

# Queenstown Nepalese Society Incorporated

#### About us

The Queenstown Nepalese Society became a notfor-profit incorporated society in 2022 but have been operating as an informal community group since 2015. The Society plays a pivotal role in supporting and safeguarding the interests of the Nepalese community. Our main purpose is to promote Nepalese culture, organise events and build a strong bond with people who live in and around Queenstown.

### Our mission:

- )) Community outreach programs: Engage in outreach initiatives that involve local schools, community centres and neighbourhoods' associations.
- Volunteer partnerships: Collaborate with local volunteers who share our passion for cultural preservation and community service.
- Organise cultural showcases open to the wider public to celebrate Nepalese traditions and also invite Kiwis to learn about our rich heritage.

## Our Queenstown Lakes community

We have more than 200 community members in Queenstown. Most are permanent residents but some are on student or work visas.

At a national level, the Non-Resident Nepalese Association (NRNA NZ) is an organisation that provides emergency support to the Nepalese community.

### Our events and activities

New Year Day, also known as Bikram Sambat New Year, is always celebrated mid-April. It marks the start of the new year in the Bikram Sambat calendar, approximately 57 years ahead of the Gregorian calendar. It's a time for renewal, reflection, and celebration.

Haritalika Teej is a women's festival generally celebrated in August or September primarily by Hindu women to acknowledge love, commitment and the sacred bond between husband and wife.

Dashain is the biggest festival for Nepalese people, celebrated in September or October. It's a time for family reunions, religious rituals, feasting, and celebrations.

Dipawali is the Festival of Lights celebrated in October or November.

Holi is the Festival of Colours, celebrated typically in February or March to mark the arrival of spring.

We also organise picnics and sports tournaments, as well as participate in other events organised by the wider community, local council or nearby Nepalese societies.







