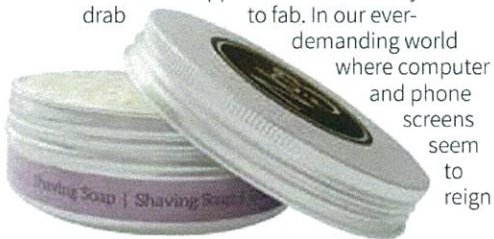




A little bit of happiness with No3

by Maria Johnson

As No3's tagline suggests, it can be the smallest of luxuries that can bring a little bit of happiness and turn a day from drab to fab. In our ever-



supreme and work is 24/7, 365 days a week – it's absolutely crucial to set aside time to unwind.

It could be a No3 soap or candle that could become your new secret weapon to relax, refresh and recharge. No3 is the brainchild of Wayne and Cheryl MacGregor. They began to brainstorm ideas for a new business a number of years ago, but wanted to make sure it was something they were both passionate about.

The name "No3" itself comes from the fact they have two gorgeous children Jacob, 9,

and Gabriel, 18 months, and were contemplating having a third baby which this project has become.

"We started off with the idea of candles... then somehow moved onto soap from there." There is such a focus on what we eat and what we put into our bodies but not enough focus on what goes onto our skin especially for babies. The nasty chemical additives and detergents, that are in a lot of supermarket branded soaps, can actually make your skin drier (this can make you even more reliant on the moisturisers the same brands sell- tricky huh!).

Here is where No3 is different. Each bar of soap and every candle is handmade with care, embossed individually and contain nothing but goodness. The soap is scented with essential oils, coloured with clay and contains raw silk for a smooth lather of bubbly silk. "Every piece of soap and every candle is an individual piece of artwork and made with love" Cheryl.

The product the couple is most excited about is the shaving soap. They've had a huge response to this product from their No3 Lad's Range. Through a process of trial and error they've managed to make a shave soap that produces a fabulous lather and a close wet shave. It also leaves your skin soft, exfoliated and ready for the day.

"It's really hard to make a good shave soap," Wayne adds. "We've found the perfect combination of natural ingredients, oils and butters which means it reaches the right consistency." They have even had feedback from customers that skin conditions like eczema have cleared up since switching to

their unique and top secret formula.

Another fun and inventive product is the Dog Soap. This soap contains Neem Oil and Peppermint so that when it touches your hands your skin is left feeling beautiful. It is the perfect option for pooches with skin conditions and sensitivity.

"A number of local businesses are talking with us at the moment about stocking our products... its really exciting and humbling to get the reaction and the support we have had," says Cheryl.

Overall, No3 ticks three major boxes in my mind. Its natural, its luxurious and it doesn't break the bank meaning you can enjoy a bit of luxury everyday. The prices starting at just \$7 are great and I can tell a lot of care goes into every aspect of this venture. I'm always fascinated by how a product is created and the motivation behind it. I think we all deserve to treat ourselves more often. Come on in and check out the range of No3 Soaps and Candles we have here at Creative Tauranga and support local creative entrepreneurs taking their ideas from concept to reality. You can connect with No3 online here: <http://www.no3.co.nz/>

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