

# The Gisborne Herald

TE NUPEPA O TE TAIRAWHITI

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

HOME-DELIVERED \$1.90, RETAIL \$2.20

**CYCLIST MAKING WISHES COME TRUE** PAGE 4



**COVID-19** PAGES 3, 6, 8-9, 12-13, 18

- Vaccine milestones for Tairawhiti Pasifika community
- Increase in homelessness feared over vaccine mandate
- Vaccine message stressed as case numbers rise
- Prioritising Maori kids for jabs vital, tribunal hears

**NATIONAL'S NEW CAUCUS READY TO RUMBLE** PAGE 7




**HELPING HAND:** Wainui Beach School has installed a new sign at Wainui Beach to alert the public to the presence of little blue penguins in the area. The school paid for the sign with \$1000 from the Earthwise Action Fund for Enviroschools that supports local initiatives that showcase the kaupapa of working together for a more sustainable future. Principal Nolian Andrew says the school's enviroschool philosophy is that "you have an issue, you find out about it and then take social action". "I'm really delighted to see the kids so passionate about the environment, empowering them to make a difference and bring a change for the community." Pictured with the sign are Wainui pupils from Room 5, from left, Lelani O'Brien 8, Ada Alexander 7, Clem Boyd 9, Emelia Brooker 9 and Jackson Williams 9. Picture by Liam Clayton

## Early help for mental distress

### Two new services for Tairawhiti next year

by Akula Sharma

TAIRĀWHITI is set to get two new mental health services next year.

The services, one for youth and the other offering early intervention for those with mental health and addiction issues, will be at primary healthcare level.

"It's about recognising and responding to distress early", said Ministry of Health access and choice programme lead Jo Chiplin.

"It's about the first point of contact services where people need some formalised mental health and addiction support but don't meet criteria for specialist services."

The Integrated Primary Mental Health and Addiction (IPMHA) service will be accessed out of general practices and two new roles will be introduced — mental health practitioner or health improvement practitioner (clinical) and a health coach, trained local community member (non-clinical).

Training has already begun for these positions. The service will be free.

"We have already got it in 277 practices across New Zealand serving about 1.8 million people. This is about starting it in Tairāwhiti," said Ms Chiplin.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



A **vaccine pass** is required for **summer camping**.

Summer camping permits available online. Vaccine pass requirements reviewed with traffic light status change.

For more information

[www.gdc.govt.nz](http://www.gdc.govt.nz)

[service@gdc.govt.nz](mailto:service@gdc.govt.nz)



Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti  
**GISBORNE**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

# KA PAI KAI



**NUTRITIOUS** kai and kōrero have proved “ka pai” with tamariki from some of the region’s most remote schools.

As part of the region’s manawakura approach to the Healthy Active Learning initiative funded by Sport New Zealand, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti is making its way around the East Coast delivering Ka Pai Kai workshops that encourage tamariki (children) to grow up with positive eating attitudes and behaviours.

Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti kaimahi (staff) travelled to the top of the East Coast last week and joined Onepoto Bay-based manawakura adviser Shyla Drew-Taiapa for school/kura visits schools.

At Makarika School 14km south of Ruatoria, tamariki got creative in the kitchen and listened to kōrero (talk) about the Te Whare Tapa Wha Maori health model and how it related to kai and their growth.

Makarika School kaiako (teacher) Cali Morice said: “It was a great opportunity for our tamariki to put manaakitanga (hospitality/support) in action and explore new healthy kai options that were easy to make to the point where we had

**NOM, NOM, NOM:** Set to tuck into tasty treats as part of a Ka Pai Kai workshop held at Makarika School are, back row (from left) Makarika kaiako Cali Morice, Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti dietitian Kate Rhodes, SGT Manawakura adviser Shyla Drew-Taiapa and Nash Tawera. Front: Brodie Logan, Benson Whitehead, Te Akau Tawera, Da’Jon Waru Hay Haenga, Trinity Haerewa-Tibble and Kiara Olsen Te Puni. Picture supplied

round two of this kai the following day made independently by our own tamariki.”  
Three kai sessions took place at Te Waha o Rerekohu Area School in Te Araroa for students ranging from years 1 to 8.  
Tamariki and rangatahi learned about vitamins, minerals and nutritious kai, and how these support learning and development.  
Rerekohu School kaiako Lisa Rudland said:

“We were so lucky to have koka Shyla (Drew-Taiapa), Koka Kate (Rhodes) and koka Tracey (Harkess) from Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti come along and share their knowledge about nutritional eating and how to look after our bodies and mind. We’ve got some future budding master chefs.”  
A Lunch Box Session delivered by Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti to Tolaga Bay Area School

prompted the Ka Pai Kai workshop kaupapa (principle/policy).  
Since then, it has been delivered to schools at Potaka and Tikitiki.  
The Ka Pai Kai workshops will continue along the Coast next year and will feature a more whānau-based approach by including whānau w/ tamariki in a MasterChef challenge initiative.

## Youth service proposals specific to Tairāwhiti

FROM PAGE 1

“Hauora Tairāwhiti is working with iwi, Māori health providers and primary healthcare providers right now to figure out how the service will look for the region.”

The ministry was aware of the challenges faced particularly in employing clinical workforce.

“It takes four years at least to grow as a nurse, or a psychologist or a clinician.”

“In the IPMHA model, health coaches are a workforce we can grow quicker because it’s people we bring from the local community who can act as peers and coaches to work alongside people.”

“There is a huge strength in this workforce in terms of being able to relate and engage with people in distress.”

“We are looking at growing both clinical and non-clinical workforce at the same time.”

“Due to Covid-19, health improvement practitioners and health coaches have been

trained virtually over the past couple of months. Ideally, the training happens face to face.”

Ms Chiplin said the ministry would be meeting with Hauora Tairāwhiti again before Christmas to discuss feedback from stakeholders and the district health board to agree on a phased roll-out, “which we are aiming to start as early as February or March”.

“There is a contract with Hauora Tairāwhiti in place which includes the initial funding for the implementation design phase and then once the service starts to roll out, the funding will also roll out with it. The contract has been signed.”

On the youth service, Ms Chiplin said the ministry had received proposals for a youth primary mental health service specific to Tairāwhiti and was currently in the process of evaluation.

“We would expect that the youth specific service will also be up and running in

Tairāwhiti by March 2022 or beginning its implementation by that time.”

Hauora Tairāwhiti group manager Te Puna Waiora planning and funding Nicola Ehau said to provide clear guidance to the ministry and Hauora Tairāwhiti, mental health and addiction services would be developed locally in partnership with iwi/Māori and the local primary healthcare sector.

“The IPMHA programme of work is in the initial co-design process with our three core Māori health providers. This is to ensure the service is consistent with the Whānau First vision articulated in the Whāriki model of care.”

“And that it demonstrates genuine co-leadership with iwi Māori.”

“The aim is to strengthen the partnership arrangements that exist in the region and extend reach to underserved whānau and communities. It will be supported for review with Mahi Tahī.

“Ngāti Porou Hauora (NPH) are in the co-design group we are working with to consider reach. We have recently established Wa Haumarū with NPH and Tūranga Health which is the community space for whānau, and will assist and support those who may need deeper assistance.”

Part of the funding to implement preliminary preparations for the IPMHA service had been received by the DHB.

“It is sufficient to support project management and adviser costs. The training for health improvement practitioners and health coaches will be a part of the co-design process and has not started yet.”

As long as the DHB could avoid the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the new service would start as planned in February/March next year, 2022, Ms Ehau said.

The services will be funded as part of the \$77 million funding allocated to the Ministry of Health’s access and choice programme in Budget 2019.

### LOOKING AHEAD



#### FOCUS ON THE LAND

- Prices and comment from the final cattle fair of the year at Matawhero today— around 1200 head on offer.
- The merger between the Primary Wool Cooperative and Wools of NZ has been completed — WNZ chairman James Parsons comments.
- The weekly AgriHQ report points to another week of downside for lamb and mutton prices, and kill space is tight for prime cattle.

TOMORROW



#### THE GUIDE

THURSDAY

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# Pasifika leading the vax charge in Tairāwhiti

by Akula Sharma

THE Pasifika community in Tairāwhiti has reached the 100 percent milestone for first vaccination doses and 90 percent for second.

The targets were met on December 2.

Pacific Islanders Community Trust (PICT) Gisborne operational manager Dr 'Alaimalulua Toetu'u-Tamihere said they supported the vaccination effort by communicating with Pasifika families and encouraging them to attend vaccination clinics around the region.

Under vaccination advice from Hauora Tairāwhiti district health board, PICT posted clinic information on its official Facebook page PICT Tairāwhiti and staff called families to ensure they went to clinics.

Dr Toetu'u-Tamihere said they were "proud and humbled" to stand alongside others "to fight against this pandemic through vaccination. To protect our families, this nation and the future of the Pacific peoples — our children".

Hauora Tairāwhiti chief executive Jim Green said the outbreak in Auckland and its effect on people had motivated the Pasifika community in Tairāwhiti to protect themselves through vaccination.

"It's absolutely great leadership. It has enabled the community here to be mobilised to achieve that stunning result and lead the way here in Tairāwhiti.

"There was close collaboration with PICT and there were a number of events at the start in

church gatherings where there was an opportunity to talk about the vaccine with the communities and give them vaccination advice.

"These events carried on through in terms of getting the Pasifika community vaccinated."

Mr Green said the Pasifika community's efforts would motivate Māori and other eligible populations in the region.

"We have already seen a boost happening in the Māori population.

"We were really happy with the weekend (vaccinations). Many people showed up to get their first and second doses.

"It is really important for people to come and get their vaccination this week because if you get your first dose by Friday at the latest you can get your second dose by December 31. Get vaccinated in 2021 and be vaccinated against Covid-19 for 2022.

"We only need 627 first doses to reach the 90 percent target for partially vaccinated for our region.

"We have got great support from iwi and iwi providers. We are also supported by Vax to the Max and Tu Mai Tairāwhiti campaign. With this additional support we can meet our targets and protect our community in Tairāwhiti.

"Well done to our Pasifika community. The effort by them to achieve that protection is amazing."

As of yesterday, 88.6 percent of the eligible population in Tairāwhiti had received their first dose and 79.1 were double dosed.

# About-turn on hosting unvaccinated events

A GISBORNE café has ended its plans to host "events" for unvaccinated people.

Far East Coffee last week announced it intended to operate with vaccine pass requirements for its café, while also hosting daily events for unvaccinated people.

However, Covid-19 Protection Framework guidelines state that in red, ticketed public events cannot happen. Gisborne has been placed in the red stage.

On social media yesterday, Far East Coffee said: "it appears we have made some ripples with our decision to host events having been talked about in the media.

"The result being that events are now no longer allowed in red or orange outside of the passport system.

The post said the café had come up with "version two".

"From tomorrow (today), we will be offering takeaways to all

customers up until Christmas.

"Takeaway food and beverage can operate under retail and as per retail guidelines, passports aren't required.

"We need your support with this. We know takeaways aren't like sitting in but we'd love you to still swing by and maybe take your orders to the beach or to one of our other beautiful locations."

Far East Coffee declined to comment when contacted by The Herald.



**QSM HONOUR FOR JUDY:** Gisborne community campaigner and music patron Judy Livingston receives her Queen's Service Medal from New Zealand Governor General Dame Cindy Kiro yesterday. She was honoured with the QSM for services to music and the community in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. From 2008 to 2012, Miss Livingston was a committee member and vice-president (for two years) of the New Zealand Concert Bands Association. She was also a committee member and vice-president (for two years) of New Zealand Sister Cities Inc. between 2008 and 2015. She has held multiple roles with Gisborne Concert Band since the 1970s. Since 2000, she has managed the delivery of a free public concert series throughout January each year. The series has been attended and enjoyed by thousands over the years.

Picture supplied

# HOMELESSNESS FEARS

## Some emergency accommodation providers demanding vax certificates

by Akula Sharma

TAIRĀWHITI housing advocates anticipate an increase in homelessness because some emergency accommodation providers are mandating vaccination certificates for their occupants.

The Ministry of Social Development told The Herald they were "currently aware of three motels in Gisborne" who were unwilling to accept clients without vaccination certificates.

It is not a legal requirement for emergency housing suppliers to make vaccine passes mandatory.

Of the emergency accommodation-providing motels contacted by The Gisborne Herald, BK's Palm Court confirmed that every guest who wanted to use their facility needed to be fully vaccinated.

Another, Endeavour Motor Lodge, is not mandating vaccine certificates at the moment but is discussing the situation with health and safety personnel.

"If housing services start to evict whānau due to vaccination status, we will see an increase in homelessness," housing advocate Lizz Crawford says.

The Covid-19 Protection Framework (traffic light system), which came into force last week, made it "unequivocally clear" that specific housing services would not ask for a

vaccination pass.

"These specific housing services are listed as emergency, social and public housing.

"If housing services start to evict whānau who have been referred to them by the Ministry of Social Development (or self-referred) due to vaccination status, we

will see an increase in homelessness, overcrowding in family and whānau homes, which will lead to an exponential risk of an outbreak should Covid-19 (or its variants) reach Tairāwhiti.

"There are families and whānau who have been living in emergency housing in Tairāwhiti for years. Children are being raised in these housing services.

"There may be a perception that they are only supplying a contractual service, much the same as holidaymakers and tourists. This is simply not the case."

Housing services were providing such accommodation "when no other residence or permanent accommodation is available".

"The supply of this accommodation is not a private arrangement between the 'client' and the housing provider.

"Within my navigation mahi (work), there

is always a call to the Ministry of Social Development for emergency housing and the whānau and families are placed in housing services such as motels when available.

Ms Crawford said that housing services with concerns or queries should contact the local public health service or their

own health and safety representative or service.

"We know that there are protections that will help keep us safe. Having a spontaneous response to the Covid-19 Protection Framework is the antithesis of the spirit of the framework, which is to keep everyone safe.

"Be kind, have compassion and keep yourself and others safe. He waka eke noa. We are all in this together."

Tairāwhiti Beneficiary Advocacy Trust's advocate Shelley Hannah-Kingi said it was sad some emergency accommodation providers had mandated vaccinations for all guests.

"Families who seek emergency housing are already homeless. Now they will have even fewer options for places to temporarily stay.

"Suppliers are doing it by choice. It is not under any of the ministry's guidelines

**Having a spontaneous response to the Covid-19 Protection Framework is the antithesis of the spirit of the framework, which is to keep everyone safe**

— Housing advocate Lizz Crawford

to mandate vaccinations. I do, however, understand where they are coming from — protection of other guests and their livelihood."

MSD regional commissioner Karen Bartlett said the ministry's role was to ensure people who came to them for urgent need for housing were supported into suitable housing as quickly as possible.

It provides financial assistance through the Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant (EHSNG).

"We do not require clients to be vaccinated to access an EHSNG.

"People who come to us with urgent housing needs have no other options. We do not want people being turned away.

"We are aware of a small number of emergency housing suppliers in the Tairāwhiti who are unwilling to accept clients without vaccination certificates.

"If a supplier is unwilling to accept clients without vaccine certificates we will do all we can to support our clients with alternative accommodation options if available."

The ministry continued to work with communities, councils, iwi and other state agencies to support emergency housing, as well as other long-term housing options, she said.

The ministry encourages anyone who needs emergency housing to contact it on 0800 559 009.

## FAMILY NOTICES

## Deaths

## Deaths

## DRUMMOND, June Dawn (nee Ellmers).

— Passed away peacefully, on Wednesday 1st December 2021, at Leighton House, aged 95 years. Much-loved mother of Geoffrey (dec), David, Michael and John, and beloved mother-in-law of their partners. Loved grandmother of Andrew and Fiona, Jared, Ben and Kirsty, and Jackson and Saul, and her 10 great-grandchildren. She will be fondly remembered by all those who knew her for her kindness, generosity, and love of her Lord. Our personal thanks to the staff at Leighton House for the love and care you gave to Mum over the years.

A private family service will be held. Any communications to C/- PO Box 877, Gisborne 4040.

Due to COVID vaccine requirements, a vaccine pass must be presented to attend the service. Livestream will be available [www.evansfuneral.co.nz](http://www.evansfuneral.co.nz)

- Evans Funeral Services Ltd FDANZ [www.evansfuneral.co.nz](http://www.evansfuneral.co.nz)



**RILEY, Morris Francis (TOJO).** — (25.1.1939 - 5.12.2021). Peacefully, on the 5th of December 2021, at Gisborne Hospital (82 years young). Proud father of Warren, Sean, Michelle and Juanita, and committed father-in-law to Emmeline and John. Loving grandfather to Samantha, Michael, Jamie-lee, Cory, Jacob and Kelsey. Caring great-grandfather to Axel, Brianna, Kayde, Dusky, Scarlett, Rylee and Carter.

Morris will be lying in state at Sean and Emmeline's residence from 2pm-4pm and 5pm-7pm on Wednesday 8th December. Please call Sean 0274 328 557 to confirm your visit.

The funeral will be held at Evans Chapel, Ormond Road, Gisborne, on Saturday 11th December at 1.30pm, followed by Private Cremation.

Due to Covid restrictions, a vaccine pass is required for attendance, with a maximum of 100 people. In lieu of flowers, donations/koha to the SPCA [gisborne.info@spca.nz](mailto:gisborne.info@spca.nz) would be welcomed.

- Evans Funeral Services Ltd. FDANZ [www.evansfuneral.co.nz](http://www.evansfuneral.co.nz)

# Fundraising to make wishes come true

by Wynsley Wrigley

**CYCLIST** and fundraiser extraordinaire David Cunningham found himself turning around and coming to Gisborne when he couldn't get into Auckland.

The Paraparaumu resident started his Make-a-Wish Foundation fundraising campaign in Bluff on October 25, aiming to cycle the length of New Zealand.

He was making his way towards Auckland with Cape Reinga as his final destination.

But Covid restrictions meant Auckland "wouldn't let me in".

He turned around and headed for the Coromandel, through the Bay of Plenty and on to East Cape.

His original route had kept David on the west coast of both islands.

"The 186 kilometre, seven-and-a-half-hour-long ride from Te Araroa to Gisborne has been the longest leg of the trip," he said.

"Most days are around 120km."

He first cycled around the East Coast at the age of 20 and admits it's a tougher trip now he's 57.

David's goal is to raise \$30,000 for the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

"The mission of this wonderful charity is to grant the wishes of New Zealand children who have critical illnesses, to give them hope, strength and joy," he said.

"Every wish is as unique and special as each child and is only limited by the child's imagination."

David says he admires the Make-a-Wish volunteers he has met on his travels.

He met one Make-a-Wish recipient, Rosie, in Nelson in November.

"She had just received her wish for a Hippocampe buggy which allows her to go on the beach and in the water."

"Some of my fundraising has funded her wish."

David, and his family who support him on the road in a motor home, stayed in the Waikanae Beach Top 10 Holiday Park while in Gisborne.

He makes a point of staying in commercial camping facilities to support local economies.

The devastating effect of Covid-19 on the tourism industry has been obvious.

Some roads and highways have been deserted and David recalls a sad sight in the tourism mecca of Milford Sound.

He cruised the famous fjords on a vessel capable of carrying 250 passengers.

Only seven were on board.

The avid cyclist estimates he has cycled about 4000 kilometres.

Pouring rain, brutal winds and challenging sections such as climbing the Remarkables have contrasted with viewing the country's



**SEEKING YOUR SUPPORT:** Make-a-Wish Foundation cyclist and fundraiser David Cunningham rests at Waikanae Beach Top 10 Holiday Park before resuming his Bluff to Cape Reinga trip. He estimates he has ridden more than 4000 kilometres.

Picture supplied

spectacular scenery.

Unlike many cyclists, he offers high praise for motorists he has shared the roads with.

Motorists will show respect and care if you make yourself highly visible, he said.

His route from Bluff has taken in Te Anau, Queenstown, Wanaka, Haast, up the West Coast to Nelson, over the Takaka Hill, Picton, Paraparaumu, Whanganui, Taranaki, Waitomo, Raglan.

David then went on to Pukorokoro/Miranda in the Firth of Thames before realising he would have to wait until Auckland's borders open on December 15 to complete his trip.

"It is certainly proving to be the long route given it's only about 1500km from Bluff to Cape Reinga as the crow flies," he said.

David's fundraising campaign can be supported on [givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/riding-around-NZ](http://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/riding-around-NZ)

## Light fitting catches fire

by Murray Robertson

**FIREFIGHTERS** were called to the Rebel Sports store in Peel Street late yesterday morning after a fluorescent light fitting in the centre of the store malfunctioned and caught fire.

Fire and Emergency NZ were called to the premises at around 10.40am.

"The shop staff contained the small fire with a dry powder extinguisher until we got there," said Senior Station Officer Ed Hindmarsh.

"We used a dry powder extinguisher as well to put it out."

SSO Hindmarsh said there was potential damage to clothing in the store due to smoke and the dry powder.

"The store staff did everything right.

"They evacuated the building and attempted to put the fire out safely."

The fire crews used a positive pressure ventilation fan to help remove the smoke from the store.

"We also used a gas detector to ensure the store was safe to return to once the smoke had been cleared away."

They were there for about an hour and a half.

## Numbers moving up for Wairoa vaxxed

**WAIROA'S** Covid vaccination numbers are slowly creeping up.

As at last Thursday evening, 73 percent of Wairoa's eligible population was fully vaccinated and 83 percent of eligible people had received their first vaccination.

Wairoa Mayor Craig Little said around 775 people aged over 12 who live in the Wairoa district need to get their first vaccination for Wairoa to reach a 90 percent vaccination rate.

"If we can get to 90 percent there is a strong chance our traffic light status, which is on red, will move down to orange and eventually green, which will mean fewer restrictions for everyone in our district."

# 'Difficult and costly'

## Beach traffic bylaw likely to be ineffective, but 'action is required'

by Wynsley Wrigley

**MAKORORI** residents will be disappointed after Gisborne District Council's regulatory hearing committee was told a proposed bylaw restricting vehicles from beaches and unformed legal roads was likely to be ineffective.

Council staff, reporting back to the committee on a second day of hearings on the council's draft Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2021, said enforcement of a bylaw by the council (concerning stationary vehicles) and police (concerning moving vehicles) would be difficult and costly.

The council would likely need to resource a full-time employee to effect significant change.

Staff told the committee that issues and concerns raised by submitters were "valid and significant".

"Council staff want the residents of Makorori to know that they have been heard, that we agree with their assessment

and, above all, that action is required."

Restricting access to the beach would require physical barriers along the state highway and Makorori road, with provision for parking and some beach access for vehicles launching boats.

Legal agreements would be required from some landowners and consultation with the wider Makorori community about restricting direct access to the beach from their properties.

Speed limits would be addressed through a new speed management plan once central government passes new legislation scheduled for November 2021.

Council officers said a Makorori master plan would consider where barriers, parking and access points for launching/retrieving boats should be located, as well as "an effective package of controls, physical, regulatory, and educative signage and advertising to protect people and the environment".

Police, in their submission, said they

would attend incidents of dangerous driving (as done under existing legislation) but simple bylaw breaches would need to be prioritised against other police work.

On day one of the hearings, Forest and Bird Gisborne chairman Grant Vincent told the committee a speed limit for vehicles would be insufficient because of the threat to beach ecosystems.

There were areas where a vehicle ban would be the best option.

Beach vehicles such as motorbikes and quad bikes were being increasingly used and presented a growing threat to beach ecosystems.

Forest and Bird was concerned as birds nested from September to February, which coincided with the camping season.

There were also concerns about insects, spiders and invertebrates.

Other submissions expressed concerns about dangerous driving, including driving at speed near other beachgoers, and excessive noise from cars and motorbikes.

# Investing in the future of forestry

by Avneesh Vincent

HARD work has paid off for a Gisborne man named as the recipient of an inaugural forestry scholarship.

Peter Kapene has been awarded a \$6000 grant to assist with the costs of attending a forestry programme at a university or tertiary education facility.

Aratu Forests, one of the largest forestry management companies in the region, launched the Mackey (George) Papuni Scholarship in memory of the forestry worker who passed away earlier this year.

Mr Kapene, who is studying in Eastland Wood Council's Generation Programme, with training provided through Turanga Ararau, was the winning candidate among eight applicants.

"I am honoured to represent George and getting this scholarship will help me pay for my two-year diploma course in forestry management at Toi Ohomai in Rotorua," he said.

After seeing a Facebook

post about the scholarship, Mr Kapene's father told his son, who thought it sounded like something he would be interested in.

"I enjoy the outdoors and being out on the hills."

Mr Kapene's continuous engagement with the environment encouraged him to pursue a career in forestry and eventually look to establish himself in the industry.

"Hopefully I will be back in Tairāwhiti to work at Aratu in the harvesting and silviculture sectors," he said.

Aratu Forests Limited chief executive Neil Woods said unlike some other applicants, Mr Kapene had a clear thought process.

"The key thing about Peter was that he really thought about what the scholarship meant, especially in memory of George."

"He knew he was representing a person who worked here and most likely would be following in his footsteps. That's what came through strongly in his



**UPHOLDING A LEGACY:** Peter Kapene, centre, has been awarded a \$6000 grant to assist with his tertiary studies in the forestry sector. He is pictured with, from left, Steve and Cate Kapene, Willy Grogan holding a picture of the late George Papuni who the scholarship is in memory of, and Aratu Forests' Neil Woods.

Picture by Liam Clayton

application," Mr Woods said.

Mr Woods described the late employee as a hard worker and the kind of guy who was there to help others and encourage people to take an interest in forestry.

