THE declaration this morning of a global coronavirus pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO) is “useful to reinforce the gravity of the situation”, but will not make a major difference to Hauora Tairawhiti’s planning, says chief executive Jim Green.

The health board, with community partners such as primary care health providers, St John and Gisborne District Council was to conduct a “table top” exercise today to test and review preparedness for a scenario of cases in Tairawhiti, he said.

WHO, with the declaration of a pandemic, believes countries should focus less on containing the virus and more on preparations such as getting hospitals ready to handle an influx of patients.

Hauora Tairawhiti had previously put a pre-Critical Incident Management Structure (CIMS) team in place. It initially had a public health focus, but had since moved to confirming hospital clinical services readiness, Mr Green said.

“Building on the already existing Winter Response Plan and the Pandemic Plan, a response for the management of the arrival of the virus in the community has been developed and communicated to relevant parties including general practice,” Mr Green said in a report to board members.

“Key areas of the hospital are prepared with systems, processes and the necessary supplies to respond if a person who meets the case definition for testing for Covid-19 presents at the Emergency Department (ED).”

“Signage advises people to not enter the hospital but to phone through and a staff member will meet them at their car.”

Gisborne Hospital has four negative pressure rooms for the management of care for people admitted.

“Should the situation escalate further there are stepped plans to dedicate increasing areas of the hospital as isolation units, noting that in the main the infection is of a mild illness, with the elderly and people with pre-existing conditions most at risk of complications.”

Staff were being kept updated on developments and plans, said Mr Green.

Hauora Tairawhiti needed to both contain Covid-19 to prevent it from spreading, and, with the approach of winter, reduce the chance of virus infections including influenza.

“We know that we have a dual risk with the influenza season coming on and people in our community, the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions, are more at risk, said Mr Green.

“We need to keep our resources in place to provide care for all the other reasons people need to access the health system. “We need our staff to stay well so that they can provide care.”
Charity tournament just keeps growing

by Sophie Rishworth

IT IS a triple whammy this weekend for lovers of fishing, eating fish and helping others.

Tomorrow, the Nick’s Head Charity Fishing Tournament kicks off at first light with about 100 people already signed up.

Every cent raised goes towards children in Gisborne who have been diagnosed with cancer, and their families.

The tournament starts with a briefing tonight at the Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club, a lucky angler draw, and raffles.

The second day of fishing on Saturday will be followed by the prizegiving at 6.30pm, where wads of cash will be handed to the winners, said organiser Andrea Gregory.

Following this is the big auction on Saturday night where the big money is made — usually from the wads of cash just handed out.

Last year $25,000 was raised. On Sunday at 5pm there will be a public auction of all the fish caught over the weekend. The fish will be filleted and ready for sale with everyone encouraged to come down and bid. The auction will be outside the Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club.

Andrea said the tournament had been going for 14 years.

It was originally started by the emergency services — fire, police and St John — and the Coast Guard.

Last year, the Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club came on board to run it.

FISHING FOR A CAUSE: Nick’s Head Charity Fishing Tournament organiser Andrea Gregory with just some of the donated items that will be up for auction on Saturday night after the two-day event. All the money raised goes towards helping Tairawhiti children, and their families, who have been diagnosed with cancer. The tournament has been running for 14 years, and every year it keeps getting bigger, with $25,000 raised last year.

Picture by Liam Clayton

Caution during retaining wall repairs

MOTORISTS will need to exercise extreme caution during planned repairs to Tauwhareparae Road.

Gisborne District Council Journey operations manager Donnna McArthur said work would begin on Monday, March 16, on seven retaining walls between the 20km and 28km marks of Tauwhareparae Road, with up to four walls to be repaired at the same time.

Contractors would work from 8am to 6pm from Monday to Saturday.

No road closures were required, however traffic lights and lane closures would be needed to safely complete the works.

The project is expected to be completed by July this year.

Significant planning had been required to ensure that both road users and work crews will be safe throughout the works.

“Our priority is the safety of road users those working on the road. We have worked closely with specialist engineers to find a way to safely complete these important repairs without closing the road. We apologise in advance for the disruption during these works.”

The works are part of the $26.4m 2018 Queen’s Birthday Flood repair programme which are 92 percent funded by the National Land Transport Safety Fund and 8 percent by the Provincial Growth Fund.

CAREFUL DRIVING: Caution is advised on Tauwhareparae Road as major repair works begin on retaining walls like this one at the Corner of the 20km retaining wall site.

Picture supplied

Looking ahead

SPORTS

• Review of the masters competition at the surf lifesaving nationals in Gisborne.
• Gisborne-Mahia’s Ricardo Christie has been back in competitive surfing action.
• Photos from Rugby Awareness Week featuring Black Fern Charmaine McMenamin.
• Black Caps and Aussies go head to head in the Chappell-Hadlee Trophy opener.

To find out more call 869 0620
GDC weighs up ways to reuse wastewater
by Aaron van Delden

TREATED wastewater from Gisborne’s upgraded sewage treatment plant will be clean enough to irrigate food crops, Ms Shaw said.

“Six months had been allowed for the design work and three months for tenders to be finalised ahead of construction, which was expected to take 12 to 15 months. The council is considering options for the use of the treated wastewater for irrigation as well. One of those options will be for the upgraded plant to use treated wastewater for cleaning processes, reducing its burden as the city’s third biggest water user currently.”

Earlier in the meeting, environmental consultant Murray Palmer presented a report on how wastewater is reused in New Zealand and internationally. The key reasons cited for recycling wastewater were concerns over the health of aquatic ecosystems, declining groundwater supplies, the availability of fresh water for use, and water quality. Mr Palmer said.

Israel recycled 87 percent of its wastewater. He said. In KolKispe, Belgium and Perth, Australia, sufficiently treated wastewater was used to replace aquifers for drinking water. Recycled wastewater was also used for agricultural irrigation throughout the world, including for pastures in New Zealand (Manganuku and Tekapo) and the famous Bonnotte potato in France.

An exception was San Luis Potosi in Mexico, where recycled wastewater was used by agriculture and industry. For all the examples, Mr Palmer pointed to the aquifer recharge system in place as the most applicable to Gisborne, which had a similar population. TREATED wastewater from Gisborne’s upgraded sewage treatment plant will be clean enough to irrigate food crops, Ms Shaw said.

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Key Messages

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The health board will provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including gloves, masks, eye protection and protective clothing to medical centres free of charge once they have tried their normal suppliers. PPE is only required by staff in direct contact with a patient, said a Haururu-Tairawhiti spokeswoman.

“For many staff, it is not needed, as long as they can stay one metre away,” she said.

“The number one piece of advice is to wash your hands regularly.”

“If a clinician is assessing a patient with suspected coronavirus, including someone who will need PPE that provides droplet protection, they will wear a mask and a face shield.”

Handwashing — the virus is transmitted by droplets on hands and on objects in the environment when people cough and sneeze. Regular handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds, combined with hand drying for 20 seconds kills the virus.

Avoiding hand contact with the mouth, nose and eyes when possible. Cough or sneeze into a tissue and discard safely, washing hands afterwards. Cough or sneeze into your elbow if a tissue is not available.

If unwell with a respiratory condition, do not go to work or school until symptoms have passed.

Get vaccinated against influenza — especially if you are in the category of people who can receive free vaccinations, that is, people with pre-existing health conditions and people 65 and over. The vaccine will not directly protect against Covid-19 but influenza in the community will be very serious where this is combined with Covid-19 infection should this virus spread later in winter.

Phone the Healthline number (0800 611 116) for advice. They will connect with your Primary Care practice if you need to go there. Always ring ahead if you are going to a Primary Care practice with respiratory conditions so the team can prepare — keeping you, the team and the community safe.

Do not enter the hospital if you have respiratory symptoms. Call the hospital number you can be assessed before you enter if you need urgent care. Ring ahead if you are booked for an outpatient appointment and the hospital will reschedule for when you are well.

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‘Happy to hear’ drought declaration this morning
by Sophie Rishworth

THE official drought announcement for Tairawhiti is seen as good, as it frees up funding to help farmers. Gisborne Waikato Federated Farmers provincial president Charlie Reynolds said he was happy to hear the announcement from Agriculture Minister Damien O’Connor this morning.

Having a drought declared unlocked up to $2 million of funding to help farmers and growers from now until June 2021. The extra funding the Government is putting in, it is very great to see. “It means for farmers is that it eases the tax burden with provisional tax.” It also meant the Rural Support Trust would be fired up again. “What it means for farmers is that it eases the tax burden and it increases confidence in the farming sector.”

Councillor Larry Foster said he was happy to hear the announcement.

“Many farmers are struggling to get through this difficult time,” he said.

Mr Reynolds said the agriculture sector was “pretty bad” as they were facing a double whammy. Limited buyers due to Covid-19 meant some farms were carrying extra stock at this time of year, and with the addition of a drought it meant they were struggling to feed them.

Space was “very tight” at Affco and Silver Fern Farms, he said.

The drought declaration also meant the national feed lines of Federated Farmers and NZ Beef and Lamb were gearing up for this district.

Mr Reynolds said Federated Farmers acted as the middle man to link farmers who have extra feed to farmers who needed it.

Air NZ cannot predict demand for local flights

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Total fire ban to be reviewed Monday

A TOTAL fire ban remains in place across the region but fire authorities intend to review this on Monday and hope to be able to go back to a restricted season right through the event.

Principal Rural Fire Officer Ray Dever said yesterday the fire risk was still extreme at the top end of the district around East Cape.

“Some areas like Tinoroto and Wharekuri have had a lot more rain than other areas, and the risk is overall too high to risk a return to a restricted season right now,” Mr Dever said.

“The top end of the Coast is still very dry. Hopefully we can soon improve the situation over the weekend,” he said.

A total fire ban means no fires at all in the open, apart from umu and hangi fires.

THE Gisborne Presbyterian Parish has a new minister and the Rev Jin Sook Kim has been overwhelmed by the welcome the community has received.

Rev Kim took up her pastoral duties at St Andrew’s two weeks ago.

The 61-year-old becomes the first Asian minister to serve at the church and is one of only three female ministers in the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PANCANZ).

“The congregations of Gisborne Presbyterian Church (St Andrew’s and Matawhero Church) are an absolutely lovely bunch of people, like my previous parish in Dunedin,” she says.

Rev Kim was previously the minister of the Waihiwaikoa Karitane Presbyterian Church in Dunedin, and prior to that was completing her ministry internship.

“When I was a child, my mother used to take me to Buddhist temples when it came to Buddha’s birthday.”

No one in her family were Christians. I have been really interested in Christianity all my life, and from an early age I was interested in the Bible and studying scriptures.

She became a Catholic at the age of 25.

“Later in life I wanted to study Theology more and it led me to the ordained ministry in the Presbyterian Church.

“God is always telling me to love people as yourself.”

The Rev Kim has two children, a daughter Angela aged 35, and a son Michael aged 31, and was ordained in 2016.

