

# essence

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6 Event  
Goodstock  
Garden

Feature 8  
Essential  
Weddings

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## contents

With the warm spring weather, although a little blustery at the moment, the gardens in our region are looking fabulous. No exception is Gwenth and Bernie Wilson's beautiful Goodstock Gardens at Pleasant Point. They are opening their garden to the public as a fundraiser for the South Canterbury Hospice on Sundays and Mondays for four weeks starting on September 27th. As a founding member and patron of the South Canterbury Hospice, including treasurer of the initial hospice committee, raising money for the Hospice as always been a priority for Gwenth. Details are on page 6.

Putting the spring back in our step this Labour Weekend is the Mackenzie Highland Spring Fling. A fabulous, free community event that will include live music, some fantastic country activities and a great array of stalls offering everything from tasty eats to locally made items. Society Secretary, Jody Payne talks with writer Pattie Pegler about the new date and format - page 14.

Timaru couple Eli and Bailey Barlow are happily settled in Canterbury with friends and family close by and plenty to keep them busy. They both enjoy basketball, cooking and spending time with their dog Nahla. But when it came to tying the knot last September they decided to spread their wings a little further and head to Rarotonga for the main event. Page 8.

Bevan Cunningham, owner of Morris Waddell Electrical, is the proud owner of this superb '67 Camaro RS/SS big block. Our writer Grant Shanks chats with Bevan about his decision was to take it back to bare metal and completely rebuild to 'show car' standard. Page 21.

Have a great month - Dorothy

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22 Chapel Street, Timaru, South Canterbury. Ph: 03 684 8439 | www.essencemagazine.co.nz



Weddings

Motoring



Gwenth and her husband Bernie enjoy sharing their beautiful Goodstock Gardens, often opening the garden as a fundraiser for community groups.

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From Monday 24th August until Friday 28th Ballantynes had held a number of high teas, fundraising for Daffodil Day. This was a sell-out event with four different time slots each day. The tickets were \$25 per person, with \$10 from every ticket going to our local Cancer Society.



1. Michele Johnson and Mel West 2. Moire, Vonnie, Lynne, Anne, Carol and Barbara 3. Lisa Frater, Karen Sheppard, Rina Frater and Karen Thomas 4. Gina Koomen, Steve Doyle, Warren Reynolds, Bernadine Reynolds, Mark Staniford, Mel West, Emily Wheatley and Faye Koelet

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We're celebrating South Canterbury's food industry with SCOFF, from 11 - 20 September. Head to a participating eatery, order their SCOFF special and be in to win a luxury escape.



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## Winter Night Market

On Friday 11th of September a winter night market was held at South School. It was an evening to peruse and shop what Timaru Small Businesses had to offer.



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## WHATS ON...

### SATURDAY LIVE

Fri 9 - Tue 13 October

The goal of the Masters Games is to encourage participation in sport where camaraderie and competition are equally celebrated. People compete for various reasons whether it is to stand on the podium, improve their personal best, catch up with friends or enjoy the social atmosphere.

### OXTOBERFEST

You are invited to an amateur home brew competition being held at the Oxford and judged by a group of professional brewers, brew master and enthusiastic tasters. Entries Close Monday 12th October 2020. Judging takes place 13th October. Enter your brew over on our website. Oxtobefest event will be held at the Oxford on Saturday 17th October. Some of South Canterbury's commercial brewers will come together to have their beers available for tasting in beer stalls, with entertainment and food available.



ARE YOU OUR TOP HOME BREWER?  
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words: Gilly Oppenheim

# Goodstock Gardens to open for Hospice



Gwenyth Wilson is a founding member and patron of the South Canterbury Hospice, being made a Life Member in 2000. She was the Treasurer of the initial hospice committee, vowing to raise \$100,000 for this very worthwhile venture. She has designed many beautiful gardens, including the hospice garden and she was instrumental in obtaining and naming the special Loving Care hospice rose.

Gwenyth and her husband Bernie created their beautiful Goodstock Gardens Nursery in Pleasant Point from a bare paddock in 1992. They wanted to be on the flat, rather than up on the hill, because it was easier to put down a well to keep the garden watered. The original house on the site had burned down, so there were

paths and rubble to clear away before Gwenyth could work her magic. Bernie and Gwenyth had already established several large gardens, so this was just another challenge for this creative woman. The highlight of the original garden was the 100 plus roses, which they have gradually reduced over the years. Bernie told me that they now only have about 70 roses, those that don't need spraying! With many of the original roses removed and given away, this made way for more lawn. Bernie is in charge of mowing the lawns and cutting the hedges and they both take care of the edges!

The roses were replaced by camellias and rhododendrons, which are under planted with hostas, hellebores, and annuals.



There are also beautiful clematis, maples, cornus and magnolias. One of Gwenyth's favourite plants is the dogwood called Eddies White Wonder, which produces a superb display of white flowers in spring. Her favourite rose is Dainty Bess, a fragrant hybrid tea rose, which has ruffled rose pink petals surrounding maroon stamens in showy clusters. Lamarque is a gorgeous old-fashioned climbing rose with repeat flowerings all summer. Its cream fragrant blooms, which are inclined to be pendulous, grace the full length of the home's veranda. The garden is also enhanced by tasteful ornaments.

