive volunteering:** A volunteering and older people project is delivered.
2014	**Growth:** Membership reaches **74 organisations**. **Regional access:** Hastings Library drop-ins support people unable to visit the Napier office, with 140 volunteer opportunities available. International Volunteer Managers Day is marked at Café No. 5. **Capability building:** Diversity in Volunteering and ABCs of Event Planning workshops respond to an increasingly diverse Aotearoa New Zealand, home to 213 ethnicities.
2015	**Connection:** International Volunteer Managers Day is celebrated with a networking breakfast at Zepplin Café. **Training:** An Introduction to Governance workshop is held in April, followed by IT Literacy on 12 November, covering computer basics, hardware, cloud storage and backups.

2016–2020

Growth, leadership and community development

Across these years, Volunteering Hawke's Bay continued to strengthen organisations through governance support, volunteer management training and community development initiatives.

BUILDING REACH & RESILIENCE	
2016	**Celebrating partnership** and the estimated one billion global volunteers. Corporate volunteering: ANZ Hastings and other businesses
2017	**Leadership:** Renata Lehmann concludes as Manager, and Leanne Collins takes up the role in October. **Reach and impact:** Membership reaches 140 organisations, with 635 registered volunteers, a 57% match rate and 265 volunteer openings advertised. **Capability building:** Lunchbox meetings support managers and coordinators, with 137 volunteer managers and coordinators participating in training. **Community development:** A community mentor programme is introduced.
2018	**New home:** The organisation moves to The Tower Building, 215 Railway Road, Hastings. **Business engagement:** An employee volunteering programme is piloted.
2019	**Community partnership:** EIT international students volunteer with Pukemokimoki Marae.
2020	**Emergency response:** 150 new emergency volunteers are recruited, membership reaches 153 organisations and 612 referrals are made to volunteer roles. **Volunteer demand:** Board and committee roles, charity shops and sports groups are among the areas of highest demand.

2021–2026

Adapting, responding and growing

These years brought rapid change and renewed purpose. Volunteering Hawke's Bay strengthened its systems and partnerships, expanded regional support, mobilised thousands during Cyclone Gabrielle and entered its twentieth year with deeper connections across communities, businesses and schools.

SYSTEMS, RESPONSE & RENEWAL	
2021	**Systems:** Volunteer database Connect launches. **Support:** Hawke's Bay DHB and MSD partnerships support meals and practical assistance.
2022	**Impact:** 744 referrals; 102 community organisations supported. **Business:** Cedenco Foodstaff NZ holds a volunteer day for 80 staff. **Emergency:** A call centre and back-up service are established. **Partnership:** An MOU is signed with Hawke's Bay Civil Defence; Nancy Groh joins as Administrator. **New home:** Hastings Hive, 200 Market Street North.
2023	**Response:** 3,000+ volunteers mobilise after Cyclone Gabrielle. **Leadership:** Leanne Collins concludes; Tryphena Cracknell becomes Manager. **Regional support:** Provide online support for 70 Wairarapa organisations after their Volunteer Centre closes.
2024	**Recognition:** Social Impact runner-up, Hastings Business Awards. **Outreach:** Wairoa Shout Out strengthens regional connection. **People:** Anna Rutherford becomes Interim Manager; Nancy Groh concludes; Tracey Weston joins as Administrator.
2025	**Expo:** 45 volunteer-involving organisations gather in one room. **Leadership:** Liz Lambert becomes Manager.
2026	**Anniversary:** 20-year celebration and Excellence Awards. **Partnerships:** Wattie's, Kiwibank, Mr Apple, Xero and Lindisfarne College. **Storytelling:** *Volunteering Vibes* podcast reaches episode 20 on Radio Hawke's Bay. **Regional Access:** Central Hawke's Bay library drop-ins.

PAGE 11 • CONNECTION

The Power of Connection

Bringing volunteers and organisations together

↔ MATCHING PEOPLE WITH PURPOSE

For twenty years, people wanting to make a difference have been connected with organisations needing support—creating purpose, sharing skills and delivering practical help.

