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Women in
Business

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Get to Mackenzie

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contents

It's so uplifting to see our shops and cafes, businesses and towns coming back to life. And it looks like we're all now enjoying the opportunity to get out and about again.

In this issue we give you some inspiration for a bit of local travel with a look at the beautiful Mackenzie country, the picturesque rural town of Geraldine and the ever popular Hanmer Springs with its fabulous hot pools. There are so many beautiful places to discover and now is the perfect time for kiwis to get out and enjoy our own backyard.

If you're a skier then it's the perfect time to head for the Mackenzie country where winter has truly arrived. Our ski-fields are rejoicing at the prospect of kicking off the ski season in good stead with the domestic market. Mt Dobson reports good pre-season interest and Round Hill has everything in place already and are looking forward to a great season.

And we bring you plenty of insights and updates on local life - from the fascinating South Canterbury Museum to the latest winter fashions on our high streets. We hope you'll also really enjoy reading about some of our inspiring local business women in our annual Women In Business feature.

We are always delighted and inspired by our local towns and we hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we have enjoyed bringing it together.



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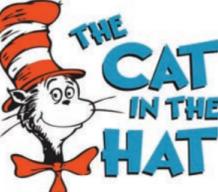


THE CAT IN THE HAT

These July school holidays. The time has come to have some fun and our children need it most!

Few children's books have stood the test of time quite like Dr Seuss's 200 word masterpiece 'The Cat in the Hat'.

Wed 8 Jul 2020, 11am and 2pm
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Weekend adventure with essence...

What better way to spend the weekend than by taking a scenic drive through the Mackenzie region, this time of year is perfect with snow on the mountains, fresh countryside air and crystal blue lakes. Pat took us along with her this weekend and we have some amazing photos to show.






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OFF THE MUCH TRODDEN TOURIST TRAIL.

Bonjour à tous from locked down France. When the world has recovered from this dreadful blight many of you may be planning on a future tour of Europe, visiting the usual tourist marvels of London, Paris, Florence, Rome, Venice, Vienna etc. I'm sure you'll have an amazing time visiting all these A grade destinations, but you will inevitably miss out on some real secret gems that are not so heavily infested by the curse of modern day tourist blight. Here is just a sample of such places we discovered during our four years of European exploits.

So, you have landed at Charles de Gaul and, quite rightly, spend a few days exploring the world's number 1 tourist city. Before you leave this Parisian region it is well worth taking the short drive south-east to Troyes. (pronounced Twah). The capital of the Champagne region is a delightful medieval town renowned for its wonky, brightly coloured, half-timbered 16th Century houses. The town contains several Gothic churches with striking early stained-glass windows including the Troyes Cathedral. Meander the old cobbled streets of shops, with plenty of restaurants to choose from and also, of course, all the everyday household names of champagne houses and wineries. While in the area a quick trip north will get you to the historic cathedral city of Reims which is worthy of a visit.



words and images: Philip Wood

Florence is a most enchanting destination but, in common with most Italian cities, this treasure trove of renaissance art is overpoweringly religiously based. If you have become "churched out" I suggest you drive south, through the unique Tuscany scenery, and visit the smaller city of Siena with its distinctive brick architecture. Yes, it has an amazing 12th Century cathedral, but you really visit this city to appreciate the more secular works of the Sieneese Art School in the civic centres and Metropolitan Museum of Art. These paintings and murals depict both ordinary everyday events and special occasions, be they festivals, trade fairs, weddings or battles. The city just yells Renaissance at you as you explore its fan-shaped central square, Piazza del Campo, and narrow lanes and numerous piazzas.

If you are searching for a secret gem that envelops the entire Spanish history, then look no further than the northern city of Zaragoza. Situated within sight of the Pyrenees it was founded as a Roman river port town to control the whole of northern Spain. When abandoned in the 5th Century it was overrun by the Goths. They in turn lost control to the Moors, who in their turn were evicted by the Kings of Aragon. (Unexpectedly) it was a centre for the Spanish Inquisition. The city has some spectacular renaissance architecture which is still fully utilized today. The city walls frustrated Napoleon as he besieged the city in its long heroic stand, costing the lives of a huge portion of its population. It acted as General Franco's bastion during the 1930s Civil War. All of these periods have left their mark on the city and it's a fascinating place to investigate and reconnoiter.

No tour of Europe is complete without visiting the stunning scenery of Austria. Of course, Vienna is the decadent epicentre of Hapsburg culture, but I want to let you in on the less visited southern city of Graz in Styria. At its heart is Hauptplatz, the medieval old town's main square. Graz Schlossberg held the only castle in Europe to hold out against Napoleon, so he razed it after the Hapsburg Empire surrendered. However, there is sufficient surviving, including the intriguing clock tower, to appreciate the defensive stronghold it once was. Be sure to catch the glockenspiel recital every afternoon at 3p.m. in the main shopping area. A very Austrian city with a hint of Slavish flavouring.

Portugal is easily our favourite country. Lisbon is vibrant and fascinating. But for this article I will take you further north to Porto. A town of two river banks. One bank comprises narrow cobbled streets of merchants' houses, baroque churches and cafes, while across the river hosts all

the port wine concessions granted to the 18th century English traders. Spanning the river is a spectacular steel bow double decker bridge. Don't miss the UNESCO World Heritage Site tiled railway station vestibule, amazing! Take as long as you need to visit all the port warehouses that you could ever fantasize about.

The Rhine Valley can be an overly popular area. However, to escape these tourist cruising hordes you will find flowing into the Rhine at Koblenz the River Moselle. Boasting its own spectacular valley, originating in France, the Moselle is crammed with fairytale castles, medieval towns, scenic walks, and fragrant wines.

Other less frequented pearls that are just waiting to be encountered include Avignon, Perugia, Amboise, Utrecht, Bordeaux, Carcassonne, Bratislava and Innsbruck. Check them out.

Looking for something completely different? We take all our visitors to emotive ruins 20kms from our home. Due west from Limoges. Orador-sur-Glane is an abandoned town which was totally destroyed on the 10 June 1944 by the murderous SS, martyring all 642 occupants as part of their reprisal attack. The town is as it was then left with shutters rusting and victims' cars still parked in the streets. It is a national memorial site. You wander in silence and leave haunted.

I invite you to freely enjoy my photo collection on www.flickr.com/photos/philipwoodphotography/ and to Google my new book Phrotose.



Local women IN BUSINESS

South Canterbury is bursting with wonderful businesses owned and run by dynamic and entrepreneurial women. Across all sectors from optometrists to design, retail to hospitality, women are making great inroads in the South Canterbury business world.



MICHELLE KELLY
Independent Property Manager
OWNER

What is your business focus?
Renting properties – matching tenants to suitable properties, helping owners keep their rental properties in good condition and occupied with good tenants, providing good service to both owners & tenants.

What influenced your career choice?
23 years ago, we purchased our first rental property. We managed it ourselves. Back then we used to collect the rent weekly from the tenant and record the payment in a rent book. As our portfolio grew, so did our knowledge and experience. Property management gave me an opportunity to manage my work life/workload around our children. It also resulted in a lot of weekend work to get the balance right. We were approached by an investment syndicate of out of town owners and asked if we would manage

their Timaru properties. D & M Properties became a registered company in 2006. We trade as "Timaru Rentals" which reflects the nature of our business.

What is unique about your business?
Our slogan, Landlords working for Landlords, we have our own rental properties, so know the struggles an owner goes through. We have encountered almost every scenario with our own residential investment properties and are able to share/relate that experience to solve arising issues.

Best advice you have received?
Trust your gut instinct if it doesn't feel right don't do it. Girls can do anything.

What is one thing people may not know about you?
I love car racing & I am the president of the Timaru Falcon Fairlane car club & proud of it.

What makes you smile the most?
Seeing kids succeed.

Your greatest accomplishment is?
Getting to the top of the Eiffel Tower, I am very very scared of heights & being married to my best friend for 26 years.

34 Hobbs Street,
Timaru.
P 027 484 5990
or 03 688 3793



SHELLEY ENSOR
Bayleys Real Estate
LICENSED SALES AGENT

What is your business focus? Residential and Lifestyle Property Sales.

Valuable learning experiences?
Living in Christchurch and working through three earthquakes, taught me to be resilient and move with the conditions during this time. It had a major effect on the real estate business, never imagined before. This has stood me in good stead for the recent covid pandemic.

What makes you smile the most?
My daughter and my animals. You can never be sad when you have a sassy 13 year old girl and a farmlet filled with dogs, horses, donkeys, cows and goats to name a few.....who all have names!!!!

What influenced your career choice?
I have always been in the service industry, and loved the interior of homes and have built a few of my own homes over the years. I swapped my career from being a travel agent to selling homes from plans for Horncastle homes which then led me into Real Estate. 15 years later I am still here loving meeting people and working with my clients.

