



We need to talk about dying



Dying Matters presenters, from left, end-of-life doula Sacha Hoogerwerf, griefwalker/deathwalker Aralyn Doiron, funeral director Laura Manson. Photo: Ronnie Short.

RONNIE SHORT

Afraid of death – your own or that of your loved ones? Talking about it won't kill you and is considered a healthy choice to make. Dying Matters Week (1-7 September) offers plenty to allay those fears and open up conversations around grief and dying.

Spanning 11 regions and 26 towns/cities across Aotearoa, Dying Matters Week is a nationwide movement initiated by *Go With Grace* organisers.

"Dying Matters Week connects people across Aotearoa to start conversations in a safe space, learn from local experts and seek support to get affairs in order and navigate grief or loss," states the *Go with Grace* website: gowith-grace.nz/dyingmatters/.

In New Zealand a "silver tsunami" is approaching, due to an aging population and predicted doubling of palliative care demand by 2061. Facing already severe shortages of hospital or rest home beds, rising funeral costs, hospice cuts and GP shortages, there is a sense of urgency about the need to take care of our own dying loved ones.

"Death has become something hidden and clinical rather than intimate and communal,"

notes the website.

Funeral director and celebrant Laura Manson agrees, "What's challenging is that death is still really hard for people to talk about... in reality we're all going to die. The more we can make our needs and desires known to our friends and family, the more likely we are going to have our needs met and our families and friends' emotional needs met."

Laura is coordinating Tākaka and Motueka events, working alongside Damarā Pearl, Nelson regional coordinator. Tākaka sessions will be hosted by Laura and the Golden Bay Death Collective comprising: Aralyn Doiron – deathwalker/griefwalker; Erihapeti McPherson – psychopompe; Amelia Toohey – deathwalker/griefwalker; Michelle Cole – Peer Grief programme coordinator and Sacha Hoogerwerf – end-of-life doula, celebrant.

In New Zealand, the newly formed End-of-Life Doula Alliance Aotearoa (ELDAA) is part of a growing international movement to walk alongside the dying and their whānau, providing emotional, spiritual, cultural and practical support. An end-of-life doula works alongside clinical teams.

"Part of the job of a doula is to come up with

a plan and instigate any changes as and when needed," explained Sacha.

Laura assures that people don't need to worry about the burden on their families or that their pain needs won't be met. "Hospice, district nurses, psychopompe, deathwalkers and end-of-life doulas can work with you to enable you or your loved one to die comfortably at home, hospital or rest home."

Both Sacha and Laura agree that making dying a topic of conversation is essential for every person.

"Talking about it lets those around you know how to meet your needs. It makes death less scary and can give us feelings of empowerment. Best of all, once planning is done, you can get on with living life fully. Examining mortality can lead to a deeper appreciation and enjoyment of life," said Laura.

Death Matters week begins at Tākaka Memorial Library on Monday 1 September, 11am with a Q&A session, "Ask A Funeral Director" hosted by Laura. On Tuesday morning, Amelia will guide end-of-life planning maps and Thursday morning is a drop-in chat session with death walkers Amelia and Sacha.

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Teachers' class action



ALISTAIR HUGHES

Post Primary Teachers' Association members of Golden Bay High School went on strike on Wednesday morning, in response to a Government pay and conditions offer which local teacher Chris Stephenson describes as "kind of insulting".

"The offer we received isn't going to meet our needs with the increasing cost of living," says Chris. "Inflation this year is 2.7% and forecast at 2% for the following couple – and they've offered us 1% each year for the next three years."

The expectation of 10 extra teacher-only days per year, on top of the growing and under-resourced extra requirements of pastoral care, means the Government offer actually amounts to a reduction.

Chemistry teacher Mark Mackenzie says the PPTA's concerns had been intentionally misrepresented by Government. "I believe that Ministers Stanford and Collins are deliberately attempting to portray teachers as greedy and unreasonable... I hope that the Golden Bay community agrees that our teachers don't deserve an effective pay cut."

"Teachers are also really upset about the cancellation of the gender equity pay claims earlier this year," explains Chris. Despite forming the picket line as a last resort, the teachers' spirits were high, bolstered by the enthusiastic sounding of car horns from passing traffic.

"We always hear that the community values us, and if they make that known to the local MP and the Minister of Education, those little nudges are really helpful."

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WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT DYING

Continued from page 1

Mohua Community Centre is the venue for a natural funerals workshop presented by Lynda Hannah on Tuesday afternoon from 1pm (cost \$50). Wednesday is a full day of half to one hour long sessions on pre-planning, dying in Golden Bay, youth grief programme, legal matters, advance care planning and Māori death customs.

Tune into Fresh FM on Friday 5 September 2-3pm to hear Mark Manson speaking with community casket maker Chris Astill. On Saturday, Matuku Funerals are hosting an open day from 10am-2pm. At 2pm the documentary *Tender* will feature at the Village Theatre followed by Q&A.

Dying Matters week culminates in a celebration dubbed "The Magnificent Game of Living and Dying" hosted by Sacha, Aralyn and Amelia at the Wholemeal Café, Sunday 2-5pm, \$10 (RSVP required).

Sacha will be available at Bacca Bakery Wednesday 27 August 9am-12pm, and Friday 29 August 1-3pm for those wanting more information.

"We are creating a community memorial there for the duration of Dying Matters Week, people can bring a picture of someone in the Golden Bay community they want to remember and celebrate."

Much-appreciated sponsors to date are Matuku Funerals, Unlimited Copies, HealthPost, Mohua Social Services, Tākaka Library, Wholemeal Café, Bacca Bakery, *The GB Weekly*, GB Community Health.

Anyone interested to become a sponsor, donate, or book any session by phone is invited to contact Laura on 027 777 4738.

Peer grief support for the young

JOYCE WYLLIE

Dying and grief affect all of us at some stage in our life. Many of us don't experience the death of a loved one until we are older, while some face grief at a young age. Specialist mental health nurse Michelle Cole provides grief support for services including The Cancer Society and Aoake te Rā, (for bereavement by suicide). Michelle and friend Beatrice Bourhis, community activator and artist, know Golden Bay young people who are grieving, so are initiating a "facilitated peer grief support group for young people". Beatrice explains that "after 27 years of living in this community, I've seen how much is made possible by the dedication and generosity of volunteers. I've also seen where there are still gaps, especially when it comes to how we support people dealing with grief and loss". They are grateful for funding from Mohua 2040, Trash Palace, FreshChoice and Nelson Warehouse, enabling them to offer this opportunity to create a "gentle space with bean bags, afternoon snacks and freedom to speak, listen or just be", with activities and games to be enjoyed together. Family members will also have a place to get together separate from the young people but close enough to support if required. The peer support group will be a regular once-a-month gathering.

National Grief week is coming up early in September, including a full six-day programme of "Dying Matters" offered in Tākaka. On Wednesday 3 September, Michelle is speaking about Mohua's youth grief programme. She encourages anyone to join her who has experienced the death of someone close, and also family members who would like to learn more about the planned programme. Michelle explains that "there is no time-span for grief, so the death experienced may be recent, or some years ago". The idea is to support young people six to 12 years old, but teenagers and their family are also welcome to come along. Ongoing conversations including adolescents and young adults are important.

A peer grief support group is a safe, confidential place and volunteers will be vital. Michelle and Beatrice invite anyone interested in becoming a volunteer to come to the talk or get in touch.

"Volunteers will receive training and be enriched, be valued and cared for," says Michelle. This peer support is based on the well respected "Dougy Centre Model", named after a



Michelle Cole and Beatrice Bourhis. Photo: Joyce Wyllie.

young man who was dying, and as he dealt with his own grief wanted to support loved ones grieving his illness and death. There are 10 principles of this grief-informed practice, including recognition that grief is natural, non-pathological, and disruptive and this facilitated support is centred on each person and relationships.

Contact Michelle on 027 313 8032 or attend the meeting Wednesday 3 September, 1.30pm at Mohua Community Hall.

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GBCH launching day stay care

ANITA PETERS

A newly devised Day Stay programme is soon to begin at Golden Bay Community Health (GBCH). Wendy Nicoll, GBCH associate nurse manager for aged residential care, said this had come in response to a request from a community member who felt that the Bay needed somewhere where carers could drop their loved ones off and have a little bit of time to themselves.

GBCH general manager Ruth Robson responded to the idea, and her team have put together this new Day Stay initiative as a safe, inclusive and welcoming space for people to go for an enjoyable morning outing, to connect socially and make new friends. It will include morning tea and a wholesome lunch in the company of the residential community, with a variety of activities in between, from arts and crafts to quizzes, games, music and gentle movement sessions. The big bonus is that it will offer total reassurance and peace of mind for their families and



The Day Stay programme at Golden Bay Community Health will offer visitors morning tea, an activity and lunch in the company of the residential community. Photo: Anita Peters.

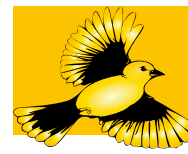
caregivers, knowing that they are being cared for by supportive, qualified staff.

The programme starts on 1 September and will run weekly on a Monday, Thursday and Friday, plus every first and last Wednesday of each month, from 9.30am until 12.30pm (not including public holidays). As there is only availability for three people to attend per day, there will be an eligibility criteria based on measuring the client's level of disability and

their care requirements. The cost will be \$40 per visit which most carers will be able to claim back under their carer support arrangement.

