



NEWCOMERS NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Covering Nelson, Richmond, Motueka and wider Tasman Region
February 2013 • Issue 72

Kia ora!

Greetings!

HELLO to all and Happy New Year 2013! Welcome to new members. Another great year to start our new goals. Being new to Nelson, one of your goals might be making new friends and getting to know other people in the wider community. Nelson Newcomers Network is always there to support you in this, encouraging you to participate in different social activities and make new friends in your new home.

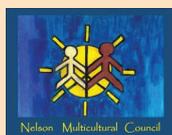
I would like to thank the Multicultural Council, our wonderful volunteers, and the social committee members for all their support for the network. I greatly appreciate the amazing amount of time, energy and devotion you have given in organising all the wonderful events of the past year.

And now, the time has come to say goodbye to you all as I am resigning from my post as NNN coordinator due to my personal circumstances. It has been such a privilege to work with you. I have really enjoyed working with people from different walks of life and have learned such a lot from my time with you. I will still be in Nelson and will always support the network in any way I can.

The focus of the network is to engage all newcomers to the region in social activities and help them meet other people. Please feel free to pop in to our Drop In Centre or visit the NNN office to find out more about the network and its activities.

If any of you are interested in organising any events or activities, please call me on 03 5390565 or email me on nelson@newcomers.co.nz

Good luck with settling in!



Newcomers Network
is a Nelson Multicultural
Council project
www.nelsonmulticultural.co.nz

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Nelson Newcomers Network
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Newcomers Summer Picnic/Barbecue— Saturday 16th February

JOIN the Newcomers potluck event this February! Celebrate the summer with a picnic barbecue at the Tahunanui BBQ area. Come along with your family and friends, and meet people from different cultural backgrounds Bring your favourite food and drink to share with your new friends from around the world. These events are always fun and a great opportunity to share your stories with others, make friends and expand your social circle

Where: Tahunanui Barbeque Area (just before the Beach Cafe, on the right hand side)

When: Saturday 16th February, 12 - 3pm

What to bring: Picnic/barbeque food and drink, games/sports equipment, sunhat & sun cream, water, blankets/chairs.

Newcomers walking group



THE Nelson Newcomers walking group has been meeting fortnightly since the beginning of September using the Nelson City Council "Walk Nelson" booklet.

We meet on Tuesdays at 10am and everyone is welcome - most walks are 1 to 1 1/2 hours and generally on the flat.

Norma Laing leads the group. Norma is from Canterbury and has been in Nelson for several years now. Still very much a "Canterbury lass" but slowly fitting into Nelson and enjoying all it has to offer.

Walks coming up in February:

12th Feb Trevor Horne Heritage Trail. 60 minutes. Inner city walk. Meet 10am at the back of the Cathedral off Trafalgar St South

26th Feb Nelson Walkway towards Richmond along Railway reserve/Walkway Meet 10am Stoke Library

If you have any queries, or want to be on the email reminder list please contact Norma normal@paradise.net.nz
Ph 545 0720/027 652 5274

Race Unity Day-2013

NELSON celebrates its cultural diversity each year with a fun, outdoor festival of music, dance, martial arts, crafts and ethnic food! Race Unity Day provides an opportunity for us all to proudly display and share our cultural heritage. There's something for everyone to enjoy and to learn about!

Contact the Nelson Multicultural Council if you would like to perform something traditional from your culture, have an ethnic food stall, display any traditional craft or activity or be a volunteer on the day!

Sunday, 17th March 2013, 11am—4pm. Victory Square Park. Gold coin donation.

Waitangi Day 2013

WAITANGI Day (6th February) is New Zealand's national holiday. It commemorates the day the treaty was finally signed between most of the Maori tribes and the British. Here in Nelson, everyone is invited to Whakatu Marae for the annual International Kai (food) Festival held at the Marae and Founders Park next door!

An important part of Waitangi Day, especially for people who are new to Nelson, is the invitation to participate in a "Powhiri" or ceremonial welcome onto the Marae. (Even those who are not new to Nelson are welcome to join in.) There will be two Powhiri, the first at 11am and the second at 1pm. If you plan to attend you will need

to meet 15 minutes early to receive your instructions regarding protocol. It is also expected that you will contribute a small donation or "koha" which will be collected beforehand and presented on behalf of the visitors.

Buskers at Fairfield Park. Fun for all ages!

SAT 9 Feb & Sun 10 Feb, 6pm. Cost: donation for the performers.

Bring something to sit on (low chair, rug or cushion). And bring a picnic or buy from the many food stalls

Sharing Successful Stories

Sharing successful stories is a good way to encourage our new friends to move forward in the new community. We have been publishing many interesting and successful stories of the newcomers and have been receiving positive feedback from the readers. This month Richard and Denise Wilkins have kindly shared their experiences and their achievement in their new home. This couple is a great inspiration for anyone who is new to the country.



