

# Incentive Saver Newsletter

June 2024



*Paying off debt is an effective way of saving money*

Hi everyone.

Reminder: PDF newsletter attached.

**Perserevance** is the word that comes to mind when I think of our two latest finishers.

**Howie** has stuck with his savings for a whole year and this month reached his goal. His tip *“arrange an AP or DD into a savings account on a regular basis.”*



**Hannah** – successfully reached her goal on her second attempt. This time she nailed it and its wonderful to see her finally getting the car she so badly wanted. Hannah’s continuing to save to cover the ongoing costs of car ownership. Hannah’s tip *“I still stick to saving 10% of my income.”*

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## Money Personality

Well according to Sorted Money Personality quiz I am an Enterpriser. Here’s the link if you want to have a bit of fun and find out your money personality. I like the way they also give you tips to manage your money traits.



<https://sorted.org.nz/tools/money-personality-quiz>

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## Money Matters Talks (Arranged in conjunction with Shirley Community)

**Topic: Dress for Success** Ginny is coming along to talk about the employment services they offer women, including their boutique, employment retention, and careers centre.

**When:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June

**Where:** Park Centre The room behind the Shirley Community Café at 17 Acheson St Shirley.

**Time:** 10.30am talk starts. 10am morning tea.

### Upcoming Sessions

**3<sup>rd</sup> July – Being the Money Boss.** Ideas about organising your money, account set up etc.

*Note: If you're an Incentive Saver then attending a talk counts as a session*

The poster is titled 'WISE UP WEDNESDAY' and is for a session on Wednesday 5 June at MacFarlane Park Centre at 10 AM. It features a central graphic of a person climbing a bar chart. Text on the poster includes: 'All Welcome!', 'Morning tea provided', 'This month Ginny from DRESS FOR SUCCESS will share the programmes they offer to support women into employment.', and contact information for Teresa on 027 581 2555. The Shirley Community logo is also present.

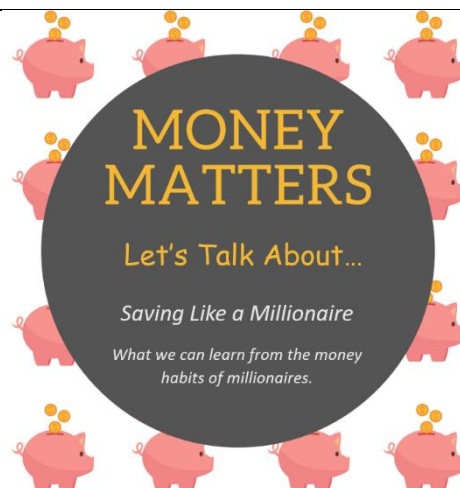
## Money Matters Talk at Aratupu Preschool

**When:** Tuesday 11 June

**Where:** Aratupu Preschool

**Time:** 9am

**Topic:** Millionaire Mindset – the money habits of millionaires



## Newsletter Topic – Debt Consolidation

I have been asked recently about whether it's worth doing debt consolidation. The answer is– *maybe*. I understand wanting to have all your debts lumped together and having only one payment. Before you jump in here are some things to consider.

### Pluses

1. If your existing loans have high interest rates then you'll save money if your debt consolidation loan interest rate is lower.
2. Your weekly payments will be smaller as they are spread out over a longer time.

### Minuses

1. Paying off a loan over a longer time means you'll pay more interest.
2. Interest rate on consolidation loans may be higher than your current loans. Check!
3. Fees and charges – don't forget companies will charge you to change loans and may charge early repayment fees
4. Setting up a consolidation loan will also have fees and charges.

*An effective way to pay off debt is using the Debt Snowball method.*



## Debt Snowball

This method pays off debts as quickly as possible.

### How to do it

1. Line up your debt's smallest to biggest.
2. Set up a payment on each debt ie \$10.
3. When first debt is repaid you add that \$10 to the next debt.
4. When second debt finished you now have \$20 to add to third debt.
5. Rinse and repeat to all debts have disappeared!



Normally once a debt is finished people just add that money to their everyday spending. If you use this method you reduce the amount of interest and get your debts paid off a lot quicker.

Sounds simple but it's very powerful.

**Note:** I have attached a very basic example. The example does not allow for interest. If you want one that does let me know. I didn't want to get too complicated too soon!

## Snippets

### Wonky Box Fruit and Vege boxes.

The aim of this organisation is to rescue fruit and vegetables that don't meet the strict rules of supermarkets ie crooked carrots, gangly beans etc. Plus, farmers may have a surplus of produce that they want to get rid of (but not dump!). The scheme gives people lower prices and helps farmers by allowing them a way to sell imperfect produce rather than it going to waste.



<https://www.wonkybox.nz/box-contents/south-island>

**COVID Rat Tests** are free until 30 June 24. If you click on Free COVID-19 rapid antigen tests, you can check which chemists have the free rat tests in your area. You do not need to make an appointment, it is a walk-in pick-up.

<https://info.health.nz/conditions-treatments/infectious->

**Radio NZ Thrift** Thrift is an upbeat new podcast that offers ways to beat the cost of living crisis and get the best from your money. Katy Gosset hosts the series. To date the series has looked at supermarket shopping and meal planning. Great listening!

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/programmes/thrift>



**Reduced to Clear Supermarket** has opened in South City. I did go to check it out but the queue was out the door. From what I hear some good bargains but don't count on doing your whole shop there.

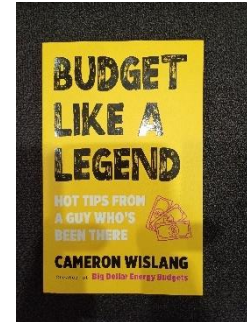


## Resources

If you're looking for a money book to read. I spotted this book in a book shop and had a skim through. It looked interesting – easy reading and written by a Kiwi.

*This whole budgeting, sorting out your money thing – it's not impossible. It's not something only super clever or lucky people can do. It's something that every single person can accomplish.*

Cameron Wislang



## PODCAST

thehappysaver.com

Ruth is hosting a series of 6 podcasts around money. I find Ruth good value. This is the second podcast in her series. Topic - Budgeting.

<https://mailchi.mp/0d92fc2e2565/part-2-budget-fi-series?e=40921dd9a6>

# Happy Saving!

Thank you also to those of you who spread the word about Incentive Saver amongst family, friends and clients.

If you are interested to know more about the Incentive Saver scheme or want your name added to the newsletter list just send me an email

Linda Smith Financial Mentor [lindas@mmsi.or.nz](mailto:lindas@mmsi.or.nz)

If you no longer wish to receive newsletters from me please reply with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.