- Top 3 things on your bucket list are?**
1. Riding in the Gaucho Derby in South America, last year I travelled to Mongolia and competed in the Gobi Desert Cup, a 480km endurance race on Mongolian horses, it was one of the most amazing experiences of my life, through learning about their culture and making firm friendships with people from all around the world.
 2. To travel the North Island and experience all it has to offer considering the recent Covid pandemic, try and support our country's tourism industry.
 3. To take my daughter to Africa, travel and do a safari on horse back.



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LARA WOOD

ABC Cafe
MANAGING DIRECTOR

What is the focus of your business?

We provide our customers with great homecooked food, coffee and a friendly relaxing environment for all to enjoy. We also do catering for the business meeting, birthday party at our cafe or at your office, business or home.

What influenced your career choice?

My amazing nana, her cooking was the best and I always wanted to cook like her. Every time she cooked, she was always happy and when we ate her food, we were always happy. We loved her cooking and baking and I wanted to do the same.

What is unique about your business?

We are a family friendly environment with real home cooked food and a big playground for our younger customers plus our food cabinet is never the same from day to day.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome?

Getting my name out there and letting people know where we are, in Washdyke they only have to go through two sets of lights to get to us.

What makes you smile the most?

Seeing customers and young ones enjoying my food and relaxing in my cafe always having a great local coffee. Also seeing the happy faces when I deliver our catering orders to customers.

Your greatest accomplishment is?

People could say a lot but to me it would be naming my business after my 3 amazing kids Alex, Bruce and Courtney. They were my inspiration.

Best advice you have received?

No two days are the same, you need to take every day as it comes. When you need help ask for it do not try to do everything yourself, it adds to stress levels.

What is the one thing people may not know about you?

I wear my heart on my sleeve. I'm open honest and love what I do.



Where we meet - Where we relax
300 Hilton Highway, Washdyke
P. (03) 688 2852



SHARON VENMORE

FROCKS AND SHOCKS AT
OBSOLETE IRON MOTORS

What is the focus of your business?

Ladies Cave within a Man's Cave.

What is unique about your business?

Frocks and Shocks is all about remembering the years gone by, a display of memorabilia with a touch of new added in.

Valuable learning experiences?

Firstly always believe in yourself, never give up on your hopes and dreams no matter how long it may take. Night classes, online learning or ask others who are in business, just do it.

Do you have a role model or someone that inspires you?

My role model is my partner Gilbert, when we first met he built a motor bike to race on the Salt

Lakes in Utah, from the bare frame to then taking it to America to race. I was amazed and realized that I needed to believe in myself, hence this was the beginning of starting a plan of my own.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

My partner Gilbert and I would like to expand our business, we hope in the future to build a large barn on the section next door which would become a cafe/museum, an apartment upstairs with a view. We have recently added COFFEE TO GO which is proving very popular.

Top 3 things on your bucket list are?

More travelling as I would love to go to the UK where my family originate from and back to see

more of America which is full of memorabilia from the past.

Spend more time with my family and friends

Learn something new, maybe gardening so I could grow my own vegetables and design a beautiful garden, get back to nature.

What makes you smile the most?

To look back on all my achievements that I have accomplished in the last 8 years.



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www.obsoleteiron.com



INEKE WINKELMAN

Petronella's Interior Design
Business Owner

"I've always had a keen interest and fascination with fabric, colour and construction"

What is your business focus?

Providing individually tailored interior design services to clients throughout the South Island.

What influenced your career choice?

I've always had a keen interest and fascination with fabric, colour and construction. From a young age I enjoyed seeing colour in homes, the co-ordination between that and the soft furnishings, through drapes, bedding, upholstery and cushions, it's always fascinated me, so Interior Design captured me.

What is unique about your business?

Petronella's is by appointment only. I'm the sole operator which ensures my clients receive 100% attention and focus during their appointments, different to some main stream businesses where clients could deal with 2-3 different

people. I value my clients and appreciate their time is often limited, so this one on one approach is my way of showing that appreciation.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome?

Being a young female starting up a business, I've had challenges around learning sales and marketing, the financial operation of business, which I'm slowly getting better at, but it certainly doesn't excite me like fabric and wallpaper!

Another large challenge was opening up accounts and establishing relationships with large corporate suppliers, critical to ensure I could offer and supply my clients with the best products for their home.

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you?

Yes, absolutely! I have more than just one, and both female and male that I've been fortunate in crossing paths with in life. They each inspire me for various reasons and each in different aspects of my life. Some are in business themselves but some inspire me because of their 'story' or attitude and approach in life.



7 Theodosia Street, Timaru
P (021) 027 21230
www.petronellasdesign.com



SARAH HAMILTON

MTF Finance Timaru
FINANCE AND INSURANCE MANAGER

What is the focus of your business?

We help New Zealanders to do more - That's us in a nutshell.

What is unique about your business?

We're locals helping locals, backed by a nationwide company that's been helping New Zealanders to do more since 1970. Timaru people and businesses want finance from a team that understands what they want, with personal attention every step of the way - not a faceless corporation. We meet so many hard working locals who sometimes need that little bit of extra support to get ahead, and it's a great feeling to be able to help.

What influenced your career?

My father Steve opened the franchise in Timaru in

2010, A few years later myself and husband Sam jumped on board to run the family business.

Do you have a role model or someone that inspires you?

Yes my father Steve - We work closely together and I know if I ever need help, he's right there. He's got a great head for business so we bounce ideas off each other, and everything I know about serving Timaru people I've learnt from him.

What makes you smile the most?

The relationships that you create with customers! I have made some really good lifetime friends from the business, and the smile on peoples faces knowing that you have helped them to achieve their dream is hard to beat!

Best advice you have ever received?

Always follow your gut instinct, it's usually always right.

What's your greatest achievement?

The birth of our daughter Charlotte.



3 Hobbs Street, Timaru.
Ph (03) 686 6068



CAROLYN WILSON

Orlando Fashion Ltd
OWNER

"We are fortunate to have our own design & manufacture team rather than outsourcing"

What is the focus of your business?

Orlando is a women's fashion brand that is manufactured here in Timaru, supplying retail stockists throughout New Zealand. Alongside this we also have a retail store in Timaru & a busy online store.

What influenced your career choice?

The wholesale and manufacturing was really an evolution rather than a plan, an extension of a mostly fashion career background.

What is unique about your business?

That we are fortunate to have our own design and manufacture team rather than outsourcing. This enables us to produce new styles & repeats quickly rather than traditional fashion seasonal collections.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome? Too many to mention! Fashion is a challenging industry & I have seen many NZ fashion brands come & go over the years. The main challenge is the cost of NZ made whilst competing with brands made off shore at cheaper price points. But one positive of Covid, there has been a huge trend in consumer awareness of the benefits of supporting NZ made products and shopping local. Hopefully this will be long term.

Your greatest accomplishment is?

Apart from my 2 lovely children of course, it would be running the New York Marathon a few years ago. It was such a buzz seeing 5 boroughs of New York in one run, & achieving a long held dream. I will never forget the experience & how it felt.

Top 3 things on your bucket list are:

USA, USA, USA! It's my one constant motivation & dream to keep returning there & visit more states & road trips, I just love it.



175 Stafford Street, Timaru
Ph 0800 FORSTYLE
www.orlandofashion.co.nz



KERRY SLOANE

Jewel of the Harem
OWNER

What is your business focus?

Sourcing jewellery from exotic countries around the world.

What influenced your career choice?

Being obsessed with silver/gemstone jewellery, buying loads of glorious pieces while overseas. Returning home with "sell, sell, sell" in my head, putting them online to great response. Then doing cruise ship markets in Akaroa and it went from there...

What is unique about your business?

Having a good eye for unique, different, beautiful pieces. Living in these countries I have access to styles and items that haven't been seen in NZ often.

Valuable learning experiences?

Always be kind & nice to people in retail. It may come back to haunt you.

Best advice you have received?

Being around hugely successful people, I got to see the way they were being - "if you want what someone's got, then do what they do". Be bold, risk, step out there, intend big things & go for it.

What are some of the challenges you've had to overcome?

Doing it all myself.

What is one thing people may not know about you?

I speak 4 languages.

What makes you smile the most?

My cats

Your greatest accomplishment is?

Living my life as I chose, stepping out, risking, going against the grain, following as the Siren's called.

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you?

Life inspires me. Travel inspires me. Many ex bosses inspire me. People dealing with huge insurmountable challenges, still smiling & helping people, inspire me.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

To build my business-another shop or 2?

Jewel of the Harem

330 Stafford Street, Timaru
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LEANNE PRENDEVILLE

Mike Pero Real Estate
Licensed Salesperson

Women in Real Estate

"We have a very good culture in our office, which results in great team work, we are a big happy family."



