



APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

**NEXT CLUB NIGHT IS WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL
DOORS OPEN AND DINNER AVAILABLE FROM 6.30PM
RAFFLES AND OFFICAL FUNCTION COMMENCES 7.30PM**



Location: Manukau Cruising Club - Orpheus Drive - Onehunga

- **Wear your membership badge or face a fine if the Sherrif catches you.**
- **Bring along a few Gold coins for raffles, fines, tips etc...**

PRESIDENTS REPORT - Grant Johnstone



Well, three weeks into it and already significant happenings. Firstly, condolences to Faye and family on the passing of Neil. He was also a much-respected member of the Ulysses community and he will be missed.

I'm sitting in a cafe in Wellington wondering if I'm actually going to get to the AGM in Nelson. I rode down yesterday, Wednesday, with John Shearer and then got a message late in the day saying my ferry booking for Friday morning with Bluebridge was cancelled, due to technical issues. I got online but all ferry sailings for Thursday and Friday were full. I fronted up this morning, but they weren't taking anyone and they said try tomorrow, but I don't hold much hope. More to come on this story.

We had one more first committee meeting this week and some good ideas were floated for events and runs, including a harbour cruise, quiz nights, moonlight run and perhaps an overnight run maybe October, again more to come on these ideas.

One event to put in your calendar is the Motorcycle Awareness ride in September, the 12th at this stage. We are working with John and Vicky on this one and probably a Show n Shine and a run. More to follow.

We've had some good turnouts at events. 19 at the Karaka store for coffee cakes and a natter, also, a dozen on one of the Newbie and Oldies ride. Would like to see more and hopefully keep it up during winter.

Safe riding

Cheers

Grant

Long Service Awards

The following members were due their Long Service Awards in March but due the AGM this was delayed and badges will now be presented at the April Club night

Keith Ellis	Member # 9414	10 years
Martin Pepper	Member # 9415	10 years
Carole Brighthouse	Member # 8325	15 years
Denis Compton	Member # 8328	15 years
Sig Falkenhaus	Member # 6587	20 years
Beryl Falkenhaus	Member # 6588	20 years
Fred Halliwell	Member # 6598	20 years
Chris Courtney	Member # 1407	35 years

UP COMING EVENTS TO NOTE.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
8 th August 2026	Remembrance 2026	Taupo Rotary Club
20 th – 22 nd November 2026	Annual Rally	Port Waikato



AGM report / minutes.

MINUTES OF ULSSSES CLUB OF NZ INC, AUCKLAND BRANCH 37TH AGM FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2025

Location: The Manukau Cruising Club, Orpheus Drive, Onehunga, Auckland
Date: Wednesday 4th March 2026
Time: Commenced at 7:10 pm

Chairperson – Clive Thomas - President**Minutes - recorded by Roger Judd - Secretary****1. Welcome and Introductory Comments – Clive Thomas**

Clive spoke briefly and thanked the outgoing committee.

2. Attendees and Apologies- Peggy O'Neil and Raewyn Moodie

33 members in attendance, membership cards checked at the door by Neille Kerr, and everyone signed in.

3. Minutes of 37th Branch AGM held on 5th March 2025 – Clive Thomas

Clive invited discussion and comments from the floor, no comments were offered.

Acceptance of 2025 Minutes:

Moved – Martin Pepper Seconded – Chris Moller

Carried

4. President's Report – Clive Thomas

Clive commented on his report which was included with the AGM agenda.

Acceptance of Presidents report:

Moved – Neville Kerr Seconded – Robert East

Carried

5. Treasurer's Report – Evan Swenson

Evan spoke to his year-end report which was included with the AGM minutes. No comments from the floor.

Acceptance of Treasurers Report:

Moved – Evan Swenson Seconded - Grant Johnstone

6. Runs Co-ordination – Craig Moodie

Craig spoke to this and outlined the new 'live' Runs list on the Branch website and its ability to be edited and updated by the RICs. Members were also encouraged to advise Craig of personal rides and events if they would like them published on the Runs list as available for other members to join in on.

