AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND BANKING GROUP LTD Form 6-K October 07, 2004

# FORM 6-K

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer** 

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

# Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited

(Translation of registrant s name into English)

Level 6, 100 Queen Street Melbourne Victoria Australia

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F ý Form 40-F o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes o No ý

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (Registrant)

By: /s/ John Priestley

Company Secretary

(Signature)\*

Date 06 October 2004

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<sup>\*</sup> Print the name and title of the signing officer under his signature.

Company Secretary s Office Level 6, 100 Queen Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Phone 03 9273 6141 Fax 03 9273 6142 www.anz.com

#### ANZ StEPS quarterly distribution

On 15 September 2004 ANZ paid the quarterly distribution on its ANZ Stapled Exchangeable Preferred Securities (ANZ StEPS) and set the Distribution Rate for the payment due on 15 December 2004.

The distribution paid for the quarter ended 15 September 2004 for each ANZ StEPS was based on a Distribution Rate of 6.53% p.a. as announced on 16 June 2004.

The Distribution Rate for the quarter ending 15 December 2004 has been set in accordance with clause 3.1 of the Note Terms set out in the Prospectus dated 14 August 2003. The Distribution Rate was calculated as follows:

Market Rate (90 day bank bill rate as at 15 September 2004)

Plus the initial margin

Distribution Rate

5.4100% p.a.
6.4100% p.a.
6.4100% p.a.

This distribution of \$1.5981 for each ANZ StEPS will be paid on 15 December 2004 with the record date being 30 November 2004.

John Priestley Company Secretary Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited

for and on behalf of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited and ANZ Holdings (New Zealand) Limited 17 September 2004

Level 12 170-186 Featherston Street P O Box 1791, Wellington New Zealand Tel: 64 4 802 2000

Fax: 64 4 802 3000

Media Release

For Release: 1 October 2004

#### **New Zealand Inland Revenue tax notices**

ANZ National Bank Limited today announced it had received Notices of Proposed Adjustment from the New Zealand Inland Revenue Department (IRD) in respect of a structured finance transaction undertaken by ANZ New Zealand in the year ended 30 September 2000.

Based on the independent tax and legal advice obtained, the Bank is confident the tax treatment it has adopted for this transaction and all similar transactions is correct and does not currently expect to raise additional provisions for any tax liability relating to this matter.

#### **Summary of Potential Financial Impact**

IRD proposed adjustments cover the 2000 to 2003 tax years and imply a maximum potential liability of NZ\$54 million (NZ\$62 million with interest tax effected).

Maximum potential tax liability on all similar transactions is partially offset by tax indemnities given by Lloyds TSB Bank plc relating to The National Bank of New Zealand.

Net potential liability on all similar transactions of NZ\$200 million (NZ\$232 million with interest tax effected) up to 30 September 2004.

The tax adjustments proposed by the IRD for the transaction cover the 2000 to 2003 tax years and imply a maximum potential liability of NZ\$54 million (NZ\$62 million with interest tax effected). If applied to the 2004 tax year, an additional liability of NZ\$10 million is implied (NZ\$15 million with interest tax effected).

The IRD is also investigating other transactions undertaken by ANZ New Zealand and The National Bank of New Zealand, which have been subject to the same tax treatment. Should the same position be taken on all transactions, including those that the Notices cover, the maximum potential tax liability would be approximately NZ\$299 million (NZ\$348 million with interest tax effected) for the period to 30 September 2004.

Of that maximum potential tax liability in dispute, it has been calculated that approximately NZ\$99 million is subject to tax indemnities given by Lloyds TSB Bank plc under the agreement by which ANZ acquired The National Bank of New Zealand, and which relate to transactions undertaken by The National Bank of New Zealand before December 2003. This leaves a net potential liability of NZ\$200 million (NZ\$232 million with interest tax effected).

The Notices have been issued as part of an industry-wide review by the IRD of structured finance transactions in New Zealand. A Notice of Proposed Adjustment is a formal advice that the IRD is proposing to amend tax assessments. The Notice is not a tax assessment and does not establish a tax liability. It is the first step in a formal disputes process.

ANZ National Bank Limited, with the rest of the banking industry, is working in cooperation with the Government on tax law changes that would affect transactions of this type in the future. ANZ has not entered into similar transactions for some time and many of those being reviewed have already matured. Legislative changes could involve the remaining transactions being terminated within the next 12 months.

For media enquiries in New Zealand, contact:

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Email: howiec@anz.com

In Australia:

Kate Gore Media Relations Manager

Tel: +61-3-9273 6190 or +61-409-655 551

Email: gorek@anz.com

For analyst enquiries, contact:

Simon Fraser Head of Investor Relations Tel: +61-3-9273 4185 or +61-412-823721

Email: frasers@anz.com

Rule 3.19A.1

#### Appendix 3X

#### **Initial Director** s Interest Notice

Name of entity Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited ( ANZ )

**ABN** 11 005 357 522

ANZ give ASX the following information under listing rule 3.19A.1 and as agent for the director for the purposes of section 205G of the Corporations Act.

Name of Director Mr John Powell Morschel

**Date of appointment** 01/10/2004

#### Part 1 Director s relevant interests in securities of which the director is the registered

holder

In the case of a trust, this includes interests in the trust made available by the responsible entity of the trust

#### Number & class of security

4,000 ordinary fully paid shares

### Part 2 Director's relevant interests in securities of which the director is not the

### registered holder

In the case of a trust, this includes interests in the trust made available by the responsible entity of the trust

## Name of holder & nature of interest

**Number & Class of Securities** 

Not Applicable Not Applicable

#### Part 3 Director s interests in contracts Nil.

John Priestley Company Secretary Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited

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Name of entity Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited ( ANZ )

**ABN** 11 005 357 522

ANZ give ASX the following information under listing rule 3.19A.1 and as agent for the director for the purposes of section 205G of the Corporations Act.

Name of Director Mr David Edward Meiklejohn

**Date of appointment** 01/10/2004

#### Part 1 Director s relevant interests in securities of which the director is the registered

holder

In the case of a trust, this includes interests in the trust made available by the responsible entity of the trust

#### Number & class of security

#### Part 2 Director s relevant interests in securities of which the director is not the registered holder

In the case of a trust, this includes interests in the trust made available by the responsible entity of the trust

Name of holder & nature of interest

Number & Class of Securities

Invia Custodian Pty Limited < The Meiklejohn Super FD A/C>

2,656 Ordinary Fully Paid Shares

Part 3 Director s interests in contracts Nil.

John Priestley Company Secretary Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited

Corporate Affairs Level 22, 100 Queen Street Melbourne Vic 3000 Facsimile 03 9273 4899 www.anz.com

For Release: 5 October 2004

#### 2004 Final Dividend Record and Ex-Dividend Dates

ANZ today advised changes to the previously announced Record Date and Ex-Dividend Date for its 2004 Final Dividend.

The Record Date will be Friday, 12 November 2004 (previously Wednesday, 10 November).

The Ex-Dividend Date will be Monday, 8 November 2004 (previously Thursday, 4 November).

For media enquiries contact:

Paul Edwards Head of Group Media Relations Tel: 03-9273 6955 or 0409-655 550 Email: paul.edwards@anz.com

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