

The Gisborne Herald

TE NUPEPA O TE TAIRAWHITI

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021

HOME-DELIVERED \$1.90, RETAIL \$2.20



**PRINCIPAL
'RIDING OFF
INTO THE SUNRISE'**

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**VOICES FOR
YOUTH IN
PARLIAMENT**

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- > Checkpoint use of police resources questioned
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New Zealand's first
100% ELECTRIC
water truck

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**STEERING TAIRAWHITI
TOWARDS ZERO CARBON:**
Eastland Port operations manager Rod Blake (left) and chief operating officer Andrew Gaddum stand in front of Eastland Port's new electric water truck, New Zealand's first of its kind. It replaces a diesel-powered truck and, according to Mr Gaddum, is "as easy as driving an automatic car". Mr Gaddum says the truck will help Eastland Port reduce carbon emissions "and is part of our commitment to sound environmental practices".
STORY ON PAGE 4

Picture by Strike Photography

BE PREPARED

WITH confirmed cases of Covid-19 expected in Tairāwhiti soon, it is important the community knows what to expect and that systems and processes are in place to support each other, Gisborne Mayor Rehette Stoltz said.

This includes making sure whānau have everything needed in case a family member contracts Covid-19 and needs to self-isolate.

Two positive wastewater samples were confirmed in Gisborne last week and Wairoa confirmed two positive cases of Covid-19 on Friday.

Although the cases are low-risk, the news was a reminder people needed to be prepared for when the virus emerges in the Tairāwhiti community, she said.

"Over the past few weeks the topic of vaccination has been discussed and analysed at length," Mayor Stoltz said. "It's created

lively discussion and debate at work and around the family dinner table."

"We've all had to make some really hard decisions but regardless of what perspective we have, we must support each other through the times ahead.

"While we still need to focus on vaccinations, we also need to consider what we do if someone in our community contracts Covid-19."

Anyone in Tairāwhiti who contracts Covid-19 will have their care and support coordinated by the team based at Takatu Hub, located above Te Waharoa in Peel Street.

The service is a partnership between Te Kupenga Net Trust, Ngāti Porou Hauora, Tūranga Health, general practices, the Ministry of Social Development, police, Kāinga Ora, Gisborne District Council,

Tū Mai Tairāwhiti, Trust Tairāwhiti, community leaders, and Hauora Tairāwhiti.

"The new approach is to isolate at home, so I'm urging whānau to work together to think about a plan in case a family member needs to self-isolate," Mayor Stoltz said.

"With Auckland borders opening next week, I want us to be prepared for any possibility.

"To prepare for home isolation, families must think about sleeping arrangements, food, water, medicine and any specific needs someone may have.

"Our local health providers, hapū and council area liaison staff have been working to prepare for when the time comes and I'm proud of the work that's been done so far to keep whānau safe.

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Another positive wastewater test

A THIRD positive wastewater test for Covid-19 in the space of nine days has been confirmed for Tairāwhiti.

The sample was taken on Monday and the Ministry of Health this morning advised of the positive result.

"The testing is showing the virus was being emitted by a person or people in the community," a statement on the Ngāti Porou Hauora Facebook page said.

"The results may be related to a person still emitting the virus but now no longer infectious, or new active cases in our community.

"Whatever the genesis of the positive samples, the messages for the community remain the same — it is important that if you are experiencing flu like symptoms or meet the list of criteria in this post, you test and isolate."

As of yesterday morning, 89 percent of eligible people in Tairāwhiti had had at least a first vaccination dose while 80 percent were double dosed.

f @TUMAITAIRAWHITI

#itswhanau4me

TUMAI TAIRAWHITI

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Retirement a new dawn

‘His voice as a principal will be a great loss for Te Tairāwhiti’

by Jack Marshall

SCHOOL is nearly out for retiring Te Wharau principal Steve Berezowski. After 45 years in education, Mr Berezowski is ready to spend more time with family, on the golf course and bowling greens, travelling and reading. “I am going to ride off into the sunrise to a new dawn with my partner Lorraine Donnelly — who has had to put up with me working long hours — spend more time with my mokopuna and then there’s some ‘me’ time and some travelling when it’s allowed.” Mr Berezowski wants to take his partner to Canada to show her where he was born and raised.

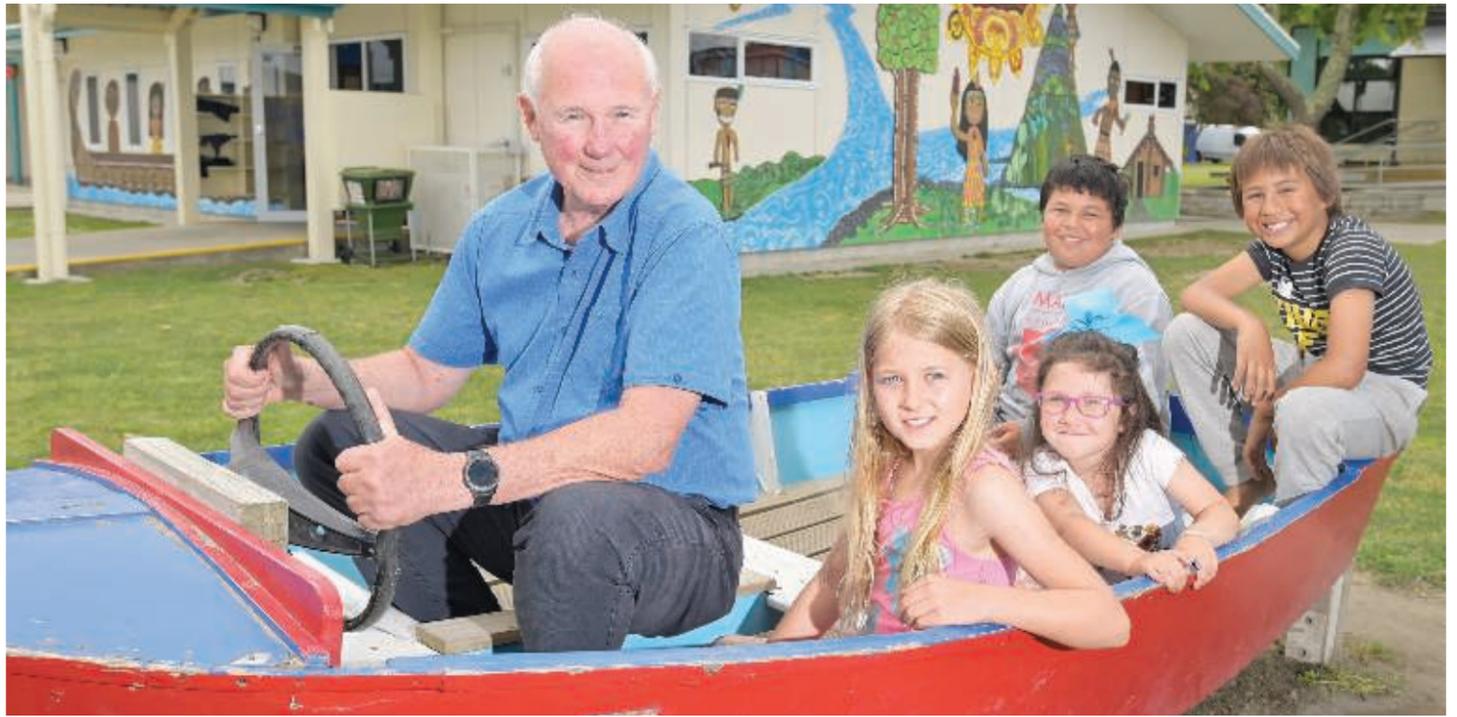
He moved from the land of maple syrup to New Zealand in 1972 and completed his sixth form year in Wellington.

Teaching wasn’t his first career choice. “My first choice was accountancy but I found the people so boring that I couldn’t see myself surviving in the job, so I went to what I thought was a more exciting job.

“It was always in the back of my mind to be a teacher.”

Mr Berezowski worked in accountancy at New Zealand Breweries before making the jump to education and gaining his teaching degree in 1979.

He started at Wainuiomata Intermediate at the beginning of the 80s and his first principal role was at Wellington’s Hataitai School.



SAILING AWAY: Te Wharau School principal Steve Berezowski with students Sheila Bjerring (8) Molly Thomas (5) Jahquan Matete (11) and Ururoa Matete-Kerekere (8). Mr Berezowski is retiring after 20 years at Te Wharau and 45 in the education system.

Picture by Liam Clayton

Mr Berezowski wanted to move to Gisborne over 20 years ago when he and then-partner Shirley-Anne visited the East Coast during a tour around the North Island. The pair wanted a change from Wellington.

“Upon return, we found out she had breast cancer and we had a four-year battle, so that idea of shifting to Gisborne disappeared.”

Shirley-Anne lost her battle with cancer but two years later Mr Berezowski still wanted to shift to the East Coast, so when a job came up at Te Wharau School, he inquired about it. He half-filled in the application form but never finished it.

“Come closing day, I thought, ‘I blew it,

why didn’t I apply?’

“I was upset with myself. Then a week later I got a letter from the board of trustees saying there had been no quality applicants and they asked if I could apply.”

He got the job and come December 15 will have been at Te Wharau School for 20 years.

Te Wharau staff say Mr Berezowski has been an amazing leader and strong supporter of his teachers.

“His voice as a principal will be a great loss for Te Tairāwhiti as his voice was always clear and challenging,” staff said in a statement to The Herald.

“Steve has maintained balance in his life with a beautiful supportive whanau and growing mokopuna, He is a competitor on the bowling green and supports all sports.

“We as a school, whanau and community wish him all the best for his retirement.”

Mr Berezowski said the students made Te Wharau special.

“They’re charming. They really appreciate what you do for them.

“They are warm and caring but they also have that little glint in their eye that keeps you challenged and keeps you on your toes.”

Mr Berezowski’s last day at the helm is Friday.

SPECKLED CATTLE GO UNDER THE HAMMER:

A pen of speckled park heifers were sold at the last monthly cattle fair of the year at the Matawhero saleyards yesterday. The unusual line seen at the Gisborne sale were brought into the district for the auction. “They are derived from a shorthorn/Angus cross and are used with Friesians in the dairy industry,” a local stock agent said. “They are renowned for being well-muscled and for their temperament.” Full report on the sale in Focus on the Land on page 15.

Picture by Trevor Brown



RMP review starts

A REVIEW of Te Papa Tipu Taunaki o te Tairāwhiti, the Tairāwhiti Resource Management Plan, is under way.

The plan is the combined planning document that holds all of Gisborne District Council’s resource management plans and sets the rules on how the council makes decisions on the natural and built environment.

“The importance of this plan cannot be overstated,” council chief of strategy and science Jo Noble said. “The Tairāwhiti Plan includes how and where we can build, outlines how we use and protect land, soil, coasts, and freshwater resources, manages the risk of hazards, and enables economic activity.

“It’s key to achieving positive social, cultural, and environmental outcomes and affects almost everyone in the

district in some way or other.”

The review will happen in two phases and take about eight years to complete.

Phase 1 involves the development of a new Regional Policy Statement, continuation of regional freshwater planning and catchment plans, as well as urban growth and development planning to address growth and housing pressures and implement the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020.

Phase 2 involves The Coastal Plan, remaining Regional Plan provisions and finalising the District Plan.

While an official public consultation period has not yet opened, the council says anyone interested can find more information and subscribe for updates on its website.

TheGuide Arts & Entertainment

- Students are taking over the airwaves and building themselves a bright future in film and television at Rāngai studios.
- Art, music and magic set the night alight at the opening of Te Ara Patupaiarehe in Ruatorea last month as part of Te Tairāwhiti Arts Festival.
- Nestled in the East Coast bush, artist Bub Dewes’ home has become a growing and evolving artwork.

TOMORROW

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Still one home uninhabited after November rain

A GISBORNE home remains unoccupied more than a month on from the rain event that hit the district.

The owners are in alternative accommodation supported by their insurer.

Gisborne District Council principal scientist Murry Cave said all properties that were damaged and met Earthquake Commission (EQC) criteria had been assessed.

"In most instances, owners are awaiting the results from the technical advisers engaged by the insurers. A number of sites, particularly those close to rivers, remain prone to additional slumping."

Dr Cave said sandbags were being supplied to buttress banks for a couple of properties so no further stability issues arose while insurance issues were resolved.

"A few requests for assistance

are still coming in and these are being assessed and advice given as required.

"Property owners are asked to remain vigilant and advise the council if they notice changes to their land, particularly after heavy rain," Dr Cave said. "It needs to be noted that insurance companies only cover dwellings and other permanent structures on a property, and not the land itself.

"Land damage is covered by EQC if it meets their criteria. Mainly if it is within eight metres of a structure on a property or if there is imminent risk, which is defined as a potential for loss within 12 months of an event."

There were other criteria and people were urged to look at the EQC website for more information, he said.

Dr Cave said the council was still responding to new requests for

service relating to landslides and flooding.

"We continue to monitor many of the sites damaged during the storm. "It needs to be noted that in some instances there is little the council can do if the slipping does not meet EQC criteria.

"As always, we maintain a close watch on weather systems that may result in natural hazard risk, so we can respond as required."

Seeking changes to Three Waters reforms

GISBORNE District Council has not given up trying to bring changes to the Government's Three Waters reforms.

Mayor Rehette Stoltz says she is continuing to advocate on behalf of the Tairāwhiti community concerning the Government's controversial reforms.

On October 27, Local Government Minister Nanaia Mahuta said the plan to combine all water services and infrastructure would go ahead, with minor changes to what was proposed.

The reform means all 67 councils around the country will have their three waters (drinking, stormwater and wastewater) merged into four regional entities. Tairāwhiti is in Entity C, along with 20 other councils including Wellington.

Mayor Stoltz says there are a number of workstreams happening nationally to try to bring about change to the proposed mandate and the council was an active part of those initiatives.

"Our community has spoken loud and clear and I'll continue to advocate in their best interests. We have made our position clear to the Government in our submission and suggested other options we could explore together."

Over 650 people responded to a council survey in September in which 93 percent were opposed to the

proposal.

The council also commissioned an independent report which outlined flaws in the modelling and financial simulations.

"While we understand the Government's position that the country's water infrastructure need an upgrade, our position remains unchanged," the Mayor said.

"We need to be assured our local voice won't be lost. I intend to continue to work behind the scenes to bring

about change to the mandate and what is proposed."

Between January and June 2022 the Government begins consultation with local authorities.

In July 2022 the first \$500 million of the "better-off" funding becomes available to councils.

Gisborne District Council's funding allocation is \$28.8m.

Public submissions and hearings will then take place between January and June 2023.

By July 1, 2024, the timeline states the four new entities will take responsibility for delivering water services.

At the same time, the remaining "better off" and "no worse off" funding will be made available to all councils.

■ **For more information on the Three Waters reform proposal, go to [tinyurl.com/2p9fara9](https://www.tinyurl.com/2p9fara9)**

PORT CRANE 'TICKING ALL THE BOXES':

The first of the new 465-tonne mobile log loading cranes installed at Eastland by port logistics company ISO has been loading for about 10 days now and is "ticking all the boxes", says ISO Gisborne area manager Neal Ebbett. "It's the crane that arrived from Tauranga, where it had already been in use. It's working really well for us, providing increased capacity and safety." Mr Ebbett said they expected to have the other two in operation next week. Eastland Port handled 10 log ships last month, and these took away 228,000 tonnes of logs.

Picture by Liam Clayton



'Smooth' transition to red status

TAIRĀWHITI police have encountered no issues so far in the transition from Alert Level 2 to the new traffic light system regime.

Gisborne and the East Coast being in the red zone means 100-person gathering limits indoors and outdoors and the use of vaccination passes to enter many retail outlets and all hospitality venues.

