

# TRADES & SERVICES

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This year's Handy Trades Booklet is packed with useful information about who to contact for all those jobs needed for both the interior and exterior of your home or property, whether it's in town or the country.

**N**otably, this year we've seen many businesses expanding their services to address the challenges of climate change, offering sensible and sustainable solutions.

We hope you'll keep this handy reference booklet nearby, as you never know when you might need to replace curtains, find a painter or paperhanger, replace a window, seek legal services, repair your vehicle, or call on a plumber, builder, or contractor. You'll find it an excellent guide for both the small and large jobs that arise around your home or property.

Both Wairarapa and Tararua boast a vibrant building and construction industry, rich with innovation and expertise that is second to none. It's home to some of the country's best and most skilled tradespeople. Remember that builders and related professionals are often booked months in advance,

so it's wise to plan any major projects well ahead of time.

It's not just in times of emergency that we rely on skilled tradespeople—there are always projects to tackle, from home and garden renovations to vehicle servicing and repairs. You'll find everything you need right here in this trade directory.

Also, there are times when you need advice from professionals, whether a lawyer, an accountant or others, and their advice can be invaluable, saving you financially and avoiding stress.

All our advertisers have the knowledge and experience to work with our unique climatic conditions, ensuring their workmanship stands the test of time and protects our most important investments, our homes and properties.

If you contact any of our advertisers, please mention that you saw their advertisement in the 2026 Trades Booklet.



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## ARCHITECTS

# New homes, renovations and using an architect

One of the biggest investments in our lifetimes is our home, whether building or purchasing one already on the market.

Over the last few years, purchasing or building your own home has become harder, and more buyers are looking for different options when it comes to choosing where and how they are going to live.

Having a new home built to specification is a tremendous opportunity to bring your vision to reality, and using an architect can add another dimension to your build, adding a bespoke element.

More often than not, when purchasing an existing home, you do so knowing that renovations

may be on the horizon. Kitchens and bathrooms are common areas that homeowners look to update. While the thought of renovating can feel daunting, the guidance of an experienced architect or kitchen designer and installer can make all the difference. They can offer fresh ideas and practical solutions, ensuring every inch of space is used effectively.

Check out ideas on the internet, discuss design options with an architect, visit home shows where you can catch up with innovative design ideas on the market and also visit any new show homes in your area, where you will get a chance to view the quality of the build.



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**Architectural Design Wairarapa**  
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# Thinking of a new kitchen

Homeowners have a wide range of options when selecting professionals to undertake kitchen projects. Specialist kitchen designers and installers can create tailored solutions that suit individual lifestyles, space requirements, and budgets. Many reputable local kitchen design and construction companies offer comprehensive consultations, providing practical advice alongside creative ideas.

For those seeking a more hands-on or cost-conscious approach, flat-pack kitchens present an alternative. These systems offer a broad selection of cabinet styles, finishes, colours, and sizes, allowing homeowners to customise their layout. Installation can be carried out by a professional or, for experienced DIY enthusiasts, completed independently. Renovations of this scale often include upgrading appliances such as ovens, refrigerators, and

microwaves to complement the new design.

A full renovation is not always necessary to achieve a refreshed look. Replacing cupboard doors is a popular and cost-effective option, with specialist companies providing a variety of modern styles. Tapware has also evolved considerably, with contemporary fittings offering both visual appeal and improved functionality.

Modern kitchen design emphasises choice and efficiency, from handleless cabinetry and innovative storage solutions to a mix of concealed cupboards and open shelving. While stainless-steel sinks remain common, coloured sinks are increasingly featured in contemporary designs. Benchtops are available in materials such as concrete, granite, engineered stone, and laminate, with splashbacks ranging from tiles to coloured or custom-printed glass.



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**INTERIORS**

## Changing your décor doesn't need to be costly

Cushions, rugs, throws, chair covers, bedding, and pillows are all examples of what can be practical, comfortable, and decorative, making it so much easier to change the feel of your room from summer to winter.

While the trend for neutral interiors has long been a favourite, there are signs that this trend is making way for more colour in the form of paint and wallpaper. It's possible to brighten up a room by experimenting with colour and texture, and all without breaking the bank.

Sustainability is a consideration these days, and we're seeing natural materials coming to the fore, which might be explained by the need for people to feel more grounded.

Lighting, floor, and table lamps are being used more in the home, with some very quirky table lamps now available.

Floor cushions and rugs are seeing a revival, and what a difference a rug can make to a hard floor.