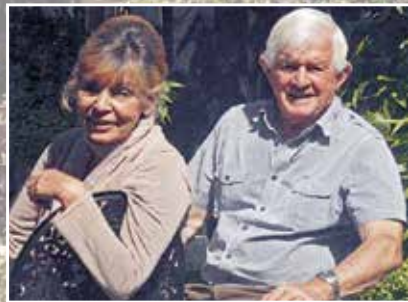
Gwenyth and Bernie decided to close their nursery in 2014, so that they could have more time to

enjoy their retirement and their four children and grandchildren. Now in their eighties, they both still get enormous pleasure from their immaculately kept garden and they enjoy sharing it with various groups, often opening the garden as a fundraiser for community groups. The hospice is the lucky recipient this year. Goodstock will be opened on Sundays and Mondays for four weeks from 11.00am - 4.00pm, starting on September 27th. RSM Law has generously donated the raffle prize of \$500. Tickets for the raffle are just \$2 and for the garden the cost is \$6.00. Tickets can be purchased from both hospice shops and will also be available at the gate. Gwenyth are looking forward to welcoming old friends and clients.



## Goodstock Gardens -Open Garden 2 Horton Street, Pleasant Point

Bernie & Gwenyth Wilson invite you to enjoy the spring display in their renovated garden and at the same time supporting Hospice to which all proceeds will go



Hours 11am - 4pm

27th September 28th September 4th October  
5th October 11th October 12th October  
18th October 19th October

Entry \$6 per person  
All proceeds to Hospice South Canterbury

A raffle will also be available with a \$500 prize with special thanks to



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Our Village sales office has more information and is open from Monday to Thursday. Bookings for tours are essential.





words: **Pattie Pegler**

# Dancing Under The Stars

We caught up with one Timaru couple who share their happy wedding day memories with us.

Timaru couple Eli and Bailey Barlow are happily settled in Canterbury with friends and family close by and plenty to keep them busy. They both enjoy basketball, cooking, fishing and spending time with their dog, Nahla.

But when it came to tying the knot last September they decided to spread their wings a little further and head to Rarotonga for the main event. "We wanted something to really look forward to and have fun planning," explains Bailey. "We both loved the idea of getting married in Rarotonga."

One of the main planning challenges was the guest list. With a limit of 65 people it was hard to decide who to include and there were also some concerns about whether everybody would be able to travel, particularly for elder family members. However, the couple worked it out and the planning was reasonably stress free. "We didn't bother fussing too much over small details," says

Bailey. She even managed to pack her wedding dress in her carry on bag. "It was lacy so it wasn't a drama if it got a little crinkled."

They also found that dealing with a smaller resort that only hosted a couple of weddings a month meant the in-resort planner had more time to focus on them. The communication was all stress free.

But for Bailey and Eli the keyword was fun. "The best thing about getting married overseas is that everyone is in holiday mode," says Bailey. From the moment they got on the plane with around 30 other members of the wedding party to the days on the beach, going out for meals, doing activities and just generally having a great time with friends and family – this was a wedding all about fun.

On the big day a downpour of rain made Bailey "an anxious mess" but her bridesmaids kept her positive. And the rain stopped half an hour before the



beachfront ceremony began. So under shining Rarotonga sun Bailey walked up the aisle with her Dad, followed by her flower girls and bridesmaids to the sounds of "I Can't Help Falling In Love" (an Elvis cover). "I was picking up the wet sand and soaked petal trail as I went," recalls Bailey. "Many jokes were had about how I should be on the resort payroll as a beach sweeper."

The ceremony went without a hitch, run by Florence, their Cook Island celebrant who included some traditional Cook Island blessings like drinking from a coconut. The couple had written their own vows which "seemed to bounce off each other," says Bailey.

After the ceremony there were photos and canapes to a backdrop of live music.

**"The best thing about getting married overseas is that everyone is in holiday mode"**

Later there were the speeches and buffet dinner but it was the fun, laid back nature of it all that was the highlight – with dancing under the stars, singing and even a limbo competition. All this in a balmy 24 degrees.

Talking to Bailey, it's clear that this was a wedding that was less about stressful planning and more about bringing together loved ones and enjoying time well-spent away from the stresses of everyday life.

The couple stayed for 10 days in Rarotonga in total and it was a time they will always remember.

"We were all having a blast and it felt like the wedding went on for a full week," says Bailey.

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The RSA is the latest local community group to join the Timaru Town & Country Club as one of their 'sections'. It's a win-win situation for all – RSA members now get access to all the club's facilities; the RSA in Timaru no longer needs to worry about managing a building or catering and the Town & Country Club increases its membership, which is now at nearly 4000.