She has a Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Theology degree and two post-graduate diplomas, having studied initially at university in South Korea, and in more recent years at Waikato and Otago universities.

She describes St Andrew’s Church (as well as Matawhero Church) as “a beautiful historic building”. It has so much lovely history, and I’m reading up about it now.

“I was so impressed to see how hard the church community worked to raise the money needed to repair the church after the 2007 earthquake in Gisborne.”

As for her aims and aspirations as the leader of her congregation:

“To care for them and nurture them as they are.

“God is in us, but we need to find a quiet place in ourselves, and I think we offer that at St Andrew’s and Matawhero Church.”

She has been much impressed with Gisborne since she arrived.

“The people here are bright, lively and very friendly. Also, there’s so much less traffic than in Dunedin and your weather is so much warmer.”

In Memoriam

HOHPEA, Dan
Always in our thoughts.
Forever in our hearts.
Whoever lives in love lives in God and God in
them (Ephesians 4:2).

Arohanui, Julian,
Angie, and whanau xx

Brazen theft by young woman

A MAN in his late 60s was robbed of his wallet and cellphone on Tuesday night shortly after he had got into his car parked at the eastern end of Reseda Quay near the Emerald Hotel.

A member of the man’s family told The Herald a young woman came up to the car’s front passenger door and asked him if he had some money.

“She jumped in the passenger seat and before he knew it she had stolen his wallet and cellphone and ran away,” the family member said.

The incident happened at about 9.30pm on Tuesday at the road at the “sand track”.

He reported the incident to Gisborne police,” the family member said.

“To make things worse, the thieves used the information from his wallet to steal money from his bank account.

“He’s gutted about it.”

Police have an inquiry under way.

Testing conditions as surf life saving nationals start

SIZEABLE swells and showers made for a challenging start to this morning for the 2020 TSB New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships at city beaches, and those challenges loomed set to continue right through the event.

The four-day championships started this morning for around 300 masters competitors, aged from over 30 and into their 80s.

Their day-long race programme included board, swim and ski races, large craft events like boat and canoe, and beach events.

A southerly swell of around 1.5 metres has provided testing conditions.

The club championships for the Allan Gardner Memorial Trophy begin tomorrow morning, with more than a dozen squash courts in action throughout the day.

“The conditions are comfortable with the surf and weather conditions over the next four days,” said SLSNZ event manager Scott Bicknell.

“The swell should not be significant enough to cause any delays to the programme at this time.”

Mr Bicknell said:

“This is surf lifesaving and we love a challenge in the surf. It’s about training for what we do.”

SLSNZ event manager Scott Bicknell

“This is surf lifesaving and we love a challenge in the surf. It’s about training for what we do.”

“The work — particularly of the masters work party — is just unbelievable, really.”

Mr Bicknell said the beach conditions favoured good competition.

“Midway traditionally provides reasonable surf conditions and we have a kilometre-long straight section of beach that we can position our six arenas on.”

There will be four arenas operating for swim, board and ski events across the open, under-19 and under-16 age divisions, and one each for the surf boats and surf canoes.

The beach events, the sprints and beach flags, will be contested across the road at the “sand track”.

“Everything has come together well for the event, and the scene is set for four days of good conditions, challenging racing,” Mr Bicknell said.

“We welcome the public of Gisborne to come down and watch. It’s a good opportunity to see some good thrills and spills.”

Heavy surf conditions got the better of the champion of her organisation’s morning and they were forced to shift the masters competition to Waikane. The decision was made at around 11am and the rest of the masters programme will be completed at Waikane during the day.

St Andrew’s has a new leader

In Memoriam

JANET MARGARET
DENN
12.3.1972 - 12.3.2020
A year has passed already and we miss you every day.

May the winds of heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear, How much we love and miss you. And wish that you were here.

You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

Treasurer memories

Ruth, Tina and Ross

NEW MINISTER: The Rev Jin Sook Kim has taken over as the new minister for the Gisborne Presbyterian Parish at St Andrew’s Church, and is impressed with what Gisborne has to offer. She is the first Asian minister to take the parish under her wings.

Picture by Liam Clayton

No one in her family were Christians. I have been really interested in Christianity all my life, and from an early age I was interested in the Bible and studying scriptures.

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In Memoriam

MASEMANN, Allan
Anniversary and Celebration,
by Murray Robertson
at Cedar Mace, Tauangiora, surrounded by all who loved and appreciated Dad. Until the time we gather once more. With love and gratitude to family who have supported Dad for so long, and to the staff at Tauanga Hospital, and Cedar Manor, for all their professional support and care. At peace.

A service to celebrate Allan’s life will be held at Tauanga Park, 383 Pyes Pa Road, Tauangiora on Saturday 14 March at 11am, followed by burial. All communications to the Masemann Family, C- PO Box 1136, Tauangiora 3142.

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“To make things worse, the thieves used the information from his wallet to steal money from his bank account.

“He’s gutted about it.”

Police have an inquiry under way.
celebrating community support

by Mark Peters

A NETWORK made up of representatives from a range of community support services celebrated the group's 30th birthday this week. The budgeting service Moni Ora, the Arohaina Centre, Salvation Army, Hospice and Arohaina, gave an update about their organisation's activities.

Before the 30th birthday celebrations began at the monthly meeting, each representative gave an update about their organisation's activities.

A WOman facing three aggravated robbery charges, and for whom specialist mental health reports are pending, recently told police she assaulted someone with a weapon. The admission from Ali-Ann Margaret Stevens, 41, was later discovered to be false.

Police withdrew a charge laid after it and replaced it with one making a false statement.

Stevens was further remanded without plea to appear again on April 6.

For an offence against his mother-in-law, Pakura Lucy Kiwara, 24, pleaded guilty to a charge of doing a dangerous act with intent to injure. Counsel Leighri Maynard accepted the offering was quite serious but urged the court to deal leniently. Kiwara had no previous convictions and wanted to apply for a discharge without conviction, Mr Maynard said. Kiwara was further remanded on bail for the application or sentence, if necessary, on April 24.

The case was referred to the restorative justice process.

Judge Cathcart noted the offending was out of character and probably due to Kiwara's consumption of alcohol at the time.

NEIL Richard Miller, 37, fisherman, pleaded guilty to assaulting a person in a family relationship and with wilful damage. He was further remanded on bail to appear in that court on May 19.

Judge Cathcart warned given the nature of the incident, the judge said.

The case was referred to the restorative justice process.

Bail conditions were varied to allow Miller to exchange texts with the complainant.

MAPU Pereira, 21, pleaded guilty to three breaches of a protection order. The case was referred to the Family Harm Intervention Court. Pereira was further remanded on bail to appear there on May 19.

STEVEN William Knowles, 36, admitted assaulting a child after a similar charge was withdrawn. Counsel Dougal Shortt asked the court to delay imposing a conviction and to refer the case to the Family Harm Intervention Court. Shortt noted the contents of an interview Mr Knowles' lack of criminal history.

STEPHEN Leslie Tambahere, 57, who faces two charges of wilful damage, a charge of threatening language, and one of breaching bail, was further remanded without plea on bail for a specialist mental health report.

He will appear again on April 16.

A MAN's ignorance of police powers led him to over-react in a situation where the police focus, initially on a relative, turned to him. Mr Major Morgan, 36, horticultural worker, was ultimately charged with possessing cannabis and methamphetamine utensils, obstructing and resisting police. He was sentenced to five years community work.

Judge Cathcart said police were entitled to change their focus during inquiries.

Morgan's ignorance of that and insistence otherwise saw him over-react. He was warned several times he would be pepper sprayed but refused to cooperate.

ADMITTING he took about $3000 from his father, Jarred John Te Atamahuhi Fairlie pleaded guilty to fraudulent use of a document.

The case was referred to the restorative justice process.

Fairlie was offered police diversion but he was young and unemployable and unable to come up with $500 required to complete it, Mr Tauamannu said.

It was hoped a positive restorative justice conference and further time for Fairlie to raise the money, might see police reinstate the offer. Alternatively, an application would be made for a discharge without conviction, Mr Tauamannu said.

Fairlie was further remanded on bail for the application or sentence if necessary, on April 24.

ANTIONETTE Jerche Ateriana Isadora Tiepa admitted breaching community work. She was convicted and further remanded on bail for a presentence report.

The report will canvass electronically-monitored sentence options.

A DRINK-DRIVER thought he might have fallen asleep at the wheel when he drove into a fence, the court was told.

Craig Leslie Brown, 57, contractor, pleaded guilty to driving with excess breath alcohol (218 mgs) and careless use of a vehicle. He was fined $850 ($500 for the carelessness, and $450 for the drink-driving) and on each charge, ordered to pay court costs of $130.

He will be subject to zero-alcohol and alcohol-interlock provisions.

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Counsel Mana Tauamannu urged the court to withdraw convictions. Fairlie was previously offered police diversion but he was young and unemployable and unable to come up with $500 required to complete it, Mr Tauamannu said.

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There were children in a car when it was routinely stopped and the driver found to be over the legal alcohol limit, the court was told.

Pomirochi Lucy Kutia-Brown, caregiver, pleaded guilty to drink-driving (720mcg) for a third or subsequent time – his third, the last being in 1999. He was sentenced to 60 hours community work and disqualified from driving for a year and a day.

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by Amelia Wade, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Justice Minister Andrew Little is disappointed proposed “safe-zones” around abortion clinics got axed in a voting mix-up.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, who supports the proposal, said the 150m protest-free areas around clinics, brushed off the error as “the outcome of democracy.”

An amendment to scrap the safe-zones as the name of Act leader David Seymour, was split into two parts during the committee stage of the Abortion Legislation Bill on Tuesday.

The amendment passed with a voice vote. But Green MP Jan logo, who backs safe-zones, sought to clarify what had happened.

Labour MP Ruth Dyson unsuccessfully moved for a personal vote to be taken, and one MP decided to object to defeat Dyson’s motion.

Supporters of safe-zones said they wanted women to be shielded from intimidation.

Opponents said there were already protections in existing law and the amendment would have denied freedom of expression.

A complex vote for a personal vote because it was his bill, said he was disappointed other MPs didn’t call for the vote.

Auckland — A man who tried to stop the Christchurch mosque gunman still can’t sleep one year later, worrying that he “could have done better”.

Abdel Aziz Wahabzadah threw an Eftpos machine at the back of the Linwood mosque, and chased him on foot as the shooter sped by car.

The mosque’s acting imam, Lateef Alabi, said at the time that the death toll would have been far higher if Wahabzadah had not fought back against the intruder.

“If we were saved,” Alabi said. “Otherwise, if he managed to come into the mosque, then we would all probably be gone.”

But Wahabzadah, who was in Manurewa yesterday to hear a waqf composed for the victims by students at James Cook High School, said he still felt guilty that he couldn’t stop the gunman killing seven people at the mosque.

“To be honest, I get two or three hours sleep every night,” he said.