Police have taken an "educational" approach to the new system as they did when lockdowns were put in place.

"We've been checking on the patron numbers at hospitality venues and the proprietors have been sticking to the new rules," area police commander Inspector Sam Aberahama said.

"We've had no incidents so far where people have been refused entry to licensed premises for example because they could not produce a vaccination pass. It's been about visibility from our point of view and being reassuring.

"It's been a really smooth transition. Tairāwhiti police have set up their own

Covid information line. That's to help our staff ensure they have the correct requirements when they are out and about connecting with businesses and the public.

"We're all learning as we go with the new traffic light system. That's police, business operators and the general public," Insp Aberahama said. "So far so good, and we have noticed that a lot more people are wearing masks when they're moving about, which is good to see."

'Community working together': Mayor

FROM PAGE 1

Ministry of Health guidelines state that family members can't come within two metres of any

infected person, can't sleep in the same bedroom and the house needs to be well ventilated.

"Kia kaha whānau," Mayor Stoltz said. "This is when the strength of

our community working together shines through."

For more information on self-isolating at home, go to [tinyurl.com/2p9hjuzx](https://www.tinyurl.com/2p9hjuzx)

FAMILY NOTICES

Deaths

LEWIS, Sadie. — With great sadness, we announce the loss of our beloved mother. She will be sadly missed by Diane, Kester and Sarn, Jan, Gaye and Tom. Much-loved Nan and Great-Nan to Shelley, Cory and Lochie, Heather, Chela and Ziah, Matt, Sveta, Lucy and Zac and Haylee, Steve and Zoe Mato, Stu and Flo Mato, Greg Cooper.

A private family service is being held.

Deaths



UNASA-SU, Piula Alisa (nee Lefua). — Peacefully in Gisborne, on 6 December 2021, surrounded by her family. Gone to be with her Lord. Wife of the late Rev John Unasa Fa'alafua Su, and mother of Rev Alisa Lasi and Rev Tau Lasi (Hamilton), Sam and Fuasou Su (Gisborne), Senior Constable Sarah Su (Auckland), the late Beulah Felicity Su, Unasa Jon Su and Kanako Sudo (Auckland), the late Felicity Sinoti Su, Tarako and Mereana Su (Gisborne), Lynette and Paul Lolohea (Gisborne). She is survived by 22 Grandchildren and 9 Great-Grandchildren.

Funeral service 10am, Thursday 9 December at Wesley Methodist Church, 453 Gladstone Road, Gisborne, followed by a private family burial at Taruheru Cemetery.



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Anniversaries

HAPPY 60TH DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

To Peter and Dinah (nee Dobson) Brown

Married 8th December 1961, at St George's Church, Patutahi.

Proud of you both and grateful for the love and support you've given us all.

Your loving children, Phillipa, Mouse and the late Andy Brown, and families.

In Memoriam

PIKIA, Melody Ann

22 years have passed and not a day goes by that your presence doesn't remain forever in our hearts.

Your loving Whanau, mokopuna tuatahi and tuarua

In Memoriam

DAVIES, Mereaira

Sunset 8.12.14

Always in our hearts Mum.

Love, Moana, Wally me mokopuna mā

Memorial Services

HOLLIS, Arthur Murray. — At the time of Murray's passing due to Covid restrictions, we were unable to celebrate his life.

We will now be holding a Memorial Service for Murray at Taruheru Cemetery, Garden Block N on Saturday the 11th December at 11am.

Unveilings

HORNE, Jane Elizabeth

5.11.1939 - 8.1.2021
Fiona, Tiffany and Melanie, wish to thank everyone for the support and kindness shown over the past 11 months, and extend an invitation to attend the interment of Jane's ashes and unveiling of her headstone at 11am 8.1.2022, at the Taruheru Cemetery. Following a short service, there will be light refreshments at The Tav, Ruru Avenue. Special thanks to Graeme and Chris Gedye of Stonehaven for their wonderful care, support and guidance over the past year.

Port's electric water truck an NZ first

FROM PAGE 1

EASTLAND Port is the proud owner of New Zealand's first electric water truck, one of the largest road-legal electric trucks in the country.

The water truck is deployed daily to depress dust on the log yard and is an essential part of port operations.

"Using an electric water truck in its operations is helping Eastland Port reduce carbon emissions and is part of our commitment to sound environmental practices," said Eastland Group regional infrastructure chief operating officer Andrew Gaddum.

"Other benefits include lower maintenance costs than a normal combustion diesel vehicle, lower running costs — and it's quiet.

"Like a lot of new technology there were a few teething issues to sort out, but these have now been resolved and it's performing beyond our expectations. In terms of run times and delivery of water, it's fantastic.

"From a driver's point of view, it's very easy to drive and extremely comfortable. It's just got a drive — an accelerator and a brake. I drove it the other day and it's incredible. It's as easy as driving an automatic car."

The electric truck replaces a Diesel 1996 Mitsubishi Fuso truck with a 13,000 litre water tank fitted to the back. The old water truck consumed 287 litres of diesel over a 35-day period. Using the EECA CO2 emissions calculator, which estimates the amount of CO2 created by burning fossil fuels, the old vehicle produced 0.77 tonnes of CO2 over this same 35-day period.

"We've bought it as a trial and there are definitely other areas of our business that we can see the technology being applicable to," said Mr Gaddum.

"We wanted to get this one up and running to see how it performs for a year or so and then figure out whether we could use EVs in other parts of our fleet, like moving logs



ESSENTIAL: Eastland Port's new electric water truck in action at the log yard, keeping dust levels down. The truck is contributing to the port's commitment to lower carbon emissions. Picture by Strike Photography

around or to the port."

A 60kW fast-charging station has also been installed at Eastland Port for the water truck.

The electric water truck and charger have been partially funded by a grant from the Low Emission Vehicles Contestable Fund (LEVCF) administered by EECA (Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Authority).

Now the electric truck is in action at Eastland Port, it is expected to attract attention and inspire innovation across many diesel-dominated industries.

"Our electric water truck is at the leading edge in transport, so all sorts of companies throughout the country are interested in seeing how it's performing," Mr Gaddum said.

The use of a low emissions EV water truck aligns with the aims of the Climate Leaders Coalition which Eastland Group and its shareholder, Trust Tairāwhiti, joined in 2019.

"We believe that we can be a leader in steering Tairāwhiti towards zero carbon through renewable energy and facilitating the transition to electric vehicles," said Eastland Group chief executive Matt Todd.

"We envisage a future where logging trucks, and other heavy vehicles in the logistics and marine sectors, move from internal combustion engines to electric models.

"The introduction of this electric water truck at the port is a very positive first step on this journey."

'No' sparks rampage

Rammed four vehicles after refused alcohol

ANNOYED a shop keeper refused to sell him alcohol, a man went on a rampage ramming four vehicles, including a police one, which was subsequently written off, Gisborne District Court was told.

Daniel Brady, 31, forest worker, pleaded guilty to four charges of intentional damage and dangerous driving.

Judge Turitea Bolstad calculated an end sentence of 12 months imprisonment but converted it to six months community detention and nine months supervision, with six months driver disqualification.

The conversion was partly to enable Brady to continue working so he could pay \$6000 reparation — \$500 to each of two of vehicle owners involved and \$5000 towards a \$19,000 loss suffered by police in writing off their vehicle.

(The court heard police vehicles are not insured and if damaged beyond repair as this one was, are written off. The loss comes out of the police operations budget.)

Part of the sentence also covered

cancellation of Brady's fines debt, which totalled about \$2350.

Judge Bolstad said the incident on June 25 this year, was effectively a road rage one.

Angry at being refused a purchase of alcohol, Brady got in his car and rammed other people's at Tikitiki and Ruatoria.

He entered a property where a police officer lives with his children and grandchildren. For Brady to have done that without warning or provocation showed he has serious issues, the judge said.

The sentence she imposed was also designed to help him.

The judge asked whether the case had gone to restorative justice, noting previous adjournments were granted for it. Restorative justice was an especially important process for cases like this where the people involved all had to continue living in the same small town, the judge said.

She did not want there to be any hostility as Brady now needed to get on with his life

and focus on his work and family.

Brady said there was a positive restorative justice meeting between him and a representative from Te Runanga O Ngati Porou in relation to one of its vehicles.

The police officer involved in the case said Brady's bail conditions previously barred them from speaking but Brady apologised to him at the courthouse just ahead of this sentencing. The officer said he was not someone who held grudges and in a small town, it was unworkable to do so.

Two other people whose vehicles Brady damaged chose not to meet with him.

The sentence starting point for the lead charges — the intentional damage ones — was 22 months with one month's uplift for Brady's previous relevant convictions. There was a full 25 percent discount for his guilty pleas and a further 10 percent discount for remorse beyond that inherent in the pleas. Brady also received three months discount for 95 days he spent in custody on the charges.

Water drip caused switchboard fire

A FAMILY in a home in Taruheru Crescent fled their house last night after a small fire started in the home's switchboard after water dripped on to it from a nearby hot water cylinder.

Fire and Emergency NZ sent an appliance to the house at around 10.30pm.

"The people in the house did the right thing once they discovered the

fire," a senior firefighter said.

"They got out of the house straight away and called 111 straight away, which was perfect."

The fire crew used a CO2 extinguisher to put out the smouldering fire.

"The electrical switchboard was ruined, but that was the extent of the damage."

Police warn about second-hand sale scams

Police urge people buying second-hand goods online to be wary of a proliferation of scams in the lead-up to Christmas.

The warning follows a case in Hawke's Bay where a man used fake profiles to "sell" a caravan on Facebook Marketplace, with the person purchasing it depositing the money into a third party's account.

Police said people throughout the North Island have lost large quantities of money that have not been recovered.

Detective Constable Sharon Codyre said Eastern District police have received numerous reports of people being taken advantage of, usually when paying for goods they have not viewed. "Our advice is to never take a seller

for their word, no matter how legitimate they may sound.

"Do some research about them first and see if their claims stack up," Det Const Codyre said.

Police encourage people to take some basic precautions when buying online.

"Trust your instincts — if it's too good to be true, it probably is."

Bringing young voices to the table

by Akula Sharma

“WE have a lot of knowledge to share,” says Rihari Campbell-Collier, who will bring his matauranga to the Youth Parliament in Wellington next year for Green Party list MP Dr Elizabeth Kerekere.

“Ka tū au ki ōku karangaranga maunga hei Takatapūi tū māia, tū tangata. I take my cultural heritage and my divine femininity into everything I do,” he says.

Rihari, 16, is an ākongā (student) at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Horouta Wananga.

Dr Kerekere said she had been hoping to find someone from home to represent her. Applicants were asked to make a two-minute video and for Dr Kerekere, Rihari’s presentation “really stood out”.

“I think it’s about all the connections . . . for somebody who is going to sit in my seat, there’s a certain way that I operate in the world and in Parliament,” she said.

“I thought Rihari would be the one who would bring his own flair, expertise and mātauranga to that role. I believe he will be able to reflect well on me.

“And I am proud of him.”

Of Te Aitanga a Māhaki, Ngāi Tai, Whakatōhea and Te Whānau-ā-Apanui descent, Rihari’s pride lies in his identity as Māori — Māoritanga (tradition), tikanga (protocol) and mātauranga (knowledge).

He wants to share that with other communities and voice the needs of rangatahi from across Aotearoa.

“Even though we are so young, we are instilled with whakapapa and pūrākau (legends) — all these stories of our atua (gods) which we can translate to the people of Aotearoa in a way that is unique to us.

“With the help of this mātauranga we can bring the issues which affect us now, forward.”

Rihari enjoys performing in public. He has been involved in kapa haka since he was a child, and more recently, as a Manu Korero (2021). He also does voluntary work in the community.

“I am very grateful to be a Youth MP for Dr Elizabeth Kerekere. I have spent the past couple of days watching the videos from past youth parliamentary sessions.

“It is exciting to see the many rangatahi speak about the issues which affect them and their communities. It is very inspirational.”

For Rihari, his involvement in kapa haka “brings joy and fulfillment to stand as a Māori on a national stage . . . even on the marae, where the most important work is done.

“Through kapa haka I have stood on the national stage — Te Mana Kuratahi (national primary school kapa haka competition) — but my favourite experience doing kapa haka is whakangahau (entertainment).

“I am not into the competition, I just want to be there to enjoy the people around me who



GOING PLACES: Rihari Campbell-Collier 16, has been appointed as a youth MP for Dr Elizabeth Kerekere. They are pictured at Te Poho O Rawiri Marae.

Picture by Liam Clayton

love kapa haka. I want to appreciate doing it as a Māori.”

As a survivor of mental health distress himself, Rihari said it was time to address the issue at its roots and find solutions for whānau.

“I have talked to many people about their stories and what’s going around in their lives. Mental health is a big issue in our communities.

“It is not a new problem. It is systemic. It has come down from colonisation here in Aotearoa.”

Rihari’s immediate concern has been the kororā at Kaiti Beach.

“In Tairāwhiti/Gisborne just down the road at Kaiti Beach, our kororā are dying,” he said.

“This is the first time tangata whenua and those who live on Kaiti Beach have seen them out in the open, just lying dead.

“Many of us did not know there were penguins here.

“At the moment we know of 15 which have died in the last six weeks. I have been to one of the rallies and a meeting. I am trying to find a way to raise this issue at the highest level.

“The manu (birds) to us as Māori, are a part of our history. They are our tuākana (elder siblings).”

Youth Parliament is held every three years. It is a unique opportunity for young New Zealanders to learn first-hand about New Zealand’s democracy, influence government decision-making, and have their voices heard.

The 10th New Zealand Youth Parliament will be held on July 19 and 20, 2022.

by Akula Sharma

YOUNG people need to make sure their voices are heard at policy level, says Kiri Allan’s Youth MP for the East Coast.

Gisborne Girls’ High School Year 13 student Sumita Singh has been appointed to the role and will be part of the 10th Youth Parliament on July 19 and 20 next year.

Sumita, 18, was the co-chair of Tairāwhiti Youth Council in 2020 and is a co-leader of Tairāwhiti Environment Youth and Gisborne Schools Strike for Climate.

Her focus for the Youth Parliament will be the environment and young people being involved in policy level decision-making.

“In the long run there are a lot of us who will be impacted by the rules which are being set out now. We need to be making sure our voices are heard more actively at policy level.”

Sumita said she was excited to be representing East Coast MP and Cabinet Minister Allan.

“I feel like she and I are quite similar in our passions and the way we talk to people. We are both people-orientated.

“Getting to know her morals and the way she stands up for the Labour Party resonated with me. My upbringing and cultural background, having spent all of my life in this region, I have seen what she has done.

“This drove me to apply to be Kiri’s Youth MP. It’s an exciting opportunity to represent her, along with Tairāwhiti.

“I filmed a video about me, what I am most passionate about, ways I could find solutions for issues yet to be addressed and how I reach out to people.”

Sumita was helped by her form class teacher Annie Egan and a couple of friends.

Ms Singh said her immediate concerns were the climate legislation and youth input when it came to decision-making about climate policies.

“We are surrounded by beaches on one side and land on the other, so it makes us quite a vulnerable region specifically because of rising water levels.

“I feel like young people’s voices aren’t being heard. My connections through school and the youth council will allow me to go out, talk to people, and bring in the key points we want to discuss.

Other issues young people raised with her were the housing crisis and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ms Singh said she wanted young people to get resource investments to improve mental wellbeing and motivate them in these uncertain times.

“Support for youth is rising on the East Coast. I have seen a few spaces which have been established here.

Among these was the Treble Court-based Taiki e! collaborative space for social and environmental action.