"His passing really rocked the team. Everyone held him in

such high regard and we felt we should honour the person he was with some sort of award," he said.

The scholarship was a way to pay respect and bring in more young people to the industry.

Aratu Forests plan to offer the scholarship annually. Applicants

will be assigned a mentor from Aratu for their studies and given holiday work with the company, Mr Woods said.

"This is about giving them exposure to real life, a piece of forestry and the opportunity to learn more skills."

# Bringing life back to the awa

## Community groups working together to revitalise Waimatā River

by Avneesh Vincent

HAVE you heard the river speak?

At a workshop held last week, the Waimatā Catchment Group (WCG), along with the Let the River Speak research team and community members, "voiced" their ideas on revitalising the Waimatā River.

"This workshop gives the community a chance to review the existing data of the river and further develop and set up projects," lower WCG chair Dr Jill Chrisp said.

At the two community hui held earlier this year, the group encouraged community members to share their concerns. Themes such as mātauranga-based projects (Māori knowledge), education, stopping river pollutants, planting and pest control were recognised as areas that needed to be worked on.

"The second workshop was more about the anticipation to have or develop at least one project under each of the five thematic areas," Dr Chrisp said.

The more than 50 workshop attendees were divided into five teams to discuss and formulate strategies.

The citizen science group working on the mātauranga-based projects identified the need to determine the source of sediment pollutants, tested water quality and visited the awa (river) for a health check-up.

The group looked at the mātauranga of the river, how to get communities involved as citizen scientists and develop ways to understand the river.



**LEARNING THE ROPES:** Young George Watson learns all about setting DoC200 traps from NZ Landcare Trust's Hamiora Gibson as Lou Kennard watches on.

Picture supplied

The education group discussed what people could learn to improve the state of the awa.

"The education part is really about understanding what are the right trees to plant in the area, how to deal with predators and the social history of the river," Dr Chrisp said.

The education group plans to get schools involved to learn, gather resources, and maybe even

adopt a portion of the awa.

Let the River Speak team leader Dr Dan Hikuroa, who joined the workshop with his team via Zoom from Auckland, said the workshop provided a unique opportunity for the community to identify problems, for example sedimentation, and discover new challenges that may be affecting the health of the awa.

The Land, Air, Water Aotearoa

website shows the Waimatā River is performing poorly in areas such as high E.coli levels and dissolved reactive phosphorus.

"From a science perspective we have a pretty good picture of the river condition, but aspects like the concerns raised by the community are often missed from data collection," Dr Hikuroa said.

Waka ama paddlers who train on Gisborne rivers believe they are getting sores, rashes and infections from something in the water.

"It is just one of the areas that we need more data on as a high concentration of water nutrients such as nitrates and phosphorus wouldn't necessarily have the same impact on human health everywhere. That's the mystery we have to solve and that's where the research team comes in," he said.

Dr Hikuroa said the researchers would aid the developing projects from the workshop to ensure the outcomes were on the right track.

If paddlers were to keep a record of the quality using water testing kits and observation, the research team could take a sample of the water from that portion of the awa and identify the new challenge.

"We see ourselves as enablers and assisters," he said.

The third group discussed ways to reduce pollutants that enter the river.

"To do that we need past data to compare with its current condition. Also it is crucial to scope out the pollutants affecting the health of the river at present and look for ways to reduce them," she said.

Women's Native Tree Project Trust nursery manager Kauri Forno was the facilitator for the planting group.

Members brainstormed several ideas and decided to organise a seed collection.

"Ideally we plan to use eco-sourced seeds, which is whakapapa to the Waimatā region, and plant near the riverside to fence off the river from stock and provide shade, keeping it cool and giving more oxygen to the awa," she said.

The pest control was facilitated by upper WCG project manager Laura Watson.

The upper catchment group received funding earlier in the year from the Department of Conservation Jobs for Nature – Mahi mō te Taiao fund. The funding would be used to practise intensive predator control over 3000ha of farmland.

"We are hoping this will not only improve the existing biodiversity in the area, but allow us to reintroduce species such as pāteke/brown teal and ngutukākā/kākābeak."

The pest control workshop team discussed pest problems in the residential area of the lower catchment.

Rats were identified as a big issue but there were also sightings of stoats, weasels and hedgehogs.

"We will continue to do further research on a residential pest control project and we will be meeting with tangata whenua and key stakeholders in the New Year," Ms Watson said.

While all of the projects were focused on reaching their respective outcomes were interlinked, Dr Chrisp said.

"We recognise that if we don't work together now, we may not be able to restore it. So it is important we kick into action."

# New Chum headland saved from developers

**COROMANDEL** — One of the most beautiful spots in the world, New Chum's headland on the Coromandel Peninsula, is no longer in danger of being lost to developers.

Locals have secured the headland in a mortgagee sale for \$2.15 million, following a fundraising drive that will now see it protected forever.

New Chum Beach is described as one of the most unforgettable in the world by Lonely Planet, while The Observer voted it in the top 20.

"It's just a wonderful feeling, not just for Ngati Huarere, mana whenua, but for all of the people of New Zealand, it's a real win," says Wanda

Brljevich from Ngati Huarere Trust.

The land behind Wainuiototo Bay, or New Chum, is privately owned. Developers have been fighting against huge opposition to put houses up there for over a decade.

Locals got their chance to preserve the 30 hectares of northern headland when a company belonging to one of the owners, George Kerr, hit trouble.

Preserve New Chum For Everyone spokesperson Linda Cholmondeley-Smith says the group's Givealittle campaign attracted donations from around the globe.

"To all those who donated, thank you. Every

little donation, no matter how big or small, has been wonderful and it's contributed to where we are today."

Her group, along with mana whenua and the Environmental Defence Society, is behind the NZ Coastal Trust's purchase of the headland.

They've fundraised \$200,000, and are still keen to raise more.

Applications for grants are in to the Waikato Regional Council and the Department of Conservation for the balance of the \$2.15m, with underwriters stepping in to get the sale over the line.

It's hoped the headland may one day have

walking tracks through the nikau forest, which has remained untouched for generations.

"I'd like to think, over time, we could develop safe access to the area and enjoy what our ancestors have enjoyed previously," says local businessman Grahame Christiam, who contributed \$5000 to the fundraising efforts.

The Environment Court is yet to rule on whether the land directly behind the beach can be built on, but the headland is now safe.

"There will never be a house on it; it will be in its natural state in perpetuity for all the people of New Zealand," says Cholmondeley-Smith.

— Newshub

# MoH told to review Maori vaccination data decision

**AUCKLAND** — The High Court has directed the Ministry of Health to again review its decision not to hand over data for unvaccinated North Island Māori to the Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency.

Whānau Ora first took the Ministry of Health to court in late October arguing it was critical information needed to boost vaccination rates and save lives.

Health officials had refused on the basis of privacy, but the court said they had to reconsider.

Since then the ministry has given out some data about unvaccinated Māori in Waikato and Auckland, but the commissioning agency went back to court late last month saying that was not

good enough. The agency wants individual data for every unvaccinated Māori. The court has told the ministry it now has three working days to make a decision on this.

It also must review its decision to provide data only on North Island Māori who have had one dose of the vaccine.

In a statement, the ministry said while the court had commented on aspects of the ministry's decision-making in making data available to Whānau Ora and other Māori organisations, it had not directed the ministry to release all data to Whānau Ora.

The ministry said it was taking steps to meet the requirements on completing its process of

making decisions on providing the data, and reviewing its decision to provide data on Māori in the North Island who have had only a first dose.

It was consulting a number of iwi about data-sharing with Whānau Ora, and will inform them of the court decision, the statement said.

"Māori health providers who don't already have access to specific, local data should talk to their usual DHB contact or to the ministry," Director-General of Health Ashley Bloomfield said in the statement.

The ministry had been sharing data with Whānau Ora about people who are unvaccinated and enrolled with Whānau Ora services since September, the statement said. — RNZ

## BRIEFS

### Crash blocks SH1, three hurt

**Puhoi** — State Highway 1 has been completely blocked in both directions north of Auckland due to a crash that has injured three people this morning.

Police have confirmed three people are injured after a two-vehicle collision shortly before 8am on SH1 near Puhoi.

One person is in a critical condition, one is serious and one person has moderate injuries.

"A section of State Highway 1 has been closed due to the crash which is expected to cause significant delays," police say. "Police advise motorists to avoid the area if at all possible."

— Newshub

### Bar staff threatened

**DUNEDIN** — A Dunedin man has been charged with threatening bar staff with a knife after he didn't have a Covid-19 vaccine pass.

Police were called to The Bog in central Dunedin about 8.30pm yesterday.

"A 46-year-old male was at The Bog and had locked himself in the bathroom after an argument had started due to him not having a vaccine pass," Senior Sergeant Anthony Bond said.

"He came out of the bathroom with a knife and also smashed a window with his hand."

Police officers arrived and arrested the man.

However, in the process, one of the officers sustained injuries to his hand with it likely broken. The man will appear in court this morning. — RNZ

### Teachers, principals stressed

**AUCKLAND** — The pandemic is taking an increasingly heavy toll on school teachers and children, a survey has found.

The Education Review Office said its study found many teachers believed their pupils' behaviour had deteriorated and teachers themselves were unhappier and more tired than they were last year.

Review office deputy chief executive Ruth Shinoda told RNZ half the country's principals, about 1200 people, and more than 400 teachers responded to the survey.

She said a significant number of respondents were worried about children's behaviour and achievement.

"What they were saying is compared to last year, so June in the previous year, a third of them were saying that the student behaviour had worsened or it was worse than they'd expect. About a quarter were worried that learning was behind, and they were worried about engagement too," Shinoda said.

"When we talked to them, that might have been because students were struggling, they've got high anxiety, they've had a lot of disruption and that might come out in the behaviour at schools."

The survey quoted one respondent as saying: "Year 11 students (are) struggling with taking exams seriously and less likely to do what they need to do independently. They are wanting to be spoon-fed work rather than thinking for themselves."

"They are struggling knowing how to study and even forgetting to put hands up to answer questions as they are not used to being in class. Behaviour has deteriorated."

Another said: "The new entrants who came into school following lockdown caused huge issues for us — the lack of 'school readiness', not being able to sit for a story and the violent behaviour is something we have never seen en masse." — RNZ

# Grim predictions of rising Covid cases



MICROBIOLOGIST SIOUXSIE WILES

**WELLINGTON** — There were 135 new Covid-19 cases on Monday after New Zealand's first weekend in the traffic light system.

But there are grim predictions of rising Covid-19 case numbers, with Auckland now released from lockdown and the system taking effect across New Zealand.

Of the 135 new cases of Covid-19 reported on Monday, 125 were in Auckland, eight were in Waikato and two were in Canterbury.

Seventy-six people are in hospital with Covid-19, seven of whom are in intensive care or high dependency units.

Auckland's border will open on December 15, allowing fully vaccinated Kiwis to travel to and from the region.

People can also present a negative test received within 72 hours prior to departure.

Workers covered by the My Vaccine Pass mandate — staff working at businesses that are required to use jab certificates to fully operate — must have their first immunisation by December 3 and be fully vaccinated by January 17.

Microbiologist Siouxsie Wiles is reminding people the best defence against

Covid-19 is the vaccine.

It comes after the Government ordered 60,000 doses of Pfizer's new antiviral medication — due to arrive in New Zealand in April.

While early tests of the medication are promising, Dr Wiles says it's no miracle drug.

"If we don't use them wisely then the microbes can basically evolve to become resistant to them and so they are a very precious resource — that's why these are not a replacement for vaccines."

Epidemiologist Michael Baker is making a grim prediction of rising Covid-19 case numbers as the traffic light system takes effect.

There were no signs of spiking yet after New Zealand enjoyed its first full weekend of freedom since the Delta outbreak in August.

But Prof Baker, from the University of Otago, says that's unlikely to last forever.

"We need to wait probably a couple of weeks to see the effects of the move to the traffic light system," he told Newshub.

"Where I think we would expect to see a chance, of course, is in Auckland because . . . established transmission is already widespread." — Newshub

# HOW THEY FACE OFF

New-look National and Labour meet for the first time in Parliament today.



Leaders

Finance

Housing

## Other key National roles

- **Barbara Kuriger** Agriculture
- **Melissa Lee** Broadcasting & Media
- **Andrew Bayly** Small Business, Revenue, Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Manufacturing
- **Gerry Brownlee** Foreign Affairs, GCSB, NZSIS
- **Stuart Smith** Energy & resources
- **Michael Woodhouse** Deputy Shadow Leader of the House
- **Judith Collins** Research, Science, Innovation and Technology
- **David Bennett** Economic and Regional Development
- **Jacqui Dean** Assistant Speaker, Conservation
- **Todd McClay** Trade and Export Growth, Tourism
- **Simon O'Connor** Corrections, Arts, Culture, Associate Foreign Affairs
- **Ian McKelvie** Forestry
- **Todd Muller** Oceans and Fisheries, Internal Affairs
- **Maureen Pugh** Community and Voluntary Sector



Health

Social development

Education

Covid-19



Transport

Climate change

Justice

Police

# Revamped Nats square off against Govt

by Audrey Young, NZ Herald comment

Wellington — Christopher Luxon's reshuffle of the National caucus will ensure some robust contests when Parliament resumes at 2pm, some of which will be as keenly anticipated as Luxon's first encounter with Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern.

Simon Bridges can be expected to take on Finance Minister Grant Robertson early and often. But with only four questions a day allocated to the caucus of 33, competition is stiff.

The head-to-head contest between minister and shadow cabinet will be a long game over the next two years.

And some of the contests are not necessarily reflected in the rankings.

One of Luxon's class of 2020, Penny Simmonds, a former polytech chief executive, has been given responsibility for tertiary education and early childhood education; and Simon Watts has picked up local government, which in the context of the Three Waters reform is a huge responsibility for a first-termer.

Erica Stanford's promotion will see her take on Chris Hipkins in education and keep marking Kris Faafoi in immigration. Simeon Brown loses law and order in his big promotion to take on Michael Wood in transport and Chris Hipkins in the public service.

Brown's corrections responsibility goes to Simon O'Connor and police goes to Mark Mitchell.

MPs below 20 are unranked. Former leader Judith Collins has been respected with a position on the outer edge of the shadow cabinet, but not on the front bench.

In fact at No.19, she would almost certainly miss out on a cabinet post if the party were in coalition government. She gets research, science, innovation and technology.

The last-ranked shadow cabinet spot is David Bennett, who goes head-to-head with Stuart Nash in economic development. Former trade minister and Bridges wingman Todd McClay will be marking Nash in tourism, and Damien O'Connor in trade, but is outside cabinet.

## Leader

### Christopher Luxon vs Jacinda Ardern

Luxon has mastered the art of the political press conference, but besting Jacinda Ardern, especially in Parliament, will be difficult. She is accomplished with a high command of detail. His every move and utterance will be judged. The question will be which issues to take to the top, how negative to go, and how scripted to be. He won't beat her on debating, but picking the right subject at the right time, especially on Covid, will be what counts.

## Finance

### Simon Bridges vs Grant Robertson

This will be the second-best contest for the next two years. Bridges is up against an experienced Finance Minister and communicator who is highly trusted. Not that Robertson had much competition. This is the end of the easy ride for him. He had Amy Adams and Paul Goldsmith in term one, then Andrew Bayly and Michael Woodhouse splitting it in term two. Bridges may be behind on the economic front, but he will be the best political operator Robertson has faced. Robertson knows that and will respect it.

## Housing

### Nicola Willis vs Megan Woods

Less of a head-to-head and more of a hand-in-hand since the pair teamed up over a bipartisan bill to allow more three-storey townhouses to be built in the backyards of our cities. Willis' better target in Government is the Minister for Housing NZ, Poto Williams, who has denied there is a no-eviction policy for the worst tenants.

## Covid-19

### Chris Bishop vs Chris Hipkins

It's not just Chris vs Chris on Covid-19 management, but the rightful restoration of Bishop to shadow leader of the House means these two frenemies will work together more on parliamentary matters. Bishop's targets are broadening to Andrew Little with the spread of Covid and the management of patients at home falling under Health.

## Health

### Shane Reti vs Andrew Little

Unlike most people associated with the Judith Collins era, Reti enhanced his reputation, having been elevated to the front bench, the health portfolio, the deputy's job and acting leader for a week. He also went back to work as a front-line doctor, dispensing vaccines in Northland. He is no political firebrand, like Little, but has developed a quiet authority. In mental health, Little will continue to face the effective Matt Doocoy who has leaped from No.20 to No.8.

## Social development

### Louise Upston vs Carmel Sepuloni

The most enduring of the head-to-head contests between National and Labour, these two seasoned operators will continue to face off. The positive thing is their contest is increasingly one of ideas, rather than personal barbs. It means that one of the most important ministers gets a very experienced member opposite holding her to account.

## Education

### Erica Stanford vs Chris Hipkins

Stanford could shake Hipkins out of his comfort zone as he has been Education Minister for four years, but is somewhat distracted by Covid-19. If she takes the same approach she did in immigration, she will be firmly focused on what consumers (parents) want, rather than the teachers. She shares the portfolio with first-termer Penny Simmonds who has tertiary and early childhood education.

## Transport

### Simeon Brown vs Michael Wood

Brown should be able to make political capital out of this portfolio. It's the fifth time the portfolio has changed hands since National has been in Opposition and hopefully it stays put with Brown, an Auckland MP. The big issues in the short-term will be Wood's imminent decisions around light rail to the airport and the massive cost associated with it and a second harbour crossing.

## Climate Change

### Scott Simpson vs James Shaw

This is likely to be the least abrasive head-to-head of the new match-ups, with Simpson replacing Stuart Smith. Simpson's appointment is a greater nod to bipartisanship than Smith's under Judith Collins. It is a signal to the rump of the climate sceptics in National they had better get on board.

## Justice

### Paul Goldsmith vs Kris Faafoi

Justice is a better fit for Goldsmith than education because it is more suited to his analytical style and at a time when Faafoi's star is fading. The big issues will be what to do with existing prisoners serving three strikes offences, and hate speech laws. Goldsmith has also been given the coveted portfolio of workplace relations and will be up against rising star Michael Wood on the re-introduction of national awards, also known as fair pay agreements.

## Police

### Mark Mitchell vs Poto Williams

Mitchell, a former cop, has never been police spokesman, but there has never been a better time for National to have such a voice. Law and order issues appear daily, with gang membership and violence on the increase and a weak minister opposite. Big shoes to fill after Simeon Brown did so much with it.

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# Jab wait for Maori kids a 'disgrace'

## Govt's failings on priorities could be deadly, tribunal told

by Derek Cheng, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Failing to prioritise Maori in a vaccine rollout for kids aged five to 11 could have deadly results, the Waitangi Tribunal has heard, especially in light of emerging information about Omicron's severe health effects in children.

The tribunal is hearing a claim from Maori leaders, including the NZ Maori Council, about whether the Government's Covid response has honoured the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The tribunal's panel members heard from several submitters yesterday about how Maori providers felt their consultation with the Crown was nothing more than lip-service, how it was statistically inarguable that a roll-out based on age was biased against Maori, and how Government funding for "by Maori for Maori" vaccine schemes was too little, too late.

Submitters also said Maori kids and their families would disproportionately bear the burden if the jabs roll-out for those aged five to 11, if approved, mirrored the adult roll-out.

"If the Crown's response to the Covid-19 pandemic does not take into account the specific needs of Maori children, the burden of health inequity they already bear will be exacerbated," Maori paediatrician Dr Danny de Lore told the tribunal.

He said Maori children suffered higher rates of acute and chronic lung conditions or disabilities.

"The direct health risk of Covid-19 infection is higher than for non-Maori children, and because Maori children have a higher burden of pre-existing conditions, they will experience a greater burden of hospitalisation and severe illness as Covid-19 spreads."

Medsafe is still considering whether to approve the paediatric vaccine, though Australia's Medsafe equivalent has done so.

Covid-19 Response Minister Chris Hipkins says he is optimistic jabs for five-to-11-year-olds could start before the end of January — and he is looking into how it should be targeted.

Microbiologist Dr Siouxsie Wiles said the early signs about the Omicron variant was that it was mild for adults, but worse for children than other variants of concern.

"Cases are rising very, very fast, especially in South Africa, where it's doubling every three days at the moment," she told the panel.

"The very, very concerning thing for us is that hospitalisation rates now in South Africa are already beginning to rise, and they're disproportionately rising in children under five."

"With previous variants, hospital rates have been much higher in older age groups, but with Omicron we're seeing quite a lot of children, especially under five, now being hospitalised."

She said if Omicron became dominant

**It was disgraceful to see whanau placed in MIQ and then be returned to transitional housing after they've finished their isolation period, said Dr Jansen.**

around the world, "it will arrive in New Zealand".

Developmental paediatrician Dr Jin Russell said a roll-out in schools would ensure that almost no child was more than 30 minutes away from access to a dose.

"What we have seen from the adult vaccine roll-out is that a priority group of people who have a pre-existing condition actually doesn't lead to sufficient

equity," she said.

"We would need to go much further than that and actually prioritise reaching Maori children early in the vaccine roll-out, not just because they have a higher number of pre-existing conditions at higher frequency, but also because they are likely to have a higher proportion of undiagnosed pre-existing conditions."

Getting the roll-out wrong, de Lore said, could mean children would die.

"If we have poor uptake of vaccination and high vulnerability among children, there's the potential for education facilities to become reservoirs of this virus, where they become points where it just keeps circulating around the community."

"The mortality rate per 100,000 infections has been reported in the UK and the USA as between five and 10 children. We have half a million children between five and 11 (a quarter are Maori). Some children will die . . . if we have high transmissibility and low vaccination rates."

The tribunal also heard from researcher Charles Waldegrave about how Maori are about twice as likely to

live in overcrowded, mouldy homes, and from statistician Len Cook, who said that any age-based policy would be inherently biased against Maori because a higher proportion of them are younger.

National Hauora Coalition clinical director Dr Rawiri Jansen said many providers were already supporting Maori to isolate in crowded homes.

"That is very difficult, almost impossible, to manage isolation in that setting. It means that many of those families are directly in harm's way, and 100 percent of those who are not vaccinated are likely to end up Covid positive, and a smaller number — perhaps 10 or 15 percent — who are vaccinated are still going to end up Covid positive," he said.

"That means the isolation will be extended in its duration, certainly through the Christmas New Year period. That's a significant hardship."

Many whanau in Auckland were living in difficult circumstances that a pro-equity Government response, in partnership with Maori health providers, would have tried to address a long time ago, Dr Jansen said.

It was disgraceful to see whanau placed in MIQ, and then be returned to transitional housing after they've finished their isolation period.

"We should never put them back in harm's way. That's a national disgrace. If we had an independent Maori Health Authority, none of those things would be happening."

The hearing also discussed talks between the Maori Council and the Crown in recent days about how to move forward. The hearing continues under panel presiding chair Judge Damian Stone.

# Tackling family, sexual violence

WELLINGTON — A 25-year plan to tackle the amount of violence in New Zealand homes is being unveiled by the government this morning.

The country's first National Strategy for eliminating family violence and sexual violence, called Te Aorerekura, will see 10 agencies working together.

Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence Marama Davidson said Te Aorerekura represents an evolution in the journey to address violence in homes and in communities.

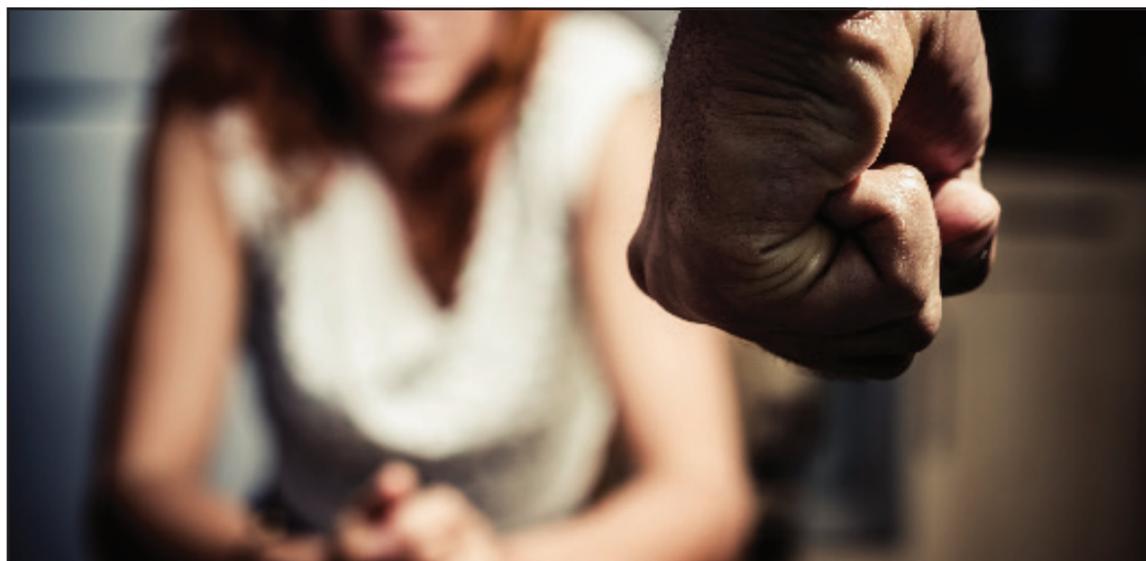
"Te Aorerekura sets a collective ambition to create peaceful homes where children, families and whānau thrive; to enable safe communities where all people are respected, and support the wellbeing of our nation," she said.