ROSA ELLEN

MADAM MAT
MAT BINDING SPECIALIST

"Be sure to follow your own dreams or you just might end up helping someone else build theirs."

What is the focus of your business?

To provide a quality mat binding service in a fun happy environment. Everyone is important no matter how big or small the job.

What were some of the challenges you had to overcome?

A lot of people do not realise that there is a mat binding service in our area. Just getting my name out there. Maybe they think that Madam Mat offers a different service.

What makes you smile the most?

Very simple. It is my family, my children, grandchildren, husband, my dog, my friends, being out in the fresh air, swimming and good food of course.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

Watch this space!! Along with Madam Mat I hope to start a new venture soon, something that I have been working on for some time now...

Valuable learning experience?

Be sure to follow your own dreams or you just might end up helping someone else build theirs. Which is ok too!

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you?

The young women of today who follow their hearts and goals and stand up for what is right.

What advice would you give to young women who want to succeed in the workplace?

To make sure you have a genuine passion for your chosen profession, surround yourself with likeminded people you trust to support and bounce ideas off each other. Laugh every day, if you're not laughing you're not thriving!

What did you want to be when you were young?

Working on something like the Sea Shepherd would have been great (saving the world).

MADAM MAT Mat Binding Specialist

Located in the Peter Herron Building
17 Butler Street, Timaru
P. (03) 688 3876



SUZANNE TALBOT & JO RUSSELL

FASHION FOCUS

What is the focus of your business?

Women's fashions - both daywear, special occasion wear and accessories.

What is unique about your business?

Suzanne and Jo: Fashion Focus is unique as it is really two stores in one. We have our every day clothing and also one of the largest selections of special occasion wear in the South Island - so if you're looking for something special pop in and see us - we'd love to help you out.

Valuable learning experiences?

Suzanne - Being on our local school's board of trustees was an amazing experience from which I gained far more knowledge and skills than expected. I probably wouldn't have taken on Fashion Focus if I hadn't had the experience of being on the Board.

Best advice you have received?

Jo: Be happy in your work and treat others as you would like to be treated.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome?

Suzanne: Being a working Mum and trying to balance everything - having great staff really helps out with that!

What is one thing people may not know about you?

Jo: Before I started at Fashion Focus I had been milking cows. 4am starts, long days, wearing gumboots and overalls in the cold.

What makes you smile the most?

Jo: My Grandchildren and being with my friends and family.

Suzanne: Sharing a good wine with my friends at the end of a busy, chaotic week.

Your greatest accomplishment is?

Suzanne - Having my four beautiful children. Nothing prepares you for parenthood - although parenthood teaches you a lot and prepares you for a lot!

FASHION FOCUS

Highfield Mall, Wai-iti Road, Timaru
Ph (03) 688 8711
www.fashionfocus.co.nz



AIMEE WHITE

The Ringmakers
OWNER

What is the focus of your business?

Jewellery design, manufacture and retail, including repairs.

What is unique about your business?

We have 3 manufacturing jewellers on site and are one of only a few jewellery manufacturing businesses of this scale in the South Island. The collegiality and creative collaboration this brings to the workshop is great for our staff and for our customers.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome?

Nothing major, but I am a fairly shy, introspective person who has managed somehow to spend my working life in very social jobs. Finding myself in these roles has made me work harder to develop skills I would have neglected otherwise. Given half a chance, I might have become a hermit in a cave surrounded by books by now, but I am glad I haven't!

What makes you smile the most?

My children, Olivia (10) and George (8), because they are great kids but also, on a more practical level, because they both have a flair for comedy and often have me in hysterics. Running a business can be stressful at times and all-consuming, if you let it, but a little bit of humour goes a long way in helping to keep things in perspective.

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you?

Too many to name; I am inspired by the stories of so many people I meet. One of the best things about working in retail is getting to cross paths with tons of interesting people. When I was a child, I loved reading biographies of accomplished scientists, artists and musicians, etc, but the older I get the more I realise that we all have a compelling story.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

Pretty much the same as they have been for most of my adult life (which, unfortunately, is a reflection on my success in achieving them thus far!): get more sleep, read more books, appreciate the beauty in the everyday, don't sweat the small stuff.



270 Stafford Street, Timaru
Ph 03 688 1362 www.theringmakers.co.nz

Property Brokers

1 Talbot Street, Geraldine | Phone 03 693 1315
83 Sophia Street, Timaru | Phone: 03 687 7166
76 Queen Street, Waimate | Phone 03 689 7171



Women in Real Estate - With many years of combined experience, we are committed in offering a premium service and are dedicated to achieving excellent results for our clients.

We stand by the Property Brokers motto - PROUD TO BE HERE

SARAH TAYLOR

What is unique about your business?

Property Brokers is a family owned business. We are proudly provincial.

Best advice you have received? Be brave, ask the hard questions and back yourself.

What makes you smile the most? There is nothing more that makes me smile when my people succeed, whether it be securing a new listing or when they find a client their dream property.

PAULA GOODMAN

What influenced your career choice?

I decided to obtain my Real Estate licence when I was working in a bank. After buying and selling several homes I was eager to help others with their real estate experience.

What is one thing people may not know about you? I play golf, which is very challenging, but it gives me a balance with time outside, exercise, meeting new people and striving to play a better game each time I play.

What makes you smile the most? Happy vendors and purchasers make me smile every time. Smiles all round!

CHRISTINE WALLACE

What influenced your career choice?

After a career in the insurance industry and a life-long love of house design, architecture and building, it has certainly made sense that Real Estate is where I should be. The love of working and helping people find solutions for accommodation is the right platform for me. Caring, assisting, delivering. Totally invigorating.

Valuable learning experiences? Learning is life-long. Years of helping people with their personal insurance requirements has been the ideal background to base a real estate career. I'm not only able to assist clients with usually the biggest purchase of their lives, I'm able to assist clients move through their lives with as little stress and inconvenience as possible. Regularly meeting new people and sharing their plans is something I thoroughly enjoy. Living in a small country town makes it easy to continue with the relationships formed after the deal is done, I love living in Waimate.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

Combined with my utter contentment of living in South Canterbury and in particular Waimate I plan to continue in my quest of encouraging people to settle here and become part of our wonderful Waimate community. With many redevelopment projects underway and planned both in town and country only make our district a better place in which to live.

GRETCHEN GOULD

What influenced your career choice?

For me it was a natural progression into Real Estate from my previous career of architecture, design & energy efficiency. I knew I wanted to use these previous skills plus develop into an area where I could help people.

What is unique about your business? My business is all about Integrity, Intelligence, and Innovation. Using these elements to provide a good solid service for my clients.

What makes you smile the most? When I am around other happy and positive people... and a sunny day makes me smile.

Best advice you have received? Just do it... do not question just do it...

JULIE-ANNE DAVIDSON

What makes you smile the most?

Being able to help my clients buy their dream home and celebrating in the joy of their next chapter in their life.

Best advice you have received? Treat others as you would always want to be treated, be honest and upfront no matter what!

What is unique about your business? With us you get the whole team, we all work together to get the proven results

KELLY SMITH

What influenced your career choice?

I needed a change after losing my husband and with 4 kids, needed my job to be reasonably flexible. A friend of mine suggested real estate would work well for me and here I am, 10 months into my new career and loving it.

What is unique about your business? I work as a team with that friend of mine. We both have young children and other commitments, so the team thing makes us both more flexible and our clients get a two for one deal, everyone wins!

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome? In 2012, my husband was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. For 4 years, I cared for him and our children. Watching someone you love, slowly fade away in front of your eyes, is just indescribable. To rebuild our lives after we lost him and to raise my beautiful babies on my own has been a constant challenge.

MARIE OTLEY

What is the focus of your business?

The focus of my business is to provide the best possible service I can to all my clients and retain a relationship with them all

Valuable learning experiences? A valuable learning experience for me is that not everyone is the same and that I need to adjust to suit their needs.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome? Some of the challenges I have to overcome would be re-establishing myself in Real Estate. Balancing my family and work life by establishing good time management skills and backing my ability to do what I am good at.

NIC SHAW

What makes you smile the most?

Helping first home buyers purchase their first home, enjoy helping them with this process, supporting them with their decisions & seeing the absolute delight on their faces when the contract confirms. First home buyers bring so much excitement to the process, especially between confirmation & settlement - they can't wait to get the keys for their new home.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome? Learning to say no to people. With today's technology people ring or email at any time of the day and week. When I first started, I never wanted to say no to anybody & that meant at times missing out of things with family. Now I have learnt to juggle family/work life & say no to appointments when it doesn't suit. I was nervous this would mean missing a sale, but in reality, if someone really wants to see a house there will be another time that suits everyone.