◎ SYSTEMS THAT STRENGTHEN CONNECTION

Databases, websites and networks have made matching easier, supported shared learning and strengthened understanding of volunteering's value.

✦ MORE THAN A REFERRAL SERVICE

Volunteering Hawke's Bay connects people, ideas, resources and opportunities, strengthening the region's social fabric.

◇ BUILDING BELONGING

Welcoming different ages, cultures, abilities and experiences helps people feel valued and builds stronger relationships across Hawke's Bay.

➜ TURNING CONNECTION INTO ACTION

The right match turns goodwill into practical help, confidence and lasting community change.

◆ SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Organisations receive help to promote opportunities, reach suitable people and welcome, support and retain volunteers.

▣ EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERING

Businesses create meaningful ways for staff to contribute time and skills, strengthening teams and supporting community projects.

> *Every connection has the potential to create positive change.*

PAGE 12 • CAPABILITY

Growing Stronger Together

Supporting community organisations

Strong volunteering starts with strong organisations.

Initiatives included:

01 Volunteer management training
Practical guidance for recruiting, supporting and retaining volunteers.

02 Governance development
Helping trustees strengthen oversight, leadership and decision-making.

03 Strategic planning support
Turning community purpose into clear priorities and achievable action.

04 Funding and finance
Building confidence in budgeting and funding applications and sponsorship.

05 Media and communications
Supporting clearer promotion, storytelling and community engagement.

06 Resources and non-profit toolkit
Ready-to-use tools that help organisations work confidently and consistently.

07 Risk management and first aid
Preparing teams to manage risk and respond safely and compassionately.

08 Mentoring support
One-to-one guidance for people developing community leadership skills.

09 Advice on new legislation
Keeping organisations informed about changes affecting volunteers and governance.

10 Celebrating key dates
National Volunteer Week, Volunteer Managers Day, Microvolunteering Day and Youth Week.

> ***Stronger organisations create better volunteer experiences, more resilient services and lasting community impact across Hawke's Bay.***

Responding to COVID-19

Staying connected during uncertain times

The COVID-19 pandemic challenged communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and changed how volunteer services could operate.

ADAPTING FAST
Connection continued

Support moved quickly to new channels.
Email, telephone and Zoom ensured volunteers and community organisations could still reach the team when face-to-face contact was restricted.

The response quickly moved beyond maintaining contact. Working alongside the Hawke's Bay DHB, MSD and Civil Defence, the organisation helped coordinate food deliveries, health support and other practical assistance for people affected by restrictions. Volunteers brought local knowledge, flexibility and a willingness to step into unfamiliar roles when services were under pressure.

150
FOOD DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS
assisted Civil Defence

20
HEALTH SUPPORT WORKERS
assisted local services

OVERWHELMING RESPONSE
More people registered than could be placed

The experience strengthened referral systems, communication channels and relationships with emergency agencies. It also showed the importance of clear coordination, volunteer wellbeing and matching people to roles safely—lessons that helped shape the emergency volunteer network later activated during Cyclone Gabrielle.

> ***"The way services were delivered changed. The purpose of connection and support did not."***

Cyclone Gabrielle

When Hawke's Bay needed help

Cyclone Gabrielle tested Hawke's Bay on an unprecedented scale. It also revealed the strength of preparation, partnership and community spirit as Volunteering Hawke's Bay helped turn an extraordinary public response into coordinated, practical support.

◉ A DEFINING MOMENT

When Cyclone Gabrielle struck in February 2023, it became one of the most significant chapters in Volunteering Hawke's Bay's history.

◆ PREPARED TO RESPOND

The foundations for an organised response were already in place. In 2022, Volunteering Hawkes Bay signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management and developed systems for recruiting and coordinating volunteers during emergencies.

→ SYSTEMS INTO ACTION

Those systems were activated as soon as the cyclone hit. Within four days, around 3,000 spontaneous volunteers had registered, offering their time, skills and practical support to communities facing widespread disruption.

✦ GENEROSITY AT SCALE

The response showed what coordinated volunteering can achieve—and the phenomenal generosity, resilience and community spirit of Hawke's Bay.