"We're just getting the word out there before we start taking bookings," explained Wendy. "How it goes will depend on the demand. We're looking forward to getting it up and running."

Contact Golden Bay Community Health, 10 Central Tākaka Road. Phone 03 525 0100.



NEWS IN BRIEF

DramaLAB theatre festival



SUBMITTED

On the weekend of 30 and 31 August, DramaLAB presents their annual theatre festival, showcasing four original plays performed by young actors of Golden Bay.

The family-orientated event offers four performances each day at the Playhouse Theatre in Tākaka.

Over the last eight months, the actors have created their own characters and together with the director, Jodie Grant, created the plot. Weekly practices and support at home learning lines builds the confidence to perform the show at the theatre in front of a community audience.

At 10.30am on Saturday and Sunday, the youngest actors, aged 5-9 years old, perform the *The Case of the Missing Keys*; and at 11.30am, *The Power of Music*. These stories take the audience on journeys through magical forests of native birds, wolves, leopards, pandas, exotic birds and a mermaid. Also a trip through the desert to visit the mighty Pharaoh and her ninja guards to enjoy a concert with Taylor Swift.

An interval between shows offers delicious soups and bread, tea and coffee and baking for sale (please bring cash).

At 12.45pm, actors of *The Investigators*, age range 9-12 perform the show, *Things Are Not Always As They Seem*. Set in the little town of Dolce Bay, the local news reporter leads the audience through an interesting set of interviews with local legends, and eventually to solve the mysterious riddle of the princess's stolen gem of nature that has caused the forest and gardens to be poisoned and die. Who is the intriguing new visitor and what has happened to Merlin's pyrokinesthetic powers? The chef is continually running out of his famous potato fries and the local goat keeps eating all the organic blueberries! Why hasn't the secret agent arrested the obvious suspect?

Finally, at 2.15pm the youth actors of the Labrats present a futuristic world where everyone has an equal amount of food, wealth and power.

Tickets are available from Pōhutukawa Gallery; please pay with cash.

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Golden Bay HeART for Gaza



SUBMITTED

Golden Bay for Palestine, a group of locals deeply concerned about the genocide and lack of action from the government, is stepping up its action with an online art sale.

For many months the group has been raising funds and quietly protesting; last Saturday supporters of the cause walked the footpaths of Tākaka's Commercial Street in silent contemplation carrying flags, candles and placards. The hikoī was followed by a prayer circle for all faiths, traditions, and beliefs.

For its latest initiative, HeART for Gaza, Golden Bay for Palestine is asking for donations of original art, pottery, jewellery, craft and other creative pieces to be sold at upcoming online auctions with all proceeds going to the Gaza aid agencies, Watermelon Sisters and Gaza Soup Kitchen.

"Inspired by Ute Schroder's generous donation and Bay Art People's Choice award winner 'Humanity', we're seeking art contributions to raise vital funds for humanitarian aid," says Golden Bay for Palestine's Kylie Jones. "Whether you donate a large or small piece, or just help spread the word, every contribution expands our circle of impact."

Kylie says the popular online marketplace will ensure there are plenty of potential buyers. "The Trade Me auctions will be promoted nationwide, ensuring your art reaches a broad audience."

Kylie urges anyone interested to get in touch. "Contact us to participate and make a positive change through your art."

Phone Kylie on 021 152 8195 or contact via Golden Bay For Palestine's Facebook page.



Picking up the Covid tab

Trumpeting the most "transparent government", Dame Ardern, Mr Hipkins, Sir Ashley Bloomfield and company, who led the response to the most significant event in recent history, have vacated "the single source of truth" podium, collectively declining to share their pandemic expertise publicly to the Royal Commission Covid response inquiry. That's one thing, but a recent treasury report exposes a \$66 billion Covid response, ignoring warnings by the treasury about over-spending in 2022. Continuing unnecessary spending, this resulted in one of the highest responses in the OECD, with a GDP spend of 20 per cent. Blowing billions, it also has been estimated that over 50 percent of it went into non-Covid related items. Dismantling the notion of a serious pandemic, Labour woefully under-spent on infrastructure, hospitals, doctors and nurses, missing a golden opportunity to truly improve the health of all New Zealanders. Bludgeoning the lifeblood out of the economy with prolonged lockdowns, collapsing businesses, skyrocketing inflation, rate rises, mortgage strain, explosive grocery bills, and a cost of living crisis that is all born out of financial mismanagement. These decisions echo throughout households in New Zealand today. With the charisma of an executive from a Nigerian banking scam, Mr Hipkins snubs taxpayers and responds in his usual cavalier manner of denial, avoiding accountability once again by saying that it's "treasury spin" (conspiracies). No matter where you sit in the aisles of Covid, remember they got knighthoods and cushy jobs while we get to pick up the tab.

Mike Rimu

Palestine relief

What a relief to find a way to help some of the people in need in Palestine. What can we do from Golden Bay? As well as writing to our MPs about sanctioning Israel while the IDF commits war crimes we can send money to Palestine to help pay for the little food that is available there, and to help pay for burial shrouds. There is a Facebook group "Golden Bay for Palestine"; their next fundraising and information stall is at the Village Green on Saturday 6 September. Phone 525 9099 if Facebook or the Village Green don't work for you.

Hazel Pearson

A misguided idea

These quotes are taken from RNZ and *Top South Farming Monthly* in this last week:

After 24 years of managing Molesworth Station, Jim Ward abruptly resigned due to growing frustrations over the spread of wilding pines....Hawkes Bay farmer James Hunter told RNZ that pine plantations can cause serious problems for their neighbours, from fire to homing pests detrimental to farms.....Richard Dawkins [vice president of Federated Farmers] said the carbon farms are a "licence to pollute".....a recent study on landslides [NZ's most

common natural disaster] reports that pine forests are more prone to slips than native forests.

Slash dams are causing flooding events that we have suffered in our district as well as around NZ.

We need to stop this misguided practice in the hope that it may change our weather [really!?!]

Another quote in *Farmer's Monthly*: "Science is about challenging accepted thinking and yet somehow it is being used to defend outdated models and practices".

Victoria Davis

Arsenic disaster scenario

With the recent devastating floods in mind, I jumped into my time machine:

The Sams Creek Mine was given a licence and work commenced in 2027. It was abandoned in 2036. It went broke.

It's 3 January 2037. Golden Bay is full of tourists. The Tākaka Valley is lush green. A bumper wet spring. A good year to make a quid.

Off the coast of Australia, a massive cyclone bounces off the coast leaving a trail of destruction in towns and cities.

It roars across the ditch and barrels into Golden Bay. It rains day and night for six days. The Cobb reservoir is releasing water on day two. The Tākaka River floods big time on day three.

Seven months of rain in five days causes the 40-storey wall holding the arsenic tailing dam at Sams Creek to fail. A tsunami torrent of nine years of mining waste blows into the roaring Tākaka River.

Silt and gravel spreads across hundreds of hectares of farmland and even into shops and homes in Tākaka. A 500-year flood some are saying, others a 1000-year flood.

The government declares a national emergency and orders the military to take control of the disaster. Teams in white suits test for toxic arsenic pollution that is everywhere the water went.

Is this what you want for the future?

Are you happy to live with arsenic pollution?

Are you going to pay for the clean-up?

Ivor Evans

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The GB Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Please email your letter to us at admin@gbweekly.co.nz by 12pm Tuesday. Include the writer's full name, home address and daytime phone number. Letters will be printed over the name of the writer; names are withheld only when compelling reasons can be established. **Letters must not exceed 250 words.** Letters that are too long will not be considered. All correspondence is at the discretion of the manager, who reserves the right to decline, edit, or abridge letters without explanation or further discussion. Links to third party websites will not be published. The views expressed are those of the correspondents and are not necessarily endorsed or shared by *The GB Weekly*.



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Local Elections 2025: Meet the candidates for Tasman District Mayor

In this week's pre-election coverage we are publishing profiles of the five candidates standing for Tasman District Mayor. All the profiles and images below have been submitted to *The GB Weekly* by the candidates.

Golden Bay Grey Power and Golden Bay Rural Women have collaborated to organise two opportunities for the community to meet the local elections candidates: Sunday 7 September, 2pm at Collingwood Area School Hall and 7pm at the Senior Citizens' Hall, Tākaka. Questions to be addressed to the candidates at the meetings can be submitted in writing at the event, or in advance to: Joyce Wyllie, kaihoka@xtra.co.nz; Carolyn McLellan, balmac@xtra.co.nz or Mike Delceg, delceg@xtra.co.nz

Next week we will be publishing profiles of the candidates standing for Golden Bay ward councillor and the Golden Bay Community Board.



Maxwell Clark

It would be an honour to be your Mayor. I will have ratepayer's needs front-and-centre.

As Mayor, I will treat public money in the same way I treat mine, carefully, intentionally and with accountability.

I am Managing Director of MediMax Ambulance Service and work in the health sector, caring for people as both an Intensive Care Paramedic and Emergency Care Nurse, and have a lifetime commitment to helping others.

I offer leadership that listens and delivers, and I work well under pressure.

Families and businesses are under pressure, and they expect Council to take a responsible, disciplined approach to spending.