Your greatest accomplishment is? In terms of Real Estate it would be when Chris & I won number 1 residential Agents in

2019. This is a moment I will never forget; we were not expecting it. It was a great reward for the hard work we had put in, & the wonderful people we had worked with in 2019

AMANDA GOODMAN-RUEMENAPP

Best advice you have received? Always believe you can, and you are halfway there.

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you? Lisa O'Neill - Such a fabulous woman who achieves her goals and encourages others to do the same.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future? I would love to study interior design in the future - just for fun.

KIRIWI BISHOP

What influenced your career choice?

Both the opportunity to work with people and property. I worked alongside my husband in the building industry for 25 years and we often joked about a career in real estate because we had bought and sold so many properties ourselves. When I was offered the opportunity to join Property Brokers, I jumped at it.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome? Four years ago, my world changed dramatically when my husband passed away suddenly from undiagnosed heart disease. The opportunity to refocus with a career in real estate has been an important part of my ongoing journey and provides its own challenges!

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you? My mum! She had 10 children and after having two myself, I rate her a legend in my book!

MARIA CLARK

What makes you smile the most?

Having satisfied clients when a house is SOLD. It is so rewarding working with both vendors and purchasers helping them with their real estate needs.

Your greatest accomplishment is? Being 2nd in New Zealand for Rookie of the year for my first full year in Real Estate.

What influenced your career choice? I have always been obsessed with anything Real Estate! Myself and my husband have completed many DIY housing projects and moved many times over the years. Through my profession I am doing a job that I am passionate about but also that I have a real interest in.



Paula Goodman-Team Leader in Geraldine
Sarah Taylor-South Canterbury Manager



"Be yourself and be the best you can be"

BARBARA MCKENZIE

Harcourts Blackham & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed REAA 2008
TIMARU SALES CONSULTANT

What is the focus of your business? Helping Clients to sell their biggest asset and find their dream home.

What influenced your Career Choice?

The love of people, my helpful and caring nature and the flexibility of the job when my children were younger.

What is unique about your business?

I have worked for Harcourts for over 18 years, one of the best supported companies in Timaru.

Valuable learning experiences?

Never stop learning - there is always something new to learn every day.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome?

Global Financial Crisis 2008, Earthquakes 2011 &

Latterly COVID 19 have all affected the way we do Real Estate.

Best advice you have received? Be yourself and be the best you can be.

What is one thing people may not know about you?

The first time I went overseas was 2013 and only as far as Australia.

What makes you smile the most?

Seeing all the hours and hard work I put into the job to make somebody else's dreams come true.

Your greatest accomplishment is?

Raising, along with my husband, a happy and healthy family.

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you? Nobody in particular - just women who can juggle a happy family/work life balance.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

Work Hard, enjoy life with my husband and family, help others in times of need.

Top 3 things on your bucket list are?

1. Travel
2. Relaxation
3. Making the most of every opportunity.

41 Sophia Street, Timaru
Ph 027 444 0843
blackhamandco.co.nz
barbara.mckenzie@harcourts.co.nz

Harcourts
Blackham & Co



"The difference between winning and losing is not quitting"

AMANDA HUTCHESON

Harcourts Blackham & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed REAA 2008
TIMARU SALES CONSULTANT

What is the focus of your business?

To deliver an exceptional real estate sales experience with the best possible outcome for every client.

What influenced your career choice?

Enjoying working and meeting new people and having the flexibility to work in with my young family's needs.

What is unique about your business?

I build strong rapport with my clients that has led me towards having lifelong friendships.

Best advice you have received?

"The difference between winning and losing is not quitting". It really doesn't matter what your goal is, just don't quit!



"I love the team I have around me from property managers to the administration"

CODIE HOLLAND

Harcourts Blackham & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed REAA 2008
MARKETING MANAGER

What is the focus of your business?

To be the driving force behind Harcourts Blackham & Co's Marketing Division, moulding successful campaigns and pushing our team to achieve their next level.

What influenced your career choice?

I wanted to surround myself with some of the most experienced sales consultants, success leaves clues. I've absorbed everything I could from them, even from passing conversations. I love the team I have around me from property managers to the administration, we're all in it together trying to push our business forward.

What is unique about your business?

I work alongside my partner Riley, we love working together as a team. Real estate is

unique in the sense there are plenty of partners or husband and wife teams around the country. If you're thinking about real estate and want to do it together, do it together!

Best advice you have received?

Make sure your working for the right people. Some people just jump into teams because that's the thing to do and really that team that they're working in has no work to give them. If you're lucky enough to find yourself working within a high performance team, the sky's the limit!

What is one thing people may not know about you?

I'm a morning person! I struggle to stay up late, but start my day very early in the morning.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

More travel, immersing myself in different cultures around the world.

Harcourts
Blackham & Co

41 Sophia Street, Timaru
Ph 027 387 1701
blackhamandco.co.nz
codie.holland@harcourts.co.nz

Women in Real Estate



"With the right advice and support, the real estate adventure should be enjoyable - not stressful!"

RHONDA MARKBY

Harcourts Blackham & Co Real Estate Ltd
Licensed REAA 2008
TIMARU SALES CONSULTANT

What is the focus of your business?

Providing clients with the service and support required to ensure they achieve a successful outcome with their real estate endeavours. With the right advice and support, the real estate adventure should be enjoyable - not stressful!

What influenced your career choice?

Having spent 30 years as a journalist, I knew how much I enjoyed working with people - and real estate is all about people and assisting them buy or sell what is usually their most valuable (and sentimental) asset.

Valuable learning experiences?

Read between the lines and trust your instincts when it comes to matching people with their perfect property. By asking the right questions and

listening to clients, I often realise what they say they want, and what they actually want, are different.

Best advice you have received?

Never go out on a job without a clean hanky and going to the loo. You never know how long an appointment might take - and you've got the hanky if there are tears - hopefully of joy when they know their offer on a property has been accepted (Thanks for the training Mum!).

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome?

Sometimes it seems real estate speaks a whole different language! It's up to me to ensure I can "translate" into plain English to ensure my clients know exactly what is happening and what to expect.

What is one thing people may not know about you?

I've walked down Hollywood Boulevard dressed in a tutu, sparkly bunny ears & tail, and a feather boa - it was Halloween!

What makes you smile the most?

Seeing the look on peoples' faces when you tell them they have just purchased a property - especially their first home.

41 Sophia Street, Timaru
Ph 027 213 3182
rhondamarkby.harcourts.co.nz
rhonda.markby@harcourts.co.nz

Harcourts
Blackham & Co

Do you have a role model or someone who inspires you?

My daughter, she is running her own successful business as well as working full time in a management role.

I never envy people as I believe everybody is different and I've always taught my children to be themselves.

What are some of your goals and aspirations for the future?

To continuously grow and upskill, focusing on the growth of my business and adapting to the constantly changing property market.

What is one thing people may not know about you?

I have a large family which

includes four sons, three daughters, three grand daughters and two grandsons who all bring me a great deal of joy.

What makes you smile the most?

Making people laugh - I was the class clown!

Top 3 things on your bucket list are?

1. Take my children for a holiday to a tropical island
2. Swim with dolphins
3. Have an extended family reunion.

41 Sophia Street, Timaru
Ph 027 357 3052
amanda4results@gmail.com
blackhamandco.co.nz

Harcourts
Blackham & Co



JACQUI FRASER

Mortgage Express

What is the focus of your business?

Mortgage advice - helping the people of South Canterbury to make informed decisions regarding finance options that best meet their individual financial needs.

What influenced your career choice?

The opportunity to help people into homes, making sure they are informed of their options and limitations. With access to 20+ product providers, I do the research and shopping on their behalf so they can, hopefully, be house hunting!

What is unique about your business?

The ability to use my knowledge and experience as a former real estate agent in my role as a mortgage adviser.

What have been your valuable learning experiences? Recognising that every client has the same basic goals but requires personally

tailored ways to achieve them.

What is the best advice you have received? Being told early in my career to ensure that I took a customer centric focus. This drives me to deliver a level of service that I would be happy to receive myself.

What are some of the challenges you have had to overcome? It has been a challenge to introduce and develop a new brand in SC, however I am thrilled with the support of new and existing customers, opening the office in Church Street and learning to operate in a digital world.

What are some of the goals and aspirations for the future?

Growing the Mortgage Express brand obviously, but more importantly, raising financial awareness and knowledge in the South Canterbury area.

What makes you smile the most and is your greatest accomplishment?

The possibilities of being involved in the growth of the community. Being part of my client's important decisions whether buying a first home or looking at investment property.

