At first hand
New migrants share their experiences

Growth prospects
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**2018 Plain English Awards**

Entries for the 2018 Awards are now open and will close on 31 August 2018.

Awards are made in the following categories:

- **Plain English Champion**
  - Best Organisation
  - Best Individual or Team

- **Best Plain English Document**
  - Public Sector
  - Private Sector

- **Best Plain English Website**
  - Public Sector
  - Private Sector

- **Best Plain English Sentence Transformation**

- **Best Plain English Annual Report**

- **Best Plain English Legal Document**

- **Best Plain English Technical Communicator**

- **Best Plain English Turnaround**

- **People’s Choice**
  - Best Plain English Communication
  - Worst ‘Brainstrain’ Communication

Immigration NZ is proud to be the sponsor of the Best Plain English Turnaround Award.

To enter, visit: [www.plainenglishawards.org.nz](http://www.plainenglishawards.org.nz)
Brazilian-born Nathalie Ferreira and her software engineer husband Marcel could live anywhere, but they have made Christchurch their home – and the factor that made a difference was Natalie finding rewarding employment. Marcel’s employers knew that if Marcel’s partner was unhappy, their new highly-skilled employee was likely to move, so they went out of its way to make sure that Natalie, a business graduate, found a job. Once she had that first all-important New Zealand work experience, she quickly found her feet in the workforce. She and her husband are now proud Cantabrians.

Nathalie was one of around 30 migrants who recently gathered at the Christchurch City Council to share their settlement experiences as part of a nationwide series of Immigration NZ consultations with recent migrants.

The consultations will play an important part in making sure we offer effective support to migrants.

In this issue, away from the consultation, we talk to Nathalie and three other recent migrants.

We also visit Selwyn District Council, just south of Christchurch, which is facing the challenges of growth, with around 1,000 residential buildings consents issued annually. How do you create community when the paint is barely dry on the new subdivisions and almost everyone is a newcomer to the district? This is the question we put to Selwyn’s Welcoming Communities Coordinator Jason Flewellen.

As always, please let the Settlement ACTIONZ editor know if you have any stories you would like to share.

Ka kite ano,

Steve McGill
General Manager, Settlement, Protection & Attraction
Immigration NZ

Nine questions

1. In what year did New Zealanders become New Zealand citizens rather than British citizens?

2. Missionaries from which nation established Mission Estate Vineyard in Hawke’s Bay in 1851?

3. Former All Blacks captain Tana Umaga is originally from which Pacific nation?

4. Vulcanologist Professor Colin Wilson, 2017 winner of the Rutherford Medal, New Zealand’s top science award, is originally from which nation?

5. Kiwi actress Anna Paquin is originally from which nation?

6. Which animal in the Chinese Zodiac represents the current year?

7. What place does New Zealand occupy on the 2018 Global Talent Competitiveness Index?

8. What place does New Zealand occupy internationally on the 2018 World Happiness Report index?

9. What place does New Zealand occupy internationally on the 2018 World Happiness Report index among its overseas-born population?
The new agreement, which has a term of three years, was signed on May 9 in Auckland and will continue the great work that is already been completed over the past three years under the previous RPA.

“It’s critical that we collaborate to ensure that migration into our largest city is managed effectively,” says Steve McGill, General Manager of the Settlement Protection and Attraction (SPA) branch of INZ.

“I would like to thank everyone involved in getting this Agreement together and making it happen.”

While the previous RPA included some fantastic work involving employability for highly skilled international IT students, the new agreement will have a stronger focus Auckland as a welcoming city, working together towards supporting Pacific communities and support for key industries.

However, one of the greatest outcomes for this type of partnership is the experience the three agencies gain through learning to work together – particularly in terms of information and resource sharing.

“Because of our closer working relationship over the last three years the development of the new RPA itself has proven to be a relatively simple process,” says INZ Relationship Manager, Jason Chand.

“We have been able to be much more targeted and clear about the goals and deliveries we want to work on together for the next three years.”