7. Social Events Report – Clive Thomas

Clive spoke to this as we have no appointed or caretaker Social Events organiser. Our Coffee and Cakes Saturday meetings have continued to be popular, and preferred Cafes are currently the Karaka Café Karaka and the Lime Tree Café Whitford. A comment was made from the floor that more diners should be organised this year.

8. General Business - Clive Thomas

- Bike raffle tickets are still available and members seeking these should contact Andy Wilson the National President for tickets, any left unsold will be offered to non-members as we must sell all the tickets.

- Sheryl Boyd requested clarification of Club night start times on the Runs list, official start (raffles on sale etc) is 7.30pm

9. Election of Officers and Committee Members – Chair - Sheryl Boyd

Written nominations had been received prior to the event for all four Executive positions with no further nominations coming from the floor. Two committee positions were made and accepted on the night. All positions were accepted and carried.

Position	Nominated	Nominator	Second
President	Grant Johnstone	Clive Thomas	Roger Judd
Vice President	Martin Pepper	Grant Johnstone	Claudia Wilson
Treasurer	Evan Swenson	Roger Judd	Clive Thomas
Secretary	Roger Judd	Evan Swenson	Clive Thomas
Runs Co Ordinator			
Welfare officer			

Committee	Nominated	Nominator	Second
	Janny Nicol	Roger Judd	Grant Johnstone
	Sandy Senk	Martin Pepper	Clive Thomas

10. Acceptance by incoming President – Grant Johnstone

Grant accepted his position and thanked Clive for stepping in and taking on the role for the past 12 months. Grant encouraged members to come onto the committee as we are short of committee members this year. He then detailed his desire to encourage a few different rides including night rides and maybe a weekend away. Another thought was to get a group together to ride to another branches Rally.

11. Next AGM is set for 7pm on Wednesday the 3rd of March 2027, location to be confirmed.

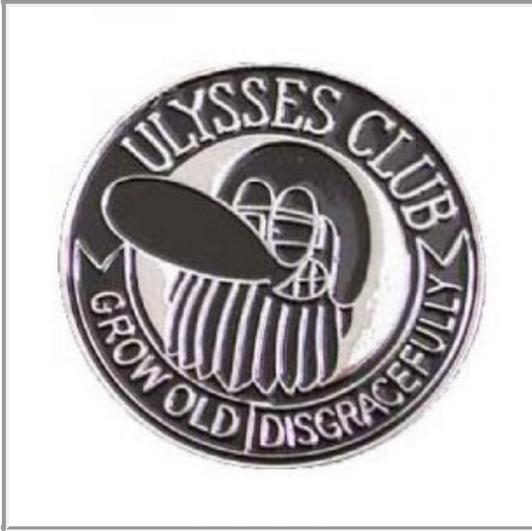
12. The meeting concluded at 7.45pm



Your 2026-27 Committee , from left to right..

Grant Johnstone, Martin Pepper, Evan Swenson, Roger Judd, Sandy Senk and Janny Nicol

UYLSSES CLUB MERCHANDISE



Show your club pride with some of our Ulysses branded merchandise. Tee shirts, Decals, Patches, Clothing and Badges all available online.

Click this link to purchase online: [The Ulysses Club of NZ | Club Store](#)

THE LIFE OF A MOT OFFICER

Editors note: the following was provided to me by one of our members and with kind permission of the author, allowed to be published here. The author as you will see was a MOT officer in the 'good old days' and the following is a short version of many stories I'm sure he has to share. Thanks to Garry for sharing.

I was only with MOT for a short time as, being an individual, and a thinking person, they, the MOT, decided I 'didn't fit' the profile that they required. I wanted to ride lots of lovely British motorcycles, and I did, until they discovered same. Too many miles on motorbikes and not enough traffic tickets. But I believed that just being out on the road in a patrol motorcycle or car was important in itself in having a visual profile. Of course, the MOT needed to generate income to pay for my folly. But, at the time, that wasn't my problem.

I never been a BSA person but rather Triumph & Ariel & AJS, notwithstanding that I've had some Japanese bikes, But I just love the British ones.