"This is an important step towards ensuring the wellbeing of all people."

Davidson said significant public engagement across the motu was undertaken with a resulting key message being that tangata whenua, the sectors and communities must be supported to lead and develop new ways of working.

Cabinet has agreed to establish a tangata whenua advisory group to provide independent advice and guidance to Davidson on family violence and sexual violence.

"Te Aorerekura sets out the principles that will guide how people work and the shifts that will move us toward: strength-based wellbeing; mobilising communities; skilled, culturally competent and sustainable workforces; investment in primary prevention; safe, accessible and integrated responses;



increased capacity for healing; and learning and monitoring," she said.

The government expects over time the changes will mean further harm is not done to victims by the justice system and individuals and whānau are supported to heal and overcome the trauma of violence.

It would expect safe and tailored services to be available for tangata whenua, Pacific peoples, ethnic communities, LGBTQI communities, older people, male survivors and disabled communities, and that women, wāhine Māori and trans women impacted by violence can access safe, integrated, trauma informed and inclusive responses to provide protection and support wellbeing.

Understanding healthy relationships and how to seek help would be key for children and young people, as well as making sure they had access to tailored services, Davidson said.

For perpetrators of violence, the changes would see accountability and support to change and address past trauma.

Davidson said the Government wanted to see reduced tolerance for violence and inequity across the country and action taken by families, whānau and communities to prevent family violence and sexual violence.

The Government currently spends \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion annually on the consequences of family violence and sexual violence.

Chief victims adviser Dr Kim McGregor said victims of family and sexual violence and their advocates had been asking for a comprehensive overhaul of systems for about 30 years.

McGregor said the national strategy was bold, focusing on the underlying social conditions that contribute to the violence and aiming to make the justice system

safer for victims.

"During public engagement on the strategy, I saw diverse groups of people, including victims and survivors, contributing their expertise and having a voice about how the system needs to work. I am pleased to see this reflected in the strategy and action plan."

"The strategy provides a framework that reflects the complex needs of all population groups and will help guide and coordinate the work of people right across the system, in government and in communities. I look forward to contributing to the implementation of the strategy that aims to better prevent violence and better support people to heal, restore and live free from violence."

She said it was the result of a phenomenal effort, but it would need cross party support to really make a difference.

— Radio NZ

## Where to get help:

**Need to Talk? Free call or text 1737 any time to speak to a trained counsellor, for any reason.**

**If it is an emergency and you feel like you or someone else is at risk, call 111.**

### Sexual Violence

- NZ Police
- Victim Support 0800 842 846
- Rape Crisis 0800 88 33 00
- Rape Prevention Education
- Empowerment Trust
- HELP Call 24/7 (Auckland): 09 623 1700, (Wellington): be 04 801 6655 - 0
- Safe to talk: a 24/7 confidential helpline for survivors, support people and those with harmful sexual behaviour: 0800044334.
- Male Survivors Aotearoa

### Family Violence

- Women's Refuge: (0800 733 843)
- It's Not OK (0800 456 450)
- Shine: 0508 744 633
- Victim Support: 0800 650 654
- HELP Call 24/7 (Auckland): 09 623 1700, (Wellington): be 04 801 6655 - 0

# About 10pct of midwives still to provide MoH with vax proof

by Nikki Preston, The New Zealand Herald

About 10 percent of community midwives have walked from the job since the vaccine mandate was introduced, forcing district health boards (DHBs) to hire locums to fill the gaps in the hardest-hit areas, such as Thames and Taranaki.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has confirmed 164 out of 1583 Lead Maternity Carers (LMCs) across the country have refused to provide them with their vaccination statuses since November 15, when midwives were required to have had their first doses of the Covid vaccine.

The MoH was yesterday refusing to provide The New Zealand Herald with the breakdown by DHBs, citing privacy reasons.

But, according to the New Zealand College of Midwives, there was an uneven distribution across the country of LMCs who would not get vaccinated.

Thames was one of those hardest-hit areas, the Waikato DHB confirmed to The New Zealand Herald.

The Waikato DHB had to bring in four LMC locums in Thames and find cover for two DHB-employed midwives, who had been stood down from the Thames Birthing Unit since vaccines were mandated three weeks ago.

Of the midwives employed by the country's DHBs, 46 had left their

jobs, including 10 in Waikato and 10 in Counties Manukau (as of November 22).

A Waikato DHB spokesperson said the DHB had put plans in place ahead of the mandate to accept LMC referrals if they were unable to find replacement LMCs.

This had meant the Thames Birthing Centre would be caring for eight women per month compared to the usual five women per month.

Coromandel MP Scott Simpson said the Thames Coromandel area was short of midwives at the best of times, so even a small number exiting the service would create further strain on services and the women who required them.

The New Zealand College of Midwives chief executive, Alison Eddy, said the college ran a national midwifery locum service with its sister organisation Midwifery and Maternity Provider Organisation and it had been sending locums to Thames and the Bay of Plenty.

The most affected areas included Thames and Taranaki, where groups of midwives appeared to have left their jobs, she said.

In other areas, only a small number had left their jobs, so the workload was more easily absorbed.

And in places such as Tauranga, there was a good supply of midwives who could pick up those clients who had been left without midwives due

to them having left their jobs.

Ms Eddy believed it was only a "short-term issue" because, from this point forward, women who were only just pregnant would be accessing midwives who would be in their jobs long-term. The situation had thankfully also coincided with summer — when a lot of LMCs took breaks.

Ms Eddy's expectations were that before each midwife had left due to the mandate, they would have made plans to transfer their clients to a colleague or colleagues.

"It's not an easy environment for some anyway. So some of that might have fed into this decision to leave at this point because of the mandate. There's multiple reasons I think that we are seeing this happening."

Many midwives had been feeling under-resourced, under-supported and overworked for some time, not just during the pandemic.

In the other hard hit area — Taranaki — the DHB stood down three midwives, and eight LMCs had handed over their case loads to the DHB or to other LMCs.

A MoH spokesperson said the health and wellbeing of pregnant people and their babies was of paramount importance and the overwhelming majority of midwives in New Zealand have been vaccinated.

— The New Zealand Herald



**RUDE SHOCK:** A 73-year-old woman got a shock when a stranger allegedly stripped off and jumped on the roof of her car. New Zealand Herald file picture

## Stranger strips to just sneakers, then jumps on roof of elderly woman's car

DUNEDIN — A 73-year-old woman got a shock when a stranger stripped off and then proceeded to jump on the roof of her car.

Senior Sergeant Anthony Bond said police were called to Queen Street in Dunedin at 8pm on Saturday.

The woman was parked, waiting for her grandson and his two friends, when an unknown, 24-year-old man allegedly stripped down to his sneakers, ran up the bonnet of her car and then jumped on the roof, multiple times.

He allegedly damaged the vehicle, before falling off it and appearing to injure his right leg in the process.

Inquiries into locating the suspect were ongoing yesterday, and police asked that he hand himself in — before police came to him, Snr Sgt Bond said.

Police were also disappointed with the high number of drink-drivers who were caught in the city over the weekend.

On Friday, a 21-year-old man who recorded a breath-alcohol level of 517mcg was caught in Dunedin at a police checkpoint.

On Saturday, two people were caught at a checkpoint in Ravensbourne Road, between 6.30pm and 7.30pm.

The first of those two people caught — a 33-year-old woman — recorded a level of 295mcg and was issued with an infringement notice.

The second person — a 51-year-old man — blew a level of 522mcg.

He then requested that a blood sample be taken as well.

And three drink drivers were caught at a checkpoint in Quarry Road at 10pm.

A 41-year-old man had his licence suspended after he recorded a breath-alcohol level of 712mcg — his third or subsequent offence.

A 21-year-old man recorded a level of 662mcg, and a 26-year-old man

recorded a level of 400mcg.

Police did not have far to go when they caught a 21-year-old woman in the Countdown carpark, which was directly next to the Dunedin Central police station, at 2.30am on Sunday.

She recorded a breath-alcohol level of 1100mcg.

At 12.27am on Sunday, a 44-year-old man recorded a breath-alcohol level of 368mcg after being stopped in Princes Street, in central Dunedin.

About an hour later, police were called to Blackhead Road after a 65-year-old male driver allegedly collided into a lamp post, causing it to split in two and power lines to come down.

He recorded a breath-alcohol level of 518mcg.

And, finally, at 9.45am, a 28-year-old man was stopped in Dundas Street, North Dunedin.

He recorded a level of 444mcg.

Snr Sgt Bond said the number of drivers caught was disappointing.

"Police will be continuing to focus on this over the coming weeks, by continuing with checkpoints and breath testing every driver they stop to ensure that the roads are safe for everyone over summer."

Another motorist was also caught at a police checkpoint at the weekend, but not for drink-driving.

A 41-year-old man on a moped was stopped at a checkpoint on Saturday, when a check revealed he was breaching his bail conditions.

He took off on foot, but was caught a short distance away.

Allegedly in his possession were a set of scales, empty point bags and \$960 in cash.

Further inquiries were being made in relation to suspected drug dealing, Snr Sgt Bond said.

— Otago Daily Times

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## Sky TV hikes profit guidance after sports clawback

by Chris Keall, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — Sky TV says a cost-cutting exercise — which included clawing back money on its deal with NZ Rugby — has allowed it to boost its FY2022 full-year profit guidance.

“Rugby is one of the one-off cost savings associated with negotiated equitable reductions in rights costs due to Covid-related cancellations and postponements during the calendar year,” corporate affairs head Chris Major told The New Zealand Herald.

“It is not a ‘renegotiation’ of the deal, but just part of the contractual arrangement. We’re not disclosing the split.”

In a statement to the NZX, Sky said

it had, “negotiated reductions in rights costs and production savings across a number of sports”.

Beyond rugby, sports involved in the cost-cutting process included Supercars, World Surf Champs, World Rugby Sevens and ISPS Handa Auckland football.

“The sport clawback is only a small part of the picture, which fell under \$9m in one-off savings. Total savings were \$40m-\$45m, many of which were recurring,” Major said.

The pay-TV broadcaster previously forecast a net profit of \$17.5 million-\$27.5m. Now it says NPAT will be between \$40m and \$48m.

Its ebitda guidance has been upped from a band of \$115m-\$130m to \$150m-\$160m.

Full revenue is now put at \$725m to \$745m, a nudge up from the previous \$715m to \$725m.

In an investor update, Sky said the increased profit guidance was driven by a “robust review” of its costs that it estimates will “deliver \$40m-\$45m of additional savings in FY2022”.

It says \$26m of those savings are recurring, with the balance one-offs.

The exercise included “negotiated reductions in rights costs and production costs across a number of sports codes”.

The New Zealand Herald understands Sky paid \$400m for its latest five-year deal for top rugby rights — a 20 percent increase on its previous contract as it fought off a challenge from Spark Sport.



**WALLET SQUEEZE:** Finance Minister Grant Robertson said some borrowers may struggle with rising interest rates. NZ Herald picture

# Government plans KiwiSaver tweaks

by Tamsyn Parker, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Fresh off the back of a major shake-up to the default provider regime, Consumer Affairs Minister David Clark has signalled the Government is looking into more changes to KiwiSaver.

Speaking at the Financial Services Council conference yesterday, Clark told around 800 finance professionals that he was having a look at the KiwiSaver settings.

“KiwiSaver has gone from strength to strength over the last 15 years but there are still things we can tweak, including the contribution settings to get more members enrolled.

“If we get these things right we can increase financial resilience, improve equity in the system and improve the depth of our capital markets.”

According to the Financial Markets Authority’s annual KiwiSaver report, just over 3.09 million people were members of the scheme as of March 31, with \$81.6 billion invested.

But only 1.88 million of those members contributed to their account during the year. That was up 3.9 percent compared to the prior period but still remains well short of the total number of members.

In 2019 the Retirement Commissioner Jane Wrightson made several recommendations to change KiwiSaver including introducing a small-steps approach that would automatically increase member contributions by 0.5 percentage points a year until it reached 10 percent or the member opted out.

The commissioner also

recommended changing the Government’s contribution to better incentivise voluntary contributions to KiwiSaver by non-employees.

Currently, the Government puts in 50c for every dollar a member contributes up to a maximum government contribution of \$521 per year.

**“If we get these things right we can increase financial resilience and improve equity in the system”**

—Consumer Affairs Minister David Clark

But the commissioner has recommended the Government increase its match of voluntary contributions by putting in \$2 for every \$1 contributed up to \$2000 per annum in a move that could replace the existing incentive.

To keep costs down, she recommended this incentive be limited to the first 12 years of KiwiSaver membership. Another recommendation was that beneficiaries be auto-enrolled in KiwiSaver through a 3 percent government contribution made on their behalf on top of their current benefit.

The Government largely parked its response to the recommendations in 2020 due to Covid-19.

But the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment has been conducting a wide-ranging consultation on KiwiSaver this year.

In June, MBIE told The

New Zealand Herald that officials were looking to prepare advice to ministers on the recommendations from the Retirement Commissioner’s Report from 2019.

“A government response is due this year. This includes identifying recommendations which need more detailed consideration.”

The New Zealand Herald has requested more detail from MBIE on its consultation and any recommendations to the Government, and the minister on what contribution changes could be in the works.

Clark told the conference he was focusing on a number of other projects to create better outcomes for consumers.

“This includes consulting on buy-now pay-later services to gain a better understanding of the emerging landscape and find out how these products could trigger financial hardship for some consumers. From there we can see whether regulation is needed for these products.”

He also mentioned the establishment of a consumer data framework to allow consumers to securely share data about themselves with trusted third parties including financial institutions.

Clark said the Government recognised that legislative changes on the scale that had been seen recently resulted in substantial organisational change for the finance industry.

“I’m acutely aware of that and acknowledge the challenges this presents to many of you, particularly during the pandemic.

“Please continue to reach out to me and my officials with any concerns.”

## SHAREMARKET YESTERDAY

WELLINGTON — New listing Vulcan Steel stole the limelight with an impressive earnings upgrade on another subdued trading day for the New Zealand sharemarket, falling more than half a percent.

The S&P/NZX 50 Index fell at the opening, then traded in a narrow range and closed at 12,597.81, down 78.68 points or 0.62 percent. The index has now fallen 3.8 percent for the year — its worst performance since the global financial crisis in 2008.

There were 51 gainers and 82 decliners over the whole market, with 37.23 million shares worth \$162.49 million changing hands.

Uncertainty over the impact of the Omicron Covid variant and an out-of-favour utilities

sector have contributed to the market woes.

Jeremy Sullivan, investment adviser with Hamilton Hindin Greene, said there is continuing optimism about Omicron and what it may do to the economy.

“We have got another eight days to wait on the results of the 14-day studies on Omicron, but some investors have decided to pull the trigger and ask questions later. If there’s a good outcome from the studies out of South Africa, then we could have a nice Christmas.”

Sullivan said wholesale interest rates were down (yesterday) but the utility stocks were not going up. They have been weighing on the market the most.

Vulcan Steel rose 47c or 5.61 percent to \$8.85

after telling the market its revenue for the five months ending November rose 35 percent, with stronger-than-expected October and November trading.

The transtasman steel distributor and processor, benefiting from the strong construction sector, upgraded its prospectus forecasts for the 2022 financial year ending June.

Operating earnings (ebitda) are now expected to be \$174m-\$184m compared with \$147m in the prospectus, a rise of up to 25 percent, and net profit is forecast to be \$93m-\$100m compared with \$74m, an increase of up to 35 percent.

Rural services firm PGG Wrightson gained 11c or 2.53 percent to \$4.46 after upgrading its full-year operating earnings (ebitda) guidance to \$58m following strong spring trading over the first half of the present financial year.

Mainfreight fell \$1.62 or 1.8 percent to \$88.53; Ebos Group declined 73c or 2.02 percent to \$35.36 and Auckland International Airport decreased 6c to \$7.76. Synlait Milk was down 3c to \$3.39 after telling the market it is partnering with Danone, AgResearch and the Ministry for Primary Industries to complete a five-year on-farm study to determine the impacts of changes in soil health on production, farm resilience and the environment. The a2 Milk Company declined 7c to \$5.69.

Plexure Group rose 4c or 9.52 percent to 46c after telling the market its newly-bought Task business has gained the Sydney Cricket Ground and new Sydney Football Stadium as new clients.

The group is providing the venues with online point of sale and administration systems for engaging customers. — NZ Herald

## Robertson issues warning to highly indebted borrowers

WELLINGTON — New Zealand’s private debt levels remain high compared to the rest of the world and some borrowers will have to “cut their cloth” with rising interest rates, Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson said.

“I’m confident most people will (cope with it) but unfortunately with the very large amount of money people have borrowed there will be one or two who might struggle.”

Robertson was questioned about public and private sector debt levels at a conference held by the Financial Services Council and whether there was cause for concern about rising interest rates impacting on people’s discretionary spending and the flow-on effect to the economy.

“I think the New Zealand economy is more than resilient enough to deal with that. Whenever you are talking about macro things it is always good to bear in mind the micro. For some people that will be shifting their lifestyles so their discretionary spending won’t be as much.”

Robertson said interest rates were close to 7 percent when he bought his first house.

“Some of us have . . . seen good times but that is the reality of life that interest rates do move around and people will have to cut their cloth to fit with that.

“But at a macro level I am confident we are a broad-

based economy with lots of prospects for sustainable growth so I don’t think it will be a major drag on the overall economy.”

Reserve Bank figures show 67 percent of fixed mortgages or around \$193 billion worth of loans are due to come off their fixed-term over the next year.

Mortgage rates have already risen at their fastest rate in 15 years and the official cash rate is expected to increase from 0.75 percent to 2.6 percent by 2023.

Robertson said it was a lot of money.

“But I think we are in a position where we are coming from an incredibly low base and moving up.”

“For those individuals they are going to be looking at that and going, ‘OK, I’ve got a bit less discretionary income than I did have but overall the fundamentals of the economy remain strong’.”

On top of rising interest rates the Government has just introduced legislation to tighten lending controls through the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act on December 1 to ensure lenders can prove they are undertaking responsible lending and not giving loans to those who can’t afford it.

Robertson said the Government had slowed down the introduction of the law to enable banks and their customers to be able to adjust through the Covid times. — NZ Herald

EDITORIAL

# The case for congestion charging

## New boss rewards best performers

National's shadow Cabinet announced by Christopher Luxon yesterday looks set to be more liberal, more centrist and, crucially, more effective than its predecessors in four years of opposition.

Unencumbered by the factionalism that has been at the heart of disunity in the party, the new leader has delivered on a pledge to select his top team based on merit. He also declined to rank MPs outside the top 20, as is usual, saying they too would be assessed on performance rather than hierarchy.

This corporate-style approach from the former Air New Zealand boss has had the added benefit of bringing the party's depleted liberal wing to the fore.

Chris Bishop is restored to shadow leader of the House, retains his Covid-19 portfolio and is ranked No.4 (up from 8). Erica Stanford rockets 18 places to No.8 and will also take on Chris Hipkins in the education portfolio, which the Covid Response Minister must struggle to give enough attention to. Deputy leader Nicola Willis retains housing.

Returning Scott Simpson to the climate change portfolio puts National firmly back on the bipartisan track this country needs for policy continuity and certainty on the journey to net zero emissions.

The prior announcement that former leader Simon Bridges has the key finance role is reward for his withdrawal from the leadership contest, but also his political experience and prosecutorial skills. Grant Robertson will get a tougher ride than he has had to date.

Two of the top performers under Judith Collins also feature prominently, with Dr Shane Reti retaining health and ranked No.5, and Simeon Brown, No.9 (up from 19), picking up transport where he can be expected to make as much mileage as he did on law and order.

Collins herself tumbles to No.19, with the research, science, innovation and technology portfolio she showed a passion for as leader.

Bridges' supporters Paul Goldsmith (12) and Mark Mitchell (14) move into key roles they are well suited to — justice and workplace relations for Goldsmith, and for Mitchell, himself a former cop, the police portfolio which was an area National did well in under Brown.

Louise Upston retains social development, where her duel with Carmel Sepuloni is a healthy one described as a contest of ideas rather than personalities.

Luxon has only assigned the obligatory national security and intelligence role for himself, leaving him free to focus on leadership and the issues of the day.

by Tanith Wirihana Te Waitohioterangi, Te Whanganui a Tara



I HAVE very strong opinions on transportation and believe there is a strong case for congestion charging. Road congestion is an indiscriminate global "pandemic". Here in Aotearoa, over just the past decade we have one million extra cars on our roads, putting severe strain on road infrastructure over time.

Road space allocation works on a first in, first served basis. Congestion occurs where road space demand is excessive and the volume of traffic is nearing or has exceeded the maximum vehicle capacity of a road. The rule is the greater the number of cars near or exceeding peak road use capacity, the slower the flow of traffic.

Motorists in Wellington and Auckland waste over 100 hours stuck in traffic each year. Aucklanders waste an average 40 minutes extra on their daily commute. This is inefficient and costs the New Zealand economy approximately \$1.25 billion per year. It means less quality family time, increased business costs, and exacerbated carbon emissions at no extra benefit to society.

Congestion charging at peak times for major centres such as Wellington and Auckland will

enable more efficient use of existing infrastructure by redistribution of traffic on to alternative routes, or incentivise alternative means such as walking, cycling, ride sharing or public transportation, and free up funds for the regions. Reduced congestion means less wasted emissions through idling, improved air quality, increased efficiency, safer roads, and more effective use of road capacity by increased traffic flow; fewer drivers and less concentrated and evenly disbursed traffic lowers the probability and risk of road deaths.

The general National Party argument is to build more roads, however building better or more roads only increases the average traffic throughput. In my opinion this is not the best long-term method to target congestion, and with fuel tax remaining constant, only acts as cheap sound bites to capture votes.

Petrol excise acts as a proxy for road user charges and the logic behind it is that the longer the distance travelled, the higher the excise paid in fuel tax. Due to differences in fuel economy, poorer people with older, cheaper and less fuel-efficient vehicles lose a larger proportion of their disposable income on petrol tax, and are more likely to be subsidising more affluent and wealthy vehicle owners.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is important, but taxing users off the road is irresponsible and grossly unfair on the most

disadvantaged in society, especially in rural areas such as the East Coast where there are no real alternatives.

I recall a 2014 conversation I had with former Prime Minister John Key who commented "Gisborne is a nice place, but it's too far away from anything". This draws attention to the generations of failure of New Zealand governments to undertake transformational change and invest into effective public transportation or regional interconnectedness.

Petrol tax should be eliminated and replaced with a comprehensive road user charge on par with diesel vehicles, with the revenue ringfenced for road infrastructure. In this way, those who use the roads more will be targeted and pay for their actual usage, and those who travel less benefit most. At the same time as it provides an incentive to use the roads less, it provides a means of reinvestment into alternatives and strengthens infrastructure. This would be a fairer system.

It could be argued that low-income users might be priced off of the road. However, there is a higher likelihood that a) their demand for charged routes at peak times will decrease, and they may in fact benefit the most. These equity issues can be reduced by replacing fuel taxes with distance-based road user charges, or by means testing and exemption.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ONLINE COMMENTS

## Wake up to his agenda

Re: Free speech under attack? December 5 column.

Sorry, David Cumin is a Jewish supremacist who is all too keen to remove the ability of my compatriots to follow New Zealand's historic foreign policy in criticising the racist and murderous actions and policies of the settler colony of apartheid Israel and turn our free speech and

such peaceful movements as BDS into anti-Jewish racism itself. Anti Zionism cannot be conflated by mendacious and sleazy operatives into (the meaningless) "anti-Semitism" that has become a battering ram to destroy the very thing he pretends to protect.

Please wake up.

RUPERT SMALL, London

## Alienating won't work

Re: Covid will focus their minds, December 3 letter.

Hi Paul  
It can be rather infuriating when we look at people who have decided not to be vaccinated. We must remember though that looking at them like they are the "enemy" will not get us anywhere. They are our fellow community members.

We still live in a democracy and it is their right to refuse the vaccine. Making them seem alienated won't work. We still need to have courageous conversations with each other. We may not agree but we at least need to be civil to one another.

People (like ourselves) who have been vaccinated believe the science that herd immunity through vaccination is the best way to protect everyone against covid.

The fact that the vast majority of New Zealanders have been vaccinated is a great show of

community solidarity to protect those people whose immunity is low and are most at risk.

We must not, however, make people feel alienated because they are not in the majority. And from what I have seen over the last week, businesses in this town have been bending over backwards to invent ways that we can all access their businesses. So a big high-five to them.

People still have individual rights and some people believe other sources for what they think is the best course of action. Some prioritise their individual rights over collective responsibility. So yes it is frustrating, but that is still their right. It comes down to a clash in values.

Let's hope we can find tolerance with each other to navigate this difficult period of time... myself included!

MAREE CONAGLEN

## A courtesy

Re: Apology re stealth, GDC — December 6 letter.

Peter, I still think an appropriate action would be to inform you of the change. Fulton Hogan puts letters in mailboxes to inform you of upcoming events in your neighbourhood. A little communication goes a long way. For the record my Toby was replaced at request, and in an efficient and timely fashion.

P.J. REED

## Off-putting

Re: More on new meters... Tauranga had them, my wife and I could not read them with sun on the screen. We do not go into the retail area any more. The city centre is dying — I wonder why.

DAVID HEMSLEY, Katikati

## Interests in traffic route

Re: Harper Road the safer option for trucks, December 6 story.

Heavy traffic makes up 4 percent of all vehicle movements on Ormond Road; the council report and options presented were always skewed to this outcome.