Mitigation is better than devastation in river management/flood protection. I will facilitate the removal of gravel and silt from the district's rivers.

Reality is more important than "ideas" on how to manage the rivers. Locals and farmers are the "experts" in their local area in the river management.

I will make a commitment to river work either by the Council, but primarily with local community collaboration to repair flood damage, take gravel and silt from the district's river and make them more resilient to future flooding.

What is the biggest challenge facing Tasman District Council? Debt – is out of control. Last year it was \$250 million. This year it is \$360 million on term borrowing. In 2024 in Council's long-term plan, Council advised ratepayers this year's rates would increase by 7%. What we are now facing is 8.9% rate increases plus add ons which will make most people's rate increase 10%.



Richard Johns

Things can't continue. It's time for a change and consolidation.

I am a critical thinker with problem solving skills based on earthmoving and construction.

My goals are:

Debt reduction; Capped rates; Staff numbers reduced; Stop vanity and non-essential spending; Return to core functions including roads, rivers and infrastructure with proactive maintenance.

Steps to achieve consolidation:

Council culture needs to change to outcome based rather than adversarial, revenue generating style presently practiced; Selling non-core assets to reduce debt; Non-essential projects stopped or put on hold, \$12million bridge reviewed; Review CEO contract to put councillors back in control;

Remove bureaucratic road blocks and red tape; Review participation in LGNZ.

I would lead a team and, to achieve change, it would be helpful to have a team of critical thinking councillors. I am prepared to make the big decisions and butt heads if required.



Tim King

We live in a beautiful region which is increasingly attractive for people to make their home. New residents add to our regions diversity and bring many ideas skills and experiences that can benefit our communities, environment, businesses and industries. Supporting our diverse economy and communities while managing the challenges around housing, infrastructure, water quality, biodiversity, and changing climate will be priorities.

Economic vitality and environmental sustainability are crucial to Tasman's future. Council's core role will remain investing in new and improved infrastructure, managing our natural resources, delivering efficient customer services, and providing recreational facilities.

There are some key areas that the next council will need to focus on: Implementing the new Local Water Done Well management of water wastewater and stormwater and the replacement legislation for the RMA which will mean significant changes in the way councils and communities operate; Providing for housing and associated community infrastructure across the region to meet the demands of a growing population and Government legislative requirements; Completing the recovery from the recent flooding events; Continue to develop a resilient and adaptable community in the face of an ever changing environment.

It has been a privilege to serve as Mayor for the last three very challenging years. With my governance experience in business, community organisations and on Council, I'm committed to working collaboratively to tackle the challenges and capitalise on the opportunities for our region.

I'm positive about the future and seek your support to continue providing practical hardworking representation.



Timo Neubauer

Let's protect what makes Golden Bay special.

Golden Bay is one of my favourite places in New Zealand - for its relaxed atmosphere, strong community spirit and unspoilt natural environment. From the charm of Collingwood to the bustle of Tākaka, this part of the district is truly unique.

But even here, pressure is mounting. Council is soon required to zone for 30 years of projected growth. That gives us a choice: either keep carving up the countryside, or grow stronger towns and villages with more housing options - and in doing so, protect what makes places like Golden Bay so special. We also need to confront the cost of poor decisions. From expensive infrastructure misadventures to ballooning debt from the Waimea Dam over the hill, all Tasman ratepayers are shouldering the burden. Golden Bay deserves a smarter, fairer approach.

As Mayor, I'll bring financial discipline to Council, cut wasteful spending and ensure new developments pay their way. I'll stand up for local communities and invest in their resilience.

I've followed Save Our Springs and am watching developments around the proposed gold mine at Sams Creek closely. We must protect Te Waikoropupū Springs and its aquifer for future generations.

Let's plan boldly, spend wisely, and protect the future of this remarkable place.



Richard Osmaston

We're looking at two horizons. The immediate and the longer future.

Tasman's been focussed on addressing the nearer and short-term needs of the region. That's not going so well.

As Mayor, I'll leave most of the existing processes and participants to do what they're already doing. My focus will be upon the next, longer-term horizon.

What do we need to do to assure our future. This is becoming clearer.

I'll be spearheading the emerging concepts that take us beyond the adversity, inequality and unsustainable "norms" of today. With over 15 years of research and advocacy for an entirely different kind of economic system, one that has evolved beyond currency, business and competition, we are on the verge of a new paradigm. The status quo that we're all "used to" is evidently no longer working for anybody. Rich or poor. Conventional responses show no improvements. Or worse. Living costs, health collapse, societal breakdown and environmental devastation are all only symptoms of the money based system that we subconsciously adopted. As we emerge from this ignorance into better understanding and enlightenment, we have an unprecedented opportunity to rapidly advance into the wonderful future that we all once dreamed of.

Imagine a near future with only voluntary work. Beyond debt, rent, bills, mortgages and eye-watering charges for the basic needs of human life.

A life of abundance, love, sharing and cooperation. With ample time and energy for self, whānau, community and nature.

This is possible now. The choice is yours. Paradise or oblivion.

Meet the candidates in Collingwood and Tākaka on Sunday 7 September



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RURAL VIEWS Fertiliser



Ravensdown's Maree Edwards examines soil on a recent farm visit. Photo: Joyce Wyllie.

JOYCE WYLLIE

Buying, carting and applying fertiliser is the biggest expense for our farm business, and choosing what and how much to put on has a big impact on our annual budget. So we wait until we know what we have in the bank before making those decisions. "Fertiliser the Foundation of Farm Success", from 1925, states: "By the early 1900s, New Zealand farmers knew that fertiliser was vital to hold back reversion and keep pasture productive. From government efforts to source affordable nutrients, to co-ops entering the market during the Depression, fertiliser has long been a key input in our dairy story. Over the past century, trials, research, and soil mapping have deepened our understanding of how to nourish the land that sustains us."

In the following century since those words were written, research, trials and experience have deepened our understanding of soil science. Maree Edwards, Ravensdown agri-manager, has been our fertiliser consultant for the last four years. She has an Agricultural Science degree from Lincoln University, and has completed Advanced Nutrient Management and Certified Nutrient Management courses by distance learning. Her job with Ravensdown also covers agronomy which is working with seeds and crops.

When Maree comes to the farm she takes soil samples to send to the laboratory for testing. Ravensdown, a farmer co-operative, has a specialised agricultural lab in Christchurch which conducts water and stream testing, feed testing and baleage quality as well and soil and herbage testing. Soil samples are taken along the same transect lines in a paddock to ensure consistency, so trends can be assessed year on year. Soil types vary widely, even within one paddock from sand, silt, clay and loam – which all have different abilities to hold nutrients.

Reports received from the laboratory indicate what

nutrients may be limiting growth and also pH levels. Nutrients are locked up if soils are too acidic or alkaline. Some years we do herbage samples as well to give more information on trace elements and plant and animal health. Maree digs a hole so she can examine the soil and assess health of life underground. Worms are good, but pests like porina and grass grubs are not. Smelling the soil, squeezing it and breaking it up gives information on organic matter present and water retention.

Once we have all the results Maree comes back for discussions and advice, based around ensuring we are supplying adequate amounts of essential nutrients for plant growth and animal health.

From the findings of hundreds of field trials carried out on different soil types across New Zealand during 1960-1990s, scientists now know what amount of each nutrient is essential. Those trials determined target ranges for phosphorus, potassium, sulphur, magnesium and pH

Reports received from the laboratory indicate what nutrients may be limiting growth and also pH levels



that we aim to achieve to maximise pasture production. Soil test results indicate where we sit compared to target ranges.

Some elements interact with others so it all has to be considered. For example, applying molybdenum supports clover growth, but too much can interfere with copper uptake and result in deficiency in stock. Changes in management and stock numbers, climate and rainfall all need to be taken into account. The overall consideration is that limiting factor of financial budget, so Maree is expected to give us "the best bang for our buck".

Our farm has an all-weather airstrip so once the fertiliser is ordered it is trucked out to the bin. Some seasons it takes weeks to fly the fertiliser on as Kaihoka does experience windy days. Now it is spring we can see the benefit of that autumn activity and be grateful for nutrients providing nutrition and growth for this season's lambs and calves.




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Company positioned as leading light



Gerard Woods, managing director of Switch Lighting is eager to share knowledge of what good lighting can achieve.

ALISTAIR HUGHES

Gerard Woods, managing director of Nelson based Switch Lighting, set a goal not just to manufacture light fittings – but to change the way people think about lighting altogether.

The company was the first in New Zealand to develop a range of sealed, tiltable LED downlights, designed to reduce glare and offer flexible, directional illumination. Today, it remains a leader in the residential, architectural, and hospitality sectors.

Coming from a background in large-scale industry and automation, Gerard wanted to build something local. "I had experience with factories, production lines and smart systems, and was looking for an opportunity to design and manufacture in Aotearoa," he explains.

A chance meeting with technical engineer Jon Maunsell in 2008 brought the idea to life. "Being an engineer, I researched and taught myself the science of artificial light – wavelengths, technologies, everything," says Gerard. "I became really passionate about it," he says.

Within six months Gerard and Jon founded Switch Lighting, now an award-winning manufacturer exporting to Australia, Sweden, the Netherlands, Asia and the UK. They currently employ over 30 staff across engineering, design, production, sales, and dispatch.