PAGE 15 • EMERGENCY RESPONSE

A Community Responds

Cyclone Gabrielle impact

Cyclone Gabrielle triggered an unparalleled community response. These figures show how quickly volunteers were mobilised and how their practical support reached people across Hawke's Bay.

CYCLONE GABRIELLE IMPACT | Community response at a glance

3,000+
registered within days

250
mobilised daily for welfare checks

THOUSANDS
supported through response and recovery

1,200
packed and delivered emergency information to every Napier household

HUNDREDS OF TONNES
of food sorted, packed and dispatched region-wide

25
supported Police missing-person data entry

DOZENS
of specialist skills matched to emergency projects

LOGISTICS
of trucks and heavy equipment coordinated into the region

HUNDREDS OF CALLS EACH DAY
handled to connect people, needs and emergency support

Together, these efforts turned an extraordinary wave of goodwill into coordinated action—delivering vital information, food, welfare support and specialist skills wherever they were needed most.

What Our Volunteers Made Possible!

A Facebook post capturing volunteers in action

From our Facebook page | 27 February 2023

Never underestimate the power or effectiveness of volunteering. When we each do our part, it all adds up. Here are a couple of examples.

ONE DAY. EXTRAORDINARY IMPACT. | Shared on Facebook

1,000+

OF YOU STEPPED UP

Together, you sorted, packed and hand-delivered vital information and supplies to households throughout Napier.

1 DAY

AT THE DISTRIBUTION HUB

You packed essential supplies day and night, so they were ready to distribute across the community.

THE TOTAL IMPACT OF ONE DAY

You hand-delivered 50,000 pamphlets and 25,000 rubbish bags across Napier, and packed 26 pallets of food, 55 pallets of non-perishable items, 26 pallets of hygiene products and 1,100 individual boxes for community distribution.



A fantastic job by everyone. None of this would have happened without you—our community's volunteers. Thank you.







Community Impact

Recent milestones at a glance

These recent milestones show the breadth of Volunteering Hawke's Bay's impact—from connecting people with meaningful roles and strengthening community organisations to mobilising large-scale support during a regional emergency.

560
volunteer referrals

257
community organisations supported

75
new emergency volunteers

4,194
volunteers registered since 2023

3,000+
volunteers coordinated during Cyclone Gabrielle

4,324
referrals to volunteer roles over the last seven years

225
current volunteer opportunities



Excellence Awards

Celebrating volunteer excellence since 2012

The Excellence Awards recognise people, teams, boards and organisations whose voluntary service strengthens Hawke's Bay. Every nominee reflects the commitment, leadership and community spirit that the awards were created to celebrate.

THE EARLY YEARS | 2012–2016

2012	**Youth** — Israel Paterson **Individual** — Anthony Richardson **Team** — Heretaunga Women's Centre **Governance** — Leah Wallace, IHC Association **Long Service** — Norman Lamont
2013	**Youth** — Veronica Tylor **Individual** — Pam Munroe **Team** — St Johns Dannevirke Health Shuttle **Governance** — Disability Information Centre **Long Service** — Alvan Wakeford
2014	**Youth** — YMCA Youth **Individual** — Jack Lowe **Team** — Heretaunga Women's Centre **Governance** — Cranford Hospice Board **Long Service** — Ross Duncan, YMCA life member
2015	**Award categories:** Youth Volunteer Groups; Senior Volunteers Group; Innovative Community Project Award; Board of Governance Achievement; Best Volunteer Co-ordinator
2016	**Youth** — Jacob Brookie, National Aquarium **Individual** — Kerry Duncan, Napier CAB **Team co-winners** — Red Cross Curtain Bank; Hastings Citizens Advice Bureau **Governance** — Napier Citizen's Advice bureau

Excellence Awards

Recognition through changing times

From 2018 to 2023, the Excellence Awards continued to recognise individuals, teams and governing groups whose service strengthened communities across Hawke's Bay. Even through disruption and change, the programme kept local contribution visible and valued.

