

NZ Specialists

When considering migration there are so many questions that need to be answered. We will try, but if we don't know the answer, we will probably know someone who does. Some of the topics other migrants have asked for information on include:-

- Buying a House
- Renting property on your arrival
- Banking
- Tax & Trusts laws (UK to NZ)
- Child care and schooling
- Moving money to NZ
- Moving Pets to NZ
- Relocating your belongings
- Buying and Driving a car in NZ
- Kiwisaver (NZ pension scheme)
- Tax advice on keeping a UK rental property

If you would like information regarding the above topics or you have other topics to suggest please click [here](#) and request the info. We have teamed up with a number of specialist providers who have built businesses helping people like you.

NZ Market Update:-

Welcome to the Catalyst newsletter for April 2010. Hopefully you will be enjoying the first signs of spring as we very slowly creep towards our New Zealand winter. I say slowly because most of us are still walking around in T-shirts and shorts, the ground is still very dry and very hard and most of the time the sun continues to shine. With winter comes a change in daylight saving and as such we have made the decision to start our working day at 7 AM (8 PM UK) in order for us to speak with as many people as we can.

The recovery from recession seems to be continuing and if anything gaining some momentum. As you know we have two distinct sides to our business with Andy and Mireille working with the consultants, a sector that on a day by day basis seems to be getting stronger and busier. I know for a fact that their focus has been on a few specific disciplines in line with client requirements, but every week it seems those requirements are becoming more frequent and of a broader nature. Certainly if you work on the consultant side of engineering and you are ready to make your move to New Zealand you should certainly be making Andy and Mireille aware of that fact.

On the other side of the fence contractors are making a slow, determined recovery. In both the civil and construction sectors there are a few clients making ventures into the employment sector, primarily for key positions such as Quantity Surveyors and Estimators. The rest at this stage are still a little quiet and are likely to be so for the next six months. The encouraging news is that over the past month a number of key contracts have been awarded, all of which should hopefully be on site in September or October.

According to many at the New Zealand Contractors Federation this is a trend likely to continue for the next two or three months.

Whilst at the New Zealand Contractors Federation meeting last week, we were informed of two very encouraging pieces of information. Firstly, and more specific to Auckland, the changes in the city's administrative structure to that of a super city are going ahead according to plan, and once in place there should be no delay in the awarding of Council contracts. This news was particularly welcomed by the membership as many of the small and medium-size companies rely heavily on council projects. The second piece of good news came from a senior manager within the New Zealand Transport Agency who impressed to the meeting that due to government encouragement a vast majority of their long-term projects have now been brought forward and that they were now starting to work on brand-new projects for the future. Anyone who has been following the Catalyst blog will appreciate the value of the work brought forward to date and realise that any new projects developed will give the industry significant stability for the future.

On a final note we are developing our own job board on which we will be able to post vacancies as soon as we hear of them. This will be a replacement to our monthly job e-mail and should allow our processes to be quicker and from your perspective more user friendly. As always keep us posted on your availability and we will in turn keep you in mind for the right positions as they appear.

Sometimes it's great to live in little old New Zealand where...

Cows are cows, sheep are sheep and pigs are just that: pigs. Unlike what we've recently been hearing from Europe where PIIGS refers to the new term coined for those countries that are believed to be the weak links of the euro zone.

In any case, we're not affected by PIIGS much on this side of the world, life carries on in idyllic bliss where our biggest decision regarding pigs is whether to have roast pork for our "Kiwi Sunday Roast" and whether that should come with an extra portion of crackling!

Available Roles:

When looking at this month's job alert following shortly after this newsletter, you'll note the positive indication that our market is heading in the right direction with 40% of the roles being newly advertised positions. Should you be interested in applying for any of these roles please do let us know.

The Catalyst Tiki Tour of New Zealand-Taranaki (Tiki Tour - a sight seeing tour with no particular destination in mind!)

The area of Taranaki is situated on the mid west coast of the North Island and incorporates such well known towns as New Plymouth. It is a region boasting a rich and unique environment incorporating an abundance of rivers, sea, surf beaches and of course Mt. Taranaki also known as Mt. Egmont. Mt Taranaki is often thought of as the heart of the province, stands 2581 metres tall, and is accountable for the region's unique environment and climate. It is a source of over 50 rivers and streams and contains a wide variety of vegetation from sub-tropical semi coastal forests in one part to sub alpine herb fields in another.

If an outdoor lifestyle appeals, then Taranaki has something to offer everyone. Fringed by a dynamic coast, it is home to world-class surf breaks, pristine empty black sand beaches, two protected marine parks and a mountain offering skiing and snow boarding in the winter and climbing and tramping and scenic walk opportunities for all fitness levels. Where else can you go skiing in the morning and surfing in the afternoon?

Taranaki enjoys a mild overall climate, with an average of 21°C in the summer and a moderate 14°C in the winter months. It enjoys amongst the highest sunshine hours in the country and its rainfall provides just the right level of moisture to ensure it maintains the vibrancy of flora and fauna.

Taranaki offers a lower cost of living life-style with an array of affordable housing ranging from traditional bungalows on private sections to apartment living in the city and town centres. In March 2010, the median house price was \$280,000. For further information regarding property information visit the Taranaki Regional Council website (www.trc.govt.nz) and take advantage of the Taranaki Explorer service.

Taranaki is home to a population of approximately 103,600 (2006 census) of which 68,901 (2006 census) live in New Plymouth. New Plymouth offers all the convenience of city living, and no matter where in New Plymouth you elect to live, it's likely that it will take you no more than 10 minutes to commute to work each day. New Plymouth is well known as being host to New Zealand's only grass Amphitheatre, a favourite concert venue of choice for international musicians due to its natural superior acoustic offerings. Fleetwood Mac recently finished their world tour here in November 2009 and fondly regard it as their favourite venue in New Zealand. Many of the other towns around Taranaki provide an inviting alternative to city living, with homes on spacious sections and life-style blocks available at affordable prices in these areas. The choice is yours!

In this section we introduce you to one of our business partners. We intend to provide you with introductions to range of specialists who can assist with your move from the UK to NZ as smooth as possible. If you have any specific requests for information, please do not hesitate to ask.

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ICE New Zealand

We have been responsible for assisting well over 250 Engineers and their families with the move to New Zealand. Part of this move can be to introduce Engineers to the New Zealand Chapter of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Presently the ICE has around 600 members in NZ and that number is growing. The well developed engineering sector and unrivalled life style opportunities have seen an increasing number of younger engineers make the move to this side of the world, either as a career move or as a life style choice.

The objective for the New Zealand branch of ICE is to support and promote the international strategy of ICE within New Zealand. The international strategy is set out on the ICE web site.

The strategy for the branch of ICE is to support those members of ICE who reside temporarily or permanently in New Zealand who wish to maintain links with ICE in the United Kingdom. ICE aims to undertake the strategy by:

- Providing services that are relevant and valued by members and employers
- Maintaining and promoting high professional standards



- Providing an international source of skills and knowledge for tomorrow's engineering
- Being broad and inclusive of all those engaged in civil engineering
- Partnering with, and respect for, local relevant bodies locally, to support the engineering community in influencing governments and industry.

Vision: We will be recognised as the leading source of international knowledge and skills required to create a sustainable natural and built environment for the benefit of future generations.

Core Values: Trust and honesty, ethical behaviour and integrity, high standards, quality and professionalism.

Core Purpose: To set standards for qualification and registration of all engaged in civil engineering; to provide a knowledge exchange for best practice and to promote the contribution that we make to society.

This information has been sourced from the following website www.ice-newzealand.org.uk