These are also messages that have been echoed by the partner agencies:

“Working together, collaborating under the RPA enables us to achieve better outcomes for the Auckland region, and ATEED has truly valued this approach since first signing this agreement in 2015,” says Pam Ford, ATEED’s General Manager Economic Development.

“Auckland Council is pleased to renew its commitment to the Auckland RPA,” says Graham Bodman, Auckland Council’s General Manager Arts, Community and Events.

“Belonging and participation is a key strategic priority for both Auckland Council and INZ. The RPA represents a tangible way for our agencies to leverage our respective networks and skills to create welcoming communities for all Aucklanders.”

Given the success of RPAs as a means to assist regions to best leverage migration as an economic and social enabler, other regions throughout the country are now considering how an agreement may benefit their slice of New Zealand.

Left to right: Judi Altinkaya, Immigration NZ; Graham Bodman, Auckland Council; Pam Ford, ATEED; Steve McGill, Immigration NZ
Our diverse New Zealand schools

Recent Ministry of Education figures show that for the period 1, 2018 ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) funding was allocated for 45,233 students in 1,450 schools. These students represent 161 ethnic groups and speak 133 different languages. Of these learners, 86 per cent are in Years 0-8, and 14 per cent are in Years 9-15.

Two schools have more than 300 funded students and 111 schools have more than 100.

Auckland accounts for 89 per cent of these schools, with the remaining 11 per cent in Canterbury, Waikato and Nelson.

Schools with fewer than 10 funded students (572) made up almost 40 per cent of the total.

The Chinese Positive Aging Charitable Trust: New Telephone Befriending Line Service

The Chinese Positive Aging Charitable Trust has launched a new Telephone Befriending Line Service (TBLS). The TBLS service aims to assist Chinese older people to combat loneliness and to maintain their mental well-being. The service is provided by specially trained volunteers who speak a range of Chinese languages.

Referred clients are contacted by trained volunteers to listen to their concerns; to provide culturally appropriate support and to provide friendly chat with confidentiality.

The service is free to people who are:

• Chinese and aged 65 or over
• Willing to talk and without a hearing problem
• Feeling lonely and isolated
• Able to use a telephone

Referral criteria: self–referral or referred through family and friends and health professionals

Contact 022 479 3225 or 09 624 1368 (voice mail)

Australian Welcoming Cities leader visits

Aleem Ali, the National Manager of Australia’s Welcoming Cities initiative, was in New Zealand in mid June to talk to some of the key people in New Zealand’s own Welcoming Communities initiative.

Aleem has spent the past 20 years seeding and mentoring the development of various programs, initiatives and enterprises including the Academy for Young Entrepreneurs, Bizness Men, Human Ventures, Bleeding Heart, YAMP (Youth Arts Mentoring Program) and Stylin’ Up.

Welcoming Cities is a growing business that works with local governments through a multi-sector approach to ensure that recently arrived migrants are welcome and have access and support to engage in ongoing socio-economic opportunities and community life.

Look for coverage of Aleem’s visit in the next issue of Settlement ACTIONZ.
Queen’s Birthday Honours
The lifeblood of the settlement sector is community service. Among this year’s Queen’s Birthday Honours recipients are interpreters, philanthropists and, above all, community leaders representing the diversity of the many cultural communities that call New Zealand home.

Among this year’s recipients are:

**Dames Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit**
The Honourable Luamanuvao Winifred Alexandra Laban, QSO, of Lower Hutt. For services to education and the Pacific community.

**Officers of the New Zealand Order of Merit**
Mr Rodger Phillip George Haines, QC, of Auckland. For services to refugee and human rights law.
Ms Nina Catharine Nawalowalo, of Wellington. For services to theatre and Pacific culture.
Ms Caren Jane Rangi, of Napier. For services to the Pacific community and governance.

**Members of the New Zealand Order of Merit**
Mr Steven Sedley, of Wellington. For services to the Jewish community and music.
The Venerable Suthep Surapong, of Wellington. For services to the Cambodian community.
Mr Yikun Zhang, of Auckland. For services to New Zealand-China relations and the Chinese community.