A NEW ERA OF RECOGNITION | 2017–2022

2017	**Youth Award** — Peyton Pyke Duffy **Individual** — Ian Hopson **Team** — Cranford Hospice **Governance** — HB Plunket Area Board of Trustees
2018	**Youth** — Elisabeth Campbell, Napier PSEC Store Volunteer **Individual** —Laurie Jenkin, Grey Power Napier **Team** — Cancer Society Hawke's Bay Centre Volunteer Drivers **Governance** — Special Olympics Hawke's Bay - Committee **Employee** — Mr Apple NZ / First Choice Employment
2019	**Individual Excellence** — Thu-Lena Tran, Child Cancer Foundation **Team** — Citizens Advice Bureau Hastings **Governance** — RDA Napier
2020	**Community recognition:** COVID-19 recognised pillars of the community through Radio HB and social media
2021	**Youth Award** — Sophie Richardson **Individual Award** — Alasdair McLeod, Big Brothers Big Sisters **Team Award** — Multicultural Association **Governance Award** — Napier Citizens Advice Bureau
2022	**Individual** — Nadine Gaunt, Re-Source **Group** — The Advisors, Citizens Advice Bureau Napier

Excellence Awards

Celebrating today's changemakers

The most recent awards reflect the growing breadth of volunteering across Hawke's Bay, recognising youth leadership, individual commitment and organisations creating meaningful community impact.

RECENT RECIPIENTS | 2023–2026

2023	**Recognition initiative** — celebrating volunteers throughout the year: **Erin Pointon** - Blowhard Bush. **Dan Singh Rana** - Food parcels during Cyclone Gabrielle**. Emma Buchanan** - Environment Centre. **Kingi Wilson and Maree Lanford** - Cyclone Gabrielle support. **St Vincent de Paul** (Hastings/Flaxmere**). Napier City Rovers Football Club.**
2024	**Environment, Arts, Culture & Heritage** — Re-Source **Sports, Recreation & Events** — Tanoatea Trust **Health & Wellbeing** — CanInspire Charitable Trust **Education, Social Inclusion & Community** — PARS Hawke's Bay - Prisoner's Aid and Rehabilitation Society HB **Special Commendation** — Volunteer Team for Neela Neela **Youth** — Coven Ratima, Backyard Motivation **Long Service** — Martin Geddes, Westshore Sea Scouts **Individual Excellence** — Mary Mohawk, Tu Tangata Maraenui Trust **Individual Excellence Special Commendation** — David Halliday, Citizens Advice Bureau Napier
2025	**Individual** — Carma Anderson **Organisation** — Hato Hone St John Porangahau First Response
2026	**Youth Changemaker** — Khushi Bijalwan **Individual** — Rizwaana Latiff **Organisation** — Nourished for Nil

Celebrating Our 2026 Winners

The 2026 Excellence Awards celebrate three outstanding recipients whose leadership, generosity and commitment are making a meaningful difference across Hawke's Bay.

Each winner demonstrates how compassion and purposeful action can create lasting change. Their achievements also reflect the strength of volunteering and the remarkable people and organisations shaping a more connected Hawke's Bay.

Meet Our 2026 Excellence Winners



Khushi Bijalwan
Youth Changemaker



Rizwaana Latiff
Individual Winner



Nourished for Nil
Organisation Winner

Why We Volunteer

Volunteer voices: the people behind the impact

Every volunteer has a story. Together, those stories show the many ways people contribute time, skills, care and experience to Hawke's Bay.

SIX VOICES, SIX REASONS TO VOLUNTEER

♥ FRIENDSHIP & GRATITUDE

I enjoy the reward of friendship and giving something back to the organisation that previously cared for members of our family.

KEVIN | Volunteer, Cranford Hospice

✦ KINDNESS & INCLUSION

I genuinely care about people and believe everyone deserves to feel supported, valued and included. Even the smallest acts of kindness can make a difference.

KHUSHI | Youth Changemaker winner, 2026

◆ SERVICE & PURPOSE

I volunteer because serving others strengthens communities, creates opportunities for people to thrive and gives purpose to my own life.