Following a one-year teaching exchange to Canada in the early 1990's we had always wanted to live abroad. We thought that the Millennium would be the time to move, but it took until 2003 to start to realise the dream. One cold, foggy (English) February day Richard found an advert for teachers in New Zealand.

That was the start of our journey to New Zealand.

We took a number of chances along the way, such as selling our house before we had even got a job in New Zealand (some would say we were mad!). Our plans came together in October 2003 when Richard got a job as Head of PE at Golden Bay High School. Never having even visited New Zealand we consulted Richard's Grandmothers' old atlas (1953) to find out where Golden Bay was. Top of the South, the number one place we wanted to live - It sounded good. So began the journey. Next step was to pack all our possessions into a 20 foot container and hope that it didn't fall off the ship to New Zealand.

We arrived in Nelson in January 2004, with our two cats. Having left a cold and grey English winter, we arrived in Nelson on a warm summer morning. The sun shone, the flowers were beautiful and huge (by UK standards) butterflies fluttered by us. The two cats became celebrities at the airport with people fascinated that they had flown non-stop from the UK. I think they were in better shape than we were!



We spent two blissful years in Golden Bay. We restored a 1905 historic villa (see picture).

At the end of 2005 Richard got a job as Deputy Principal at Wellington High School. The bright city lights beckoned and we were on the move again. The same crew who had unpacked our possessions in Golden Bay returned to re-pack them for our move to Wellington!

Wellington was a great experience, although very different from Golden Bay. Denise got a great



job at the State Services Commission in Wellington. But the lure of sunny Nelson, with its mix of sun, sand, vineyards and Abel Tasman tramping was too strong. In 2008 Richard moved to a new job as Deputy Principal at Nayland College. Denise took the opportunity to fulfil a long held ambition to

become a self-employed HR Consultant. The same New Zealand Van Lines crew who had moved us twice before, again moved our possessions back to Nelson - they noticed that we had far more plant pots!

At Race Unity Day in 2009 we came across Nelson Multicultural Society and Nelson Newcomers Network. We described Race Unity Day as taking a trip round the world in one day, with the opportunity to eat in a number of different continents. Denise volunteered to help as a committee member with the Multicultural Council and Richard became involved in Nelson Newcomers Network.

We love our life in Nelson and the people who make it such a vibrant and diverse place.

—Richard and Denise Wilkins

AS YOU know, there is a cost involved in running Nelson Newcomers Network. We welcome all donations – whether \$5 or \$500. We appreciate and value your contribution. If you wish to make a donation, our account number is 031355 0590251 03 at SBS Bank, Nelson

CALENDAR OF THE EVENTS

Nelson

Tuesday

- Newcomers Walking Group: Tuesday, 12th and 26th February. Contact: Norma Laing normal@paradise.net.nz Ph 545 0720 or 027 652 5274 for more details.

Wednesday

- Newcomers Pub Evening: 13th and 27th February @ 6.30 pm at Prince Albert Hotel, 113 Nile Street, Nelson
- Newcomers Coffee Morning: 10.30 - 11.30 at Deville Café, New St. Nelson. Contact Chandra ph 539 0565, nelson@newcomers.co.nz

Saturday

- Newcomers Drop In Centre, Saturday, 2nd February, 10am - 12 pm, Multicultural Centre, 2 Bridge Street, Nelson. Contact: Chandra ph 539 0565, nelson@newcomers.co.nz.
- Newcomers Summer Barbeque, 16th February, 12 - 3pm Tahunanui Barbeque Area (just before the Beach Cafe, on the right hand side)

Richmond

Thursday

- Richmond Coffee Mornings. Every 1st and 3rd Thursday morning 10.00 am at Alchemy Café, Bateup Road. For information, contact Mike or Milli Greenavalt at 544 7906.

Motueka

Wednesdays

- Coffee @ Muses Café 10.30 am High Street Motueka. Come and have a coffee and meet other newcomers. Contact Brian 03 528 4580 briansavile@xtra.co.nz

Fridays

- Drop In Centre, Community House Deck Reserve, Wallace St. Motueka. Open every Friday morning 10am-12pm to welcome newcomers to the district and provide an opportunity to meet others over a cup of coffee. Contact Heather 03 528 4332 mckenzie@watchdog.net.nz

Activities Coordinators

Nelson

- Evey** 539 0030 info@nelsonmulticultural.co.nz
- Claire** 547 251, lombokchilli@ts.co.nz
- Richard Wilkins** 03 545 0055
- Ali Morton** 539 4848, alisonj.morton@gmail.com
- Norma Laing** 545 0720 or 027 652 5274 normal@paradise.net.nz
- Vanessa Page** nessage2000@yahoo.com

Richmond

- Mike and Milli Greenavalt** 544 7906

Motueka

- Brian** 03 528 4580 briansavile@xtra.co.nz
- Heather** 03 528 4332 mckenzie@watchdog.net.nz

Do you:

- Wish to be removed from this email list?
- Have an item of interest for the next update or newsletter?

Let me know!