Switch Lighting's full design service is guided by a belief that lighting should enhance the unique character of each



Illumination design for this hideaway is one of Switch Lighting's local projects. Photos: Supplied.

space. The team partners with architects, electricians, and homeowners to craft solutions that are both artistic and functional. Their approach prioritises energy efficiency while reducing environmental impact through locally made fittings and a circular economy mindset.

"As soon as we started employing sales people, we told them: 'You're not here to sell. You're here to educate,'" recalls Gerard. "Every conversation with a customer, wholesaler, architect or electrician is an opportunity to share knowledge and open their eyes to what lighting can do."

The result is lighting that not only illuminates a space, but contributes to a more sustainable, connected way of living. Their range includes smart lighting controls and Tunable White systems, which allow lighting to shift in colour temperature throughout the day – enhancing comfort, and ambience.

"The more we can educate people, whether choosing fittings for their home or specifying commercial systems, the better the outcomes. Lighting isn't just functional. It shapes how we live in a space."

Despite growing international demand, including large-scale projects on cruise ships and super-yachts, Gerard is still deeply committed to the New Zealand market. "There are exceptional opportunities here," he says. "We were recently involved in another project in Golden Bay, and it's work like that that reminds us why we do what we do."

switch-lighting.co.nz, see advertisement below.

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WORDFEST 2025

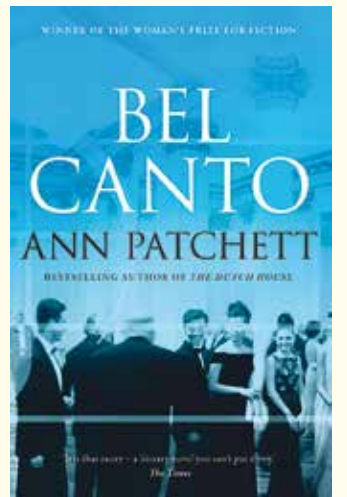
It's August and that means it's time for *The GB Weekly* WordFest – a month of bonus content for readers, writers, puzzlers and wordsmiths.

In addition to our extra puzzles, book reviews and giveaways, we are running a writing competition with prizes on offer for authors and poets of all ages.

MY FAVOURITE NOVEL

SHERIDAN GRAY

Ann Patchett has been lodged in my periphery for years. I just didn't think I'd like her as an author. Perhaps it's only now that I have the patience for her slower pace and considerate style. Earlier this year I read *Bel Canto*, and it was an antidote to the difficult politics and ruthless dystopias that fill my screen and our modern world.



Set in an unnamed South American city, a vice president holds a birthday party for a foreign dignitary. The guests draw together around the promise of a performance by a renown opera singer, when a shocking turn of events occurs. *Bel Canto* is loosely based around the events of a real hostage situation that took place in 1996-1997 at the Japanese Embassy in Lima.

The novel, although violent in events, captures the gentle development of relationships (including between hostages and hostage-takers) as the characters muddle through the tedium of captivity. Ann Patchett is a master of character, the small detail, the "feel" of a place. *Bel Canto* manages to speak through the ordinariness of everyday life to offer an extraordinary story of a more hopeful humanity. It made me smile, sob and it made me think!



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The GB Weekly Writing Competition



This year, writers can choose between submitting

- a limerick and/or clerihew
- and/or a very short story (60 words or less)

There are three age categories:

- Primary: Up to Year 6.
- Secondary: Year 7-10.
- Open: Senior students and members of the public.

Prizes: PaperPlus vouchers will be awarded to the winners in each age category to the value of \$25 (primary), \$50 (secondary) and \$100 (open).

Rules: Entries close at midnight on Friday 22 August and must be submitted by email with subject heading "The GB Weekly WordFest Competition" to: admin@gbweekly.co.nz

All entries should be the author's own work and not have been entered to any previous competition. The judge's decision is final.

The GB Weekly will publish winning entries plus a selection of other submissions.

BOOK WINNER

The winner of *Kahurangi* is Heather Parkes

Congratulations!
We'll be in touch.

BOOK GIVEAWAY

Be in to win a copy of
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PUZZLES

STR8TS

No. 754 Easy

		9			5			3
7	9						3	
	8		7	6				2
	7							9
	1		4		2			8
1			5					6
				8				
6		2					8	

You can find more help, tips and hints at www.str8ts.com

SUDOKU

No. 754 Tough

8				2				5
		2	7		3			9
	1							3
	3	6				9		
			4		2			
		8				7	4	
	8						7	
	4		3		5	2		
	5			8				1

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

STR8TS

Previous solution - Medium

2	3	1	6	9	8			7
4	2	3	8	7	6	5		
8	9	2	3	4	5		7	6
9	8	7	6		4	3	5	
	4	6	5		2	1		
6	5	7		1	2	3	4	
4	5		8	9	7		2	3
5	7	9	4	8	3	6	1	
3		8	9		6	5	4	

How to beat Str8ts – Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how 'straights' are formed.

SUDOKU

Previous solution - Medium

4	3	5	9	6	2	8	1	7
8	9	7	1	5	3	6	2	4
1	6	2	4	8	7	9	3	5
3	4	8	7	2	6	1	5	9
2	7	6	5	1	9	4	8	3
5	1	9	8	3	4	2	7	6
9	5	4	2	7	1	3	6	8
6	8	1	3	4	5	7	9	2
7	2	3	6	9	8	5	4	1

To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org

If you like Str8ts check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store.

Characters step out of books at quiz

RONNIE SHORT

Zany characters stepped out of books to become walking talking replicas at the Tasman District Libraries sixteenth annual book quiz held at Golden Bay Rec Park Centre on Monday morning.

Hosted by children's librarian, Sophus Glasgow (Richmond Library), Tākaka children's librarian Nerissa Cottle and assistant librarians Sarah Worlock and Sheridan Gray, ten teams of four contestants representing the four local primary schools competed.

Ten questions under each category comprising classic, graphic novel, general fiction, picture books and visual were posed by Emcee Sophus (aka Cacofinix). Spot prizes were awarded throughout the quiz with names pulled from a basket. Each child had written a book recommendation on their slip of paper.

Birthday boy of the day, Isaac Tonks, proved something of a star when he scored a spot prize, won a quick-fire true/false quiz (while points were being added up) and was in the overall winning team.

Winner of the individual best costume was Mabel Tate from Motupipi School's team The Brainy Bookworms. She wore a white poncho with black web stitching and the words "Some Pig". Best team costume went to Collingwood Area School (for the second year running) for Cat in the Hat team complete with Things 1, 2 and an extra Thing 1.

Book Quiz 2025 winners – first place: The Book Squad (Motupipi); second: Brainy



From left: 1st, "The Book Squad" Isaac Tonks, Izzabella McGuinness-Wardrop, Connor Prystie, Poppy Fleming; 2nd, "Brainy Bookworms", both Motupipi School, 3rd "Lord of the Books" Central Tākaka.

Bookworms (Motupipi); third: Lord of the Books (Central). Each of the winners were invited to select a book from an array of different genres displayed, which were supplied by Tākaka Memorial Library. The Book Squad also earned a silver cup for first place.

Of this year's efforts Nerissa said, "The quiz was a success and we were proud of everyone who entered and gave it their all. The children had also put lots of thought into their dress ups. It is a pleasure to celebrate the love of books and



Librarians hosting the Book Quiz, from left: Nerissa Cottle (White Rabbit/Alice in Wonderland), Sarah Worlock (Greg/Diary of a Wimpy Kid), Sheridan Gray (Wicked Witch of the West/Wonderful Wizard of Oz) and Sophus Glasgow (Cacofinix/Obelix).

reading with Golden Bay tamariki."

Thanks go to the Rec Park for a discounted hall hire rate, the Village Theatre for the movie tickets awarded to all best costume winners and FreshChoice for supplying morning tea.



Best team costume winners "Cat in the Hat" of Collingwood Area School. From left: Lynette-Ryita Smith, Charlotte Richards, Mazzy Evans, Elliott Roberts-Hanlon. Photos: Ronnie Short.

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The programme will be delivered via emails with short videos, and includes monthly in-person meetings to share stories, exchange encouraging feedback, and hold each other accountable. Highlights of the programme include learning how to: create order out of the chaos of many ideas, keep people reading, find your unique voice, edit and proof read, include images, use the latest voice-to-text, transcription, technology, prepare for printing, and much more.

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Rockville foursome bowl to victory



Teams from Golden Bay and Motueka played in mixed pairs and fours indoor bowls competition last weekend. The winning fours team (pictured above left) from Rockville was made up of Donald Gardiner, Reuban Marshall, Pam Gardiner and Dot Marshall. In the drawn section Graeme Hockey and Nancy Ward won all their games to take the winners honours (above, right).



The weekend before, a team from Motupipi club, led by Alan Sowman, went through their games to play in the finals against a Suburban club in the plate section but sadly lost at that stage. There were 80 players gathered in Hope for the tournament. Great hospitality by the Hope members and a day enjoyed by all.

Rugby: seniors and youth in action



Country win their line-out at the Senior B Town versus Country clash at Riwaka Rugby Football Club ground last Saturday. It was the second of two matches and, just like the previous week's tie, it proved to be a very close match but this time Country triumphed, winning 39-34 to retain the trophy. Note the players wear their home club socks. Photo: Supplied.



