



Some things really are
worth more than gold

THE NAIL GANG

PRE-RELEASE INFORMATION MAY 2014

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BACKGROUND

WHAT:

An independently produced film "THE Z NAIL GANG"

WHERE:

BAY OF PLENTY
TE PUKE DISTRICT

WHEN:

PRE-PRODUCTION: SUMMER 2013/14

SHOOT: FEB-MAR 2014 (completed)

POST PRODUCTION: APRIL-JULY 2014

RELEASE: AUGUST-SEPT 2014

A "feel good" action-comedy with a conscience, **The Z-Nail Gang** is an ensemble piece celebrating the strength of community. Based by actual (and unbelievably crazy) events that took place in the Coromandel, this inspiring story leads the audience on a journey of empowerment.

Set in a small coastal town, where mega-mining threatens the lives of its inhabitants, this is a true 'David vs Goliath' tale where the outlaw kiwi spirit of **Goodbye Pork Pie** meets **The Castle**.

People *can* make a difference when they stand together. In today's Aotearoa, where mining on conservation land, oil prospecting and the sale of national assets are polarising the nation – this story has never been so relevant!

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SYNOPSIS

In a New Zealand coastal town, a community lives peacefully. In the lee of their treasured mountain, *Te Maunga*, the residents move at a leisurely pace.

Local postman NED passes the hours inventing musical sub-genres. Resident cop TIPENE spends more time fishing than crime-fighting. The hardest decision for DAVE is whether to make pottery or go surfing, leaving his ever-patient wife MAREEKA to enjoy the serenity of their surroundings.

But someone else has an eye on this paradise and the serenity is shattered when Ned delivers a letter that will change their lives forever...

It announces the arrival of multi-national mining corporation, GOLIA MINERALS, who are questing for gold. This once tightly-woven community is torn between those who welcome the promise of prosperity and those who oppose the mining of their sacred mountain.

Whether through passive action or brazen defiance of the law, one thing's for sure – unless they can come together as a unified front, they stand to loose not only their land but something far more precious – their community!

The Z-Nail Gang seamlessly weaves heart-warming characters and environmental themes into comedy, and erupts a once dormant Maunga into a real-life action adventure like no other.

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A STORY ABOUT COMMUNITY...

To make this film, we did not employ the conventional model of film making. Because it's a story *about* community, we wanted it to be an act of community to make it.

Over the periods of both pre-production and production we had over 400 individuals and organisation giving their time and resources for free. As with the central characters of the film, we wanted to show how a community can pull together to mobilise creative momentum that both empowers and unites.

The majority of key crew were local volunteers, with only a few technical roles being filled by out-of-town film professionals. Most key actors were cast from Auckland and housed beach front at Pukehina by generous home owners.

Supporting and extra roles were filled by local people, including groups such as the Red Hats of Pukehina, the Highly Strung Ukelele Club and a class of kids (and their parents) from Pongakawa Primary.

Our Wardrobe Department was fitted out by tapping into local op-shops (Anglican, Methodist & Salvation Army) who provided access to their stores, while Whakatane ITM supplied the various building resources for our Art Department.

Local businesses and individuals gave us access to a fleet of 16 character vehicles, which included a helicopter, drill rig, NZ's largest tractor and a yellow mini (our own personal ode to **Goodbye Pork Pie**).

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MADE BY A COMMUNITY!

We catered for over 60 people every day over the 20 days of filming with food and drink generously provided by New World, Maketu Pies and Phoenix Organics amongst others; cooked by numerous local organisations including Rotary Club of Maketu, the Scouts, Maketu Ongatoro Wetlands Society, Tapuika Iwi Authority, Z Service stations and many more.

The film will become known for its picturesque locations, with the crew accessing over 20 different sets from homes and businesses within the community.

We also loved being able to embrace learning and mentoring as part of our ethos. We invited 12 year old Rose McMahon to join us as our key stills photographer and a team of children from Pongakawa Schools Film and Media Club filmed the action for our 'Behind the Scenes' and 'Making of' DVD features.

Although the actual cash costs of making this film were relatively small by comparison, the actual value of this production through the assistance of those involved would be somewhere in the millions.

All of those volunteering and those connecting with **Z-Nail** have remarked on how doing a project of this nature for no money has been a rewarding and inspiring experience, and has given them a renewed belief in the power of community.

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RELEASE NOTES

TRAILER

25th May 2014

WORLD PREMIERE

Date to be announced in the coming weeks

Hosted by Capitol Cinema, Te Puke

Key Cast, Crew and Sponsors

Red carpet, Black tie event

RELEASE

Bay wide followed by a release
in the Coromandel and then
wider NZ release

CONTACT

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For full details, release notes and
cast profiles visit our website

www.znailgang.net.nz

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