Mortgage
Express

41 Sophia Street, Timaru
Ph 027 529 7925 | jacqui@mx.co.nz
www.mortgage-express.co.nz

EXCITING CHANGES BUT THE SAME SERVICE AT *South Canterbury Toyota*

TIMARU IS THE LOCATION OF A FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS, SOUTH CANTERBURY TOYOTA WHICH IS CURRENTLY GOING THROUGH A PHASE OF CHANGE. AND WHILST CHANGE IS NOT A NEW THING TO MOST AT THE MOMENT, THIS ONE'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

South Canterbury Toyota itself has been in its current location for more than 30 years having seen numerous changes in the automotive landscape, and 2020 is no different.

Hailstorms and Covid-19 aside, South Canterbury Toyota is now the home of South Canterbury Holden, supplying Parts and Service to the local Holden community. Branch Manager Mark Patterson said to us, "We at South Canterbury Toyota are incredibly excited about the opportunities – both current and upcoming – to provide Holden owners with the award-winning service and professionalism that our current customers have come to know and love". Holden will sit alongside four other franchises that are represented

onsite being Toyota, Subaru, Bridgestone and Cooper Tyres. These brands all complement each other and cater to all needs throughout the branch and its different departments in Sales, Finance, Service, Parts and Tyres.

With a staff of 39 they were recently named the top Toyota dealer across the entire country, in Toyota's annual dealer awards. The top award recognises overall excellence in dealership operations, market leadership and dealership facilities.

They also won the President's Trophy for excellence in customer service and were finalists in three other categories – new vehicle dealer, service dealer and used vehicle dealer of the year.



"WE'VE CREATED A BENCHMARK FOR OURSELVES NOW, SO CONSISTENCY IS KEY, WE'RE GOING TO STRIVE TO KEEP DOING WHAT WE'RE DOING WITH THE TEAM AND OUR LOYAL LOCAL CUSTOMERS."



"Our core is 'regional'. We are a regional dealer, and we keep that to heart, we're not trying to be glossy and shiny. And being regional, we rely on repeat customers through good old-fashioned customer service. It is not so much about numbers and volume. Local businesses, farmers, individuals, they are all important. And that's why our service department is so big."

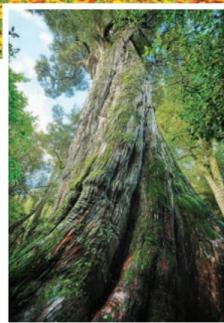
South Canterbury Toyota is part of a wider family-owned group of five dealerships in Blenheim, Rangiora, Kaiapoi, Ashburton and Timaru under the McDermid Auto Collective banner. Craig and Kathie McDermid purchased Blenheim Toyota in 1990 and ran that solely until 2008 when they purchased South Canterbury Toyota.

In 2015 another opportunity arose to purchase the three Rangiora, Kaiapoi and Ashburton Toyota dealerships. At this point a parent family (McDermid Auto Collective) was formed and Scott and Anna McDermid (Craig and Kathie's son and daughter in-law) also became shareholders in the group.

Patterson says, "We are passionate, and we strive for success . . . but winning isn't the aim, that's a bonus. It comes down to the cohesive team we have here – everyone here knows everyone else's role in the dealership. It's a team effort, and it's community support and people shopping local, which has been my theme."

Patterson says the November hailstorm demonstrated the importance of how a tight team and a community can band together. The dealership has a strong community ethos. A community van is available free for sports teams, charities and clubs, and is booked 95% of the time, and the branch's BBQ Hilux is also a popular service available to use for community events.

"We've created a benchmark for ourselves now, so consistency is key, we're going to strive to keep doing what we're doing with the team and our loyal local customers."



The picturesque country town of Geraldine is a perfect day trip destination or relaxing weekend break.

Stroll and shop at unique, boutique retailers or browse quirky art galleries. Dine at one of the funky cafes and then take a native bush walk, right in the centre of town.

A self-guided heritage walk, or visit to the museum, is a great way to learn more about Geraldine's pioneering past, while the Geraldine Vintage Car and Machinery Museum is a must visit.

A town like... GERALDINE

Geraldine's pristine night sky is great for star gazing, particularly in winter, with one of the best private observatories in New Zealand open to the public.

Cycling, including the excellent Orari River Tracks, is an excellent way to see this stunning area. And really get away from it all to Peel Forest, just minutes from Geraldine. Think native bush walks, birdsong, great food, and breath-taking views.

Geraldine - naturally! www.geraldine.nz

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*Offer available on all new Toyota vehicles purchased at Toyota Driveaway Price (TDP) or Bronze or pricing between 1 June 2020 and 30 September 2020 or while stocks last. Free servicing is for up to 3 years or 30,000km, whichever occurs first. 3.9% finance is only available on a 'Classic Finance Loan' through Toyota Financial Services, with a minimum 20% deposit and terms of up to 36 months. A \$9.20 PPSR and \$400 documentation fee is payable. Toyota Financial Services lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. Prices and specifications subject to change at any time. See toyota.co.nz for full T&Cs.

The Kitchen Cupboard

The Kitchen Cupboard prides itself on quality brands and equipment to make your time in the kitchen an enjoyable one. We have a large range of specialty cake pans available to hire and all the decorating tools and icings for your next special occasion.

Looking for a specialised tool? Just ask - in most instances we can source from one of our trusted suppliers. From neutrals to brights, we have a colour palette for every interior.

Pop in store or online and see what we have to offer - bakeware, cookware, giftware and more. We look forward to helping you on your cooking journey.

34B Talbot St, Geraldine | Ph 03 693 8632
www.thekitchencupboard.co.nz

Waihi Bush Organic Farm Shop

Waihi Bush Organic Farm Shop is found in the heart of Geraldine's shopping hub - Four Peaks Plaza. You'll find a fantastic selection of Flax Seed Oils, Fibres, Pumpkin Seed Oil, Hemp Seed Oil, natural Skincare range and other organic brands such as Trade Aid. David Musgrave wanted to create the world's best Flax Seed Oils from New Zealand grown organic flax seeds (linseed). Suitable for Vegetarian, Vegan, Flexitarian, Paleo, AIP, and Ketogenic diets.

"We pride ourselves on delivering raw natural organic oils that taste great, nothing added, nothing taken away."

Four Peaks Plaza, Geraldine | Ph (03) 693 7411 | E shop@fwf.co.nz | waihibush.co.nz

WINTER IS HERE

1. It is illegal to use fog lights when there is no fog
2. Always drive with the headlights on dipped beam
3. Expect black ice in shady areas
4. Drive slower during frosty conditions
5. Use gears to slow down vehicle

- watch video at www.scrs.org.nz

Car light switch

Phone: 03 687 7235
Cell/Text: 027 436 6285

Email: Daniel.Naude@timdc.govt.nz
Web: www.scrs.org.nz

Blank Space



Blank Space delivers a stylish and current collection of men and women's streetwear fashion. With everything from dresses to jeans, ankle boots to sneakers, watches to wallets, our selection of products has something for every style. Established in July 2016 we have been introducing new labels and giving you the best online service.

We like to keep things fresh and new and have a fantastic coffee bar in store, so you can relax, shop and enjoy that caffeine fix.

New arrivals come in all the time so check back regularly to get the latest!

79 Main St, Fairlie | Ph (03) 685 6112
www.blankspacethestore.com

The Greedy Cow

Situated in the beautiful Mackenzie high country of Lake Tekapo, we get rather hungry looking at stunning views of lakes and mountains all day. Luckily at The Greedy Cow you will find an in-house Pastry Chef baking beautiful yummys fresh daily, to fill the void. We also use some of the best coffee beans in New Zealand from Hawthorne Rosters, so your morning coffee is sorted! We have fresh and delicious cabinet food and a delightful range of breakfast menu with gluten free, vegetarian and vegan options!

We are open every day from 7.30am to 4pm
Breakfast menu closes at 2.30pm

The Greedy Cow
16 Rapuwai Lane, Lake Tekapo Ph. 027 434 4445
www.greedycowtekapo.com



77 Art and Living

In the middle of Fairlie's Main Street you will find a carefully curated collection of original art and artisan gift, celebrating and supporting New Zealand Creatives. 77 Art and Living has a wide selection of handcrafted jewellery, objects, glass, ceramics, paintings and boutique fragrances.

Open Thursday to Sunday from 11am to 3pm or By Appointment.

Email: artandliving77@icloud.com or call Bella on 021797984

Alternatively, you can visit our website 24/7 www.77artandliving.com

Polly's Patchwork

Polly's Patchwork is a country vintage patchwork/craft store. We stock materials, fabrics, sewing kits, books, patterns, crafts, knitting gear and so much more. Located in a small rural town, Polly's Patchwork is the perfect store to get you projects moving and sorted. Mint Boutique our sister store is located next door and is a clothing fashion store, so even more reasons to head to Fairlie for a drive and treat yourself to some shopping.

Our opening hours: 7 days from 10am - 4pm.