“Because still I am guilty in my heart about what I could have done better to stop him.”

Wahabzadah said his youngest son Yusuf, who was 5, still refused to go back to the mosque after he saw the gunman shooting at his father.

“He was crying, ‘Let’s go to the mosque,’ he cries,” his dad said.

Another son, Omar, who was 9, said he witnessed the shooting, has never been the same.

Wahabzadah, 46, fled with his parents as refugees from Afghanistan when he was a child. The family spent three years in Pakistan until they were given refugee in Australia 30 years ago.

Wahabzadah brought his children to New Zealand by plane and a half a years ago because he saw it as a peaceful country. He spent six weeks in Auckland but felt that it was too busy, and settled in Christchurch because it was “quiet”. He runs a second-hand furniture shop in the beach suburbs of Redcliffs.

He was standing by the door of the Linwood mosque on March 15 when he heard what he thought was fireworks, then heard someone shout that a person had been shot in the carpark.

He picked up the only thing he could find to defend himself, an Eftpos machine, and ran outside.

Wahabzadah was so close to the gunman that “even a kid wouldn’t miss”. He said Wahabzadah only was defeated by his immediate family survival.

Wahabzadah said he felt close to everyone in the mosque, a small place of worship with an average attendance of 60 to 100 people.

“Sister Linda was like a big sister to us. When she got some news she always called me,” he said.

“Brother Iman was like a brother to us. Everyone is like family to us.”

But he told James Cook students that the gunman’s message of hate was overwhelmed by the love shown to local Muslims from all over New Zealand and around the world.

“I have to (keep) strong for my family and community,” he said. “We have to move on with our life.” — NZ Herald

BREIFS

Family urged to make contact

HASTINGS — A missing mother and her two children are thought to be alive and somewhere in New Zealand and around the world.

Megan Lee, 45, was reported missing on Friday, March 6, after failing to return with her children from a holiday in the North Island.

Detective Sergeant Craig Vining said it was likely the group was in New Zealand.

Vining urged Lee to make contact with her Hawke’s Bay-based family or police, so they knew she was safe.

She said it was the outcome of democracy.

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“Funding for psychosocial support in drought and its spread multi-region areas has affected many people and their livelihoods,” he said.

The announcement follows urging from Hawke’s Bay farmers and leaders as parts of the region experienced the driest period on record.

For some parts of Hawke’s Bay, the four months between November 2020 and February have been the driest in 50 years, with some farms close to running out of water.

Included in the package are drought co-ordinators and additional co-ordinators, a working group, animal welfare information and expertise and assistance with recovery services.

Expanded psychosocial support, including more than $90,000 for Hawke’s Bay and Wairarapa is also available.

“This new funding allows us to boost co-ordination efforts and activate some additional recovery measures, including for drought-co-ordinators in Hawke’s Bay and Wairarapa,” O’Connor said.

“Additional funding will be available for more drought co-ordinators if needed for those regions,” she said.

She said it was more important that the main parts of the bill went intact, taking abortion out of the Crimes Act and ending the statutory test for the procedure for pregnancies less than 20 weeks.

Little said he won’t try to re-insert protest-free zones into the bill as he isn’t confident enough on the numbers. He said Seymour has just pleased his amendment passed and the safe-zones are gone — no matter if it happened by mistake.

by Kim Moodie, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — The Government has unlocked a further $2 million to ease the load on drought-stricken farmers and growers.

Drought in the North Island, parts of the South Island and the Chathams were today classified as a medium-scale adverse event by Agriculture Minister Damien O’Connor, freeing up more funds for those affected.

“The intensity of the drought and its spread across multiple regions has affected many people and their livelihoods,” he said.

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**Kiwis ‘safer in virus hotspots’**

AUCKLAND — Some New Zealanders trapped in hotspots for the Covid-19 coronavirus say they feel safer where they are, rather than risking a trip home. Auckland man Kayc Hilihetule is in Seoul, where he has been teaching English for 10 years, and said the coronavirus outbreak in South Korea had changed his daily routine.

“It just means we have to be more aware, we wear masks everywhere, sanitise, make sure not to touch too many surfaces when we are out — especially when we are on public transport, which we try to avoid most of the time but sometimes you have to go places,” Hilihetule said.

Pharmacy visits were restricted to certain days and people could not buy more than two face masks per week.

He said people could check online if they had been in contact with anyone infected by the virus.

“All cases are pretty much known when they (authorities) know. They put it up on the internet and they have a Google Map of a person’s steps, each step that they would take and restaurants that they went to. It has been pretty good in terms of finding out information.

“The only thing is masks — everyone’s beginning to get masks here and that’s been pretty crazy.”

Auckland woman Selina Huang is in Wuhan with her six-year-old daughter. She was one of those who decided not to take the New Zealand government’s evacuation flight early last month because she was worried about being infected during the journey.

Having stayed indoors for more than a month, she said she and her daughter were now used to life in quarantine.

“She said the Chinese government was doing a good job containing the virus and she was not rushing to get out. “I think Wuhan right now is the safest place in the world . . . to be honest I’m a little worried about going back to New Zealand.”

Huang said her friends in Auckland had been very nervous since New Zealand had its first confirmed case.

“They don’t think New Zealand has enough capacity to fight this virus if the virus is going to be serious.”

A New Zealander who works as a tour guide in Tehran said she had been stuck inside for the past two weeks.

“She said some people were not coping. "Some of the people don’t mind and keep going on with their lives but some of them, they are really panicked and they are at home.

“It’s not a good situation especially mentally. Some people are really sad, or really angry.”

New Plymouth woman Ms Li has been video chatting with her husband, an Iranian New Zealander who went to Tehran to visit family, to make sure he is safe. She said he was now stuck there due to the virus. — RNZ

**Travel restrictions extended**

WELLINGTON — The Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization and has led to travel restrictions being extended to all travellers coming to New Zealand from other countries.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said travellers coming from any part of Italy would be required to self-isolate for 14 days if coming to New Zealand.

Italy’s outbreak is now the largest outside mainland China.

That has essentially turned travel from South Korea, for example, into a trifle. It has effectively had the same effect as an entire border exclusion.

“It gives us a bit of flexibility to put in separate states and regions, where entire border restrictions don’t give us that flexibility,” she said.

Ardern said she expected it would have the same effect of putting travellers from Italy off coming here.

She said the decision had been made after consulting health and science advisers.

New Zealand also requires anyone coming from other Covid-19 hotspots to quarantine themselves for two weeks — but has not closed its borders to them.

Australia has banned foreigners arriving from Italy, China, Iran and South Korea; New Zealand only bans foreign travellers from China and Iran.

National leader Simon Bridges had been urging the government to enforce the same restrictions as Australia. — RNZ
Body found in search for teen

WAIHI — The body of Jaden Chhayrann, the teenager who was swept away at Waihi Beach last month, has been found on Whiritoa Beach.

Police found a body on Whiritoa Beach on March 1 and today confirmed that it was 17-year-old Chhayrann. The Melville High School student had been on a geography trip when he got into trouble at Waihi Beach about 12.40pm on February 21. He had been part of a group swimming in the area. — NZ Herald

Petition opposes Oz deportee policy sending Kiwis home

Wellington — A deportee from Australia to New Zealand and Race Relations Commissioner Meng Foon hugged at Parliament yesterday after their pleas in support of a petition opposing Australia’s deportation policy.

The deportee called himself Clive and would not say what crime he had been charged with. He said that while he had now rebuilt his life in New Zealand, his family unit had been destroyed and he had been deported without being able to defend the charges against him.

He joined Meng Foon in supporting a petition asking Parliament to raise the deportations issue during the United Nations universal periodic review of Australia this year.

Foon made a plea to Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison on behalf of the New Zealand Human Rights Commission: “We ask the Australian Government to be kind, and to be fair and to be good neighbours.” “We have fought in wars together, we play sports together, we trade... together and most recently our firefighters have gone to Australia to help our Australian brothers and sisters over there.”

Clive said he had been based on the Gold Coast and had lived in Australia for 12 years. “I feel sorry for my kids and all my family in Australia,” he said emotionally.

“I didn’t get to see my kids for maybe three years. I was brought back to New Zealand the last place I wanted to be. “My backbone, my kids, my life was in Australia,” he said. “I had built a good life. I had a good job. I had family that will support me as I can get back on my feet again but I didn’t get the chance.”

Asked why he had been charged with he and Community Law chief executive Sue Moroney said they did not want to reveal that, because he had not been given a chance to clear his name in a trial. He said six weeks after being charged, he was granted bail but was immediately sent to Villawood detention centre for about three months until being transferred to Christmas Island where he had studied as much as he could about the law. He represented himself at the Australian Appeal Tribunal and got his visa back.

“Two minutes later I was cancelled again under a section 116. Prior to this I had no convictions at all,” he said.

“The Australian Government was making out I was this sort of character...”

His family has split up. He has separated from his wife. Two of his children are living with her and one is with him. He said the encouragement of his mother had got him through.

“I just put my head down, knocked down and did what I had to do and that was work to rebuild a foundation for my kids again to give them a home base.”

He was now living in Masterton and had a good job and learned to love New Zealand again.

“As of today I am living a great life. I have succeeded. To me, I’ve won. I have my children. I have a secure job and I have a roof over my kids’ heads.”

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern raised the deportations policy in a press conference with her Australian counterpart, Scott Morrison, in February, saying it was having a corrosive effect on the relationship and many of the deportees had been raised in Australia. Clive does not fit that category.

However, Meng Foon said Australia’s deportations had a “strong race discrimination component and disproportionately affect Maori and Pacific people and other ethnic minorities.”

“It undermines our attempt to build an inclusive society on this side of the Tasman.”

He said the New Zealand Human Rights Commission shared concerns with the Australian Human Rights Commission about the risks from arbitrary detention during immigration review processing.

New Zealand citizens who go through the Australian deportation process often wind up being punished over and over again, subject to double or treble jeopardy. “They are returned to a country to which they have little or no connection.”

The average length of stay in an immigration detention centre in Australia was 496 days, compared with 12 days for Canada. “This is huge human rights issue,” he said. “The conditions in these detention centres are being used to force people to give up their rights to appeal and contest their visa cancellations.”

More than 2000 New Zealanders have been deported from Australia on character grounds over the past five years.

Labour MP Louisa Wall hosted the event in the Beehive and accepted the petition. — NZ Herald

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The Gisborne Herald • Thursday, March 12, 2020
RACIST ATTACK: The teenager and his friends were assaulted in what he believed was a racial attack at Greville Reserve on the North Shore. The teen says he feels frustrated and depressed. He is also scared to go outside, NZ Herald picture

AUCKLAND — A Kiwi teenager says he no longer feels safe in New Zealand after he was bottled and beaten as he lay semi-conscious during what he believes was a racially motivated attack on him and his friends.
The 17-year-old Aucklander of Korean descent says he has lost faith in police after receiving little contact since. Some of the group attacked were as young as 13.