A long ago I was a MOT traffic officer at Mt Eden so I got to ride various motorcycles, including one BSA. [think it was a Lightning] It had had a hard life and was a piece of junk. (Ho what a stab in the heart to us BSA owners) We mainly had Triumph's back then, which was about the time that Triumph Meriden was taken over by the workers Co-operative. Of course, by that time BSA owned the lot, and then it became NVT.



About that time I was visiting the UK and visited Triumph at Meridan, and it was an absolute disappointment to see how it function, or was supposed to. In Auckland we had about 36 Triumph motorcycles out of what should have been about 65 in our area. Whenever a motorcycle broke down it ended up at Whites in Newmarket for repair. There was a row of Triumph Police motorcycles along the back wall of their workshop that were being used to supply parts for those that were still running. No wonder fellow Officers were riding around on Triumph 650's without a wof, as they were scared their bikes would end up at Whites for spare parts. I think your friends at Whites (Dave Tomkins & Ken McIntosh) would well remember the MOT Triumph & BSA motorcycles coming in for repairs. The old 4 speed Triumphs were really good for Police patrols, absolutely lovely to ride. But we had a few of the 'American Style' 5 speed models as well. They were terrible, and very hard work riding them all day every day. The gearing between 4th & 5th was right at 30mph. Which meant that you either kept in 4th gear, and it vibrated the rider to death..well almost, or you rode in 5th gear and had to spend all day changing from 4th to 5th up down up down. By keeping it in 4th gear at under 30mph, motorists accused us of going a bit slower so they would overtake hereby exceeding the speed limit, and receiving a traffic ticket for speeding. Of course, that wasn't so, it was the gearing of the Triumph. When we got Japanese motorcycles I can't remember where they got serviced, probably because they didn't need attention every five minutes, like the Triumphs, and the BSA's.

Here's a bit of a laugh: We had one only Triumph 5TA Speed Twin. It was a terrible old thing. When you rode it, the front forks literally 'walked' . It was a bit scary to ride. We really wanted to destroy that old bike [It never had a warrant of fitness, it probably wouldn't have got one. We would take it for spins down the Southern motorway at about 75mph to try to destroy it, but that was the absolutely most beautiful & balanced engine.



A credit to Edward Turner, Bert Hopwood & Val Page, and the Triumph factory designers. Absolutely beautiful to ride. There's currently one at a local motorcycle shop in Tuaranga for sale, but I think they want much too much for it. We got Honda CB360 & CB750, Suzuki GT380 & GT550 Ram air two

strokes. The training riding school down at Trentham tested some RD350 Yamahas for awhile, and we were getting excited about those, but the test models all seized up, as they could not take the wear and tear of the weight of a big patrolman and all the other gear you had to carry in the saddlebags and radios. " Keep riding your British Bikes Lads "

Garry Hewitt



IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TDATE?

There are still some people who have not renewed their membership yet. If you think this might be you please go and get out your Membership Card.

- Check the expiry date. If your membership expired last year, it is still not too late to renew your membership.
- Go online now and pay your sub.

Three Years Joint Member is \$180.00 per each member.

One Year Joint Member is \$66.00 per each member

Three Years Individual Member is \$190.00

One Year Individual Member is \$70.00,

Pay money into:

BNZ Bank A/c: 02-0412-0001771-097.

DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE YOU NAME AND ULYSSES # IN THE DETAILS

Job done thanks.

RUNS / RIDES AND SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

**** Note **** this document is now live and updated constantly on our Website. Before heading off for an event please check the Website for any changes or cancellations.

<https://www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz/new-runs-list>

If you have any questions with regards to the calendar please contact

Craig Moodie 021 797 487

RIDERS - PLEASE READ

When attending a Club Ride be at the departure point 10 Minutes early with a **FULL TANK OF FUEL** and an **EMPTY BLADDER**.

Unless the Ride shows '**EXPERIENCED**' beside it, the Ride is for all experience levels and bike types.

RUNS / RIDE DISTANCE GUIDE

Short - 150kms

Medium - 150-300kms

Long - 300 + kms

Each RIC will carry a Mobile Phone for emergencies. In an emergency use the number listed next to the relevant RIC. If no answer leave a message.