HIGHER LEVEL: Youth MP for Kiri Allan, Sumita Singh, 18.

Picture by Liam Clayton

“I know quite a few people who have stepped in there and have been doing business since lockdown.

“They received a lot of help not only from people who work there, but also from mentors throughout the East Coast.

“We have some foundations here. It’s just about strengthening them and making sure people are aware so they can utilise them the most.

“I have touched on these issues with Kiri briefly when I have had a moment with her. “I am looking forward to addressing them in the Youth Parliament next year.”

Ms Singh’s mother Ravinder Pal Saini said she never doubted her daughter’s strength.

“Her father and I are very proud of Sumita. We wish her the best for next year.”

Ms Allan was “absolutely thrilled” to have Sumita on board.

“As anyone in Gisborne knows, she’s a young woman going places. She’s smart, she’s hard-working and is always putting her hand up to volunteer.

“She cares about the environment, and about her community — definitely one to watch and definitely a leader among her peers.”

GISBORNE DISTRICT COURT

THERE was about as much likelihood of his client turning up that day as a tumbleweed, counsel Elliott Lynch told Gisborne District Court. His client had absconded.

Police confirmed Hira John Wharepapa, who was previously on electronically-monitored bail, cut off his GPS tracking anklet more than a fortnight ago and was on the run.

He was scheduled for a judge-alone trial on charges of dangerous driving and failing to stop, to which he previously pleaded not guilty.

Judge Warren Cathcart issued a warrant for Wharepapa’s arrest.

ACCUSED of hitting someone over the head with a rolling pin and stabbing someone else, Jonathon Richard Sadlier, 40, was to have faced a judge-alone trial, but a key police witness failed to show.

Sadlier previously pleaded not guilty to two charges of assault with a weapon, in relation to an incident on February 13, this year, involving two complainants.

Prosecutor Claire Stewart told the court an independent eye witness, essential to the police case, had moved out of town. Police contacted the witness several times during the past few weeks but it seemed she was reluctant to comply with either a request for her to give evidence in court here or via AV-link elsewhere.

Judge Cathcart issued a warrant for the witness’s arrest. The trial was adjourned until March 11.

CONVICTED of his eighth drink-drive and other driving offences, Shayne Hooper Biddle, 30, was further remanded on bail for sentence on January 25.

Biddle pleaded guilty to driving with excess breath alcohol for a third or subsequent time, driving in breach of a zero-alcohol licence, and careless driving.

Judge Cathcart warned Biddle the sentence starting point would be a term of imprisonment.

A pre-sentence report will assess the suitability of electronically-monitored sentence options.

FACING a raft of charges for driving offences and bail breaches, Whakaiti Phillips, 26, pleaded guilty to all of them.

The charges were two of drink-driving (both third or subsequent offences), unlicensed driving, dangerous driving, driving while disqualified, and two breaches of bail.

Phillips had previously pleaded not guilty to one of the drink-drive charges but changed his plea.

He was further remanded on bail for sentence on January 25.

A pre-sentence report will assess the suitability of electronically-monitored sentence options.



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'I'll get better' — Luxon

New leader not afraid to grade own performance in debating chamber

WELLINGTON — National Party leader Chris Luxon cannot wait to go head-to-head with the prime minister in Parliament again, but he also admits there is room for improvement after fumbling on a question.

This morning, the new Opposition leader described the much-anticipated face-off against Jacinda Ardern in the debating chamber yesterday as electrifying.

He told The AM Show he was "very excited" about his first go in the House during Question Time.

But admitted his stumble was "a little bit awkward".

While his opening question to the prime minister was delivered clearly, he started the follow-up question several times, fishing around with bits



National Party leader, Christopher Luxon.

File picture

of paper to find the correct phrasing.

He told The AM Show that while the prime minister had answered the question in the way he wanted, he could not find the question he wanted to follow it up with.

"It was my first go — I will get better."

Luxon said it was challenging as there were a lot of rules about the questions and how you could phrase them. However, he also said he could not wait to go back and do it all again.

"It's quite an electric atmosphere down there," he said.

"It felt really good and I really enjoyed it and I... really want to get much better at it.

"I sort of came out of that experience saying: 'Man, I'd love to do that all again'. It was fantastic," he told TVNZ's Breakfast.

Luxon said he thought his new team was looking really "on song" — unified and focused.

He gave special mention to his deputy Nicola Willis and former leader Simon Bridges.

"National is back and I want us to be opposing strongly, but I also want us to be proposing ideas in the coming year too."

Luxon told Breakfast the point he was trying to make yesterday was that this Labour Government liked making announcement after announcement, but it was not getting things done.

Why not double the beds in intensive care units, for example, he asked.

Asked where former leader Judith Collins was, Luxon said she was having a "well deserved break".

She had done a tough job at a tough time for the National Party, he added.

— The New Zealand Herald

BRIEFS

Overseas scam costs investor \$700,000, FMA urges caution

AUCKLAND — A man has been left \$700,000 out of pocket after being scammed by a fake overseas investment company. It has prompted a warning from the financial regulator — the Financial Markets Authority (FMA) — which is urging people to look out for red flags.

Bob (not his real name) from Auckland received a cold-call about an investment opportunity in November of last year, which he believed was legitimate. The caller, from an investment company named Synergy Capital Asset Management in Hong Kong, was offering trading pre-initial public-offering shares (shares which some companies sold before they hit the market).

The caller proposed an initial small investment of \$8000. A week later, Bob received a call from a man who introduced himself as Michael Cornell — the head of the corporate department at Synergy Capital. Bob said the scammer was a "great talker", and spoke so much, that Bob could hardly get a word in.

In January of this year, Bob's bank blocked him from sending Cornell over \$55,000, warning him it could be a scam. However, despite the red flags, over the next six months, Bob continued to send money for what he thought was the purchase of more shares, and continued to receive glowing reports of the gains he had made.

The investments alarmed Bob's daughter, who raised concerns, including the biggest red flag of them all, Synergy Capital Asset Management, and in particular its acronym, which spelt SCAM.

Bob's daughter reported it to the Financial Markets Authority (FMA) in September which confirmed it was a scam, but by now it was too late, he had lost \$700,000.

Gillian Boyes from the FMA said it was one of the biggest losses she had come across from an investment scam. Ms Boyes said a cold call should be the first red flag for anyone. — RNZ

Not guilty plea in harbour death

AUCKLAND — A man has pleaded not guilty to the manslaughter of James Harley David Jenkins, who went missing in Auckland Harbour more than two years ago. A plea was entered on behalf of Joniero Irving, 25, at the High Court in Auckland from his lawyer Steven Lack this morning.

Irving was charged last month in relation to Mr Jenkins' death in 2019.

Justice Sally Fitzgerald remanded him on bail to await his next hearing in March. A three-week trial fixture has been set for February 2023.

Mr Jenkins, a 24-year-old Auckland resident, entered the water near the ferry terminal at Auckland CBD around 4.30am on October 7, 2019.

He was seen talking to two men before he went into the water, police said at the time.

"Tragically, his body was found some days later," Detective Inspector Scott Beard said in a statement. — The New Zealand Herald

Hospital close to full capacity

DUNEDIN — Dunedin Hospital came perilously close to a "Code Black" situation recently, the Southern District Health Board has been told.

Code Black is a rarely-invoked situation when the hospital is essentially full and patients need to be discharged so new cases can be admitted.

It has only been invoked once at the hospital — in March of this year. Staff shortages have also been an issue for the hospital and those shortages appear to be contributing to the problem. — The New Zealand Herald

Supermarket stabbings trial

DUNEDIN — "Someone is going to get it."

Those were apparently Luke James Lambert's chilling words to an associate only half an hour before allegedly carrying out a frenzied stabbing attack on four strangers in Countdown Dunedin Central in May.

His rampage injured two Countdown staff and two members of the public. Three of them were critically injured and required life-saving surgeries.

The 42-year-old pleaded guilty to four charges of attempted murder at the High Court in Dunedin this morning, after earlier indicating he would fight any convictions. The court was told Lambert picked up a packet of four kitchen knives from the shelf of the supermarket at about 2.30pm on May 10 and slashed at a staff worker who had her back turned to him.

"The blades of the knives were 70mm in length," the summary of facts said.

When interviewed by officers after the attack, Lambert had declined to comment.

Lambert would be sentenced in May next year.

— RNZ

National leader, PM square off in first Parliament showdown

WELLINGTON — The first Parliamentary showdown between Christopher Luxon's new-look National Party and Jacinda Ardern's Labour Government did not disappoint — with Speaker Trevor Mallard demanding that MPs on both sides quieten down at times.

It was Luxon's first go at firing questions at Ardern, targeting the prime minister on the non-delivery of extra intensive care unit (ICU) beds and confusion among Auckland businesses over the traffic-light system.

Senior New Zealand Herald political reporter Thomas Coughlan said National MPs picked good targets during Question Time: ICU non-delivery and inflation.

While Luxon lost his place during one early question — and quickly apologised for — he became more assured as Question Time continued. He focused on ICU beds as his first issue.

Ardern was deft in her responses, saying five nurses were needed per ICU bed — and money had been set aside in the Budget to train them.

"Not only have we got 300 ICU or high-dependency beds — and the ability to surge to 500, we set aside money in the Budget to train (nurses) for (potential patients in) the additional beds we have."

Mallard had to interrupt the exchange at one stage, addressing the House: "I've asked this side and the same for the other side, can you leave it while questions are being asked?"

National MPs kept up the pressure, but failed to land a killer blow, and the PM handled Luxon's ICU questions by focusing on preventing the need for intensive care in the first place.

On the traffic-light system, Luxon spoke of the "utterly confused" Auckland Viaduct businesses who could not fathom why the region was at a red-light level when the health system was not overwhelmed and vaccination rates were so high.

He asked Ardern what

the criteria was to go to the orange setting.

She did not give a specific response to that question, but said Auckland was at the epicentre of an ongoing and active outbreak.

Vaccination rates were one issue, she said, and an active outbreak was another.

Luxon then returned to the lack of extra ICU beds, questioning whether that was symptomatic of the Government's inability to get things done.

Ardern said she measured success on the wellbeing of people and keeping them alive — that included the lowest Covid case numbers in the OECD, the lowest death rate and record low unemployment.

Another highlight was the exchange between Finance Minister Grant Robertson and National's Simon Bridges, with Robertson responding to a question on the Government's earlier predictions over Aotearoa's economic recovery by subtly pointing out how "quickly numbers can change" — a quip directed at Bridges' recent move up the National caucus ranks after the removal of Judith Collins as Opposition leader.

Labour and National did not wait until Parliament resumed to lock horns. Before the Parliamentary sitting, the day began with some friendly fire, when Luxon U-turned on remarks from Bridges about the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, saying National's position was not yet that Governor Adrian Orr should leave when his term ends in 2023.

Grant Robertson sniped at Luxon's economic strategy as he headed into caucus, saying Luxon needed to find his way out of National's fiscal "Bermuda triangle".

"I've heard often from National Party members that they want to spend more money. I've also heard that they want to cut taxes, and I've also heard that they want to cut debt.

"Mr Luxon's policy continues to be stuck in that



PM Jacinda Ardern.

File picture

fiscal Bermuda triangle and he will have to find his way out of that," Robertson said.

Luxon claimed Robertson was trying to "lecture" Bridges, ahead of their clash yesterday.

"Look, Grant Robertson trying to lecture Simon Bridges — or myself for that matter — on the economy is something I won't listen too closely to," Luxon said.

"Our issue is simple, we think there has been a tremendous amount of wasteful spending. That therefore means we're taking on higher levels of debt. That means we don't have the capacity, fundamentally, to invest in the economy in the way we want."

Bridges himself got in on the action. "We've got a sense that Grant Robertson and Labour are overcooking it (the economy).

"I respect Grant and I think it will be a good contest," Bridges said.

Luxon said he was "relaxed" about his first Question Time clash as Leader of the Opposition yesterday.

"For me, it was an opportunity to prosecute the case with the Government on non-delivery.

"We followed the normal routine that we have for preparing for questions — there's been no extra study needed per se," Luxon said.

On the economy, Luxon would not put his finger on just how much or how little spending he would like from the Government. Usually, Government spending hovers at just under 30 percent of GDP.

In 2019, core Government

spending was 28.7 percent of GDP, it was now 34.4 percent of GDP, but was expected to drop back down to 29.2 percent by 2025 — according to the Treasury.

In comparison, in the last year of the previous National government, core spending was 27.8 percent of GDP.

"The difference in our assumption is we're looking at things in the macro always and you've got to be able to break it down: so for example you can talk ratios of debt-to-GDP, you can talk ratios of government spending.

"The fundamental point we're trying to make is that there's a tremendous amount of wasteful spending here. Actually, it's about where it's being deployed to — you don't borrow money just to run your day-to-day expenses," Luxon said.

Luxon gave some cautious backing to Reserve Bank Governor Adrian Orr after Bridges was sharply critical of him in a recent podcast.

Bridges told The Working Group podcast that he did not want to see Orr reappointed.

"This is a guy who... ultimately... has probably made things worse.

"His policy implementation has led to housing problems; we've got big inflation, and he has been focused on a whole bunch of other things that may or may not be important."

However, Luxon distanced himself from that position yesterday.

"That's not our position," Luxon said.

Luxon earlier confirmed he had spoken to Bridges about the remarks.

"What Simon was raising was that there has been mission creep with the Reserve Bank. We don't want it to get politicised because we don't want to undermine the independence and the trust that it has, both with the Government and the public."

National's caucus meeting also saw the election of Chris Penk as Senior Whip and Maureen Pugh as Junior Whip. — NZ Herald

DHBs prepare for Covid cases with mini-MIQs

by Rowan Quinn, RNZ

QUEENSTOWN — Just two motel units have been set aside in Queenstown for people who might need help to isolate with Covid, despite the fact that tens of thousands of Aucklanders are about to hit the town, Mayor Jim Boulton says.

He was worried it would not be enough to make sure people could isolate safely while holidaying in Queenstown.

“Mini” managed-isolation and quarantine (MIQ) facilities were being set up all over the country, in places that did not already have them, in case people could not self-isolate where they were, such as while they were away on holiday.

Mayor Boulton said two motel units were clearly not enough for Queenstown.

He had asked the Southern District Health Board (SDHB) to get a larger MIQ facility ready, especially because it was only about 10 days before Aucklanders would start arriving, in big numbers.

Most people with Covid-19 now isolated at home if they were well enough to do so.

But that was not always possible if their house was too crowded, or they were at a campground, motel or Airbnb.

Mayor Boulton said many hoteliers had contacted him, anxious about what they would do if a guest had Covid-19. “Obviously they can’t get in an aeroplane and fly back to Auckland, so

they need to be isolated,” he said.

Hoteliers did not want them to stay because of the risk of exposing their staff or other guests to the coronavirus.

SDHB chief executive Chris Fleming told a board meeting yesterday in Queenstown the mini-MIQs were very limited and they had now realised they would need to add more.

He was meeting with Mayor Boulton and business leaders tomorrow to discuss a plan.

While there was naturally extra urgency in holiday areas, all the country’s DHBs were getting mini-MIQs. In Northland, for example, they had already been using a small number of theirs. Northland DHB clinical leader for community isolation, Sarah Clarke,

said they would eventually use a mixture of accommodation, including motel units and old hospital housing.

The holidays were always a busy time for Northland and houses were often packed full with visiting friends and whanau, she said.

Ideally, anyone who caught Covid-19 — or anyone who was a close contact of a Covid case — would head home to self-isolate, but if that could not be done safely, support would be available, she said.

Holidaymakers needed to do their bit though. “Please come with a plan,” Dr Clarke said.