Since an approach from the NZ Herald, police have contacted the victims, and acknowledged they had not kept the victims up to date.

The teenager, who didn’t want to be named for safety reasons, said he was initially too fearful to share their story, but felt he had a duty. “I don’t feel safe in the country I was born in,” he told the NZ Herald.

The teenager was playing football with a group of friends at Greville Reserve in Forrest Hill on Auckland’s North Shore on a Wednesday evening two weeks ago with his friends and a group of international students they were looking after.

During their game, two people began drinking on the side of the field, and began touching the group’s belongings, the teen said.

He said one of the players asked the pair not to touch their property, and the pair responded with racial slurs.

The teenager claimed “ching chong”, “wong wing” and more racial slurs were chanted at them.

Soon he was bottled in the back of the head and fell to the ground, nearly unconscious, the teen said.

When the players asked the group to leave the field with them, some of the group attacked but they were drunk and not listening, he said.

The teenager tried to calm their anger but they were drunk and couldn’t be challenged, the teen said.

An ambulance took him to hospital, where they were treated for their injuries.

“The 17-year-old Aucklander, Acting Area Commander, Waitakemata East, told the Herald: ‘We want all members of our community to feel safe and we acknowledge we have not kept the victims of this matter up to date in a timely manner.’

“Police are making inquiries into the matter and following leads, Walker said.

At this point, we have no information to suggest that this was a racially motivated attack but we are keeping an open mind as our investigation progresses,” the acting commander said.

The teenager and a friend were terrified to see the men locally the next day.

“They saw us from a distance and recognised us. They said, ‘Isn’t that them from last night?’ Our legs were shaking.

“It was from that point I realised I was in a dangerous situation and realised I had lost my sense of freedom and safety in the country that I was born in.”

The teenager’s family were devastated and grew up on the North Shore. “I had told myself that I expected the police to follow up and we acknowledged we have not kept the victims of this matter up to date in a timely manner. “This was different. We did absolutely nothing, and they became violent. If it is just racism you can ignore it, but not when they are beating you for it.” Police took details at the scene but did not contact the teen until Tuesday, when he was asked to make a statement at a local station.

Inspector Simon Walker, Acting Area Commander, Waitakemata East, told the Herald: “We want all members of our community to feel safe and we acknowledge we have not kept the victims of this matter up to date in a timely manner.”

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The teenager’s family were devastated and grew up on the North Shore. “I had told myself that I had to do something, and from the help of friends and family, I decided to go to the police station myself and not let this crime slip and happen again to anyone.”

Along with the physical injuries from the attack, the lack of police interest had wounded his and friends’ sense of safety and comfort in their own identity.

“I feel really frustrated and depressed. To this day I am depressed. To this day I am scared. They never thought I would come forward.

“I’ve experienced racism at a young age. I was as young as 13. Some of the group attacked were as young as 13.

“I don’t feel safe in the country I was born in,” he told the NZ Herald.

The teenager says he no longer feels safe in New Zealand after he was bottled and beaten as he lay semi-conscious during what he believes was a racially motivated attack on him and his friends.

Several of his friends tried to intervene but they too were attacked by the intoxicated group.

The teenagers family were devastated and grew up on the North Shore. “I had told myself that I had to do something, and from the help of friends and family, I decided to go to the police station myself and not let this crime slip and happen again to anyone.”

Along with the physical injuries from the attack, the lack of police interest had wounded his and friends’ sense of safety and comfort in their own identity.

“I feel really frustrated and depressed. To this day I am still scared to go outside, to feel safe being who I am in the country I was born in. “I really expected the police to follow up with us, to reassure us.

“Now I feel if I am ever in that situation, who can I turn to? “Given the teen’s heritage, he often looked out for international students from South Korea. They were incredibly shocked at the attack. “We have been touch with them since and they feel they’re all feeling pretty depressed. They have not thought this kind of thing happened in New Zealand, just thought was in the movies or on TV.”

— NZ Herald

‘don’t feel safe in my country’

Teenagers bottled in racist attack at North Shore park

The Gisborne Herald  Thursday, March 12, 2020

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The teenager tried to calm their anger but they were drunk and couldn’t be challenged, the teen said.

An ambulance took him to hospital, where they were treated for their injuries.

“T’ve experienced racism before, but it has always just been comments, and I’ve been able to challenge people on it, the teen said.

“This was different. We did absolutely nothing, and they became violent. If it is just racism you can ignore it, but not when they are beating you for it.” Police took details at the scene but did not contact the teen until Tuesday, when he was asked to make a statement at a local station.

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— NZ Herald

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Covid-19: Air NZ braces for cost-cutting measures

AUCKLAND — Air New Zealand is working on a series of cost cuts to cut the airline hunkers down to deal with the worsening coronavirus impact on travel. Following a meeting with workers’ groups yesterday, it agreed to meet weekly on measures including a hiring freeze on non-critical roles, voluntary unpaid leave and using unused leave balances. Options for temporary redeployment among the 12,500 staff were also being explored “where appropriate.”

In a joint statement sent to chief executive Greg Foran, he said individual business units would now work with their union partners on the initiatives. The airline, which saw already weak demand plummet at the end of last week, has withdrawn its full-year profit guidance because of uncertainty over future earnings and has slashed capacity across its network by 10 percent.

“As an organisation, and as unions, we have not faced a situation like this before. As a group, we recognise this is unsettling for Air New Zealand employees and are committed to sharing information as it becomes available,” Foran said.

“From a business perspective, it is clear this is a significant issue that is impacting the aviation and tourism industry globally.”

Air New Zealand’s board ran through what is likely a bleak picture of future demand with leaders of the Airline Pilots Association, E tū, the Federation of Air NZ Pilots and NZ Air Line Pilots Association.

In a joint statement, the leaders said some of the information being shared with union leaders was confidential and commercially sensitive, the group had agreed it was important to be as open as possible with all Air NZ staff.

During this meeting, the airline’s chief medical officer, Ben Johnson told union leaders that, across the aviation industry, no airline employees or passengers have contracted Covid-19 while on board.

“For this to happen we need people to avoid visiting and using the aviation and tourism industry,” Foran said.

“This has provided reassurance that people travelling in the aviation industry are at a greater risk than anyone else in the community,” Foran said.

He volunteered to take a 15 percent pay cut to his $1.65m salary, a move that has been made by other airline chief executives in this region.

Airlines around the world are slashing capacity by even more than Air NZ as what is shaping up as a global recession sets in.

The evaporation of bookings by businesses — under legal obligation to minimise risk of staff travel — have rocked airlines as this is among the most lucrative market for them.

The outlook for flying leisure passengers to meet cruise ship departure points is worsening by the day with New Zealand following Australia and the United States in warning that those with pre-existing medical conditions should reconsider their travel.

“Korean Air Lines has warned that the coronavirus outbreak could thwart its survival after more than half of the world restricted passengers entering from South Korea. Korean Air Line’s reports marked the beginning of the end for South Korea’s biggest carrier’s international capacity had been ramped down at a rate of travel restrictions globally, compared with an 18 percent reduction during the 1997-1998 Asian financial crisis.

As we see the scale and pace of the crisis we are facing in comparison. And what is more daunting is that the situation can get worse at any time and we cannot even predict how long it will last,” Wooh K ee-hong, Korean Air’s president said in a memo to employees. — NZ Herald

But Life Apartments was not without challenges: “It’s the hardest thing I’ve ever done in my life, dealing with the Government. It took 18 months of negotiation to start with and another six months before the lease was signed.”

CIP Construction built the tower, which has a 25-year exterior maintenance contract, Manson said. The Mansons were on last year’s NBR Rich List with an estimated $350m and a Herald property power list ranked them No 1 in the private sector. “The Life project cost $33m plus whatever it cost to build it, so it is not a small project. At Glen Eden, practical completion is about to be achieved at the $180m, 165-unit Westlight, the founder’s second project. That was more expensive because apartments had decks, two buildings were developed in parallel, whereas the design was far more complicated than Life and it was so much bigger, Manson said.

However, the facade cost also rose by $3m when the foundation was required to upgrade materials from its original resource consent to deal with the noise from two diesel freight trains which use the line beside the block twice a day.

Manson said he saw the high need for social housing and quickly made it his goal “to build as many apartments as possible.”

“Me is an honour for me to have money in my bank account at this stage of my life to be able to give back and make a difference. Thousands of good people out there deserve their time to helping others.”

He said he was not enough wealthy people gave and he called for more to help the less fortunate. “I feel sorry for the people in the Westlight tower who don’t have any other choice,” he said.

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**Pandemic now but advice the same**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) lifted its warnings to countries outside China. This morning the WHO took the step that has been increasingly inevitable, labelling the Covid-19 coronavirus a pandemic — as cases spike in many countries, including much of western Europe now. A pandemic refers to a disease that is spreading in multiple countries at the same time. In making the announcement, WHO chief Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said the number of cases announced yesterday for a 13-fold in the past two weeks. He also said the WHO was "deeply concerned" by the fast spike in many countries, including Spain, Italy, Korea, Australia, Canada and Japan.

Dr Ghebreyesus also said that confirming this coronavirus outbreak as a pandemic was one of the WHO was changing its advice about what countries should do. He called on governments to take "urgent and aggressive action".

"Several countries have demonstrated that this virus can be suppressed and controlled," he said.

"The challenge for many countries who are now dealing with large clusters or community transmission is not whether they can do the same — it’s whether they will.

In Germany, where 343 new cases were announced yesterday for a total 1908 (similar to the 567 new cases and total 2262 in Spain, and total 1908 (similar to the 567 new cases and total 2281 in China), the following: 1. ‘As of yesterday and right now anywhere that needs a test gets a test’ and that “the tests are perfect”. No they can’t and no they’re not. 2. He had a great super-genius uncle who taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and passed his genes on to him, so he understood the science of Covid-19. ‘May be I have a natural ability’ Uh huh.

3. He explained that he didn’t want to let people off the Grand Princess cruise ship (off the coast of the US) because he didn’t want the numbers to go up: “I like the numbers being where they are. I don’t need the numbers to decrease because of one ship.” Stuff you sickos, it’s election year.

4. When VP Pence praised the Washington State Governor Jay Inslee for his handling of Covid-19 in his state, Trump said “I told Mike not to be complimentary to the governor because that governor is a snake.” Nice.

5. And I’ve heard the numbers are getting better in China but for the first time in a month, the numbers are getting much better in Italy and et cetera et cetera.” Ah.

6. “As of time I left the plane with you, we had 240 cases. That’s at least what was on a very fine network known as Fox News. And you love it. But that’s what I happened to be watching. And how was the show last night?” (His town hall) programme on the channel.

"Did it get good ratings? I heard it broke all the ratings records but maybe that’s wrong. That’s what they told me. I don’t know. I can’t imagine that.”

Now Trump loves, just imagine if our Prime Minister said all that stuff at a press conference to inform the public of the Covid-19 situation in New Zealand here in New Zealand.

