

ProGuides Newsletter

29 July 2025



From the Committee

We are looking forward to seeing you in Palmerston North on August 29th. Still haven't registered for our yearly meeting? Just go to the registration form in the AGM & Conference section of the Member's Portal on the PG Website. It's a perfect chance to mix and mingle, discuss matters that are close to our industry as well as how we could improve our organisation. In this newsletter we inform you about the latest developments regarding our industry partners, including DOC. Read also about the latest tips from the road.



New Chair and Committee members needed

We would like to hear from you, if you are interested to support and strengthen the ProGuides Association. We need more **committee members** as well as **a new chair**, as Helen Tait, our current chair, is resigning in this role but will still play an active part in the organisation. Current committee members - such as our wonderful membership secretary Marianne Brunner who loves dealing with inspirational new members as well as experienced once - need a backup. Interested? Please send an email to membership@proguides.co.nz and we will supply you with more information.

The nomination form for committee positions is in the Members only section of our website, in the AGM folder. Don't hesitate to put your hand up, we need **you**. The role descriptions are on the Association Manual.

AGM Update

Preparations for this year's AGM are in full swing. We encourage our members to attend the AGM or send apologies, nominate proxies, submit nominations and ideas which would add value to our organisation. Nominations, motions etc. must all be in by **9 August**. One of the points to be discussed will be the reviewing of Associate Members. [Check out the motion here](#). There are already some valid discussion points on our FB-page. Check out the group discussions on Facebook.

Membership Reminders

There are still ProGuides members, who haven't paid their yearly fee. The 25/26 membership fee is **due by 31 July 2025**. We need the

payment by this date to create a compelling membership report. Payment can be made into our ANZ ProGuidesNZ bank account - 06 0705 0330333 00, reference needs to be : membership number. It is also important that you revisit your profile on our website and make changes if need be. For our new members, it is an opportunity to introduce yourself. If you are unable to login at the Membership Portal or if you have any enquiry regarding the website, please contact admin@proguides.co.nz.

IT-Guru needed

ProGuides is looking for a volunteer, who is experienced in IT or a technical project worker. We need technical support to communicate with our members in a more efficient way. If you would like to give it a go, please contact admin@proguides.co.nz.

Online meetings and more

Do you have an idea for a topic to be discussed online or would you like to offer a presentation on the screen, please let us know. We are also interested in some input for famils. Please feel free to make suggestions and contact us. Your contributions are much appreciated.

Industry News



Insights and Awards

Tourism Export Council (TEC) will hold its [annual conference on 6th & 7th August 2025](#) in the Bay of Islands at the Copthorne Hotel. Chief Executive Lynda Keene is delighted “to be hosting 250 delegates from around New Zealand”. It is not only an opportunity to hear about the latest industry insights, but also to celebrate tourism businesses with outstanding performances. [TECNZ Operator of the Year Awards and YoungTEC Awards](#) will be announced during the conference.

Mentors needed

Being a part of the Young TEC Mentorship Programme is an opportunity to accelerate professional growth and build connections. TEC is also on the lookout for mentors to support future leaders. If you are interested to learn more about this, [contact TECNZ directly](#).



DOC Matters

The department of conservation (DOC) informs that more than 1,000 wilding pines could have been removed from [Rangitoto Island](#), one of Auckland's iconic landmarks, in a five-week, ground control operation. Thanks to additional IVL funding, there is also weed control work underway or planned for several other conservation islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

[Te Anau Bird Sanctuary](#) is making a shift towards a more flexible and sustainable operating model. DOC needs to redirect resources to higher priority conservation work, such as upgrading critical biosecurity infrastructure on predator-free islands. The sanctuary will continue to care for the famous takahē, however, other birds will be moving to new homes in the coming months.

Notes from the Road



Inspirit Art Gallery

A selection of high-quality NZ Art, sculpture, pottery, jewellery & much more is on display in this Hamilton art gallery. Definitely worth a visit. [Click here for more.](#)



Toilets in Tekapo

A new facility, including toilets, has been completed in Tekapo. The toilets, however, come with a price tag between \$1.50 and 2.00. [Read more.](#)



Award for Vintage Railway

The first passenger rail service in New Zealand (established 1867) has been awarded the Gold Sustainable Tourism Business Award this month. [Read more here.](#)



Three-person Swing opens

Created by tourism pioneers AJ Hackett, Queenstown's [newest bungee attraction](#) is on track to open in September this year.

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