

Talk Talk

VSA's bimonthly e-newsletter



October 2010

Welcome to our first issue

In this issue, read about Janna Candy's volunteer experiences while on assignment in PNG and how life has been back in NZ for returned volunteer, Alison Turner, 10 months after leaving her assignment. Read our regular features: *Talk back* where volunteers already on assignment give their tips for departing volunteers and *Through the lens* where we pick a great photo story taken by one of our volunteers.

Taking the long road



New Zealander Janna Candy is currently on assignment in Papua New Guinea helping her partner organisation evaluate how effective its agricultural training has been for farmers. The work often takes her to rural communities to see first hand the improvements being made. A recent trip to remote Djaul Island off the coast of New Ireland, demonstrates how a little training can really go a long way.

[Read Janna's article](#)

Through the lens



This issue we picked out a great photo sent in by Volunteer Karen Henry, Tourism Business Development Adviser in Vanuatu who is based on Santo Island.

[Click to reveal the full image](#)

Support our appeal to build positive futures in the Pacific



Support VSA volunteers in the Pacific who are working with local communities to build a more sustainable future.

Volunteer Barry Binding worked with Arawa Carpentry in Bougainville for two years. The business is now so successful they are self sufficient.

Your donation will help us to support other organisations like Arawa Carpentry through our volunteers.

[Read about Barry's work](#)

[Donate now](#)

Talk back



Talk back is VSA's regular tip sharing from our volunteers in the field. In this issue our volunteers share their tips for departing volunteers. If you're a volunteer, find out how you can give your feedback for issue two.

[Read Talk back](#)

Life back in New Zealand



Alison Turner returned to New Zealand in December 2009 following a successful two year assignment with Integrated Agriculture Training Programme, part of Vudal University in PNG. She is now back living on the Chatham Islands working as a Biosecurity Officer finding ways of keeping unwanted pests off the islands. Ten months on, she still finds similarities between her two beloved Pacific islands.

[Read Alison's story](#)

Calling all secondary teachers...

This issue we're recruiting for a number of Secondary Teacher Trainers in locations throughout Bougainville. Applicants must have a secondary school teaching qualification and NZ-based teaching experience in their chosen subject. So if you're a maths, science or English teacher, and want to share your skills to teach students, train other teachers and make a difference helping other Pacific communities, don't delay.

[Read assignment description](#)

[Check out all assignments we are currently recruiting for](#)

[Register your interest in volunteering](#)

What's new on our website

1 VOLUNTEER PROFILES: Chandni Bedhesi is a Primary/Intermediate Teacher Trainer in Zambia.

[Read her profile](#)

[Have a look at other volunteer profiles](#)

2 VOLUNTEER BLOG AND STORIES: Dianne Hambrook is working with Wan Smolbag in Vanuatu sharing her Desktop Publishing and Graphic Design expertise and she has recently started writing a blog on our website.

[Read Dianne's blog posts](#)

Bruce Johnson recalls a recent trip he made to the village of Toimtop in East New Britain while on assignment.

[Read his story](#)

3 NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

[Read the latest VSA news](#)

[Read about VSA's exciting new programme in Samoa](#)

How your money helps



Each year VSA runs two development appeals in March and October. The money raised from these appeals is used to help meet the in country costs of our 100 volunteers who are in the field at any one time.

[Read more](#)

Moving and shaking



Check out the latest group of volunteers going on assignment and who has returned to New Zealand over the past two months.

[Read more](#)

Speed interview



Pacific Programme Officer, Junior Ulu, among other things recalls a memorable boat trip on his way to visit VSA partner organisations in Tokelau.

[Read the full interview](#)

Organisation talk

VSA to start sending short-term volunteers

[Read more](#)

Want to come along to VSA's Annual Congress?

[Read more](#)

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