You would be the first to call for white people in boats to eat white folk for a test but for a full psychiatric assessment, wouldn’t you?

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ONLINE COMMENTS**

We get what we put up with

Uncle Google tells me that 15 to 20 percent of New Zealand's population is overweight. Are there any others among us who areacked off with being fat, and want to change the way they're behaving? You can get an app and leave a comment that: ‘go up on Facebook to check out the details’ — and it goes.

Are you reasonably computer literate, but have no wish to join those whose phone appears to be an essential artifact to their body. I don’t do Facebook — Luddite eh? I hear a faint phantom voice saying “get with it Grandad” or a scolding, “no one tests with both hands”. Come see me when the arthritis kicks in.

I don’t like internet banking, but many don’t, and I am sure the ongoing removal of cheques is going to annoy a lot of folk. I have spent 12 minutes listening to innane “musack” and being harangued by various well-known people who can speak to someone about what my bank wants. I have a hearing problem, as I imagine a lot in my demographic do, and I am2020 murray palmer

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**Cruise past us for now**

Re: Coronavirus measures in place at port, March 10 story

I'm not reassured by the assurances of safety procedures around cruise ships, given that carriers of Covid-19 can be asymptomatic — that is, not exhibit any visible symptoms. Indeed, that’s precisely how the virus appears to be able to spread so effectively, and such ships seem to be efficient global transporters.

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**Struggling, harassing…**

Re: Let's get a vote on 1080, March 10 letter

The reference to a petition circulated by the anti-1080 movement actually asks for “all cruel poisons” to be banned, without specifying what poisons exactly. It gives examples of 1080 (moderately insecticidal), bromadiolone (extremely insecticidal and PAPP (a completely harmless poison which kills in an hour).

They have canvassed this petition for a year, and got only 57,000 signatures — when they need 10 percent of registered electors, about 340,000. Probably only 60-70 percent of those 57,000 signatures are valid, as they signed up children, tourists and put people on by proxy when they are required to sign themselves.

They have another two months to go, I believe, of harassing people at public events.

---

**Plane memories at Mahia**

Re: Wingos over Ruatoria, March 5 story

Getting up in Kaiwata, Mahia, we would transport passengers across the Kupara river on our way to Paraparaumu. We would ride on the tiger moths that were stationed on Paraparaumu aerodrome.

The aerodrome was set up as an emergency air strip. The NAC transporters had to use Paraparaumu aerodrome because there was an emergency air strip.

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**A great way to diversify…**

Re: Gisborne rail link left out of 10-year vision, March 11 story

The train to Greytown was full of rail enthusiasts when we travelled from Christchurch. Tourist packages including accommodation and tours were great. surely this could be a great way for Gisborne to diversify Johs for drivers taking tours around this beautiful coast. endless possibilities sponsorship for passenger carriage's???

---

**Elizabeth Cosgrave**
Biden victorious in four more primary states

WASHINGTON — Joe Biden decisively won Michigan’s Democratic presidential primary, seizing the battle ground state that helped propel Bernie Sanders’ insurgent candidacy four years ago. The former US vice president’s victory there, as well as in Missouri, Mississippi and Alabama, was a serious blow to Sanders and substantively widened Biden’s path to the nomination.

Biden again showed strength on Tuesday (local time) with working-class voters and African Americans, who are vital to winning the Democratic nomination. Sanders won North Dakota and was ahead in Arizona, his best showing in years. Tuesday’s results perhaps take Sanders’ campaign off the brink of collapse just weeks ago. The former US vice president’s candidacy four years ago was creeping into the race — the insurgent Sanders appeared on the brink of collapse just two weeks ago.

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The Gisborne Herald • Thursday, March 12, 2020

GENEVA — The coronavirus outbreak has now reached the level of a pandemic, World Health Organisation (WHO) chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has declared.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who heads the UN agency, said it was “deeply concerned by the alarming levels of spread and severity” of the outbreak.

He also expressed concern about “the alarming levels of inaction”.

“We have, therefore, made the assessment that Covid-19 can be characterised as a pandemic,” he said at a briefing in Geneva.

WHO investigative director Dr Mike Ryan said the use of word “pandemic” was a description of the situation and “does not change what we do”.

Dr Ryan told a news conference the situation in Iran was “very serious” and the agency would like to see more surveillance and more care for the sick.

The WHO declared a public health emergency of international concern, its “highest level of alarm”, on January 30 when there were fewer than 100 cases of Covid-19 outside of China and eight cases of human-to-human transmission of the disease.

Now, there are more than 118,000 cases in 114 countries and thousands of people have died, Dr Tedros said, with the numbers expected to climb.

The WHO no longer has a category for declaring a pandemic, except for influenza.

WHO officials have signalled for weeks that they may use the word as a descriptive term but stressed that it does not carry the same official weight.

The novel coronavirus is not the flu.

Under its previous system, the government declared the 2009 H1N1 swine flu outbreak a pandemic.

It turned out to be mild, and 151,000 people died.

Dr Ryan said the experience with influenza had led many people to the false conclusion that a pandemic is uncontrollable once it starts.

The experiences of South Korea, Singapore and China in combating the new virus showed this was not true, he said.

Dr Tedros said the number of confirmed cases in New Zealand remained at five.

Chancellor Angela Merkel has warned that up to 70 percent of Germany’s population — 58 million people — could contract the coronavirus.

Germany confirmed its third coronavirus-related death on Wednesday (local time).

A 1.6km containment zone was in force around New Rochelle and all those inside are quarantined.

In the US, New York’s governor announced troops would be sent into New Rochelle in an attempt to contain an outbreak of the virus.

Music festivals and other major events in the US, including Coachella in California, have been cancelled or postponed.

— RNZ
MELBOURNE — Cardinal George Pell’s final bid to overturn his convictions for child sexual abuse has begun hearings in Australia’s top court.

The ex-Vatican treasurer is serving a six-year jail sentence after a jury found he abused two boys in a Melbourne cathedral in the 1990s. Pell is the most senior Catholic priest ever to have been found guilty of such crimes. He is seeking to challenge the verdict by arguing that the jury did not properly consider all evidence.

The Australian cleric, 78, has maintained his innocence since he was charged by police in June 2017. The case in the High Court of Australia is Pell’s last avenue of appeal, after a lower court rejected his first bid to quash the verdict last year.

The Conviction has rocked the Catholic Church, where Pell had been one of the Pope’s most senior advisers. The Vatican has been under pressure to defrock the cleric, but it has maintained he deserves a full and fair legal process.

In December 2018, a jury unanimously found Pell guilty of sexually abusing two 13-year-old choir boys in private rooms in St Patrick’s Cathedral. Pell was archbishop of Melbourne at the time. The convictions included one count of sexual penetration and four counts of committing indecent acts.

His central argument is that the jury and previous appeal court relied too heavily on evidence from the victim who testified. Prosecutors reject these assertions.

The arguments in Canberra will take place over two days before a full bench of seven judges. They will simultaneously assess if Pell has a legitimate case to run an appeal.

There could be a ruling today, or the judges could reserve the decision — possibly for months. — BBC, RNZ

**Jailed for sex abuse:** Cardinal George Pell is serving a six-year jail term.

**Final bid to quash convictions**

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Public Notices

POTTERY BAY & ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in:

The Committee Room Showgrounds Park & Event Centre Makaraka, GISBORNE Commencing at 5pm Tuesday, 13 March 2020

BUSINESS

• Minutes of last Annual General Meeting
• Consideration of Report & Statement of Financial Position
• Election of Officers & Committee Members
• Reappointment of an Auditor
• General Business

Rob Telfer - President

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HUSQVARNA top handle chainsaw 350mm blade, $250. Ph 086 5432.

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12 ROBERTS Rd. Ruakaka. $265.00. All sorts for everyone.

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• Reappointment of an Auditor
• General Business

Rob Telfer - President

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5 Am Jopson Dash 12.29
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17199 Lucky Seven (Fr) 3 John McInerney

6 Homebush Captain 13.12
$15,250, C2, 295m
17199 Lucky Seven (Fr) 3 John McInerney
16822 Pacific Lady (Fr) 3 John McInerney

10 Clarksons Signs - Supplier 9.43
$15,250, Cl 1, 1980m
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
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11 Logan & Brand Design 9.17
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10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney

12 10th September 8.47
$20,000, 1980m
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney

13 Winners Circle 8.47
$20,000, 1980m
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
10261 Crafty House (Fr) 3 John McInerney
Auckland harness at Alexandra Park  
Friday

Jetbet 5  
TAB 0.1.2.4.5 T 3.4-5 0.23-4.5

Selections  
1. MELROSE, INDIAN HEADSTONE  2. DUKE ROGAL, MAHER, CHARLIE CHRISTIE  3. PRINCESS JESS, TEAM TRAIL 3 ALL YEAR 4. NOVEMBRE, ZAMURIA  5. CHERISH, MAISIE BUNGE, ULLY LELE

1 Get A Couch Buddy Trot 706  
$30,000, 4yo & F/M, mobile, 2500m  
1 88007  346 Highscarr (5)  6 5 6  D Clipart  2 88006  65443 Highscarr (3)  5 6 5  S Clipart  3 88005  65545 Highscarr (4)  6 5 6  S Clipart  4 88007  65444 Highscarr (5)  6 5 6  D Clipart  5 88008  65544 Highscarr (4)  6 5 6  S Clipart  6 88006  65442 Highscarr (3)  5 6 5  S Clipart

New South Wales races at Kembla Grange  
Jetbet 17  
TABB doubles 3-4, 6-7  Trebles 2-3-4, 5-6-7  Quaddie 1-2-3-4, 4-5-6-7

Selections  

1 TAB Odds And Evens 3.50  
$42000, Maiden SW, 1400m  
3 88004  1150473692  FORTYFIVE PARKLANE  4 88005  1150477256  GREAT AMBITION

Victoria races at Kyneton  
Jetbet 13  
TABB doubles 3-4, 6-7, 8-9  Quaddie 1-2-3-4, 4-5-6-7

Selections  
1. ALDERS, MEMORABLE, FRANKIE BLUE EYES  2. FORTEZEL, FONDUILLON, GREAT AMETHIST  3. MAROON BELLE, RUE STREET GARAGE  4. MEDEA, NAGANO, CHOCOLATE FUSION  5. FIRSTY, FESTIVAL PARK  6. WESTRELL MUSTER, ROCK MY PARADE, CAROLINE  7. BLACK OPAL, SWEET RIDE ELYSIAN

1 Donegen Transport Plate 3.30  
$23,000, 3yo+ & up Mobile, 2050m  
1 88007  179849  ROOFRAX  2 88006  179848  DISSOLVABLE  3 88005  179847  HOT REBEL  4 88007  179846  HESON THE RUN  5 88008  179845  DIFFICULT

Melbourne races at The Meadow  
Jetbet 19  
TABB doubles 3-4, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11  Quaddie 1-2-3-4, 4-5-6-7

Selections  
1. LADY RUSSELL, BRIAN WASH  2. NICE FINE DAY, ROYAL FAMILY  3. BRIAN WINDSOR, ROYAL FAMILY  4. LADY CEBRA DUNER, KEVIN WASH  5. VENGEANCE, FOR LADY CEBRA COTTON

1 Labrador backs Business 8.30  
$60,000, 2yo SW GMW, 2000m  
1 88007  130251  33 33 33  B ROUGER  2 88006  130250  33 33 33  R WYATT  3 88005  130249  33 33 33  J Mc Donald  4 88007  130248  33 33 33  J Mc Donald  5 88008  130247  33 33 33  J Clifton

Australian Racing骰子
Roman candle fireworks, snapping bin liners, fake distress calls – none had any real effect on frightening gulls and crows away from Gloucester Airport’s runway.

