



## 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 State of the Nation for November. It's a very sad state of the nation at the moment as many of you will already have heard of the 29 miners who perished at the Pike River Coal Mine this week. New Zealand is such a small country it's hard not to be affected by these incidents and the country is going through a state of mourning.

We're closing in on Christmas fast with only a few weeks of work left before the big break. As I have previously mentioned Christmas is the summer holiday here with the schools shutting from the middle of December through to the end of January. With so many people taking annual leave at the same time things get very quiet around here as people relax on the beach and recharge their batteries for the New Year ahead which kicks off again in February.

Christchurch continues it's recovery with companies working flat out to get their people in place so the work can begin in earnest in the New Year. Recruitment for the project is proving to be a bigger task than anyone anticipated, it will be well into 2011 before they have everyone in place. For once the contractors are leading the consultants and we're now just starting to see requirements in this sector around the city. Much of these roles will be filled from within the business but it will leave companies stretched in other parts of the country.

Auckland is now officially a Supercity with a new mayor, Len Brown. Len has always been an advocate for public transport and he is pushing hard on plans for a train line from the airport to the city centre, a new rail link to the North Shore via the new harbour crossing and the

development of the underground rail loop in Auckland city centre itself (check out the blog for the latest news). There has also been a lift in the activity around the water sector now that the Supercity is in place. Water has been quiet for the past two years and to see things starting to happen is quite refreshing!

Around the country other projects are due to start construction in the New Year which we hope will ease the caution shown by many companies and lead to a new drive in recruitment. It's still a slow recovery here in New Zealand but we are heading in the right direction which should hopefully mean 2011 is a great year.

As ever we're always keen to hear from you about your plans for New Zealand, either a visit or a permanent date of arrival, and we'll do all we can to help. There will be a final newsletter before we allow ourselves a day off at the end of the year to see our families and you can continue to follow activity over here on the blog and via the linked in site.



Kayaks on Abel Tasman Beach

### UN report - NZ 3<sup>rd</sup> best place to live

New Zealand climbed 17 places to the 3rd best country to live in the world in the latest United Nations' index aimed at measuring development. The Human Development Report 2010 (HDR) was released today by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and UN Development Programme Administrator, and former New Zealand prime minister, Helen Clark.

The report, *The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development*, was released earlier this month. The index calculates the well-being in 169 countries, taking into account health, education and income.

New Zealand was named 20th in the 2009 and this year is just behind Norway and Australia, first and second respectively.

New Zealand's life expectancy is 80.6 years, average number of school years is 12.5, and gross national income per capita is NZ\$32,046

Full Article: New Zealand Herald - <http://tinyurl.com/NZ3rdinworld>

## Available Roles:

Don't forget to keep an eye out on our live job board for up to the minute information regarding opportunities to get you started with taking that first step towards making a move to New Zealand a reality.

Check out the website at [www.catalystjobs.co.nz](http://www.catalystjobs.co.nz)

### Steve Rollason

#### Case study of moving from the UK to NZ

Current Employer: Opus International Consultants

Steve first approached Catalyst in June 2009 for the purpose of looking at opportunities in the South Island, ideally near Wanaka as his partner's parents had just moved there. Steve and Fran came out to New Zealand for a visit/holiday in December of that year (with Steve proposing in Nelson) and as the market began to show signs of improvement in early 2010, an interview opportunity for a role in Dunedin with Opus emerged.

**Q. What inspired you to consider moving with your family to New Zealand?**

*A. I wanted to do something slightly different. I work in wastewater engineering and in the UK much of this is in place. The recession was starting to bite so what better time...?*

**Q. Has New Zealand lived up to your expectations?**

*A. I am currently in Dunedin. I had heard Dunedin was not that great a place but wanted to make up my own mind. I knew very little about Dunedin before we left, so I had no expectations other than it is very cold. As it turns out, compared to the UK it is no colder. The countryside is just amazing and we now live in a place about three times larger than back home with stunning views over Dunedin harbour and city. So I guess you could say the New Zealand experience has surpassed my expectations!*