That plan “could include bringing extra food or knowing how you would get it if you had to suddenly isolate . . .”. — RNZ

Grilled over coronavirus response

by Michael Neilson, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Health Minister Andrew Little and The Director-General of Health, Dr Ashley Bloomfield, were both being grilled this morning at a select committee about health spending and the Covid-19 response.

The New Zealand Herald recently revealed that Dr Bloomfield’s initial advice to the Government was for Auckland’s boundary restrictions to have already been lifted and for the whole country, bar Auckland and Northland, to be at the orange (traffic-light) setting.

Dr Bloomfield’s affidavit to a Waitangi Tribunal hearing on the traffic-light system also showed the Ministry of Health initially thought some regions should start at the green setting, although this was later revised due to the spread of Delta outside of Auckland.

That was despite its concerns that starting the traffic-light system in early December could put vulnerable Maori at greater risk.

This warning was outlined in a ministry paper on November 24, two days after Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern had already announced



Director-General of Health, Dr Ashley Bloomfield.



Health Minister Andrew Little.

the new system, starting from December 3.

Ardern ultimately took a far more cautious stance than the ministry, with several districts outside of Auckland and Northland — Taupo and Rotorua Lakes, Kawerau, Whakatane, Otago, Gisborne, Wairoa, Rangitikei, Whanganui and Ruapehu — also at the red setting for at least two weeks, with no region in green — and movement in and out of Auckland only starting from December 15.

The select committee hearing also expected to see health reforms and mental-health spending interrogated.

The Government was disbanding the district health board model in favour of a centrally-run Health NZ agency, with a Maori Health Authority running parallel to it.

Pub-goer with no vaccine pass remanded in custody

DUNEDIN — A man who allegedly locked himself in a pub toilet because he had no Covid-19 vaccine pass will be behind bars for at least a week.

The 46-year-old, who was granted interim name suppression by Judge Emma Smith, appeared in the Dunedin District Court yesterday, charged with aggravated assault, threatening to kill, possessing a knife, intentional damage and possessing cannabis.

His counsel, Meg Scally, said there would be no bail application, nor were any pleas entered to the charges.

Senior Sergeant Anthony Bond said police were called to The Bog, in George Street, on Monday, after bar staff reported the man had no Covid-19 vaccine pass and was refusing to leave the pub.

The defendant, who appeared to have locked himself in a toilet, then allegedly came out of that toilet with a knife and smashed a window with his hand.

An officer involved in the melee had a suspected broken hand, Sen Sgt Bond said.

The defendant was due to appear in court again next Tuesday. — Otago Daily Times

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Drug-addicted builder jailed for burglaries and stealing sex toys

ROTORUA — A methamphetamine-addicted former Rotorua builder who went on a crime spree, which included stealing jet skis and sex toys, has been jailed for two years and eight months.

The crime spree involved six burglaries, including a rural house belonging to some people he knew, where he stole items worth more than \$50,000.

Hamish Crego-Bourne, aged 31, appeared in the Rotorua District Court yesterday for sentencing after pleading guilty to 10 charges, including stealing vehicles, jet skis, firearms and novelty sex toys.

He was sentenced on two burglary charges, where items valued at more than \$5000 were stolen, four burglaries where items valued between \$500 and \$5000 were stolen, and two charges of stealing motor vehicles and drink-driving. — The New Zealand Herald

‘Iwi need to prove value of border checkpoints’

Union questions value of Northland checkpoints, use of police resources

by Katie Todd, RNZ

URETITI — It is feared that checkpoints in Northland could suck up valuable police resources this summer, while failing to stop unvaccinated travellers reaching vulnerable communities.

The police union and one Northland mayor are disappointed at the plan for officers to be stationed on State Highway 1 near Uretiti and SH12 near Maungaturoto, carrying out random checks.

Tai Tokerau Border Control have been asking for police checkpoints — rather than spot checks of vaccine passes — to keep vulnerable Northland residents safe from Covid.

Police say 74 staff from across Northland and from other districts will be used on a 24/7 roster to run the two operations from next Wednesday.

However, Police Association president, Chris Cahill, said the officers were on seven-day rotations — so closer to 300 police officers around the country could have their work disrupted due to the checkpoints.

“This is a busy time (of year) for police as it is. They would



be better utilised in their own districts, policing the higher demands we have at this time of year — for things like family harm and mental health incidents, and of course we have other police activities going on around the country (we need to attend),” he said.

“I don’t believe these checkpoints will stop a significant number of unvaccinated persons.”

Officers would randomly stop vehicles, and local border control would help police check for documentation — either a vaccine pass or proof of a negative Covid-19 test in the previous 72 hours.

Mr Cahill did not think the police had much choice.

“Police have been forced to establish these checkpoints. They had little choice, given iwi’s wish for them — and that they were probably going to do

them anyway. I just challenge iwi to prove the value of such checkpoints,” he said.

Former New Zealand First MP and Northland resident Shane Jones said the Government had bowed to pressure from what he called “self-appointed hapu leaders”.

He believed the need for checkpoints was long gone and added that “the highway should be the freeway”.

“The checkpoints made sense when we had not made progress with vaccinations. Aucklanders are vaccinated — we are told — to the point of 90 percent. They are not bringing any virus of any scale to Northland,” he said.

However, Harry Burkhardt, chair of Te Kahu o Taonui and also of Northland district health board, had a different point of view. He believed it was invaluable to have police and iwi working together.

“What we’re doing is using the settings that the Government is providing — vaccination passports are critical. In our conversations with the business community, they’re using the same settings, so there is a lovely synergy around that. We’re comfortable supporting those people who want to come into

Te Tai Tokerau, provided they comply.”

He said iwi had always wanted to play a part in keeping communities safe.

“The Government has acknowledged that, and we’ll be working alongside them to demonstrate we’ve got our communities at the centre of our approach.”

Tai Tokerau Border Control regional coordinator, Rueben Taipari, told RNZ’s Morning Report they wanted to check every car, but had to take traffic congestion into account.

“We promised our communities and our elders and those (who are vulnerable and at risk of the virus) that we’re going to do a really thorough job. We’ll do the best we can, and our ambition is to check everybody that comes through. But we’ve got to take into account health and safety on the road too.”

They had run checkpoints further north since March 2020 and although this was a step up, being between the cities of Auckland and Whangarei, Mr Taipari was confident it would be carried out safely.

“We’ve been operating professionally and had no accidents to this point.”

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Grieving dad returns to Sth Africa

Mother of three girls remains in psychiatric care

by Anna Leask, NZ Herald

TIMARU — The father of the three girls allegedly murdered by their own mother in Timaru has left New Zealand.

Graham Dickason travelled back to South Africa last month and it is not clear when he will return to New Zealand.

His wife Lauren Anne Dickason, 40, allegedly killed their three daughters at their Timaru home on September 16.

She is currently facing three charges of murder after the deaths of six-year-old Liané, and two-year-old twins Maya and Karla.

Lauren Dickason is scheduled to appear in the High Court at Christchurch on December 17.

She has entered not guilty pleas to all charges and a trial date has been set for 2023.

A week after the alleged murders Graham Dickason said he had forgiven his wife and felt she was also a victim in the tragedy. The couple are

from Pretoria.

They moved to New Zealand after Graham Dickason accepted a job at Timaru Hospital.

He is an orthopaedic surgeon.

It is understood he had been at a work function with colleagues and arrived home to find the grisly scene just two weeks after leaving managed isolation.

Details of the alleged murder have been suppressed.

Graham Dickason has shared images on Facebook of him in South Africa and it appears he is spending time camping and in the outdoors.

A source said he would not be back in New Zealand for his wife's next court appearance.

No return date has been set, the NZ Herald has learned.

Details of any funeral or farewell for the little girls have not been shared by the family.

After Graham Dickason found his children a neighbour found him extremely distressed and called 111.



TRIPLE TRAGEDY: Details for the deaths of six-year-old Liané and two-year-old twins Maya and Karla remain suppressed. Facebook picture

Police then converged on the house.

Lauren Dickason was unresponsive and in a critical condition when her husband arrived home.

She was taken to Timaru Hospital for treatment and was stable enough by Friday night to speak with police.

She was charged with murder soon after.

In September a service was held in Pretoria in memory of Liané, Maya and Karla.

Their uncle Graham Fawkes did not want to speak in-depth about what had happened to his nieces, but shared photos with the NZ Herald that were taken at a "celebration" of the girls earlier in the day.

"We love them and we will always love them," Fawkes told the Herald.

He said the gathering was held in Pretoria at a public space.

It was "more for family and close friends", but some members of the public also attended.

Three photos of the girls were lined up in a grassy area near a small pond.

The photos bore the children's names and a description of each of them.

"A beautiful little girl inside and out. You were such a chatterbox with an infectious laugh," Liané's read.

"You loved cuddles, you

Where to get help:

If you are worried about your or someone else's mental health, the best place to get help is your GP or local mental health provider. However, if you or someone else is in danger or endangering others, call police immediately on 111.

OR IF YOU NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE ELSE:

- LIFELINE: 0800 543 354 or 09 5222 999 within Auckland (available 24/7)
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- YOUTHLINE: 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email talk@youthline.co.nz or online chat.
- NEED TO TALK? Free call or text 1737 (available 24/7)
- KIDSLINE: 0800 543 754 (available 24/7)
- WHATSUP: 0800 942 8787 (1pm to 11pm)
- DEPRESSION HELPLINE: 0800 111 757
- SAMARITANS – 0800 726 666.

enjoyed baking — even though you ate a lot of the mixture before it was baked.

"You were so creative and loved your stickers and sparkles.

"You were kind and always cared deeply for those around you.

"You were a loving sister with a soft heart."

Karla was born with a cleft lip and her grandparents said last week she did not have the best start in life — but she overcame that and was brave and an explorer.

At the service she was described as "a beautiful little girl who was feisty, independent

and strong".

"Yet, kind and caring," her photo caption read.

"You loved a cuddle and loved early mornings.

"Your smile left an impact on each person that met you.

"You were such a cheerful and happy little soul, your little personality was contagious."

Maya was remembered as "a beautiful gentle little girl who was always smiling".

"And a real little charmer who knew just what look to give us to get one more sweetie. Playful to the core, so happy and cheerful — you loved tea parties and perfected the pinkie finger."

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43897-02

Trip-planning app seeks out cheapest routes

by Chris Keall, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — Petrol costs — or gas money, as younger Kiwis tend to call it — has often been a sore point for the great Kiwi road trip, or just when buzzing around town.

And with the cost of fuel spiking, it is something you need to keep tabs on more than ever.

Enter Roadtrip, an app that helps you calculate the petrol cost of any given route in New Zealand.

You enter your start point, your destination, and your licence plate number, then Roadtrip tells you the petrol cost — complete with an option for splitting the bill.

Your plate number is Roadtrip's secret sauce.

“Originally, Roadtrip required users to enter their car's fuel efficiency in kilometres per litre,” says Emory Fierlinger, who created the app with fellow student Ben Robertson.

“However, I soon realised something while user testing.

Nobody in their right mind knows their car's fuel efficiency.

“So it was back to the drawing board. I had to come up with something that was easy for people to enter, but accurate enough that it wouldn't show misinformation.”

He struck on the number plate.

You enter your rego, then Roadtrip syncs with an open government database to extract the make, model and year of your car and its kilometres/litre fuel efficiency.

The price of petrol factored in is a weekly average. Roadtrip's makers are looking to add regional pricing.

Roadtrip will also calculate the cost of recharging your EV on any different route.

Technology runs in Fierlinger's blood.

His father, Philip Fierlinger, worked with Apple foundation employees Bill Atkinson and Susan Kare, before he and his wife decided New Zealand would be a better place to raise children.

They decamped from San



PROBLEM SOLVERS: Emory Fierlinger (left) and Ben Robertson, co-founded the app Roadtrip, which has had 2000 downloads in just a couple of months.

NZ Herald picture

Francisco to Auckland in 2001, with a pre-school-aged Emory in tow.

Philip Fierlinger was part of the crew who co-founded Xero in 2006. Today he runs hotel supplies start-up Upstock with another Xero alumnus, Duncan Ritchie.

Upstock is also where Emory Fierlinger and Robertson have their day jobs (both graduated

this year, Fierlinger from Massey, Robertson from Victoria).

They used Apple Mapkit and features like the iPhone's haptics to develop the first release version of Roadtrip, which only hit the App Store a couple of months ago (it is also on Android).

“Our goal was to get 100 downloads by the end of the year, we're already at over 2000 and

we're growing really quickly,” Fierlinger says.

Usage has grown from friends splitting road trip petrol bills to delivery drivers who want to calculate the most cost-efficient routes to businesses doing calculations for tax purposes.

“Ultimately we would love to help encourage consumers into a more sustainable future with electric cars.

“We're working on helping show the difference in cost if you were driving an electric vehicle — how much money you could save on each trip.

“That feature will launch this month,” Fierlinger says.

An update that shows the carbon emissions of your trip will also launch in a couple of weeks and te reo Māori support is on the way.

For now, Roadtrip is a passion project. But Fierlinger has already been in talks with a large energy company about a possible partnership.

Like his dad, he has big plans.

Big banks struggle in RBNZ's stress tests

by Tamsyn Parker, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Just one out of New Zealand's 10 largest banks would be able to meet demand from depositors wanting to withdraw money in a very severe scenario which lasted more than six months, testing by the Reserve Bank has revealed.

The banking regulator yesterday released the results of two stress tests it has been undertaking on the banks this year.

The Reserve Bank regularly tests the banks' solvency, but for the first time since 2003 it also tested their liquidity

— what would happen if something major went wrong for an individual bank, causing savers to pull their money out.

The banks were tested on two scenarios — an “adverse” event in which they could be faced with a one-notch downgrade in their credit rating and a “very severe” scenario where they were hit by a three-notch downgrade.

A potential cause ranged from a cyber attack, IT systems disruption or fraud

leading to reputational damage which resulted in a significant amount of deposits flowing out of the bank as well as limits on new funding.

The scenarios were designed to last six months.

Banks applied the scenarios to their March 2021 balance sheets, results revealing just four of the 10 major banks would be able to meet withdrawals for the full six months under the adverse scenario and just one could do so under the very severe scenario.

The banks that took part in the test included ANZ, ASB, BNZ, Westpac, Co-operative Bank, Rabobank New Zealand, Heartland, SBS

and TSB.

The Reserve Bank's testing results did not reveal how each bank performed under the tests but found that larger banks had a much shorter survival horizon under both scenarios.

This was because the largest banks derived more of their funding from wholesale funding and large deposits, which were assumed to exit the bank faster than smaller deposits.

“In the very severe scenario some of the

largest banks fell into deficit fairly quickly following the one-month period of our maturity mismatch ratio.

“The driver of the difference in outcomes between the large and small banks was the difference in funding compositions,” the Reserve Bank report noted.

But banks were also able to identify actions that could improve the outcomes.

The banks were allowed to model the use of mitigating actions to counter the issue as long as these were already part of their contingency plans.

Those mitigations included a reduction or halt in new lending, leaning on their parent company for financial support, raising deposit rates to reduce the outflow on money and borrowing more from the Reserve Bank under its residential mortgage-backed securities programme.

The tests revealed banks would be quick to reduce lending in the event of a very severe scenario.

Deputy governor Geoff Bascand said the liquidity stress test had provided useful insights into the resilience of banks to liquidity shocks and highlighted areas for improvement in banks' internal stress testing capability.

The findings would be used as part of a liquidity policy review which was due to begin in 2022.

Price pressure shifts to higher valued housing

WELLINGTON — The latest round of house valuations indicates a shift in the market with an increasing number of homes failing to sell at auction.