The RSA now becomes one of nearly 30 sections at the Town & Country Club. Other sections cover a wide range of interests from go-karting to golf, indoor bowls to wine tasting, hockey and petanque. "There

is a lot of interaction between sections," says Club General Manager, Vince Gardner. "There are things like shared outings and some good sporting rivalry and quite a mixture of age groups. We see the club as a hub for all these sporting and special interest groups".

And it's perhaps not surprising that so many of these groups have become part of the Town & Country Club. This long-established facility has everything from restaurant and café style meals, three bars, an air-conditioned gaming room with 18 gaming machines, dartboards, billiards to an outdoor BBQ area. It's a great place for families to grab dinner on a Saturday night, or to get together with the grandparents for a roast Sunday lunch. And if you're making a night of it there's even a courtesy van to take you home.

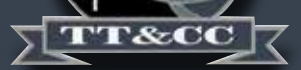


For access to all these facilities club members pay just a \$20 joining fee and then an annual fee of \$20. It's no wonder that the club is fast turning into the meeting place for Timaru.

For more details or to join online visit [www.timarucubs.co.nz](http://www.timarucubs.co.nz)



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## Wedding Checklist

Make your wedding planning easy with our essential wedding check list.

### 12 Months

- Decide your budget
- Choose your bridal party
- Book wedding venue for ceremony and reception
- Make a guest list and send out 'save the dates'
- Start looking for your dress
- Book main services: Registered Celebrant, Entertainment, Florist, Caterer, Transport, Cake, Photographer, Videographer, Honeymoon, Planner



### 6 Months

- Dress fitting
- Choose shoes and accessories
- Order wedding rings
- Arrange outfits for bridal party
- Order favours & stationery
- Book beautician & hairdresser
- Dates in diary for hen & stag nights

### 3 Months

- Buy marriage licence
- Send out invitations
- Select gift list/wishing well/travel register
- Finalise music and order of service
- Hair & make-up trials
- Rough draft seating plans
- Purchase gifts for bridal party
- Arrange ceremony rehearsal

### 1 Month

- Final dress fitting
- Re-confirm arrangements with: Venue, Catering, Florist, Photographer, Videographer, Transport, Entertainment, Honeymoon
- Write wedding speeches
- Hen & stag nights
- Finalise seating plans
- List of essential pictures for your wedding photographer
- Meet with Celebrant to go through your ceremony

### 7 Days

- Wedding rehearsal
- Honeymoon money
- Pack for your overnight stay and honeymoon
- Run through bridal party duties
- Beauty appointments

### After

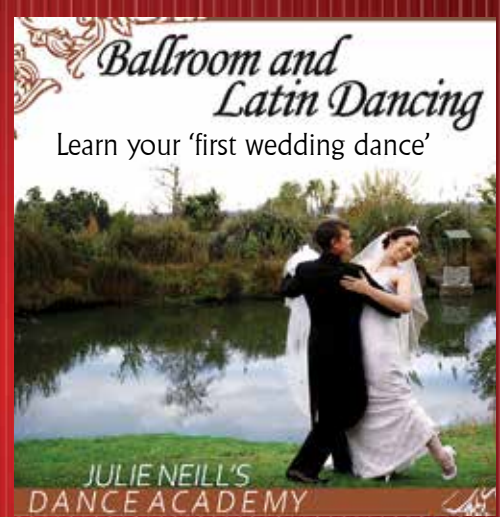
- Send thank you cards
- Preserve bouquet
- Clean dress
- Finalise photo album/video
- Change name on documents

## Julie Neill's Dance Academy



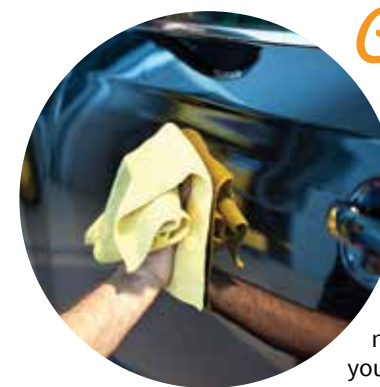
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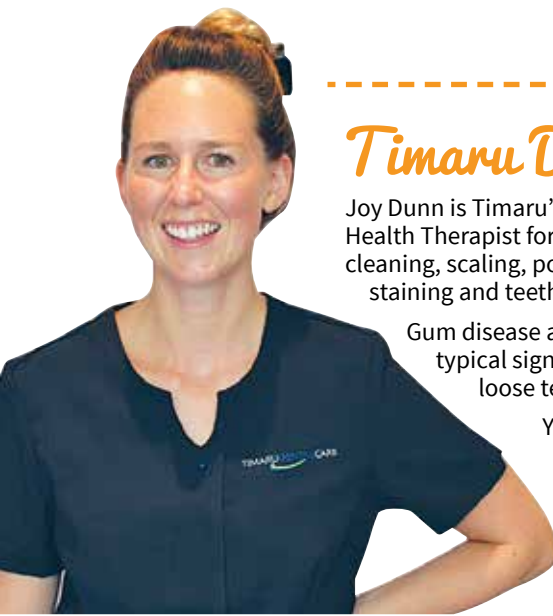
Lightweight brushcutters are recommended for tending the lawn and finishing the edges.