Then along came Tina Turner. Well, recordings of her hits, at least.

Airport staff blasted the singer’s belters from a van motored around the grounds and drove the birds outside Staverton city limits. Renowned for her bird-scarer hits, rock/soul sound, raspy vocals and high energy performances, Turner retired in 2009 but this month South African Tina tribute artist Caroline Borole brings the Turner spirit to the War Memorial Theatre stage.

Backed by a live band, brass section, vocalists and dancers, Borole’s performance will include rock, soul and R&B hits such as Simply the Best, What’s Love Got to Do With It?, Proud Mary, Nutbush City Limits, We Don’t Need Another Hero, What You Get is What You See, Private Dancer and Borole’s favourite, River Deep — Mountain High.

Having previously landed roles in TV shows and musical productions, including a starring role as Effie White in the South African national production of the musical Dream Girls, Borole used her skills and knowledge of various music genres to take on the Queen of Rock ‘n’ Roll’s growls, grunts, raspy vocals and dance moves.

“She is inspiring, she’s a veteran and she is someone that can still tell me if I’m doing OK or not,” Borole told South Africa’s Sunday World.

“You need to get everything down to a T: The voice, the high energy, the dance moves and the general attitude. It’s been a fun process, but you have to put in the work. “People should watch this show because it’s a reminder of where we come from. The nostalgia from good lyrics.”

The tribute artist’s father introduced his daughter who was 10 years old at the time to the 1961 album, The Soul of Ike & Tina Turner. The record ignited a love of jazz and blues genres, and of Turner’s confidence and high energy. When Borole’s career path led to Showtime Australia, the singer toured as a backup singer for the company’s largest productions, The Greatest Love of All: Whitney Houston Show and the Michael Jackson History Show.

Then Showtime Australia director, Johnny Van Grinsven hand-picked her for the lead role of Turner in Tina: Simply the Best. Born in Nutbush, Tennessee, Turner began life as Anne Mae Bullock but Ike Turner changed her name to Tina when in 1957 she joined his band, Kings of Rhythm. Then she married him — and endured physical and emotional abuse for the next 20 years. After leaving him in 1976, and revealing her ex’s violence in her autobiography, I, Tina: My Life Story, Turner made a major comeback in the 1980s as a solo artist.

Turner has won 12 Grammy awards and a Grammy life achievement award. Rolling Stone ranked her 63rd on its list of the 100 greatest artists of all time and 17th on its list of the 100 greatest singers of all time.

TINA: Simply The Best, with tribute artist Caroline Borole, War Memorial Theatre, Monday, March 30, 8pm. Tickets from Gisborne iSite or ticketek.
Festival du film français in Gisborne

French Film Festival featuring 24 films will screen at the Odeon Multiplex from tomorrow. A full programme of screenings can be found at www.odeongisborne.co.nz.

Meanwhile, one French film fan gives 10 reasons to watch French films.

1. If you cannot travel to France, France has travelled to you. Here is your chance to see Birrritz, Paris, Cap Ferret, the Carmargue, the Tour de France and other locations. For a few hours be transported from Elgin to the Champs-Elysees, from Tararwiti to the Tuileries. No passport required.

2. Become acquainted with French celebrities including Catherine Deneuve, Alain Delon, Charles Aznavour as well as more contemporary actors such as Vincent La Costa, Eva Green and Marion Cotillard. The French cinema celebrates a diverse range of faces. The camera does not shy away from wrinkles or imperfections. The viewer is invited to look past the surface and glimpse la condition humaine.

3. Plots are more character-driven than you might find in Hollywood fare and do not necessarily follow the Hollywood formulaic structure. The audience might be challenged to seek their own closure, and might even be a bit frustrated with the outcome. A lot like life, n'est-ce pas?

4. Art direction. The mise en scene. In the fashions, the props, the interior the outcome. A bit like life, n'est-ce pas?

5. French is cool to listen to. If you have ever spoken French, or learned French, it is a delight to hear. If you have never learned French, the subtitles and words work their magic together and by the end of a movie you might come out with a few choice expressions, or bits of vocabulary.

6. On the topic of subtitles, it is great to listen with your eyes. Things happen in your brain. A visual delivery of language frees up some thinking processes. The eye travels around the screen, quickly takes in the text then goes back to the image. The mind adjusts quickly and picks up on all sorts of peripheral detail.

7. There is a certain je ne sais quoi, a certain panache to the style and composition of the French film. La Belle France celebrates and promotes its culture. Many of us associate France with certain products and tastes such as French bread, French perfume, French wine and French design. In admiring them we have been inspired to produce our own high-quality items and to have confidence in our own art, foods, wines, fashions, and films. On that note...

8. Successful French films are often remake into English films. How cool is it to see the original, and then later be able to go and view the not-always-successful remake? Think Leon, La Femme Nikita, Les Intouchables, La Cage aux Folles, A Bout de Souffle, Le Diner de Cons...

9. Some of the themes in these festival films are quite challenging: an astronaut as she prepares for a year-long stint on the International Space Station in a pre-dinner soiree in a pre-dinner soiree in a pre-dinner soiree. The Goodtime Band will set up a handful of sounds. The Private Screening of the film at Auckland’s Auckland recently for family, friends and potential investors. Girardet plays the lead role of Neila, who leads a small group of survivors after a virus released in 2021 leaves fewer than 7000 people on the planet. Shifting between present day and 2000 years in the future, the film tells the story of Neila’s trek through a desiccated and de-populated landscape in search of food and water.

10. Expand your horizons, do something different. Support culture and arts initiatives in Gisborne. If not a French film, then go to a live music gig, an exhibition or a play. Bonne chance et bonne courage.

Because the French film festival has its own pricing vouchers, specials or $10 Tuesday does not apply. To avoid lines, the best tip is to encourage at least memorable. If you have never spoken French, or learned French, it is a delight to hear. If you have never learned French, the subtitles and words work their magic together and by the end of a movie you might come out with a few choice expressions, or bits of vocabulary. On that note...
Grate news
by Mark Peters

A design depicting an outstretched hand that blocks lolly wrappers, a plastic bag, take-away drink cups and other debris from entering a drain has won the Gisborne District Council’s DrainWise Art Competition.

The aim of the competition was for entrants to produce a design that could be painted by or around the Gladstone Road/Love Street corner stormwater drain.

The winning work would send a clear visual message to people that anything that goes down a stormwater drain eventually affects wildlife that lives in and around the water.

In competition winner Hannah McInlay’s design marine life such as an orca, crab, and seal smile happily as the hand prevents pollutants from falling into the drain and ending up in the sea.

Titled ‘Hand of New Zealand’, the half brown, half light-tan hand with koru-like waves rippling out of Jerusalem for a Gisborne Cancer Society fundraiser. Unity Theatre, Saturday, April 25, 27, 29, 30 & May 1, 2, 7,30pm, April 26 – 2pm

Love Is In The Air
Showtime Entertainment presents
Showtime presents
Friday, April 17, 8pm

Menopause The Musical
Thursday, March 19th, 7,30pm

TINA – Simply The Best
Monday, March 30th, 8,00pm

Menopause The Musical
Thursday, March 19th, 7,30pm

TINA – Simply The Best
Monday, March 30th, 8,00pm

LaughterStock Presents

Heath Franklin’s Chopper the Silencer
Wednesday, May 20th, 7,00pm

Matariki Glow Show
Thursday June 11th, 10am & 11:30am

Thursday June 11th, 10am & 11:30am

Playing Jackson – The Johnny Cash &June Carter Show
Wednesday, August 12, 7pm

Mondel The Musical Parody
Play September 18th, 7,00pm

Showtime Entertainment presents

Showtime presents
Friday, April 17, 8pm

Lawson Field Theatre
Arts On Tour presents
Brendan Dooley Comedy Magician
Sunday March 22nd, 1,30pm & 4,30pm

Muddy Moo Charitable Trust presents
Pelle The Stareless Dog
April 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 10am

Mundell The Musical Parody
Play September 18th, 7,00pm

Case Entertainment presents
The ABBA Show
Monday November 23rd, 8,00pm

DRAINWISE: This bold, brightley-coloured design submitted by Hannah McInlay to the Gisborne District Council’s DrainWise Art Competition was judged best. The work will be painted around the Gladstone Road/ Love Street corner stormwater drain. Picture supplied

Hannah will receive a $250 voucher and her artwork will be painted on the stormwater drain on the corner of Gladstone Rd and Love Street this week, weather permitting.
Wells’ tale with a thrilling twist

by Jake Coyle, AP Film Writer

U

travelling the dusted bandages of H.G. Wells’ classic 1897 science-fiction novel, writer-director Leigh Whannell has refreshed The Invisible Man as a bravely modern MeToo allegory that, despite its brutal craft, rings hollow.

Our image of Wells’ villain — the white wrappings, the dark sunglasses — comes largely from James Whale’s also-classic 1931 film. This Invisible Man might have stayed closer to that vision had a box-office bust not interfered. After The Monster, with Tom Cruise, fizzled, Universal Pictures cancelled its Marvel-esque monster franchise dubbed the Dark Universe. Out went plans for Johnny Depp as the Invisible Man. In came a violent, low-budget Blumhouse-produced re-imaging from the co-creator of the Saw franchise. The bandages and shades, needless to say, didn’t make the cut.

Instead, this Invisible Man has shifted its focus from Wells’ optics scientist to a woman, Cecilia (Elisabeth Moss), running from him and fleeing a toxic relationship.

In the movie’s breathtaking opening (one of its focus from Wells’ optics scientist to a woman, Cecilia (Elisabeth Moss), running from him and fleeing a toxic relationship.

In comes a bracingly modern re-imagining from the co-creator of the Saw franchise. The bandages and shades, needless to say, didn’t make the cut.

Instead, this Invisible Man has shifted its focus from Wells’ optics scientist to a woman, Cecilia (Elisabeth Moss), running from him and fleeing a toxic relationship.

In the movie’s breathtaking opening (one seemingly modelled after Sleeping With the Enemy), she carefully, with disgust on her face, lifts the hand draped over her in bed.