QV's latest figures for the three months to November indicate the price pressure had shifted from lower-valued properties, once popular with investors and first-home buyers, to higher-valued housing.

All 16 areas surveyed by QV saw an increase in average values over the past three months, with a 6.9 percent national increase to \$1,029,820.

However, much of that increase was driven by rising prices for the top 25 percent of properties by value.

“This is not a surprise given rising interest rates, changes to LVRs (loan-to-value bank ratios) last month and now a further tightening of credit rules from December,” QV general manager David Nagel said, as those measures would have less impact on high-end buyers with easier access to credit.

“While the November numbers look extremely bullish there are growing signs that this property growth cycle is starting to transition,” Nagel said, adding attendance at open homes was falling, while there was a significant upswing in listings.

“Some properties are being passed in at auction, which was unheard of a few months ago.”

Nagel said efforts to cool the market had taken a number of buyers out of the market, just as stock numbers were starting to increase. — RNZ

SHAREMARKET YESTERDAY

WELLINGTON — Sky Television burst into life by significantly increasing its financial forecasts on another quiet day on the New Zealand sharemarket.

The S&P/NZX 50 Index reached a lunchtime high of 12,678.84, but then started falling and finished 12.07 points or 0.1 percent ahead at 12,609.88. There were 86 gainers and 60 decliners over the whole market on volume of 49.63 million share transactions worth \$182.74 million.

The market was led down by Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, falling 42c to \$31.86 on trade worth \$20.7m, followed by Ryman Healthcare, declining 33c or 2.7 percent to \$11.87 — its lowest level this year.

Matt Goodson, managing director of Salt Funds Management, said Fisher & Paykel has

turned into a Omicron Covid play.

“When the next snippet of Covid news comes out, Fisher & Paykel's share price promptly changes tack. Its latest fall appears to be based on views that Omicron hasn't caused increased hospitalisations. Fisher & Paykel is gyrating in the \$30-\$35 range based on the emerging new data.”

He said Ryman Healthcare has been under pressure since it didn't re-commit to its new build rate when it reported its half-year result last month.

“I think the market is teasing out whether house prices have peaked. Mortgage rates are rising, listings are starting to lift and auction sales rate are starting to fall. The retirement village sector is closely aligned with the housing

market,” Goodson said.

Among other retirement village stocks, Summerset Group Holdings was up 13c to \$13.03; Oceania Healthcare gained 2c to \$1.32; and Arvida was down 1c to \$1.95.

Sky Network Television put on its own show. The pay television operator rose 31c or 17.71 percent to \$2.06 after upgrading its 2022 earnings because of “a rigorous cost review”.

Sky TV is making additional savings of \$40m-\$45m in its present financial year and though revenue will remain steady at \$725m-\$745m, its operating earnings and net profit will surge. Operating earnings (ebitda) is now forecast at \$150m-\$160m, from \$115m-\$130m and a mid-point increase of 17 percent. Net profit is now expected to be \$40m-\$48m, from \$175m to \$27.5m and mid-point rise of 96 percent.

Air New Zealand was up 4.5c or 3.01 percent

to \$1.54; and SkyCity Entertainment rose 10c or 3.31 percent to \$3.12. ANZ Banking Group rose 76c or 2.72 percent to \$28.70, and Westpac Banking Corporation was up 33c to \$21.95.

The energy stocks were mixed. Meridian was up 8c to \$4.67; Trustpower increased 8c to \$7.39; but Mercury was down 5c to \$5.85; and Vector declined 4c to \$4.02. Infratil rebounded 10c to \$8.05; a2 Milk was up 11c or 1.93 percent to \$5.80; Synlait increased 4c to \$3.43; and Chorus gained 5c to \$6.81.

Rakon picked up 5c or 2.79 percent to \$1.84; and Michael Hill International increased 4c or 3.51 percent to \$1.18. Marsden Maritime Holdings was down 5c to \$6.40, and Napier Port also declined 5c to \$3.05. Move Logistics fell 7c or 4.12 percent to \$1.63; DGL Group declined 10c or 3.89 percent to \$2.47; and medicinal cannabis firm Greenfern Industries decreased 1.5c or 6.25 percent to 22.5c. — NZ Herald

EDITORIAL

Luxon and the messiah mistake

Collective action to stop the violence

Te Aorerekura, a bold and collaborative new national strategy and action plan to eliminate family violence and sexual violence over the next 25 years, sets a direction and path that, taken successfully, will transform the health and wellbeing of New Zealanders.

The ambition of Te Aorerekura is commensurate with the scale and harm of sexual and family violence in our communities, and in far too many of our homes. Its remit covers services and support for victims and perpetrators of violence, education, and the underlying social conditions that contribute to violence.

In some ways it is a path that has been trailblazed in this region by Manaaki Tairawhiti — a group of iwi and cross-sector leaders focused on changing how social services work together, to help whanau flourish — the police family harm team Whangaia Pa Harakeke, and Tauawhi Men's Centre.

The strategy launched yesterday by Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence Marama Davidson sets out a collective and inter-generational journey for government, tangata whenua, specialist sectors and communities.

Crucially, it will encourage and support the development of local solutions and new ways of working. It has a focus on tailored services for Maori, Pasifika, ethnic, LGBTQI and disabled communities, older people and male survivors; and on supporting children and young people to understand healthy relationships, and know how to seek help. Perpetrators of violence will be held accountable, and supported to change. Over time it aims to ensure the justice system doesn't cause further harm to victims, and that whanau are supported to heal and overcome the trauma of violence.

Davidson said the Government wanted to see reduced tolerance for violence and inequity across the country, and highlighted the need to address the impacts of colonisation, racism and the marginalisation of tangata whenua.

Te Aorerekura outlines six key changes or "shifts" required, each of which is interconnected and depends on wider changes across Aotearoa New Zealand that will help address the drivers of violence.

They are shifts towards: strength-based wellbeing; mobilising communities; skilled, culturally competent and sustainable workforces; investment in primary prevention to protect against family violence and sexual violence; safe, accessible and integrated responses; Learning and monitoring progress is also built into the strategy.

by Jason Heale, communications officer for Maxim Institute



THE unopposed appointment of Christopher Luxon as the new leader of the National Party seems more like an anointment. Many are seeing him as the salvation of the party — and the right in New Zealand more broadly — placing a huge burden of expectation on a professionally-accomplished, albeit comparatively-inexperienced politician.

Messiahs are so tempting. They promise change. They're exciting. They offer hope. Aristotle has said that "man is by nature a political animal". But the strong response to Christopher Luxon might be seen as part of a growing trend.

Increasingly, politicians are being framed as saviours. Think of Trump making America great again, or Brazil's Jair Bolsonaro being hailed as "the saviour of the nation". Consider Barack Obama and his "Hope" poster, or Jacinda Ardern being "the single source of truth". The often-

reported death of religious fervour may — in fact — be camouflaging its migration towards politics. As speechwriter Michael Gerson observed in 2019, "... politics has become a religion in so many lives ..."

Of course, pinning both political and religious hopes on The One is risky. They're bound to disappoint us. A single individual cannot do everything.

Perhaps Luxon recognises this risk. When pressed about his lack of political leadership experience, he countered that he has a great team behind him. Critics note National's tendency to feuding, but Luxon is looking to rely on them, on their support, and expertise. Elevating Simon Bridges — who had been a possible challenger for the leadership — to the role of shadow finance minister was just one example of this strategy.

Yet teams, even if united, can only take you so far. Here's a thought experiment: How many ministers in the current Government's 20-strong cabinet can you name? How many are actually up to the job? To deepen the talent pool, University of Canterbury Adjunct Professors Sonia Mazej

and Jeremy Richardson recently suggested that ministers could be drawn from outside political parties and Parliament. This would bring new talent in, but they would face the same problem of naivety.

They would also need to be part of a coherent, positive worldview. Previous leaders of National have lacked this, fumbling from issue to issue without a guiding narrative. Every party — to succeed — needs a story, and one that's not only plausible, but inspiring. So Luxon must formulate, then articulate, a compelling vision for both fellow MPs and the voting public to get behind.

If National's new leader can get these qualities in place then yes, his party's fortunes will improve, and so will politics in this country. A strong opposition makes for a strong democracy. We will all benefit.

During this time of so much chaos, pain, and struggle, it's understandable that we look to a strong leader to make everything better. Individual politicians can make a big difference. But there's so much more to political, and nationwide success. Let's do Christopher Luxon a favour. Let's not mistake him for a messiah.

On protecting korora

Re: Let's secure penguin site and add a viewing tower, December 4 letter.

All these protesters are doing is running an agenda and grandstanding. There is a plan in place for the korora in order to provide them with protection. Eastland Port are actually proactively working with DoC and Ngati Oneone, who hold mana whenua, to design that plan. Experts have been called in from all over the country to assist. The korora are regularly surveyed and have nesting boxes situated in the areas they seem to like frequenting. Fences have gone up to keep dogs out, and signage has been put up to raise awareness for dog walkers, as Onepoto is one of the only beaches gazetted as an off-leash beach. Whaia Titirangi, an environmental team, are putting hours and hours into the care of these taonga.

The people who are protesting have their own agenda for being down on the beach, and unfortunately it's not for the best interests of the korora.

OVER THE PROTESTERS

That's a bit of a negative position to hold. Maybe the

"protesters", better known as protectors, haven't yet heard of the plans you talk of. I think it's great when people are prepared to take a stand to protect the environment and the creatures that inhabit that environment.

I wonder what you actually think the intentions of the protectors are! I know two of the protectors personally and know for a fact they are people with much mana and integrity. Their intentions would be honourable because that's the kind of people they are.

As for Alain's idea, I thought it sounded great.

MAREE CONAGLEN

Given that Kaiti beach is an on-leash only beach for dogs, I am presuming the rest of your information is also incorrect and you are simply one of the lazy, ignorant people I see driving their cars on Kaiti beach while their dogs run beside them.

JOHN ADAMS

Nice one Alain. I think arguing over jurisdiction is senseless and as long as the penguins are well cared for it makes no difference to me who the agents are. I really like the idea of a viewing platform. I hope whoever does this makes it part of the plan.

P.J. REED

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ONLINE COMMENTS

No place to post at new site

A while ago I went to post letters at the old post office only to find flimsy pieces of paper across the mailboxes and a notice that the new post office was operating. So along I went, but with limited time could not find a mail box.

Yesterday I had a letter to post outside working hours and had more time to find the mail boxes. There are plenty of new brightly coloured PO boxes but I was unable to find somewhere to post my letter. Fortunately, some helpful employees were sitting outside who were able to tell me there are no mail

boxes into which one can post mail. I understand that there are problems with air conditioning and lighting in the building. I have also recently had to tell a NZ Post driver that one brake light on the NZ Post van wasn't working, and the reply was "I know, we have been waiting three weeks and nothing has happened".

Come on NZ Post, pull your act together for both your customers and employees — and don't expect them to drive vehicles that would fail a WOF.

IAN BURTON

Beach clean-up a GDC basic

Magnificent photo in Monday's Herald re Waikanae/Midway beach showing just how clean and pristine it can be, and full of visitors. We are currently led to understand that GDC may not have the clean-up of the current situation done prior to Christmas — what a catastrophe that will be if it is the case.

The beaches of Gisborne are one of the jewels in our crown and whilst there will not be international visitors here this holiday season, there will be

plenty of New Zealanders and many will be first-timers. What a first impression will be given with the beach strewn with the mess that is currently on the sand.

A major theme of our last local body elections was to get back to basics — well, beach cleaning comes under that heading.

GDC — please show some common sense and if you do need to review this process, this is not the time to do it. Please just get on with it.

RAY KITCHEN

Coca Cola earns about that...

Re: A lot of money in vaccines, December 3 letter.

That figure is revenue, not profit. Why shouldn't the companies and their highly-skilled workers who have stepped up to the plate to save lives be paid? Those huge labs have lots of overheads and the people who engage in the research and development need to be paid. Then comes the packaging

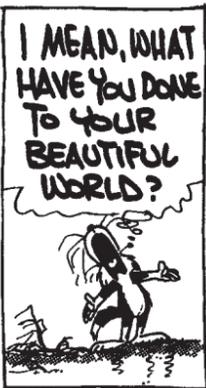
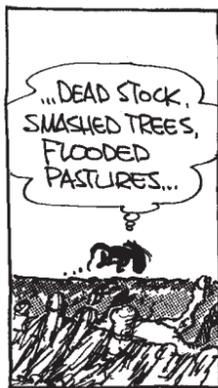
of the vaccines, distribution, etc. Pfizer doesn't run a charity.

For context, in 2020 McDonald's revenue was somewhere around \$21.07 billion and Coca Cola's was \$33.01 billion. Those companies contribute to the obesity epidemic and are not health promoting.

LARA MEYER

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.



US will pay a price for its practices: Zhao

BEIJING — China accused the United States of violating the Olympic spirit on Tuesday after the Biden administration announced a diplomatic boycott of the Beijing Winter Games over human rights concerns.

Rights groups have pushed for a full-blown boycott of the Games, accusing China of rights abuses against ethnic minorities. The US decision falls short of those calls but comes at an exceptionally turbulent time for relations between the powerhouse nations and was met with a barrage of criticism from China.

The US is attempting to interfere with the Beijing Games “out of ideological prejudice and based on lies and rumours,” Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian told reporters.

The boycott “seriously violates the principle of political neutrality of sports established by the Olympic Charter and runs counter to the Olympic motto ‘more united,’” Zhao said.

As he did the previous day, Zhao vowed that China would respond with “resolute countermeasures” but offered no details.

“The US will pay a price for its practices. You may stay tuned for follow-ups,” Zhao said.

On Monday, White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters that the Biden administration will fully support US athletes competing at the Games but won't dispatch diplomats or officials to attend.

Psaki said the US has a “fundamental commitment to promoting human rights” and that it “will not be contributing to the fanfare of the Games”.

Other major countries have yet to say if they will follow the American lead.

Beijing has denounced US criticisms and



CHINA THREATENS: A visitor to the Shougang Park walks past the logos for the Beijing Winter Olympics in China. China threatened to take “firm countermeasures” if the US proceeds with a diplomatic boycott of Winter Olympics. AP picture

punitive sanctions as interference in its internal affairs and slapped visa bans on American politicians it regards as anti-China.

Zhao warned the US to “stop politicising sports” and cease what he said were actions undermining the Beijing Winter Olympics, “otherwise it will undermine the dialogue and cooperation between the two countries in a series of important areas and international issues”.

The Chinese Embassy in Washington dismissed the move as posturing in a tweet. “In fact, no one would care about whether these people come or not, and it has no impact whatsoever on the #Beijing2022 to be successfully held,” the embassy said.

China’s mission to the United Nations called the boycott a “self-directed political farce”.

Amid the calls for a boycott, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said on Tuesday that the country would make its own decision “from the perspective of national interests, taking into consideration the significance of the Olympic Games and the significance of Japan’s diplomacy”.

New Zealand said it won’t be attending the games at a diplomatic level, but that it made the decision earlier due mostly to pandemic travel restrictions. Australia, whose relations with China have grown increasingly tense, has yet to say whether it will send dignitaries. — AP

BRIEFS

Prison fire kills 38 inmates

NAIROBI, Kenya — Burundi’s government says 38 prisoners have been killed in a fire on Tuesday morning in Gitega, the country’s political capital.

Vice President Prosper Bazombanza announced the deaths. More than 60 other people have been injured and the death toll could rise.

The prison in Gitega is overcrowded with more than 1500 inmates in cells designed to hold 400, according to local reports. — AP

Employees fired over Zoom

NEW YORK — The boss of a US firm has been criticised after he fired around 900 of his staff on a single Zoom call.