 <b>Sparta 25 Lightweight brush cutter \$399</b>	 <b>Sparta 380S Powerful brush cutter \$499</b>
 <b>Sparta 38 Powerful brush cutter \$699</b>	

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## HR Power

There are numerous tools designed for use in the garden, but if you're new to gardening, focus on investing in tools that are necessary. You may even already have some of these in your garage or shed. Shovel, spade, hose, bucket, floral shears, pruners, brush cutter, chain saw, hedge trimmer, leaf blower, lawnmower, etc. Although you don't have to buy now, you can at least come and talk to us for all your gardening needs this spring. **Ph 03 684 4593**



## ABC Café

Its spring and we have been here 1 year on the 24th of September. Lara aims to ease the strain on busy families' lives by providing stress-free, healthy, home cooked meals for her customers. Don't feel like you're being lazy - free up some of your valuable time and free phone 688 2852 for meals to be delivered, knowing that your family is eating well. We are open 7 days a week, 7.30am - 3pm. **Ph 03 688 2852**



## Warehouse Liquor

Spring is here so why not enjoy a glass of wine on the patio or at a BBQ?

Stoneleigh is a wine producer based in the New Zealand region of Marlborough. It is best known for its Sauvignon Blanc wines, which are made in several styles at different price points. It is a familiar label in many export markets, catering to and benefitting from strong demand for this grape variety. We have a large range of Stoneleigh wines to choose from. Come and get your favorite. **Ph 03 688 1012**

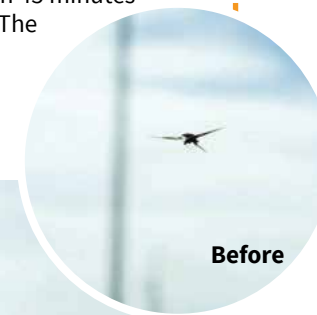
## Novus Glass

Did you know... NOVUS invented windscreen repair and we've been perfecting it for over 45 years!

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Before



After



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Fabrics can be viewed in store or a selection can be brought to your home in the Complete Curtains convenient mobile showroom. We have a range of blinds and shutters available as well.

The service covers all of South Canterbury, Mackenzie District and Canterbury region. We do colour schemes and interior packages for new and existing homes. Careful consultation is essential to ensure you select the right fabric design and colour to perfectly complement your décor. Call Jo Shore, Sharon Cunningham or Julie Ryan today! **Ph 03 615 7289**



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## Marine and Auto Timaru

These past few winter months have been cold, but here is the good news: it's spring! The air is getting warmer, the snow will start receding soon, and the time is coming to bring your boat out of storage and get back on the water. This is the time of year that all boaters look forward to.

It's the perfect time of the season to get your boats in to Maurie and Andy for a service to ensure trouble free boating this summer. **Ph 03 688 6757**



## MARINE AND AUTO TIMARU

### Finished preparing your boat for spring?

Preparing your boat for spring may be painstaking but having peace of mind while you're on the water all season lets you enjoy the summer. If you need a helping hand come and see us at Marine and Auto.



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## TIMARUDENTALCARE

It's never too late to start caring for your teeth so don't be embarrassed or scared if you haven't been for years. Techniques have come a long way over the years taking the stress out of a dental visit. A simple check-up is a good place to start; it takes 15-30 minutes for a full examination and xrays and it's much better for peace of mind than waiting for a major problem.

### Want to improve the look of your teeth then spring clean your mouth before Christmas

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## FROM THE *Mayors Desk*

The Mackenzie is bouncing back! Latest figures show that the Mackenzie continues to be resilient. The construction and farming sectors have been key growth drivers. Unemployment in our district shows a 70% increase but still only represents 1.1% of our population. Total tourism spend for the year to June fell 12.3%. Longer term predictions, just released, show growth to be steady. We expect to be fully recovered by 2025.



Many of our local business have experienced strong growth in the domestic tourism market with some business reporting an increase on last year's winter period. Shop and support local has made a difference and we appreciate the support for our local businesses that has come from all over NZ.

Last week Mackenzie Basin experienced a serious fire. Thanks to prompt action, our fire crews saved at least 8 homes and property, but unfortunately one holiday home was lost. Tremendous local, national and community support. While this gives me confidence in our ability to manage disasters, it is also a wakeup call around fire, vegetation, and a reminder of how careful we need to be.

Already our AT2/Ocean trails are busy with cyclists - now one of world 50 best tracks. There's never been a better time to come and explore. See a different perspective by taking a scenic flight or even a sky dive from Pukaki Airport. Fish our canals or lakes. Don't forget to visit Aoraki Mt Cook village - the Hooker Valley walk offers spectacular views. The Hermitage Hotel and Mountaineer Café are open for great coffee and a hearty feed!