Bedrooms are receiving much more attention these days, and there's plenty to enhance the décor, be it masculine, feminine or for the children. Bedding, duvets and duvet covers, pillows, and cushions can transform a functional room into a comfortable haven.

Having favourite pieces of furniture, such as a couch or a special chair, re-upholstered rather than thrown out, is another option.

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# GLAZING

Having double glazing in your home can have an influence on both your health and your comfort.

Double glazing is a window with two panes of glass separated by a layer of insulating gas. It is like having a cushion of insulation between the two panes. The chilly air cannot reach the interior pane of glass, meaning it prevents condensation from forming. This construction provides such benefits as reduced noise control, reduced condensation, and reduced heat transfer, which results in better energy efficiency and lower power bills.

Having double-glazed windows can reduce your heat loss or gain by up to 30% (some companies advertise this percentage way higher) compared to single-glazed windows. This is noticeable in both winter and summer. You will find that you lose heat through the walls, floor, roof, and air escaping.

Double glazing in new homes became compulsory in late 2007 with the aim of increasing the thermal resistance (insulation) performance requirements for housing and to facilitate efficient use of energy.

Double glazing will reduce damage done by the UV rays and will reduce moisture created by condensation that forms on single-glazed windows, plus these windows are much harder to break than single-glazed windows, making it harder for break-ins. Laminated or toughened glass will add another layer of security to your double-glazed windows.

Some homeowners take the plunge and double-glaze either all or some of their single-glazed windows. If you cannot afford to replace all your windows, why not consider the windows on the south side? You will be amazed by the difference it will make to that cold bedroom or bathroom.



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At Al-Wood Joinery we manufacture and install all types of aluminium and timber windows and doors. With a focus on joinery for the renovation market, we are your one stop shop if you are thinking about double glazing your home. Whether you want to retrofit double glazing to your existing windows or install new windows, we have a solution for you.

### RETROFIT DOUBLE GLAZING

Double glazing works by trapping air between two panes of glass in an Insulated Glazing Unit (IGU). The trapped air creates a barrier to provide the following benefits:

- Heat retention (warmer in winter)
- Solar heat reduction (cooler in summer)
- Noise reduction
- Helps reduce the amount of condensation that is able to form on the surface of the glass
- Safety & security

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## ROOFING & SPOUTING

# ROOFING

A roof protects your home against the weather, be it rain, sun, or snow and is a vital part of the structure of your house, and one that can sometimes be taken for granted until there's a problem like a leak, and then it becomes an emergency. Like most features of a home, they also need looking after and regular maintenance, as well as being kept rodent-proof. Birds and rats can be the biggest problems if they decide your roof is a wonderful place to build their nest. Rats can eat wiring, and birds can use ducting as a cosy place to raise a family!

A roof should look good and also be functional but checking over a roof is not the sort of job for amateurs. It's dangerous and requires professionals to deal with issues, whether maintenance, re-roofing, repairing, or painting. Roofing contractors will also deal with cleaning, mending broken gutters, replacing eaves, and

downpipes. If you have clay tiles, they will need to be sprayed on an annual basis to prevent mould and lichen.

Make it a routine to visually inspect your roof often and call the experts if you notice something needs attention. You are better off doing this sooner rather than later.

Gutters are unavoidable and require cleaning quite often. While there are various products available to stop leaves from clogging them up, they will still need attention.

When it comes to selecting a roof for your home, the right roofing material should last for decades, protecting your home from the elements, providing insulation, and creating a visual impact.

The right roofing for your home depends on several factors, including the location, environmental factors, and the pitch of the roof.

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## ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION



Also, living close to the sea comes with its own list of requirements if you are to have a roof that is going to withstand the salt breeze.

With options to choose from, such as metal, clay and concrete tiles, membrane roofing, slate, copper, and shingles, making the wrong choice can be costly.

It's always a good idea to discuss the options available for

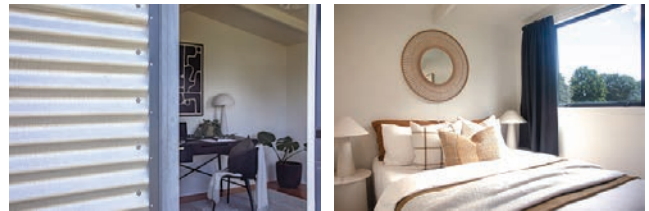
roofing with your architect or designer from the start of your project.

A design professional will understand the benefits and drawbacks of each roofing material in terms of the specific design of your home and will be able to advise you on the best options based on budget, preference, environmental factors, and design.



