

The Story behind Hohepa Candles

Hohepa Hawkes Bay is a community nestled between two rivers and the sea offering the benefits of **living**, participating, growing and developing in a **beautiful natural environment**. We aim to support every individual living and/or working at Hohepa to live their life to their fullest potential. Our principals are based on the holistic view of the human being which were developed by Rudolf Steiner.

The Hohepa Candles is one of several work centres where people learn and **master hand-crafts**. Our mission is to bring a bright light into everybody's life: the candle makers and our customers.

The candles are hand made from **100% local beeswax** which has been produced **by bees roaming the Hawkes Bay region**. Our dedicated staff teach and enable the candle makers to transform this **natural product** into a range of beautiful shining candles.



Candle-making is an ancient craft which connects a sense of **aesthetics and beauty** with a highly developed set of skills which suits the workers well – mostly adults with an intellectual disability. An environment of **warmth and colour** coupled with a **measured working pace** which engages and supports people in their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. The workers have the opportunity to self-develop **beyond productivity, speed** and any individual limitations.



They are a part of every step of the process: from collecting the beeswax in Takapau to pouring, dipping and colouring candles in the studio, to selling and distributing it to our partners and retailers. This enables the candle makers to see the meaning of their effort and understand the contribution they make to bringing beauty into customers lives.

Our candles are special, not only because they are unique but also because every person who contributed to their making has unique strengths and opportunities to grow.

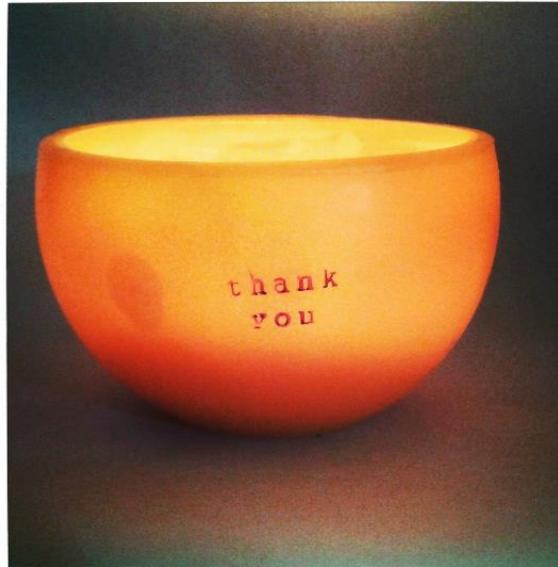
They are special because they **support the local producers** and use natural products. They are special because through **every irregularity** the craftsman or woman **speaks to the customer**.

They are special because every candle bought and lit **supports a person in their development**.



Hohepa is a non-profit organisation but if surplus occurs from sales it is shared back to the candle makers.

Buying one of our candles doesn't only buy you an amazing local, hand-crafted product but also supports people in their well-being, self-worth and contribution to their life.



... for being the change.

Contact

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Photos

products: Ashley Scott, Ruth Schirge; people: Fleur Verhoeven