The Spring Fling Mini Show over Labour weekend in Fairlie, hosted at showgrounds to replace the cancelled A&P show, will be a 'must see!' Visit Tekapo Springs to dip in pools, the Dark Sky Project to view our night sky. Mackenzie has International Dark Sky Reserve Gold Star Status - our lighting restrictions and low population make it one of the clearest atmospheres in the world.

The Mackenzie, with its central location, is an exciting and fascinatingly diverse District. Come and join us to relax, recharge, and put a smile on your face as you enjoy our Legendary Mackenzie scenery and hospitality.

**Graham Smith - Mackenzie District Council**



## Bringing some spring joy to Mackenzie

With spring now well and truly here it's time to enjoy the Mackenzie Highland Spring Fling. A fabulous, free community event that will include live music, some fantastic country activities and a great array of stalls offering everything from tasty eats to locally made items.

The event is a first this year and came about after the A & P Show had to be cancelled earlier this year due to Covid-19. So many businesses and local people were disappointed that the organisers decided to try and lift spirits with the upcoming Mackenzie Highland Spring Fling - a free event designed to put the spring back in our step this Labour Weekend.

"This is a whole new challenge for us... new date, new format... But we have had a really positive response," says Society Secretary, Jody Payne.

Visitors can enjoy live music from some super-

talented local acts. And in the tradition of all good country shows there will be some rural activities - from an equestrian competition to the best pet lamb and miniature horse rides. So there will be plenty to keep the kids happy.

Many local businesses have signed up for stalls at the event and there will be a great range of tasty treats to snack on as well as the obligatory coffee. But visitors can also browse stores from producers and artisans selling all manner of locally produced items.

The Mackenzie Highland Spring Fling looks set to be a great, fun day out for the community and the Society organisers are hoping to see a great turnout. So, put the date in your calendar and get down to Fairlie with family and friends.

**25th October at Fairlie Showgrounds and remember Entry is Free!**



## History Repeats Itself

This year was only the fourth time the Mackenzie A & P Show has been cancelled since its inaugural event in 1899. That's not bad going in 120 years.

In 1943 the show was cancelled due to World War II.

But interestingly 2020 isn't the first year that has seen a cancellation due to a public health emergency. In both 1925 and 1948 the show was cancelled due to polio outbreaks, otherwise known at the time as infantile paralysis. There were also varying degrees of preventative measures taken across New Zealand including closing schools and stopping large public gatherings.

# Book Club

## NEEDING SOME GOOD READS?

words: **Gilly Oppenheim**

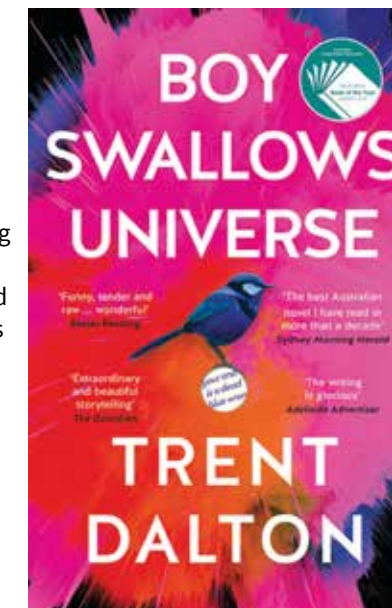
### Boy Swallows Universe

Trent Dalton

A novel of love, crime, magic, fate and coming of age, set in Brisbane's violent working class suburban fringe in 1983. Twelve year old Eli Bell lives with his mum Frances and stepdad Lyle in the Brisbane suburbs. He seemingly has a normal Aussie childhood, tearing off on his bike, playing in the streets and worshipping the Parramatta Eels. Except for the fact that his older brother Gus is mute, having elected to give up speaking some years ago (after a traumatic event), his parents are drug dealers and his babysitter is a notorious ex-crim called Slim (based on a real life character also known as the Houdini of Boggo Road). That all changes when Lyle is caught out by his boss doing a bit of extracurricular dealing and is dragged off by his brutal henchman never to be seen again, Eli's Mum is sent to jail and Eli and Gus go to live with their depressed, drunken father.

Despite all the violence and crime around him, Eli wants to grow up to be a good person and become a journalist, providing he can navigate his way through warring street gangs and heroin dealers, somehow survive school and find a paper willing to take him on. His love for his mother, stepfather Lyle, his father and brother shines out.

Trent Dalton has somehow managed to spin a yarn about a Brisbane boy growing up amidst poverty, violence and crime while infusing it with love, joy and humour. The little bluebird in the centre on the cover has a significant meaning for Eli, and the three word title and chapter headings reflect advice given to Eli when he meets his future news editor - that a story should be able to be summed up in three words! Not an easy read but I couldn't put it down!