Vishal Garg, chief executive of mortgage firm Better.com said staff performance and productivity, and market changes lay behind the mass-firing of what he said was 15 percent of Better.com’s workforce.

Better.com’s chief finance officer, Kevin Ryan, told the BBC: “Having to conduct layoffs is gut-wrenching, especially this time of year.” He added, however, that having “a fortress balance sheet and a reduced and focused workforce” was necessary to take on the “radically evolving homeownership market”. — BBC

Major outage knocks websites

NEW YORK — Amazon Web Services suffered a major outage on Tuesday, the company said, disrupting access to many popular sites.

The company provides cloud computing services to many governments, universities and companies, including The Associated Press.

Amazon said in a post an hour after the outage began that it had identified the root cause and was “actively working towards recovery”. The issue primarily affected its services in the Eastern US, it said. It did not disclose any additional details about the cause.

Amazon later updated the dashboard to note that the company was “starting to see some signs of recovery. We do not have an ETA for full recovery at this time”.

The outage also affected Amazon’s ability to provide status updates, it said. — AP

Rohingya sue Facebook

LONDON — Rohingya refugees sued Facebook parent Meta Platforms for more than \$150 billion over what they say was the company’s failure to stop hateful posts that incited violence against the Muslim ethnic group by Myanmar’s military rulers and their supporters.

Lawyers filed a class-action lawsuit on Monday in California saying Facebook’s arrival in Myanmar helped spread hate speech, misinformation and incitement to violence that “amounted to a substantial cause, and eventual perpetuation of, the Rohingya genocide”.

Lawyers in the United Kingdom have issued notice of their intention to file a similar legal action. Facebook, which was recently renamed Meta, did not immediately reply to a request for comment. — AP

Chile legalises gay marriage

CHILE — Chile has approved a landmark law allowing same-sex marriage in the historically Catholic country. The legislation, overwhelmingly approved by parliament on Tuesday, also enables gay couples to adopt children.

The bill was supported by President Sebastián Piñera, who has to sign it into law. But it has been criticised by members of his conservative coalition. — BBC

NSW cluster grows

SYDNEY — The source of NSW’s growing Omicron Covid-19 cluster has been discovered, with more cases of the new variant confirmed yesterday. Genome sequencing has uncovered six new Omicron infections, bringing the total number of cases of the variant in NSW to 31. The results come as NSW recorded 260 new cases and two deaths in the 24 hours to 8pm yesterday. — NZH

Teen beheads sister, arrested

AURANGABAD — Police in the western Indian state of Maharashtra have arrested a teenager suspected of beheading his pregnant older sister.

The woman, 19, had married a man without her family’s consent, local police officials said.

She was making tea for her brother and mother when she was attacked with a sickle. The teenager and his mother then surrendered to the police.

The brother was sent to a remand home for juveniles after his lawyer said he was less than 18 years old. His mother was sent to police custody. The incident took place in Aurangabad district, BBC Marathi reported. — BBC

Omicron vs Delta

Battle of virus mutants is critical

LONDON — As the Omicron coronavirus variant spreads in southern Africa and pops up in countries all around the world, scientists are anxiously watching a battle play out that could determine the future of the pandemic. Can the latest competitor to the world-dominating Delta overthrow it?

Some scientists, poring over data from South Africa and the United Kingdom, suggest Omicron could emerge the victor.

“It’s still early days, but increasingly, data is starting to trickle in, suggesting that Omicron is likely to outcompete Delta in many, if not all, places,” said Dr Jacob Lemieux, who monitors variants for a research collaboration led by Harvard Medical School.

But others said on Monday it’s too soon to know how likely it is that Omicron will spread more efficiently than Delta, or, if it does, how fast it might take over.

“Especially here in the US, where we’re seeing significant surges in Delta, whether Omicron’s going to replace it I think we’ll know in about two weeks,” said Matthew Binnicker, director of clinical virology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Many critical questions about Omicron remain unanswered, including whether the virus causes milder or more severe illness and how much it might evade immunity from past Covid illness or vaccines.

On the issue of spread, scientists point to what’s happening in South Africa, where Omicron was first detected.

Omicron’s speed in infecting people and achieving near dominance in South Africa has health experts worried that the country is at the start of a new wave that may come to overwhelm hospitals.

The new variant rapidly moved South Africa from a period of low transmission, averaging less than 200 new cases per day in mid-November, to more than 16,000 per day over the weekend.

Omicron accounts for more than 90 percent of the new cases in Gauteng province, the epicentre of the new wave, according to experts. The new variant is rapidly spreading and achieving dominance in South Africa’s eight other

provinces.

“The virus is spreading extraordinarily fast,” said Willem Hanekom, director of the Africa Health Research Institute. “If you look at the slopes of this wave that we’re in at the moment, it’s a much steeper slope than the first three waves that South Africa experienced. This indicates that it’s spreading fast and it may therefore be a very transmissible virus.”

But Hanekom, who is also co-chair of the South African Covid Variants Research Consortium, said South Africa had such low numbers of Delta cases when Omicron emerged, “I don’t think we can say” it out-competed Delta.

Scientists say it’s unclear whether Omicron will behave the same way in other countries as it has in South Africa. Lemieux said there are already some hints about how it may behave; in places like the United Kingdom, which does a lot of genomic sequencing, he said, “we’re seeing what appears to be a signal of exponential increase of Omicron over Delta”.

In the United States, as in the rest of the world, “there’s still a lot of uncertainty”, he said. “But when you put the early data together, you start to see a consistent picture emerge: that Omicron is already here, and based on what we’ve observed in South Africa, it’s likely to become the dominant strain in the coming weeks and months and will likely cause a surge in case numbers.”

What that could mean for public health remains to be seen. Hanekom said early data from South Africa shows that reinfection rates are much higher with Omicron than previous variants, suggesting the virus is escaping immunity somewhat. It also shows the virus seems to be infecting younger people, mostly those who are unvaccinated, and most cases in hospitals have been relatively mild.

But Binnicker said things could play out differently in other parts of the world or in different groups of patients.

As the world waits for answers, scientists suggest people do all they can to protect themselves.

Children show highest Covid rates says WHO

GENEVA — The World Health Organisation’s Europe office said on Tuesday that children in the 5 to 14 age group now account for the highest rates of reported Covid infection in the region.

WHO Europe regional director Dr Hans Kluge also argued that vaccine mandates should be “an absolute last resort,” and said that Covid deaths remain “significantly below previous peaks”. But he said that cases and deaths have more than doubled in the last two months in the 53-country region stretching to central Asia. He stressed the continued threat from the widespread Delta, and noted the new Omicron variant has so far accounted for 432 confirmed cases in 21 countries in the region.

“The Delta variant remains dominant across Europe and Central Asia, and we know that the Covid vaccines remain effective in reducing severe disease and deaths from it,” he told reporters from WHO Europe headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark. “It is yet to be seen how and whether the latest Covid variant of concern, Omicron, will be more transmissible, or more or less severe.”

Kluge urged countries to “protect children and the schools” amid the rapid increase in cases among the young in the region, and said the incidence was two to three times higher among children. Children have tended to face less severe cases than more vulnerable populations like older people, healthcare workers and people with weaker immune systems. — AP

“We want to make sure that people have as much immunity from vaccination as possible. So if people are not vaccinated they should get vaccinated,” Lemieux said.

“If people are eligible for boosters, they should get boosters, and then do all the other things that we know are effective for reducing transmission — masking and social distancing and avoiding large indoor gatherings, particularly without masks.” — AP

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YEAR'S BEST: As 2021 winds down, Focus on the Land would like to capture the classic images of events that have stood out during what has been another challenging year. They can be pictures of anything related to farming in the district, or images like this one that captures the serenity of country life. Please email them asap to murray.robertson@gisborneherald.co.nz



Tolaga Bay gets top price at small fair

by Trevor Brown

THERE were only about 1230 cattle sold at yesterday's Matawhero cattle fair, but it was a long, drawn-out affair due to the large number of pens containing small numbers.

Prices for one and two-year steers fell by more than 20cents/kg.

Most cattle were carrying some body condition, but lacked body size.

However, there were a few pens of quality cattle, some of which went to Hawke's Bay buyers.

Tunanui Holdings Ltd, at Tolaga Bay, had four pens of yearling steers, straight Angus and Angus/Hereford cross, which sold well. Their best pen of 20, weighing

450kg, fetched \$1485.

MD and CA Utting, at Waimata, sold their pen of 24 yearling Charolais cross heifers, weighing 340kg, for \$1175.

Wairakaia P/S, at Muriwai, offered three pens of yearling Hereford bulls, their first pen of 30, which weighed 395kg and sold for \$1325.

The increased prevalence of horned cattle arriving at Matawhero has become a health and safety issue, both for personnel and the animals.

Horned cattle are avoided by some buyers. Perhaps the authorities need to revisit their rigid restrictions on dehorning calves.

Using polled sires is the best long-term solution.

Although there is an abundance of grass throughout the North Island, pressure is mounting on processing plants due to Covid-19 restrictions and shipping delays, resulting in falling schedule prices.

Prices per kg: yearling steers: \$3.55 – \$2.92; 2 year steers: \$3.37 – \$3.00; yearling heifers: \$3.46 – \$2.71; yearling bulls: \$3.53 – \$3.10; MA cows: \$2.33.

Best prices — MA cows with calves at foot: Waimarie P/S, 12, \$1520. MA cows: Taupai Station, 5 (485kg), \$1130.

Two-year steers: Paul Kau Tangaere, 2 (460kg), \$1400, 11 (380kg), \$1280, 14 (310kg), \$930.

Yearling steers: Tunanui Holdings Ltd,

20 (450kg), \$1485, 30 (405kg), \$1400, 37 (355kg), \$1225, 15 (300kg), \$1065; Glentui Station, 25 (275kg), \$950; Kia Ora Station (Ngakoroa), 5 (280kg), \$950; Hakurenga Inc, 10 (240kg), \$950, 32 (275kg), \$935; Mangahanea Farms Ltd, 19 (250kg), \$875.

Yearling heifers: MD and CA Utting, 24 (340kg), \$1175; Pakihiroa Farms Ltd, 22 (245kg), \$840, 13 (220kg), \$725; Mangahanea Farms Ltd, 12 (245kg), \$720, 9 (185kg), \$690, 9 (215kg), \$585.

Yearling bulls: Wairakaia Farm P/S, 30 (395kg), \$1325, 12 (410kg), \$1270, 6 (350kg), \$1140; Matuku Trust, 12 (325kg), \$1060, 28 (275kg), \$970, 16 (230kg), \$800; Taupai Station, 12 (285kg), \$890.



SALES SEASON UNDER WAY:

The ram sales season rolls along in the district tomorrow and Friday when Turiroa from Wairoa put up 125 "big and meaty" Southdowns, Suftex, Tigers and Belsuftex rams for sale on farm. The sale starts at 11am. On Friday Te Ruanui at Tiniroto will offer 120 Poll Dorsets and 40 Poll Texels for sale by auction at the Matawhero saleyards, from 1pm. Mangahau Hampshire at Hangaroa sold all of their rams at their sale on Friday. The Candy family, pictured from left, Ben, Rose, Mark and Matt, were pleased with the result.

Picture by Murray Robertson

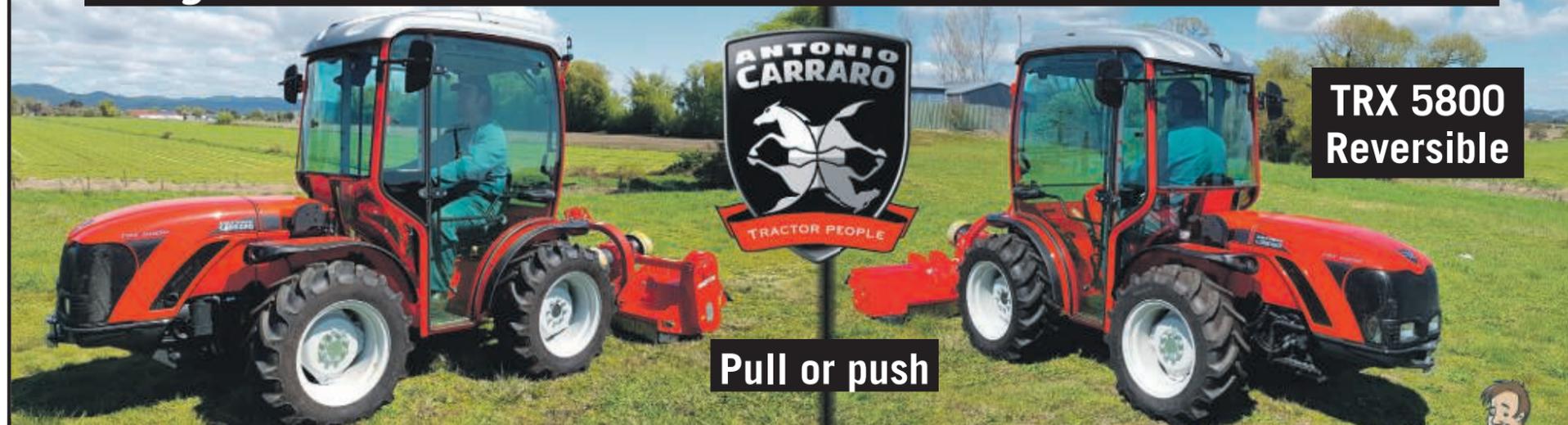
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Pet sheep turning heads in Christchurch

by Emily Moorhouse,
Otago Daily Times

MEET Lucky, the six-year-old sheep that thinks he's a dog.

Lucky is a bit different from most sheep — he walks along the Heathcote River in Christchurch every evening with his owner Caroline Thomson.

He trots happily beside her, tugging on his leash every now and then to nibble at a daisy.

Lucky is great with the dogs he encounters on walks and enjoys children giving him a hug.

"He's quite happy to have people pat him. He likes to say hello," Thomson said.

"It's amazing the people you see that say 'you don't see that every day' or 'that's made my day'."

When the pair arrive home, Lucky performs some tricks for Thomson to get some of his favourite alpaca nuts.

He can sit, stay, shake, jump, bow, pose, turn and knows many more tricks as Thomson has been training him since he was a lamb.

Thomson tells people he recognises and responds to 20 commands, but she thinks it's closer to 25.

The pair met six years ago

when Thomson's sister and brother-in-law who run sheep at Burkes Pass, between Fairlie and Lake Tekapo, had a ewe that birthed triplets but only managed to feed two of her lambs.

Thomson visited and tried to help the third lamb latch on to its mother, but she had no luck.

Then her sister had an idea. "My sister said to me, 'Do you want a lamb?' And I said, 'yes!'" Thomson said.

Life with Lucky took a bit of adjusting while Thomson juggled looking after the lamb and studying.

During the day, she would drop Lucky off at her sister's and pick him up in the afternoon, until he got too big.

Then she kept Lucky in her garden on a long leash before investing in an electric fence.

In his pen lies a bucket of water, a mini shed for sleeping, a football that he pushes around and a homemade jump for his tricks.

It's clear that Lucky enjoys spending time with Thomson and even ventures down to Burkes Pass in the back of her car for family gatherings.

"He's basically like a dog," she said.

"He's a very good companion."



'HE'S LIKE A DOG': Lucky the pet sheep has many tricks and is an expert at jumping obstacles.

Pictures by Star Media



AgriHQ MARKET REPORT

Week beginning December 6

LAMB
It was another week of downside for lamb and mutton prices.

AgriHQ lamb and mutton price indicators came down 35-40c/kg on lamb since mid-November to \$9.30/kg for the North Island and \$9.30/kg for the South Island last week.