72 Main Street, Fairlie | Ph 027 370 5098
www.mintboutique.co.nz

get to... MACKENZIE

Roundhill Ski Fields

Surrounded by the Southern Alps with breathtaking views of Lake Tekapo and Aoraki Mt Cook, it is easy to see why Roundhill is the obvious choice for so many during the winter months. Situated in the heart of the South Island, Roundhill is a family-owned and operated business with quality skiing and family-friendly service at the core of its operation. Enjoy the stunning scenery as you drive along the Eastern side of Lake Tekapo to a relaxed, friendly, and fun atmosphere.

Our slopes are groomed every night for optimum skiing conditions. With a beginner area on a gentle gradient and plenty of space, finding your feet on the snow is made easy. Two T-Bars give access to wide intermediate runs. For the more adventurous, you can head up the world's longest rope tow and experience Australasia's biggest vertical (783m) offering long natural half-pipes and chutes. Roundhill has earned a reputation for its highly qualified team of ski and snowboard instructors, so no matter what level you are at, you can always improve!



If hitting the slopes isn't your thing, the Base Lodge Café is where you will find a delicious barista coffee, great food, and expansive views overlooking the lake and ski area. Toboggans are available for hire too. One experience not to be missed is a visit to the Von Brown hut located at the top of the field. Here you can find a cosy seat inside or bask in the sunshine with a coffee while taking in the most incredible views. Roundhill is the perfect place for friends and family to meet for a relaxing day on the slopes.



Ski or Snowboard in the heart of the South Island of New Zealand. Roundhill is a fantastic family ski field with breathtaking views of Aoraki Mt Cook, the Southern Alps and Lake Tekapo. It's a place where friends and family meet to enjoy a relaxing day on the slopes.



2544 Lilybank Road, Lake Tekapo Ph 021 680 694
www.roundhill.co.nz

FROM THE *Mayor's Desk*



Winter has truly arrived in the Mackenzie, with the first snow a welcome sight. Our ski fields are rejoicing at the prospect of kicking off the ski season in good stead, albeit mostly with a most treasured clientele this year – the domestic market. Mt Dobson reports good pre-season interest and Roundhill has everything in place already and looking forward to a great season.

In keeping with the traditional Mackenzie weather, if it is not the snow that we are marvelling at, it's the stars and glorious sunshine too that makes days in our lovely region so special. Aoraki/Mount Cook sets the backdrop for a beautiful canvas and our lakes and rivers are sparkling with joy as always.

We are now in Alert Level 1 after some anxious times over the past few months. I'm grateful that many of our businesses have returned to their full glory and are ready to stand up to the challenge of welcoming New Zealand to our district.

Now is a great time to enjoy the world-acclaimed sites at your backdoor in the Mackenzie and the past few weeks have indeed seen visitors from across the country fly and drive into the Mackenzie in droves. It's been wonderful to see our towns bustling again after a dreary period during the lockdown. Accommodation is being booked out again and local attractions like the Tekapo Springs and facilities like the campgrounds, cycleways and restaurants are all well attended.

It was good to hear too that the Hermitage is to reopen its doors on 2 July and the Dark Sky Project is gearing up for the event of Matariki.

I recently met our Minister of Tourism Hon Kelvin Davis and he was interested in hearing how we were managing here in the Mackenzie and pivoting to a

domestic market. While the Government has provided some good support packages to help businesses get through, we need to adapt the way we think about tourism. With \$23 billion spent annually by New Zealanders on off-shore holidays, the Mackenzie is well-positioned to grab a share of that holiday spending for the benefit of our local businesses and communities too.

The mystique of the Mackenzie cannot be replicated in the world. We have all of this handy at your backdoor for all New Zealanders to enjoy. The future of our Legendary Mackenzie needs to be protected with sustainable tourism and development. It must be owned by our communities to give it a social licence to operate. It is undeniable that our new normal must provide a good balance in protecting the environment while adding economic value in a sustainable and resilient manner. With the benefit of hindsight, we now have the opportunity to better understand tourism, whether overtourism or lack of tourism and its effects on communities, infrastructure and environment and develop a strategic pathway forward to ensure our district can be preserved for generations to come.



As Mayor, I can assure you that my Council has your best interests at heart and is driving the COVID-19 recovery efforts working with the community to ensure our Mackenzie communities remain the thriving and resilient communities you enjoy your time in paradise in your South Island backyard with its vast landscapes and beautiful scenery. Bring your friends and come to visit. There will always be something inspirational for you to do in our Legendary Mackenzie.

Graham Smith - Mackenzie District Council



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The Farm Barn Cafe is located in the most spectacular part of New Zealand. On the corner of the Geraldine - Fairlie Highway (Hwy 79) overlooking the beautiful Mackenzie Country. When you walk into the cafe it has a significant rural barn vibe. A perfect place to take the kids away these school holidays, there is plenty of space for indoor and outdoor dining, a outdoor play area and farmyard animals to feed. Free wifi available.

Winter Hours Monday to Sunday 9am - 2pm. Closed Tuesday.

4 Mount Michael Road Fairlie. Ph Ph (03) 685 8271



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Here at Mint Boutique we aim to provide something for everyone and anyone. We look forward to welcoming you in store sometime soon or connecting with you online if this is your choice of shopping, either way thank you for supporting us!

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HANMER is humming

Words: **Pattie Pegler** | Images supplied

After the uncertainty of lockdown Hanmer was well and truly back to business for Queen's Birthday weekend. It turned out Cantabrians and kiwis from further afield were keen to get back to this idyllic alpine town with all its activities and stunning scenery.

"Queen's Birthday weekend was pumping and it's been like that ever since," says Vanessa Orr, General Manager at luxury lodge Amuri Estate. The lodge has had a steady stream of weekend and midweek bookings as well as people booking in for the upcoming school holidays.



It's not hard to see the attraction. Hanmer has always been bursting with charm with its wide, tree-lined main street; cafes and restaurants; fashion and homeware boutiques and activities from mountain-biking to relaxing in the hot pools. This really is the town with something to suit everyone.

Foodies and shoppers are spoilt for choice in the town centre. Grab a cappuccino and a croissant for breakfast before browsing the latest fashions at boutiques like Lifestyles Fashion or soaking up some artistic spirit at the Tait Gallery with its varied displays.

And for the nature lovers head out of town to nearby Hanmer Forest – where you can easily wile away a day exploring. There are walking trails to suit all abilities from a short half hour amble to the more strenuous Waterfall Track which takes around two and a half hours return. The track takes you through beech forest, up wooden stairways in the forest and finishes up at the 41-metre high Dog Stream Waterfall.

For many, a stay in Hanmer is not complete without a visit to the hot pools. It's the perfect way to round off a strenuous day in the great outdoors – soaking in the soothing thermal pools whilst the kids can enjoy the fantastic water slides.

With so much on offer, it really is the perfect time to discover Hanmer and, it seems a lot of people are doing just that. "We're seeing more people from Christchurch and over the coast", says Vanessa. "And we've had people who had overseas holidays booked and then came here instead. People are keen to get out and about and discover their own country."

So if you haven't visited Hanmer yet, make time to discover it this winter. visithanmersprings.co.nz



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LifeStyles
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Home-Lee Kimono



Augustine Ryan Dress

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 03 315 7120
fashionworks.hs@xtra.co.nz

fashionworks
 HANMER SPRINGS

Our lovely retail store is well located in the main street of the iconic spa village of Hanmer Springs.

When sourcing our labels, we look for quality at a reasonable price in the labels we offer. For women there are dresses, blazers, pants and tops plus a range of jewellery, shoes and handbags and for the blokes we have a selection of RM Williams top quality shirting, jeans and shorts.

Everyone needs to have an escape, and a bit of retail therapy along with all the other attractions Hanmer Springs has to offer, is highly recommended.

So when enjoying the delights of Hanmer Springs we invite you to come and visit our store where our friendly and professional staff are here to assist.

Alice Stielow xx



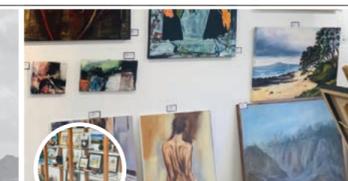
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Tait Gallery is a diverse and intimate gallery where modern meets traditional, and where works can be viewed in a relaxed and friendly environment.

The gallery prides itself on supporting and promoting artists from Canterbury and New Zealand and features a continually changing display of works from a variety of artistic mediums.

With a passion for people, artists and the visual arts, Tait Gallery is a cultural place for visitors as well as a place of pride within the village.

Clarence Lane 2/34 Conical Hill Road, Hanmer Springs
 Opening Times: Thursday - Monday: 10am-4pm.
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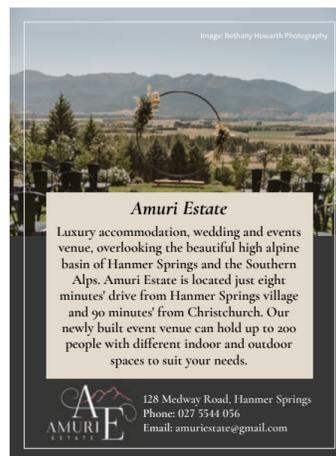


Four Square Hanmer

We specialize in tailoring grazing platters to whatever occasion you want to enjoy in Hanmer. They can be used for family gatherings, children birthday parties, weddings or an easy meal.

