

2025 Spring Newsletter



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Weekly Office Days
Tues, Weds, Thurs
9am – 3pm

Remote Days
Monday & Friday 10am-3pm

Make the Money, Pay the Tax

If it moves... tax it, if it doesn't move, tax it until it does. We often get asked,

(A) "If I invest in will I pay tax on it?" Broadly speaking if you, invest in / buy something with a view to make money on it, any profit you make may become taxable.

This is true for -

- Property
- Precious metals
- Crypto currencies
- Foreign currencies
- Vehicles, boats, planes

Particularly if there is no ability to earn an income from the investment. This is exactly the case for investments in gold.

But don't be put off by this, if you believe in it as an investment and you can see an opportunity to make a dollar, make the money (profit), pay the tax, the rest is yours to keep to reinvest or spend.

(B) The same goes for spending money.
"If I buy..... will it reduce my tax?" There is little point in spending \$1.00 to save 0.33/0.39 cents.

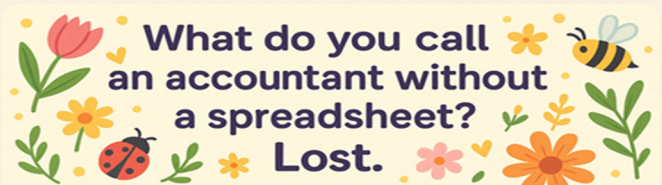
Spend the money on things that are going to make life or business easier or increase efficiencies or make more money.

The Reserve Bank lowered the Official Cash Rate (OCR) by 25 basis points to 3% on 20 August 2025, a three year low. Good news for mortgage rates as these will generally trend downward with some banks having already adjusted their rates



Fonterra's Recent Forecast Announcements

On 20 August 2025, Fonterra lifted its 2024/25 forecast Farmgate milk price by 15 cents to \$10.15 per kgMS and narrowed the range from \$9.70 - \$10.30 per kgMS to \$10.10 - \$10.20 per kgMS. For the 2025/26 season it narrowed its forecast range to \$9.00 - \$11.00 per kgMS.





Xero Payroll upgrades are now available.

As of 1 September, small businesses can now pay any number of employees on any business plan.

Ignite plan, add payroll for \$4 per person

Grow plan, add additional employees for \$4 per person

Comprehensive plan, add additional employees for \$4 per person

Ultimate plan is not changing.

All prices are per person, per month, excluding GST

Bank Surcharge Proposals – What’s Brewing?



In July 2025 the government announced plans to ban most in store surcharges on debit (EFTPOS, domestic Visa, Mastercard) and credit card payments. The ban is expected to take effect by May 2026 at the latest and would eliminate those surprise charges at the till, whether you are tapping, swiping or using a digital wallet. Whilst this is good news for consumers, it could mean higher underlying costs for small businesses, as without the option to add a surcharge many operators may be forced to absorb these costs or increase prices to maintain margins.

Totally Irrelevant (But Fun) Facts Corner



Countdown alert – only 15 weeks to go until Christmas! 🎁

That’s 4 more Fonterra milk cheques, 9 fortnightly pay packets or 15 weekly wages.



Kiwi birds lay eggs up to 20% of their body weight. That’s like a human giving birth to a 10kg baby. Kiwis take “investment risk” to a whole new level.



Inland Revenue
Te Tari Taake

Clients With An Overdue IRD Debt

You may be aware that the IRD are focusing more on collecting overdue debt, particularly GST and Employer (EMP) overdue debt. The IRD may contact you if you have not responded to their direct contact campaigns, including calls and SMS messaging. If you have overdue debt that is not currently under arrangement or in active negotiation, the IRD may bring further actions. We are here to help, please contact us so we can assist you going forward.

Paid Parental Leave Rate Change

From 1 July 2025, eligible employees and self-employed people will see an increase in the parental leave payment from \$754.87 to \$788.66 each week before tax.

Change To Notification Preferences In MyIR

From 28 July 2025 you will no longer be able to receive both email and SMS notifications for alerts in myIR.

To switch to SMS notifications, follow these steps in myIR.

1. Select ‘Manage my profile’.
2. Go to the Profile tab.
3. Click ‘Change notification preferences’.

Clients with Invalid Addresses

Please check that IRD have your correct address details. If the address is invalid you will not get mail and SGCA will not receive your mail either.

Income Tax Rates

Individuals			
Taxable Income	Composite tax rate Apr 24 – Mar 25	Rates from April 25	
0 – \$14,000	10.5%	0 – \$15,600	10.5%
\$14,001 – 15,600	12.82%		
\$15,601 – 48,000	17.5%	\$15,601 – \$53,500	17.5%
\$48,001 – 53,500	21.64%		
\$53,501 – 70,000	30%	\$53,501 – \$78,100	30%
\$70,001 – 78,100	30.99%		
\$78,101 – 180,000	33%	\$78,101 – \$180,000	33%
\$180,001+	39%	\$180,001+	39%

How is KiwiSaver Changing?