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## Service Your Vehicle with Confidence

Regular maintenance is essential to keep your car, bike, or 4WD running smoothly and safely. Scheduled servicing not only helps prevent unexpected breakdowns but also extends the life of your vehicle. Many garages now offer convenient text reminders for Warrant of Fitness (WOF) checks and routine services, making it easier to stay on top of your vehicle care.

Modern vehicles are equipped with advanced electronics and diagnostic systems, which require trained professionals to identify and resolve issues accurately. Gone are the days of quick fixes under the bonnet; today's

technology demands expertise.

Fortunately, there is a wide range of qualified mechanics and service providers available. From comprehensive servicing and diagnostics to specialised offerings such as tyre and muffler fitting, battery replacement, and audio system installation, you'll find professionals ready to assist. Skilled panel beaters and windscreen repair specialists are also on hand to address those inevitable chips and cracks.

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functions. Their expertise ensures your vehicle operates safely, efficiently, and reliably.

When selecting an auto electrician, key qualities to look for include proven experience, strong technical skills, reliability, and professionalism. As vehicles continue to advance with more sophisticated electronic systems, it is essential to choose a technician who stays up to date with the latest technology and industry developments.

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## TYRES

# Tips for examining your tyres

**R**egular tyre maintenance is an essential aspect of vehicle safety, yet it is one of the most commonly overlooked. Because tyres tend to perform reliably in the background, many drivers forget that they require ongoing care and monitoring to ensure optimal performance, safety, and longevity.

Staying attentive to the condition of your tyres, including their tread depth, pressure levels, and overall wear, plays a crucial role in keeping your vehicle safe on the road.

A practical habit to develop is inspecting your tyres each time you wash your vehicle. This provides an ideal opportunity to check for visible signs of damage such as bumps, bulges, cuts, cracks, or uneven tread wear.

You should also examine the tread area for any embedded debris or foreign objects, which can compromise the integrity of the tyre if left unattended. Equally important is checking the sidewalls for any deep scuffs, worn patches, small



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## TYRES

slits, or holes, as these can indicate structural weakness.

If you are unsure about the condition of your tread, most tyre service centres are happy to inspect it for you. They can assess how much usable life remains and advise when you should begin planning for replacement.

Like brake pads, tyres naturally wear down over time, and budgeting for their replacement as part of ongoing vehicle maintenance helps avoid unexpected expenses and ensures you have flexibility in choosing suitable replacements.

Maintaining the correct tyre pressure is another key factor in tyre care. Proper inflation supports balanced braking, maximises road grip, improves fuel efficiency, and reduces premature wear. Recommended tyre pressures vary between vehicles and may also change depending on load and speed.

These details can be found in your vehicle handbook, online, or on the tyre information label, typically located on the driver's doorjamb, inside the glovebox lid, or in the centre console.

Always check tyre pressure when the tyres are cold to ensure an accurate reading, as heat from driving can alter pressure levels.

Both under inflated and over inflated tyres pose risks. Under inflation increases fuel consumption, accelerates wear, and makes handling more difficult, while over inflation can leave tyres vulnerable to damage and reduce vehicle stability.

Ultimately, tyre care is one of the most important aspects of vehicle maintenance. Staying proactive will keep you safer on the road and extend the life of your tyres.



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## EXPERT SERVICES

# Choosing the right professional for the job

Whether it is painting, building, wallpapering, plumbing, concreting, grouting, curtain making, clock repair, a dog groomer or even a dentist to replace your filling. Finding the right professional for the job will save you a lot of heartache and expense.

So how do you choose the right professional for the job? You really need to do your homework.

People often rely on word-of-mouth, but it's also important to make sure you consider training, skills, and experience. If you are

new to an area, ask friends and neighbours for recommendations and also check out some of the work they have undertaken.

Be very clear about what you want and seek the advice and guidance of someone you feel confident with and who often can suggest alternatives. Be very specific about your requirements and minimise the chance of misunderstandings. Communication is a vital ingredient in finding the person who is going to be suitable for the job you want done.

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# Property services

Property services can be a lifesaver when life gets hectic. Maybe you're moving house, feeling under the weather, or just juggling a schedule that leaves little time for chores. Whatever the reason, these businesses can take the stress out of keeping your home looking its best, so you can focus on the things that really matter.

Let's be honest, cleaning the outside of your home is nobody's favourite job. But if you want your paintwork, roof, and cladding to last, it's something that needs attention at least once a year. The trick is to start at the top and work your way down. That way, anything that falls can be tidied up later. Keeping on top of paintwork can be done by a good, reliable painter and keeps your home looking in pristine condition.