**Honorary members of the New Zealand Order of Merit**
Mrs Kumiko Imai Duxfield, of Auckland. For services to the Japanese community.
Mr Saimoni Lealea, of Wellington. For services to Pacific communities.
Reverend Setaita Tokiulupe Veikune, of Auckland. For services to the Pacific community.

**Queen’s Service Medal**
Ms Virginia Chong, JP, of Auckland. For services to the Chinese community.
Mr Richard Joseph, of Dunedin. For services to the Lebanese community.
Mr Tafafuna’i Fa’atasi Lauese, JP, of Auckland. For services to the Pacific community.
Reverend Perema Leasi, of Porirua. For services to the Pacific community.
Mrs Mavis Lata Singh, of Auckland. For services to migrants and the community.
Reverend Lucky Richard Slade, JP, of Auckland. For services to the Samoan community.
Mr Thanh Tran, of Auckland. For services to philanthropy and Asian communities.

**Honorary award of The Queen’s Service Medal**
Ms Bingyu Chen, of Auckland. For services to Chinese culture and arts.

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**Get the right visa advice!**

Only some people can give visa advice.

Only licensed immigration advisers or people like lawyers can provide immigration advice. There is a list of licensed immigration advisers on the Immigration Advisers Authority (IAA) website, [www.iaa.govt.nz](http://www.iaa.govt.nz).

Free advice is also available from Community Law Centres and the Citizen’s Advice Bureau (CAB).

Immigration New Zealand does not accept applications from people who are not licensed or exempt and recommends people use an agent who is licensed and listed on the IAA website.

If you have any concerns about an immigration adviser, contact the IAA.

**Get the right visa advice!**

![Immigration Advisers Authority](https://www.iaa.govt.nz)

info@iaa.govt.nz
0508 422 422 (from within NZ)
+64 9 925 3838 (from overseas)
After more than a decade of acting as the Director (and Co-Director with Prof Jim Liu) of the Centre for Applied Cross-cultural Research (CACR) at Victoria University of Wellington, Prof Colleen Ward is stepping down. Professor Ron Fischer and Associate Professor Taciano Milfont are the new Co-Directors of the CACR. Colleen remains the Director of the Cross-cultural Programme and an indispensable Fellow of the Centre. She is looking forward to being able to devote more time to her own research interests.

Ashburton and Selwyn, the two Canterbury districts that are piloting the Welcoming Communities have developed an increasingly information-rich website, complete with video. Visit www.welcomingcommunitiescanterbury.com

New Kiwis programme milestone

The New Kiwis website and New Kiwis Career Success work search programme, which are run by the Auckland Chamber of Commerce, have been achieving remarkable success.

As at 30 April in the financial year ending 30 June, the Chamber’s migrant employment services had assisted in the employment of just over 1,000 migrants, primarily in the Auckland region, but also throughout New Zealand.

While a buoyant job market undoubtedly helped, breaking the 1000-migrants-employed mark in ten months is a new record for the Chamber.

Funded by the Settlement Unit of Immigration NZ, the New Kiwis programme assists the employment outcomes for partners of skilled migrants and for international student graduates with qualifications at Level 7 and above.

Visit the New Kiwis website: www.newkiwis.co.nz
Three Wellington businesses – Catalyst IT, Village at the Park and Geeves Scaffolding – were named as recipients of the Immigration Gold Showcase at this year’s Wellington Gold Awards on 24 May.

Established in 1999, the Wellington Gold Awards celebrate the excellence and the enterprise of business in the Wellington Region. The Immigration Gold Showcase category is about recognising employers that go the extra mile to ensure that their new migrant employees are welcomed and supported through the challenges of adjusting to Kiwi workplaces, while they settle and build a life in Wellington.

“We are delighted to showcase three successful Wellington firms through this initiative,” says Immigration New Zealand (INZ) General Manager, Steve McGill.

“It’s thanks to employers like this that New Zealand is able to attract the best people with the skills they need to grow their business. It’s no secret that businesses are New Zealand’s job engine and it’s fantastic to see their efforts recognised at these awards.”

