

Suggestions for socialising and practising your English

Massey University Clubs <https://asa.ac.nz/clubs/clubs-list>

- There are a number of clubs which allow students to socialise and practise their English. These include Massey University International Club Albany (MUICA), Academic Toastmasters, the Business Student Group, Global Leadership Interlink, Community Garden and the Theatre Society. See the details at the link above. Most of the groups also have Facebook pages.

Meet Up <http://www.meetup.com/cities/nz/auckland>

- This is an international organisation, which allows people to set up social groups to meet and share common interests. The contacts are made online. There is an active Auckland network with many different groups. For example, there are several groups which meet weekly to practise English (sometimes including a meal or barbecue). As these groups are not regulated, you are recommended to take care; consider, for example, going together with another student consider, for example, going together with another student and think carefully before sharing your contact details with anyone you meet in the group.

Toastmasters http://www.toastmasters.org.nz/join_toastmasters/index

- An international organisation for public speaking. There are several clubs in Auckland in addition to the one which meets on campus (see above).

Book Clubs <http://tinyurl.com/Albanybookclub> <http://tinyurl.com/Aucklandbookclubs>

- A book club is a group of five to twelve people agree on a book to read each month and then they meet (sometimes at the house of a member; sometimes in a restaurant or library) and discuss the book (and sometimes share a meal). The first site above is for the book club at Albany library, which takes place on the third Wednesday of each month at 10.30 am. The second site gives information about other Auckland book clubs.

Voluntary Work <https://volunteeringauckland.org.nz/individuals/opportunities>

- There are many different kinds of voluntary work. One is 'befriending', which means visiting an elderly person once or twice a week and having a chat. Other types of voluntary work include helping at a charity shop (there are several in Browns Bay) or at a local theatre or playgroup, or doing some conservation work (such as helping to grow native plants at a plant nursery). There is a search function on the site above which will give you some idea of the many options available. This could be a way of meeting people, becoming involved in some local community service and adding to your CV.

English language partners <http://www.englishlanguage.org.nz/north-shore/teach-english>

- This is a voluntary organisation which helps new migrants to develop their basic English skills. Students could volunteer and take a short part-time training course and then start helping a local migrant with their basic English. Volunteers don't need perfect English – about half of the volunteers are themselves migrants or international students.

Rotary or Lions Club <http://www.rotary.org.nz/club.cfm?ID=48> <http://www.lionsclubs.org.nz/Clubs/202K/Zone-5/East-Coast-Bays>

- These are international community service organisations. Rotary meets on Thursday evenings at the tennis centre on Oteha Valley Road, very near Albany village. Lions Club meets at the RSA in Browns Bay at 6.30 pm on the first and third Tuesday of each month.