



New Coasters Newsletter

May & June 2018

Come in & make some friends



New Zealand
Newcomers Network

Connecting People

Kia Ora, hello and Haere Mai

The focus of our services is to provide support for those who have moved here recently. Many years of experience show us that this works best if we can introduce newcomers to a **vibrant network** of diverse community members and a **range of interesting things to do**. A recent study undertaken by Development West Coast shows that attracting people to the West Coast and **retaining** them here is the **number 1 priority** of local business owners. We are delighted to read this as we aim for the same 😊 This is what our newsletter is about – providing useful local information and encouraging people to **make good contacts** which will help to develop friendships and feel at home. The vast majority of our group members have moved to the West Coast because they or their spouses have found work here. Whilst some newcomers thoroughly enjoy the quieter life and beautiful scenery, others suffer from different grades of **culture-shock** - especially when they have moved from a 'small' Asian city where they were used to sharing modern urban lifestyle with a few million others...

What proves to be most challenging for all newcomers is the **distance** from their family members and friends.

To settle in successfully and **stay** on the West Coast, it is crucial to develop a new social network, make some **stable and supportive connections** and turn your friends into your 'new' family.... A bit like the Maori concept of WHANAU (= **extended family**).

A recent study by Oxford University adds to this: **mixing with a diverse range of people is good for us**: it can reduce anxiety, stimulates creativity and helps us to develop positive attitudes and empathy.

The **New Coasters group** provides all of this – we listen to each other, we celebrate and spend quality time together, we grow, we share food & fun and we certainly are a very diverse bunch of people 😊

I look forward to having more conversations about what we can do together to encourage people to stay on the West Coast!

Birte

Become friends with people
who aren't your age. Hang out with
people whose first language isn't the
same as yours. Get to know someone who
doesn't come from your social class.
This is how you see the world.
This is how you grow.

Welcome Newcomers!

We are an informal social network which supports people in Greymouth, Hokitika and surrounding areas. 'Newcomers' can help you get in touch with others, meet local people, find out about clubs & organisations and help you feel at home in your new environment. Please feel free to come along to our activities or contact us.

Contact us:

Newcomers Network
Greymouth / New Coasters
38 Albert Street, Greymouth
Mondays 11am - 4pm
Tuesdays 11am - 3pm
Wednesdays 11am - 5pm

Newcomers Network
Hokitika / New Coasters
Heartlands Office,
49 Tancred Street, Hokitika
Tuesdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Call 03 7686580 or
Message 027 4070302

Email:

Birte@newcoasters.co.nz
Cassandra@core.org.nz
www.newcoasters.org.nz
www.newcomers.co.nz



New Coasters

like us and become our friend
for up-to-date local information

Please contact us to make
an appointment if you
can't see us at the office.



Lottery Grants Board
FUNDS FOR YOUR
COMMUNITY





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NEWS FROM THE HEADQUARTER

Meet the team...

Wednesdays are usually the busy-buzzy days at our 'HQ' in Albert Street. We catch up with each other, hatch plans for projects and activities, deal with paperwork and make sure everything is on track. Here is a wee introduction to let you know about our tasks and responsibilities and who to contact:



"Hi. I'm Shelley. I hide in the office where I am in charge! I do administration and finances. If you've got a money related question - try me!" shelley@newcoasters.co.nz

"Hello, I'm Birte. As the Settling In Coordinator I organise most of our social activities and often 'float around' the local communities to be in contact with newcomers & migrants and to ensure we are well connected. Contact me if you have any questions or suggestions about things to do." birte@newcoasters.co.nz



"My name is Cassandra. I come from Westport. I've been involved with New Coasters for about two years doing different things... My role involves Funding, Policies, Venue and Volunteers... I love working together on projects so come on down on Tues or wed if you're keen to get involved!" cassandra@core.org.nz

Some formal stuff...

Did you know that our multicultural social network New Coasters is officially registered as an Incorporated Society? Well, I suppose we need to have some kind of legal status 😊... And did you know that EVERYONE can become a member of our group? So, if you have filled in our **membership form** (see photo) – great! **If not, please get in touch and fill one in soon.** We want to update our database before the next AGM in July so we can produce some interesting statistics for our annual reports... Thank you very much!