### War Gardens

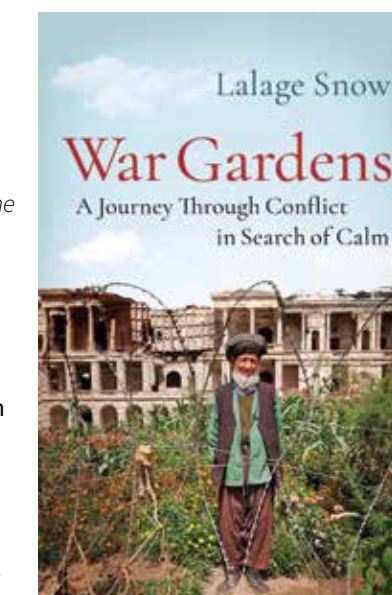
Lalage Snow

*A journey through the most unlikely of gardens: the oases of peace people create in the midst of war.*

This is a beautiful book. Working in the world's most dangerous war zones, freelance war correspondent and photographer Lalage Snow has often chanced across a very moving sight, a testimony to the triumph of the human spirit in adversity, a celebration of hope and beauty: a war garden. Against a landscape of horror and violence it is up to the gardeners to maintain a modicum of normality and colour. For some, gardening is the way to achieve this.

In Kabul, the royal gardens are tended by a centenarian gardener, though the king is long gone; in Camp Bastion, bored soldiers improvise tiny gardens to give themselves a moment's peace and remind them of home; on both sides of the dividing line in Jerusalem families tend groves of olives and raise beautiful plants from the unforgiving, disputed landscape; in Ukraine, families tend their gardens in the middle of a surreal, frozen war.

War Gardens is a surprising, tragic and beautiful journey through the darkest places of the modern world, revealing the ways people make time and space for themselves and for nature even in the middle of destruction. Illustrated with Lalage Snow's own award-winning photography, this is a book to treasure.



## Bay Hill Books

Bay Hill Books was established in Timaru in July this year opposite Ballantynes and is the sister shop of The Twizel Bookshop. This independent bookshop celebrates books and the South Canterbury community. Renee Rowland is a voracious reader, who after several years of working overseas in the corporate sector, fell in love with the Mackenzie country. So when the Hydro Café in Twizel offered her a tiny room adjoining the café, Renee jumped at the opportunity to establish her eclectic little bookshop, which is popular with both locals and passing tourists. Both bookshops are a booklover's paradise with an amazingly wide selection of books.



Renee is planning to engage with the community by running book club nights and special author events. The Dinglehopper Storytime for children takes place on Saturday mornings starting at 10.30 am, the Monday Meditation Circle is a 30 minute guided meditation beginning at 5.15pm, a regular Book Club is planned for Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm and poetry slam nights will also be offered.



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Regan and Charlotte Koster are delighted to mark 15 years in business helping the South Canterbury community with all their heating and cooling needs.

We want to put out a big thank you to our awesome team of superstar staff, our loyal customers, our suppliers and other local businesses who have supported us.

We have seen some challenges like the huge hail storm last year that badly damaged our service vehicles and workshop. We had to replace our entire fleet and Hyundai South Canterbury supplied us with a perfect solution - the iLoad Van. With its amazing safety features and practicality, we now feel a lot more comfortable knowing our staff are driving these vehicles and are safe.

A more recent business challenge was the lockdown earlier this year. We always knew as a business that we would get through this however we are amazed at the support of our new and existing clients just getting back to business as usual, buying and supporting local means we have been extremely busy post lockdown.



### SERVICES

- Heat Pumps, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration for South Canterbury. We service the whole South Canterbury region - Ashburton, Geraldine, Timaru, Waimate, Oamaru, Fairlie through to Twizel and the Waitaki District.
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- Check out our user friendly website at [www.coolair.nz](http://www.coolair.nz) for more details on all the services and products we offer.



## Answering all your home heating questions

Over the last 15 years we've seen a real move away from fires and onto heat pumps when it comes to heating homes. Modern heat pumps can now handle all of New Zealand's extreme temperature ranges.

### Q. How do I choose the right heat pump for my home?

It is important to get a qualified home heating expert in to measure up the area you require heating or cooling in. If you get the wrong size, style or position of heat pump installed in your home you will experience elevated heating costs, drafts, breakdowns and overall poor performance from your system. We provide free assessments and no-obligation quotes and can provide and install heat pumps throughout the South and Mid Canterbury and North Otago regions.

### Q. How do I get moisture out of my home?

By installing a positive pressurized ventilation system. It is important when choosing a moisture removal system for your home to get a system that is specifically designed for your home. We provide a moisture removal ventilation system that is custom designed to suit your home at a lesser cost than the bigger brands you see advertised.

### Q. How does a ducted system work?

Ducted Systems are a must for new homes. The heat pump unit is concealed, and the conditioned air is distributed by flexible ducting to the areas you choose. The entire system is tailored to suit your needs, enhancing your lifestyle, and adding value to your home.

With Fujitsu's powerful ducted systems, you can control which zones in your home are turned on, reducing wastage of heating or cooling areas that are not in use.

All Fujitsu ducted heating/air conditioners are reverse cycle, meaning they can keep you warm in winter and cool in summer. It's a great way to keep the temperature of your home comfortable all year round.