- The Rider in Charge will be organising the day. Contact them for details. All Riders participating in a Ulysses Club Ride are expected to hold a current licence, relevant to the motorcycle that they are riding, wear suitable clothing and have a registered and warranted road-worthy motorcycle.
- Riders are asked to complete the Rider list on the day and give your contact number and that of a contact not taking part in the ride.
- Direct ride related questions to the displayed Runs Co-ordinator / RIC of the day. General questions to Clive Thomas (President) 027 481 2700 .

BRONZ 34th EASTER EGG RUN

Bikers' Rights Organisation of New Zealand (Auckland)

SATURDAY 28 March 2026



Badges \$10.00

Leave 10am

From Z Bombay

Old Mill Road

To Papakura Salvation Army

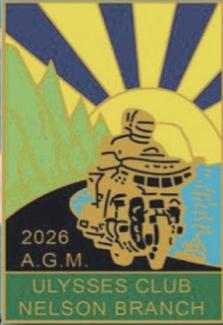
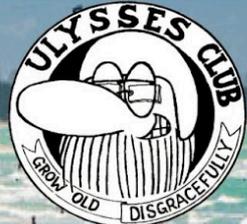
Please come along with an Easter Egg and ride with us - to **Papakura**. We will deliver the Easter Eggs to the Salvation Army who will pass them on to children in need.

SATURDAY 28 March 2026

Need Help – Phone Finn 09 625 5533 or 027 484 6326

Education, rather than legislation, saves lives

ULYSSES CLUB NZ INC.
2026 NATIONAL RALLY AND AGM
Hosted by
ULYSSES NELSON
27-29 MARCH, 2026

VENUE:
THE HEADINGLY CENTRE
 2 Headingly Lane, Richmond 7020

Come & experience Nelson/Tasman like never before for our National AGM Weekend.

KEEP UPDATED
<http://ulysses.org.nz/national-rally-and-agm/>

ITINERARY:

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026
 9am - 12pm: NatCom Meeting
 1pm - 4pm: Co-ordinators' Meeting
 12pm - Registrations Open
 4.30pm - Bar opens
 5.30pm onwards - Welcome, Housekeeping, Mix & Mingle, Games
 6pm - Dinner starts

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026
 9am - AGM Registrations (new arrivals)
 10am - 11.30am - AGM
 12pm - 4pm - Ride and other non-ride activities

Theme: Life's a Beach
 4.30pm - Venue opens for evening
 6pm - Dinner starts
 6.30pm - 'Don't Fret' band starts
 8.30pm - Bike Raffle, followed by other raffles & prizes
 11pm - Close of Evening

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026
 7am - 11am - Breakfast & Farewells at Alioke Eatery

For all queries or questions:
Lorraine Lindsay
 021 276 5656
or Vicki McGhee
 021 278 3552
 or email:
ulyssesnelson2026@gmail.com

Tues 31st March

TUESDAY EASY RIDERS

RIDE - MEDIUM

David is RIC Ph 021 901 274. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Wed 1st April

CLUB NIGHT – Manukau Cruising Club - Orpheus Place Onehunga –dinner available from 6.30pm, licensed bar and drinks available, event starts at 7pm, raffles and chat.A great nite of socialising and catching up

Sat 4th April



Tues 7th April**TUESDAY EASY RIDERS***RIDE - MEDIUM*

David is RIC Ph 021 901 274. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Sun 12th April**Coffee Cakes and Conversation**

KARAKA GENERAL STORE & CAFÉ.

257 Linwood rd, Karaka

Meet at 10:00am for a coffee and chat, choose your own departure time.

Sun 12th April**Sunday Ride***RIDE - MEDIUM*

Chris heading south

Ph 0210347996. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Tues 14th April**TUESDAY EASY RIDERS***RIDE - MEDIUM*

David is RIC Ph 021 901 274. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Sat 18th April**Littles Newbies & Oldies***RIDE - SHORT*

This is a slower paced shorter ride. Ideal for new riders smaller bikes and those who enjoy pleasant cruise with friends. All riders are welcome.