The Under-14 Takaka rugby team took on Nelson College for third place in the rugby school round. These guys and girl won their game convincingly to take third place out of 11 Tasman teams. Congratulations to the players, coaches and support team from the parents and supporters of these kids. They were simply awesome, and have worked so hard for this moment all season. Photo: Supplied.

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Mitigation before Devastation (Part 2)



For 45 years, Duncan McKenzie has farmed alongside 1500 metres of the Takaka River, including the Kotinga Bridge and Bridges Hollow. He lived across the main road from the river, experiencing its wrath first hand when it would flood. For the last eight years he's enjoyed an elevated view from his new build taking in that entire stretch of river up Takaka Valley south, all the way to Takaka township, north. He can see his 700 metre stop bank at the curve of the river by Bridge's Hollow - a 16 year effort of kiwi ingenuity to protect his land, his home and the town - without the permission of the Council. "They told me to take it down," Mr McKenzie says "because it hadn't been built by an engineer. I said that's why it's bloody good - it's all good hardfill... They left me alone eventually." A 2021-2051 Rivers Activity Management Plan by the TDC clearly acknowledges Duncan's work: "Other than a minor privately maintained stopbank (McKenzie Bank) the Takaka river does not have any maintained flood protection, however the river and catchments upstream do present significant flood risks to Takaka township and surroundings." The stopbank has stood the test of time. And it's a good testing point for the river's capacity to handle a flood, less than half a kilometre downstream from the Council monitoring station at Kotinga Bridge, which measures the volume of water flowing through at any one stage.

"Years ago, the river used to breach that stop bank at 1800 cubic metres per second. Now it breaches at 1400 cube. That's a decrease of 400 cube in the volume of water now breaching - and it's because there's no longer the capacity in the river to handle it," says McKenzie. So what's got a chokehold over Takaka River? In chime with Solly, Sangster and Bird (Part 1) - McKenzie says it's the slow and steady build up of gravel, which he has watched develop for years, on the opposite side of the river from his stopbank (pictured below.)



Above: Duncan McKenzie's stop bank curves with the river on the right hand side, shielding it from the main road south of Takaka township. On the left side is a swathe of gravel McKenzie has watched grow since the 90's. The river is squeezed over to the right, churning into the bank.



The calls for increased management of gravel have been loud for decades but TDC action has mostly consisted of data gathering, meetings and reviews. A 2009 10-year Rivers Activity Management Plan by TDC says "Generally the sustainable extraction rate of gravel from all rivers has been set at zero by the TDC Rivers Scientist." Group Manager for Environmental Sciences Rob Smith says "as a general trend, [the level of river gravel] in Tasman is degrading so we don't have the supply at the top of our rivers that keeps gravel moving down." Mr Smith says local observation is important but needs to be taken in context with long term data, and extracting gravel from one place could impact somewhere else upstream. The TDC aerially surveys the Takaka River roughly every couple of years, but that data is not available publicly. (After recent flood events another survey is due shortly.)

Merv Solly says "you don't need data, you just need eyeballs." If you haven't visited the river out the back of Takaka in a while, go and check out Mount Gravel at the end of Haldane Road. That site, metres from the Sollys washplant where gravel is processed, was historically one of up to five sites regularly extracted from on the Takaka River. "You'd hear the crushers every day. Sollys down by the mouth, TNL out the back of Rose's there." says Clive Bird. Contractors like Solly now source it elsewhere, tired of the hoops they have to jump through to get permission. TDC charges \$7 a cubic metre for river gravel, after consent is granted.

"The whole process ends up costing around \$10 a cubic metre... You have to do an environmental plan, a health and safety plan (which we have to do for everything, even if we've done the job 10,000 times, we are required to do it again. That's because we're stupid and can't remember, I guess - I can't think of another reason) and a works plan. And you can't process it on the river. So you have to cart it away to a site... If we could actually process on the river using a process screen, which screens out say -40 millimeter pieces, then all the larger stones get put up on the bank in a slope to protect it with a sloping riverbed - that wouldn't cost the Council anything." Solly says the consent process is supposed to take 21 days but usually takes much longer - so he gets most of his gravel from a private pit behind Tarakohe (pictured below) and his Dolomite mine.



Above: Crushing gravel privately near Tarakohe where there's no council consent required. But Merv says river gravel is a high-end product that's still in demand.

Left: Paines Ford in flood, 30 July. A gravel island still pokes out over the flood waters forcing the river into the willow-planted banks.



Q: In law, what is the principle of subsidiarity?
Answer in next week's Part 3.

"We did manage to get some permits to take out 2000m3 from Paines Ford last year. So we started getting it. We had a couple of high flows, so we had to get out of it - we weren't allowed to drive through any water, so we had to keep taking the culvert out, putting it in again. And then we were told to stop on the 12th of November because the holiday makers might come and we couldn't possibly be removing gravel while that occurred. Then we weren't allowed back in there until after the end of the February, and I just lost interest... Too difficult. We never went back. This last flood shifted quite a lot of willows out at the base of Paines Ford bridge. Now [in a future flood] the gravel that's left in there and reshaped, it could blow through the end of the bridge and wash the highway out. That'll probably be the result." Merv Solly can switch to sarcasm without skipping a beat: "But we'll blame that on climate change. That'll have nothing to do with the poor management of the river."

Paul Sangster says Council cite 'degradation' of riverbeds as a reason not to extract gravel, but points out the deep channels the river has been forced to carve down to keep flowing through the stones. "Where the Anatoki River comes out [into the Takaka River] it used to sort of merge like a lane does onto a highway. But it's built up so much gravel on the inside, it now comes out straight, and it's chewed this channel. Well, of course it's eroding because the gravel narrows the river down to only about 10 metres wide. It can't do anything else. And then they use that as a statistic to say the river is degrading? No, it's not." Mr Solly has measured the depth of that skinny channel on the Takaka River downstream of the Anatoki, to be a staggering 9 metres.

Sangster is baffled by the mismanagement, concluding that "they are deliberately flooding the river." His calls for better river management go back decades, and reflect the same results of any similar attempts by Merv Solly, who says he's never felt like he's been a part of a proactive Council plan to help manage Golden Bay's rivers. "I have to walk second in my boots, probably behind a TDC person, who's wearing roman sandals with socks inside them, and wondering why their feet are getting wet."

Mitigation not Devastation is a three-part series researched and written by Samantha Blanchard, and funded by the GB Thinker. Part Three, next week, will tackle what you can do to help.



Above: Merv Solly with aerial imaging of a stopbank blowout along the Waingaro River. Under the declared State of Emergency, contractors could freely take action on river management to reactively repair flood damage.

PAID CONTENT

CLASSIFIEDS

RESULTS

BRIDGE

13 August. AGM Session 1. E Bradshaw/J Harper 65.63%; L Scurr/ H Curtis 64.06%; L Field/J Edmondson 62.50%. H/cap: L Field/J Edmondson 63.80%; E Bradshaw/J Harper 62.58%; L Scurr/ H Curtis 60.46%.

AGM NOTICES

PURAMAHOI Hall AGM, Friday 22 August, 7pm at the hall. Enquiries to Brian Nesbit 027 556 0686.

THE Tarakohe Sea Anglers AGM will be held on Wednesday 27 August 2025 in the front lounge of the Telegraph Hotel Takaka at 7.30pm. Casey Port, secretary.

PERSONAL NOTICES / Pānui ake

Memorial Service – Graham John Drummond

16 September 1934 – 24 July 2025



Nola and the Drummond family warmly invite the Golden Bay and Motueka community to join them in honouring the life of Graham as his ashes are laid to rest.

Date & Time:

Thursday, 28 August at 1:30pm

Location:

Rototai Cemetery, Takaka

Following the service, please join the family for a cuppa at the Takaka Band Rooms.



A memorial celebration & musical shindig for Patrick Riddett will be held at The Mussel Inn, Sat 30th Aug, from 3pm. Tributes from 4pm. Music into the evening. Please bring a plate of finger food to share

PUBLIC NOTICES / Pānui a whānui

EAST Takaka Hall Society raffle result: Trailer of firewood, Murray Herbert, two boxes of kindling, Amanda Van Lier, one box of kindling, Ina of Tata Beach. Thank you to everyone who supported this East Hall raffle.

NARCOTICS Anonymous Golden Bay meeting, Mondays 6pm, 42 Commercial Street, hall behind church. All welcome.

GB Animal Welfare Society Inc (ex-SPCA). Ph Carol Wells 525 9494, 8am-5pm weekdays.

ALCOHOLICS Anonymous, new location at GB Community Hall, 88 Commercial Street. Open meeting, all welcome. Thursdays 7pm. Ph 0800 229 6757.

POHARA BOAT CLUB OPPORTUNITY: We're exploring new ways to strengthen and future-proof the boat club.

We're seeking expressions of interest for a potential sublease of our stunning upstairs level, a space with breathtaking harbour views, a fully equipped kitchen and bar, and a versatile indoor area with a deck facing the water ready for your vision. We'd love to hear from you if you think this could be a good option for your business. Imagine the possibilities in this unique waterfront setting! To express your interest, simply go to our website and complete the short form and we will be in touch.