With barely hushed panic, she makes her well-planned nighttime escape from his bleakly modernist seaside house while the sound of waves pummeling the northern California shoreline thunder around her.

The man, Adrian (Oliver Jackson-Cohen), we don’t quiet see. But we immediately get a vivid sense of his abusiveness from Cecilia’s white-knuckle fear. She takes refuge in the home of a childhood friend, a police officer (Aldis Hodge), and his daughter (Storm Reid). There, she trembles with dread at the thought of Adrian coming for her.

Her intense paranoia is only momentarily relieved when she gets news that he has killed himself. But when she begins to sense an eerie presence, and notice things like an unexplained imprint on the rug, Cecilia knows that Adrian — “a world-leader in optics” capable of extreme discoveries — is still with her. “He’s not dead,” she says. “I just can’t see him.”

A pervasive terror cloaks the movie. It’s elevated considerably by Moss, an actress thoroughly at home in the most tortured, real or imagined, of her terrorising ex. Trembling and tortured, Moss makes her stalking terrifyingly palpable.

But there’s also a sense, from early on, that The Invisible Man is more interested in utilising a clever and timely concept for jump scares and muscular, half-credible action sequences than for any genuine exploration of Cecilia’s psychology. We know, from this invisible man’s first foggy breath, that he’s there; there’s no mystery, just a perverse game of hide and seek. It takes much of the movie for Cecilia to convince anyone else of her unseen tormentor.

But as Whannell turns toward the third act, the once promising set-up disintegrates and The Invisible Man gets lost in a familiar torrent of bullets and blood, as well as some implausible twists that pull the movie further away from Moss’ Cecilia.

While Wells imbued his invisible man with comedy and tragedy, this one remains little more than a lethal plot device, and one so unhinged that any sense of realism vanishes. Adrian turns out to be a psychopath whose single-minded obsession with Cecilia squanders all the more intriguing capabilities of invisibility. (For that, we’ll always have James Whale.) Whannell has the talent and cunning to turn The Invisible Man into a chilling and well-crafted B-movie. But if you’re looking for anything more than that, you’ll probably come up empty.

The Invisible Man, a Universal Pictures release, received the Picture Association of America for some strong, bloody violence and language. Running time: 124 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

Film Guide

DOME CINEMA

Photograph

Indian film in which street photographer Ravi, working hard to pay off a family debt, convinces shy stranger Milloso to pose as his fiancé so his grandmother will stop pressuring him to marry.

Mr Jones

Fact-based story of a Welsh journalist who goes to Moscow to search for the truth behind Soviet pre-war propaganda about a Communist utopia and discovers that the Ukraine is in the grip of famine.

Women’s Adventure Film Tour

A collection of short films showcasing women pushing their boundaries in the outdoors.

The Peanut Butter Falcon

A Down syndrome man runs away to be a pro wrestler, on the way befriending an “outsaw” who becomes his coach and ally.

All At Sea

Brian Cox is an old rogue who breaks all the rules to fulfill a friend’s dying wish to be buried at sea in this UK-Norwegian black comedy.

The Humorist

The year is 1984, and Boris Arkadyev, a fictional Soviet stand-up comedian, is unraveling under the weight of fame, censorship, KGB “patronage,” and his own insecurities.

ODEON MULTIPLEX

Dark Waters

Mark Ruffalo plays Robert Bilott, a corporate lawyer who takes on industrial giant DuPont over the poisoning of an American community in a case that expands into game-changing class action.

Downhill


The Current War

Inventors Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse engage in a battle of technology and ideas that will determine whose electrical system will power the new century.

The Invisible Man

A woman in a violent relationship goes into hiding. Then her ex commits suicide and leaves her a large part of his fortune. When violent occurrences threaten the lives of those she loves, she suspects that the death was a hoax and she is being harassed by an invisible man.

The Call of the Wild

Harrison Ford stars in story-based on the Jack London novel about the adventures of a dog who finds his true place in life.

Emma

A new take on Jane Austen’s novel of a romantic meddler.

Jojo Rabbit

An Oscar bow for film by Taika Waititi.

Sonic the Hedgehog

Sonic, a blue anthropomorphic hedgehog from another world, comes to Earth to escape evil forces seeking to harness his super speed.

Birds of Prey

Harley Quinn (Margot Robbie) faces the wrath of crime boss Black Mask (Ewan McGregor). But Harley finds some allies.

Military Wives

With their partners away serving in Afghanistan, a group of women on the home front form a choir and quickly find themselves at the centre of a media sensation and global movement.

I Still Believe

The true-life story of Christian music mega-star Jeremy Camp.
Grant puts extra bounce into tramp club's future

A New Zealand standard trampoline and air conditioning at Electrinet Sports Centre will ensure Gisborne hosts more trampoline competitions.

Gisborne Trampoline Club coach Doug Callahan said the centre could hold three competitions a year after the upgrade is completed.

The improvement in facilities has been funded through a grant from Trust Tairawhiti.

An Olympic-standard trampoline is worth about $28,000 and, when it arrives, it will be the club's second.

The club recently hosted the Central champs for trampoline and tumbling amid warm weather.

Callahan said air conditioning would make it easier to host competitions as conditions would be more comfortable for athletes, judges and spectators alike.

Callahan expected the club would be able to buy air bags — similar to those used by film crews for stunts — and this would provide a better environment for trampoline to learn tricks.

Trampoline and tumblers could not use this year's Central Champs to qualify for the Australian national championships but this could change after the boost to the venue's facilities.

**CRYPTIC CLUES**

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

1. Thrice curate perhaps. It's a way to make a - (5)
2. Cultivated -ian (5)
3. Such a cut may be seen in a ring (5)
4. Agree, but say nothing (5)
5. Yet it means there's only a slender hope! (3,6)
6. A railway may make a fair profit (6)
7. Who had displaced the elephant's seat? (6)
8. Timber which may be put to striking use? (9)
9. Apparently they don't provide immunity? (5,4)
10. False description of atheists? (9)
11. A bucker that doesn't work (5)
12. Foreign retirement (6)
13. The task is halved with running away (9,3)
14. Put to striking use? (9)
15. Slightest hint of or in a ring (5)
16. The task is halved with running away (9,3)
17. The task is halved with running away (9,3)
18. French resort sounds apt to be missed (6)
19. I'm ahead of time in an Olympic standard (5)
20. Transport used by a wise man - or a fool (3)

DOWN

1. This man's note may require a penny for being a forgery (7)
2. Put up a secret (3)
3. Look at (3)
4. Does such timber put to striking use? (9)
5. Appearances (5)
6. Apparently they don't provide immunity? (5,4)
7. Trend (5)
8. Spineless (12)
9. Make a fair profit (6)
10. Command (5)
11. Road (6)
12. Who had displaced the elephant's seat? (6)
13. Put to striking use? (9)
14. I'm ahead of time in an Olympic standard (5)
15. Timber which may be put to striking use? (9)
16. Foreign retirement (6)
17. The task is halved with running away (9,3)
18. French resort sounds apt to be missed (6)
19. Make a fair profit (6)
20. Transport used by a wise man - or a fool (3)

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE 10,936

ACROSS

1. Scornful (12)
2. Apply remedies (5)
3. Descendant (5)
4. Large case (3)
5. Being (9)
6. Road (6)
7. Full speed (3,3)
8. Revoked (9)
9. Sell (3)
10. Hut (5)
11. Senior (12)
12. Excessive (12)
13. Occurrence (12)
14. Look at (9)
15. Rotten (6)
16. Wavering (9)
17. Allianc (5)
18. Spineless (12)
19. Trend (5)
20. Command (5)

DOWN

1. Snooze (5)
2. Look at (5)
3. Rotten (6)
4. Wavering (9)
5. Allianc (5)
6. Spineless (12)
7. Trend (5)
8. Command (5)
9. Sell (3)
10. Hut (5)
11. Senior (12)
12. Excessive (12)

**SOLUTIONS IN NEXT PUBLICATION.**

**SUDOKU**

SUDOKU is a logic puzzle made up of 81 squares on a 9x9 grid. To solve the puzzle, pick each row, column and 3x3 grid within the larger box and end up containing each number from 1 to 9, and each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

A sudoku grid has a single unique solution, which can be reached without using guesswork.

**DOUBLE CROSSWORD**

ACROSS

1. Scornful (12)
2. Apply remedies (5)
3. Descendant (5)
4. Large case (3)
5. Being (9)
6. Road (6)
7. Full speed (3,3)
8. Revoked (9)
9. Sell (3)
10. Hut (5)
11. Senior (12)
12. Excessive (12)

DOWN

1. Occurrence (12)
2. Look at (9)
3. Rotten (6)
4. Wavering (9)
5. Allianc (5)
6. Spineless (12)
7. Trend (5)
8. Command (5)
9. Sell (3)
10. Hut (5)
11. Senior (12)

**CRYPTIC CLUES**

1. This man's note may require a penny for being a forgery (7)
2. Put up a secret (3)
3. Look at (3)
4. Does such timber put to striking use? (9)
5. Appearances (5)
6. Apparently they don't provide immunity? (5,4)
7. Trend (5)
8. Spineless (12)
9. Make a fair profit (6)
10. Command (5)
11. Road (6)
12. Who had displaced the elephant's seat? (6)
13. Put to striking use? (9)
14. I'm ahead of time in an Olympic standard (5)
15. Timber which may be put to striking use? (9)
16. French resort sounds apt to be missed (6)
17. I'm ahead of time in an Olympic standard (5)
18. Make a fair profit (6)
19. Make a fair profit (6)
20. Transport used by a wise man - or a fool (3)
THE Golden State Warriors will play their next home game without spectators because of concerns about coronavirus, the San Francisco-based NBA team said today. The decision was announced shortly after the city and county of San Francisco announced a two-week ban on gatherings of more than 1000 people in a bid to slow the spread of the virus. After hosting the Brooklyn Nets on Thursday, the Warriors will play their next five games on the road. — AP

ENGLAND players have been instructed not to sign autographs or pose for selfies with fans during their tour of Sri Lanka in a bid to insulate the squad from coronavirus. England have been on the island — which recorded its second confirmed case overnight — for just over a week and have stepped up existing precautions ahead of the first test in Galle on March 19. Between 3000 and 5000 supporters, many of them retired, are due to fly to Sri Lanka and they have been warned the usual level of interaction they have come to expect from their heroes has been affected by medical advice. — AP

TWO more tournaments have been postponed after fears over the outbreak continue to wreak havoc with the European Tour golf schedule. Next week’s Hero Indian Open and August’s Czech Masters have joined this week’s Kenya Open and April’s Maybank Championship and China Open. With no regular European Tour events scheduled in the fortnight before the Masters, it means an eight-week gap between the staging of the Qatar Masters, which finished on March 8 and the next regular event in Spain. — AP

The French League Cup final between Paris St Germain and Olympique Lyonnais, initially scheduled for April 4, has been postponed, L’Equipe and Le Parisien said neither PSG nor Lyon intend to play an empty stadium. The French League said all Ligue 1 and 2 games would take place without spectators until at least April 15. France has banned gatherings of more than 1000 people. — AP

A SUPER Rugby play-off at last weekend’s Melbourne Rebels game has tested positive for coronavirus. The man attended AAMI Park in Melbourne on Saturday for the Rebels’ fixture against the Lions. “The gentleman was seated in section nine and at this stage we are unaware of his exact seating… due to the withholding of his identity at this point,” Rebels chief executive Baden Stevenson said. “We are working with all relevant authorities to ensure any potential consequences of his attendance.” — AAP

The IOC’s contract with Tokyo gives the village is to house 11,000 Olympic athletes and 4400 Paralympic athletes. Any delay would also affect the rights to the Tokyo Olympics. The same is true for UEFA’s Euro 2020. Broadcaster rights and sponsorship account for 91 percent of the IOC income. The news came barely 24 hours before qualifying started for this weekend’s Melbourne 400, the Supercars’ second round held in conjunction with the Australian Grand Prix at Albert Park.