- * Increase the default employer and employee KiwiSaver contribution rates from 3% to 3.5% from 1 April 2026, and then to 4% from 1 April 2028.
- * Allow members to choose to temporarily remain at the current 3% and still be matched at that rate by their employer.
- * Extend KiwiSaver eligibility to 16–17 year-olds, allowing them to access both employer and Government contributions.
- * Reduce the government contribution rate from 50 cents for each dollar member contributes to 25 cents from 1 July 2025. The maximum government contribution will reduce from \$521.43 to \$260.72 per year.
- * Limit eligibility for the annual Government contribution to those earning \$180,000 or less.

Financial Year Info Needed

Please send us your financial year information at your earliest convenience. Not sure what to include? Just ask, we are here to help.

We process work on a **first in, first out** basis, so stay ahead of your tax position by getting your papers in sooner rather than later.



Mental Health Awareness Week is 6th – 12th October and it is a good reminder for all of us to slow down, check in, and breathe.

In the rush of work, family, and life, it's easy to forget that rest isn't lazy - it's necessary.

 Take five minutes to step outside.

 Message a friend, just to say hi.

 Make a cuppa and do nothing for 10 minutes.

It doesn't have to be big, just something.

If you're feeling overwhelmed, you're not alone.

There is support out there:

Text or call a trained counsellor on 1737 free 24/7
Or go to mentalhealth.org.nz, for some great tips, resources & support info.

Take care of yourself - everything else can wait a moment.

Are you Eligible to get a Rates Rebate?



What it is:

A government subsidy for low-income homeowners to help pay their council rates.

Maximum amount:

The highest possible rebate for the 2025/26 financial year is \$805.

Eligibility criteria:

- You must be a homeowner.
- You must have a low household income for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The maximum income for a standard applicant is \$32,210.
- SuperGold cardholders have a higher income threshold to receive the maximum rebate, up to \$45,000.

You can download and print an application form from the [New Zealand Government website](https://www.govt.nz) or pick up a printed copy from your local council.

What's This ChatGPT Everyone Is Talking About?



Imagine if Google, your favourite librarian and a super patient friend had a baby, that's ChatGPT, a very helpful and clever assistant on your computer or phone. It doesn't get tired, it doesn't judge and it's available 24/7. It is a free website where you can type in a question and it types back helpful answers, instantly.


You can ask it almost anything;

 What's a good recipe for banana cake?

 How do I fix a dripping tap?

 What should I pack for a trip to Taupo?

 Write a polite text to cancel lunch.

 Or even, Can you help me write a letter to my neighbour?

Want to give it a go?

Head to chat.openai.com, it is free to use, just click the *stay logged out* option.

Upcoming Key Dates

- 20th Sept – 5th Oct - School holidays
- 28th Sept – Daylight Savings begins
- 27th Oct – Labour Day
- 28th Oct – Provisional tax due (May balance date)



MARK YOUR
CALENDAR

A Timely Reminder



With spring upon us and daylight saving time just around the corner, it's the perfect time to run a few essential safety checks:

- ✓ **Inspect your machinery** for bird nests, especially around engines and exhaust systems.
- ✓ **Check your fire extinguishers**, make sure they're fully charged and accessible.
- ✓ **Change the batteries** in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.
- ✓ **Insurance**, are you covered for the extras, load scales, tools, phones as well as the vehicle, if it all catches on fire?

It only takes a few minutes, but it could prevent a disaster. Stay safe this season.

*No matter how long the winter,
Spring is sure to follow*



Disclaimer

This publication has been carefully prepared, but it has been written in general terms only. The publication should not be relied upon to provide specific information without also obtaining appropriate professional advice after detailed examination of your particular situation. [Please contact us if any of the content is of interest to you or would like to know more.](#)



Are you registered for MyACC for Business?

With MyACC for Business you can:

- Check your balance and pay your invoice by direct debit or credit card;
- Access your activity timeline to view transaction history and download invoices, so you no longer need to maintain paper copies;
- Keep your contact and business details up to date, including change of bank account numbers;
- Spread your payments out by setting up direct debit instalments over three or six months.

To set up a MyACC for Business account all you need is a RealMe, Google or Microsoft account and either your ACC or IRD number, head to business.acc.co.nz

COMPETITION TIME!

WIN a \$100 Fahrenheit Voucher!

All you need to do is answer this question.

❓ How many sheep are there per person in New Zealand?

- a) 2.5
- b) 4.5
- c) 5.5
- d) 6.0

Email your answer to -
kelly@sgca.co.nz

Entries close

3pm, Tuesday 30th Sept

Winner notified

Wednesday, 1st October

Hint: Try asking ChatGPT

Need help?

Whether it is tax planning, cash flow management or just navigating the numbers, we are here to help. Get in touch today for a spring check-up on your financials.



Carli Jeanette Charlotte Steve Kelly Julie Michael