Where are we heading...

You might remember reading about **COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS** and **PARTICIPATION – COLLABORATION – INNOVATION** in our last newsletter. We want to walk the talk and incorporate those values into our discussions about the future direction of New Coasters. Our **next AGM will be on July 6th** and we are also going to have **Strategic Planning sessions**. As a member of New Coasters, you are most welcome to join in and become more involved!

Time Bank West Coast

The Time Bank initiative is a great opportunity to make a better use of the various skills our community members have. It will also help to connect people & increase our resilience. It seems like quite a few people aren't aware of the potential benefits yet. Help us to spread the word and get in touch with the organisers! Email Sönke Struve soenkestruve@gmail.com or become a member to swap and share your time and skills: <https://hourworld.org/bank/Join.php?hw=1804>





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West Coast Migrant connections update

We started our new 'Migrant-meetups' with some interesting discussions and I think there is great potential for a range of diverse and vibrant activities in the future! We have already been in touch with members of different ethnic groups and are we planning to **organise a range of different events to celebrate our diversity**. So far, we have talked about international movies (in cooperation with local movie theatres), international FOOD (cooking and eating!) and other culture-focussed ideas. Our annual **Midwinter Celebration** will have a theme of 'Flags' – wear the colours of your (favourite) flags and more...

Birte is developing a range of ideas for **Cross-cultural competence trainings** and appreciates any ideas, suggestions and further involvement of other migrants – get in touch with her to share your thoughts...

We are also updating all our **contacts of new AND established migrants** on the Coast –let us know if you are happy to be a contact person for a specific ethnicity and/or know others we could approach.

Last but not least - we will cooperate with Westland District Council to organise a **Multicultural Festival in Hokitika (Westland) in spring 2018!** This will hopefully include a range of performances, music, food and much more. Make sure you start rehearsing and once again – get in touch to get involved!! **Or come along to one of our next meet-ups:**

Friday 11th May 6pm in Greymouth

Friday 22nd June 6pm in Hokitika

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING:

Housing is an ongoing issue on the West Coast – many newcomers find it rather challenging to find somewhere suitable to live. Please always let us know if you are aware of any **rental property** that's available – from a simple bedroom to a big house...

DYI is a popular 'Kiwi' thing to do. **Crafting in company can be very inspiring and it's also a fun way of spending time with others.**

New Coasters has organised a range of craft events so far. We are generating further interest to set up **regular craft meetings** for like-minded people and also collect information about existing groups:

- Which kind of crafts are you interested in?
- Which times are good for you to meet?
- Which groups do you know about?
- Could you help to organise regular gatherings?

We look forward to hearing your thoughts!

Mahjong is often rated as one of the best strategy games. It originated in China, but, is now enjoyed all over the world. Not only is it fun to play Mahjong, but it is also great for your brain! **A new Mahjong group meets in Hokitika – every Monday at 1pm at the Grey Power rooms.** Contact Jean to find out more: 03 7558807

Do you know anyone who can **play the bagpipe** (or other instruments) and would like to play at the Lantern Parade in Hokitika? Please get in touch with Ingrid: 0274347509

Do you like to **play board games**? Check out the **regular games night at Greymouth's RSA** (Tainui st). They meet Wednesdays from 7pm. Bring your favourite board game along & maybe a friend or two... Contact Nell to find out more: 027 334 2585

Are you or your kids interested in **Bollywood style dancing**? Please get in touch with Shah Pranay as he is looking to organise some lessons/ dance workshops for his daughter: 027 7066402. And it would be great to form a group...



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Regular activities at & with New Coasters

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers & tutors we offer a variety of activities which provide great opportunities to meet others who share similar interests, find out about local information & develop new friendships! Huge THANKS to those who volunteer to organise the activities and WELCOME to anyone who wants to get involved – talk to me about your ideas & we'll make it happen!