At 40, Davison — who has three career podiums to his name — will become the oldest Supercars driver on the grid at Melbourne which will mark his first round as a full-time driver since 2013.

Courtney is believed to be working with sponsor Boost Mobile on a programme entry for later this season. — AAP

Eels out to bridge form gap
PARRAMATTA coach Brad Arthur has told his players to build on their burst of form and continue to improve to best their best and worst to meet the lofty expectations in 2020.

The Eels, who face the Bulldogs in the season-opener in Sydney tonight, went from the wooden spoon in the A-grade of the 2019 season before an eventual exit to Melbourne. But there were still signs of their lowly years last season in an around-the-corner 25-22 win over the Tigers on Saturday.

“I want to narrow the gap between our really good performances and our ones that aren’t up to scratch,” Arthur said. NRL WEEK 1 DRAFT — Today: Eels v Bulldogs, Sydney, Tomorrow: Raiders v Titans, Canberra, Cowboys v Broncos, Townsville, Tomorrow night: Knights v Warriors, Newcastle, Friday: Tigers v Sharks, Sydney; Panthers v Roosters, Penrith, Sunday: Sea Eagles v Storm, Sydney; Dragons v Tigers, Gold Coast

Controversial Wallabies star Andrew Symonds has been revealed as one of the artificial speakers that will be used to inject excitement into games in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

His voice will be heard when the Crusaders take on the Chiefs in the Super Rugby Aotearoa on Saturday at AMI Stadium in Christchurch, and is expected to eventually be used in a range of other codes.

Symonds had been highly critical of the broadcast quality during the NRL’s return at the weekend, upbraiding the commentators for their lack of intelligence and banter, and for not being objective enough.

He had previously expressed his displeasure on Twitter about the lack of excitement during games, and the response to his comments has been a mix of support and ire.

Symonds is one of 20 speakers commissioned by the Rugby League Players’ Association to bring passion and energy to matches.

The pods and devices will be placed around the playing area, and Symonds’ voice will be blended with the commentary.

It is a move to highlight the skills and outcomes of players and create a unique audio experience for fans.

The pods will be inserted into the commentary of games, instead of being used as a wholly separate audio feed.

Symonds is known for his controversial comments, both on and off the field, and has been banned from media duties by the AFL and the NRL for his social media posts.

His career has been marked by controversies, including a 2010 arrest for punching then-fiancee and tennis player Liz Cambage.

Symonds was sacked by the Melbourne at the end of last year, and moved to Gold Coast last month.

He is also due to be sentenced in February over an assault charge from 2018.

The artificial commentary pods will be funded by the Rugby League Players’ Association, and will be used across Rugby League, Rugby Union and Football League games.
Junior crossword

Across
1. a body organ (6)
2. An animal with horns (4)
3. Wipe with your tongue (4)
4. Closer (6)
5. Write on this on envelope (7)
6. Sounds made by a sleeping person (7)
7. Alive (6)
8. Not wanting to work for (4)
9. A water hole (4)
10. A glass bottle contain (6)

Down
1. a mortar (4)
2. Make up your mind (6)
3. A rower pulls on (4)
4. A queen’s special seat (6)
5. A meal course (7)
6. A household chore (7)
7. Rest your head on (6)
8. Small child (6)
9. Egg-shaped (4)
10. Not wishing to work for (4)
11. A water hole (4)
12. A glass bottle contain (6)

CLUB BOWLS by Starweed
TOLAGA Bay has completed all its club championships for the season. The open men’s fours was won by Chris Henry, Mike Atkins, Mark Walker and Mike Namana. From lead to sink four all were incredible form in convincingly beating Richard Richardson, Anton Tashkoff, Peter Hughes and Trevor Rink, and Vern Marshall, Mick Maundere, Andy Tamanui and Duncan Murray. Tamanui and Murray scored. The junior men’s pairs champions were found, with Brodie Ryley and Kay Goldsborough going through unbeaten.

Tolaga Bay players have also been in travel mode.

The home team had already beaten File’s crew twice and made it three times with a 12-11 win.

Marshall’s Tolaga Bay team advanced with the unbeatable win over an Ohope combination.

The final was close until the penultimate end when Parkinson picked up four shots to take a comfortable 11-6 lead into the last end.

Douglas Cuff and Roy Farmer ended that score on day 2 at Poverty Bay.

A 40-stong contingent from Bay of Plenty came through for the clash.

Last of Tolaga Bay’s champs crowned

Poverty Bay

He’s got a common name but there was nothing ordinary about Tom Smith’s scoring at the Halberg Foundation Eagles Golfing Society fundraising tournament on Sunday. Waikouhu member Smith sank a 74-foot, 8-inch putt at the 17th hole to win by one. He followed that with another 8-footer to win the scramble for runner-up.

Gisborne’s Sheree Wallis sank a 9-foot, 3-inch putt on the 18th to win the women’s division and secure a hat-trick of titles.

The Gisborne Herald at 869-0633 or email sports@gisborherald.co.nz

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Golf roundup compiled and edited by Chris Tannock. If you wish to promote or publicise your tournament or meet you wish to print, contact The Gisborne Herald at 869-0633 or email sports@gisborherald.co.nz
JUDO by Grant Miller

GISBORNE judoka Ella Kelso won four medals at tournaments in Australia and New Zealand last month.

In Canberra, the 17-year-old competed at international judo tournaments in Canberra and Sydney last month.

In Canberra, she won gold and bronze medals. At Sydney, she won gold and silver medals.

In between, she trained at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

The institute covers 66 hectares and was created to give Australia a competitive edge on the world sporting stage.

Kelso described it as “massive”.

The campus includes courts for netball, basketball, volleyball and tennis, facilities for track and field, an aquatic centre, a synthetic and grass playing fields, and a combat centre.

Kelso said she received advice from Australian coaches.

“It was a high-intensity camp,” she said.

“We were doing two to three training sessions a day for about two hours each.

Kelso won a gold medal as a cadet in the under-70-kilogram division at Canberra.

She stepped up to the junior-women’s (under-20) category and lost her first fight but won the others, claiming a bronze medal.

In Sydney, she again won gold as a cadet and picked up a silver medal in the junior-women’s class.

Kelso said getting to fight against opponents she was not familiar with was valuable.

She could try new techniques and throws.

She was pleased to fight in front of national and Gisborne club coach Kiri Violeka in Sydney.

Kelso received her brown belt in the sport at the end of last year.

SUCCESSFUL TOUR: Ella Kelso, 17, won medals at two judo tournaments in Australia last month and visited the Australian Institute of Sport. Picture by Liam Clayton

WEATHER

WEATHER FOR TOMORROW

SUN PROTECTION ALERT

NZ v Aussies ... and history

Cricket

Recent results suggest the Black Caps have what it takes to topple Australia in their three-match ODI cricket series across the ditch, but a glance at history provides a more pessimistic outlook.

On form, the Black Caps have reason for optimism ahead of the series, which starts tomorrow in Sydney.

They whitewashed a good India ODI team, while Australia have lost their last five five-dayers.

Additionally, the Black Caps have been bolstered by the return of their three best fast bowlers, while Australia’s stars are slowing down at the end of a gruelling season.

In New Zealand, or at a neutral venue, the temptation would be to class the Black Caps as favourites, but with two games in Sydney and one in Hobart, a familiar problem re-emerges.

“Australia are never vulnerable at home,” said Black Caps coach Gary Stead. “It’s one of the toughest places to come and play in world cricket. A lot of teams struggle away from home, and that’s going to be our biggest challenge.”

The first ODI is at the Sydney Cricket Ground from 4.30pm tomorrow (NZ time). - NZ Herald
CAN Mount Maunganui be conquered? That question will be answered from tomorrow to Sunday when the Allan Gardner Memorial Trophy for top overall club goes on the line at the TSB New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships at Midway Beach.

Defending champions Mount Maunganui are once again the club to beat as they look to make it an eighth consecutive overall title. The Mount won by a big margin last year on their home sand.

Event manager Scott Bicknell said he expects to see a big performance again from the Mount.

“The Waikanae team for these nationals again seems pretty strong, like they were last year. I would expect to see all the Gisborne clubs compete well here this weekend,” Waikanae head coach Cory Hutchings said.

Waikanae will also have some useful canoe teams.

Dawson Building Midway head coach Matt Sutton said his club had a good team of 25 athletes.

“We welcome back Cory Taylor and Olivia Corrin from Australia this weekend. It’s always great to have them with us as athletes and because they’re real leaders in our group,” Sutton said.

Cory, particularly, is looking really good. He’s physically and mentally in a really good place. He is the country’s best surf athlete at the moment.”

Unfortunately, Corrin will only take a limited part in the competition due to an injury. “Olivia will not be doing any individual races, but will be part of some teams,” Sutton said.

“She wants to race, but all the medical advice at the moment is for her to take it easy. The club had a solid bunch of youngsters lining up in their first nationals, said Sutton.

“Jack Lepper and Tyron Evans would be ones to watch for in the under-16 events.”

Both medalled at the recent Oceans (under-14) championships.

“We’ve got a strong group of open women, too, with the likes of Annabel Higgins and Alex Bermingham,” Sutton said.

Riversun Wainui head coach Diem Williams said he was “so excited it’s not even funny”.

“A lot of our kids have done a lot of work and are prepared to put it all on the line and have a crack.”

Wainui’s best points score at a nationals is 29 points. “Our aim is to match that.”

Ava Smith should be a strong contender in the u19 and open board races.

Under-16 competitors Jack Keeps and Jonty Evans will give it a good go in several events.

“I would rate those two highly in the board rescue, ironman and surf races,” Williams said.

“Jasmine Smith and Abby Falwasser-Logan are back for us in the open women’s events and they will be great for our team spirit. I think our women are going to have a lot of fun in the canoes over the weekend — in the open and under 19 divisions.”

The club championships start at 8am tomorrow.