



[Email not viewing properly? View it in your browser](#)

You are receiving this email as you have signed up for our newsletter. You can unsubscribe anytime by clicking on the link at the end of the newsletter.

Kia ora Kaiarataki!

The key focus points of June's newsletter are Championing Volunteer Recognition and useful ideas and resources:

- Important **dates to diarise**
- NVW2026 celebration
- Great **resources** for IVY26
- **Proposed changes to Police Vetting Fees**
- **What does New Zealand's proposed Emergency Management Bill mean for your volunteers?**
- Age Concern **e-bus drop-in information sessions** for over 65s
- Make volunteer recruitment easier with **Seek Volunteer**
- **Volunteering advocacy Reminder** – share your views before the election

- **Workshops and webinars coming up!**
- **AI for Charities course**
- **Supporting Volunteers Through Technology Change**
- Growing great Volunteer teams
- Find out more about Wellby Talking Cafes for social connection and the Found Directory to get connected to the community
- **Share your stories: Get in touch** if you want to share what you are doing

Dates for your diary

- 2026 UN International Year of Volunteers (IVY)
- July Workshops and Webinars (see Training and Events)
- Volunteering NZ conference in Rotorua - 16 October
- International Volunteer Managers Day - November 5
- International Volunteer Day - December 5

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



A Special Thank You to ALL Volunteers of Nelson Tasman (and across Aotearoa)

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended the Mayor's Morning Tea for Volunteers 2026, hosted by Volunteer Nelson at Founders Park on 16 June during National Volunteer Week. The

approximately 90 people who joined us represented just the tip of the iceberg of the many volunteers who help make the Nelson Tasman region such a vibrant and caring community. Thank you for taking time out of your day to attend and represent your organisations. The work you do, and the heart and soul you put into volunteering, make an enormous difference and are deeply appreciated. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Mayor Nick Smith and the Nelson City Council for supporting this event; providing funding towards the morning tea and for taking the time to personally acknowledge and thank the volunteers represented.



International Volunteer Year 2026

RESOURCES



Useful media resources for IVY 2026 are free to use on Volunteering New Zealand's website.

[IVY 2026 Resources](#)



International Volunteering Year for Sustainable Development (IVY26)

Volunteers 'Leading in environment and conservation' is the focus this month! What are your organisation and volunteers doing to support our environment or how can you engage volunteers in environmental conservation activities? Volunteering NZ's list of monthly themes can help inspire your own volunteer communications (and local activities) during

International Volunteering Year 2026.

IVY 2026 themes:

- **May:** Empowering *young volunteers*
- **Jun:** Championing *volunteer recognition*
- **Jul:** Leading in *environment & conservation*
- **Aug:** Strengthening *community development*
- **Sep:** Building *collaboration & wellbeing*
- **Oct:** Highlighting *health volunteering*
- **Nov:** Connecting *globally*
- **Dec:** Reflecting & *looking ahead*

Find out more about Volunteering New Zealand's support of the global [Call to Action](#) for the future of volunteering.

More NZ IVY 2026 information

IVY 2026 Call to Action

NEWS UPDATES affecting volunteers - Find out More



Proposed changes to Police Vetting Fees

New Zealand Police is seeking your views on proposed changes to the charging of fees for the Police Vetting Service (PVS). Police wants to gain an understanding of how the proposed changes may impact on your organisation, how much should be charged for a Police vet, and whether PVS should offer optional faster processing of vetting requests at a higher fee.

For charities, the options include the current state of no fees charged, to no free vetting - all agencies would pay \$17 per vet, or \$24 for the urgent service.

See the Discussion document: [Proposed changes to the Police Vetting Service](#).

Then: [Answer the questionnaire](#)

Consultation is open until **25 August**.



**National Emergency
Management Agency**
Te Rākau Whakamarumaru

What does New Zealand's proposed Emergency Management Bill mean for your volunteers?

The proposed Emergency Management Bill (No. 2) is set to modernise New Zealand's emergency management system, with a stronger focus on community resilience, preparedness and coordinated responses. While much of the attention has been on emergency services, the changes could also have important implications for volunteer-involving organisations.

What should volunteer managers be thinking about now? From emergency planning and volunteer safety to training and communication, there are practical steps every organisation can take to ensure they're ready when their community needs them most.

