

Who: Brianna
From: Solomon Islands
When:



Who: Joanne
From: Solomon Islands
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My name is Brianna. We used to live in Hamilton. We had four houses and we lived nearly everywhere. My Aunty and Uncle lived two houses away from us. Before that we lived in the Solomon Islands. I don't know much about the Solomon Islands because I only stayed there for two weeks. We moved here because my Dad's family lived here and my Dad wanted my Mum to meet his family so we moved here.

I have necklaces and a hat. My hat is special. They made the hat out of leaves and all that. My Mum's Mum made it. She gave us a necklace each, my sister and me.

My Mum's brothers are in the Solomon Islands and Dad's family are in different parts of New Zealand. My Mum misses the Solomon Islands. She was about to leave to go back there but then she just stayed. She didn't want to leave us and we told her not to, so she just stayed. Her Dad died last year on Christmas. They just rang and said her Dad had died. My Mum went there straight away.

My name is Joanne. My daughter is Brianna. I'm from Solomon Islands and I am married to a Kiwi guy who I met 12 years ago. After we had our daughter we decided to come back to New Zealand for a better life.

When we started to look at businesses. There was one here in Nelson and one in Invercargill. We flew down here to Nelson. The first impression was "It's by the sea". As soon as we got off the plane we thought, "This is it. We are not going to Invercargill".

Over there, it's alright for family but the cost of living and the education for the kids here is so much better. The cost of living is higher over there. Like to go to the supermarket, everything is so much. For me, my family, they're local. They have to work in the gardens to feed their family. They don't end up with much money. Its more like a treat for them to go to the supermarket.

I will go back there but not to live. I'll go back there to see my family but that's all. Not to live. I feel pretty settled here in Nelson. Because to me, my kids, my husband and the living make me feel like that.