Wellington – like all regions – has always been reliant on migrant skills to help its economy to grow. Immigration policy allows overseas workers to fill jobs when no New Zealanders are available and/ or when there are particular skill shortages.

This year’s winners have all demonstrated a commitment to supporting migrant workers in their own unique way:

Catalyst IT has been delivering world-class open source custom software solutions for well over a decade. Headquartered in Wellington with offices in Auckland, Christchurch, Australia and the UK, Catalyst IT has been through some spectacular growth.

The trouble is, they can’t train people fast enough to keep up with the demand. Taking on junior developers locally is working well, but the more senior roles are harder to fill.

So, Catalyst IT has gone global in its search for talent. Tapping into Immigration NZ’s resources and combining those with the company’s no-holds-barred diversity policy, new recruits from offshore are helped to fit in, both with the company and with the wider community.

Monthly ‘pizza meetings’ and social events aim to make sure newcomers are on board and feel part of the crew.
Geeves have been putting scaffolding up all over the Wellington region and across the country for quite a while.

While there’s a lot of pipe work, people able to put it up are a bit thin on the ground – so Geeves goes the extra mile to hold on to staff by offering great working conditions and career pathways, and using INZ’s systems effectively when they need to bring in staff from overseas.

With most migrant workers coming from the Philippines, Geeves offer tailored help including English language assistance, especially around understanding and communicating health and safety (H&S) information.

By also establishing a supplementary Filippino H&S committee, Geeves makes sure that H&S concerns can be raised in a way that is comfortable culturally.

Village at the Park is a residential lifestyle facility, offering independent living options through to high level care support.

There are currently 15 different ethnicities among the staff, so Village at the Park puts a lot of effort into creating an inclusive and supportive workplace.

This includes regular cultural diversity days where staff wear their national costume and share food.

The Village also has provided a tailored literacy and communication programme and hosts research of internationally qualified nurses’ experiences transitioning to New Zealand and working in aged care.

All three employers strongly endorse the benefits of a diverse workforce.

Anne Palmer of Catalyst IT says diversity is one of the foundations of the firm’s creative and highly social work culture.

“We work with open source software, which attracts community-minded people, and with people from every continent it makes for a wonderful ‘beer o’clock’.”

At the 2018 Wellington Gold Awards

Village at the Park resident Joselyn Tjeerd with migrant staff members Ainul Mardiyah at left and Jana Rivera at right.
First hand

At a series of nationwide consultations, migrants have been sharing their experiences of settling in New Zealand. Their feedback will help determine the future provision of support services for recent migrants. Settlement ACTIONZ went along to the Christchurch consultation.

No-one knows more about the personal experience of migration than recent migrants themselves. So recently a team from the Settlement Unit of Immigration NZ visited regions around New Zealand to conduct a series of consultations. Nationwide, the team talked to more than 250 migrants and is reaching hundreds more nationwide with an online questionnaire.

The face-to-face consultations, which were independently facilitated by the consultancy Martin Jenkins, were a mix of face-to-face workshops and smaller focus group sessions. They were held in 12 locations: Auckland (Auckland Central, New Lynn and Albany), Hamilton, Tauranga, Whanganui, Palmerston North, Wellington, Canterbury (Ashburton, Selwyn and Christchurch) and Invercargill.

“We held meetings in all sorts of places, including community centres, local council buildings, a music studio, a meeting room with a view over an aviation museum display, and a newspaper reading room in the Ashburton library,” says Anna Spencer, a Senior Advisor with Immigration NZ’s Settlement Strategy Team.

“It was wonderful to have to meet with migrants around New Zealand and to learn about their experiences of living in New Zealand. The consultations have been extraordinarily informative and useful.”

At the workshops, tables of six to eight migrants took part in a series of organised discussions. They were asked to talk about the challenges they encountered in settling in New Zealand, the services they found most helpful, what could be done to make their experience easier, and why they chose to settle in their region.
Salinda Lekamge, IT security manager

Originally from Sri Lanka

Salinda is the IT security manager for Tait Communications. Salinda first arrived in Auckland, following his wife, who had started a PhD at the University of Auckland. “Saumya had two offers, either New Zealand or the United Kingdom for her PhD, and we chose New Zealand,” says Salinda. A few months later he was offered his job at Tait.