Algae, mould, and fungus love

to make themselves at home on your roof, and over time, they can weaken tiles and iron. Next up, the gutters. Clearing them out is not for the faint-hearted. Professionals have the gear and the know-how to do this safely.

Then there's the exterior cladding. A proper clean can add years to your paintwork and keep your home looking fresh. And don't forget the windows.

A neat lawn and tidy beds add instant value and charm to your home. Hiring someone to mow regularly means no mower storage, no petrol hassles, and no servicing headaches.

And finally, with winter on its way, it is time to think about firewood, make sure your firewood merchant has dry and seasoned wood and maybe pay a neighbour's school-age son to stack it!



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## EXTERIORS |

# Designing and landscaping your garden

**G**ardens all come down to personal taste. Some of you may enjoy a structured garden while other prefer the cottage style and some prefer easy care.

Easy care sections these days can be good looking with judicious use of pavers, foliage, and other decorations. It is great to add some art into your garden and having a water feature adds that touch of serenity to any garden.

A wander around any garden supply store is great for some inspirational ideas such as raised garden beds, pebbles and bark, privacy screens and no end of plant pots pavers, arches, and wonderful garden benches.

Fencing off unsightly areas in the garden by using decorative screens for privacy adds interest and there's a vast selection of sizes

and finishes to choose from.

Container gardening is popular giving flexibility in that they can be moved around to create a fresh look. Pre-planted baskets, shrubs in pots, window boxes and flowers in unusual containers such as old boots, old bicycles, with appropriate drainage, can all create a stunning talking point.

On older sections trees can often pose a problem which is where a tree expert such as an arborist or tree surgeon can help. Hedges and trees can often be managed by a homeowner but sometimes they'll need shaping and pruning by experts.

Finally keep your section looking spic and span by making use of services that dispose of your green waste on a regular basis.

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And it's not just about machinery—local hire companies and suppliers keep the essentials flowing, like gravel, aggregate, and topsoil. Perfect for everything from major developments to sprucing up your backyard.

The best part? These professionals take real pride in their work. So, whether you're planning a rural project or an urban upgrade, you can count on top-notch results every time.

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# Servicing lifestyle blocks

Owni ng a lifestyle block can make it challenging to take time away, as ongoing responsibilities such as watering gardens, moving stock, and feeding animals require consistent attention. While neighbours may occasionally assist, it is often more practical and reliable to engage professional small-farm service providers to manage these essential duties during your absence.

For more complex or labour-intensive tasks, such as baling hay, cutting paddocks for silage, maintaining septic systems, repairing water pumps, cleaning water tanks, trimming shelter belts,

and servicing filtration systems, it is generally advisable to enlist qualified professionals. This ensures the work is completed efficiently, safely, and to an appropriate standard, particularly if you lack the necessary expertise or equipment.

Animal health and welfare also demand specialised care, including hoof trimming for cattle, drenching, fly treatment, and shearing. Many service providers offer mobile shearing and hoof maintenance services, delivering convenient, expert support directly to your property and helping ensure your livestock remain healthy and well-managed at all times.



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## RURAL |

# RURAL

**R**ural life is both demanding and rewarding, requiring resilience, adaptability, and a strong work ethic. Farmers and landowners must contend with unpredictable weather, livestock care, manage crops and silage production, and oversee the ongoing responsibilities of daily operations. It is not simply an occupation, but a way of life that shapes both work and family routines.

Despite its challenges, rural living offers unique and meaningful benefits. It provides opportunities to spend quality time with family, actively participate in local events such as community pet days, and contribute to country schools and community initiatives. Over time, landowners can take pride in watching their properties evolve, from the growth of trees to the development of planted waterways, reflecting long-term stewardship of

the land.

Supporting this lifestyle is a diverse and well-established network of rural service providers. These businesses offer a wide range of agricultural and related services, delivering practical expertise and valuable advice to both small-scale and large-scale landowners. Their knowledge plays a crucial role in maintaining productivity and sustainability across the sector.

The rural supply chain is extensive, encompassing timber merchants, fencing and trough manufacturers, stock and station agents, grain and feed suppliers, and providers of animal health products and pest control solutions. This breadth ensures that rural communities are comprehensively supported with the resources they require.

Infrastructure and building solutions are also readily available. Local suppliers offer garages, farm



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buildings, sheds, and workshops, often in cost-effective kitset options. Whether constructing large-scale facilities or smaller structures such as poultry housing, rural providers cater to a wide variety of needs.

In the cropping and land development sector, specialised contractors offer services tailored to challenging terrains, including steep hill country. These services may include cultivation, direct drilling, earthmoving, fertiliser application, spraying, land clearing, mulching, ploughing, and precision

planting.

