



New Coasters Newsletter

November & December 2014

Come in & make some friends



New Zealand
Newcomers Network
Connecting People

Kia Ora and Haere Mai

Hard to believe we are approaching 2015 in a few weeks' time! 2014 has been a busy year for many of us and lots more things will be happening in November & December. Several West Coast communities are celebrating their 150th anniversaries – a big milestone and important for everyone new to the area as we actually celebrate 150 years of migration. Everyone who lives here has had someone in their family who migrated at some stage. New Coasters acknowledges that moving and migrating has can be multi-faceted: it involves excitement and new chances as well as some challenges. We are here to help you to face those by sharing your experiences, meeting others who sit in the same boat and by establishing new connections that are supportive for you.

Christmas and the Holidays can be a critical time for migrants – while everyone seems to spend time with their families they often can't see their loved ones. It's good to develop a coping strategy and connect with other who are feeling alike. The New Coasters activities are a good opportunity to meet interesting people from all walks of life who might have more in common with you than you think ☺ Come along, no matter for how many years & generations you've been living here and join our network. I look forward to meeting you.

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Some of our next events ...for more info turn page over

-  Multicultural Coffee mornings in Hokitika & Greymouth
-  Christmas baking session in Greymouth
-  Christmas Craft nights in Hokitika & Greymouth
-  Christmas Party in Hokitika
-  Gardening meetings in Hokitika & Greymouth
-  Festive End of year Christmas Dinner in Greymouth

A few impressions of our last events



Welcome Newcomers

We are an informal social network which supports people in Greymouth, Hokitika and surroundings.

'Newcomers' can help you get in touch with each other, local people, clubs and organisations. We hope to 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

26 Mackay Street, Greymouth
Phone: 03 768 6580 or 027 4070302

Newcomers Network Hokitika

72 Tudor Street, Hokitika
(WestREAP)
Phone: 03 755 8700

Email:

birte@newcoasters.co.nz

Web: www.newcomers.co.nz



New Coasters,
Greymouth and Hokitika –
like us for up-to-date infos

Opening Times of our office vary depending on other events. For details see poster

We run several regular events (coffee mornings, Potluck Dinners) and various one-off activities (outings, bonfires, crafternoons, ...). We also attend events in the local communities. There's heaps more we *could* do but I need know what YOU are interested in & what times suit you – please contact me ☺.



Lottery Grants Board
FUNDS FOR YOUR
COMMUNITY



MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL on the West Coast

I often get feedback from people who are surprised by the number of ethnicities we have on the Coast and by the cultural diversity of people living in our communities. After all the 150th anniversaries events I would like to continue celebrating the benefits of people migrating to our area, get "out & about" and create opportunities for all generations of Coasters to meet. Most importantly we should indulge in the variety of cultural impacts people bring along - let's eat & drink together, enjoy music and celebrate diversity! I'm hoping to organise a multicultural food festival in March 2015 and hope for lots of participation – we need food stalls, live music, cooking presentations, cultural performances and more. Contact me to become part of it!

Movies, documentaries and more

Isn't it great to watch a really good movie and immerse yourself in another world? And aren't there some fantastic documentaries available providing interesting information about other countries, cultures, science and more? But the best thing of all is watching movies & more with some nice people who share similar interests. They can help you to "debrief and digest" what you've seen and most of all they provide good company. New Coasters wants to support this – we have been approached by people looking for 'movie buddies', we know that the local cinemas are open to show art house movies and we could also help to organise themed movie nights on people's sofas. Get in touch with me if you are interested.

DANCING

When asked what people miss on the Coast one of the most frequent answers is: *Dance nights*. A good old leg swing is great for your overall wellbeing, a good chance to socialize and burn off some calories in a fun way. All we need is a suitable venue, a DJ and a bit of advertising – let me know your thoughts & I'm happy to help organising a dance session or two ☺

SHARING just a little bit of your time...

Sometimes I wish I could clone myself... there's so much you can do in our region, but unfortunately I can only be in one place at a time ☹. Could you help out? Would you like to show someone new to the area to your favourite café, take them on an outing or teach a skill? Every 'donated' hour will be much appreciated!

