

Socialising and practising your English in Wellington

Massey University Clubs http://www.mawsa.org.nz/clubs/#.Vs_MW3196Uk

- There are a number of clubs which allow students to socialise and practise their English. These include the International Society, the Outdoor Recreation Club and the Film Club.

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

- This is an international organisation, which allows people to set up social groups to meet and share common interests. The contacts are made online. As these groups are not regulated, you are recommended to take care; consider, for example, going together with another student and think carefully before sharing your contact details.

Toastmasters <http://www.wellingtontoastmasters.co.nz/>

- An international organisation for public speaking. The Central Wellington branch meets on the first and third Monday each month at 5.30 pm at St Andrew's Church, 30 The Terrace. There are several other clubs in Wellington – details at: <http://toastmasters-clubfinder.org.nz/>

Book Clubs & Library Events <http://www.wcl.govt.nz/>

- Wellington Public Libraries hold regular talks and workshops on a wide range of topics, as well as providing resources and advice about practising and developing your English. These include social English groups. You can find information about events here: <http://www.wcl.govt.nz/about/calendar.html>. If you like reading, you could also join a book club - a group of five to twelve people who agree on a book to read and then meet (sometimes at the house of a member; sometimes in a restaurant or library) and discuss the book (and sometimes share a meal). You can find out more here (or in Meet Up – see above): <https://www.wcl.govt.nz/about/services/bookclubs.html>

Voluntary Work <http://www.volunteerwellington.nz/>
<http://tinyurl.com/wellingtonvolunteering>

- There are many different kinds of voluntary work. Befriending means visiting an elderly person once or twice a week and having a chat. Others include helping at a charity shop, community group, local theatre or playgroup and conservation work. 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/wellington>

- 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.rcw.org.nz/>
<http://www.lionsclubs.org.nz/Clubs/202M/Zone-6/Wellington-Host>

- These are international community service organisations, which hold regular meetings to socialise and listen to speakers on a wide range of topics. Members (who are generally mature adults) also participate in community service of different kinds.