<https://www.poharaboatclub.org/expressions-of-interest>

FRESH FM needs your help. Are you willing to host a fundraising event to support local radio? Or help run one? Check out our website freshfm.net. We're a Charitable Trust – a \$30 donation (that can be made on our website) is tax deductible.

GB WEEKLY: Stitch 'n Sew, Takaka is our agent or you can email us: admin@gbweekly.co.nz (preferred). Office hours are Monday-Wednesday, 9am-5pm. Ph 027 525 8679.

PROPERTY WANTED / Rawa hiahia

MATURE professional couple looking to rent a long-term rural house. Ideal would be three/four bedrooms plus with veggie gardens and fruit trees. Email Susan SusanMR@protonmail.com or ph 021 138 1818.

GOLDEN BAY PROPERTY WANTED

We are a local couple seeking our dream property. Preferably between Takaka - Collingwood. Ideally this dream property would have a combination of;

- Beach front
- Views/nice aspect
- Native bush
- Water source
- More than 1000sqm land
- Some pasture (for household animals)

It can be a home, or bare land. Anything considered. Our budget matches our wishlist. We are genuine buyers ready to commit.

If you are thinking of selling/subdividing soon we would love to hear from you.

Please contact via email Goldenbaydreamhome@gmail.com

HEALTH & WELLBEING / Hauora

MASSAGE. Ph Willem 022 134 1726.

MASSAGE. Ph Paul Frika 027 772 7334. 30 years of experience.

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Marjo van Dijk
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TRADES AND SERVICES / Mahi a ratonga

Abel Tasman Accounting Limited

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Taxation services and general business support for clients of all shapes and sizes. Available evenings and weekends. Ph Bronwyn 027 268 4010, bronwyn@abeltasmanaccounting.co.nz

ACCOUNTANT and tax advisor. All Inland Revenue returns filed for big and small businesses and individuals. Self-employed and rental property reports prepared. Day and evening appointments available. Ph Susan Ayton Shaw 929 7507 or email taxayton@gmail.com

ACCOUNTANT. Long-standing market leader with unbeatable professional qualifications and experience. Warn & Associates, ph 525 9919.

ARBORIST, qualified, ph Jack Stevens 021 211 5580.

ARCHITECT services. Building and resource consents. Residential, commercial and industrial. Chris Pyemont Architects, ph 021 0278 4729.

BLINDS; rollers, duettes, venetians, shutters, automation, quality curtain tracks, lined curtains, sheers. Ph Tracey, Imagine designs 027 440 0071 or visit the showroom 96b Commercial St, Takaka.

BUILDER: new builds, renovations, decks, etc. Available now, Alistair Middleton Homes Created, ph 027 510 6511, al.homescreated@gmail.com

CARS wanted. Will pick up for free (some conditions apply). Motueka Auto Parts. Ph 03 528 9576.

CHIMNEY cleaning, handyman. Ph Ry South 022 513 3947.

CHIMNEY sweep and firebox maintenance. GB Chimney Cleaning ph 027 458 7679.

COURIERS. TG Couriers delivering between Golden Bay and Nelson five days a week. Ph 027 717 7188.

DRONE SERVICES GOLDEN BAY.

High quality photo and video for events, marketing, property, roof inspections etc. Privacy-conscious. Affordable. Ph Oli 021 0229 0141.

ELECTRICIAN. Rameka Electrical Services. Registered and licensed electrician and inspector available for all electrical work. Ph 020 4126 5338.

FLORIST. Place your order online www.goldenbayflowers.co.nz or ph 027 758 1138. Teresa Brough Designer Florist.

FREEVIEW TV, radio, HiFi, WiFi, electronics. Ph 027 246 2432.

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Ray White Golden Bay



Billy Kerrisk
Licensed Agent
027 608 5606
billy.kerrisk@raywhite.com



Karilyn Woodford
Property Manager
027 525 7229
rentals.goldenbay@raywhite.com

RayWhite

1325 & 1327 Collingwood-Puponga, Pakawau Deadline sales USP 56 Beach Road, Collingwood Tender, Thursday 11th September



OPEN HOME



OPEN HOME

UNMISSABLE OPPORTUNITIES IN PAKAWAU 🏠 2 🚗 1 🚙 1 📏 910

Bring your 1970's LPs - this retro Kiwi bach is a classic! One of the few original Mill Houses in the area, it enjoys a sheltered spot overlooking farmland, just a few hundred metres from the beach via Collinson Street. With two bedrooms, a separate kitchen, dining room with heat pump, sunroom, covered porch, and a glimpse of the sea, it's a laid-back coastal retreat on a flat 910sqm section with garage, sheds, glasshouse, and gardens. Next door, a 700sqm freehold section with power to the boundary is also for sale - ideal for building, glamping or simply land banking for the future. Both properties must be sold.

House: Offers over \$525,000 Section: Offers over \$225,000
All offers invited on or before Friday 5 September 2025 (unless sold prior)

Open Home: Sunday 11am- 11.30pm

MASTERS PLACE - A CLASSIC BY THE SEA 🏠 4 🚗 1 📏 1080

Held in the same family for over 80 years, this solid 1920s home is built from locally milled native timber and is full of timeless character. With four voluminous bedrooms, two lounge rooms and a west-facing covered deck for evening BBQs, there's room for all the family — plus the beach is just across the road!

Whether you're after a permanent home, family retreat or holiday rental, this is a rare opportunity to own a piece of Collingwood history. Offered fully furnished and ready to enjoy. Homes like this don't come along often — they hold stories, and this one is ready for many more.

Offered for sale by Tender (not selling prior). Tenders close 2pm, Thursday 11 September 2025.

Open Home: Sunday 1pm - 1.30pm

758 Abel Tasman Drive, Pohara

Offers over \$850,000

407 Hamama Road, Takaka

Price reduced: \$845,000



NEW LISTING

RETIRE BY THE BEACH

🏠 191 📏 1180

Imagine a life where every day feels like a holiday. Situated one row back from Pohara Beach, on a flat, fully fenced section, it's a paradise for pets, and well set up for gardening. The heart of this property is its outdoor-focused lifestyle, the perfect base for cherished family gatherings! Plenty of parking here too for your caravan/camper & boat, so that you have the freedom to fully embrace every sun-soaked Golden Bay day. The huge double garage is fully insulated & lined, & included is a sunny workbench and two 2.4m high auto-doors. Two extra rooms off the garage provide options galore.

Fruit trees crop well in this climate, there are plenty dotted around the gardens. Out the back, overlooking farmland, there are raised veggie beds, a hothouse for Tomatoes, and a good shed. There's a walkway to the beach, and cafés, golf links and the marina are close at hand - what more could you want?

Open Home: Saturday 2pm- 2.30pm



OPEN HOME

HAMAMA HAVEN 🏠 3 🚗 1 🚙 2 📏 4.0534ha

Tucked into a warm, frost-free microclimate just 10 mins from Takaka, this charming lifestyle property offers privacy, productivity, and convenience. Set in park-like gardens, the walk-in-ready home features recent updates, mountain views, a spa pool and bush sauna. With reliable water and radiant warmth from limestone cliffs, the growing conditions are ideal. Contact Billy TODAY!

Open Home: Saturday 12pm- 12.30pm



FARMHOUSE ON ONE ACRE

🏠 3 🚗 1 🚙 1 📏 4047

Just 15 mins from Collingwood, this lush one acre block offers a beautiful view of the sea, water, and a rustic 1920s cottage with modern wiring and great insulation. Secluded by trees, the home features a traditional farmhouse kitchen, sunny living, a covered veranda, and utility spaces including a home office, garage, tunnel house, and sheds—perfect for a sustainable, back-to-basics lifestyle.

ANOTHER SOLD

Level 1, 11 Buxton Lane, Takaka | 03 525 7219 | www.rwgoldenbay.co.nz | Billy Kerrisk Ltd Licensed Agent REAA 2008

TRADES AND SERVICES / Mahi a ratonga

FRUIT pruning, sustainable property advice and management, edible landscaping, soil testing, garden mentoring. Sol Morgan, GroWise Consultancy, ph 027 514 9112.

GLOW ELECTRICAL SERVICES. Local certifying electrician available for new builds and renovations, odd jobs and all general electrical work. Excellent service and quality workmanship. **Please ph Dylan 021 250 4959.**

GOLDEN BAY DIGGER HIRE 1.7 tonne. Ph 027 713 0684.

GOLDEN BAY ROOFING

Maintenance, leaks, repairs and roofing supplies. Licensed Roofer. Ph 027 395 0037.

GOLDEN Bay Storage, Tākaka. Dry, safe, secure, alarmed, insurance approved. Furniture trailer available. Ph Marg 027 222 5499, goldenbaystorage@gmail.com

HELPING HANDS ph 525 6226. Te Whare Mahana Supported Employment. Lawnmowing, line trimming, garden maintenance, riparian planting, scrub-cutting, gutter cleaning, recycling, pothole repair, waterblasting, window cleaning, house moves. **How can we help?**

LAWN mowing. Bainham, Pākawau, Collingwood to Wainui. ProMow Services NZ, ph 027 458 7679.

LAWNMOWING, www.goldenbaypropertyservices.co.nz, ph 027 690 0769.