 **Conversational English Language classes** Learn with friendly teachers and improve your vocabulary, pronunciation & knowledge of local phrases –good English language skills open the doors to new friends & job opportunities... Join our groups any time (\$50 per term)

Conversational English: Thursdays 7pm at Heartlands (Hokitika) & Fridays 10am at New Coasters GM
Easy English (beginners level) Tuesdays 9am at Heartlands (Hoki) and Fridays 9am at New Coasters

 **Coffee morning** Anyone who wants to meet new people and find out what's happening in the community is welcome to join us **once a month** from 10.30am for a cuppa & chat at Ramble & Ritual, 51 Sewell St, Hokitika (usually on a Thursday, occasionally on Saturdays, too ☺)

 **Book Club meeting** All 'bookworms' are invited to come along and discuss BOOKS A great way to share your passion for reading! **Please contact the host for details.** Hokitika group meets every first Tuesday at 7.30pm, contact Kathleen (021 1414851)

 **Conversational French Language group** (\$8 per class) Learn important phrases and expressions to communicate in French from a native speaking tutor. **Registration essential** Wednesdays 5.30pm at CoRe/ New Coasters Greymouth

 **Conversational Spanish Language group** (\$8 per class) Learn important phrases and expressions to communicate in Spanish from a native speaking tutor. **Registration essential** Tuesdays 5.30pm at Heartlands Hokitika

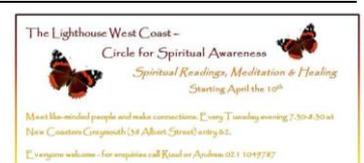
 **Needlecraft meetings (=Knitting group)** Contact Maureen for details: 021 0626429 Enjoy a night out and go with the new global trend: knit/ crochet/ stitch in a café while having crafty conversations with others... Beginners and experienced crafters welcome. Every Monday from 10am at Ali's Café and from 6pm at New Coasters venue, Albert St, Greymouth

 **Explore and discover the West Coast with others** Get to know interesting local short walks and enjoy company! Every third Sunday. Meet 1.30pm at Trinity Centre, the walk starts at 2pm. Contact Christina if you need a ride, want to car share or have any questions: 021 1188138

 **Mandarin for children** a great opportunity to learn first words and phrases in one of the world's most spoken languages... **Wednesdays 3.30pm at CoRe, Greymouth**

 **Writers' group** This new group welcomes writers of all genres to talk about all things 'writing' & get feedback on their work, in a respectful, encouraging environment. Don't worry about your level of experience - everyone is welcome! **The group meets on the first Sunday of the month, 11 am – 1 pm, at CoRe, Greymouth.** Interested people should contact Katrina Brown kbtaiwan@gmail.com

 **The Light House West Coast - Spiritual development group** This new group is currently generating interest for a regular meeting time – please get in touch with Ruud to find out more: 021 1049787





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EVENTS in JUNE

(*ITALICS = organised at/ by New Coasters,*

BLACK= community event. For details, click links/ mini-posters.)