KIM HOLLAND

I am not a traffic engineer but I suggest independent professional advice is preferable to slanted self-interest by the port and Eastland Wood Council lobby. Let's get behind the rail link eh?

WINSTON MORETON

## Put sticks away, it's not tika

When will activist Māori health providers thank Jacinda and her Government for keeping us protected for the past two years, with morbidity and mortality rates the lowest in the OECD and the envy of the world? Forty-four deaths in NZ compared to the 5.26 million throughout the world; 12,300 Covid cases versus 266 million worldwide.

C'mon man! The NZ Maori Council executive should be sacked for wasting resources in pandering to people interested in patronising the very people they purport to be representing. Ask the Māori

Wardens Association how they've been ignored and choked off funds by the council for the past 40 years.

Breaching individual privacy by sidestepping informed consent is nothing to be bragging about. Non-Māori vaccine resisters far outnumber Māori.

Lady Tureiti Moxon and her "educated" mates need to put their sticks away and start applying tikanga Māori principles of aroha, manaaki and whanaungatanga. A sorry day indeed.

RĀWIRI GILGEN MBChB (Otago)

editor@gisborneherald.co.nz

- The maximum length for letters is 350 words.
- Anyone can write a column, 600 words maximum, but a photo is required.
- Always include full name and contact details.
- If you use a nom de plume, there is a higher bar for acceptability.
- Letters may be edited for clarity, length or legal reasons.



# Cocaine traces found in British Parliament: report

LONDON — British parliamentary authorities are calling in the police after a newspaper reported that traces of cocaine had been found at numerous sites in Parliament.

House of Commons Speaker Lindsay Hoyle said he was contacting police after the Sunday Times report. The newspaper said tests using drug detection wipes found traces of cocaine in 11 locations that are only accessible by accredited parliamentary lawmakers, staff and journalists, including a washroom near Prime Minister Boris Johnson's parliamentary office.

"The accounts of drug misuse in Parliament given to the Sunday Times are deeply concerning and I will be raising them as a priority with the Metropolitan Police this week," Hoyle said in a statement. "I expect to see full and effective enforcement of the law." — AP

## SKIING SANTAS:

Santa is back to "sleighting" it on the ski slope. More than 230 skiing and snowboarding Kris Kringles took to a western Maine resort on Sunday to raise money for charity. A sea of red Santa suits descended the mountain, carving wide turns as their beards fluttered in the icy wind. The event took place in the western Maine town of Newry, home to the Sunday River Ski Resort. Before dashing through the snow, the Santas must all donate a minimum of \$20, which helps support local education and recreation programmes.

AP picture



# US plans diplomatic boycott of Beijing Winter Olympics

WASHINGTON — The US will stage a diplomatic boycott of the upcoming Winter Olympics in Beijing to protest Chinese human rights abuses, the White House confirmed on Monday, a move that China has vowed to greet with "firm countermeasures."

White House press secretary Jen Psaki says US athletes will continue to compete and will "have our full support," but added "we will not be contributing to the fanfare of the games."

"US diplomatic or official representation would treat these games as business as usual in the face of the PRC's egregious human rights abuses and atrocities in Xinjiang, and we simply can't do that," Psaki told reporters during Monday's briefing.

"We have a fundamental commitment to

promoting human rights. And we feel strongly in our position and we will continue to take actions to advance human rights in China and beyond," Psaki added.

Biden this week will host a White House Summit for Democracy, a virtual gathering of leaders and civil society experts from more than 100 countries that is set to take place on Thursday and Friday.

The administration has said that Biden intends to use the convening "to announce both individual and collective commitments, reforms, and initiatives to defend democracy and human rights at home and abroad."

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Robert Menendez, D-N.J., called such a diplomatic boycott "a necessary step

to demonstrate our unwavering commitment to human rights in the face of the Chinese government's unconscionable abuses."

He called on "other allies and partners that share our values to join with the United States in this diplomatic boycott."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian accused US politicians of grandstanding over the issue of not sending dignitaries to attend events that China hopes will showcase its economic development and technological prowess.

Speaking to reporters at a daily briefing, Zhao said such a move would be an "outright political provocation," but gave no details on how China might retaliate.

Human rights advocates and lawmakers in the

US who support a boycott say it is a necessary step. They cite China's poor record on human rights as justification, saying China is using the games to whitewash its ill treatment of civil rights activists, political dissidents and ethnic minorities.

"Without being invited, American politicians keep hyping the so-called diplomatic boycott of the Beijing Winter Olympics, which is purely wishful thinking and grandstanding," Zhao told reporters at a daily briefing.

"If the US side is bent on going its own way, China will take firm countermeasures."

Australia, whose ties with China have nosedived over a range of disputes, has also raised the possibility of a diplomatic boycott.

— AP

# Deal-packed summit

## India hosts Putin as it balances ties with Russia, US

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday to discuss defence and trade relations as India attempts to balance its ties with the United States.

The agenda for the annual summit included political and defence issues, according to India's external affairs ministry. The two leaders also discussed Afghanistan's takeover by the Taliban earlier this year that has led to a humanitarian crisis in the country.

"In the last few decades, the world witnessed many fundamental changes and different kinds of geopolitical equations emerge but the friendship of India and Russia remained constant," Modi said in introductory remarks before his meeting with Putin.

India's Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said the talks were "productive" and that the two countries signed multiple agreements.

The meeting between Modi and Putin in New Delhi came hours after the defence and foreign ministers of the two countries held a strategic dialogue to discuss reinforcing ties between India and Russia. The two countries also signed a slew of bilateral defence agreements, including India's procurement of more than 600,000 assault rifles from Russia.

India's defence ministry called it a "landmark" deal that would replace a locally made rifle with a modern weapon, ending the "long quest" for its army's needs.

The two countries also signed an agreement to extend their military technology cooperation for the next decade.

India and Russia have a long history of close ties and have already set a target of \$30 billion in bilateral trade by the end of 2025. But recently, India has drawn closer to the United States, which it



**EXPANDING ENGAGEMENT:** Russian President Vladimir Putin, left and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi greet each other before their meeting and later signed multiple agreements in New Delhi, India on Monday. AP picture

considers critical to countering China. India and China have had a months-long military standoff along their disputed border in eastern Ladakh, where deadly clashes erupted last year.

Russia, meanwhile, has expressed reservations over the formation of the Quad, a grouping involving the US, India, Japan and Australia formed in response to China's growing assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region.

India is trying to navigate its defence relationship with Russia as it ramps up its military ties with the United States.

India, a major buyer of military equipment, depended largely on the former Soviet Union during the Cold War. But it has been diversifying its purchases by opting for US equipment as well. During the Donald Trump presidency, the

US and India concluded defence deals worth over \$3 billion. Bilateral defence trade increased from near zero in 2008 to \$15 billion in 2019.

India's acquisition of Russian S-400 missile systems which it considers to be critical in countering China could prove to be an irritant in Indo-US ties. The S-400 is a sophisticated surface-to-air defence system. Once acquired, it is expected to give India strategic deterrence against rivals China and Pakistan.

The missile system deal with Moscow has, however, put India at risk of US sanctions. Washington has asked its partners to stay away from Russian military equipment to avoid possible sanctions under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act.

## Mosque attacks on Cyprus won't go 'unanswered'

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday that attacks on Muslim houses of worship on Cyprus would "not go unanswered" following reports of an attempted arson attack on a mosque on the southern, internationally-recognised Greek Cypriot part of the divided Mediterranean island.

Turkey's pro-government Daily Sabah newspaper said at least one suspect was detained following a December 2 attempt to burn the Grand Mosque in the city of Larnaca. No one was hurt in the incident.

"Unfortunately, there was an (attempt) against our mosques in southern Cyprus. Of course, this operation in southern Cyprus, will not go unanswered," Erdogan told reporters before departing for Qatar on a two-day visit.

"This is what we are telling southern Cyprus: do not carry out such acts of sabotage against our houses of worship. The price you will have to pay for such acts of sabotage will be heavy," he said.

Cyprus split in 1974 when Turkey invaded following a coup by supporters of union with Greece.

Turkey is the only nation to recognise a breakaway Turkish Cypriot state in the north of the island and does not recognise Cyprus as a state.

A Cypriot law enforcement official said authorities arrested a 27-year-old Syrian man in connection with the attack that caused some damage to the mosque's wooden door before fire crews put it out. He faces a charge of attempted arson.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorised to discuss the case publicly, said the suspect's motives are believed to stem from having his request to stay overnight at the mosque rejected by the imam.

A witness told police the suspect used Greek-language newspapers as kindling to light the fire. — AP



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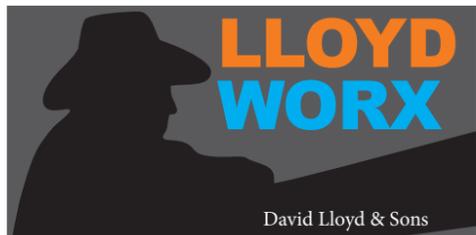


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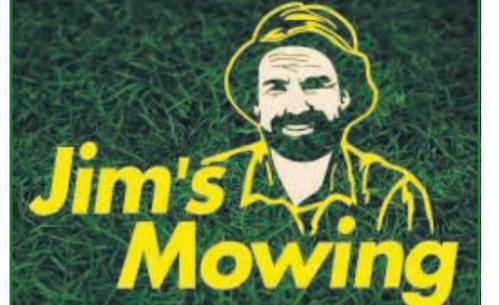
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# Pearl Harbor vet returns to remember those lost

HONOLULU — When Japanese bombs began falling on Pearl Harbor, US Navy Seaman 1st Class David Russell first sought refuge below deck on the USS Oklahoma.

But a split-second decision on that December morning 80 years ago changed his mind, and likely saved his life.

“They started closing that hatch and I decided to get out of there,” Russell, now 101, said in a recent interview.

Within 12 minutes his battleship would capsize under a barrage of torpedoes. Altogether 429 sailors and Marines from the Oklahoma would perish — the greatest death toll from any ship that day other than the USS Arizona, which lost 1177.

Russell plans to return to Pearl Harbor on Tuesday (local time) for a ceremony in remembrance of the more than 2300 American troops killed in the December 7, 1941, attack that launched the US into World War 2.

About 30 survivors and 100 other veterans from the war are expected to observe a moment of silence at 7.55am, the minute the attack began.

Survivors, now in their late 90s or older, stayed home last year due to the coronavirus pandemic and watched a livestream of the event instead.

Russell is travelling to Hawaii with the Best Defence Foundation, a nonprofit founded by former NFL Linebacker Donnie Edwards that helps World War 2 veterans revisit



**FACE OF THE FRONT RECALLED:** Pearl Harbor survivor and World War 2 Navy veteran David Russell, 101, reads a birthday card while talking about his time aboard the USS Oklahoma and his life after the war on Monday. AP picture

their old battlefields.

He recalls heading topside when the attack started because he was trained to load anti-aircraft guns and figured he could help if any other loader got hurt.

But Japanese torpedo planes dropped a series of underwater missiles that pummelled the Oklahoma before he could get there.

Within 12 minutes, the hulking battleship capsized.

“Those darn torpedoes, they just kept hitting us and kept hitting us. I thought they’d never stop,” Russell said. “That ship was dancing around.”

Russell clambered over toppled lockers while the battleship rolled over.

Once he got to the main deck,

he crawled over the ship’s side and eyed the USS Maryland moored next door. He didn’t want to swim because oil was burning in the water below. Jumping, he caught a rope hanging from the Maryland and escaped to that battleship without injury.

He then helped pass ammunition to the Maryland’s anti-aircraft guns. After the battle, Russell and two

others went to Ford Island, next to where the battleships were moored, in search of a bathroom. A dispensary and enlisted quarters there had turned into a triage centre and place of refuge for hundreds of wounded, and they found burned sailors lining the walls. Many would die in the hours and days ahead.

“Most of them wanted a cigarette, and I didn’t smoke at that time but I got a pack of cigarettes and some matches, and I lit their cigarettes for them,” Russell said.

Russell still thinks about how lucky he was. He ponders why he decided to go topside on the Oklahoma, knowing most of the men who stayed behind likely were unable to get out after the hatch closed.

Russell remained in the Navy until retiring in 1960. He worked at Air Force bases for the next two decades and retired for good in 1980.

For decades, Russell didn’t share much about his experiences in World War 2 because no one seemed to care. But the images from Pearl Harbor still haunt him, especially at night.

“When I was in the VA hospital in San Francisco, they said, ‘We want you to talk about World War 2’. And I told them, ‘When we talk about it, people don’t believe us. They just walk away’.

“So now people want to know more about it so we’re trying to talk about it and we’re telling them what we saw,” he said. “You can’t forget it.” — AP

## Israel tightens supervision of cyber exports

JERUSALEM — Israel’s Defence Ministry on Monday announced that it was tightening supervision over cyber exports — a move that follows a series of scandals involving Israeli spyware company NSO Group.

The ministry said the countries purchasing Israeli cyber technology would have to sign a declaration pledging to use the products “for the investigation and prevention of terrorist acts and serious crimes only.”

It said countries that violate the terms of use could be subject to sanctions, “including limiting the cyber system and/or disconnecting it.”

The announcement made no mention of NSO. But it came just days after it was revealed that 11 US State Department employees were hacked with NSO spyware. The employees were all located in Uganda and included some foreign service officers, said a person familiar with the matter, who was not authorised to speak publicly

about an ongoing investigation.

It was the first known instance of NSO Group’s trademark Pegasus spyware being used against US government personnel.

Last month, the US Commerce Department blacklisted NSO, barring the company from using US technology. The blacklisting has raised questions about NSO’s financial outlook and ability to survive, and the company has acknowledged that it is trying to reverse the decision.

Apple also sued NSO last week over its hacking of iPhones and other Apple products, calling the Israeli company “amoral 21st century mercenaries.” Facebook has filed a lawsuit over similar allegations that it intruded its popular WhatsApp messaging system.

Pegasus allows its operator to gain access to a target’s mobile phone, including contacts, text messages and real-time communications.

NSO says it sells its technologies to governments only to battle crime and terrorism and that it has strict safeguards to prevent abuse. Company officials have acknowledged cutting off several customers due to misuse.

However, human rights groups and outside researchers have said the company’s safeguards are insufficient. They say customers have abused Pegasus to keep tabs on journalists, human rights activists and political dissidents from Mexico to Saudi Arabia to the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Critics have also accused Israel of lax oversight over the digital surveillance industry.

NSO declined to comment on the Defence Ministry guidelines. Last week, however, it said it had immediately shut down customers “potentially relevant” to the Uganda case. It also vowed to take legal action against customers if a violation of their contract was found. — AP

## Ireland to receive big Brexit payout

DUBLIN — The Republic of Ireland is to receive 920m euros (NZ\$1536.50m) from a European Commission fund which is designed to “mitigate the impact of Brexit”.

The Brexit Adjustment Reserve is available to all European Union member states “while ensuring a strong concentration on those most affected”.

Ireland is the biggest beneficiary and the first state to benefit. The reserve has a total budget of 5.4 billion euros.

The Irish government will receive 361.5m euros (NZ\$603.74m) in 2021, 276.7m euros (NZ\$ 462.12m) in 2022 and 282.2m euros (NZ\$471.30) in 2023. — BBC

# Ousted leader Suu Kyi convicted

BANGKOK — Ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi has been found guilty of inciting dissent and breaking Covid rules, in the first of a series of verdicts that could see her jailed for life.

Her sentence has been reduced from four years to two years.

Suu Kyi faces 11 charges in total and denies them all. They have been widely condemned as unjust. She has been in detention since a military coup in February toppled her elected civilian government.

Suu Kyi was handed the four year sentence by a court on Monday morning, but junta chief Min Aung Hlaing later reduced it to two years. It is not clear when or if Suu Kyi will be placed in prison. She is being held at an undisclosed location.

Co-defendant Win Myint, the former president and Ms Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy (NLD) party ally, was also jailed on Monday for four years under the same charges. UN Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet condemned the “sham trial” and said it would only “deepen rejection of the coup”.

UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss, meanwhile, called on Myanmar to release all political prisoners and allow a return to democracy. “The arbitrary detention of elected politicians only risks further unrest,” she said.

And rights group Amnesty called the charges “bogus”, saying it was the “latest example of the military’s determination to eliminate all opposition and suffocate freedoms in Myanmar”.

Suu Kyi is next due in court on December 14, when she will face charges of possessing illegal walkie-talkies.

The 76-year-old has been slapped with an array of charges, including several counts of corruption and violating the official secrets act. In one case, Suu Kyi was convicted of violating Covid restrictions for campaigning during last year’s election — she had waved to supporters while wearing a mask and face shield.

In the other she was found guilty of inciting unrest for a statement calling

for public opposition to the coup, put out by her party after she had already been taken into custody.

Suu Kyi’s lawyers, who had been the sole source of information on the legal proceedings, have also been served with gag orders forbidding them from releasing information. Little has been seen or heard of her apart from her brief court appearances.

A spokesman for the newly formed National Unity Government, had earlier told the BBC Suu Kyi was struggling. “She is not OK . . . military generals are preparing for 104 years of sentences for her in prison. They want her to die in prison,” Dr Sasa said.

The military had seized power alleging voter fraud in general elections held last year in which the NLD won by a landslide.

However, independent election observers have said the elections were largely free and fair. The coup triggered widespread demonstrations and Myanmar’s military

has cracked down on pro-democracy protesters, activists and journalists.

Suu Kyi is one of more than 10,600 people to have been arrested by the junta since February, and at least 1303 others killed in the demonstrations, according to the monitoring group Assistance Association for Political Prisoners.

Aung San Suu Kyi spent nearly 15 years in detention at the hands of the military between 1989 and 2010, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her work to bring democracy to Myanmar.

Her party, the National League for Democracy (NLD) won a landslide victory in 2015, but she was prevented from becoming president herself by rules excluding those with foreign national children from holding that office. She was widely regarded as the de facto ruler of the country.

However, her reputation abroad was severely damaged by the way she handled the Rohingya crisis, which started in 2017.

In 2019 Suu Kyi appeared at the UN International Court of Justice (ICJ) to defend her country against accusations of genocide. — BBC

**The ex-leader of Myanmar, who faces a total of 11 charges, is sentenced to two years in prison.**



### ALL IN THE NAME:

First his statue met a watery end during last year's Black Lives Matter protests. Now another school in southwest England that bears the name of slave trader Edward Colston is changing its name. The governors of Colston's School, which was set up in 1710 in Bristol, said on Monday that the private school will be renamed next summer, and that current and former students, parents and staff will all have a say in the choice. They said the events that took place during the protests in Bristol in June 2020, which saw the toppling of Colston's statue in the city, prompted renewed questions about keeping his name at locations across the city. "What became clear is that the name Colston has become a symbol of the city's extensive links to slavery and will forever be associated with the enslavement and deaths of African men, women and children," it said.

AP picture

## BRIEFS

### Fijians test Omicron positive

SUVA — Health authorities in Fiji have confirmed two people who had arrived in the country from southern Africa last month have tested positive to the Omicron variant.

The pair travelled to Fiji from Nigeria on November 25.

They both tested positive to Covid while in a border quarantine facility.

Health Secretary James Fong said last night their samples were sent to a reference laboratory in Australia for urgent genomic sequencing.

Dr Fong said both travellers' results were confirmed positive for the Omicron variant.

"The two travellers are Fijian citizens who had travelled back into Fiji from Nigeria on November 25 — the day the discovery of the Omicron variant was announced internationally," Dr Fong said.

"Both travellers tested negative for Covid-19 before departure from Fiji and before they left Nigeria. — RNZ

### Nigeria slams UK's travel ban

LAGOS, Nigeria — A Nigerian official on Monday criticised a travel ban imposed on the West African nation by the British government amid fears about the new Omicron variant as "punitive, indefensible and discriminatory".

UK Health Secretary Sajid Javid on Saturday added Nigeria to the UK's travel "red list," which means that arrivals from there will be banned except for UK and Irish residents.

He said there was a "significant number" of Omicron cases linked to travel with Nigeria, with 27 cases recorded in England.

But Nigerian authorities say they have not reported any new Omicron cases in the country since announcing on December 1 that they had detected three cases in travellers who arrived from South Africa.

The British travel ban is "not driven by science" and is "unjust, unfair, punitive, indefensible and discriminatory", Nigeria's Information Minister Lai Mohammed told reporters. — AP

### Unvaccinated face restrictions

MILAN — Italy is making life more uncomfortable for unvaccinated people this holiday season, excluding them from indoor restaurants, theatres and museums to reduce the spread of coronavirus and encourage vaccine sceptics to get their shots.

Italian police have been empowered to check whether diners in restaurants or bars have a "super" green health pass certifying that they are either vaccinated or have recently recovered from the virus.

Smart phone applications that verify people's health pass status have been updated to prevent entry to concerts, movies or performances to those who have merely tested negative in recent days. The measures run through to January 15.

Authorities also imposed a requirement that at least a "basic" health pass, which can be obtained with a negative test, must be used to get on local transport and to check into hotels. — AP

### Biden to speak with NATO allies

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden is set to consult by phone with European allies on Monday (local time) about Russia's troop buildup on the Ukraine border, one day ahead of Biden's highly anticipated video meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Officials from other leading NATO nations — the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy — were expected to be on Monday's call with Biden, who is looking to coordinate messaging and potential economic sanctions against Russia in response to the Ukraine situation.

Ukraine is likely to be the central focus of the Biden-Putin conversation, but the two are expected to address cybersecurity, Iran's nuclear programme and other issues that are of mutual concern. — AP

### Gang release three hostages

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — A religious group based in Ohio announced on Monday that a violent gang in Haiti has released three more hostages, while another 12 remain abducted.

The statement from Christian Aid Ministries said the people were released on Sunday in Haiti and are "safe and seem to be in good spirits". The group provided no further details.

On November 21, the religious organisation announced that the 400 Mawozo gang had released the first two hostages of a group of 17 kidnapped in mid-October.

There are 12 adults and five children in the group of 16 US citizens and one Canadian, including an eight-month-old. — AP

# Next pandemic could be 'more lethal' — scientist

LONDON — One of the scientists behind the Oxford-AstraZeneca Covid vaccine is warning that the next pandemic may be more contagious and more lethal unless more money is devoted to research and preparations to fight emerging viral threats.

In excerpts released before a speech on Monday (local time), Professor Sarah Gilbert says the scientific advances made in fighting deadly viruses "must not be lost" because of the cost of fighting the current pandemic.

"This will not be the last time a virus threatens our lives and our livelihoods," Gilbert is expected to say. "The truth is, the next one could be worse. It could be more contagious, or more lethal, or both."

Gilbert will be speaking on Monday night when she delivers this year's Richard Dimbleby lecture, named after the late broadcaster who was the BBC's first war correspondent and a pioneer of television news in Britain. The annual

televised lecture features addresses by influential figures in business, science and government.

Gilbert is set to urge governments to redouble their commitment to scientific research and pandemic preparedness, even after the threat of Covid-19 wanes.

"We cannot allow a situation where we have gone through all we have gone through, and then find that the enormous economic losses we have sustained mean that there is still no funding for pandemic preparedness," she said. "The advances we have made, and the knowledge we have gained, must not be lost."

The UK lifted most coronavirus restrictions in July after a successful vaccination campaign, but is now waiting to see whether the new Omicron variant will cause a setback. It has seen a high number of new daily infections this autumn and still has the second-worst Covid death toll in Europe — over

146,000 deaths — after Russia.

The government has tightened travel testing and isolation requirements and barred visitors from South Africa, where the variant was first identified, and several other African countries including Nigeria.

Health Secretary Sajid Javid said on Monday more than 300 Omicron cases had been confirmed in Britain, some with no links to international travel, and "we can conclude that there is now community transmission across multiple regions of England."

Much remains unknown about the variant, including whether it is more contagious as some health authorities suspect, whether it makes people more seriously ill, and whether it can thwart vaccines.

"We can't say for certain at this point whether Omicron has the potential to knock us off our road to recovery," Javid said. — AP

## Indonesia volcano claims 22, dozens missing

SUMBERWULUH — Rescuers dug out the body of a 13-year-old boy with their bare hands on Monday, as improved weather condition allowed them to resume their search for bodies after the highest volcano on Java island erupted with fury, killing at least 22 people and leaving 27 others missing.

Mount Semeru in Lumajang district in East Java province spewed thick columns of ash as high as 12,000 metres into the sky in a sudden eruption on Saturday triggered by heavy rain. Villages and nearby towns were blanketed by tonnes of volcanic debris. Searing gas raced down the sides of the mountain, smothering entire villages and killing or seriously burning those caught in its path.

National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesperson Abdul Muhari said 56 people had been hospitalised, mostly with burns. He said rescuers were still searching for 27 villagers reported missing. Nearly 3000 houses and 38 schools were damaged, Muhari said.

The body of the 13-year-old boy was recovered in the worst-hit village of Sumberwuluh, where houses were buried to their rooftops and cars were submerged. Crumpled roofs, charred carcasses of cattle and broken chairs covered in grey ash and soot dotted the smouldering landscape.

Rescuers on Monday retrieved two more bodies in Sumberwuluh village and five others in Sapiturang, among



**SMOULDERING LANDSCAPE:** Mount Semeru releases volcanic materials during an eruption as seen from Lumajang district, Indonesia on Monday. AP picture

the worst-hit villages in the Lumajang district.

Search and rescue efforts were temporarily suspended on Sunday afternoon because of fears that heavy rain would cause more hot ash and debris to fall from the crater.

