

Silver Lining is a one-off studio based panel discussion, centred around interviews with the siblings of the six students & teacher who died whilst on a routine school trip to the Mangatepopo River in 2008 (The subject of our previous documentary Jumping in Puddles). Using this tragedy as an example, the programme unpicks the grief journey, asking the the key question – how can something so devastating really have a Silver Lining? Turning the conventional approach to tragedy on its head – Silver Lining explores personal growth through difficulty, leaving viewers with a sense of encouragement and hope in what is often an apparently hopeless situation.

Silver Lining is hosted by Petra Bagust (TVNZ, Breakfast), joined by a panel including veteran broadcaster and parenting guru lan Grant, counseling expert Chris Hight and school principal and 2010 North and South New Zealander of the Year, Murray Burton - the central theme is the journey from grief to growth.

Each section of the programme focuses on a specific part of a typical grief journey, from the initial shock and the importance of being honest about their feelings, through re-integrating with society after tragedy and moving on to helping others – *Silver Lining* is highly accessible for anyone who has suffered tragedy, is supporting someone who is going through a great deal of pain or is perhaps preparing themselves for what the future may hold.

The interviews are youthful, honest and encouraging and the panel offers a unique insight into these young people's journeys and what has enabled them to come so far in the wake of devastating tragedy. Their combined wisdom, helps unpack some of the keys that can make a huge difference in dealing with grief.

How do a group of teenagers who have had their world blown apart come through stronger, more passionate about their dreams and with wisdom that far exceeds their years?

Our panel seeks to identify the contributing factors, which despite great loss, have enabled eight young people to make the most of their sporting, academic and artistic opportunities - while learning to give more to those around them.