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT / more details
11.06. 6.30pm	Elevate – Social Enterprise Workshop	CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	A series of workshops starting – powered by AKINA Poster link
11.+12.06. 6-8pm	Mind over manner – neurodiversity workshops	Greymouth High School	link
12.06. 5.30pm	Civil Defense network meeting	Council Chambers Hokitika	
12.06. 7pm	The Rubbish Trip – 2 no-waste nomads talk trash... http://therubbishtrip.co.nz/	Barrytown Hall	Useful tips how to reduce your household rubbish!! facebook link
13.06. 5.30-6.30pm	Library Talks: Matariki and Mars with Phil Barker	Westland District Library, Hokitika	Facebook link
14.06. 10.30am	Matariki morning Tea	Westland District Library, Hokitika	
14.-15.06.	Community Conservation Symposium	Shantytown, Paroa	Interesting talks and field trips to learn about our local environment
14.06. 12pm	Soup Kitchen – Westland Soroptomists Fundraiser	RSA building, Sewell St, Hokitika	link
16.06. 5.30pm	Lantern Parade	Hokitika (meet at Customhouse)	Check out their facebook page for updates (event is weather dependant)
16.06. 10am	Clean up day	Kowhai Bush & Anzac Park GM	Link
16.06. 6pm	Paroa winter Ball	Paroa Hotel	Enjoy finger food, live music & more link
16.06. 6pm	Formal Whiskey tasting	Theatre Royal Kumara	link
17.-23.06.	NZ NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK		
17.06. 2pm	 <i>Explore & discover outing - KUMARA</i>	Meet 1pm @ Greymouth Trinity Centre for car sharing.	<i>Explore a range of short walks in the historic township of Kumara</i> Call Christina for details: 021 1188138
18.06.	CHINESE DRAGONBOAT FESTIVAL DAY		
18.06. 3pm	 <i>Tea Ceremony & afternoon tea</i>	New Coasters & CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	We celebrate Volunteer Week and put on a Chinese Tea ceremony for volunteers, members & supporters
19.06. 7.30am	Business Breakfast: Paparoa Great Walk update	Paroa Hotel	Hosted by DWC link
19.06. 10.30am	 <i>Morning tea</i>	TBC (Hokitika)	We celebrate Volunteer Week and put on a special morning tea for volunteers, members & supporters
20.06.	WORLD REFUGEE DAY http://www.un.org/en/events/refugeeday/		
21.06.	International YOGA DAY http://www.un.org/en/events/yogaday/		
21.06. 5.30pm	 <i>Boomerang bag sewing session</i>	New Coasters & CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	<i>Join us to create funky reusable bags & reduce waste ☺.</i> <i>Sewers and helpers welcome!</i>



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20.-23.06.	The Addams Family – A new musical	Regent Theatre Greymouth	A new show by the Greymouth Operatic Society https://www.facebook.com/events/111170413060894/
22.06. 9am-5pm	2nd hand clothing pop-up-shop	94 Revell Street Hokitika	Find something fancy to wear at this Cancer society fundraiser LINK
22.06. 5pm	Matariki Night Market	Granity School	https://www.facebook.com/events/452058401889897/
22.06. 6pm	 Migrant meet-up: Festival planning	Hokitika – venue to be confirmed	<i>Join us to make some plans for a Multicultural Festival including live performances, food and more in spring 2018!</i>
23.06. 10am	Coalstice – markets, music & more	Blackball	link
23.06. 8pm	Ryan Neville & the Midnight Blues Show band	Reefton Club	LINK
26.06. 7.30pm	Nordan – Celtic harp & fiddle	Old Lodge Theatre Hokitika	live music & slide show Facebook link
28.06. 7pm (tbc)	Spinning session	New Coasters & CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	Details to be confirmed
29.06. 6pm	 Midwinter Celebration <i>"Carnival of colours" BBQ & Potluck Dinner</i>	New Coasters & CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	<i>Brighten up those winter days – come along wearing the colours of your (favourite) flag, enjoy music, bring food to share and a friend... Helpers very welcome...</i>
30.06. 3pm	Young West Coast filmmakers odyssey	Regent Theatre Greymouth	Screening & fundraiser – more information here: link
30.06. 5-7pm	The Saturday Sing Contact Heather for details: Ph 021 180 5250	New Coasters & CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	If you enjoy singing, but don't necessarily want to join a choir, then check this out! \$8 waged / \$4 unwaged, partners and carers free.
30.06.	Wear your wild -fashion challenge & live music	Hotel Lake Brunner	link
30.06. 7pm	Drag Bingo Fundraiser Show	Regent Theatre Hokitika	Link Link2

PREVIEW

01.-31.07.	PLASTIC FREE JULY http://www.plasticfreejuly.org/		
06.07. 6pm	New Coasters AGM	New Coasters & CoRe venue 38 Albert St, Greymouth	
6.-13.07.	Matariki celebration period		https://mch.govt.nz/mi/nz-identity-heritage/matariki
07.07.	Special nationwide Boomerang Bag sewing events		
07.-22.07.	Winter school holidays		
01.09.	Junk2Funk Wearable Art Show	Hokitika	Get your creative outfit ready on time! LINK



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