

Come in & make some friends



Nelson Newcomers

Join online and check activity updates at www.newcomers.co.nz

April 2014, Issue 85

Welcome to new members & their partners/families:

Jeanette, Ian, Chaira, Karen, Leighton, Caroline, Susan, David, Calvin, Kerry, Bob and Arora

Get to know the Nelson area & people with the walking group

The group is walking once a week now, every Tuesday morning, then going for coffee.

First of all a huge THANKS to Norma who has facilitated the walking group for many years. She has welcomed regular & new members alike and been a great contact person for walks, sending out emails and thinking up new places to go.

All our regular activities attract both regular members and people who've just arrived. The groups always welcome everyone. Here's a message Norma received from someone who'd been in Nelson only a few days, who said she was: "soooo lucky to meet u!" and thanked Norma for being so "warm hearted".

Norma is standing down and Karin & Lynne are going to facilitate the group. Thank you Norma! And thanks to Karin & Lynne for agreeing to host.

So here's how it works. The group meets at a different location each week, publicised in the newsletter and the website. They always meet at 10am. For walks a bit further away,

there's an option to meet centrally and carpool, giving some petrol money to the driver.

The walks are not hard, and usually last under 2 hours. They go for coffee after so it's a great chance to chat to a few different people.

Here are the walks for the rest of April. Ask the organizers if you'd like your email added to the group list.

15th April – Maitai River – meet at Miller Acre information centre – walk along the river

22th April – Washington Walk – meet Anzac Park – walk no 9 (p 24/25) from the Walk Nelson booklet

29th April – Richmond – meet car park opposite Raeward – walk to Aquatic Centre, use underpass and walk towards Hills Road and beyond – a loop and partly return same way.

Karin – ph 547 4461 – email: kajo.vanschouten@clear.net.nz

Lynne – ph 539 1006 - email: lynnebarron@clear.net.nz

In this Issue

Walking group news.....	1
Successful Stories – making friends through Newcomers	2
Pizza & film night	2
Calendar of events	3
Motueka & Richmond events	4

Contact us:

Ali (coordinator) & pizza/cinema night

539 0565

nelson@newcomers.co.nz

Clive Nelson coffee

547 2725

Heather Motueka coordinator (03) 528 4332

mckenzie44@orcon.net.nz

Karin Walking Group

547 4461

kajo.vanschouten@clear.net.nz

Lynne Walking Group

539 1006

lynnebarron@clear.net.nz

Patrick Drinks Night Bar Berlin

patrick@kuiper.nu

Volunteers wanted!

Do you have a couple of hours to spare every month to support Newcomers or run an event? Movies, drinks, cycling, whatever you like! Contact

nelson@newcomers.co.nz

Successful Stories – 2 members' stories about making friends through Newcomers events

Making friends in a new place can be tricky, especially if you go by yourself to an event. Will I know what to say? Will there be someone I can click with? Will everyone else be in couples or groups and I'll just be sitting alone all evening?

Most people have those thoughts, but these 2 stories show how it's worth doing it anyway, in different ways.

Caroline: Jen and I met through a Newcomers event in July 2013, Bar Berlin (2nd Wed of every month). I had spoken with Ali earlier in the day but was still nervous about going on my own, would I know which crowd were Newcomers? Had I got the time right? etc. I need not have worried, Ali spotted me when I arrived and quickly steered me over to the group. There was a good mix of people, all ages and backgrounds.



Jen, Geoff (pictured here) and I hit it off that evening and from then on Jen and I met every week for coffee, shopping, movies, she even cooked Christmas dinner! She became my best friend and would even babysit!

When Jen mentioned she was thinking of applying for a job in the UK I was gutted! But when I discovered the job offer was in my hometown with an organisation our family fundraised for all we could do was laugh. At the end of March we were waving Jen and Geoff off at the airport armed with local knowledge and the keys to my flat. So in a nutshell, Jen my friend from Nelson has gone to live in my flat, in my hometown, in Scotland and it's all thanks to Newcomers.