Additionally, a wide selection of equipment hire and transport services is available, including cranes, forklifts, elevated work platforms, and haulage solutions. Providers also offer excavation, fertiliser spreading, and general cartage services to support farm operations.

Finally, rural delivery services remain an essential lifeline, ensuring that mail, parcels, and everyday necessities reliably reach even the most remote properties.



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## Plumbing Problems? Call in the Pros!

**W**hen it comes to plumbing in New Zealand, most of it is what's called "restricted work." That means it's actually illegal to DIY your plumbing, gas fitting, or drain laying. Why? Because one wrong move could lead to leaks, contamination, gas hazards, or a very unhappy insurance company. So, when the pipes start to gurgle, or that tap won't stop dripping, do yourself a favour: call in a pro.

When you use a Master Plumber, Gasfitter or Drainlayer, you are backed by the 12-month residential Master Plumbers Guarantee. This means every job

is done safely, legally, and expertly.

And it's not just about fixing leaks. Master Plumbers can help with everything from bathroom renovations, gas heating and hot water, solar installations, as well as drainage, sewage and home water systems.

If it involves water, gas, or pipes, they've got you covered.

From leaky taps to full bathroom makeovers, plumbing is one job best left to the experts. So next time you hear that telltale drip-drip-drip, skip the wrench and call a Master Plumber. Because when the water's running right, life just flows better.

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Owned and operated by Gareth Sweeney and Yvonne Ker, Wai Drones combines real farming experience with modern drone technology. Gareth's deep understanding of crop and soil management ensures every job is tailored for maximum yield and efficiency, while Yvonne's expertise in logistics and project delivery guarantees reliable, professional service from start to finish.

### OUR SERVICES

- **Aerial Spraying** – Targeted application of herbicides and pesticides with minimal drift and waste—perfect for steep, wet, or hard-to-reach areas.
- **Fertiliser Application** – Precision spreading that improves nutrient uptake, reduces runoff, and eliminates soil compaction from heavy machinery.
- **Seed Spreading** – Efficient pasture renewal and regrassing, ideal for hills, erosion-prone land, and inaccessible terrain.
- **Multispectral Mapping** – Advanced imaging to detect crop stress, nutrient deficiencies, and growth variation—so you can make smarter, data-driven decisions.



### Why Choose Wai Drones?

- CAA-approved operations for complete safety and compliance
- Environmentally friendly, low-impact technology
- Greater accuracy = less waste, better results
- Access to terrain traditional equipment can't reach
- Free, no-obligation quotes for easy planning and budgeting

Whether you're managing a large farm or a lifestyle block, Wai Drones provides a modern solution to improve productivity, protect your land, and maximise returns.

**Wai Drones – Precision from Above.  
Results on the Ground.**



Get in touch with Wai Drones for free quotes or enquiries. Call Gareth on 027 491 7006, Yvonne on 021 021 59119, or email [office@wai-drones.com](mailto:office@wai-drones.com). We're ready to help with all drone services.

# Vets are team players and they are ready to join yours



Simon Marshall  
Production Animal  
Veterinarian

The veterinary industry has been an integral part of pastoral farming in New Zealand for over 170 years.

**D**uring this time vets have been working to help animals that have become sick or injured. Additionally, the main driving force for them has been to help prevent disease and ill-thrift and drive production and profitability through increased livestock health and performance.

Vet Services has a wide range of veterinarians and vet tech's on their team who are driven to provide advice and lend their hand to help farms in Hawkes Bay and Tararua perform at the highest level. This comes in the form of animal health planning, feed planning, monitoring trace minerals and parasite levels plus much more.

It isn't until a vet has worked with a farm for some time that they become very familiar with the farm system and stock policy. They also develop an understanding of the different challenges faced within that particular farm and its geographical location. Having a vet with that level of understanding associated with a farm business leads to the fine tuning that is required to push the animal performance to its highest level. Farms that have a vet as part of their extended team see a real benefit from the relationship; using a vet is not a cost to them, vets are seen as valuable members of the business team.

Vet Services wants to be working alongside as many farm businesses as possible because they know that they can help them achieve greatness and reach their goals. They have many ready-to-go plans and packages that can start right now. They can also tailor their service to whatever a farm wants, that may be having them on farm for 2 hours each quarter to talk about what animal health issues may be coming up and how to deal with them or it could be a more involved monitoring program for parasites that involves sample collection, testing and interpretation.

Vet Services is here to help and join your team today; we are only a phone call away.



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