Tait is a globally-recognised brand headquartered in Christchurch and with operations worldwide. More than 40 different nationalities work for Tait, which has a formal diversity and inclusion policy.

Perhaps partly because of this, Salinda says he and his family have had a relatively smooth experience of settling in Christchurch.

At Tait, he enjoys social events, such as end-of-month drinks, pot-luck lunches and movie nights, while outside of work he plays badminton for a social club, swims at the local council-run recreation centre, and enjoys walking in beautiful Hagley Park. He and his family attend cultural and meditation events at Samadhi Buddhist Vihara.

He is looking forward to exploring more of the breathtaking landscapes of the South Island.

Their views and experiences are helping Immigration NZ and other government agencies determine the best ways of developing and improving support services for recent migrants.

While open about the challenges they have experienced, most migrants have spoken highly of the services provided by government and the support given to them by their local communities and New Zealanders.

The workshops have also turned out to be a great way of forming friendships, with many people exchanging business cards.

“Some sessions have gone over time, because people have wanted to keep talking to one another and are reluctant to go home,” says Anne-Marie Masgoret, the manager of Immigration NZ’s Settlement Strategy Team.

A report analysing the feedback from the consultations will be available to the settlement sector later this year.

Over lunch, Settlement ACTIONZ spoke to some of the people at the Christchurch consultation.
The global competition for talent is fierce. When Nathalie Ferreira’s husband, Marcel, a software engineer was looking for new employment, there were a number of positions open to him in Australia and New Zealand.

“He came to me and said, Which one do you prefer, spiders or earthquakes?’ and I said, ‘Earthquakes, for sure’,” remembers Nathalie.

New Zealand it would be.

At the time, the Brazilian couple was living in Malta. The problem was that Nathalie, while she used her time in Malta to learn English, did not have the right to work.

In New Zealand, there was another choice to be made: Auckland or Christchurch?

They chose Christchurch. Auckland, while large by Australasian standards was, they decided, not big enough to offer the attractions of São Paulo, the ten-million-plus-size city they had left behind in Brazil. Christchurch, on the other hand, had the convenience of a small city.

Marcel took up a position with Farmlands Co-operative Society, which recognised its good fortune and reached out to Nathalie.

“Skilled people are hard to find here, so when an employer takes on a skilled migrant, it is important to them that they stay,” says Nathalie.

“Farmlands knew that Marcel moved to Christchurch because of me, and they knew that if I was happy he would be happy and stay, so they found me an opportunity.”

Nathalie, who has a business degree, began work for Farmlands as an administrator and eventually moved into procurement.

Subsequently, she worked for a number of employers, including jetpack pioneer Martin Aircraft, before being headhunted back to Farmlands.

There was also, in the middle of all of this, a brief interlude in Holland, which Marcel and Nathalie had decided would be a good place to make a new life.

“But after 60 days in Holland we were like nah, let’s go back to New Zealand,” says Nathalie.

Like many migrants, Nathalie found getting that first job and being able to claim New Zealand work experience made all the difference.

“If it hadn’t been for my husband’s employer helping me get that first job, it would have been much more difficult. People need to get to know you and to find out you are a good person.”

The couple has bought a house in the new town of Pegasus just outside of Christchurch, which has its own lake and golf course.

They are thinking about starting a family.

Over the Christmas holiday break, she visited Brazil, but it no longer felt like her true home.

“When I come back to New Zealand from traveling in the US or Canada and the immigration guy says ‘welcome home’, I feel really nice, because this is my home now.”
Hai Trieu, river and drainage engineer  
*Originally from Vietnam*

Of all of the migrants who attended the Christchurch consultation, Hai Trieu traveled the furthest to be there: from Blenheim at the top of the South Island, where he is a river and drainage engineer with the Marlborough District Council.

Hai’s professional background includes a PhD in Geomorphology/River Studies from the University of Southampton, time as a consultant civil engineer, and lecturing in hydrology and hydraulics.