Despite the downside, prices are still record high for those getting lambs away to the processors. On a per head basis, a 17kgCW lamb is making \$36-\$39 more than a year ago.

The reduced prices reflect increased supplies heading into the processors as they try to manage staff shortages, causing space to tighten up fast. This is going to be the common theme into January, likely longer.

Ewe space is particularly tight across the North Island as processors prioritise lambs and it is expected to continue up until the Christmas break.

US demand for frenched racks remains firm with the price at US\$11.50/lb, almost double what was being paid for these last year. However, there are concerns the new Covid-19 variant spreading around the globe will have a negative effect on foodservice, which has already occurred in Europe.

BEEF
Space is tight for prime cattle, committed volumes are going ahead but any additional numbers are being held over, creating a small backlog in the cattle kill.

This is putting pressure on everyone leading into Christmas and it is thought space will remain tight through to the new year. As with sheepmeat plants, the shortage of seasonal workers is creating significant staffing shortages that are impacting the ability of all plants to run at capacity.

Freight challenges are escalating the staffing shortages and companies are stressing the importance of farmers booking stock early and having a contingency plan in place in the event there are delays processing stock.

DAIRY
October export data shows a volume decrease and value increase in New Zealand dairy exports.

Export volumes decreased year-on-year across most key dairy export commodities. However, cheese and protein export volumes keep growing strongly, with SMP, whey and casein and caseinate exports exploding.

The value of these exports are higher than in October 2020 — casein export values are a remarkable 63 percent higher than last year.

The Fonterra payout forecast has moved to \$8.40-\$9.00/kgMS, up from \$7.90-\$8.90/kgMS. Fertiliser prices continue to soar globally due to strained crude oil supply.

Urea prices are up 97 percent and 95 percent year-on-year for Ballance and Ravensdown respectively, while DAP is up 62 percent and 65 percent respectively.

These price increases mimic the cost of Brent Crude oil, up 58 percent to US\$81 a barrel. Demand decreases due to the Omicron variant and increased pressure on OPEC to increase oil production have seen a 4.7 percent decrease in crude oil price in the last week to US\$76 a barrel.

Wool merger complete

PRIMARY Wool Co-operative (PWC) and Wools of New Zealand Ltd (WNZ) have completed the merger of operations between PWC-owned CP Wool (CPW) and WNZ with the merged entity now commencing trading.

Northland sheep and beef farmer James Parsons has been appointed chair of the new organisation called Wools of New Zealand LP.

Richard Young, Craig Hickson, Hamish de Lautour, Rebecca Smith, William Oliver and Ian Marshall have also been appointed directors.

John McWhirter is the chief executive of the new entity.

WNZ and PWC voting shareholders overwhelmingly supported the merger of WNZ and CPW operations in votes last month.

The new entity transacts over \$80 million, has more than 80 staff, nine wool stores, a carpet manufacturing partner, a New Zealand carpet distribution warehouse, over 120 carpet retail store partners in New Zealand, a UK office, many offshore customers, a strong, well-recognised Wools of NZ Fernmark brand and nearly 4000 grower suppliers.

"The completion of this transaction was a distant concept 14 months ago and we are delighted to have reached this milestone," Mr Parsons said.

"The extra scale will help fast-track our strategy to capture more value for our grower shareholders.

"The strategy is not complex.

"We started on a journey in July, selling branded woollen products at significantly better margins than transacting raw wool

as an ingredient at unsustainable prices.

"Our focus is to ramp up the branded consumer product sales, drive operational excellence into the new business and connect with our growers and customers," Mr Parsons said.

"We now have one organisation with the necessary strength and scale to make a real difference to New Zealand's struggling wool industry."

Wools of New Zealand LP coordinates an integrated value chain from the grower through to the consumer.

"We can better meet consumer needs with carpet that doesn't cost the earth."

The new entity transacts approximately one third of New Zealand's wool clip as well as exporting WNZ-branded wool and domestic and export branded carpet sales.



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WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY'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 The Celebrity Chase *TV*
Bradley Walsh presents a celebrity edition of the game show.

8.20 Lotto
The Lotto draw.

8.25 The Celebrity Chase *PG*
TV Continued.

8.30 Location, Location, Location *TV*
Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer help people find their dream homes.

9.30 Coronation Street *PG* *TV*
10.30 1 News Tonight *TV*
11pm Nurses *PGC* *TV*
Assigned to the Burns Unit, Naz and Grace are pushed to their limits as nurses and friends.

11.55 Mallorca Files *M* *TV*
The famous icon of St Nicholas is stolen in front of a shocked crowd, leading Miranda and Max into the world of Russian oligarchs.

THURSDAY

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*
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 *TV*
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 Dog Rescuers *PG*
A hot weather special featuring the mistakes people have made with their dogs, and hear how to keep your dog cool in summer.

8.30 24 Hours In Emergency *MC*
9.35 Embarrassing Bodies *MSC* *TV*

10.35 Snapped *MVC* *TV*
11.30 Killer Couples *MVC* *TV*

THURSDAY

12.20 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 *PG* *TV*
5.30 The Big Bang Theory *TV*
6pm Neighbours *TV*
6.30 Home And Away *TV*
7pm Shortland Street *PG* *TV*
7.30 Young Sheldon *TV*
8pm Young Sheldon *TV*
8.30 Mom *PG* *TV*
9.30 Would I Lie To You? *PG* *TV*
10.05 Taskmaster NZ *16* *TV*
11.05 NEW Back To Life *16L* *TV*
11.40 Mom *PG* *TV*

THURSDAY

12.35 Motherland: Fort Salem *M* *TV*
1.20 Shortland Street *PG* *TV*
1.45 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*
8.15 Darwin And Newts *TV*
8.25 Dorothy And The Wizard Of Oz *TV*
8.35 Book Hungry Bears *TV*
8.45 Daniel Tiger's Neighbourhood *TV*
9am Infomercials
9.25 Religious Programming
10am Les Mills Body Attack *TV*
10.30 Neighbours *TV*
11am Friends *TV*
Noon The Royals *M* *TV*
1pm The Best Of Judge Rinder *TV*
2pm The Mindy Project *PGC* *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 *TV*
5.30 The Big Bang Theory *PG* *TV*

CHOICE

5pm Giada At Home
5.30 Mysteries At The Museum *PG*
6.30 Forged In Fire *PG*
7.30 Jade Fever *PG*
8.30 Robson Green's Grand Slam *PG*
9.30 Jeremy Wade's Dark Waters *PG*
10.30 Forged In Fire *PG*
11.30 Mysteries At The Museum *PG*

THURSDAY

12.30 Giada Entertains
1am Giada At Home
1.30 Gino's Italian Escape
2am Money For Nothing
3am Extinct Or Alive *PG*
4am Robson Green's Grand Slam *PG*
5am Mysteries At The Museum *PG*
6am Money For Nothing
7am Giada Entertains
7.30 Giada At Home
8am Extinct Or Alive *PG*
9am The Great Food Truck Race *PG*
10am Gino's Italian Escape
10.30 Mysteries At The Museum *PG*
11.30 Ice Cold Gold *PG*
12.30 Jade Fever *PG*
1.30 Robson Green's Grand Slam *PG*
2.30 Jeremy Wade's Dark Waters *PG*
3.30 Saving Britain's Wildlife *PG*
4.30 FINAL The Great Food Truck Race *PG*
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*
There are meltdowns all around the cul-de-sac as problems keep popping up for the Blockheads.

8.35 Love It Or List It Australia *TV*
Terence thinks the house needs a facelift, but Anna disagrees and she thinks he will fall in love with it again.

9.35 Chasing Ghislaine *TV*
Ghislaine turns to Jeffrey Epstein for financial security after her father dies. In return, she introduces him to rich and powerful connections.

10.35 Newshub Late
11.05 NCIS: Los Angeles *M* *TV*

THURSDAY

12am Infomercials
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 A Kiss For Christmas *PG* *TV*
2020 Romantic Comedy. A successful young woman returns to her hometown to acquire the local inn for the hotel company she works for. Jonna Walsh, Jesse Hutch.

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 *PGC* *TV*
5.30 Prime News
6pm Sky Speed
6.30 The Force *PGC* *TV*
7pm The Crowd Goes Wild
The team presents the best of the day's sports news.

7.30 Traffic Cops *TV*
8.30 FINAL Massive Engineering Mistakes *PGC* *TV*
In Iowa, a small town's water tower build goes drastically wrong; a highway in Pittsburgh wipes out apartment buildings.

9.30 Strike Back *18VLC* *TV*
Section 20 forges an uneasy alliance with Zarkova in the hope of tracking down a stolen nuclear warhead.

10.30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert *TV*
11.30 Love Island UK *16LS* *TV*

THURSDAY

12.30 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 Qi *PGC* *TV*
12.40 American Pickers *TV*
1.35 Parks And Recreation *PGC* *TV*
2.05 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert *PG* *TV*
3.05 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 Pukana *TV*
5.30 Te Mana Kuratahi *TV*
6pm Haka Ngahau A-Rohe: Te Arawa *TV*
6.30 Te Ao Marama
7pm Waiata Nation *TV*
7.30 Life Of Kai
8pm Haka Global *TV*
8.30 Ka Pai Living *PG* *TV*
9pm Only In Aotearoa *MCL*
9.30 Mura O Te Ahi *PG* *TV*
10pm Rage Against The Rangatahi *PG* *TV*
Spirituality.

10.30 Ki Tua *TV*
11pm Te Ao Marama
11.30 Closedown *THURSDAY*

6.30 E Ki E Ki *TV*
6.35 Waiata Mai *TV*
6.45 Takaro Tribe *TV*
7am Taki Atu Taki Mai *TV*
7.10 Te Nutube *TV*
7.20 Kia Mau *TV*
7.30 Potae Pai *TV*
7.40 Smooth *TV*
7.50 He Rourou *TV*
8am Polyfest *TV*
8.30 Oranga Ngakau *TV*
9.30 Whanau Bake-Off *TV*
10am Easy Eats *TV*
10.30 Whanau Living *TV*
11am Sidewalk Karaoke *TV*
11.30 Tangaroa With Pio *TV*
Noon Te Ao Tapatahi
12.30 The Casketeers *PGC* *TV*
1pm Uka *TV*
1.30 Toku Reo *TV*
2.30 Ako *TV*
3.30 E Ki E Ki *TV*
3.35 Waiata Mai *TV*
3.45 Takaro Tribe *TV*
4pm Taki Atu Taki Mai *TV*
4.10 Te Nutube *TV*
4.20 Kia Mau *TV*
4.30 Potae Pai *TV*
4.40 Darwin And Newts *TV*
4.50 He Rourou *TV*
5pm Polyfest *TV*
5.30 Te Mana Kuratahi *TV*



Mom
8.30pm on TVNZ 2



Love It or List It Australia
8.35pm on Three



Strike Back
9.30pm on Prime

RNZ NATIONAL

5pm Checkpoint With Lisa Owen. 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 Inside Out With Nick Tipping.

THURSDAY

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.

PAY TV

SKY SPORT 1

8.30 Netball Awards
Coverage of the New Zealand Netball Awards, celebrating excellence at all levels of the sport.

9.50 Netball: ANZ Premiership (HLS) Grand Final: Mystics v Tactix. From Spark Arena, Auckland.

10.05 Cyclo-Cross: UCI World Cup (HLS) Women's Elite. From Besancon, France.

11.30 LIVE Cricket: Big Bash League Perth Scorchers v Brisbane Heat. From Optus Stadium, Perth.

THURSDAY

3am Gallagher Premiership (RPL) Gloucester v Bristol. From Kingsholm Stadium, Gloucester.

5am Glory Days Australian rugby show.

5.30 Between Two Posts Australian rugby show.

6.30 NPC Cup (RPL) Premiership Final: Waikato v Tasman. From FMG Waikato Stadium in Hamilton.

9am French Top 14 (RPL) Paris v La Rochelle. From Stade Jean-Bouin.

11am Cricket: The Ashes (HLS) Australia v England: First Test, Day One.

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

SKY 5

5pm Storage Wars *PG*
5.30 Pawn Stars *PG*
6pm Ice Road Truckers *PG*
7pm Border Security *M*
7.30 NCIS *MV*
8.30 Law And Order: Organized Crime *MVC*
9.30 Lethal Weapon *16VLSC*
10.30 FBI *MV*
11.30 Mountain Men *PG*

THURSDAY

12.30 Wheel Of Fortune
1am Jeopardy!
1.25 Border Security *M*
1.50 Lethal Weapon *16VLSC*
2.35 Law And Order: Organized Crime *MVC*
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 Law And Order: Organized Crime *MVC*
1.40 Lethal Weapon *16VLSC*
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*

MOVIES PREMIERE

5.04 Infinite *MVLC* 2021 Action. Mark Wahlberg, Chiwetel Ejiofor.
6.47 Antebellum *16VL* 2020 Thriller. Janelle Monae, Jena Malone.
8.30 Embattled *16L* 2020 Action. Jett Boykins aspires to follow in his famous MMA father's footsteps. He must also break a vicious cycle of abuse. Stephen Dorff, Darren Mann.
10.30 Penguin Bloom *ML* 2020 Drama. Naomi Watts, Andrew Lincoln.

THURSDAY

12.05 Words On Bathroom Walls *MLC* 2020 Drama. Charlie Plummer, Taylor Russell.
1.55 The Glorias *MLSC* 2020 Drama. Julianne Moore, Alicia Vikander.
4.20 The Nest *16L* 2020 Drama. Jude Law, Carrie Coon.
6.05 Black Water: Abyss *16VL* 2020 Horror. Jessica McNamee, Luke Mitchell.
7.45 The Legend Of Baron To'a *16VLS* 2019 Comedy.
9.30 Radioactive *M* 2019 Drama Biography.
11.20 Disturbing The Peace *16V* 2020 Action.
12.55 Little Women 2019 Drama.
3.10 Superintelligence *PGLS* 2020 Comedy.
4.55 The Postcard Killings *16VLS* 2019 Thriller.

DISCOVERY

5.40 Fast N' Loud *PG* Jacked-Up Jeep.
6.35 Homestead Rescue *PG* Volcanos Edge.
7.30 Homestead Rescue *PG* Raney Ranch: Living on the Edge.
8.30 Building Off The Grid *PG* Ohio Valley Hut.
9.30 Barnwood Builders *PG* Restoration Week.
10.30 Aussie Lobster Men *PG* Money Fish.
11.25 Naked And Afraid *M* Island from Hell.

THURSDAY

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 *PG*
3.35 Moonshiners *MLC*
4.25 Gold Rush *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 Homestead Rescue *PG*
11.15 Building Off The Grid *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 Aussie Gold Hunters *PG*
3.50 Deadliest Catch *MLC*
4.45 Gold Rush *MLC*
5.40 Fast N' Loud *PG*

Warning to check online shopping receipts

WELLINGTON — A Wellington man is warning customers who shop online with Countdown to check their receipts after being overcharged \$45.

The customer was charged for an item that was not delivered and only received a refund after noticing it on his receipt and contacting Countdown.

The man — who asked to be anonymous — said the issue could be happening to other customers.

The shopper ordered 17 different items and was charged \$171.98 — \$156.98 for goods, \$14 for delivery and \$1 for a bag.

When it was delivered, the packing slip said two lamb legs he ordered, costing \$22.90 each, were out of stock, so he only received \$108.03 in goods.

But he was charged the extra \$45.80 for the lamb which never arrived.

Countdown said in some cases customers would need to contact them to get a refund.

“The outcome for customers is, there could be thousands of us out there with funds that are due to us and we are assuming they should just have been given back to us, in-kind and by an automated technical system,” the customer told Newshub.

Countdown said that on this occasion,



the customer was refunded, but “depending on their bank’s processes, a correction can take up to seven days to show in their account”.