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Roses In Winter



If you're a rose lover then now is the time to show your plants a little care.

Pruning should be top of the winter jobs list, cutting back branches and clearing the centre of the plant. You should be left with three or four canes in a vase shape. It can look quite drastic says rose enthusiast and owner of Cust's Querky Style, Yvonne Frost. But it is key to ensuring healthy plants and good growth when spring hits, so be bold.

If you're worried, head along to Querky Style's pruning demo on July 19th at 11am.



Yvonne also advises preventive spraying with copper (for fungus) and oil (for aphids) after the prune. "There are varied ideas on whether you can mix copper and oil in one spray but we advise you do them separately for best results."

Now is also the time to plant new roses as they are at their most dormant. Roses are generally quite hardy despite their delicate appearance, but they do like a bit of sun. The typical mistake people make is to plant them in areas that are too shady - they need 6 to 8 hours a day of sunshine says Yvonne.

Think Trees This Winter

It might feel like winter is the time to stay cosy indoors and leave outside to its own devices but if you're thinking about adding some fruit trees to the garden, it's a great time to do it.

Fruit trees become dormant over winter, that is they drop their leaves and stop growing. Think of it like hibernation, everything slows down. So, it's a less traumatic time for them to be moved and gives them a chance to establish in their new spot before spring bursts on the scene.

Trees, Trees Everywhere...Which One To Choose?

Think about what fruit you like to eat first and foremost. If you love pears and don't like peaches, that's right up there on the tree shopping checklist.

Then, keep in mind that you may need two trees so that they act as pollinators. So, for example, many apple trees need another apple tree of a different variety nearby - they are not self-fertile. In towns and cities where your neighbours may well have fruit trees, this isn't a big issue says Narrelle Chand, resident fruit tree expert at Christchurch's Little Big Tree Company. But it's important in rural areas and on larger blocks because it might be a long way to the next pear tree.

So, if in doubt, ask the question when you're buying the tree. If you're shopping for a small space then dwarf trees are a good option. They typically grow no more than 2.5ms and fruit well - so you cut down on size not on fruit.



grow no more than 2.5ms and fruit well - so you cut down on size not on fruit.

Get It In The Ground

The site you choose for your tree should be on fertile, free draining soil. Then it's a case of get your spade out and start digging. "Always dig a hole twice as big as the root ball, then add compost and slow release fertiliser," says Narrelle. The soil should be free-draining, so if it has a lot of clay in it then add some gypsum to break it up. Trees also need to be staked and this typically requires a stake on each side and some flexible webbing to support it. Once they are well established you can remove these.

Pruning

Most trees will need pruning when you first plant them and on an ongoing basis annually. It can be a daunting task for a newbie - but pruning will help shape the tree; encourage a good yield and new branches to grow.

There are plenty of instructions online about fruit tree pruning so look for some specific to your type of tree. More complex pruning is involved if you want to go for something fancy like 'espaliering' - this means training your tree along a wall or sometimes along wires between posts. It looks great and is a good space-saving technique but it requires a certain amount of confidence and research before you start snipping.

If you don't feel confident pruning then ask garden centre staff for advice when you buy a fruit tree. Often, says Narrelle, they will be able to prune the tree for you so you can simply take it home and plant it.



HURUNUI garden festival

Thursday 29 October to Sunday 1 November 2020

We're thrilled to welcome you to the third Hurunui Garden Festival. Over the weekend you can visit 18 private gardens from Amberley to Gore Bay, and Hawarden to Hanmer Springs, many within one hour's drive of Christchurch and the airport.

Our garden owners are ready to greet you and share their stories of how they've created their gardens.

This year we offer visitors two self-drive tours; the return of the beautiful gardens and Hidden Gems of the Lowry Hills to the sea tour and a new Waipara Gorge tour; Mysteries of the Waipara Gorge - iron sculptures, concretians and moa bones. Visitors will get to view and learn about the geologically rich landscape.

There are garden events to educate, entertain and inspire you. While you're enjoying our gardens and warm hospitality, we hope you'll stay the night and visit our wineries, cafes, and the many other attractions of the Hurunui District.

There's so much to experience and enjoy at the Hurunui Garden Festival. We're looking forward to seeing you for a weekend in the outstanding gardens and attractions of the Hurunui region in North Canterbury.

hurunui.gardenfestival.com



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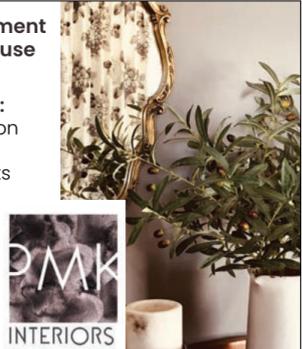
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compasspoolschch.co.nz





The South Canterbury Museum is a great place to explore the region's heritage this winter, especially with school holidays approaching. South Canterbury Museum reopened for Level 2 in May and is welcoming visitors back with health and safety in mind. This will remain in place over the school holidays, where young visitors will be able to enjoy different activities in the exhibition galleries.

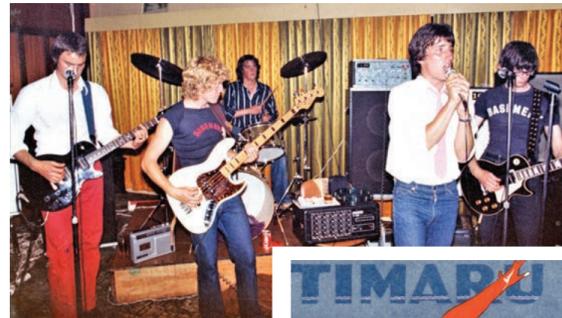
The Museum's collections and displays tell the stories of our geological past, our unique wildlife, local Māori heritage, European settlement and how the region has taken shape over the last 150 years. The Museum team work hard to ensure that our heritage can be explored and enjoyed by everyone. Children can join the free Museum Explorers Club to gain a Museum "passport" and start collecting exhibition badges. Adults can join the Friends of the Museum to receive invitations to exhibition openings, public meetings, local historical trips and more, as well as receive the Museum newsletter.

The Museum also stages special events such as behind the scenes tours and the very popular Retro Rock outdoor music event held outside the Museum. Facebook users can follow Museum happenings through the Museum's Facebook page, and general information about what's happening at the Museum can be found on its webpages at museum.timaru.govt.nz.

The Museum holds thousands of local documents and photographs, a great resource for anyone wanting to dig deeper on family history or other heritage interests. The archives open from 1:30pm Tuesdays to Fridays and Sundays. A Museum team member is on hand to assist. Much of the Museum's collections are searchable on the Collections Online section of its website.

Located on Perth Street, downtown Timaru, the South Canterbury Museum is a community service provided by the Timaru District Council. Admission for local residents is free, donations encouraged.

NOW ON



Live 'n Loud: Snapshots and Remnants from Timaru's Rock Scene in the 80s and 90s.

Step back to a time when the local music scene was pumping, with local bands playing at venues which no longer exist, and the Old Mill Nite Club was the place to be after 11pm. Find out more about some of the local connections with the New Zealand music scene. On until 19th July.



Perth Street
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Open: Tues-Fri 10am - 4:30pm
Sat-Sun 1pm - 4:30pm

SOUTH CANTERBURY MUSEUM
EXPLORE our heritage

NATURE HISTORY CULTURE



Remember the basics to burn smoke-free this winter

Using a modern wood burner is a great start to improving air quality, but it's equally important not to forget the basics to burn smoke-free - good wood and good fire lighting technique.

Mark Bourassa is one of Environment Canterbury's local better burning advisors, and he stresses the importance of getting the basics right if you choose to burn wood as a heat source.



How do you light your fire?

An upside-down fire-lighting technique can save time and reduce air pollution. The upside-down technique - also known as 'top down' or 'Swiss style' - is gaining in popularity and the team gets plenty of feedback that it's working well for people.

"If you want a fire that gets going quickly, saving on time and excess smoke, then we'd recommend trying this technique, which uses larger pieces of wood at the bottom and kindling on top. You can walk away with confidence that your fire will be getting off to a good start and heating up fast," says Mark.

If you prefer the traditional bottom-up approach, you can still get your fire going quickly and efficiently by using a good amount of dry kindling.



"If a chimney is smoking badly, it's often the fuel that's the problem," said Mark.

"It's important to ensure the wood you're using is dry and seasoned. Wet wood will simply not burn hot enough to heat your home well and will also smoke out your neighbours."