The eruption of the 3676-metre high mountain eased pressure that had been building under a lava dome in the crater. But experts warned that the dome could further collapse, causing an avalanche of

blistering gas and debris trapped beneath it.

More than 2000 villagers of 5205 displaced people escaped to makeshift emergency shelters after Saturday's powerful eruption, but many others defied official warnings and chose to remain in their homes to tend their livestock and protect their property. The Lumajang district administration has declared a month-long emergency until January 3. — AP

# A beautiful backyard doesn't happen by itself

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- Garden design and planting
- Retaining walls
- Driveways
- Paths
- Stone walls
- Fencing



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# kidzonly



**PLAYING BALL:** Tall Fern international Lauryn Hippolite gave Te Karaka Area School pupils a few pointers when she visited on Thursday last week. Hippolite and New Zealand Tall Blacks coach Pero Cameron were in Gisborne to open six new basketball “street” hoops — two at Te Karaka, two at Gisborne Boys’ High School and two at Gisborne Girls’ High. Picture by Liam Clayton

## EAGER BEAVER

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

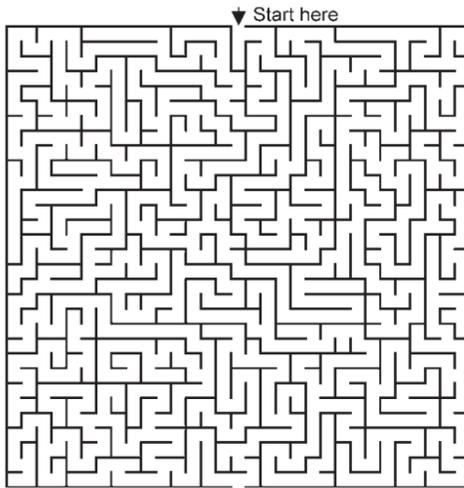
G U S T O F T R N A N X I E T Y H Y  
 C R A Z Y S U S I N C I S I V E C L  
 O K E N T H U S E R T I R I P S O E  
 L S E F S A R D E N T S H A R P N V  
 T A H E F N M S U O R O G I V W V I  
 P D E S N I T F R Y A A J U Z I I L  
 A B E Z U L C D A I T V E H I L N Y  
 S U X R E R E I L N T S I Q O L C B  
 S R F S E S P U E N A D R D M I E A  
 I S S U I G F T O N I T G I A N D R  
 O T A O P E A R E L T N I M H G I D  
 N I P C P R F E I R I V B C E T N O  
 A N F O T E O G D H E I Y D V Y T U  
 T G H S R I E M C K T C F M A U O R  
 E R R O Y N V T P I H U N G R Y D V  
 H I F D T E I E O T D E T I R I P S  
 F L E A D E R U R E A D Y R S N F E  
 T N E T N I S G N I L I O P S U K C

- |           |           |            |          |
|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| ACTIVE    | EARNEST   | INTO       | RUSH     |
| AMBITIOUS | EFFICIENT | ITCHING    | SHARP    |
| ANXIETY   | ENTHUSE   | KEEN       | SINCERE  |
| ARDENT    | FANATIC   | LEADER     | SPIRIT   |
| ARDOUR    | FIRST     | LIVELY     | SPIRITED |
| AVID      | FOREFRONT | PASSIONATE | SPOILING |
| BURSTING  | GUSTO     | POISED     | THIRSTY  |
| CONVINCED | HOPEFUL   | PROMPT     | VIGOROUS |
| CRAZY     | HUNGRY    | RAVE       | WILLING  |
| DILIGENT  | INCISIVE  | READY      | ZEAL     |
| EAGER     | INTENT    | RESTLESS   | ZEST     |

## SUDOKU

Enter numbers into the squares so that every row, every column and every 3x2 box contains all the numbers from 1 to 6

2	3	5			6
					5
		1	5		4
4		6	1		
5					
6			2	5	1



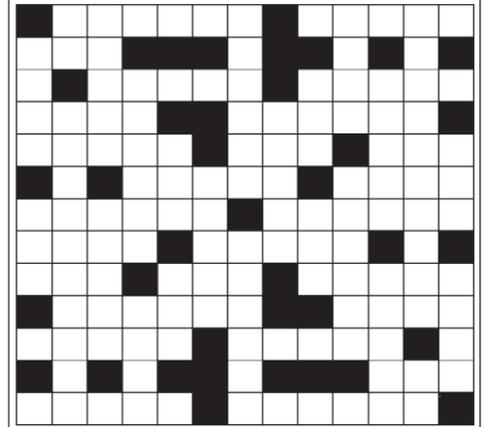
ETELTSIMNCUYJWQT  
 PIHSDGLASHESQERANT  
 EROLGDELIVERVAUZUR  
 EMUGEDWUWNRHRAVLE  
 FLASHESRPAKCLWAHOMR  
 GNIHCTDMEINWORBWA  
 RDPFKERRESWORBBOLA  
 CEOAECASCRIBBRYME  
 HDPVCAANIKSBNRYE  
 ECPHEPPADUOHGJBI  
 SDLCFJGTSSEGGELLA  
 TIAVRAEAOCLNTLR  
 NSBUPGCAOHMGKAEQ  
 UAJCONVEYEDNANGD  
 TRBNUEITKCNHCHAM  
 NMTBRIAHCMRANIHCUB  
 YDAJEROSEYDYCAGEDY  
 ITMUGELZEEAHEADIW

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

4	1	5	2	6	3
6	2	3	1	4	5
3	6	2	4	5	1
5	4	1	6	3	2
1	3	6	5	2	4
2	5	4	3	1	6

TRIO SOLUTION  
**ORI**

## WORD-FIT



Fit all the words into the grid to create a finished crossword.

- |                  |                  |                   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>2 LETTERS</b> | SUCH             | <b>6 LETTERS</b>  |
| IS               | ZONE             | DESERT            |
| WE               |                  | EQUALS            |
|                  |                  | MAGNET            |
| <b>3 LETTERS</b> |                  | MISSES            |
| AGO              |                  | NINETY            |
| AID              | <b>5 LETTERS</b> | NOTICE            |
| ANY              | ALONG            | SAFEST            |
| DAD              | ANGLE            | SNEEZE            |
| DEN              | DELAY            | UNCLES            |
| DIE              | DUCKS            | WISDOM            |
| ELF              | EXACT            |                   |
| ILL              | INDIA            | <b>10 LETTERS</b> |
| OFF              | INNER            | EXPERIMENT        |
| SEW              | ISSUE            | PROTECTION        |
| TAR              | LASSO            |                   |
| WHY              | LEMON            |                   |
|                  | MORAL            |                   |
| <b>4 LETTERS</b> | ONION            |                   |
| ARTS             | STAGE            |                   |
| DIVE             | STEAL            |                   |
| GAIN             | STEPS            |                   |
| NEED             | STING            |                   |



765

## TRIO

These four words can be completed using the same three-letter sequence. Can you find it?

A \_ \_ \_  
 B \_ \_ \_ D  
 \_ \_ \_ LM  
 \_ \_ \_ CT

© The Puzzle Company

# TUESDAY—WEDNESDAY'S TELEVISION GUIDE

## TVNZ 1 © TVNZ 2021

**5pm The Chase** *TV*  
Quiz show where contestants must stay one step ahead of The Chaser.

**6pm 1 News At 6pm** *TV*  
The latest news, sport, and weather.

**7pm Seven Sharp** *TV*  
Stories of the day from around New Zealand.

**7.30 Moving Houses** *TV*  
A treacherous journey around Lake Wakatipu for a 100-year-old church.

**8.30 Paramedics** *M TV*  
Australia's ambulance crews fight to save lives in a race against time.

**9.25 Coronation Street** *PG TV*

**10.25 1 News Tonight** *TV*

**10.55 Inside Belmarsh Prison** *16L TV*  
Ross Kemp takes us inside HMP Belmarsh, the UK's most notorious Category A prison.

**11.55 Burden Of Truth** *M TV*  
Joanna and Billy decide to go after ClearDawn alone, with an unreliable whistleblower as their only lead.

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.45 Te Karere** *TV*  
News and current affairs from a Maori perspective.

**1.10 Infomercials**

**5.30 Te Karere** *TV*  
News and current affairs from a Maori perspective.

**6am Breakfast** *TV*  
The Breakfast team presents news, interviews, weather, and information.

**9am The Ellen DeGeneres Show** *PG TV*  
Ellen DeGeneres brings her brand of humour to daytime talk.

**10am Tipping Point** *TV*  
Quiz show in which players take on a machine, hoping to win its jackpot.

**11am The Chase** *TV*

**Noon 1 News At Midday** *TV*

**12.30 Emmerdale** *PG TV*

**1pm Coronation Street** *PG TV*

**2pm The Ellen DeGeneres Show** *PG TV*

**3pm Tipping Point** *TV*

**4pm Te Karere**

**4.30 Asia Unplated With Diana Chan** *TV*

**5pm The Chase** *TV*

## BRAVO

**5.30 Shark Tank** *PG*

**6.30 Botched** *PGLSC TV*

**7.30 Rich Kids Go Skint** *ML*  
Emily is plucked from her country cocoon to sleep on a sofa in a council flat in Essex, where she has to fend off drunken men.

**8.30 The Real Housewives Of Melbourne** *16L*

**9.30 Framed By The Killer** *MVC*

**10.30 Snapped** *MVC TV*

**11.25 Killer Couples** *MVC TV*

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.15 Infomercials**

**6am Infomercials**

**10am Catfish** *PG TV*

**10.50 Botched** *PGLSC TV*

**11.45 Snapped** *MVC TV*

**12.40 Killer Couples** *MVC TV*

**1.35 The Real Housewives Of New York City** *M TV*

**2.35 Catfish** *PG TV*

**3.30 Face Off** *PGC TV*

**4.30 Love It Or List It**

**5.30 Shark Tank** *PG*

## TVNZ 2 © TVNZ 2021

**5pm The Simpsons** *TV*

**5.30 The Big Bang Theory** *TV*

**6pm Neighbours** *TV*

**6.30 Home And Away** *TV*

**7pm Shortland Street** *PG TV*

**7.30 Beauty And The Geek** *PG TV*

**8.45 MOVIE The Spy Who Dumped Me** *16VL TV* 2018  
Comedy. When two best friends are thrust into an international conspiracy, they must leap into action to save the world. Mila Kunis, Kate McKinnon.

**10.55 2 Broke Girls** *M TV*

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.45 Debris** *M TV*

**1.35 Shortland Street** *PG TV*

**2am Infomercials**

**2.55 Selling Houses Australia** *TV*

**4.35 Neighbours** *TV*

**5am Infomercials**

**6am Les Mills Born To Move** *TV*

**6.25 Hey Duggee** *TV*

**6.35 Clifford The Big Red Dog** *TV*

**7am Elliot Kid** *TV*

**7.25 SpongeBob SquarePants** *TV*

**7.50 The Deep** *TV*

**8.20 Darwin And Newts**

**8.30 Dorothy And The Wizard Of Oz** *TV*

**8.40 Book Hungry Bears** *TV*

**8.50 Daniel Tiger's Neighbourhood** *TV*

**9am Infomercials**

**9.30 Religious Programming**

**10am Les Mills Core** *TV*

**10.35 Neighbours** *TV*

**11.05 Friends** *TV*

**Noon The Royals** *PGVL TV*

**1pm The Best Of Judge Rinder** *TV*

**2pm The Mindy Project** *PG TV*

**2.30 Home And Away** *TV*

**3pm Shortland Street** *PG TV*

**3.35 Bluey** *TV*

**3.40 Get Clever** *TV*

**4.05 We Bare Bears** *TV*

**4.30 Friends** *TV*

**5pm The Simpsons** *PG TV*

**5.30 The Big Bang Theory** *TV*

## CHOICE

**5.30 Mysteries At The Museum** *PG*

**6.30 American Pickers** *PG*

**7.30 Quick Little Builds**

**8.30 Ugly House To Lovely House** *PG*

**9.30 Escape To The Chateau** *PG*

**10.30 American Pickers** *PG*

**11.30 Mysteries At The Museum** *PG*

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.30 Jamie And Jimmy's Food Fight Club**

**1.30 Gino's Italian Escape**

**2am Money For Nothing**

**3am How Do Animals Do That?**

**3.30 How Do Animals Do That?**

**4am Quick Little Builds**

**5am Mysteries At The Museum** *PG*

**6am Money For Nothing**

**7am Jamie And Jimmy's Food Fight Club**

**8am How Do Animals Do That?**

**8.30 How Do Animals Do That?**

**9am The Great Food Truck Race** *PG*

**10am Gino's Italian Escape**

**10.30 Mysteries At The Museum** *PG*

**11.30 American Pickers**

**12.30 Quick Little Builds**

**1.30 Escape To The Chateau** *PG*

**2.30 Ugly House To Lovely House**

**3.30 Extinct Or Alive** *PG*

**4.30 Giada Entertains**

**5pm Giada At Home**

**5.30 Mysteries At The Museum** *PG*

## THREE

**5pm Outback Opal Hunters** *PGL TV*

**6pm Newshub Live At 6pm**

**7pm The Project**

**7.30 The Block Australia** *PG TV*  
An emotional block challenge sees the teams dig deep.

**8.35 FINAL David Lomas Investigates** *PG TV*  
Cameron Clayton, an award-winning country singer, searches for his birth mother; Karyn was adopted and wants to find her sisters.

**9.35 Emergency** *M TV*  
Dr Steve's patient could lose his hand after an accident; a severe asthmatic struggles to breathe.

**10.25 Newshub Late**

**10.55 Westside** *16 TV*  
As Ted lies in hospital, Rita calls the troops to see-off those responsible.

**11.55 Infomercials**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6am The AM Show** *TV*

**9am Infomercials**

**10.30 Bondi Vet** *TV*

**11.30 Newshub Live At 11:30am**

**Noon House Hunters Renovation** *TV*

**1pm Yard Crashers** *TV*

**1.30 MOVIE Christmas Ever After** *TV* 2020  
Romance. Sparks fly during Christmastime when a handsome man, who looks like a character in her books. Ali Stroker, Daniel Di Tomasso.

**3.30 Millionaire Hot Seat**

**4.30 Newshub Live At 4:30pm**

**5pm Outback Opal Hunters** *PGL TV*

## PRIME

**5pm 3rd Rock From The Sun** *PGL TV*

**5.30 Prime News**

**6pm The Force** *MC TV*

**7pm The Crowd Goes Wild**  
The team presents the best of the day's sports news.

**7.30 American Pickers** *PGC TV*

**8.30 FINAL Designing Dreams** *TV*  
Architect Michael O'Sullivan takes Matthew on a tour of his favourite designs, including the first house in the world to see the new day.

**9.30 Sharp Objects** *16VLS TV*  
Chief Vickery uncovers key evidence in the Ann Nash murder case.

**10.40 Football: Women's A-League Highlights Show**

**11.50 Football: A-League Highlights Show**

**WEDNESDAY**

**1am The Late Show With Stephen Colbert** *PG*

**2am Love Island UK** *16LS*

**3am Infomercials**

**8am Ready Set Dance** *TV*

**8.05 Blue's Clues And You** *TV*

**8.30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** *TV*

**9am Fishy Business** *TV*

**10am The Office** *PGC TV*

**11am Shipping Wars** *PGL TV*

**11.30 Six Million Dollar Man** *PGV*

**12.30 American Pickers** *TV*

**1.30 Parks And Recreation** *PGC TV*

**2pm The Late Show With Stephen Colbert** *PG TV*

**3pm Wheel Of Fortune** *TV*

**3.30 Jeopardy**

**4pm American Pickers** *TV*

**5pm 3rd Rock From The Sun** *PGC TV*

**5.30 Prime News**

## MAORI TV

**5pm Swagger** *TV*

**5.30 Te Mana Kuratahi** *TV*

**6pm Haka Ngahau A-Rohe: Te Arawa** *TV*

**6.30 Te Ao Marama**

**7pm Grid**

**7.30 On Country Kitchen** *TV*

**8pm Piri's Tiki Tour** *PGC TV*

**8.30 Last Of The Giants**

**9.30 Wild Kai Legends** *PG*

**10pm Hunting Aotearoa** *M TV*

**10.30 National Sprint Championships** *TV*

**11pm Te Ao Marama**

**11.30 Closedown**

**WEDNESDAY**

**6.30 E Ki E Ki** *TV*

**6.35 Takoha** *TV*

**6.45 Takaro Tribe** *TV*

**7am Taki Atu Taki Mai** *TV*

**7.10 Potae Pai** *TV*

**7.20 Kia Mau** *TV*

**7.30 Paia** *TV*

**7.40 Darwin And Newts** *TV*

**7.50 He Rourou** *TV*

**8am Pukana** *TV*

**8.30 Oranga Ngakau** *TV*

**9.30 Whanau Bake-Off** *TV*  
Bakers share their best recipes and dishes, and most useful baking tips.

**10am On Country Kitchen** *TV*

**10.30 Whanau Living** *TV*

**11am Our Songs** *TV*

**11.30 Tangaroa With Pio** *TV*

**Noon Te Ao Tapatahi**

**12.30 Last Of The Giants**

**1.30 Toku Reo** *TV*

**2.30 Ako** *TV*

**3.30 E Ki E Ki** *TV*

**3.35 Takoha** *TV*

**3.45 Takaro Tribe** *TV*

**4pm Taki Atu Taki Mai** *TV*

**4.10 Potae Pai** *TV*

**4.20 Kia Mau** *TV*

**4.30 Paia** *TV*

**4.40 Smooth** *TV*

**4.50 He Rourou** *TV*

**5pm Pukana** *TV*

**5.30 Te Mana Kuratahi** *TV*



Paramedics  
8.30pm on TVNZ 1



The Spy Who Dumped Me  
8.45pm on TVNZ 2



The Block Australia  
7.30pm on Three

## RNZ NATIONAL

**5pm Checkpoint**  
RNZ's weekday drive-time news and current affairs programme.

**6.30 Trending Now**

**7.06 Nights With Bryan Crump.**

**10pm News At Ten**

**10.15 Lately With Karyn Hay.**

**11.04 Worlds Of Music** With Trevor Reekie.

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.04 All Night Programme**

**5am First Up** With Nathan Rarere.

**6am Morning Report** With Susie Ferguson and Corin Dann.

**9.06 Nine To Noon** With Kathryn Ryan.

**Noon Midday Report** With Mani Dunlop.

**1.06 Afternoons** With Jesse Mulligan.

**3.45 The Panel** With Wallace Chapman.

**5pm Checkpoint** With Lisa Owen.

## SKY SPORT 1

**1am Dubai Sevens (HLS)**  
Day One. From Sevens Stadium, Dubai.

**2.30 Dubai Sevens (HLS)**  
Day Two. From Sevens Stadium, Dubai.

**4am Outdoor Sports Show**

**4.30 Inside Sailing**

**5am Between Two Posts**

**6am The Back Page**

**7am Playmakers: Rugby Stories**

**7.30 Heartland XV v NZ Barbarians (HLS)**

**8am Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fourth Test 2010: Day Two.**

**8.30 Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fourth Test 2010: Day Three.**

**9am Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fourth Test 2010: Day Four.**

**9.30 Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fifth Test 2010: Day One.**

**10am Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fifth Test 2010: Day Two.**

**10.30 Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fifth Test 2010: Day Three.**

**11am Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fifth Test 2010: Day Four.**

**11.30 Cricket: Australia v England (HLS) Fifth Test 2010: Day Five.**

**Noon LIVE Cricket: The Ashes**  
Australia v England: First Test, Day One.

## SKY 5

**5.05 Storage Wars** *PGL*

**5.30 Pawn Stars** *PG*

**6pm Ice Road Truckers** *PG*

**7pm Border Security** *M*  
An insight into the work of the officers who protect Australia's borders.

**7.30 NCIS** *MV*

**8.30 A1: Highway Patrol** *MVLC*

**9.30 Outback Truckers** *PGL*

**10.30 FBI** *MV*

**11.30 Mountain Men** *PG*

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.30 Wheel Of Fortune**

**1am Jeopardy!**

**1.25 Border Security** *M*

**1.50 Outback Truckers** *PGL*

**2.35 A1: Highway Patrol** *MVLC*

**3.30 Ice Road Truckers** *PG*

**4.20 FBI** *MV*

**5.10 NCIS** *MV*

**6am Jeopardy!**

**6.25 Wheel Of Fortune**

**6.45 Pawn Stars** *PG*

**7.10 Storage Wars** *PG*

**7.35 Mountain Men** *PG*

**8.25 Border Security** *M*

**8.50 Ice Road Truckers** *PG*

**9.40 NCIS** *MV*

**10.30 FBI** *MV*

**11.30 Pawn Stars** *PG*

**Noon Jeopardy!**

**12.25 Wheel Of Fortune**

**12.50 A1: Highway Patrol** *MVLC*

**1.40 Outback Truckers** *PGL*

**2.30 NCIS** *MV*

**3.20 Mountain Men** *PG*

**4.10 Jeopardy!**

**4.35 Wheel Of Fortune**

**5pm Storage Wars** *PG*

**5.30 Pawn Stars** *PG*

## PAY TV

**5.20 The Craft: Legacy** *MC*  
2020 Drama. Cailee Spaeny, Gideon Adlon.

**6.55 Sniper: Assassin's End** *16VL 2020 Action.* Chad Michael Collins, Tom Berenger.

**8.30 Red Joan** *MS 2018*  
Drama. The story of Joan Stanley, who was exposed as the KGB's longest-serving British spy. Judi Dench.

**10.15 The Marksman** *MVLC 2021*  
Action. Liam Neeson, Kathryn Winnick.

**WEDNESDAY**

**12am Shadow In The Cloud**  
16V 2021 Action. Chloe Grace Moretz, Nick Robinson.

**1.21 Summerland** *PGC 2020*  
Drama. Gemma Arterton, Gugu Mbatha-Raw.

**2.57 Hard Kill** *16V 2020 Action.* Jesse Metcalfe, Bruce Willis.

**4.33 Alone** *16VL 2020 Thriller.* Jules Willcox, Marc Menchaca.

**6.08 Inherit The Viper** *16LC*  
2019 Drama. Josh Hartnett, Margarita Levieva.

**7.29 Locusts** *16VLS 2019 Thriller.*

**8.52 The Call** *16VLS 2020 Horror.*

**10.26 The Bad Twin** *MVLS 2016 Thriller.*

**11.59 Baby Done** *MLSC 2020 Comedy.*

**1.29 Monster Hunter** *MVC 2020 Action.*

**3.09 Rams** *PGVL 2020 Drama.*

**5.04 Infinite** *MVLC 2021 Action.*

## DISCOVERY

**5.40 Crikey! It's Shark Week** *PG*

**6.35 Return To Lair Of The Great White** *PG*

**7.30 Expedition Unknown: Shark Trek** *PG*

**8.30 Mystery Of The Black Demon Shark** *PG*

**9.30 Mothersharker** *PG*

**10.30 Bear v Shark** *PG*

**11.25 Naked And Afraid** *M*

**WEDNESDAY**

**12.15 How It's Made** *PG*

**12.40 How Do They Do It?** *PG*

**1.05 What On Earth?** *PG*

**1.55 Deadliest Catch** *M*

**2.45 Naked And Afraid** *M*

**3.35 Moonshiners** *MLC*

**4.25 Gold Rush: White Water** *PG*

**5.15 Aussie Gold Hunters** *PG*

**6.05 How Do They Do It?** *PG*

**6.30 How It's Made** *PG*

**6.55 House Hunters Renovation** *PG*

**7.45 House Hunters International** *PG*

**8.10 House Hunters International** *PG*

**8.35 Top Gear** *PG*

**9.25 Fast N' Loud** *PG*

**10.20 Ancient Unexplained Files** *PG*

**11.15 Mysteries At The Museum** *PG*

**12.10 How It's Made** *PG*

**12.35 How Do They Do It?** *PG*

**1.05 What On Earth?** *PG*

**2pm Naked And Afraid** *M*

**2.55 Deadliest Catch** *MLC*

**4.45 Gold Rush** *MLC*

**5.40 Fast N' Loud** *PG*

**NOTICE BOARD**

Entertainment

**ODEON 5**  
Phone 867 3339

**A BOY CALLED CHRISTMAS (PG)**  
TUE, WED 1.30pm, 6pm  
**DUNE (M)** TUE 1.50pm, 5pm, 8.15pm  
WED 10.40am, 1.50pm, 5pm, 8.15pm  
**ENCANTO (M)**  
TUE 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm  
WED 11am, 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm  
**ETERNALS (M)**  
TUE, WED 2.40pm, 5.35pm, 8pm  
**FALLING FOR FIGARO (M)** WED 11.15am  
**NO TIME TO DIE (M)**  
TUE, WED 8pm  
**PETITE MAMAN (PG)**  
WED 11.15am  
**RON'S GONE WRONG (PG)** TUE, WED 3.45pm  
**THE POWER OF THE DOG (R13)**  
TUE, WED 8.20pm  
**VENOM: LET THERE BE CARNAGE (M)** TUE, WED 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm  
**BOOK ONLINE NOW!**  
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Times may vary subject to late change

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Ph 027 659 2915.