Would you sometimes like to go for a walk/ swim/ bike ride/ stretching session but nobody around you seems interested in getting off the sofa? Let us know, we're happy to help you find a buddy to stretch your legs, get some fresh air, explore the area and have a nice chat while **improving your fitness** ☺

Ethnic diversity usually goes along with **religious diversity**. Many people like to share their religious practices. Do you know of anyone living on the Coast who is Muslim? Please let me know, I have been approached by someone who wants to get in touch with other muslims.

Do you or someone you know live in a rural area and have children aged 5 or younger? Would you like to meet other parents and their children, have some relaxed playtime and improve your English in a small group? Please contact us, we are planning to organise **multicultural playsessions** and transport support.

Are you interested in rocks & stones?
The **Gem Clubs** meets on every 1st Wednesday of the month at Shantytown. Meetings start at 7pm, for more info contact Terry 03 755 5431

Have you got some books in your mother language you don't really need (read) any more? How about donating them? We want to support the local libraries in setting up an **International book shelf** and need books in Spanish, French, Japanese, Russian, Dutch, Chinese, and whatever language you can you think off!

*Do you need an **event update**?* You find up to date information on our activities on www.newcomers.co.nz (West Coast region) or on facebook "New Coasters, Greymouth and Hokitika". Are you unsure about details when & where to meet or what to bring? Looking for a 'buddy' to attend an event or a ride to get there? Call **03 768 6580** or text: **027 4070302**



Come in & make some friends

Newcomers events in November

Local Community events in November



Coal Creek Falls Walk

Join us for an 1 hour bush walk to this local beauty!

Sat, 1.11.14, 2pm, Balance St, Runanga



"Fashionista on a shoe string budget" sewing night

Give your wardrobe a springtime makeover!

Get ideas what to do with clothes you don't wear anymore, learn how to alter clothes & turn shirts, skirts and pants into funky pieces of fashion. *Bring a sewing machine, clothes & fabric to alter/ swap.*

Mon, 03.11.2014, 7pm, Uniting Church, 203 Tainui St, Greymouth



Food Gardeners group meeting

Terry's motto is "grow food not lawns" – let's explore another local garden & learn more about growing veggies!

Tue, 4.11.14, 5.30pm, 96 Jollie St, Hokitika



Multicultural Coffee morning

Always a good opportunity to catch up on local news and a casual way to meet other newcomers.

Sat, 15.11.14, 10.30 – 12am, dp1 café Greymouth

Thu, 20.11.14, 10.30 – 12am, Stapletons Milkbar, Hokitika



International Christmas goodies baking session

1/3 of the World population celebrate Christmas – but not all of them eat mince pies... Bring along ingredients & recipe for your favourite Christmas baking and we'll bake a pile of yummy cookies & cakes!

Sat, 15.11.14, 2-5pm, Baptist Church Greymouth (tbc)



Food Gardeners group meeting

Many years of local gardening experience make Eileen a well of information for everyone wanting to grow their own veggies and more...

Tue, 18.11.14, 5.30pm, 731 Taylorville Rd, Taylorville



Christmas Crafting evening

Time to get together and create some handmade giveaways – learn how to make flax reindeers, create some papercraft pressies or just join us for a drink & chat *basic material provided*

Wed, 26.11. from 6.30m, Customhouse Hokitika



Potluck Dinner "Spring has sprung"

Bring along some fresh spring food & and enjoy a nice dinner with others. (hot drinks provided).

Friday, 28.11.14, 5.30pm, Uniting Church, 203 Tainui St, Greymouth

Conservation week

1- 9 November –for details check

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/events-and-awards/conservation-week/events-near-you/west-coast/>