He and his wife have three children and chose New Zealand for the quality of its education system.

Last year his son was the best student of year 7 in mathematics at his school.

Hai’s wife also works for the Marlborough District Council.

Hai is a volunteer member of Marlborough Emergency Response Team and his wife serves on the committee for the Marlborough Multicultural Centre.

“We love living and working in Marlborough,” says Hai.

Birendra and Sarita K.C., civil engineer and medical doctor  
*Originally from Nepal*

Originally from Nepal, Birendra K.C. and his wife Dr Sarita K.C. describe New Zealand as an excellent country and wonderfully safe, but settling has had its ups and downs.

Birendra, who among other qualifications has a PhD in Irrigation and Environmental Engineering from Lincoln University, has rewarding work as a civil engineer. His wife, a medical doctor with a postgraduate paediatrics qualification, is in the process of gaining New Zealand registration to work in her professional field.

“She has passed two exams,” says daughter Ashaswi proudly.

Sarita has one last hurdle to overcome. She is currently studying for the official clinical examination, which is held three times a year.

At right: Dr Sarita K.C., Ashaswi K.C. and Birendra K.C.  
Below: Hai Trieu
Great things have long been predicted for Rolleston. In the 1970s, Labour Prime Minister Norman Kirk thought the semi-rural village of 1000 people 22 kilometres outside of Christchurch had the makings of a future satellite town. So in a rush of enthusiasm the locals put up a roadside sign declaring Rolleston ‘the town of the future’.

The optimism was early. As generations of drivers passing by the sign on the way to other places joked, Rolleston was the town of the future – and always would be.

“In 2000 there were just 2000 people here,” says Jason Flewellen, who among other things is Selwyn District Council’s Welcoming Communities coordinator.

But change was coming.

We are in the Selwyn District Council’s headquarters, an architecturally-designed complex of single-storey buildings clad in river stones. Outside, the town of the future is arriving in a rush.

Within walking distance is a business park and a swimming pool complex. A town square with a new library and community centre is to be built around the corner. A new section of motorway will ease the traffic flow into Christchurch and connect the massive local inland ports that hold freight destined for the seaport of Lyttleton. There are new schools and shops and talk of a movie theatre. Everywhere, gleaming new suburbs are springing up, with paint freshly dry and lawns newly laid.

The speed of development is phenomenal.

“One of the new subdivisions in Rolleston is Farringdon. It has its own postcode, its own shopping complex. On average, Farringdon has 15 new residents arriving a week, and new subdivisions
are opening all the time,” says Jason.

Blessed with easily developed land and situated within easy commuting distance of Christchurch, the Selwyn District towns of Prebbleton, Lincoln and West Melton are also booming.

Much of the reason for Selwyn’s expansion lies with the devastating earthquakes that hit Christchurch in 2010 and 2011, displacing people from their existing homes.

Almost every house in Bexley, the suburb where Jason and his family had lived in the eastern suburbs of Christchurch, was rendered uninhabitable by soil liquefaction.

In contrast, Rolleston, sitting on earthquake resistant river gravels, came through the quakes largely unscathed.

“We were red-zoned in the first earthquake. My wife was pregnant, and we wanted to come somewhere that wasn’t broken where we could relax, so we settled in Rolleston,” explains Jason.

For a number of years he commuted to work in central Christchurch before joining the Council.

Displaced Christchurch residents were joined by a multinational workforce that came to work on the rebuild.

South African, British and Australian migrants are noticeably in evidence, says Jason, along with Kiwis moving in from other regions.

“I think most of them are here to stay.”

In Selwyn’s more rural communities, Filipino workers brought in by the dairy industry are becoming a presence.

“The only district growing at a similar rate to Selwyn is Queenstown, and it’s a bit of a race between us and Waimakariri to see which of us will qualify as the third most populated district in the South Island. Currently we both claim to have 59,600 people,” says Jason.

The results of the latest Census are eagerly anticipated.

One of the Council’s responses to its expanding population is its Newcomers and Migrants Strategy, which was launched in 2015 and has become the basis of Council’s participation in the current Welcoming Communities pilot.

