

About a month ago we received a call about Max taking part in a documentary about Steve Williams. It is for a show called Beyond the Darklands.

Five years after the tragic death of young Featherston schoolgirl Coral Burrows, a documentary has been made focusing on her killer and stepfather Steven Williams. Television New Zealand began screening new episodes of Beyond the Darklands and one of the convicted murderers being profiled is Williams, now serving a minimum 17-year sentence in Paremoremo Prison in Auckland. Each episode examines why some people become murderers, posing questions such as are they born with a rogue gene or whether life has led them down the wrong path and tipped them over the edge.

Anyway, when Steve Williams was about 10 years old he had a friend with Down Syndrome. They would hang out and apparently Steve was really nice to him. So they wanted Max to play this boy. Max and another boy who was playing the part of Steve Williams pretended to fix a lawnmower in the backyard. Max did really well and listen to the director and did exactly what he was supposed to do. Everyone said he did a good job. He seemed to like the attention and would probably do it again if he had the opportunity. The whole thing only took about 2 hours with waiting and filming and some close up shots of Max.

I think the show airs in February so keep an eye out for Max.

By Karen Nyenkamp