



Talking Real Estate with Steve Slicker

Hi folks, due to a family bereavement I recently returned to the UK for a short visit which is why there was no column for the last couple of weeks.

It was an interesting trip, I haven't been back for a number of years and was surprised to see all the changes that have taken place in my absence. The weather was good, -4 to -5 degrees every morning but crisp clear days.

I caught up with family and old friends, watched the news, read the papers. The news is much the same there as here, focusing on misery, death and that old chestnut house prices.

The UK property media stories are doom and gloom, less houses selling, houses on the market for longer, prices out of reach of first time buyers etc. Any of this sound familiar?

What was not focused on but was commented on is that house prices haven't dropped. There is talk of them coming down and house price inflation (the rate of growth) is certainly coming down. All of this sounds mighty familiar to me, oh yes because the same things are being said here.

House prices haven't fallen, the rate of growth certainly has but this is very different. Yes houses will sit on the market longer than recent years and buyers will find they have more choice but anyone buying a property is buying a home, somewhere to live not just stay.

There is something for me as a Pom quite wonderful about flying into Wellington and then driving up SH 2. It's wonderful because it means I'm home. It has struck me since my return that many people simply don't realise how good Upper Hutt is, how beautiful it is and perhaps more importantly how good it is going to become with all the positive things that are happening here (most of which I have mentioned previously) .

People are going to move here, Upper Hutt's population will undoubtedly grow over the next few years. I'm glad I'm here to see it

If you have any questions or enquiries regarding property or wish to know the value of your home, please contact me on the numbers below.

Kind regards,

Steve Slicker

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