



Shed 6, Queens Wharf, Wellington 23 – 26 March 2014

ipenztg2014.co.nz



Courageous Changemaking

The aftermath of the now internationally acclaimed Student Volunteer Army Sam Johnson – 2012 Young New Zealander of the year



@SamJohnsonSVA



Young people in New Zealand?

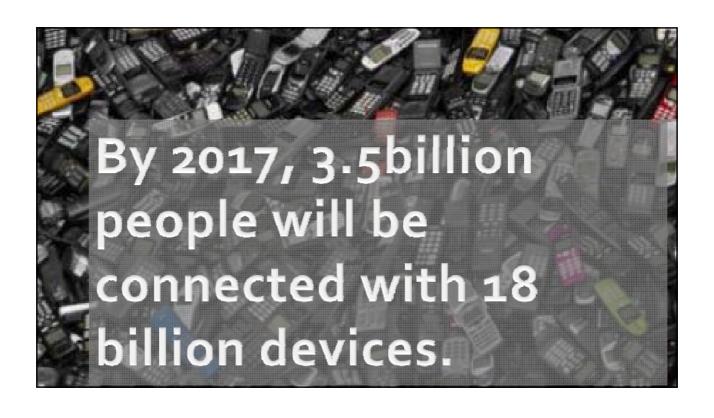
"One of the biggest challenges we have is to chart the changing attitudes, values and prospects of the young – those who will feel the impact of the myopic choices made yesterday, and whose ingenuity and resilience will be tested tomorrow."

- Professor Tim Jackson



@SamJohnsonSVA







Disasters will hit more people, in more places, much more often!

"An expert is someone is who has made every possible mistake in a narrow field of work."

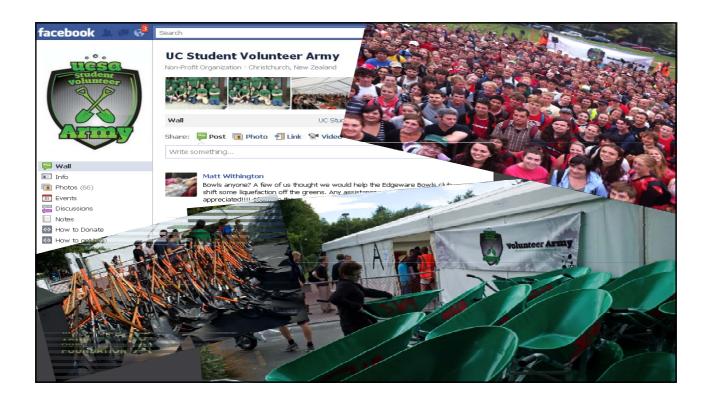












Key driving forces for the SVA:

- + *University halls* create strong networks, University clubs extend these networks and cross pollinate skills. Individual links to Community Boards and local government were crucial, though sometimes for the wrong reasons.
- + The *media* were a driving force of mobilisation; communication was clear.
- + Responsibility was shared. Civil Defence supported us, Councillors supported us. Mayor supported us. We were prepared to be wrong and always collaborative
- + Linking with **farmers** who have practical experience and equipment



Areas of difficulty

- + Understanding which department/ group is responsible for what area of work
- + BAU v Disaster time
- + Egos, the power-hungry and crazy people
- + Data processing and access to information
- + Misconception of role (volunteers, not free labourers)



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To improve:

- + Access to information
- Knowledge of own community assets, access to public spaces
- + 'Permission' to lead
- + Role for young people outside of shovelling silt
- + Planning for spontaneous volunteers.



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