RIZWAANA | Individual winner, 2026

→ MAKING A DIFFERENCE

I enjoy using my spare time to assist other people to find rewarding volunteer work and use their spare time.

CAROLE | Volunteer, Volunteering Hawke's Bay

◇ VALUES PASSED ON

I volunteer because that is how I was brought up. My Nan taught me to tautoko those around me wherever I can.

TE KAEA | Moko Boys

◎ CONNECTION & BELONGING

I moved to New Zealand not long ago, and volunteering has been a great way to meet people and support my new community.

ANTONY | Volunteer, Nourished for Nil

Our Support in Action

Real experiences. Practical support. Stronger organisations.

These reflections show our support in action—connecting organisations with reliable volunteers, practical resources and stronger networks across Hawke's Bay

RECRUITMENT, CAPABILITY AND COMMUNITY REACH

✦ SUPPORT CLOSE AT HAND

Support is just a phone call away. The website, workshops and Volunteer Expo are all valuable.

ALIESHA | Bellyful HB

◆ SECTOR UNDERSTANDING

Friendly, approachable and supportive when problems arise—they understand the volunteer sector.

HILARY | Waipukurau Little Theatre

◎ SHARING VOLUNTEER STORIES

The podcast is a great way to highlight organisations and the many different volunteer roles available.

LILLIAN | Rural Youth and Adult Literacy Trust

→ REACHING THE RIGHT PEOPLE

Advertising volunteer positions—from board roles to general opportunities—helps organisations reach the right people.

BRENDAN | Disability Training Services, Epic Pathways

▣ GOVERNANCE AND CONNECTION

It is great to have governance support and opportunities to meet other volunteers.

HELEN | Napier Community Patrol

↗ A TRUSTED LIAISON

As an established liaison, they make it easier for organisations to connect with volunteers and meaningful work.

JADE | Arts Inc Hawke's Bay

● A COMMUNITY HUB

They provide a community hub for opportunities and promote the value of volunteering for individuals and communities.

DAVID | Citizens Advice Bureau, Hastings

✢ REGION-WIDE COLLABORATION

They connect volunteer-involving organisations across Hawke's Bay, identify shared needs and coordinate collaboration, events and training.

KARYN | Volunteer Coordinator, Department of Corrections — HB Regional Prison

✦ COMMUNICATION THAT CONNECTS

Their strength lies in excellent communication and a friendly, helpful approach that connects people with the right contacts.

ROBBIE | Orange Sky



“

To our wonderful community—thank you for your unwavering support, trust and belief in Volunteering Hawke's Bay.

Your encouragement, generosity and commitment have helped shape our journey, strengthen our work and show what we can achieve when we come together.

With heartfelt thanks and appreciation from the Volunteering Hawke's Bay team.

Our People

Twenty years of operational leadership

For twenty years, dedicated managers, administrators and volunteers have provided the leadership, continuity and care behind Volunteering Hawke's Bay. Together, they have built a responsive organisation that connects people, strengthens community organisations and champions volunteering across the region.

MANAGERS | Operational leadership	
Sep 2006–Oct 2017	Renata Lehmann
Oct 2017–Sep 2023	Leanne Collins
Nov 2023–Sep 2024	Tryphena Cracknell
Sep 2024–Jun 2025	Anna Rutherford, Interim Manager
Jun 2025–Current	Liz Lambert

ADMINISTRATORS | Continuity and support	
Oct 2013–Aug 2014	Bronwyn Gardner (Community Liaison Coordinator)
Oct 2015–Jul 2017	Leslie Elliott (Community Liaison Coordinator)
Oct 2017–Dec 2020	Renata Lehmann
Oct 2022–Aug 2024	Nancy Groh
Sep 2008–Aug 2013	Karen Leslie
Nov 2024–Current	Tracey Weston

CURRENT 2026 TEAM | People behind the work	
PEOPLE 2026	Liz, Manager • Tracey, Administrator • Deb, Carole, Debbie, Amelia, and Haitia, our volunteers. **Board:** Paul Grundy, Courtney Martin, Barbara Herbert, Andria Monin, Sharon Devereux and Sukhdeep Singh Khaira

Governance Through the Years

Stewardship, leadership and continuity

From the original steering committee and founding Board through to today's trustees, volunteer governors have provided oversight, strategic direction and leadership. Their service has helped the organisation remain community-focused and responsive to changing needs.

