



## ISLAND NOTES

### *Finding my place on Aotea Great Barrier Island*

Tim Higham

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b&w drawings • colour photos • 156pp  
nature writing and memoir

#### SELLING POINTS

- NZ nature writing, living off the grid
- Aotea Great Barrier Island – its ecology and people
- Author is an award-winning science + nature writer
- From the publishers who brought you Ockham-longlisted *Towards Compostela* by Catharina van Bohemen

*We were still in our thirties when Julie Anne, Georgie and I walked up the valley that first time.*

*Purchase negotiations for the thirty hectares took a few weeks. More important than price, the owners wanted reassurance that we would take proper care of two horses that lived on its swampy paddocks.*

*We were not buying the property, they were selling it to us. We had to be fit for the job.*

An off-grid house on Aotea Great Barrier Island promises to fulfil one man's dreams, but he discovers to his cost that nothing can be taken for granted.

Part *Man Alone*, part love story, *Island Notes* explores questions of belonging, loss and impermanence and whether the life, seas and forests of a wild island can offer a reconciliation with our past.

Award-winning science writer and advocate for the wilderness Tim Higham has written a memoir that draws inspiration from some of the great nature writers, while establishing his own distinctive and informed voice and a sense of place that could only be Aotearoa.

“Luminous. Touched with the divine.”  
—Kennedy Warne, founder of  
*New Zealand Geographic*



PHOTO BY SASKIA KOERNER

Tim Higham's love of wild places and writing has taken him around the world, from our southern most national parks and nature reserves, to Antarctica, and through Asia and the Pacific with the United Nations Environment Programme.

More recently he's championed the work of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park and Predator Free 2050. Tim has written on science and environmental matters for broadcast and print media, winning a Qantas Media Award, the SATPAC Prize for science journalism and the New Zealand Association of Scientists' Journalism Prize.

He lives in his off-grid home on Aotea Great Barrier Island.



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