Tibetan Gongs outdoor concert

1 Nov, 10am-12pm at Lake Mahinapua

Totara Goldrush Celebrations

Join Goldpanning activities & fireworks

1 Nov from 2pm till dark, Ross Domain

DIY Worm farms & Bee-friendly plants

Free workshop for experienced & going-to-be gardeners

2 Nov, 1-4pm, Hokitika Community garden, Fitzherbert St.

The Dining Club

Widen your social circle; get to know local people & restaurants. *Each person will pay for their own meals and drinks. RSVPs essential; call 03 7697470 or*

juliette.reese@westcoastdwb.health.nz

5th Nov, 5.30pm, Priya Indian restaurant Greymouth

Tibetan gongs & singing bowls sound immersion

contact Mariana for more details: 021 209 3921

7 Nov, 7.30pm, Senior Citizen Rooms, Hokitika

9 Nov, 3pm, Uniting Church Hall, Greymouth

St. Mary's Parish Fair

9 Nov, from 11am, St. Mary's school, Hokitika

Mountain Film Festival

11 Nov, from 5.15pm, Hokitika Regent Theatre

Blood Donation days

12 Nov, 12-6pm & 13 Nov, 7.30-10.30am

Trinity Church Hall, Greymouth <http://www.nzblood.co.nz/>

Exhibition of Sculpture

Walk through a permacultural forest garden trail for a sculptural experience

21-23 Nov, 10am-7pm, 266 Lake Kaniere Road, Hoki

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

Westland Anniversary Celebrations

29-30 Nov, various times & venues

Town walking tour, treasure hunt, book launch, banquet & history seminars – for more info about 'Digger's weekend' activities contact the Hokitika Museum for details 03 755 6898



Come in & make some friends

Newcomers' events in December

Christmas Crafting evening

Time to get together and create some handmade giveaways – learn how to make flax reindeers, create some papercraft pressies or just join us for a drink & chat. *basic material provided*
Tue, 2.12. from 7pm, Uniting Church, 203 Tainui St, Greymouth

Multicultural Coffee morning

Always a good opportunity to catch up on local news and a casual way to meet other newcomers.

Thu, 18.12.14, 10.30 – 12am, Stapletons Milkbar, Hokitika

Festive International Christmas Dinner

After many shared Potluck meals this end-of-the-year get-together will be very special: we'll get all dressed up, decorate the room & tables, wear something Christmas coloured and share a three-course meal together. Everyone is invited to bring a Christmas speciality from their home country as well as music & more.

Please RSVP by 12th Dec to let us know how many people will attend. Helping hands for preparations very welcome.

Friday, 19.12.14, 6pm, Uniting Church, 203 Tainui St, Greymouth

Social English class

Improve your English language skills in a friendly group and get support from our skill-full tutor –contact us for details.

Tuesdays, 7-9pm, Tai Poutini Polytechnic, room CB1, Greymouth

Preparing for an IELTS test?

Contact us, we can provide support!



Wishing you and your beloved ones a wonderful Festive Season and looking forward to seeing you in 2015!

We will reopen the office 6th January, happy to organise activities for those who aren't away – let me know what you'd like to do 😊

Local Community events in December

The Dining Club

Widen your social circle; get to know local people & restaurants. *Each person pays for their own meals & drinks. RSVPs essential; call 03 7697470 or juliette.reese@westcoastdhb.health.nz*

3 Dec, 5.30pm, Theatre Royal Hotel, Kumara

International Volunteer Day

Celebrate the contributions of all those that give their time to individuals and groups in our communities!

5 Dec, world wide

"Walk the Talk"

Join the walk to stop violence against women!

6 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm, Cass Square, Hokitika

GREYMOOUTH CHRISTMAS PARADE &

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Join the celebrations in town to start the Festive Season!

6 Dec, 10am-3pm, Greymouth CBD

Indoor Christmas Market

Explore all the goodies local craftspeople have produced & get some great gifts for Christmas!

9 Dec, 4-7pm, Regent Theatre Hokitika

Hokitika Christmas Parade

Get dressed up and win a prize as the best dressed digger, child or pioneer woman!

13 Dec, Hokitika CBD

Filipino Christmas Party

We are invited to join a colourful celebration of culture- the theme is "International". Wear your national dress & bring a contribution to a shared buffet dinner. Musical performances very welcome – contact Nida for details: 022 1703235

13 Dec, from 6pm, St. Mary's Hall, Hokitika

World Migrants Day

Our thoughts are with all those brave people who have migrated and made a new place their home!

18 Dec, world wide

Hokitika Anniversary Celebrations

Celebrate 150 years of history!

20 Dec, Hokitika

What do you want to see happening? Which suggestions do you have regarding times & venues of our activities?

Contact me to share your ideas!