**Q. How has your life changed since moving to New Zealand?**

*A. I now travel 20mins to work instead of an hour. I am typically home by 5.45pm at the latest and now have an evening to ride my bike, run, cut the grass, eat out, stroll about or just relax. We are surrounded by numerous walking tracks where you see no-one and you can always park up without having to pay! In the winter I can drive 3 hours (during which I rarely see another car) and can be on the ski slopes! Quite a change from living in the South-east of England!*

**Q. What one thing would you have done differently?**

*A. Left moving out of my house to someone else! We went for a temporary work visa. We were expecting this to take about three months, during which time we were planning to calmly move out and sell the cars etc. We received our work visas in three days!! As you can imagine the move was not so calm! Thankfully, my new employer was not putting pressure on us.*

**Q. What one thing do you wish you had known about before moving?**

*A. That houses are not that warm here. Insulation is half that of the UK and rarely will you find central heating. Instead the typical NZ house down here is heated via a heat pump and log fire. Bring your pyjamas!*

**Q. What advice would you pass to someone commencing the process?**

*A. Be very organised and have a clear plan in your head of how you will get everything done in such a short period of time. When putting together your application for a visa make sure you make it as easy as possible for someone to read through and navigate themselves around your papers.*

**Q. Looking back with hindsight, do think you have made the right move for your family?**

*A. Absolutely no regrets!!*

**Useful Facts:**

First Interview - 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Interview to Offer – 5 days

First contact to arrival – 349 days

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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recruitment



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## Public Holidays in New Zealand

### National Public Holidays.

New Zealand enjoys 11 public holidays per year. Compared with the UK which has 8 and Ireland 10. There are two types of national public holidays, those that are 'Mondayised' and those that are not.

Christmas and New Year are 'mondayised' holidays, so if these fall on a weekend that the employee does not normally work then the holiday is transferred to the following Monday or Tuesday. If the employee would normally work on the particular weekend then it remains a traditional holiday and the employee is entitled to that day off on pay. Other public holidays are only taken on the day they fall and only employees who would have otherwise worked that day are entitled to a paid day off.

All workers who work on a public holiday must be both paid time-and-a-half and given an alternative holiday (known as a day in lieu). Payment for the alternative holiday is equivalent relevant daily pay for the particular alternative day taken, had they worked it.

Waitangi Day and ANZAC Day are always commemorated on the exact date, as they commemorate specific historical events. Apart from Good Friday the other New Zealand Statutory holidays have been 'Mondayised'.

### Provincial Anniversary Days.

Additionally, the Holidays Act 1981 specifies each locality observing a Provincial Anniversary Day to celebrate the founding days or landing days of the first colonists of the various colonial provinces, however the exact dates are not legislated for. The actual observance days can vary even within each province and is due to local custom, convenience or

the proximity of seasonal events or other holidays and may differ from the official observance day.

### Annual Leave and Non-working Days.

All New Zealand workers must be given four weeks annual leave, often taken in the summer Christmas – New Year period. (As New Zealand is in the southern hemisphere, the summer months are from December to February, and the best summer weather often occurs during January and February.) In many industries this coincides with a Christmas – New Year shutdown for maintenance. With only three working days between Christmas and New Year, many workers take this time off, as they can have a ten-day summer break for only three days' leave.

### School Holidays.

New Zealand schools have a 4-term year, of about ten weeks each and usually with a two week holiday between terms. Although standard term dates are set by the Ministry of Education each year, schools can vary these to account for local holidays and school closures due to weather. The first term commences in late January or early February. Occasionally Easter holidays and/or ANZAC Day may fall within these holidays. The holiday between terms two and three is generally known as the midwinter break and occurs in July, whilst that between 3 and 4 occurs in later September, early October. Term 4 ends in mid December, generally a week or two before Christmas, though for many senior students this term ends after their final NCEA examination in late November or early December.

(Article sourced from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

**What topics would you like to see more information on? Drop us an email and we'll be sure to include it in upcoming newsletters. [mverdon@catalystjobs.co.nz](mailto:mverdon@catalystjobs.co.nz)**