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From the Chair

Apologies for lagging with information about what's going on with ProGuides. Like the whole sector, we are trying our best to get back on track, but it will be a phased process.

Hence it is so important to take part in our AGM in May. We will send out an **extra newsletter** with all the information you need regarding our meeting in Auckland in May. Watch the space!

The conference will play an important role in sharing **your views on the future of ProGuides NZ** as an organization. It is not financially sustainable to continue as we are, so the time has come to face up to what we can and should do differently. I am expecting a robust and constructive discussion. But I also hope that you will have fun, connect with fellow guides and leave invigorated.

For your calendar

AGM & Conference 2024, Saturday 24th of May.
Famils will be both on Friday 24th and Sunday, 26th.
Details will follow in a separate newsletter.

Membership Matters

Membership invoices have been sent out at the beginning of April with a due date of May 3, 2024. FYI: the accounting date has changed, it is now from May 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. Your membership cards will be sent out early May. They are proof of your payment. Thanks to those members who have already paid for your ongoing and loyal support.

If you want to become a full-time member instead of an associate, please fill out the application form on our website. The ProGuides committee will contact you to discuss the matter.



Notes from the road

- Delicious Cafe on High St, 166 Motueka. Bakes own breads ,french pasteries, pies etc. Good selection roles sandwiches etc.
- Ratanui Lodge ,Pohara good place for smaller groups dinners(I had 20) good food & service ,manager was at Hermitage for a few years.
- Home-made ice cream, freshly baked cookies, classic cars and fun times remain on the programme in Wanaka for Cinema Paradiso's new owners and former teachers, Hamish Menlove and Carolyn Whitaker.
- The past in a different light: how Māori embraced - and rejected - the colonial camera lens: First Photographs of Aotearoa, an exhibition at Auckland War Memorial Museum, April-September.

About DOC-Concessions

The new DOC-Concession, which the previous committee saw through, is now in place. Have a look at the **PG-Website**

A bonus is that the audited Health & Safety Plan, which DOC required as a condition of the concession is available as a model for PG-members. **Check it out**

If you want to apply for next season, please contact us. Committee member Iryna Stewart is looking after the administration of the concession, which **covers a list of 141 locations.**

Many of the previous tracks are no longer included, for example the Central Plateau, Northland and the Bay of Plenty, where Iwi and DOC are in discussions about ancestral land. However, new and longer walks have been introduced in other parts of the country.

New Financial Year

You will remember that at last year's AGM there was an unanimous agreement to move our financial year to a 1 July - 30 June year, to better encompass the tour guiding season, and to line up with other agencies (for example DOC), with which we have dealings. This will require only one minor amendment to our constitution, which will be explained at the AGM. Another reason you should consider taking part in the meeting and help shaping our future.

From our Partners

The **Tourism Export Council (TEC)** has announced that its annual TECNZ Conference will be held in Invercargill from 6-9 August 2024 with an insightful and inspiring programme. The organisation shared some statistics regarding arrivals of key visitors. According to the numbers the total of international visitors for the month of February 2024 was 97 % compared to 2020. **Check it out.**

Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) urges to check out a webinar, held in March about amended regulations for adventure activities that come into effect on April 1, 2024. **Here is the link.**

TIA is also announcing an upcoming webinar on Thursday, June 13, 2024, from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, where you can create your own **Emergency Management Plan (EMP) and Business Continuity Plan (BCP).**

Welcome our new members

- **Neil Protheroe - English/
driver&guide**
- **Michael Stösser -
German/driver&guide**
- **Legend Patreta - English,
Maori/driver&guide**
- **Francisco Javier Pares -
Spanish/driver&guide**

New members

Neil Protheroe – English/ driver&guide

Neil is originally from the UK and have lived in New Zealand since 2011. His long professional life includes a career in hospitality. Since 2021, he is teaching photography, as well as organising tours (both in New Zealand and overseas) and conducting guided driving tours around New Zealand for private clients. He lives in Blenheim.

Michael Stösser – German/driver&guide

Love brought him to New Zealand in 1995. Michael teaches hospitality at the Nelson/Marlborough Institute of Technology NMIT. In 2012 he also started guiding German speaking guests through his Nelson area and further, introducing them to land and people in a harmonious way.

Legend Patreta – English, Maori/driver&guide

As a seasoned tour guide, Legend brings a unique blend of global expertise and deep-rooted Maori heritage to every adventure. He has journeyed around the world and is very good at storytelling, immersing clients in the rich tapestry of New Zealand's cultural, historical, and environmental heritage. As a Maori, he offers authentic insights into the indigenous culture of his people.

Francisco Javier Pares – Spanish/driver&guide

Francisco Javier has 25 years' experience as a guide in Barcelona. He has been a Spanish speaking driver guide for the last 3 years in New Zealand. He speaks Catalan, Spanish, French, Russian and endeavours to constantly improve his German and Italian language skills. He loves practising sport, enjoys nature and the company of his guests