MOHUA Glass and Glazing. Ph 027 410 9105, mohuaglass@gmail.com

PAINTER available, call Borrelli Painting for a free quote. All interior/exterior jobs. Ph Luca 022 086 1842.

PAINTING and interior, exterior plastering. Licensed qualified local tradesman. Ph CM Coatings 027 222 0507.

PENINSULA Plasterers for all your interior plastering needs. No job too small. Quality assured. 20+ years' experience. For a free quote ph Craig 027 472 4376.

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STUMP GRINDING SPECIALIST.

Tree care and property maintenance. Ph Carl 027 263 5353.

SURVEYING: GPS and drone surveys. Topo, building setout, boundary location. Mohua Uenuku Surveying, ph Alexis 021 023 91 364.

TĀKAKA Garden Services, for all your lawn and garden needs. Ph 027 525 8006 or 525 8806.

TILER. Professional wall and floor tiling and design. Wayne Robinson Tiling. Ph 027 576 1620.

WINDOW cleaning. Ph Willem 022 134 1726.

WINDOW cleaning, www.goldenbaypropertyservices.co.nz, ph 027 690 0769.



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LOST. Tailboard for a ute on the Kaihoka/Dry Road to Paturau. Ph Dave Richards 027 494 9524.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED / Hiahia mahi

SEASONED relief milker. Reliable, consistent, experienced. Ph Paul 021 771 916.

SITUATIONS VACANT / Tūranga wātea

Customer Service Representative

Part-time (flexible shifts, permanent Saturdays)



Join the friendly team at Paper Plus Takaka.

We are looking for a positive, reliable team player to join us as a **Customer Service Representative**. This role includes working across both our Paper Plus retail store and our NZ Post agency, so if you enjoy helping people, staying organised, and being part of a supportive team, we would love to hear from you.

Position is available now, to apply please send a cover letter and CV to takaka@paperplus.co.nz with attention to Rochelle.

FOR SALE / Hei hokohoko

DRY firewood, good selection. Ph Bay Firewood 027 769 6348.

AUTOMOTIVE, marine and deep cycle batteries in stock now at Steve Prince Auto Electrical. Ph 027 616 5211.

HAY and baleage. Made in Tapawera. Weed free. Ph 027 224 8337.

CHURCH SERVICES ON SUNDAYS

GOLDEN Bay Anglican Parish warmly invites you to join them on Sunday, 10am at Tākaka or 4.45pm at Collingwood (starting with a cuppa). Worship services (with communion) 10 and 24 August; fellowship gatherings (fellowship, songs, prayer and bible study) 3 and 17 August. Combined parish gathering, 10am at Tākaka, 31 August, no service in Collingwood that day.

SACRED Heart Catholic faith community winter timetable: Mass, 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 4pm. Service of the Word with communion, 2nd Sunday, 9.30am, followed by a cuppa. All warmly welcome. No service 4th weekend.

ST Andrews Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome to join us at 10am for a time of worship and fellowship.



Sunday services 10am
Monthly worship service—4th Sunday @ 7pm
ALL WELCOME

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who believe in me and have not seen me". John 20: 29

Pastor: Rodney Watson
www.coctakaka.co.nz
Ph: 525 9265 | 93 Commercial St

HE IS THE GOD WHO
DIED AND ROSE AGAIN!



Supported Independent Living for Elders

Casual Relieving Housekeeper Vacancy

Please contact: Staff committee chair, Bree Ormond
staffing@abbeyfieldgb.org.nz or ph 027 669 9002

Kahurangi Christian Church

Sunday 24 August, 10:30am
Collingwood Area School Hall

All welcome

Contact Robin/Lauren Swafford, 022 604 9678

UPCOMING EVENTS / Mea pakiri haere

SUNDAY 24 AUGUST

BADMINTON, REC PARK CENTRE, 6.45-8.45pm. All welcome. Ph Kerry 027 525 7007.

TUESDAY 26 AUGUST

GB WEEKLY DEADLINE: noon on Tuesdays. Stitch 'n Sew is our agent in Tākaka. Or you can email us: admin@gbweekly.co.nz or phone us 027 525 8679.

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST

DYING MATTERS WEEK info table at Bacca Bakery 9am-12pm and Friday 29 August 1-3pm or ph Sacha 021 044 4294.

ONEKAKA PLAYGROUP, all welcome, Wednesdays 10am-12.30pm, Onekaka Hall.

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST

DAYTIME BADMINTON, Rec Park Centre, 9-11am. All welcome. Ph Kerry 027 525 7007.

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST

DYING MATTERS WEEK info table at Bacca Bakery 1-3pm or ph Sacha 021 044 4294.

LATER EVENTS

TALKING ABOUT DEATH makes life easier. Dying Matters Week 1-7 September.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT - with special guest Kath Bee, Sunday 31 August, 2pm, Tākaka Primary School Hall, koha appreciated.

THE NEXT TĀKAKA JAZZ GROUP GATHERING, Golden Bay High School Music Room, 6.45pm, Tuesday 3 September. Drive into the school opposite the school shop. You pass two buildings. Mark Stillwell will be with us. Visitors are welcome. Enquiries [ph/txt 022 139 3413](tel:0221393413).

CRAFT DAY. Uruwhenua Women's Institute craft day. Monday 8 September at the Anglican Church Hall, 11am. Open day to see and participate with different crafts.

LIONS BINGO, Monday 1 September, 7pm start at Collingwood Rugby clubrooms.

WELLBY TALKING CAFÉ: 1.30pm-3pm, Wednesday 3 September, Tākaka Library. Wellby Talking Cafés are about social connection and finding out about groups, activities and services. www.wellby.org.nz, ph 03 546 7681.

NO ONE GETS OUT ALIVE. Dying Matters Week 1-7 September.

PEER GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP presentation for families with under-13s and teenagers, Wednesday 3 September, 1.30-2.30pm at Mohua Community Hall. For more information please ph Michelle Cole 027 313 8032.



FRIDAY 22ND AUGUST

4:00 Freakier Friday (PG)

7:30 The Fantastic Four: First Steps (PG) Final

SATURDAY 23RD

2:00 Mr Burton (M)

7:30 NZ Mountain Film Festival (E) Once Only

SUNDAY 24TH

3:00 The Leopard (PG) 1963

Classic Cinema (Note Earlier Start)

7:30 The Friend (M) Final

WEDNESDAY 27TH

5:30 Mr Burton (M)



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Te Tai o Aorangi



WETLAND VIEW PARK

Walking the Kaituna Trapline – Stay at the start / end of the walk for an early start or a pickup the next morning. One night stays now available till 15/12/2025

For a 1 night stay – Enter 'kaituna' in the promo code on the Book Now page of our website.

www.wetlandviewpark.co.nz



A BalanSING with GalanJAH

GalanJAH selects foremost from Roots and Fruits of Sisterly Reggae, within a Global Musical Forest. A BalanSING airs Fridays at 12 noon with a new episode every 2 weeks.



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Check out our new-look website:

www.gbweekly.co.nz

Read the paper online, contact us, find advertising prices

Sams Creek Public Meeting



Protect
our water

3.30pm, Sunday 31 August
Golden Bay High School Hall
Hosted by Sams Creek Collective

Come along to hear current information and the latest updates on the proposed fast-tracked gold mine. Learn what we now know about Siren Gold's plans and the huge risks that we believe they pose to our waterways and community. Find out the facts and ask questions.

GB FRIENDSHIP CLUB

meets Friday 5 September, 10am
at the Senior Citizens' Hall

Our speakers are:

Willa Viska on Wrinklies Express and
Alan McLean on Galapagos Islands

Questions welcome as are visitors. Koha appreciated.

ROOTS GIGS

HAPPY HOUR!

MON-FRI 2PM - 5 PM

FRIDAY ARVOS

GRUMPY JAMS

RANDOM VINYL SELECTIONS - ROOTS OUTBACK
2 PM | WEATHER DEPENDANT

SATURDAY 23RD AUGUST

TAKAKA'S GOT TALENT!
KARAOKE DONE ROOTS STYLE

JELLY & JAM OPEN MIC

THURSDAY, 28TH AUGUST 7:30

SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

LUSCIOUS FUNDRAISER
LINE UP TBD



1 COMMERCIAL STREET TAKAKA

GOLDEN BAY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid from Friday 22 until Tuesday 26 August

Friday: Southeasterlies about Farewell dying away, light winds elsewhere. Fine, frosty at first.

Saturday: Light winds. Some cloudy areas in the west otherwise mainly fine weather.

Sunday: Light winds, gradually tending northerly. Cloudy periods in the west otherwise mainly fine weather.

Monday: Light northeasterlies. Some cloud about the ranges otherwise mainly fine weather.

Tuesday: Northerlies may freshen later. Mainly fine apart from increasing high cloud later.

Sollys Contractors are proud
sponsors of this weather forecast.

Enquiries phone: 03 525 9843

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Disclaimer: This forecast is a personal interpretation compiled from public information provided by NZ MetService and other public sources. It is a local forecast and no liability is implied or accepted.

DramaLAB Presents
Red Heavens
From Stromboli to D'Urville Island

"Baanvinger brings another powerful and passionate solo show to the stage."
"Red Heavens" portrays the true story of Angelica Masala, an Italian pioneering immigrant whose fate is intertwined with the forces of nature, a bitter family feud and her deep connection with Wekaia Ruruku Ekington, a high-born Māori woman. This dynamic play is inspired by the book 'Angelina' by New Zealand author Gerard Hindmarsh.

