

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 then 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 then please email us and request the info. We have teamed up with a number of specialist providers who have built businesses helping people like you.



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New Zealand market update

Welcome to 2011 and the new format January edition of the Catalyst newsletter! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and were able to cheer in the New Year with family and friends. Life in New Zealand has started well with long summer days and rising temperatures that will stay well into March and hopefully beyond.

Much of the country is still finding its feet after the long summer break and the majority of our clients won't be back up to full capacity until next week when staff return from their holidays. As such it's been a quiet start to the year as companies try to get their heads around what 2011 holds for them. We also have a number of bank holidays in the first few months of the year which also tends towards a small degree of disruption but nothing we can't handle.

The civil contractors are optimistic that this year is going to be a lot busier for them and already I've been invited to attend a recruitment pow-wow with one client to discuss the year ahead and their needs. The general talk before Christmas was of key projects starting throughout the country and hopefully this will increase the demand for top people.

Although the building sector still remains fairly quiet, Christchurch continues its rebuild and as such is drawing in a large amount of construction professionals

from around New Zealand. Due to the massive amounts of local recruitment in Christchurch before Christmas, most companies are taking this time to confirm their current resources and assess their future needs; to that end we should get a list of those needs by the end of January. The demand in Christchurch is also starting to have a knock on effect throughout the country with companies now finding specific needs as their resources are being stretched.

Geotechnical Engineers with a degree in Civil Engineering remain in high demand throughout the country. Consultancies are on the lookout for a range of experience levels in this field as the need becomes more urgent. Further talk within the sector is indicating a lift in the water & wastewater sector and as always there is the continuing need for Senior Highway Design/Team Leaders. Elsewhere we are now working on a number of key consultant roles in Australia and are looking for candidates with 15-20+ years experience in Highways or Bridges.

Although it is very early in the year, we are noticing a lift in activity which will hopefully mean we'll be able to assist more of you in securing a new life in New Zealand. As ever if you're considering a visit to New Zealand then let us know so we can get in touch and discuss what you're looking for.

LinkedIn Buzzwords

Eliminating "overused buzzwords" on LinkedIn

The LinkedIn website has released a list of the "most overused buzzwords" found on its members' profiles.

The top 10 offenders are:

1. extensive experience;
2. innovative;
3. motivated;
4. dynamic;
5. proven track record;
6. team player;
7. proactive;
8. skill set;
9. highly skilled; and
10. entrepreneurial.

LinkedIn's Lindsey Pollack advises against using these terms and instead highlighting specific experience and achievements.

New Arrival...

There's nothing like starting the New Year with great news and 2011 couldn't be better. Catalyst would like to welcome Lawsyn Molly Ponder who arrived on the 14th January at a very sociable 10:04pm. Weighing in at just under 8lbs and turning up with more hair than dad she is now being doted over by Bronwyn and Phil. The latest news is that she's feeding well and is already sleeping for long periods through the night. I'm sure you'll join us in wishing the family well.

Fran Stevenson

Case study of moving from the UK to NZ

Current Employer: Catalyst Recruitment

Catalyst first became aware of Fran when she moved across to New Zealand with her partner Adam Robertshaw (who we had hired from the UK to join our team). With a degree in Marine Biology & Oceanography the job market wasn't bouyant enough to support the graduate role that she was looking for. Concurrent to her job search the effects of the Christchurch Earthquake required some extra administrative resources on the contractor side of the business which led to her joining the team - many of you will have already spoken with Fran over the last couple of months. Fran's focus will be on the Water, Waste Water and Environmental sectors.

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

A. Distinct lack of opportunities for someone of my age and experience as well as the idea of improving our lifestyle. My partner found work out here before we moved and consequently I too found work within the first month of arrival. You can do anything if you put your mind to it... even moving all the way across to the other side of the world.

Q. Has New Zealand lived up to your expectations?

A. Having never previously visited New Zealand I didn't have too many expectations except that of better weather... I was blown away with most aspects of the move. Much better weather, beautiful beaches and mountains but most important was the fantastic giving nature of the people along with the ultimately unique and positive working environment. The team at Catalyst helped me beyond words with my move and have been the biggest pleasure of all.

Q. Has your life changed since moving to New Zealand?

A. Yes! I definitely earn much better money here and it seems that money here goes a lot further (even for luxury items) which has improved our living standard greatly. Not to mention the fantastic friends I have made too. In all I would say that both me and my partner are extremely happy here in New Zealand and are certainly not looking to return back to the UK.

Q. What one thing would you have done differently?

A. Looking back the only thing I would have done differently would be the travel arrangements... (If only we could all afford 1st class seats), I would split the flights up so that I could spend a couple of days in Hong Kong before flying on to New Zealand. As it is such a long way to fly the jet lag was pretty long lasting.

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

A. On reflection I would like to have had a better understanding of the rental market as it is very fast paced here, which I didn't know when I first arrived. Although prices are similar to that of the UK if you find a place that you love (which you will) then don't wait about for too long as it will be gone before you know it.

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

A. Take every step in your stride and you should have a great time... and remember it's a +11/12/13 hour time difference so make sure all the family remember - don't want grandad calling up at 2am now do we.

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

A. 110% - sometimes you need to take the biggest risks to receive the biggest rewards, cheesy I know, but true. Saying that the whole process really didn't feel like a risk at all, more like a holiday that never ended!

Useful Facts:

First Interview - 1st October 2010

Interview to Offer - 2 days

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Migrant & Expatriate Services

Did you know you can set up your bank account before you arrive?

With Westpac Migrant and Expatriate Banking you can!

We know that moving to a new country is tricky, and a key life event. So we make it easy for Catalyst's clients to open a bank account before they arrive and we will make it happen with a minimum of fuss.

We are often asked "why should I set up a bank account before I arrive in New Zealand?"

Here are some of the benefits:

- You can use your NZ bank account right from the start to avoid paying unnecessary fees and charges back home.
- You are able to transfer money into your account through your FX specialist before you leave, ensuring your funds are ready to use when you arrive.
- It's often hard to produce enough identification after you land in New Zealand, which can make it difficult to open a bank account once you arrive.
- You can give your new employer a NZ account number in advance so you're part of the first pay cycle in your new job.
- It's one less thing you need to worry about doing when you arrive in NZ.

You can even talk to us about buying a new home. Or about applying for a Credit Card. Or about Life insurance. All before you arrive!

If you would like to apply to open a Westpac New Zealand bank account with us before you arrive, simply click [here](#) and complete the online application form, or speak with one of our team about how Westpac can help you with your move.

Westpac New Zealand

Level 6, Queen Street, Auckland

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm

Call free from the UK: 0808 2341 208

Call free from Australia: 1 800 681 217

Call free from South Africa: 0800 983 942

Fax: +64 (9) 302 4444

Email: migrantbanking@westpac.co.nz

Or speak with one of our team in the UK

Westpac London

Ground Floor, Camomile Court,
23 Camomile Street, London EC3A 7LL

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9:30am to 4:00pm
and first Saturday of each month 10:00am to 2:00pm
(or by appointment)

Main Tel: +44 (0)20 7621 7222

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We look forward to seeing you soon!

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