For Jason and the District Council, keeping up with the pace of development is both demanding and rewarding.

“When you are dealing with such a massive group of new migrants, it feels like everything you do to reach out is appreciated,” says Jason.

He is grateful that the Council’s work culture embraces innovation.

“Growth has meant that we are empowered to try new things, and if they don’t work to try something else.”
Nine councils across five New Zealand regions are working with their communities to pilot Welcoming Communities, a new programme that puts out the welcome mat to newcomers: recent migrants, former refugees and international students.

The Canterbury region is home to two Welcoming Communities pilots, one run by Ashburton District Council, the other by its neighbour Selwyn District Council.

As part of the Welcoming Communities pilot, Selwyn District Council has adopted a number of initiatives, some already established, others planned. They include the multi-language website Everything Selwyn, Meet your Street neighbourhood events, bus tours of the district, newcomers and migrant Information booths in the District’s libraries, publishing Welcoming Folders, telling the stories of newcomers and the contribution they are making, an annual CultureFest event, and introducing a one-day global football tournament, which will be run by Selwyn United Football Club.

Show me Selwyn

‘Show me Selwyn’ offers Selwyn residents the chance to explore the diverse district they have made their home.

The idea began with Jason Flewellen.

“One of the things the Council does for new staff is run introductory van trips around the District and the Council-run facilities.

“I found this really useful, and I thought, why aren’t we doing this for newcomers? So we trialled it this summer.”

However, Selwyn district, which runs from Lake Ellesmere on the coast of the Canterbury Plains to the mountain landscape of Arthur’s Pass was too big to take in on a single tour.

“When you have families and children, you really don’t want to spend more than two or three hours on a bus,” says Jason.

The solution has been to offer two tours, ‘Foothills and Mountains’ visiting the foothills of the Alps and a settler museum, and ‘Lakes and Pa’, with a visit to Lake Ellesmere and a welcome on to the Ngati Moki Marae.

Four trips were run over the summer of 2017-2018, all of them fully subscribed, and while anyone can pay the small fee and come along, usually people are newcomers, says Jason.

“We have had great feedback and it’s something we hope will continue in future.”

For more about the Welcoming Communities pilot programmes run by the Ashburton and Selwyn District Councils, visit www.welcomingcommunitiescanterbury.com
Meet your Street

The subdivision has been built, the services installed, the houses occupied, all that remains to do is to build the social support offered by a sense of community.

This is the purpose of Meet your Street, a meet-your-neighbour initiative run and supported by the Selwyn District Council.

Choosing a logical geographical area, usually with a public park as the venue, the council mails out invitations to come along to a Meet your Street event.

The events are held on Tuesdays, running from 5.30 to 7.00pm.

“We set it up, supply the barbeque, some music and games for the kids, and then we get out of the way – we don’t want these to be seen as Council events,” says Jason Flewellen.

Depending on the area, up to 60 people may turn up.

“We get the best bang for the buck in new subdivisions, because absolutely everyone is new.”

The events run from November to March.

“We ran 18 events over this season and we plan to do 19 next year,” says Jason.

Prebbleton residents at a council–organised Meet your Street event

“In their daily life, people will stop and wave at one another in the street, but Meet your Street gives them the time to get to know one another, to ask about each other’s children and find out what people do for a living.”

“You see people shaking hands, introducing themselves, adding names to contact lists.”

For communities that want to run their own Meet your Street events, the Council offers a grant of up to $75 towards food, non-alcoholic drinks, games, and prizes.

“We are finding that streets where we ran Meet your Street two years ago are now running their own street gatherings.”

Everything Selwyn

Everything Selwyn is a multi-language online directory of community groups and services in the Selwyn district, offering information about everything from local schools and sports teams to special interest groups and what’s on.

Visit www.everythingselwyn.co.nz
**Immigration and Labour Market Outcomes of International Tertiary Students**

Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment

This report is designed to increase understanding of the common visa pathways international students follow after study and the resulting labour market outcomes. It also looks at changes in the nature of the international student population.