SAT 23 AUGUST - 7 PM
SUN 24 AUGUST - 1 PM
SUN 24 AUGUST - 7 PM
PŌHARA HALL GOLDEN BAY

Tickets: \$25 / \$10 youth
Book: humanitix.com/nz or doorsales (Cash only)
For more info: dramalab.co.nz

The Langford Store
NEWS UPDATE
Open for the Season

Saturday 30th August
9am - 5pm
5 Days a Week
Closed Thursday & Friday

I was relaxing, creating, spending time with family, when i looked at the clock and wondered where the time went? So off to the shop i had to go, cleaning out the cupboards, dusting the shelves; when i looked again it was almost Spring And everything was done in time...

Some things change, some things stay the same. The only time that exists is now, so we'll see you then.

Meet the Candidates

Sunday 7th September

2pm: Collingwood Area School Hall and
7pm: Takaka Senior Citizens' Hall

Hear community board, council and mayoral candidates speak, and answer your written submitted questions.

Another community event from
GB Rural Women and GB Grey Power.



The Mussel Inn Coming Up...

Thu 28th QUIZ NIGHT - All welcome.

SEPTEMBER

Wed 3rd CLOSED ALL DAY for Enkai.

Thu 11th QUIZ NIGHT - All welcome.

Sat 13th SHAUN KIRK supported by
NICK HERBISON.
Tickets \$25 @ undertheradar, \$30 door.

Thu 18th ACID ON THE MICROPHONE - 7.30pm.
Special guest NEAL.

Sat 20th GENERAL KALA, 8pm. \$20 door.

Thu 25th QUIZ NIGHT - All welcome.

Sat 27th THE ORANGE BOX - Arts on Tour
kids theatre show, 1pm.
\$10 tickets @ undertheradar.

OCTOBER

Sat 4th ALBI AND THE WOLVES - FUN RAISER
TOUR. Tickets \$20 @ undertheradar, \$25 door.

Thu 9th QUIZ NIGHT - All welcome.

Sun 12th SILENT MOVIES LIVE. Charlie Chaplin's
"The Kid and A Dogs Life" accompanied by
original scores. 7.30pm.

Tues 14th LORD ROCHESTER (tbc)

Thu 16th ACID ON THE MICROPHONE

Mon 20th SINGALONG 'ROUND THE PIANO with
CRAIG DENHAM, 7pm. All welcome.

for more details see www.musselinn.co.nz

AUGUST 30TH AND 31ST
DRAMALAB
Kids Theatre Festival

4 Original Shows
Written and Directed by Jodie Grant

THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 10.30AM - 3PM

ADULTS \$10 KIDS \$5 4 SHOWS IN 1!

The Case of the Missing Keys - By The Powerful Parrots
10.30am-11am

The Power of Music - By The Egyptians
11.30am-12pm

Things Are Not Always As They Seem - By The Investigators
12.45pm - 1.45pm

A New World Order - By The Labrats
2.15pm - 2.45pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM POHUTUKAWA GALLERY - Purchase with cash.

FUN FAMILY COMMUNITY EVENT
DELICIOUS WHOLSOME SOUPS AND BAKING
CASH ONLY \$\$\$

TAKAKA FUELS & FISHING

Proudly sponsors Golden Bay Tide Watch

2 Commercial Street, Takaka | Ph 525 7305



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GOLDEN BAY TIDE WATCH - TARAKOHE

	Saturday Aug 23	Sunday Aug 24	Monday Aug 25	Tuesday Aug 26	Wednesday Aug 27	Thursday Aug 28	Friday Aug 29
H	9:47am 10:11pm	10:27am 10:45pm	11:03am 11:17pm	11:36am 11:48pm	12:08pm	12:20am 12:39pm	12:53am 1:13pm
L	3:33am 3:59pm	4:13am 4:35pm	4:49am 5:07pm	5:23am 5:37pm	5:57am 6:06pm	6:30am 6:37pm	7:05am 7:11pm
SUN AND MOON							
☀	R 7:07 am S 5:56 pm	☀	R 7:06 am S 5:57 pm	☀	R 7:04 am S 5:58 pm	☀	R 7:02 am S 5:59 pm
☾	R 7:09 am S 5:46 pm	☾	R 7:32 am S 6:54 pm	☾	R 7:53 am S 7:59 pm	☾	R 8:12 am S 9:02 pm
☀	R 7:01 am S 6:00 pm	☀	R 6:59 am S 6:01 pm	☀	R 6:58 am S 6:02 pm	☀	R 6:58 am S 6:02 pm
☾	R 8:32 am S 10:04 pm	☾	R 8:53 am S 11:05 pm	☾	R 9:16 am		
BILL HOHEPA'S MAORI FISHING GUIDE							
🐟 Fair	Best at 12:22 pm	🐟 Fair	Best at 12:45 am 1:07 pm	🐟 Fair	Best at 1:28 am 1:49 pm	🐟 Good	Best at 2:10 am 2:30 pm
🐟 Good	Best at 3:11 pm	🐟 Good	Best at 3:31 am 3:52 pm	🐟 Good	Best at 4:14 am 4:36 pm		



52 Nyhane Drive, LIGAR BAY 2376sqm

BLENDING NATURE & OPPORTUNITY
Wake to shimmering sea views and unwind in the hush of native bush. This sunny, north facing 2376sqm section in Ligar Bay blends coastal charm with relaxed living. With some services in place, it's ready for your dream home or retreat.

Price By Negotiation

Opportunities like this are rare. Enquire today.

Viewings by appointment

Paul McConnon
027 504 2872



317 Abel Tasman Drive, MOTUPIPI 2023sqm

FABULOUS FAMILY HOME
Immaculately presented & tastefully renovated, this fantastic family home offers quality throughout. Enjoy a rural outlook just minutes from town by car or bike. Features include spacious garaging, off-road parking, gardens, veggie beds, & a glass house. Perfect for family living. Don't miss out, this home needs to be viewed to truly appreciate.

\$899,000

house. Perfect for family living. Don't miss out, this home needs to be viewed to truly appreciate.

Viewings by appointment

Belinda J Barnes
021 236 2840



36 Nyhane Drive, LIGAR BAY 2500sqm

Viewings by appointment

OCEAN, FOREST & PEACE
An elevated coastal haven with sweeping sea views and native bush surrounds. This double-storey home offers seamless indoor-outdoor flow and a lush section with reserve walkway access to the beach. A rare blend of comfort, privacy, and nature—your peaceful Golden Bay retreat or forever home. Call now!

Price By Negotiation

Paul McConnon
027 504 2872



Lot 3 161 Wharariki Road, PŪPONGA \$460,000

TITLE NOW ISSUED
Kickstart your off-grid dream on this rural lifestyle block. Mostly flat, ready to build, and made for freedom. With title issued, it's your chance to live wild, raise a family close to nature, and build something truly yours. Escape the ordinary, call now.

Belinda J Barnes
021 236 2840



64 Abel Tasman Dr, TĀKAKA 1220sqm

Viewings by appointment

SPACIOUS RETREAT NEAR TOWN
This charming semi-Lockwood home offers a welcoming atmosphere with a spacious lounge, & a sunny west-facing deck, perfect for relaxing. A detached sleepout, double garage, & two carports offer ample space for all your needs. A must-see property—contact me today to make this inviting home yours.

\$759,000

Paul McConnon
027 504 2872



35 Tōtara Avenue, COLLINGWOOD 868sqm

Viewings by appointment

FABULOUS SEAFRONT BACH
This stunning seafront home in the tōtara forest boasts views from Pūponga to Farewell Spit. Enjoy sunrises & sunsets from the deck. The renovated bach includes a bespoke kitchen, oak floors, & sea-view bedroom. A 35 sqm Min Hall treehouse offers a bunkroom & bathroom. Call me to view.

\$935,000

Belinda J Barnes
021 236 2840



188 Abel Tasman Drive, TĀKAKA 875sqm

CALLING ALL DIYERS...
There's some work to do on this place, but it's in a good location close to town, has a generous 875m2 section, a good water supply and lovely rural views. There's plenty of space in the 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home.

Offers Over \$475,000

Call me for a look and see if it could be a project for you!

Viewings by appointment

James Mackay
027 359 0892



2075 Tākaka Valley Highway, TĀKAKA 4875sqm

PRIMO SPOT CLOSE TO TOWN
This elevated 4875sqm site has sweeping views of the Tākaka Valley with the solid 2-bedroom house well-built to take them all in! Being just a short walk to Tākaka and the recreation grounds, plus having plenty of space and a large shed, this property is a rare find! Call me for more details or to make a time to view.

\$895,000

Viewings by appointment

James Mackay
027 359 0892



Daffodil Day, is next Friday the 29 August. We still have some spaces on our Takaka stalls if you would like to help.

Would you have any fresh daffodils to donate?

They can be dropped off to First National on Thursday or Friday morning at Fresh Choice or Paper Plus.



Sharon McConnon
Office Manager
027 525 8255



Paul McConnon
Salesperson
027 504 2872



James Mackay
Principal/AREINZ
027 359 0892



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