Find out what the proposed changes could mean for your organisation and how you can strengthen your volunteer programme's emergency preparedness.

[Read More](#)



Are your volunteers 65+ and feeling the petrol pinch?

The e-bus is a great way to get around and stay connected to your community. Age Concern is running some e-Bus *All on Board* information sessions to help older volunteers feel confident using the eBus service, helping them save money while staying connected. Book them in for August. Several of Volunteer Nelson's Wellby Talking Cafe participants use the e-Bus so volunteers and anyone interested can also pop along to a Wellby Talking Cafe and ask one of the hosts about it. Or they can chat to other Cafe visitors who are active e-Bus users and who can also share how they stay connected in the community. Find out more about Wellby at the end of this newsletter or visit www.wellby.org.nz

Who is e-Bus for?

Although anyone can use the e-Bus, these particular sessions are for older people who:

- Feel unsure about using the bus
- Are no longer driving, or driving less
- Have not used public transport for a while
- Would like support to build confidence

There are three sessions coming up. No bookings, drop by any time between 10am and 11:30am

- Thursday 2nd July at ReStore Cafe, Tahunanui
- Tuesday 4th August at The Suter Cafe, Nelson
- Monday 24th August at The Coffee Factory, Stoke



Need More Volunteers? Make Recruitment Easier with SEEK Volunteer

Finding the right volunteers doesn't have to be difficult. Volunteer Nelson can help you reach thousands of people actively looking for meaningful volunteer opportunities through **SEEK Volunteer**—New Zealand's leading volunteer recruitment platform.

Listing your opportunities on SEEK Volunteer is free, simple to manage, and one of the most effective ways to connect with motivated volunteers.

If you're looking to attract new volunteers and build a stronger volunteer team, now is the time to get your opportunities online. Contact Volunteer Nelson today and let us help you make volunteer recruitment easier.

[Request Connection - SEEK](#)

If you have any questions or would like support getting started, we're here to help. We look forward to working alongside you to grow volunteering in our region. Contact ellie@volunteernelson.org.nz

[More information](#)



Help shape the future of volunteering in Aotearoa New Zealand

As a leader of volunteers, you have valuable insights into what helps volunteering thrive—and what needs to change. Now is your opportunity to have your say.

As part of the International Year of the Volunteer 2026, Volunteering New Zealand is developing a strong advocacy agenda to improve volunteering across Aotearoa, including here in Nelson Tasman. They want to hear directly from volunteer leaders about the changes that would make the biggest difference to your organisation, your volunteers, and the communities you serve.

More than 128 people have already shared their views, but there's still time to add yours. This is your final opportunity to complete the survey.

[Take the Survey](#)

Advocacy priorities ahead of General Election

The feedback received will help shape the volunteering priorities presented to political parties ahead of this year's General Election. Current priorities include:

- Increasing funding for volunteering infrastructure.
- Ensuring volunteering and unpaid work continue to be measured as part of the modernised Census.
- Providing free Ministry of Justice checks for community organisations that choose to use them when vetting volunteers.
- Extending ACC cover for mental health and long-term psychological injuries (including PTSD) for all emergency volunteers.

If there are other issues you believe should be on the national agenda, Volunteering New Zealand would love to hear from you. Together, we can help create a stronger, more sustainable future for volunteering in Aotearoa.

[Get in touch](#)

TRAINING & EVENTS



Still Time to Join: AI for Charities Course Starts 22 July

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly becoming a valuable tool for the community sector, helping organisations save time, streamline administration, improve communications, and free up more time for the work that matters most. If you've been curious about AI but aren't sure where to start, there's still time to register for the **AI for Charities** course beginning **Wednesday 22 July**.

Delivered online over **eight weekly sessions (Wednesdays, 12.00–2.00pm)**, **AI for Charities** is a free, practical course designed specifically for people who work in the charity sector in Aotearoa New Zealand - no technical background required. You'll go from beginner to having real, working tools that save you time every week. Each session is two hours, online, and designed to gradually build your skills and confidence.

The course covers what AI actually is (and where it goes wrong), how to support governance decisions, safely connect AI to your work, and how to build skills and workflows that run without you. By the end of Week 8, you'll have built organisational context, a suite of tools specific to your needs and a governance framework as well as the opportunity to share what you've learnt.