Situations Vacant

**PART-TIME GRILL COOK WANTED**  
for local Burger Shop. Someone willing to learn.  
Hours 4.30pm to 9pm  
**For an interview and pay rate discussion**  
Phone 021 129 3001

AT YOUR SERVICE

Adult Entertainment

**HOT** sexy blonde talk live. Ph 0900-44-666. \$3.99+GST pm. (R18)

Hire

**HYDRALADA'S** for hire, \$65/day. Ph 0274 485 188.

Trade Services

**DRINK** drive/criminal lawyer. Strong defence. Ph/text 022 048 9086.

**Having a garage sale Saturday?**  
Deadline to advertise is 2pm Thursday.

**LOST & FOUND**

Found

**PRESCRIPTION** glasses, brown frame, found Kaiaua Beach. Ph Bill 021 147 0009.

Meetings

Te Whare Hauora o Te Aitanga a Hauiti

**POSTPONEMENT NOTICE**

Te Whare Hauora o Te Aitanga a Hauiti

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**CHANGE OF DATE:**  
Now Saturday, 15th January 2022  
10am - 12pm  
at Hauiti Hauora

All welcome – nau mai, haere mai!

Lunch to follow.  
**RSVP 862 6629 for catering purposes please.**

**HOME & LEISURE**

Firewood

**BUY** now, 4m3 Macro \$400, Gum 2m3 \$220 or 4m3 \$420. Manuka 2m3 \$300 or 4m3 \$580. Pine 4m3 \$280. Ph 862 8876. Macs Firewood.

**QUALITY** Firewood  
[www.thefirewoodguy.nz](http://www.thefirewoodguy.nz)

Readers Bargains

**2X** Nissan Laurels, 1985, with 1d 28 diesel motors, reg on hold, \$500 ono each. Ph 862 7765, 027 390 6851.

**JIGSAWS**, 1000 & 500pce, complete, good cond, \$3ea. Ph 867 9750.

**MAHOGANY** wall unit, excell cond, 1.790m h x 1.2m w x 395 d, \$150. Fridge/freezer \$100. Ph 021 175 5151.

**PONTOON** boat, plastic Mac 2.7m, \$700, 6hp Suzuki outboard, \$400, all very good cond, or sell together for \$1000. New size 11 John Bull safety boots, calf length, worn once inside only, \$80. Ph 0273 313 625.

**SIDE** delivery silage wagon, also tractor front end loader bucket, etc. Be ready for the drought, \$900 ono. Duncan offset disc, \$500 ono. Cattle stops, top grills, 1 9", 1 14", \$450. Railway rails, approx 14", \$90ea + GST. Ph 027 390 6851, 862 7765.

**Classifieds Phone 869 0601**

The Gisborne Herald

**Classified Deadlines**  
2pm publishing day prior to publication  
10am Saturday for Monday's issue  
9am publication day for Births and Deaths

**The Gisborne Herald**  
TE NUPEPA O TE TAIRAWHITI

**Having a garage sale Saturday?**  
Deadline to advertise is 2pm Thursday.

**HAVE YOU LOST A FURRY FAMILY MEMBER?**



**The Gisborne Herald**  
has free listings in our classified section for lost and found animals. Phone 869 0601.



**Spread the Joy of Christmas**

The Gisborne Herald are collecting gifts under our Christmas tree for The Salvation Army.

If you, your family or business would like to give a gift to a child up to the age of 17, please bring it into our office, 64 Gladstone Road. Please specify boy/girl and age if wrapped.

*The Salvation Army are committed to caring for people, transforming lives and reforming services.*

**The Gisborne Herald**

**THE SALVATION ARMY**

43869-01

**Influence of The Gisborne Herald in our community**



What people buy  
**66%**



Where people shop  
**70%**

Influenced by advertisements in The Gisborne Herald

Contact The Gisborne Herald today to find out how we can help your business. Phone Ander Batarrita on 06 869 0617

**The Gisborne Herald**

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*Be blessed this Christmas - Meri Kirihimete*

Hawkes Bay races at Hastings Wednesday Jetbet 4 TAB Doubles 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 Trebles 2-3-4, 6-7-8 Quaddies 1-2-3-4, 5-6-7-8 Place6 3-8

Selections
Race 1: CURRENT SURGE, SHE'S SO RELIABLE, LADY TELENA
Race 2: TUAHINE, WINDSPEED, SAVASILK
Race 3: TUAHINE, APACHE WOMAN, SAVASILK
Race 4: BRITISH ROYALTY, SOPHISTICAL, BRIMSTONE
Race 5: KING FAROUK, TINA AGAIN, PENNY ROYAL
Race 6: REMIX, HOW MUCH FOR CASH, FIVE FORTUNE
Race 7: PUTORINO, ROSBERG, AQUAIOIR
Race 8: MIDNIGHT SPECIAL, FUTAE, AVIATOR

4 69s50 Laser's Fury (13) 57 47 T Newman
5 9 Saint Bathans (12) 57 46 S Weatherley
6 Diomedes (4) 57 45 R Elliot
7 Precious Colours SCRATCHED
8 8s450 Elusive Joule (7) 56 5 49 L Hemi
9 Tellme-You-Loveme SCRATCHED
10 00s7 Dubai Lady (15) 56 5 47 C Barnes
11 9s6 Caley Can (11) 56 5 46 C Grylls
12 Dream Girl (10) 56 5 45 C Grylls
13 Truly (2) 56 5 45 C L O'Beirne (a2)
14 2 Windspeed (5) 55 5 2 F Lazet (a3)
15 6s34 Savasilk (3) 55 5 1 M McNab
16 Secret Falls SCRATCHED

14 0900 One Dream One Soul (7) 56.5 45 Ashvin Mudhoo (a2)
15 7s Tighten Me Up (5) 56.5 45 M Cameron
16 Tramonto (10) 56.5 45 K Asano (a)
4 Bramwell Bate Lawyers Sprint 4.27
\$12,000, rating 65 benchmark\*, 1200m
1 1854s Brimstone (2) 59 62 R Elliot
2 9s105 Monza (4) 59 62 S Weatherley
3 305s0 Bradman (1) 58.5 61 L Allpress
4 21440 Encantador (5) 58.5 61 L Douglas (a4)
5 0s50s Matt Cain (6) 58 60 F Lazet (a3)
6 1 British Royalty (3) 57.5 63 R Hannam
7 8s492 Magness (9) 57.5 59 C Dell
8 21s86 Sophistical (8) 56.5 61 D Johnson
9 8s19 O'So Divine (7) 55.5 62 L Hemi
10 Arabian-Sea SCRATCHED

3 4742 Sergio (10) 58.5 52 S O'Malley
4 0s200 Subtle Point (15) 58.5 51 M Singh
5 0277 Sailor Jack (1) 58.5 50 K Asano (a)
6 368 Bazooka (2) 58.5 49 L Douglas (a4)
7 s4640 Do The Maths (19) 58.5 49 S J Macnab
8 7s574 Silky Red Fox (6) 57 53 L Hemi
9 72 Remix (4) 57 52 M McNab
10 26 How Much For Cash (7) 57 51 D Johnson
11 s2223 Vishakha (12) 56.5 54
12 232s6 Stopalltheclocks (5) 56.5 53 L Allpress
13 583 Andromeda (3) 56.5 51 S Weatherley
14 7s664 Kwaussie Girl (16) 56.5 50 M Cameron

12 0s883 Socialights (5) 56 60 L Allpress
13 00s0s Semprini (9) 55.5 59
14 570s5 Tuigrin (4) 55 58 S J Macnab
EMERGENCIES:
15 69374 Up 'n' Gone (1) 56.5 57
16 07s45 Quatromosa (10) 54 56
8 Westbury Stud Staff 6.44
\$12,000, maiden, 1400m
1 Age-Of-Nature SCRATCHED
2 Absolutely Maybe (3) 58.5 46 S O'Malley
3 8s86 Go Butch (12) 58.5 46
4 Roadster SCRATCHED
5 The Mammoth (13) 58.5 45 J Riddell
6 Aviator (10) 57 52 L Allpress
7 9s4 It's The Vibe (5) 57 50 C Grylls
8 Stallone (2) 57 46 D Johnson
9 Karehana Bay (16) 57 45
10 23 Midnight Special (6) 56.5 53 M McNab
11 3 Futae (4) 56.5 51 M Cameron
12 7s3 Pink Champagne (11) 56.5 51 S Weatherley

1 Brews & Ques On Sale Now 2.42
\$12,000, maiden, 2100m
1 865s3 Current Surge (3) 58.5 51 M Cameron
2 437s5 I'm Chuck (11) 58.5 51 C Dell
3 43s06 Eagle Hunter (4) 58.5 49 S Weatherley
4 380 Overagain (7) 58.5 49 J Riddell
5 908 Dictation (8) 58.5 45 T Newman
6 0s009 Kaluanui (5) 56.5 54 C Grylls
7 s3522 She's So Reliable (2) 56.5 54 L Allpress
8 24436 Lady Telena (6) 56.5 52 D Bradley
9 33 Rischio (9) 56.5 52 L Hemi
10 07 Fuji Dancer (1) 56.5 45 T Yanagida (a)
11 90060 Langley (10) 56.5 45
2 Waipukurau Motors 3.17
\$12,000, maiden, 1200m
1 45s Badgeringdawitnes (9) 58.5 50
2 Deceptive (14) 58.5 47
3 6s Thelongerlook (6) 58.5 46 J Riddell

3 NZB Insurance Pearl Series 3.52
\$12,000, maiden 3yoF, 1200m
1 Windspeed SCRATCHED
2 6s34 Savasilk (8) 56.5 51
3 Apache Woman (2) 56.5 50 C Grylls
4 546 Subtle Tease (4) 56.5 50 M Singh
5 Flerta (11) 56.5 47 L Allpress
6 Pennsylvania (13) 56.5 47 S Weatherley
7 Secret Falls (1) 56.5 47 F Lazet (a3)
8 Tuahine (9) 56.5 47 D Johnson
9 09 Third Time Round (15) 56.5 46
10 Bella Da Party (3) 56.5 45
11 s0s87 Korubela Miss (14) 56.5 45 T Yanagida (a1)
12 Krone (12) 56.5 45 A Goindasamy (a1)
13 7s Myrtle Creek (6) 56.5 45 M McNab

5 Vetsone 5.02
\$12,000, rating 74 benchmark, 1400m
1 86010 Magic Incanto (6) 62 82 F Lazet (a3)
2 41580 Project (3) 58 70 C Barnes
3 53610 No Rock No Pop (7) 57.5 73 Ashvin Mudhoo (a2)
4 22s14 Excitonic (8) 57.5 69 D Johnson
5 7s645 Penny Royal (4) 55.5 69 S J Macnab
6 0s586 Tina Again (5) 55 67 L Douglas (a4)
7 s4452 King Farouk (1) 54.5 63 L Allpress
8 2890s Mandalorian (2) 54 58 C Grylls
6 Pgc Constructors 5.34
\$12,000, maiden, 1600m
1 s00s2 Five Fortune (8) 58.5 54 R Hannam
2 s2326 Nonchalant (9) 58.5 53 J Riddell

7 Tremain Group Mile 6.09
\$12,000, rating 65 benchmark\*, 1600m
1 s5105 Chandler (15) 59 62 J Riddell
2 s4010 Newstalk (13) 58.5 61 T Newman
3 416s7 Putorino (16) 58.5 61 S O'Malley
4 3721 Rosberg (3) 58 63 A Goindasamy (a1)
5 1560s Dragon Realm (7) 58 60 C Barnes
6 0s1 No Time To Jazz (12) 57.5 63 F Lazet (a3)
7 71s0 Swing Low (8) 57 62 T Yanagida (a1)
8 00s99 Aquaioir (14) 56.5 61 M Cameron
9 169s0 Lady Calypso (2) 56.5 61
10 49s89 Swish Az (6) 56.5 61 R Hannam
11 75s90 Family Time (11) 56 60 R Elliot

13 54635 Quartz Queen (14) 55 51 A Goindasamy (a1)
14 Five-Road-Junction SCRATCHED
15 Superette SCRATCHED
16 57s8 Raccourci (17) 55 46
EMERGENCIES:
17 Cry Baby (7) 55 45 R Hannam
18 Texas Tea (8) 57 45 C Barnes
19 Platinum-Lining SCRATCHED
20 9 Shivers (1) 56.5 45
21 4860s Plucky Miss (9) 56.5 45
22 7s788 Too Savy (15) 56.5 45

Oamaru harness at Oamaru Wednesday Jetbet 8 TAB D. 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 T. 1-2-3, 4-5-6, 8-9-10 Q. 2-3-4-5, 7-8-9-10 PL6 5-10

Selections
Race 1: ABACARDI HAZEL, BARRYTOWN, SPEEDING SPIRIT
Race 2: MAJOR WILSON, BOBBY VINTON, ROCK'N KIWI
Race 3: CRYSTAL DAYTOM, ADHIKA, FLEETING MAJOR
Race 4: GLITZ AND GLAM, B SMART, LUNAR LEGEND
Race 5: EMMA LOUISE, SHANDON BELLS, MAJESTIC ROLLON
Race 6: PERCY, KOWHAI SHADOW, CHARLIE'S ACE
Race 7: PASSION AND POWER, JIMMY ARMA, A BETTOR ACT
Race 8: TERROR MARIA, SNEAK A PEEK, BEAUDIENE HUSTLER
Race 9: MAJESTIC JAG, COUNT EYRE, MAJESTICMITE
Race 10: WITH GRACE, ARIELLA, MYRCELLA

10 Dragons Sunrise (Fr) 10 R Holmes
11 0 Streaming Live (Fr) 11 R May
12 Son Of A Sun (Fr) U1
2 Monica Torretto Photographer 1.02
\$9000, non-winners 2yo+, mobile, 2000m
1 85704 Bobby Vinton (Fr) 1 S Tomlinson
2 38s80 Get Kraken (Fr) 2 K Butt
3 50480 Pure Courage (Fr) 3 C Thornley
4 03795 Major Wilson (Fr) 4 S Otley
5 60470 Mikis Shining Star (Fr) 5 S O'Reilly (J)
6 s5093 Rock'n Kiwi (Fr) 6 T Williams
7 80s Lifechangingevent (Fr) 7
8 s0008 The Terrorist (Fr) 8
9 7s790 Nurdy Star (Fr) U1 S McNally

3 70066 Ali X (Fr) 3 C Thornley
4 5s006 You Can Fly Arden (Fr) 4
5 069s8 Waite For Mee (Fr) 5 S Otley
6 67s8 All Too Well (Fr) 6 C Butt
7 9680s Bondi Lustre (Fr) 7 J Curtin
8 37092 Glitz And Glam (Fr) 8 M Williamson
9 s3053 B Smart (Fr) 9 J Morrison
5 Welcome Matthew Williamson Trot 2.25
\$9000, 3yo+ r40-r47 stand, 2000m
1 019s7 Majestic Rollon (Fr) 1
2 08900 Bourbon On The Rocks (Fr) 2 J Versteeg
3 10493 Hanover Da Moon (Fr) 3 J Dunn
4 8s779 Pat The Monkey (Fr) 4 K Tomlinson (J)
5 87080 Illegal Alien (Fr) 5 C Thornley
6 6s508 Lane A Love (Fr) 6 J Patterson
7 s5800 Danangus Fella (Fr) U1 R May
8 20777 Fast Whispering (Fr) U2
9 50894 Shandon Bells (Fr) U3 M Williamson
10 08661 Emma Louise (Fr) U4
11 0700s Majestic Rose (Fr) U5 L Dobbs

10 7573s Delightful Gloria (Fr) 10
11 80080 Starkers (Fr) 11
12 007s0 Swap Over (Fr) 12
13 3s805 Saint Waitaki (Fr) 13
7 David Owens Building Pace 3.27
\$10,500, 3yo+ r57-r59,r60-r65 w/c. mobile, 2000m
1 22701 John James Preston (Fr) 1 K Cameron
2 02514 Tairlaw Toll (Fr) 2
3 00677 The Kaik (Fr) 3 K Butt
4 47s99 Makasar Boy (Fr) 4 S Otley
5 60680 Dodgethebullet (Fr) 5 S Tomlinson
6 76511 Passion And Power (Fr) 6
7 1s091 Swedish Franco (Fr) 7
8 13144 Jimmy Arma (Fr) 8
9 09922 A Bettor Act (Fr) 9

13 7349s Hurricane Banner (Fr) 24
14 s2002 Terror Maria (Fr) 25 J Dunn
9 Williamson Racing Stables Trot 4.37
\$10,500, r50-r75 discretionary handicap stand, 2000m
1 94566 Sunnive Phileah (Fr) 1 E Barron (J)
2 19808 Greenbank Betty (Fr) 2
3 17000 Franco Josiah (Fr) 3
4 10905 Cody Banner (Fr) 4 R Close
5 19101 Majestic Jag (Fr) 5 J Dunn
6 s316s Majesticmte (10) 1 S Otley
7 13402 Count Eyre (10) 2 M Williamson
8 489P0 Harry H (10) 3 K Tomlinson (J)
9 00461 Miss Crazyed (20) U1 B Williamson
10 See You Back Here 9/2 5.13
\$8500, 3yo+ r40-r44,r45 & r47 w/c. mobile, 2000m
1 290s3 Mayhem In Malibu (Fr) 1 S Otley
2 08009 Pete's Dash (Fr) 2 D O'Connell
3 90600 Canardly Remember (Fr) 3
4 506s2 Ariella (Fr) 4 M Williamson
5 00575 With Grace (Fr) 5 J Dunn
6 77790 Mark Dunnett (Fr) 6
7 69036 Kingsdown Atom (Fr) 7 J Morrison
8 s7055 Spicy Girl Becqui (Fr) 8
9 5s80s Get It On (Fr) 9 E Barron (J)
10 08999 Honour Scroll (Fr) 21 K Tomlinson (J)
11 600P3 Myrcella (Fr) 22
12 98000 Essence Of Easton (Fr) 23
13 06946 Conquer Me (Fr) 24 C Butt
14 14040 Huckabee (Fr) 25 S O'Reilly (J)

1 Bill Phiskie Clerk Of The Course Trot 12.37
\$9000, non-winners 2yo+ stand, 2000m
1 s0362 Abacardi Hazel (Fr) 1 J Dunn
2 0 The Fiery Spirit (Fr) 2 K Butt
3 90 Speeding Spirit (Fr) 3 M Williamson
4 Diedre Franco (Fr) 4 C Thornley
5 2363 Barrytown (Fr) 5 T Williams
6 9 Kohli Trouble (Fr) 6 S McNally
7 9s059 Nordic Prince (Fr) 7 J Morrison
8 Nubiah Chamay (Fr) 8
9 0 Cashem (Fr) 9 K Cameron

3 Otago Equine Hospital Pace 1.27
\$9000, non-winners 3yo+ stand, 2000m
1 85546 Fleeting Major (Fr) 1 S Tomlinson
2 87s Marciano (Fr) 2
3 08086 Webs Reactor (Fr) 3 C Thornley
4 Apache Warrior (Fr) 4 S Otley
5 7 Follow Me Fantasy (Fr) 5 M Williamson
6 09085 Airies Gold (Fr) 6 G Shand
7 60380 Adhika (Fr) 7
8 9760s Camleigh Rose (Fr) 8 K Cameron
9 64434 Crystal Daytom (Fr) 9 R Close
4 Raging Bull At Macca Lodge F&M 1.52
\$9000, non-winners 3yo+ f&m. mobile, 2000m
1 89674 Lunar Legend (Fr) 1 R Close
2 s5095 Kid Gloves (Fr) 2 J Patterson

6 Plunket Electrical Oamaru Jnr Drivers 2.53
\$8500, 4yo+ r40-r50 jun.d stand, 2000m
1 96530 Skidaddle (Fr) 1 K Newman (J)
2 98s85 Westburn Bliss (Fr) 2 K Tomlinson (J)
3 00403 Kowhai Shadow (Fr) 3
4 s4154 Charlie's Ace (Fr) 4
5 07443 Percy (Fr) 5
6 600s0 Omar Sharif (Fr) 6
7 87007 Mach O'Melley (Fr) 7 E Barron (J)
8 08s66 El Serrar (Fr) 8 M Hurrell (J)
9 4990s Boulton Home (Fr) 9 B Hope (J)

8 Placemakers Pace 4.02
\$9500, 3yo+ r45-r56. mobile, 2000m
1 99586 Four Starzzz Shiraz (Fr) 1 D O'Connell
2 90000 Aveross Rustler (Fr) 2 K Newman (J)
3 10800 Precious Sara (Fr) 3
4 09462 Sneak A Peek (Fr) 4 M Williamson
5 Mighty Flying Rocker SCRATCHED
6 62354 Beaudiene Hustler (Fr) 5 E Barron (J)
7 5s406 Duffy Hollow (Fr) 6 T Williams
8 0s936 Tom Martin (Fr) 7
9 09164 Katherine (Fr) 8
10 02068 Midfrew Luisianabeau (Fr) 21 S Otley
11 0P738 Black Ops (Fr) 22 S Tomlinson
12 88008 Hilarious Prince (Fr) 23

10 310s4 The Storm In Me dw (5) 56.5 92 G Buckley
7 Bowermans Handicap 7.50
\$50,000, 3yo & up Benchmark 72, 1000m
1 s977s Hard Landing dw (9) 61 84 T Sherry (a1.5)
2 2141s Osamu wh (8) 61 89 T Berry
3 s583s He's Super Lucky dh (7) 60.5 86 Ms K O'Hara
4 7068s Kosciusko twm (10) 58.5 86 B Griffiths (a3)
5 0s315 Depth That Varies d (5) 58 88
6 124s5 Lepreezy wh (11) 58 89 J Bowman
7 62133 Pick The Score dw (4) 57 88 T Schiller (a3)
8 8761s Chervil dw (13) 55 83 Ms A Collett
9 21s1 Quatenus d (12) 55 95 K Mc Evoy
10 181s2 Rubinocchi dw (2) 54.5 93 R Bayliss
11 31s19 Authentic Jewel dw (1) 54 95 J Ford
EMERGENCIES:
12 1226s Stormborn dw (6) 55 87 Ms R King
13 42201 Omar dw (3) 56 100 J Innes Jnr

New South Wales races at Warwick Farm Wednesday

Selections
Race 1: RISE OF THE MASSES, CALIFORNIA DEEPLY, OKATAINA
Race 2: BARRICHELLO, ALLUSIONIST, KANAZAWA
Race 3: OTYRAR, SOLAR APEX, SONIC TYCOON
Race 4: NIFFLER, BELLE ESPOIR, DYNASTIES
Race 5: BLACK QUEEN, DENLIQUIN, MERLINITE
Race 6: GLITTERY, SUR LA MER, REBEL SHADOW
Race 7: QUATENUS, RUBINOCCHI, DEPTH THAT VARIES

2 Vinery Handicap 4.55
\$50,000, 3yo & up Maiden, 1100m
1 232s2 Barricello (7) 60 100 J Collett
2 2328s Allusionist b (3) 59 88 L Magorrian
3 Surround Step h (2) 59 86 J Ford
4 62s Hamaki (9) 58 91 K Mc Evoy
5 Kanazawa (11) 57.5 88 Ms R King
6 s243s Lucky Sun (4) 57.5 92 J Parr
7 Ever Bella h (6) 55.5 89 N Rawiller
8 2436s Pressita (10) 54.5 89 Ms A Collett
9 266s8 Baden Road b (5) 54 83 R Dolan
10 262s4 Compassionate (1) 54 93 R Jones (a3)
11 63625 Golden Chances bh (8) 54 85 Ms K O'Hara
12 96s7 Let'sgetridiculid h (12) 54 85 T Schiller (a3)

4 The Agency Handicap 6.05
\$50,000, 3yo & up F&M Benchmark 72, 1600m
1 43211 Belle Espoir dwh (2) 59 95 T Clark
2 31s84 Always On Show dw (7) 58 92 J Collett
3 63345 My Demetra w (3) 57.5 90 T Berry
4 15s5 Savoir Faire tw (5) 57.5 93 Ms R King
5 1s1 Niffler w (6) 57 100 J Bowman
6 10s49 Penso A Lei h (1) 56.5 90 N Rawiller
7 33352 Segrill dw (8) 56 91 T Sherry (a1.5)
8 1s22 Dynasties wb (4) 55.5 99 K Mc Evoy
9 36441 She's Independent dw (9) 54 93 Ms R Murray

2 4s977 Karmazone w (1) 58 98 A B Collett
3 53113 Black Queen wbh (7) 56 97 J Bowman
4 62141 Outlook w (11) 56 97 T Sherry (a1.5)
5 33632 Merlinita h (6) 55 95 T Clark
6 67054 Terwilliker dw (2) 55 93 J Collett
7 45627 Apache Belle w (4) 54.5 96 R Bayliss
8 s212 Deniliquin w (10) 54.5 94 Ms R King
9 93375 Marakopa wh (8) 54 100 T Schiller (a3)
10 s5225 Foxtrot Bravo d (9) 54 93 A Adkins
11 65341 Ponte Pietra wh (5) 54 87 J Ford
6 1st Justify Yearlings Hcp 7.15
\$50,000, 3 & 4yo Benchmark 64, 1300m
1 915s4 General Dubai w (10) 61 95 Ms R King
2 s1342 Sur La Mer h (9) 60.5 99 T Sherry (a1.5)
3 22s31 Rebel Shadow wbn (3) 60 96 J Collett
4 5128s Revivalist w (7) 59.5 93 T Berry
5 157s2 Crosscube w (6) 59 98 T Clark
6 152s8 Tonneofgrit w (1) 58.5 97 J Parr
7 s41s1 Gittery w (8) 58 100 J Bowman
8 2s1 Too Much Lippy w (4) 57 99 N Rawiller
9 7s182 Prasiolite d (2) 56.5 96 G Schofield