Nathan is RIC Ph 027 463342

Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Tues 21st April**TUESDAY EASY RIDERS***RIDE - MEDIUM*

David is RIC Ph 021 901 274. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Sun 26th April**Sunday Ride***RIDE - MEDIUM*

Dave RIC to be confirmed Ph 021797487. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Tuesday 28th April

TUESDAY EASY RIDERS

RIDE - MEDIUM

David is RIC Ph 021 901 274. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Sat 2nd May

Little's Newbies & Oldies

RIDE – SHORT

This is a slower paced shorter ride. Ideal for new riders smaller bikes and those who enjoy pleasant cruise with friends. All riders are welcome.

Nathan is RIC Ph 027 463342

Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Tues 5th May

TUESDAY EASY RIDERS

RIDE - MEDIUM

David is RIC Ph 021 901 274. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.

Sun 10th May

Sunday Ride

RIDE - MEDIUM

RIC to be confirmed Ph 021797487. Destination decided on the day. Departs Bombay Autobarn at 10.00am.



Ulysses

Club of New Zealand Inc Since 1988



Whether you are an experienced rider, returning to riding or just starting out - No matter your age, gender or style of bike - We are the club for you!

What makes us different from the basic social media riding groups? For less than \$1.50 a week, Ulysses members enjoy:



- Over 20 branches spread across the country, working together to provide interesting riding, rallies and social events to cater to all members' needs.
- A dedicated rider safety training fund that subsidises member's training, first aid courses and safety equipment.
- An annual National Bike Raffle where members have a one in less than 3000 chance to win a new motorbike.
- The *Ulyssian*, our national magazine which contains national and branch news, information about upcoming events and articles of interest to riders.
- Branch and national level long service and recognition awards - Including Odyssey and Life member awards.
- Various member discounts.
- Supporting multiple charities at a national and branch level.
- National level strategic plan initiatives including marketing, networking, member support and coordinated events, provided by an enthusiastic volunteer National committee and paid National Administrator.
- An annual National Rally with fun themes and camaraderie.
- Remembrance Rides to honour fallen members.
- Proudly sponsored by AA Insurance.

National Administrator: 021 072 3636 • admin@ulysses.org.nz



www.ulysses.org.nz

f Ulysses Club NZ Inc

Contact your local branch for upcoming events and joining information:

DISCOUNT

ULYSSES MEMBERS' DISCOUNT

There are a range of businesses throughout New Zealand that recognise the value of the Ulysses Membership. **Note to obtain the discount you will need to produce your current club membership card and please ask first before purchasing to ensure the a discount is applicable.**

- IINTERISLANDER AND BLUEBRIDGE ferries [Click Here](#)
- VTNZ current Ulysses card 31 Dec 2026
- KIWI FUEL LTD 0800 438383 or info@kiwifuelcards.co.nz
- DRURY MOTORCYCLES Auckland
- KIWI MOTORCYCLES Christchurch
- APEX AUTO CENTRE Hamilton
- TREVOR PIERCE YAMAHA Christchurch
- BUTT BUFFER WHANGANUI
- EZIBED NZ "ULY10"
- FRANKTON LAW
- ASURE ACCOMM GROUP Join Azure Group
- TOP TEN MOTOR CAMPS Join Top Ten Group



JUST A REMINDER - CLUB NIGHT RAFFLE DONATIONS

It's not just the committee's job find to find the raffle prizes at the monthly meetings - it's up to all members. The raffles form a vital part of our Branch's income.

- Idea 1: if it's **your birthday** in a particular month please donate a bottle of wine or something else of similar value.
- Idea 2: consider donating any unwanted Christmas - or birthday - gifts as a raffle prize. That way it will still bring joy to someone.
- **and a big thankyou to all those who have been helping out with the raffles!**





ULYSSES

AUCKLAND BRANCH

**Join other
Motorcycle Enthusiasts.
Enjoy riding our country roads.
Socialize over lunch at
many great cafes**



- * Several rides every month**
- * Rallies**
- * Weekends away**
- * Dinners and Social Events**

For more information go to our website:
[www. ulyssesauckland.org.nz](http://www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz)

BUSINESS'S - CAFES AND CLUBS WE LIKE AND SUPPORT



LIFESTYLE IMPORTS: For all your motorcycle gear and clothing. Shop online at www.lifestyle-imports.co.nz They have now set up shop at 13 Queen Street Waiuku. Call Florence at 027 262 5287 for opening hours.

