

**Media release**

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**Brendon Harrex purchases Gore Practice from Ward Wilson**

The Gore practice of Ward Wilson has been sold to Young Accountant of the Year and former Ward Wilson Chairman, Brendon Harrex.

Brendon Harrex says the acquisition was made possible by the merger between WHK Cook Adam and Ward Wilson.

“The new Gore operation will be substantially different from what it was, and from any other accounting firm in the South Island,” he says. “As of May 1<sup>st</sup> we will operate without billable hours and timesheets.”

Brendon says that moving away from billable hours means the new organisation will be free to focus on what is truly important, “that is thinking about our customers businesses creatively and strategically, as individuals and collectively as a team”.

“It is widely known that I believe our profession has to change the way it interfaces with, and provides value to, our customers”.

Brendon says throwing away the timesheets is also crucial for the job satisfaction of the staff in a modern work place environment.

“Our strategy is to excite and challenge staff to come to work each and every day, and focus on how to add value to the lives and businesses of our customers.

We know in Gore our customers are continually looking to us to provide them with advice and support outside the realms of traditional accounting.

“Moving away from billable hours and timesheets will allow us to be more dynamic and flexible as an organisation, delivering a wider range of services,” Brendon says.

Brendon says the new business will also operate under a new brand name.

“This is a very exciting step for me, both professionally and personally, and I am pleased that the new business is able to be retained in local ownership.

Brendon Harrex started with the Ward Wilson Gore Office in September 1999, became an Associate in 2001, and a Principal in 2002.

In 2006, at 32 years old Brendon was the youngest person to be elected Chairman of Ward Wilson. He is married to Alison and they have 4 young children.

**Ends**

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