10 310s4 The Storm In Me dw (5) 56.5 92 G Buckley
7 Bowermans Handicap 7.50
\$50,000, 3yo & up Benchmark 72, 1000m
1 s977s Hard Landing dw (9) 61 84 T Sherry (a1.5)
2 2141s Osamu wh (8) 61 89 T Berry
3 s583s He's Super Lucky dh (7) 60.5 86 Ms K O'Hara
4 7068s Kosciusko twm (10) 58.5 86 B Griffiths (a3)
5 0s315 Depth That Varies d (5) 58 88
6 124s5 Lepreezy wh (11) 58 89 J Bowman
7 62133 Pick The Score dw (4) 57 88 T Schiller (a3)
8 8761s Chervil dw (13) 55 83 Ms A Collett
9 21s1 Quatenus d (12) 55 95 K Mc Evoy
10 181s2 Rubinocchi dw (2) 54.5 93 R Bayliss
11 31s19 Authentic Jewel dw (1) 54 95 J Ford
EMERGENCIES:
12 1226s Stormborn dw (6) 55 87 Ms R King
13 42201 Omar dw (3) 56 100 J Innes Jnr

South Australia races at Balaklava Wednesday

Selections
Race 1: RUSHAWAY LAD, CASSANDRA ISABEL, DAZZLING HARMONY
Race 2: MELODY SHINE, ORDER IS RESTORED, SELLIX
Race 3: LIGHTS OF BROADWAY, FRENCH COMET, JEAN VALJEAN
Race 4: LEFTRIGHTGOODNITE, LAST ZERPRISE, BLUE BEAR
Race 5: RUBBLE, CUBAN STATE, DEEVINE
Race 6: JIVE BABY, YOU ES MARSHAL, HARBOURING
Race 7: NO STRINGS, APPLIED, RIVER
Race 8: VINTAGE FOLLY, ROCKATANSKY, DELAGO LAD

2 Clare Valley Toyota Plate 4.10
\$21,800, 3yo & up Maiden SW, 1600m
1 s0406 Maven Missile (9) 58 90 T Pannell
2 74333 Order Is Restored (10) 58 95 J Potter
3 9 Pomodoro (7) 58 84 C Murray
4 s0990 Reclusive Lad (5) 58 85 B Price (a2)
5 Seafaring (6) 58 87 Ms J Eaton
6 84s8 Joe's Choisir (4) 56.5 92 Ms C Jones
7 00 Aquilifer (8) 56 84 D Tourneur
8 60s Hostlye Host (1) 56 81 Ms A Jordsjo
9 75374 Sellix (3) 56 95 Ms D Stra
10 4s044 Melody Shine b (2) 54.5 100 K H Zechner

11 67s Goulburn River (5) 54.5 68 Ms L Annells (a2)
12 6s Lentino (2) 54.5 74 Ms C Lions
13 4 Lights Of Broadway (12) 54.5 100 J Holder
14 Prancing Ibis (7) 54.5 82 C Murray
EMERGENCY:
15 62986 Juliejuliejilly (14) 56 72 K H Zechner
4 Coopers Southern Speed Series Ht 5.20
\$21,800, Benchmark 58, 2200m
1 06656 Bellini Boy dw (7) 59.5 95 Ms A Jordsjo
2 050s0 Pig In Mud w (2) 58.5 96 B Vorster
3 5s421 Leftrightgoodnite (9) 57.5 92 Ms E Boyd
4 40067 Lord Gododdin w (4) 57.5 91 P Gatt
5 55897 Muffla (1) 57 100 D Tourneur
6 s7184 Last Zerprise b (5) 56.5 100 Ms J Eaton
7 06533 Blue Bear w (8) 54.5 94 K H Zechner
8 64873 Briabella c (3) 54 94 Ms S Metcalfe
9 07050 Sostenido (6) 54 93 B Price (a2)

5 56512 Deevine dw (7) 59.5 95 J Holder
6 20081 Friendly Ghost cw (4) 59.5 87 R Hurdle
7 s747s Sea Princess d (6) 58 89 Ms J Eaton
8 24063 Free Of Sin dw (5) 57 91 T Pannell
9 571s3 Star Lyric d (1) 56.5 93 G Lo (a1.5)
6 Agfert Handicap 6.30
\$21,800, Benchmark 52, 1300m
1 654s5 Alphaeus (12) 60.5 95 G Lo (a1.5)
2 4205s Igitur w (10) 60 93 Ms C Lions
3 8s597 Rushwa tw (7) 60 92 Ms S Callow (a4)
4 49307 Detentore w (2) 59 96 D Tooteell Snr
5 09s00 Leorbit (5) 59 91 Ms A Jordsjo
6 s5351 Jive Baby cw (8) 58.5 100 B Vorster
7 20495 Harbouring cdw (3) 58 100 T Pannell
8 000s9 Bignota (4) 57 93 K H Zechner
9 3s445 You Es Marshal (1) 56.5 97 Ms J Eaton
10 95759 Teesha w (9) 56 93 A Chung (a3)
11 s87s8 Tinny Bar Blue w (6) 55.5 91 C Murray
12 6065s Chick In Charge (11) 54 90 Ms F Atkinson (a3)

4 02954 No Strings c (6) 59.5 95 Ms S Metcalfe
5 s2417 Our Journeyman (4) 59.5 89 K H Zechner
6 29238 Applied w (3) 59 99 J Holder
7 40s55 Fox O'Or w (7) 59 100 D Tourneur
8 26424 Go Boo Boo (5) 58.5 96 R Hurdle
9 35674 Graciebird b (8) 56.5 93 J Toeroek
10 05902 River (9) 54.5 94 Ms L Annells (a2)
11 Belis 'n' Bows SCRATCHED
8 TQCSI Handicap 7.40
\$21,800, Class 1, 1050m
1 2s136 Delago Lad w (13) 60 95 R Hurdle
2 341 Vintage Folly cw (7) 58.5 100 B Vorster
3 74014 Ashady Past w (5) 57.5 92 Ms C Lions
4 87s80 Chucky (1) 57.5 88 Ms A Jordsjo
5 7948s Champagne Dreams (3) 57 91 J Toeroek
6 3139s Starspangled Saga (6) 57 91 J Potter
7 Zarafshan SCRATCHED
8 67422 Rockatansky (9) 56 88 G Lo (a1.5)
9 6190s Nana Dulce (12) 55.5 89 Ms E Boyd
10 52566 The Ladies Man w (10) 55.5 83 Ms S Metcalfe
11 38306 Anjah (8) 54 89 D Tourneur
12 0s353 Sylvlite n (4) 54 87 B Price (a2)
EMERGENCY:
13 70090 Caralue (2) 54 82 A Chung (a3)

1 Haulmark Plate 3.35
\$21,800, 3yo & up Maiden SW, 1050m
1 22 Rushaway Lad b (8) 56.5 100 T Pannell
2 63490 Arctic Flora (2) 56 82 Ms F Atkinson (a3)
3 s2323 Cassandra Isabel (5) 56 96 J Potter
4 4s252 Dazzling Harmony (3) 56 88 Ms A Jordsjo
5 s7897 Sweet Minsky (1) 56 70 A Chung (a3)
6 6s757 Too Late (6) 56 80 K H Zechner
7 5s Samesyn (7) 54.5 86 J Holder
8 42924 Smart Ace b (9) 54.5 83 Ms J Eaton
9 Typhoon Award (4) 54.5 89 B Price (a2)

3 Atlas Event & Party Hire Plate 4.45
\$21,800, 3yo & up Maiden SW, 1200m
1 Host Too Bee (13) 58 78 J Potter
2 42 Jean Valjean (8) 58 96 R Hurdle
3 French Comet (1) 56.5 81 B Vorster
4 Lonrodex (15) 56.5 80 Ms A Jordsjo
5 0299s Amber Haze (4) 56 82 T Pannell
6 07036 Balcrest Belle (11) 56 80 P Gatt
7 326s7 Fiamette (10) 56 87 Ms E Boyd
8 0 Hoffy's Poppy (3) 56 74 Ms F Atkinson (a3)
9 78094 Lysandra (6) 56 89 G Lo (a1.5)
10 73685 The Markie Sparkle (9) 56 77 Ms S Metcalfe

5 Taylors Wines Alcopop Series Ht 5.55
\$21,800, Benchmark 58, 1400m
1 61605 Carbone dw (3) 61 93 A Chung (a3)
2 137s4 Cuban State dbn (9) 61 100 B Vorster
3 5s721 Rubble d (8) 61 94 Ms E Finnegan
4 860s3 Frankel Star cd (2) 60 93 Ms A Jordsjo

7 Adelaide Galvanising Hcp 7.05
\$21,800, Benchmark 54, 1600m
1 92PPs Caliburn dw (2) 63 90 Ms E Boyd
2 s9260 Kalamon cw (11) 63 100 A Chung (a3)
3 3s10s Samurai Moon d (1) 61 90 T Pannell

Legend: T - Won at track. C - Won at this distance on this course. D - Won at this distance on another course. M - Won in slow or heavy going. B - Beaten favourite at last start. H - Trained on track. N - Won at night. S - Spell of three months. F - Fell. P - Pulled up. L - Lost rider. TV - Featured on Trackside TV.

# Kentucky Derby winner dies

RACING

LONDON — The Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit, whose victory is under investigation following a positive test for steroid use, has collapsed and died.

The three-year-old colt, trained by Bob Baffert, had just completed five furlongs in a work-out, according to Craig Robertson, Baffert's attorney. It was his second work-out since finishing second in the Breeders' Cup Classic a month ago at Del Mar.

Baffert said in a statement that the horse suffered a heart attack.

"My entire barn is devastated by this news," Baffert said.

"Medina Spirit was a great champion, a member of our family who was loved by all, and we are deeply mourning his loss. I will always cherish the proud and personal memories of Medina Spirit and his tremendous spirit."

The colt will undergo a full necropsy, which is required by the California Horse Racing Board.

Medina Spirit tested positive after the May 1 Derby for betamethasone, a legal medication that is not allowed on race day. It was Baffert's record seventh win in the Derby.

Last Friday, Robertson released a statement saying that tests done by a New York lab have "definitely confirmed"



**HEART ATTACK:** Jockey John Velazquez atop Medina Spirit during the 146th Preakness Stakes horse race earlier this year. The three-year-old collapsed and died after a workout on Monday in California.

AP picture

Medina Spirit tested positive for the steroid, not through an injection but due to an ointment used to treat a skin rash.

The Kentucky Horse Racing Commission has been investigating the case, and has yet to hold a hearing that could possibly disqualify Medina Spirit.

In the Breeders' Cup Classic, Medina Spirit couldn't muster the necessary late kick to threaten winner Knicks Go.

Baffert was allowed to enter horses in the season-ending world championships,

but the event's money-leading trainer had to meet certain conditions, including stricter out-of-competition testing of his horses and greater security at his barn. He agreed to the extra scrutiny and was required to pay for it out of his own pocket.

Medina Spirit had five wins in 10 career starts and earnings of US\$3,545,200 (NZ\$5.22 million), according to Equibase.

The colt was owned by Amr Zedan, who competes as Zedan Racing Stables. — AP

## A third high profile coach resigns from Cycling New Zealand

CYCLING

ANOTHER high profile staff member has left Cycling New Zealand.

Sprint coach Rene Wolff has resigned. His is the third departure following the resignation of chief executive Jacques Landry and High Performance Director Martin Barras.

"Following discussions over recent weeks, Mr Wolff has told us that he wishes to finish up in his current position and leave New Zealand," said Cycling New Zealand Chief Executive Jacques Landry.

"We have started a search for his replacement, and hope to be able to fill the position by the start of the second quarter next year."

Fionn Cullinane, the current Assistant Sprint Coach, has been appointed Interim Head Sprint Coach.

Last month Cycling New Zealand revealed it breached rules over athlete selection while at the Tokyo Olympics which resulted in Landry's resignation.

The organisation is going through a review of their high performance programme following the death of rider Olivia Podmore. — Radio NZ

2				9	3		
3	7	6					2
	8		6			7	
7				1	4		
	2					6	
		4		7			3
	4				1	8	
1					6	2	5
		7	5				4

2824 HARD

# SUDOKU

SUDOKU is a logic puzzle made up of 81 squares on a 9x9 grid. To solve the puzzle, each row, column and 3x3 grid within the larger grid must 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.

7	8	5	3	6	9	1	2	4
9	3	6	2	4	1	7	8	5
2	4	1	7	5	8	3	9	6
6	7	4	1	2	3	8	5	9
1	2	8	5	9	7	4	6	3
5	9	3	4	8	6	2	7	1
3	1	2	6	7	5	9	4	8
8	6	7	9	1	4	5	3	2
4	5	9	8	3	2	6	1	7

2823

SOLUTION IN NEXT PUBLICATION.

## THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 by Eugenia Last

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Teala Dunn, 25; Ian Somerhalder, 43; Teri Hatcher, 57; James Galway, 82.

**Happy Birthday:** Set goals, and take the liberty to pour your time and skills into making your dream come true. Refuse to let anyone discourage you or meddle in your plans. A positive attitude, realistic approach and moderate budget will support the results you anticipate. Show passion and determination, and you will get the assistance you require and gain the respect you deserve. Your numbers are 9, 13, 21, 26, 33, 35, 44.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Call on friends and allies, and you'll get the backup you need to get things done on time. Use your intelligence, knowledge and experience to outmaneuver anyone trying to stand in your way. Search for the truth, and make wise decisions. 4 stars

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Stay on course, regardless of what others do or say. Avoid outlandish ideas and spending on something wasteful. Pick your battles wisely, and put your efforts where they will physically help you get ahead. Focus on personal improvements. 2 stars

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Live and learn. Use the experience and knowledge you have to escalate your dreams, hopes and wishes, and you will be happy with what you accomplish. Don't expect everyone to be happy for you; jealousy will cause someone to oppose you. 5 stars

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Pay attention to what everyone is doing, and you'll pick up ideas that will help you get things done on time and with finesse. A change someone makes will help you and give you a reason to partner to reach your goals. 3 stars

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Sit tight and take a logical approach to change. Don't try to fix what's working. Give yourself time to think and plan. Patience and finding new ways to use what you already have will pay off. Self-improvement projects will be beneficial. 3 stars

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Say only what's necessary and truthful. Don't engage in gossip or criticism. A positive attitude and suggestions will help you stir up enthusiasm and encourage others to pitch in and support instead of getting in your way. Romance is encouraged. 3 stars

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Take pride in what you do to help others. Keep an open mind and offer innovative solutions to those struggling just as hard as you. Build strong alliances, and you will find the road to success. Concentrate on equality, balance and integrity. 5 stars

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Evaluate your lot in life, and consider feasible adjustments that will get you closer to your dreams. Everything comes at a price, and putting in the effort will stir up passion and desire to go above and beyond your expectations. 2 stars

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Go directly to the source, speak up and don't let anyone mess with you. How you navigate your way through situations that involve controlling individuals will show your strengths and weaknesses. Don't give in or give up. 4 stars

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Keep emotional matters to yourself, and it will be easier to go about your business without interference. Sort out your thoughts, and figure out what you will do next before you blurt out your intentions. 3 stars

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Surround yourself with people who have something to contribute. Delegate responsibilities to whoever can do the best job. Walk away from situations that are volatile or might make you look bad. An argument will put you in a vulnerable position. 3 stars

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Sharing too much information will give someone the edge in a competitive situation. Don't present or promote what you plan to do until you have everything in place. Your success depends on secrecy, the element of surprise and your charisma. 3 stars

**Birthday Baby:** You are insightful, dominant and straightforward. You are outgoing and commanding.

**STAR RATINGS**  
**FIVE STARS:** Nothing can stop you now. Go for the gold.  
**FOUR STARS:** You can pretty much do as you please. It's a good time to start new projects.  
**THREE STARS:** If you focus your efforts, you will reach your goals.  
**TWO STARS:** You can accomplish a lot, but don't rely on others for help.  
**ONE STAR:** It's best to avoid conflicts. Work behind the scenes or read a good book.

## DOUBLE CROSSWORD

No.11,466

1	2	3		4		5	6	7
						8		
9				10				
11				12				
13	14		15			16		17
18						19		
20						21		
22				23				

### CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Ben's lies are prudent (8)
- Eastern incentive for stirring feelings (7)
- Drink wine as something to lean on (7)
- Nursery character who makes youngster depressed (6,3,4)
- Issue confused idiot in the centre of Kent (7)
- He, eying disorder, restored healthy principles (7)
- Open out United Nations list (6)
- Being depressed about pigheadedly cleaning up (7)
- It demands patient attention (7)
- Fearing half Africa needs help (6)
- Bill for current number (7)
- Vehicle towing a vehicle — or rather the towed vehicle (7)

DOWN

- Girl put wager on his head (4)
- Water flows back in curve that crosses itself (4)
- The status of seeking election? (8)
- About to leave piece for intolerant, narrow-minded person (5)
- Odd one in succession is like a lion (7)
- Sanity demands surplus worked out in the head (6,7)
- Depicts beams on the left (8)
- Spiritual charge is the remedy (4)
- At the start use a capital letter (7)
- Bend to provide 19 about 5 (5)
- Silences with jokes? (4)
- Truly sorry for writer finding 10 in it (8)

### SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE 11,465

**QUICK**  
 Across: 6 Bloomer; 7 Stoop; 9 Get in; 10 Liberty; 12 Information; 14 Suppression; 18 Diverge; 19 Eject; 21 Guess; 22 Discard. Down: 1 Sleep; 2 Motion; 3 Fee; 4 Street; 5 Portion; 8 Dismiss; 11 Foreign; 13 Curious; 15 Please; 16 Object; 17 Scare; 20 Dim.

**CRYPTIC**  
 Across: 6 Related; 7 Wheat; 9 South; 10 Satanic; 12 Information; 14 Countryside; 18 Trailer; 19 Brace; 21 Wales; 22 Manners. Down: 1 Tenor; 2 Tartan; 3 New; 4 Thwart; 5 Capitol; 8 Palmist; 11 Courses; 13 Doorman; 15 Nailed; 16 During; 17 Score; 20 Car.

Quick Crossword answers also fit the large grid

### QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Given to learning (8)
- Urge (4)
- Dance (4)
- Gyrating (8)
- Ignominy (5)
- Soothing (7)
- Odds and ends (13)
- Replied (8)
- Mimic (4)
- Cargo (7)
- Defame (5)
- Unwilling (4)
- Reprove (8)

DOWN

- Windpipe (7)
- Quandary (7)
- Unique (13)
- Hurting (7)
- Insignia (7)
- Harmony (6)
- Frolicsome (7)
- Esteem (7)
- Vow (6)
- Sale (7)
- Stamp (7)

1	2	3		4		5	6	7
						8		
9				10				
11				12				
13	14		15			16		17
18						19		
20						21		
22				23				

# Smith to rebuild relationships at Storm

RUGBY  
by Melissa Woods, AAP

MELBOURNE — Brandon Smith must try to rebuild relationships at Melbourne when he joins NRL pre-season training on Tuesday, says Storm football manager Frank Ponissi.

Smith shocked the 2020 grand final champions with a series of revelations in a recent expletive-laden podcast which left his immediate future with Melbourne in doubt.

The club has already announced he will depart when his contract ends at the end of next season, with

the Sydney Roosters set to announce his signature as soon as this week.

Ponissi said he had spoken to Smith who had apologised, but felt the hooker needed to show he wanted to be a part of their 2022 campaign.

“It all starts for him tomorrow and you could certainly use the word regain the respect or trust or whatever you want to call it,” Ponissi told 3AW radio on Monday night.

“There’s obviously some work to be done by Brandon . . . not just through words but through actions.

“He’s contracted to the club and if he can show he wants

to be here then this is where his future will be.”

Smith alleged in the podcast Melbourne had a “massive drinking culture”, which Ponissi said wasn’t the case.

“I found the drinking culture (comments) puzzling — I think you only have to look at our record over the past seven years . . . you don’t have those performances over a long period of time if you’ve got a drinking culture,” he said.

“There’s five percent of things he shouldn’t have said and he regrets saying them now.

“There were a lot of disappointed people

and thankfully no more disappointed than himself.”

Ponissi, who has been at the club as coach Craig Bellamy’s right-hand man since 2007, also denied the Storm had shopped Smith around for next season.

He did concede the club had been approached.

“There was crazy speculation on the weekend about swapping him,” he said.

“I can guarantee we didn’t approach a club.”

While Smith will return, prop Nelson Asofa-Solomona who is also due back Tuesday, won’t be able to join training after opting not to get a Covid-19 vaccination.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Andreescu out of Aussie Open

CANADA’S Bianca Andreescu will not play in the Australian Open next month following a challenging spell brought on by the Covid-19 outbreak, the former US Open champion has said.

Andreescu, 21, said on Monday time isolating in quarantined hotels took a toll on her mentally and physically and that she did not feel like herself while training and playing matches.

“I felt like I was carrying the world on my shoulders,” Andreescu, who also said her grandmother spent weeks in ICU due to a Covid-19 infection, wrote on Twitter.

Andreescu became Canada’s first Grand Slam singles champion with her 2019 US Open win, when she beat Serena Williams in the final, but endured a run of injuries starting with a knee problem at that year’s WTA Finals in Shenzhen. — AAP

### More time needed to sign Saleh

LIVERPOOL manager Jurgen Klopp insists everyone is clear on what they want from Mohamed Salah’s contract negotiations but the complexity of them means time will be needed.

The Egypt international is approaching the final 18 months of his current deal and talks have been continuing for some time, but the impasse appears to be the 29-year-old’s wage demands, reported to be in excess of NZ\$574,000, which would smash the club’s salary structure.

Owners Fenway Sports Group are not in the habit of handing out long, expensive deals to players over 30, an age Salah reaches in June, but considering his form and fitness there is an argument for an exception to be made.

In an interview in his homeland Salah said “If the decision is up to me, I want to stay in Liverpool but the decision is in the hands of the management and they have to solve this issue.” — PAA

### Sampdoria president to go

SAMPADORIA have said their president Massimo Ferrero is to resign from his position after he was arrested following an investigation launched into alleged bankruptcy crimes involving the 70-year-old.

The Serie A club said on Monday Ferrero will step down out of “respect for the club”. The club also distanced themselves from any involvement in the alleged incidents.

“It was with great astonishment that we learned of the execution today of a pre-trial detention order against Massimo Ferrero,” the club said in a statement.

“It was a request from the Public Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Paola for bankruptcy related to events of many years ago. These events are entirely independent of both the management and ownership of the Sampdoria. — AAP

### Aussies warm up for Ashes

AS if a test recall isn’t exciting enough, Travis Head couldn’t be happier to be preparing to line-up in Wednesday’s Ashes opener in Brisbane alongside Alex Carey.

The South Australian pair are close friends and with Carey to debut at the Gabba in the first test against England, the occasion looms as a special moment for both players.

Head also has no concerns about Carey’s ability to handle test cricket after he was chosen to fill the wicketkeeping vacancy following Tim Paine’s decision to step away from the game for a period following the sexting scandal which forced the Tasmanian to resign as captain. — AAP

### Danish golfer on sex charge

DANISH golfer Thorbjorn Olesen grabbed a woman’s breast and urinated on a first class seat after taking alcohol and sleeping pills on a British Airways flight from the United States to London in 2019, a British court has heard.

The Ryder Cup winner denies charges of sexual assault, assault by beating and being drunk on an aircraft.

British media reporting the start of his trial said the court heard how Olesen, 31, allegedly pushed a cabin crew member during the July 29 flight from Nashville to London’s Heathrow airport.

Olesen, a five-time European Tour winner, said he had no recollection of his behaviour on the flight after competing in the World Golf Championships-FedEx St Jude invitational in Memphis.

A woman said in a statement Olesen grabbed her hand and began kissing it.

“He had his right hand around my back. He then grabbed my breast and moved his hand over my right breast. I felt shocked,” she said.

Olesen is alleged to have urinated on another passenger’s seat and aisle. — RNZ

# F1 set for edgy finale

## Hamilton-Verstappen rivalry the stuff of legend

MOTORSPORT  
by Martin Moravec, DPA

JEDDAH — Max Verstappen and Lewis Hamilton need to get over all the controversy from the Saudi Arabia Grand Prix as they head to Abu Dhabi for Sunday’s Formula One season-finale level on points.

It will be the 30th occasion the title is decided in the last race but only the second time two drivers are tied ahead of the finale — the other occasion being in 1974 when Emerson Fittipaldi of McLaren won the title over Ferrari’s Clay Regazzoni.

Mercedes driver Hamilton will be bidding for a record eighth title, one more than Michael Schumacher, on the Abu Dhabi track where he has won five times in the past.

Red Bull’s Verstappen seeks a first career trophy on the Yas Marina Circuit where he came first 12 months ago, when Hamilton had already wrapped up his seventh title.

If both remain tied on points Verstappen will be crowned champion because he has one race win more than Hamilton, 9-8.

Such a scenario could occur if both collide — which neither side wants, especially after all the mayhem in Jeddah.

“I would hope today’s race has enough repercussions that everybody is going to learn from it and adapt for the final race in Abu Dhabi,” Mercedes motor sport chief Toto Wolff said.



**TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT:** Red Bull driver Max Verstappen (front) and Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton in action during the Formula One Saudi Arabian Grand Prix. The two cars clashed twice during Sunday’s race.

AP picture

“The quicker car with the quicker driver should win the championship and not by taking each other off.”