CAFES:

Waiomu Beach Cafe - 622 Thames Coast Road. Great coffee and food. Good parking just across the road.

Nikau Caves Café – 1770 Waikaretu Valley Road, Waikaretu. Good food and coffee, friendly hosts, good parking

Native Tree Cafe - 7 Church St, Mangatarata (on SH27 about 200 meters south of intersection with SH2). Great food & coffee. Sheltered outdoor seating. Excellent parking off main highway.

Maramarua Bakehouse Café – 1971 State Highway 2 Maramarua (the old Pink Pig). Café has new owners, has been totally refurbished and offers a typical Bakehouse menu. Good bike parking.

Smoko Café – 3331 State Highway 2 Waitakaruru - Good menu, good outside seating, good bike parking

Hopin Stopin Café – 60 great South Road Taupiri - Good menu, good outside seating, good bike parking - Eds recommendation - toasted sandwich and Iced Coffee!

CLUBS:

Manukau Cruising Club offer memberships to Over 65's for \$6 and \$30 per year for everyone else. A great opportunity to have a spot for a few drinks with friends or to join in with their great entertainments!

Parnell Returned Services Club - 139 Parnell Road, Parnell

We welcome anyone from Ulysses to pop in and enjoy a beer at a reasonable price.

We don't have pokies or TAB – but we do have pool tables, dart boards, and a juke box. We are surrounded by some of the best eating places in Auckland including pizza at La Porchetta, local Indian etc - bring the takeaways back to the club - they are virtually next door.

Guests will need to sign the visitors' book, but please consider membership at \$30 per calendar year. (This will give reciprocal rights with clubs all over NZ: see <https://clubsnz.org.nz/>) There is a bike parking space across the road next door to the Windsor. Generally we are open 2pm to at least 9pm daily.

Please send details of any businesses that treat Ulysses members well to the editor for future

inclusion in this list.

AUCKLAND BRANCH OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

Office holders

President	Grant Johnstone	027 5353066	auckland@ulysses.org.nz
Vice President	Martin Pepper	027 4530761	peppertoetoe@gmail.com
Treasurer	Evan Swenson	027 2370860	ewswen@xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Roger Judd	021 844040	auckland.sec@ulysses.org.nz
Committee			
	Janny Nicoll	021 0700994	jannynicoll@gmail.com
	Sandy Senk	027 2332236	sandytat1@xtra.co.nz
	vacant	please contact any	committee member
	vacant	please contact any	committee member
Other roles			
Runs organiser	• Refer to the	runs list for	contacts
Sheriff	Clive Thomas	027 4812700	auckland@ulysses.org.nz
Web Page	Charlie Truell	022 3459309	charlietruell@gmail.com
Newsletter	Roger Judd	021 844040	Ulyakld.editor@gmail.com
Facebook	Adrienne Dodge	021 1655349	ajdodge@xtra.co.nz

Your Auckland Committee meets once a month and a record is kept of the meetings, its attendees and any motions and discussions.

These minutes are now made available on our webpage for anyone interested.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is freely available to any non-members who wishes to subscribe. Members receive it automatically. Feel free to forward this on to anyone who may be interested. To subscribe email the editor.

The newsletter is distributed by email on or about the Saturday prior to the monthly meeting. Eleven monthly issues are produced, January being the missing month.

If a printed copy is required the annual subscription will be \$30. Printed newsletter is available for pick-up at the monthly social night at the Manukau Cruising Club. Copies not picked up by hand may be mailed out.

The editor encourages right of reply, correspondence, criticism, and suggestions.
Address newsletter correspondence to: The Editor: ulyakld.editor@gmail.com

AUCKLAND ULYSSES POSTAL ADDRESS;
PO Box 96219, Dominion Road,
AUCKLAND 1446.
Web site: www.ulyssesauckland.org.nz