### Q. Do you offer heat pump servicing on any model of heat pump?

We sure do! To ensure you are getting the most economical performance from your heat pump we recommend a twice-yearly full system service consisting of the indoor and outdoor unit coils being cleaned; pressure, temperature and electrical tests, cleaning of the filters and fresh air filters and the drains flushed out.

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We offer a free on-site farm assessment of your refrigeration equipment. We supply, install and service milk silo refrigeration, milk silos, water chill plants and heat recovery systems.

In refrigeration and in heating, one of the major changes we have seen during our years in business is a huge taxation on ozone-depleting refrigerants and a big push towards naturally occurring refrigerants or blend gases. This means we are now able to supply a more sustainable future for our customers in the way of supplied refrigerant.





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**Polly's Patchwork**

Polly's Patchwork is right beside its sister store, Mint Boutique in Fairlie. Rebecca Kerr owns both businesses. "You may be asking where the name Polly came from? Years back dad called me Polly as my nick name". When the original old Mint building was demolished to upgrade the area, Rebecca immediately saw the potential, and so the idea for a specialist patchwork store was born. This little store is light and airy with its products attractively displayed.

Rebecca has always been keen on patchwork and Polly's Patchwork has a good selection of fabrics, cottons, buttons, patterns, DMC embroidery threads, tapestries and more for the keen sewer. Rebecca said her online sales are also proving popular. In the future she would like to run patchwork classes. Products available will appeal to all age groups and there are some quirky gifts, such as the needle mender magnets and the Mt Dobson animals on skis. Embroidery books are also available as well as a small jewellery selection. Why don't you come in and browse to get some ideas for that needlework masterpiece, be it a patchwork quilt, a bag, a wall hanging or an item of clothing? You might surprise yourself! Polly's Patchwork is open every day from 10.00am until 4.00pm and is found at 72 Main Street, Fairlie. Products can also be viewed on Facebook and our website www.pollyspatchwork.co.nz

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Yaris ZR pictured



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# Bevan's Classy CAMARO

Timaru's Bevan Cunningham, owner of Morris Waddell Electrical, is the proud owner of this superb '67 Camaro RS/SS big block. "It was a bit rough when I bought it from a guy in Auckland, lot of patches of rust in the corners and floor, so the decision was to take it back to bare metal and do a complete rebuild to 'show car' standard," says Bevan. That decision was most definitely the right one, with all new panels available from U.S.A.

For the petrol-heads reading this, here's the technical data. There's the Motor, Dart Racing Big M block that has been bored out to 540 cubic inches, ported Brodex heads, a heavy-duty Tremac 5-speed box, McDonald double-diaphragm clutch, 9-inch diff, Caltrac tramp rods, CPP suspension, Willwood disc brakes (front and rear), Quickfuel 1050 4-barrel carb. This is all finished off with a complete all-new interior including analogue period instruments and Hurst Shifter. The whole package is completed by the stunning paintwork.

"We've just finished working on the car and the final touch really is that Deep Impact Blue with the white stencil kit front and rear. While it is intended primarily as a show car it's used for Sunday runs and I hope we can do some track days soon. On the road it's fun to drive, with 700 plus horsepower from that big block up front it's right up there."

As well as the Camaro, Bevan has built, and is building other cars, including a '57 Chev 2-door sports saloon with a 430 hp motor and currently, a Chev 3100 pick-up destined to take a 400 donk.

"I always like to make cars go faster and noisier," Bevan explains.

With a very understanding partner, four adult kids including 3 boys who have followed the old man's footsteps and become electricians, and a daughter who has just graduated from police

college, life is pretty full for the family.

Bevan is one of the founding members of the Caroline Bay Rock'n'Hop Committee with links to all of the car clubs in the area and many clubs further afield. "We're lucky as a group to be good mates - Trevor Parmenter, Jim Bracefield, Steve Geddes and Andy Towns (all petrol heads), we all love and work on the classics and support each other and have a lot of fun. Families are all tremendous supporters, putting up with absentee partners, spouses and dads who always seem to have their heads wedged under the bonnets of their latest pride and joy. You never finish, there's always something to fix or improve to make them go louder - go faster."



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## Mandy Wills

### Working with Migrants

South Canterbury is a great place for migrants and newcomers to settle. It has good opportunities for families, housing is affordable and the region is experiencing economic growth. Migrants enrich our community and we need to understand their differences and learn about their different cultures, just as much as they need to learn about ours. I had a chat with Mandy Wills about her job:

#### Q. What is your role with the Aoraki Migrant Centre?

We support, connect and celebrate the multi-cultural communities of Aoraki. Katie Houstoun (the migrant support manager) and I have the job of supporting anyone who is new in Timaru, not only new migrants and former refugees, but also some who are already permanent residents. We ensure that these people know about the amazing services and support that are available to them in our community. We want them to be happy and settled here, to integrate into our community and to become productive citizens. It is really important that we understand and value their cultural differences and that they can understand and value ours.