Red Bull team principal Christian Horner said: “We want to win it on the track, not in the stewards’ room, not in a gravel trap . . . I hope it is a fair and clean race in Abu Dhabi.”

Red Bull felt harshly treated by the stewards in Jeddah in a race red-flagged twice and with several safety car stages, with Verstappen first getting a five-second penalty and another one of 10 second post-

race for dangerous driving.

Hamilton insisted Verstappen was “over the limit” yet again as he accused the Dutchman of brake-testing him when he hit the back of Verstappen’s car.

But, having lost a world title by one point to Kimi Raikkonen in his inaugural 2007 season and won it by one point a year later in the final lap in Brazil, Hamilton said he is ready for the big finale.

“I’m personally chilled. I feel like I’m in the boxing ring and I’m ready

to go,” he said.

Hamilton has erased his deficit by winning the last three season races ahead of Verstappen, who for his part insisted he had only slowed down to let Hamilton pass after being told to do so.

Looking ahead, he named the big finale “really exciting for the whole championship and Formula 1 in general.

“Hopefully we have a good weekend, so let’s see,” Verstappen said.

# Villa at Man Utd in third round FA Cup action

FOOTBALL

MANCHESTER United have been drawn to face Steven Gerrard’s Aston Villa in the FA Cup third round, one of three all-Premier League ties.

Holders Leicester City welcome Watford, managed by the Foxes’ title-winning boss Claudio Ranieri, and West Ham United are at home to Leeds United.

Monday’s draw also sent non-league Chesterfield to face last season’s runners-up Chelsea at Stamford Bridge, while Antonio Conte’s Tottenham Hotspur host League One Morecambe.

Third-tier Swindon Town landed the possibility of a giant-killing when they were drawn at

home to Manchester City.

The third round, to be played from January 7-10, includes teams from the Premier League and second-tier championship.

Replays will return to this season’s competition after being dropped for Covid-19 enforced reasons last term, meaning Shrewsbury Town can dream of bringing Liverpool back to Shropshire if they can force a draw at Anfield.

Trickier ties are faced by the Premier League clubs away to Championship opposition, notably struggling Everton at Hull City while bottom-club Norwich go to third-tier Charlton.

Kidderminster Harriers, from the sixth tier, host second-tier Championship side Reading.

**FA Cup third round draw:**  
Boreham Wood or St Albans v AFC Wimbledon

Yeovil Town v Bournemouth  
Stoke City v Leyton Orient  
Swansea City v Southampton  
Chelsea v Chesterfield Town  
Liverpool v Shrewsbury Town  
Cardiff City v Preston North End  
Coventry City v Derby County  
Burnley v Huddersfield Town  
West Bromwich Albion v Brighton & Hove Albion  
Kidderminster Harriers v Reading

Leicester City v Watford  
Mansfield Town v Middlesbrough  
Hartlepool United v Blackpool  
Hull City v Everton  
Bristol City v Fulham  
Tottenham Hotspur v Morecambe  
Millwall v Crystal Palace

Port Vale v Brentford  
Swindon Town v Manchester City

Wigan Athletic v Blackburn Rovers  
Luton Town v Harrogate Town  
Birmingham City v Plymouth Argyle  
Manchester United v Aston Villa  
Wolverhampton Wanderers v Sheffield United  
Newcastle United v Cambridge United  
Barnsley v Ipswich Town or Barrow

Peterborough United v Bristol Rovers  
West Ham United v Leeds United  
Queens Park Rangers v Rotherham United  
Charlton Athletic v Norwich City  
Nottingham Forest v Arsenal

# Rankin closing in on No.400

GOLF by Chris Taewa

BREAKING your age is among the ultimate achievements in amateur golf but for Peter Rankin it's par for the course.

The 79-year-old Wellingtonian top-qualified for the first 16 on the opening day of the New Zealand 66th National Veteran Championship on the Poverty Bay course yesterday.

A member of the Royal Wellington course, Rankin shot 2-over 74 — five shots under his age.

Not exactly a mean feat for the retired scientist.

It's the 395th time he has done it, the first of those a 68 on his home course when he was 69.

And yes, he is keeping tally. "That's the challenge each time I go out," he said yesterday after receiving the Past Presidents Trophy for the top gross in qualifying.

Rankin is a former Wellington representative at national interprovincial and masters level.

Yesterday was the second time he had played on the Bay course — he had a practice round on Saturday — since 1963 or '64, he said.

He had 75 on Saturday, adding Poverty Bay to the 60-odd courses on which he has broken his age.

Rankin nabbed the No.1 seeding for the ensuing matchplay in five groups of 16 for the week-long tournament.

The field was already split into 16s on handicap but the national tournament format features a strokeplay qualifying round to decide the order of each 16.

Rankin ended two shots ahead of No.2 qualifier Tene Goldsmith, a member of Poverty Bay.

Five players followed on 78. They included Electrinet Gisborne Park member Anaru Reedy, the warm favourite



**VET WINNERS:** Among the trophy winners from the qualifying round on Day 1 of the National Veteran Championship at the Poverty Bay course yesterday are (from left) Bill Simpson (of Poverty Bay), Peter Rankin (Royal Wellington), Carl Carmody (PB), Tene Goldsmith (PB), Ray Skiffington (Cambridge) and Warwick Thompson (PB). Rankin posted the lowest score of the day — 2-over 74. It was the 395th time the 79-year-old had broken his age.

Picture by Chris Taewa

for the top-16 title.

Playing off a +3 handicap, 50-year-old Reedy had what would have been a disappointing score for his standard, but he remains the player to beat.

Several Poverty Bay members enjoyed trophy success in the qualifying round.

Carl Carmody won the Don Stubbings Trophy for the best overall net after carding 81-13-68.

Bill Simpson won the Patrons Trophy for best overall stableford — 89-21-68, for 40 points. It was his first round under 90 since January 2020.

Goldsmith won the Rex Bridge Trophy for the best gross by a player over 70 years of age. Rankin actually had the lowest score in this category but it is one prize per player for the individual honours.

Goldsmith was also a member of the Trust Bank Trophy-winning three-man teams event featuring a senior, intermediate and junior division player in each side. Cambridge's Ray Skiffington (int) and Poverty Bay's Warwick Thompson (jnr) completed the winning three.

Around 20 women are also competing in the tournament.

Home-course player Marg Colebourne topped their scoring yesterday with the best gross and stableford of 85-17-68 for 42 points.

She was one point ahead of New Zealand Veteran Golfers Association secretary Launa Seddon, a late fill-in to play.

Players ranging in age from 50 to 91 and from as far north as the Waikato to as far south as Dunedin are competing at the week-long Covid-affected event.

## Sportsword

No 83

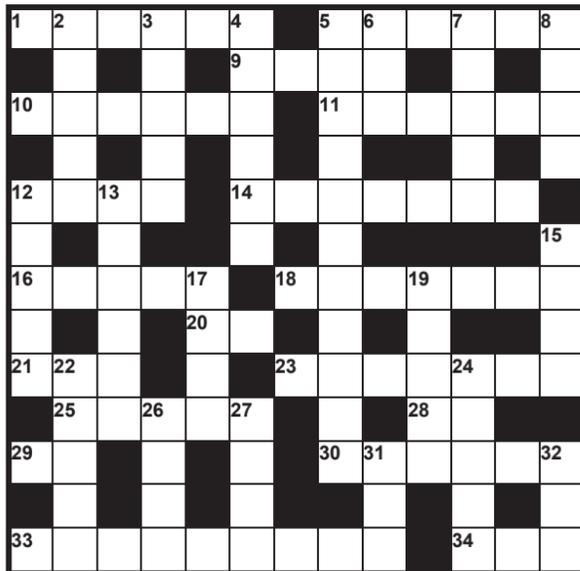
© Copyright Peter Thomson 2020

### Across

- 1 Captained NZ to last men's cricket Test victory on Indian soil 1988 (6)
- 5 Super rugby newcomers Moana Pasifika's coach (6)
- 9 Dutch four-time European Cup/Champions League winners (4)
- 10 Aussie coach took Warriors to 2011 NRL grand final (6)
- 11 Melbourne-based Super rugby team (6)
- 12 First African American to win Wimbledon men's singles (4)
- 14 North Harbour ABs fullback 1995 World Cup campaign (7)
- 16 NZ left-arm Test/ODI pacer 1976-86 (5)
- 18 Former All Black fullback now coaching Italy (7)
- 20 Football scoring medium, abbrev (2)
- 21 Kiwi Paralympics legend, -- Rimmer (3)
- 23 Manawatu All Black first-five 1971-73 (7)
- 25 NZ-bred 1978 Melbourne Cup winner (5)
- 28 Former Wellington rugby captain/centurion, -- Keown (2)
- 29 Golf's "Shark", initials (2)
- 30 Knighted former All Blacks coach (6)
- 33 Indian batting genius made Test debut at 16 (9)
- 34 Lord's-based cricket club, abbrev (3)

### Down

- 2 Former NZ football/cricket international, Rebecca -- (5)
- 3 Crusaders flanker made ABs debut v Australia 2020 (5)



- 4 NZ allrounder made stunning century/five-for Test debut v India 1965 (6)
- 5 Minor union scored famous Ranfurly Shield victory v Canterbury 1973 (11)
- 6 Wield the -- (3)
- 7 Canterbury ABs winger 1987 World Cup (5)
- 8 Kiwi marathon swimming Hall of Famer, Philip -- (4)
- 12 Member select band of NZ batsmen to score 10-plus Test centuries (5)
- 13 Long-serving Wallabies captain (6)
- 15 Cricket extras (4)
- 17 NZ's 1964 Melbourne Cup winner, -- Prince (4)
- 19 England rugby league's Warriors (5)
- 22 Crusaders' first Super rugby coach, -- Stewart (5)
- 24 Canterbury All Black threequarter 1950s, Allan -- (5)
- 26 Burnley-based All Whites spearhead (4)
- 27 Former Black Caps batsman, -- Broom (4)
- 31 Olympic event, -- pistol (3)
- 32 ABs' fitness guru, -- Gill (3)

### Solution No 82

WILSON PALMER  
 I O A A E A  
 LORD HEREWINI  
 L H O O I L  
 E MILLER SUBS  
 R U OWEN E  
 INNES E IOANE  
 N S URN C K S  
 GITEAU SHARKS  
 E S O A E  
 BARRETT LOMAX  
 B BYE L I  
 CRIBB WESTERN

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# India beat Black Caps to take Test series

MUMBAI — Jayant Yadav took three wickets in six deliveries as India beat New Zealand by 372 runs in the second Test at Mumbai to win the two-match series 1-0.

India mopped up the New Zealand lower order within 40 minutes of play on day four at the Wankhede Stadium.

Chasing a mammoth 540, the Black Caps were bowled out for 167 in 56.3 overs.

Ravichandran Ashwin finished with 4-34, while Jayant Yadav took 4-49.

Axar Patel added 1-42 as India needed just 11.3 overs to complete the formalities, fully avenging its loss to New Zealand in the final of the World Test Championship.

"We discussed our performance in the Kanpur Test. There was more bounce here and the fast bowlers got assistance as well," India captain Virat Kohli said.

"So it gave us a better chance to win this Test.

"The aim is to take Indian cricket forward, working with the new team management.

"South Africa is a good challenge and we want to win there as a team."

It was the largest victory for India by runs in Test cricket.

Their previous best margin was 337 runs against South Africa in Delhi in 2015.

It was also New Zealand's biggest Test defeat by runs, eclipsing their 358-run loss to South Africa in Johannesburg in 2007.

Resuming at 5-140, New Zealand lost their last five wickets for 27 runs.

Henry Nicholls (44) and Rachin Ravindra (18) added 22 of those on Monday. Overall they put on 33 runs for the sixth wicket. Ravindra was out caught off Yadav in the 52nd over. Two overs later, he trapped Kyle Jamieson (0) lbw and then bowled Tim Southee for a duck two balls later. — AP

# Yorkshire look to Gough to smooth the waters

LEEDS — Yorkshire have confirmed the interim appointment of Darren Gough as the county's new managing director of cricket.

The former England pacer will be in the post until the end of the 2022 season, Yorkshire said. His appointment comes at a time of huge turbulence for the county.

Their handling of Azeem Rafiq's allegations of racism and harassment were widely criticised and led to chairman Roger Hutton and chief executive Mark Arthur standing down. On Friday, 16 members of the coaching and medical staff

were dismissed, including first-team coach Andrew Gale and director of cricket Martyn Moxon.

"Yorkshire County Cricket Club has been part of my life since my earliest days when I made my debut in 1989, and I spent 15 happy years at the club. I have followed how the club handled the recent racism allegations with sadness and anger. I want to play my part in rebuilding cricket in Yorkshire and I am looking forward to working with the exceptionally talented group of players here," said Gough. — PA

# Gym sessions her way through grief

**BODYBUILDING** by Jack Malcolm

FAEANZA Whaitiri started going to the gym late at night as part of processing the anger she felt after her sister Stella (Cuzy) Solomon passed away.

"It was my way of dealing with the grief," she said.

"People can drink and take drugs, but I've chosen to go to the gym and take on a good distraction."

That distraction quickly became a passion, and now she has gained a second-place finish at the ICN NZ (ICompete Natural New Zealand) National Championships, just six months into her bodybuilding journey.

She had found herself slowly getting stronger, and then she met Gina McNeely, one of the region's top bodybuilders.

"She saw my determination," Whaitiri said.

"She's told me that what I've achieved in six months is pretty awesome."

Having played sport all her life, Whaitiri says bodybuilding as a sport requires a "whole other level" of dedication and discipline.

"You've got to put in the yards;

you're almost living at the gym."

She does it on top of full-time work and family life.

Whaitiri says it takes a small village to raise one bodybuilder to the stage.

"That acknowledgement that lots of people help you on your journey, like kaiako 'Peeps' and kaiako Kathrine Waehling . . . my husband Mafe and kids, my mum (Mirana Solomon) and dad (Thomas) and brother (Thomas), sister-in-law Toni Solomon, Trudi, BB, Karen and my Mareikura paddling whanau. And I can't forget the crew at Anytime Fitness either."

One of the hardest things about the sport is getting the nutrition right, she says. Bodybuilders try to maintain a calorie deficit to lose weight and lean out, while maintaining energy to keep training.

Whaitiri says that instead of having a lot of food infrequently, she'd typically eat small meals often, relying on protein for energy.

"People think we're always hungry, but that's not true.

"When it's time to eat, you've got to eat . . . you just don't have a lot of food.

"A treat for me was chicken and peas . . . the vegetables you eat

the most are broccoli and beans because peas have sugar in them.

"There's a real science around the food you eat and the body and the outcomes you get."

Another challenge bodybuilders face is the constant critiquing of how they look.

Whaitiri says competitors have to be very centred to be able to take on board the critique without its being too mentally taxing.

"I've written down on a piece of paper why I think the other lady won and when the judges' report comes back, I want to see how my notes compare."

After competing, she treated herself to some Subway, but she is already back at the grindstone preparing for the NABBA (National Amateur Body-Builders Association) East Coast event in 18 weeks.

"As long as I'm enjoying it, I will keep doing it.

"If wins come from that, then that's another story, but I just like the discipline of it and testing my own limits.

"I've put all the trophies on my sister's headstone. I wouldn't have done it if she hadn't passed away. It's been a good journey."



**AWARDS:** Bodybuilder Faeanza Whaitiri (right) says Gina McNeely (left) is "at the top of her game" and won the Classic Figure and 40+ divisions, and finished second in the Open Figure division at the ICN NZ National Championships. Whaitiri won the Best Transformation and Angels divisions, and was second in the Open Bodybuilding division just six months after taking up the sport. Picture by Rebecca Grunwell

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### WEATHER FOR TOMORROW

7 Dec, 2021

**high low**  
H L

**Fronts**  
warm  
cold  
stationary  
occluded

**WIND km/h**  
less than 30  
30 to 59  
60 or more

**SWELL m**  
e.g. S 1m

**© Copyright Meteorological Service of New Zealand Limited 2021** source: SwellMap.co.nz

**GISBORNE CITY**

TOMORROW	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
morning min 18 Partly cloudy with a few afternoon or evening showers. Light winds.	morning min 17 Partly cloudy, possible afternoon or evening shower. Light winds.	morning min 18 Partly cloudy, possible afternoon or evening shower. Light winds.
max 26	max 27	max 27

**GISBORNE REGION**

Partly cloudy. Scattered showers in the afternoon and evening. Northwesterlies.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers in the afternoon and evening. Northwesterlies.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers in the afternoon and evening. Northwesterlies.
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**GISBORNE SUN PROTECTION ALERT**

8:40 AM - 5:15 PM

PROTECTION REQUIRED  
Whatever your skin colour

Data provided by NIWA

**SATURDAY**

Partly cloudy. Rain developing later in the day. Northwesterlies.

### MIDNIGHT TONIGHT

### NOON TOMORROW

**NZ SITUATION**

A slow moving front over the North Island weakens tomorrow. A ridge of high pressure remains over the North Island through to Saturday. A cold front weakens as it slowly moves up the South Island on Thursday, dissipating on Friday.

**NZ TOMORROW**

Auckland	showers	25
Hamilton	showers	26
Tauranga	showers	24
Rotorua	showers	23
Taupo	showers	23
Napier	showers	25
New Plymouth	showers	22
Palmerston North	showers	22
Wellington	fine	19
Christchurch	fine	21
Queenstown	fine	22
Dunedin	fine	21

**TODAY IN HISTORY**

**2001** - Tree branches punctured classroom ceilings after a bolt of lightning struck a tree at a Hamilton school. "There was a large boom and the classroom shook; we thought it was an earthquake" said a teacher. The lightning hit an old Redwood tree, thought to be protected, sending debris for 40m around three classrooms.

For the latest weather info including Weather Warnings visit [metSERVICE.com](http://metSERVICE.com)

### GISBORNE TIDE MOVEMENT

Wednesday Dec 8		Thursday Dec 9	
am 3	9 noon 3 6 9 pm	am 3	9 noon 3 6 9 pm
Hicks Bay	H 10:35am 10:52pm L 4:11am 4:47pm	Hicks Bay	H 11:29am 11:47pm L 5:03am 5:41pm
Waipiro Bay	H 10:22am 10:39pm L 3:46am 4:22pm	Waipiro Bay	H 11:16am 11:34pm L 4:38am 5:16pm
Tolaga Bay	H 10:10am 10:27pm L 3:34am 4:10pm	Tolaga Bay	H 11:04am 11:22pm L 4:26am 5:04pm
Gisborne	H 9:55am 10:17pm L 3:35am 4:11pm	Gisborne	H 10:50am 11:12pm L 4:29am 5:07pm
Wairoa	H 9:35am 10:03pm L 3:18am 3:56pm	Wairoa	H 10:31am 10:59pm L 4:13am 4:52pm

**SUN-MOON-MAORI FISHING GUIDE**

© OceanFun Publishing www.ofu.co.nz Maori fishing guide by Bill Hohepa

Rise 5:37 am Set 8:23 pm	Rise 5:37 am Set 8:24 pm
Rise 9:15 am	Set 12:23 am Rise 10:27 am
Best at 4:23 am 4:53 pm	Best at 5:21 am 5:48 pm

**WORLD TOMORROW**

Adelaide	fine	11	20
Amsterdam	drizzle	2	6
Bangkok	fine	20	29
Beijing	cloudy	-3	7
Berlin	cloudy	-2	0
Brisbane	thunder	21	31
Buenos Aires	cloudy	20	28
Cairo	fine	11	19
Canberra	showers	12	18
Cape Town	fog	17	26
Delhi	fog	10	24
Frankfurt	drizzle	0	4
Geneva	rain	1	3
Hong Kong	fine	17	23
London	showers	3	7
Los Angeles	fine	11	19
Melbourne	showers	12	18
Moscow	snow	-4	-2
New York	rain	1	7
Paris	fine	4	7
Perth	fine	24	38
Singapore	showers	24	33
Stockholm	snow	-2	-1
Suva	thunder	24	30
Sydney	showers	17	22
Tokyo	drizzle	8	11
Toronto	snow	-7	-2



**Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit dies after workout** PAGE 24

**Local athletes reap rewards for training and discipline when awards handed out at national competition** PAGE 27



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Motorsport ..... 25  
Golf, cricket ..... 26  
Bodybuilding ..... 27

# OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

FOOTBALL by John Gillies

GISBORNE Thistle striker Jimmy Somerton has signed for Hawke's Bay football powerhouse Napier City Rovers. Somerton, who turns 17 on December 20, is in the midst of Year 12 exams but a return to Gisborne Boys' High School is not in his plans for 2022.

In February, he moves to Hawke's Bay, where City Rovers have arranged board, help with living expenses and work interviews. But the Napier side were keen to sign Somerton a year earlier.

Playing for Thistle at the annual under-19 tournament in Napier at the end of the 2020 season, Somerton had caught the eye of Napier City Rovers head coach Bill Robertson, who tried to sign him at the start of this year.

But Somerton decided he was not ready to shift and signed for Thistle. He had a season in the Central Federation League, in which he finished third-top marksman with 12 goals in a 16-game season that ended with the Jags in fourth place.

It was a big step up from the previous season, when he played Eastern League football for Gisborne Boys' High. But he showed in Thistle's first Central Federation League game of the season, against the 2020 runners-up, Whanganui Athletic, that he was up to the challenge. He scored the first goal in a 3-0 win and troubled defenders with his control, pace and shooting. His form throughout the season showed that his early impact was no flash in the pan.

The season produced his football highlight so far – a second-half hat-trick that helped Thistle go from 2-1 down at halftime to 5-2 up at fulltime. Napier Marist were the opponents, and the match was at Childers Road Reserve on April 24. It was Somerton's first hat-trick in senior football.

Napier City Rovers kept in touch. Former Celtic and Scotland goalkeeper Jonathan Gould – a coach with the City Rovers Talent Pathway Programme – came to Gisborne to meet with Somerton.

What Gould had to say about the Napier set-up and the opportunities for development struck a chord with Somerton, and when he was in Hawke's Bay with the Thistle team for the under-19 tournament in late October, he agreed to move south to join them.

It's all going to plan for a youngster who's been playing football "forever". His first football memory is of scoring the only goal for Makauri in an 8-1 loss to Wainui



## Jimmy Somerton opens the door

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Jimmy Somerton relaxes in front of the back-yard goalnet that helped him hone his shooting skills. In February, Somerton moves south to join powerhouse Hawke's Bay football club Napier City Rovers. Picture by Paul Rickard

when he was a Year 6 student at the school where his father Nic taught, playing for the team his father Nic coached.

Yes, Dad was a big influence – the Thistle and former Gisborne City and Wainui marksman coached the junior rep teams Jimmy was in, too.

"It wasn't too bad," Jimmy Somerton said. "I always got game time."

His mother Rochelle had been there, too, supporting whatever he did. Jimmy is the eldest of Nic and Rochelle's three children, all boys. River, 11, took a break from football to play rugby this year, while Silva, 5, has yet to take the field in any team sport.

When Jimmy Somerton made the Boys' High first team squad as a Year 10 student, he didn't get as much game time as he'd hoped. That changed the following season. Boys' High coach for those two years was Sebastian Itman.

"He helped me a lot," Somerton said. "He was really energetic and wanted to bring the best out of every player, and not put one player above the others."

Boys' High, along with the other school teams, were dropped from Gisborne senior club football in 2021, but Somerton said he was always going to play for Thistle this year. His aim was to play for Thistle this year, and next season move to a club where he could get better football.

Napier City Rovers offered the prospect of Central League football and a possible place in the new National League Championship (replaced by the National League South Central Series this year because of Covid-19).

Further into the future, Somerton would like to play national league football for a Wellington or Auckland team. The next step would be to play for Wellington Phoenix and then, if things continued to go well, to move to Europe or Britain.

Simply put, he wants to make a living out of football . . . a good living.

"People have told me how difficult it is – my dad, Bill Robertson – but I'll give it a shot."

Somerton is keeping the door ajar on the subject of tertiary education.

"I might study sports business next year, depending on whether I can find a job," he said.

"Otherwise, I'll be focusing on football."

During his time with Thistle, both at under-19 and first-team level, head coach Garrett Blair and assistant coach Mark Baple had

been big influences, Somerton said. He has always played up front – his speed and nose for goals have seen to that – but when he comes up against a particularly fast defender he will often drop back towards the midfield, with the aim of drawing out the defender marking him and leaving space for another striker to attack. And if his team play with three up front, he likes to play wide on the right and cut in to shoot with his favoured left foot.

These aren't secrets. Opponents know how he plays; stopping him is another matter.

After a season playing in an outside league, Somerton chose an unlikely pair as his most difficult opponents – teammates Cullen Spawforth and Ryan Anderson.

Apart from small-sided games in training sessions, he had played against defensive midfielder Spawforth when the Thistle under-19s played a practice match against the Thistle first team (minus their u19 players).

"He wasn't playing centreback, but in his defensive midfield role he was kind of close."

And he had come up against centreback Anderson in the middle of the Champion College defence in interschool games, and found him hard to get past.

Now, with his restricted driver's licence and his own car, Somerton looks forward to the move south in early February. Training will be three times a week – two sessions on the field and one in the gym.

He understands the first and second teams train together under Bill Robertson and his assistants and then, once the team squads for the next games are named, they break into groups for team-specific training.

No prizes for guessing which group Somerton targets.



**IN TRAFFIC:** Gisborne Thistle striker Jimmy Somerton takes on the Havelock North Wanderers defence during a Central Federation League game in Gisborne in June. Picture by Paul Rickard