

## **Nelson Newcomers Network**

### **My Story**

I arrived in Nelson from the UK in early 2009, newly divorced and with the prospect of starting a new job; I set out to network and establish myself socially into this amazing part of New Zealand.

Of course there were the usual issues to deal with like setting up home, buying a car, getting insurance and finding my feet at work.

However, always up for a challenge and slightly extrovert I decided to join as many clubs as possible to get myself 'out there' and try and make some friends.

I joined the Suburban club, the local gym, a club called Ducksoup ( single/networking club) and eventually Greenacres Golf Club. I did not want to live in a house by myself... so I duly found a flat mate called Niall, a friendly and energetic Irishman.

Now this is when I was first introduced to Nelson Newcomers Network. Niall had started going to the quiz night on a Wednesday at the Sprig and Fern. He would always come back with stories of how much he enjoyed himself and the people he had met.

I resisted at first...having never been a quiz fanatic. However after finally being persuaded to go in July I am now well and truly hooked.

The quiz helps to break up the week and the group of fellow quiz members can ebb and flow from as low as 3 to as many as 10. Everyone contributes in their own way.....but it is much more than getting a question right! I have met a great selection of varied, interesting and friendly people.... we have a laugh!!

Through people I have met at NN, I went to separate events of the Nelson Arts festival, many BBQ's, film nights, and for evening meals. Also during the summer I went to 3 separate events at the jazz and blues festival, the Summer Six festival at Saxton fields, several trips to local wine estates.... The list goes on and on!

To conclude I would like to say that so far I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Nelson. This has been made all the easier by the people.... many whom I now consider good friends... that I have met through Nelson Newcomers.

T Morgan