#### Q. What sorts of things do you do to achieve this?

Weekly coffee group meetings help them to connect with others of their culture, many of whom feel quite isolated, because it is usually the husband who works and the wife is often left alone at home. Supportive friendships have resulted from this connection. Families are reliant on being able to work, which means having a visa for which they are sponsored. If the job finishes and their visa expires, they must find a new sponsor and it is expensive to renew visas. During Covid, there have been lots of job losses especially in the hospitality industry and the Migrant Centre and Family Works have been proactive in providing financial support, food and blankets to these people. One example was at the Hermitage at Mt Cook, where 170 lost their jobs and Craighead families generously donated enormous amounts of food and clothing to help these dispossessed families.

Another successful example was the Comm-Unity Day held at the SBS stadium on Race Relations Day. This was real celebration of different cultures with ten different food stalls, cultural performances, and inter-active activities such as learning how to do Indian henna, make Tongan lolly leis, construct Japanese origami and Chinese lanterns. For the children, the police and firemen helped them construct Lego masterpieces. The



latter activity created healthy connections and helped build trust with these organisations.

Several of the cultural societies such as the Tongan Society and the Timaru Filipino Society have many members and run regular events and we happily support these.

Immigration advice is vital and we refer to specialised services. Stafford Personnel are helping with teaching interview skills and creating a CV and the YMCA are helping fund migrants to get their drivers licences. Community support is so important for social integration and for migrants to know that people care in times of adversity.

#### Q. You obviously love this job?

It is an incredibly rewarding and interesting job. We are a small team with a supportive, unique and diverse Board. It is a privilege to work with migrants, former refugees and newcomers who are so grateful for our help. They need to learn where to go for help when there are problems and good listeners are very important. No two days are the same. However, we could do better. We need to get to know and to better understand other cultures and to reduce the fear of the unknown. A little bit of support goes a long way and can have a real impact on their lives.



# 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](mailto:pat@essencemagazine.co.nz)



## Renae McClenaghan

Renae is General Manager and Finance and Insurance Specialist at Autoworld Timaru with over 14 years' experience in the finance and insurance industry.

Range anxiety is a term used to describe the feeling EV drivers experience when they're unsure their vehicle will make it to the next charge station. Petrol stations are easy to come by when the car hits 'E', but charging an EV takes a little more planning and thought.

Although it takes some getting used to, below are a few ways to combat range anxiety and leave you feeling confident to take a long road trip.

- Charge up at home.** Investing in a wall-mounted charger can save you time and sanity. You can charge overnight, waking up ready to go with a charged vehicle. You can even programme some to turn on and off at the same time each day.
- Planning is key.** Driving an electric vehicle means being prepared to make frequent and longer stops and sometimes taking alternate routes. Download an EV plug app and plan your route using their trip planning suggestions.
- All the small things.** If you're running low on battery, switch off the radio, unplug your phone, and turn off any air-con or heating. These things won't dramatically affect your range but they can make the difference when kilometres are crucial. If your vehicle has heated seats and steering wheels, use those instead of ambient heat, which draws more energy than direct source heating.
- Employ the eco mode.** Most EVs offer eco driving modes, designed to help enhance efficiency. They often feature regenerative braking, too, which increases your battery range when you apply pressure to the brake.
- Control your road rage.** Save the quick accelerations, slamming on the brakes, and quick lane changes for the Fast and Furious. These manoeuvres will waste your battery life, leaving you road ragged and ranged out. Practice being gentle on the wheel and pedal and you may notice positive changes on your battery.

To get the most out of your electric vehicle now, be sure to plan your route ahead of time, be conscious of your driving style, and try out that regenerative braking!



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

Thomas Nation is a partner at Timpany Walton. Thomas specialises in litigation including family law, employment and civil disputes.

Kanye West famously said, "if you ain't no punk, holla we want prenu, we want prenu" but what is a prenu and when should you get one?

In New Zealand a pre-nuptial agreement is referred to as a Contracting Out Agreement or section 21 Agreement. This is because it is an agreement contracting out of the Property (Relationships) Act 1976.

The majority of Contracting Out Agreements are entered into in the first three years of a relationship as, generally speaking, once a relationship is longer than three years relationship property is divided equally between the parties. The other main time people enter into these agreements is when they are purchasing a property together, or receiving inheritance or a gift from family. Remember that income earned during a relationship is relationship property and everything that is bought with that income becomes relationship property.

Whether you should look at a Contracting Out Agreement depends on your personal circumstances (age, work arrangements, assets etc). If you're buying a house and contributing different amounts then a Contracting Out Agreement can be entirely appropriate. Where you both have similar assets and incomes it may be that there is no need for a Contracting Out Agreement.

If you believe that you do need a Contracting Out Agreement, it's important to think about what you are trying to achieve. Are you just wanting to protect property you owned pre relationship or future property as well? It's important that you consider what the effect and implications of an agreement are when it's signed but also into the future.

For a Contracting Out Agreement to be legally binding both parties need to receive independent legal advice on its terms.

If you've got questions about whether you might need a Contracting Out Agreement or any other relationship property advice, then don't be afraid to give us a call.



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