Mark advises using a Trusted Good Wood Merchant to source wood and stocking up at least a season ahead. Environment Canterbury can also test the moisture content of wood for you.

Support is available

If you need to upgrade from an older-style wood burner, Environment Canterbury's better burning advisors are happy to talk through different financial options available for Timaru, Geraldine and Waimate households.

Subsidies ranging from \$500 to \$5000 are available for low-income households who meet certain criteria. In addition, the Healthier Homes Canterbury scheme means eligible ratepayers can apply for a rates advance of up to \$6,000 to help purchase home heating, insulation and ventilation.

Head to warmercheaper.co.nz for tools to help you burn smoke-free, including demonstration videos and a step-by-step guide, along with a list of Trusted Good Wood Merchants. You can also get in touch with Environment Canterbury for personalised help and support by calling 0800 329 276.



Is your wood 'good'?

It may sound simple, but having good wood is key to running an efficient fire that burns clean.

Trendy Winter Fashion Begins

The cold weather has set in, and we've dug out the hot chocolate powder - it's officially 'grey marle' season, and we couldn't be more excited. Deck yourself out from head to toe in winter's cosiest colour.



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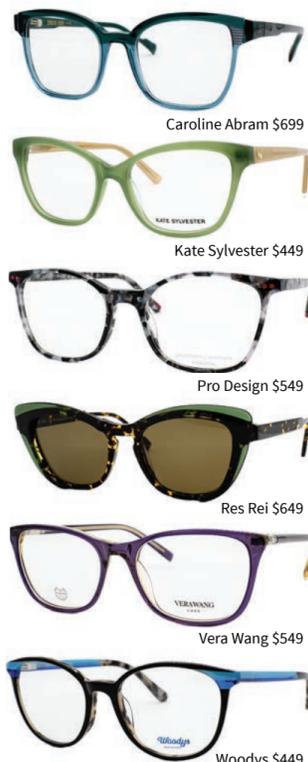
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CANON STREET OPTOMETRISTS

ASK AN EXPERT

If you have a question you would like our panel of experts to answer please drop us a line at pat@essencemagazine.co.nz



Andrew Pullar

I have been working at Stihl Shop Timaru for over 10 years, I pride myself in having great knowledge of all products I sell and providing a high level of customer service. If you have any outdoor power equipment needs don't hesitate to come and see me!

Q. What services and repairs do you offer at the Stihl shop?

Stihl Shop Timaru prides itself on Sales and Service, we don't just sell you equipment, we repair and service it as well, and we have a team of technicians who specialise in repairing your Outdoor Power Equipment.

Q. Can I get any of my equipment serviced at Stihl Shop?

We service and repair all makes and models of equipment. From chainsaws, water blasters, hedge trimmers, line trimmers right through to Zero Turn Rideon Mowers.

Q. What products do you sell at the Stihl shop?

We sell a wide range of products, Stihl, Cub Cadet, Masport and Rover and Hansa are some of the main brands we sell. We only sell top quality brands that will suit your requirements the best, a big part of what we do is being able to Repair and Service the equipment we sell.

Q. How often should I bring my machine in to be serviced?

Depending on the amount of use generally annually will cover the servicing requirements.

Q. How long will the service take?

We aim to have a 3-4 day turn around on all service work.

Q. Do I have to bring my products in to be serviced?

No, we offer a pickup and delivery service, let us know a time that suits and we'll come and pick it up.

Q. Is Stihl equipment expensive?

No! We have a very large range of products to suit every user, we have chainsaws starting at \$295, line trimmers at \$195 and water blasters starting at \$295 and battery operated equipment starting at \$199!

STIHL SHOP

105 Hilton Highway Washdyke, Timaru
(03) 688 - 2557



Fiona Jackson

Fiona took on the new role of Refugee Settlement Manager in February this year. Presbyterian Support South Canterbury is contracted to provide settlement services Timaru, which is one of six new settlement locations around New Zealand. Her experience working with refugees comes from her many years with Australian Immigration, which included managing immigration offices overseas.

Q. When will the refugees arrive in Timaru?

Our first two families to settle in Timaru arrived recently in June. They initially came to New Zealand in March just before the national lock-down. They stayed at the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre (MRRC) in small bubbles during level 4 and level 3. Once the country moved to level 2 they began a 4-week Refugee Reception Programme to prepare them for life in New Zealand.

Q. Where are they from?

The former refugees settling in Timaru come from Syria. Conflict broke out in Syria in 2011, since then millions of Syrians have travelled across the border into neighbouring countries, including Lebanon, where they have lived in either refugee camps or as urban based refugees.

Q. Where will they live?

In either a private rental property or public housing. The type of housing a refugee family goes into depends on the settlement location, size of the family, and what is available at the time. Houses are arranged by staff at the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre (MRRC) for all settlement locations across New Zealand, they make sure families stay at MRRC until a house has been found for them.

Q. How can I get involved?

This is a wonderful opportunity for Timaru to stand side by side with refugees, giving us the opportunity to challenge perceptions, embrace new cultures, and benefit from the richness of a culturally diverse society. If you would like to become part of our volunteer teams that help settle refugees into

Timaru, please visit our website: pssc.org.nz/refugee-settlement-services

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Leon Hobbs

Leon is a Director at Staff Services Ltd which he started in 2015. The business has been steadily growing since then employing staff locally in Timaru, in the South Canterbury area and also Oamaru.

Staff Services are your full employment solution specialising in connecting people with the right jobs, and employers with the right people.

Q. What services do you offer?

Permanent, temp to permanent and casual on call placements. We can also provide on and off site drug testing, candidate screening and testing.

Q. Why should I use a recruitment agent?

From a client perspective we have access to the best candidates, we save you time going through loads of applications especially in the current candidate strong market, you have the opportunity to trial new employees first, we negotiate terms on your behalf, we have the tools to source skilled candidates who aren't actively seeking opportunities, we have local networking and area knowledge

From a candidate perspective we can remove the stress from your job search, you get access to the hidden job market, we prepare you for the job. We can help you improve your resume and other applicant documents.

Q. How have you evolved to deal with Covid-19?

As we work with essential and non-essential workers we have been working closely with our clients to put Covid-19 safety measures in place to ensure that our employees feel safe in the workplace.

Q. What are thoughts on South Canterbury job market going forward?

We feel positive that everyone is doing their bit to support local and keeping our local businesses operating however businesses may be hesitant to employ people in permanent roles as the full effect on the global economy is yet to be seen. We are the solution as we can offer temp to permanent, fixed term and casual employees to get you through any potential fluctuations in demand during these uncertain times.

StaffServices
Your Complete Employment Solution

44 Bank Street, Timaru
Ph (03) 683 1676
www.staffservices.co.nz



Warrick Thompson

Warrick is Service Manager at Autoworld Timaru with over 14 years' experience in the automotive industry.

Preparing Your Vehicle for Winter Driving. Winter is nearly in full swing and along with the excitement of hitting the slopes, we usher in low temperatures, icy surfaces, and diminished traction. Here are some tips on how to prepare your vehicle properly for the hazards of winter.

Tyre and Fluid Checks Check your tyre tread depth is adequate - the legal minimum tread depth is 1.5mm, but the more tread you have, the better the grip. It may be worth considering winter tyres. Oil thickens as the weather gets colder, which means it's less effective in lubricating your engine. To check, make sure your engine has cooled and rub a small amount of oil between your fingers. If it feels thick and sludgy then change immediately.

Keep Windscreens Clear and Protected In dark, wet, cold and glary conditions, keeping your windscreen clear is especially important. Replace worn wiper blades immediately, raise your windscreen wipers overnight to help prevent freezing, and consider a windscreen cover. Many vehicles come with their own ice scraper for those frosty mornings. Keep the inner windscreen surface as clean as possible to avoid it steaming up once you get going.

Batteries can often be overexerted in the winter, which can cause premature failures. Test your battery to make sure it's in good working order and replace it if necessary.

Snow Chains If you plan on driving in mountainous areas keep snow chains on hand. If you have just one pair of snow chains, fit these to the wheels that are driving power to the road (in most 2WD vehicles, this would be the front pair of wheels). If you have a 4WD vehicle and just one pair of snow chains, fit these to the front wheels to help with steering.

As you're driving South Canterbury roads can be particularly dangerous in winter. Keep space between the car in front, watch speeds in rough conditions, and leave extra space for braking, keeping your movements slow and calm. Consider carrying an emergency pack with a container of sand, snow shovel, blankets, phone charger, jumper cables and spare fuel in case of an accident or road closures.

Above all, drive safely and enjoy!

AUTOWORLD TIMARU

6 Sefton Street, Timaru
Ph (03) 683 1215 or 0508 AUTOWORLD
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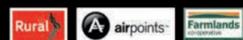


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