See the [November '13 newsletter](#) for Caroline's story.

Ali: Long before I got involved with Newcomers more officially, I was new to Nelson myself. I wasn't meeting people through work or my flat, as I had in other places, and so I went to the Wednesday morning Newcomers coffee morning. The people there were all regulars apart from one other person, Bex, who was around my age. The other folk made us sit together, and at first I thought that being in the same age group doesn't mean we're going to get along. But we did, and we exchanged phone numbers and became friends. Neither of us went back to the group – it had served its purpose. That's what Newcomers is for!

Pizza & a film – a classic combination! Tuesday 15th is Newcomers film night.

Tuesday is cheap cinema night at \$11 (or \$15 for 3D). Stefano's pizzas are the best in town (I think) and very good value (share a large pizza for \$10 each). So at 7pm we order our own food & drink and have a look at the film schedule. I might go for 'Tracks', a story about a woman who crossed the Australian desert with only some camels for company. You can book a film in advance, or just decide on the night, and see who's going to what. Check out the schedule http://www.statecinemas.co.nz/session_times.php. Come for a drink or pizza only, or just find us at 8 in time for a movie. Up to you.

Please email me nelson@newcomers.co.nz by Monday 5pm so I can book a big enough table. Meet at Stefano's, on Trafalgar St above the cinema at 7pm.

Come in & make some friends

Newcomers events this month

Local Community events this month



Weekly Coffee morning

Every Wednesday 10.30-11.30am

Deville, New St, Nelson



Drinks night at Bar Berlin

Wed 9th 7pm

8 Church St (off Hardy St)

Marlo www.barberlin.co.nz 545 8957



Pizza & Cinema night

Tues 15th 7pm.

See article p 2 for info.

Walking Group



15th April – Maitai River –

meet at Miller Acre information centre – walk along the river



22th April – Washington

Walk – meet Anzac Park – walk no 9 (p 24/25) from the

Walk Nelson booklet



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Looking for a club or organisation in Nelson? Check out <http://www.found.org.nz> for the list of local community groups.

For information on local events throughout the Nels-Tasman region, go to www.itson.co.nz. You can search for your area or interest or by date.

Fresh FM, our non-commercial radio station for the top of the south, often has community notices of local events. They also play great music from anywhere & no ads!

For community events, read the free weekly papers, The Leader & Nelson Weekly.

Families – looking for things to do in the Easter school holidays? There's a lot on. See the above places for info.

Family bike rides, Easter egg hunts..

If you'd like to meet up with other Newcomer families over Easter, email nelson@newcomers.co.nz by Thurs 17th.

Above all, don't be bored or lonely! Get out there! If you're still bored, do some volunteering!

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Richmond & Motueka Newcomers Events



Richmond Coffee Morning

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday morning 10am
Alchemy Cafe, Bateup Road, Richmond



Motueka Newcomers Coffee Morning

Every Wednesday morning 10.30am
Motueka RSA, 49 High Street, Motueka.

For more information contact Heather (03) 528 4332, mckenzie44@orcon.net.nz



Motueka Newcomers Drop in Centre

Every Friday 10.30am-12pm
Motueka RSA, 49 High Street, Motueka

For more information contact Heather (03) 528 4332, mckenzie44@orcon.net.nz



Motueka Newcomers Potluck

sometimes we meet for a meal – contact Heather for info.

Looking for things to do in Motueka?

Try <http://www.motuekaonline.org.nz/events-calendar.html>

In Motueka, try the 'True Stories Told Live' event often hosted at Toad Hall, which also makes very good pizzas & has live bands at weekends..

For a good night out in rural Tasman, try these 2 atmospheric venues:

the Moutere Inn, which hosts regular music events, including monthly folk night.

<http://www.moutereinn.co.nz/>

the Park Café, in Marahau, at the end of the Abel Tasman track. They have open mic night on Thursdays. <http://parkcafe.co.nz/>