The course is ideal for managers, coordinators, administrators, communications staff—and volunteers who regularly support your organisation with administration, fundraising, marketing, governance or project work.

Participants will need their own computer and a paid desktop subscription to either ChatGPT or Claude (approximately NZ\$20 per month).

For more information or to register, visit www.fundsorter.com. Investing a few hours each week could save you many more in the months ahead.

[Register](#)



Resources 
Rauemi

Volunteering New Zealand has a range of resources on their website, amongst them, these forthcoming webinars:



Free Webinar: Supporting Volunteers Through Technology Change

14 July 2026, 12:00 PM, online

Are you planning to introduce new software or digital tools to your volunteer program, but worried about pushback or tech gaps? Join this webinar featuring Anna Taylor, Manager of Volunteer Services at Very Special Kids, for a discussion of how to roll out new systems without losing the heart of your volunteer culture.

[Register](#)



Volunteering New Zealand Conference 2026

15-16 October, Rotorua, in-person

Real Voices. Real Impact. Real Change.

Step into International Volunteer Year with the conference built for leaders who are changemakers. Powered by fresh research, bold ideas, and the real stories shaping volunteering in Aotearoa, this is where insight becomes action. Discover what's next. Strengthen your practice. Champion the future of volunteering.

[Find out more and Buy Tickets](#)

Find or share training for the sector

If you miss any of Volunteering NZ's workshops, you can find their videos and webinars on their Training and Development section of their website. They also maintain a curated list of [training and development](#) events – many are free and often online. Read on for some upcoming training opportunities!

Find VNZ training and events



Growing Great Volunteer Teams Workshop – Online
July 21 @ 9:30 am - 12:30 pm, \$25.00 – \$95.00

Held in two parts via Zoom:

- **Part 1:** Tuesday 21 July 2026, 9.30am-12.30pm
- **Part 2:** Tuesday 28 July 2026, 9.30am-12.30pm

Registration covers **both** Part 1 and Part 2. **Pricing:** Standard Ticket **\$95**, Tonic Member **\$85**, BayTrust subsidised registration **\$25** (for eligible BOP organisations)

[Find out more / Register](#)



Reminder: Get Found in Your Community

If you haven't listed on the Found Directory yet, this is a fantastic opportunity to connect with your local community and make your services easier to access. Volunteer Nelson curates the directory across Nelson Tasman with funding support from the Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council. By joining the Found Directory, you help people quickly discover the support, resources, and services they need—right when they need them. List your organisation and get found: <https://www.found.org.nz>

Get Found

Find it on Found

Print Copies

Volunteer Nelson team members have been sharing the printed Found Directory at various events and with a variety of organisations who regularly connect with our community. Large print copies have also been made available through the positive ageing forum, local retirement homes, libraries, etc. and on request. Ask at your local [Citizens Advice Bureau Nelson Tasman](#), [Age Concern Nelson Tasman](#) office, [Nelson Public Libraries Ngā Whare Mātauranga o Whakatū](#) and [Tasman District Libraries](#).



👉 The Found Directory is a wonderful way to stay connected to what is happening around our community of Nelson Tasman - it holds a fountain of information on community services and local groups and activities. Our curator updates the directory every month, updating, adding new and removing dormant listings. Find out more at www.found.org.nz

If your organisation or volunteers refer people to **Wellby Talking Cafes**, please note there have been some recent changes to dates and venues. Find out all you need to know about Wellby Talking Cafes on our website, www.wellby.org.nz or on our [Wellby facebook](#) page.



Everyone belongs

Wellby is a community-led initiative that's helping the people of Nelson Tasman to better connect to their communities, improving their wellbeing.



Need volunteers for your mahi?

Connect with Volunteer Nelson
on the SEEK Volunteer platform

Connect now



Share your knowledge and news

If your organisation would like to share something with other leaders of volunteers - your knowledge, a useful resource, a shared learning event or your volunteer stories, please get in touch with lindsay@volunteernelson.org.nz (Volunteer Nelson communications)

Access [Past newsletters](#)



Copyright © 2026 Volunteer Nelson and Volunteering New Zealand. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are registered either as a volunteer or organisation with Volunteer Nelson.

Our mailing address is:

Volunteer Nelson
166 Tahunanui Drive, Tahunanui
Nelson, 7011
New Zealand

[Add us to your address book](#)

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).