CHAIRS OVER TWENTY YEARS | Governance leadership

01 Susan Burns
02 Robyn Coyle
03 Renee Manaena
04 Karla Jurczakowski
05 Peter Andersson
06 Roberta Budvietas
07 Ken Simons
08 Margot Minett Earwaker
09 Paul Grundy



> *Good governance has helped turn a community vision into a lasting regional resource.*

Our Funders, Sponsors & Supporters

Partnerships that make volunteering possible

Over the past twenty years, Volunteering Hawke's Bay has been strengthened by many funders, sponsors, councils, businesses and community partners who have shared our belief in the power of people helping people. We warmly acknowledge their contribution to the organisation's journey and the lasting impact of their support.

We are especially grateful to our current funders, whose investment enables our day-to-day work to continue, and to the sponsors and supporters of our 20-year celebration and Excellence Awards. Their financial assistance, in-kind support, advocacy and collaboration help us connect volunteers, strengthen community organisations, recognise service and respond when Hawke's Bay needs us most.



> *"With gratitude to everyone who has supported our journey—and special thanks to our current funders and event sponsors for helping volunteering thrive today.*

PAGE 28 • CLOSING

Thank You, Hawke's Bay

A community built on service

This anniversary belongs to everyone who has been part of the Volunteering Hawke's Bay journey. Over twenty years, thousands of individual acts of service have connected people, strengthened organisations, and helped communities respond with generosity, resilience, and care.

With gratitude to our people

To the volunteers who share their time, skills, energy and aroha; to the staff and trustees who have provided leadership and care; and to every individual who has stepped forward when help was needed—thank you.

With gratitude to our partners

To the organisations that create meaningful opportunities, and to the funders, councils, businesses, sponsors and community champions who make this work possible—thank you for believing in what volunteering can achieve.

Thank you for believing in the power of volunteering and for helping create a stronger, kinder and more connected Hawke's Bay. As Volunteering Hawke's Bay enters its next chapter, the greatest way to honour the past twenty years is to inspire the next act of service. The needs of our communities will continue to evolve, but the willingness of people to help one another remains constant—and the following pages show how individuals, young people, schools and businesses can become part of what comes next.

> *"To everyone who has supported our journey—and those investing in our work today—thank you for helping volunteering thrive across Hawke's Bay.*
>
> **Liz Lambert | Manager**



Your Time Can Make a Difference

Volunteer in a way that works for you

Twenty years of volunteering have shown what becomes possible when people choose to contribute. Whether you have an hour, a day or a regular commitment to offer, there is a place for your time, skills and life experience. Volunteering Hawke's Bay can help you find an opportunity that matches what matters to you and become part of the region's next chapter.

FIND YOUR WAY TO CONTRIBUTE | Every contribution counts

INDIVIDUALS

Share what you can.

Meet people, use your experience, learn something new and support a cause you care about—from one-off projects to regular roles.

YOUTH

Turn energy into impact.

Build confidence, experience and leadership through youth-friendly roles and projects that fit around school or study.

SCHOOLS

Grow active citizens.

Connect learning with real community needs through service projects, leadership opportunities and age-appropriate volunteering.

BUSINESSES

Put your values into action.

Bring teams together, share professional skills and support local projects through employee volunteering and partnerships.

One conversation can begin a meaningful contribution.

READY TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP?

Tell us about your interests, group, timing or goals.
We will help identify a suitable opportunity or community project.

www.vhb.org.nz • 06 391 5476

Tūao Te Matau-a-Māui
Volunteering Hawke's Bay

CONTACT

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Email: info@volunteeringhb.org.nz

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Connecting People. Strengthening Communities. Inspiring Service.