In compiling the report, the authors used anonymised data to track international fee-paying tertiary students who left study in 2006 to 2011.

The report paints a revealing picture. Among the findings:

- Five years after studying, around two-thirds of students were no longer in New Zealand.
- Nationality and field of study are the strongest predictors of visa outcomes.
- Among the former students who remained in New Zealand five years after study, those who had studied engineering and science or information technology were more likely to go on to be a principal Skilled Migrant Category visa holder (71%).

Download the report from the MBIE website.

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**BEYOND THE ECONOMIC – HOW INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION DELIVERS BROAD VALUE FOR NEW ZEALAND**

2018 Education New Zealand report on how international education delivers broad value for New Zealand

The total estimated economic value of the international education sector in New Zealand was estimated at $4.5 billion in 2016, but according to a Research New Zealand report commissioned by Education New Zealand, in real terms it may be worth much more.

The report draws on a literature scan and four case reviews to examine the contribution international education makes in four areas: community, culture and education; diplomacy and international business; business and innovation; and tourism.

In the instance of business and innovation (the engineering and management consultancy Beca is the case study), a number of the benefits have to do with international education as an element in a skilled migration pathway. The benefits the report identifies
Better Lives: Migration, Wellbeing and New Zealand
Julie Fry and Peter Wilson, Bridget Williams Books

The publishers write: Migration is at historically high levels and more than a quarter of the New Zealand population was born overseas. Yet immigration remains a deeply contentious issue, with the debate more often shaped by emotion than evidence.

Julie Fry and Peter Wilson have developed a new framework that broadens the scope of how we consider migration policy. Rather than just considering the effect of migration on GDP, they look at factors such as the Treaty of Waitangi. Their goal? Migration policy that acknowledges the complexity of the world we all inhabit.

Julie Fry is a consulting economist who divides her time between New York and a family farm near Motueka. She has worked on migration policy issues since the early 1990s, designing programmes and advising agencies including The Treasury, Te Puni Kōkiri, and HM Treasury in London.

Peter Wilson is a Principal Economist and Head of Auckland Business at the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research. He has spent over thirty years in government, the private sector and as a consultant applying the tools of economics to help people live the lives they value and have reason to value.

To find out more, visit the Bridget Williams Books website.
The Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2018
Bruno Lanvin, Paul Evans
Editors INSEAD (2018):
Now in its fifth year of publication, the index has some interesting observations to make about New Zealand’s relative strengths and weaknesses as a destination country for skilled migrants.

Download the report.

World Happiness Report
John F. Helliwell, Richard Layard and Jeffrey D. Sachs
The authors write: Increasingly, with globalisation, the people of the world are on the move; and most of these migrants are seeking a happier life. But do they achieve it?

Download the report.

Moving towards happiness
While much of the literature around why people choose to migrate focuses on economic advantage, this isn’t the only reason why people uproot themselves and move to another country. Happiness is also key. Authors Arthur Grimes and Dennis Wesselbaum begin their report with a summary haiku:

People think of fun when migrating, not just jobs. Happiness is key

Download the report from Motu.

New Zealanders’ Perceptions of Asia and Asian Peoples
2017 Annual Survey, Asia New Zealand Foundation, with text and analysis by Colmar Brunton, May 2018
The Asia New Zealand Foundation has been surveying New Zealanders’ perceptions of Asia and Asian peoples for more than two decades. This latest survey finds that while eight of out 10 New Zealanders think Asia is important to New Zealand in economic, social and cultural terms, two-thirds of us say we knew little or nothing about Asia.

Download the report from the Asia New Zealand Foundation
Updates to guide for employers recruiting Filipino workers

Immigration New Zealand, in collaboration with the Philippines Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), has refreshed the guide for employers who are looking to recruit migrants from the Philippines. The changes include updates to information about the POEA process and the costs involved, updated links to supporting websites and a fresh new look.

View the guide on the Immigration New Zealand website.

It’s good to have a guide

The newcomer’s guide has key facts to help migrants settle successfully in New Zealand

Read it online or order copies at www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/resources