The customer believes the only reason he got a refund was because he contacted Countdown.

“They are correct, my refund is likely to come through in a few days, however, only because I went back and made them give it back to me,” the customer says. “If I didn’t, they would still have it and be doing nothing about it. There has been no email or notification from them of the overcharge or that they are going to do anything about it. I feel like we are getting ripped off on purpose.”

Countdown told Newshub that issues like this can happen on “rare occasions”.

“In very rare cases, for example a system issue or manual input error, a

customer might be charged for goods they have not received, and in this case, customers can contact our customer care team,” a Countdown spokesperson says. “We do try our best to fulfil every order, and if we can’t, our priority is to make sure the inconvenience to our customers is minimal.”

But the Wellington-based Countdown shopper believes that customers shouldn’t be forced to go back and ask for a refund for something they did not receive.

“When ordering groceries online from Countdown, you are charged immediately for the items you order,” the customer told Newshub. “However, if Countdown does not provide items in your order, then it is up to the customer to go back to the customer service desk and request a refund.”

“I have been shopping online for years

and other supermarkets make this an automatic process, so I have just assumed it was an industry practice, if not a vendor obligation.”

The customer says there have been times in the past where items weren’t provided and he assumed the money would be adjusted or returned — but now he’s not so sure and is requesting historical packing slips.

“For me, this could amount to hundreds of dollars over the years.”

Countdown told Newshub that once customers place their orders online, they hold the funds until the day of the delivery.

“On the day the order is to be delivered, our team selects everything from the shelves so it is as fresh as possible,” a Countdown spokesperson told Newshub. “When the order is ready for delivery, we send a digital packing slip to the customer, and that evening we process the invoice and charge for what was actually supplied.”

But in “rare” cases, customers “might be charged for goods they have not received”.

“Customers can contact our customer care team, and it will be rectified at our end immediately.” — Newshub

Steadily rising interest rates on the way: RBNZ

WELLINGTON — Inflation is set to stay high for some time forcing the Reserve Bank of New Zealand to combat it with steadily rising interest rates, according to two of the central bank’s most senior officials.

Outgoing deputy governor Geoff Bascand has told a financial services conference that inflation is likely to stay above 4 percent for a year or more.

“It’s definitely got some persistence to it for the next 12 months. We’ll see the CPI (consumer price index) moving along at 4 percent over the next year, but we think it will moderate over time. Some of those things that have driven it up won’t last forever,” Bascand said.

“We’re leaning into it . . . we will keep reducing stimulus and do our part to stop inflation from getting momentum.”

Bascand said he had no fears that a wage price spiral would eventuate.

Meanwhile, assistant governor Christian Hawkesby told another financial conference that long-term inflation expectations were anchored and it was short-term expectations that had increased.

A higher New Zealand dollar would help to curb pressures by making the price of overseas goods and services cheaper and that would feed through into lower inflation, he said.

Hawkesby also repeated that the RBNZ would take “considered steps” in its monetary policy — meaning gradual increases in the official cash rate (OCR).

The central bank raised the OCR in October and November by 25 basis points (quarter percentage point) to 0.75



Reserve Bank assistant governor Christian Hawkesby

percent, with signals that it will keep increasing regularly over the next 18 months to around 2.5 percent.

Bascand, who leaves the RBNZ in the new year, also pushed back against expectations the RBNZ should be expected to fix the shortage of houses or high prices.

“We can lean against house prices by increasing the cost and restricting the availability of credit, but we cannot alter the supply of land or buildings, and should not be held responsible for the housing market,” Bascand said.

“Our job — and capability — is to limit financial stability risks and keep overall inflation under control.”

Bascand said loan-to-value ratios, and the debt-to-income ratios currently under consultation, would have effects on the housing market and lending behaviour, but neither would fix the housing market, and “nor should they be expected to”.

— Radio NZ

Missed repayments up 8pc during November

WELLINGTON — More people are falling behind on personal debt repayments at the same time as demand for retail finance increases.

Credit reporting firm Centrix’s latest survey shows the number of accounts that were in arrears grew by 8 percent over November, specifically across personal loans, vehicle finance and utilities credit.

Centrix managing director Keith McLaughlin said the rise was due in part to repayments on big ticket items taking a backseat to more immediate pressures.

The growth was seen across all regions except for Auckland, which recorded a 10 percent fall.

“This is likely due to a combination of the region having more disposable cash due to ongoing lockdown restrictions, as well as greater levels of support from credit providers for those who are having difficulty meeting their payment obligations,” McLaughlin said.

Meanwhile, mortgage arrears fell to their lowest level since September 2020, down 1 percent to 13,150 and the number of accounts that were in financial hardship declined by 3 percent to 11,920.

“Despite this fall, it should be noted that hardships are still higher than they were at the start of the Delta outbreak in Auckland, up 12 percent,” McLaughlin said.

Business defaults fell by 5 percent

over November, as more firms benefited from the easing of Covid restrictions, McLaughlin said.

“This is not being felt evenly across the country, however, with Auckland and Northland businesses feeling the impact of extended Covid-19 restrictions, recording increases in defaults of 17 percent and 12 percent respectively since 2019.”

This was seen most acutely in the rental/property, transportation and financial services sectors.

New business registrations fell a further 11 percent over the month.

However, there were signs that consumer confidence was picking up steam as holiday season looms, with increased demand for retail finance, particularly from the

buy-now, pay-later sector.

“While growth in consumer credit demand will be welcomed by the retail sector as we head into the peak shopping season, early indications are that the demand for consumer credit this Black Friday was lower than last year’s record high,” McLaughlin said.

This could be because Auckland’s retail sector was subject to various Covid restrictions which stopped it from operating at full capacity, he said.

However, he expected credit demand to continue to increase as the country transitioned through the traffic light system, McLaughlin said. — Radio NZ



‘Midwife shortage an extreme risk’

INVERCARGILL — Invercargill Hospital has just 17 percent of the midwives it needs, and is an “extreme risk”, Southern District Health Board chief executive Chris Fleming says.

In a brief report to the board, he outlined a crisis with the DHB’s midwifery service.

Dunedin Hospital was also in difficulty, with only about half the midwives it needs.

Nurses had filled in at both hospitals to help, Fleming said.

The midwives union MERAS had been meeting with the DHB to try to resolve the problem.

MERAS co-leader Caroline Conroy said the shortage meant there were not enough midwives rostered on to most shifts.

They had been working extra days and long hours to try to give women the care they needed.

But it was possible safety could be compromised if they could not be everywhere they were needed at once,

she said.

“A midwife could easily be in one room caring for another woman when someone else needs that care immediately,” she said.

The midwives were very mindful of that and it created even more stress, Conroy said.

More needed to be done to encourage graduate midwives to stay in Otago and Southland, or to encourage others to move.

It was difficult in the face of a

nationwide shortage, she said.

Fleming said a new director of midwifery had started in October.

The midwives’ union, MERAS, said the shortage meant that on most shifts, there were not enough midwives.

The midwifery staff have been working extra days and long hours to try to give women the care they needed.

But MERAS said safety could be compromised if those staff couldn’t be everywhere they were needed. — RNZ

Whistleblower describes chaos of UK-Afghan exit

LONDON — Britain's Foreign Office abandoned many of the nation's allies in Afghanistan and left them to the mercy of the Taliban during the fall of the capital, Kabul, because of a dysfunctional and arbitrary evacuation effort, a whistleblower alleged on Tuesday.

In devastating evidence to a parliamentary committee, Raphael Marshall said thousands of pleas for help via email were unread between August 21 and August 25. The former Foreign Office employee estimated that only 5 percent of Afghan nationals who applied to flee under one UK programme received help. He said that at one point, he was the only person monitoring the inbox.

"There were usually over 5000 unread emails in the inbox at any given moment, including many unread emails dating from early in August," he wrote to the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, which is investigating Britain's chaotic departure from Afghanistan. "These emails were desperate and urgent. I was struck by many titles including phrases such as 'please save my children'."

Marshall said some of those left behind had been killed by the Taliban.

One of Marshall's most explosive allegations is a claim that British officials spent time and energy arranging the evacuation of almost 200 dogs and cats from a Kabul animal shelter run by Nowzad, a charity founded by former Royal



ALLEGATIONS MADE: Hundreds of people gather near a US Air Force transport plane at the international airport in Kabul. Thousands of pleas for help went unread and the foreign secretary lacked urgency, an ex-official says. AP file picture

Marine Pen Farthing.

Marshall claimed Foreign Office staff had "received an instruction from the Prime Minister to use considerable capacity to transport Nowzad's animals." He claimed British soldiers were put at risk to get the animals out of Kabul. Prime Minister Boris Johnson's spokesman,

Max Blain, said the allegation was "entirely untrue" and neither Johnson nor his wife Carrie, an animal-welfare advocate, had been involved in helping the animals leave.

He said Farthing and his animals left Afghanistan on a privately chartered plane which was given clearance by British officials.

"We are confident that at no point clearance for that charter plane interrupted our capability to evacuate people," Blain said.

As the Taliban took power in August, the US, the UK and other countries rushed to evacuate Afghans who had worked with Western forces and others at risk of violent reprisals.

Britain managed to airlift 15,000 people out of the country in two weeks, and the government says it has since helped more than 3000 others leave Afghanistan. But an Afghan Resettlement Scheme announced by the government in August with the goal of bringing another 20,000 people to Britain has yet to get underway.

Former Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, who was moved from the Foreign Office to become Justice Secretary after the crisis, defended his actions.

"Some of the criticism seems rather dislocated from the facts on the ground, the operational pressures that with the takeover of the Taliban, unexpected around the world," he told the BBC. "I do think that not enough recognition has been given to quite how difficult it was."

Tom Tugendhat, a Conservative lawmaker who heads the foreign affairs committee, said Marshall's testimony "raises serious questions about the leadership of the Foreign Office." The committee is due to quiz senior Foreign Office civil servants. — AP

'Call that a threat'

Biden's grim warning to Putin as troops amass

WASHINGTON — Face to face for just over two hours, President Joe Biden and Russia's Vladimir Putin squared off in a secure video call on Tuesday as the US president put Moscow on notice that an invasion of Ukraine would bring enormous harm to the Russian economy.

The highly anticipated call between the two leaders came amid growing worries by the US and Western allies about Russia's threat to neighbouring Ukraine.

Putin came into the meeting seeking guarantees from Biden that the NATO military alliance will never expand to include Ukraine, which has long sought membership. The Americans and their NATO allies said in advance that Putin's request was a non-starter.

The White House said in a statement that Biden voiced "deep concerns" during the call about Russia's troop buildup along the Ukraine border and made clear that the US and allies would respond with "strong economic and other measures in the event of military escalation." Biden also reiterated US support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

As the US and Russian presidents conferred, Ukrainian officials grew only more anxious about the tens of thousands of Russia troops that have been deployed near their border. Just hours before the start of the Biden-Putin video call,

Ukrainian officials charged Russia had further escalated the smoldering crisis by sending tanks and snipers to war-torn eastern Ukraine to "provoke return fire" and lay a pretext for a potential invasion.

US intelligence officials have not been able to independently verify that accusation, according to an administration official who spoke on the condition of anonymity. But the official said that the White House has directly raised concerns with the Russians about "resorting to their old playbook" by trying to provoke the Ukrainians.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov refused to comment on the allegations, redirecting questions to Russia's Defence Ministry, which made no immediate comment. In a brief snippet from the start of the meeting broadcast by Russia state television, the two leaders offered friendly greetings to each other.

Biden made clear that his administration stands ready to take actions that would exact "a very real cost" on the Russian economy, according to White House officials. Putin, for his part, had been expected to demand guarantees from Biden that the NATO military alliance will never expand to include Ukraine, which has long sought membership. That's a non-starter for the Americans and their NATO allies.

"We've consulted significantly with our

allies and believe we have a path forward that would impose significant and severe harm on the Russian economy," White House press secretary Jen Psaki said on Monday in previewing the meeting. "You can call that a threat. You can call that a fact. You can call that preparation. You can call it whatever you want to call it."

The leader-to-leader conversation — Biden speaking from the White House Situation Room, Putin from his residence in Sochi — was one of the toughest of Biden's presidency and came at a perilous time. US intelligence officials have determined that Russia has massed 70,000 troops near the Ukraine border and has made preparations for a possible invasion early next year.

The US has not determined whether Putin has made a final decision to invade.

In Washington, Republicans are framing this moment as a key test of Biden's leadership on the global stage.

Ahead of the Putin call, Biden on Monday spoke with leaders of the United Kingdom, France, Germany and Italy to coordinate messaging and potential sanctions. He was to speak with them again on Tuesday following his call with Putin — any potential new sanctions against Russia.

Biden is also expected to speak with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in coming days. — AP

Journalist's murder suspect arrested

PARIS — A Saudi man suspected of involvement in the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi has been arrested in France, police say.

Khaled Aedh Alotaibi was arrested at Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris on Tuesday, a police source told the BBC. He is believed to be one of 26 Saudis wanted by Turkey over the killing. A Saudi official later said the arrest was a case of mistaken identity, and that those involved in the murder had been convicted in Saudi Arabia.

Alotaibi, a 33-year-old former Saudi royal guard, was travelling under his own name and was placed in judicial detention, RTL radio said. Khashoggi, a prominent critic of the government in Riyadh, was murdered at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in 2018.

Saudi Arabia said the former Washington Post journalist had been killed in a "rogue operation" by a team of agents sent to persuade him to return to the kingdom. But Turkish officials said the agents acted on orders from the highest levels of the Saudi government.

A Saudi court convicted eight unnamed people over the murder in 2019. Five of them were found guilty of directly participating in the killing and handed death sentences that were later commuted to 20-year prison terms, while three others were jailed for seven to 10 years for covering up the crime.

Tuesday's arrest comes just days after French President Emmanuel Macron became the first major Western leader to meet the Saudi crown prince since Khashoggi's murder. — BBC



NGĀTI POROU HAUORA
Te Rauwhangamata o Ngāti Porou
Whitiki Ngati Porou!
Vaccinate now!
43765-09



NGĀTI POROU HAUORA
Te Rauwhangamata o Ngāti Porou
Whitiki Ngati Porou!
Vaccinate now!
43765-10

NOTICE BOARD

Entertainment

ODEON 5

Phone 867 3339

A BOY CALLED CHRISTMAS (PG)
WED, THU 1.30pm, 6pm
DUNE (M)
WED, THU 10.40am, 1.50pm, 5pm, 8.15pm
ENCANTO (M)
WED 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm. THU 10.30am, 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm
ETERNALS (M)
WED 2.40pm, 5.35pm, 8pm. THU 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.15pm
NO TIME TO DIE (M)
WED 8pm
THU 11.15am, 8pm
RON'S GONE WRONG (PG) WED 3.45pm
THU 11.15am
THE POWER OF THE DOG (R13) WED 8.20pm
THU 3pm, 8.20pm
VENOM: LET THERE BE CARNAGE (M)
WED 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm
THU 3.50pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm
BOOK ONLINE NOW!
WWW.ODEONGISBORNE.CO.NZ
Times may vary subject to late change

Meetings



NAU MAI, HAERE MAI KI TE HUI-A-TAU A TE WHARE HAUORA O TE AITANGA A HAUITI

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 11 December 2021

10am - 12pm at Hauiti Hauora

All welcome - nau mai, haere mai!

Lunch to follow.

RSVP 8626 629 for catering purposes please.

Gisborne District Council

Flush Water Before Drinking

To maintain safer drinking water, the Ministry of Health and Gisborne District Council remind residents to run water from all drinking taps and filters for a few minutes each day to remove any metal traces from plumbing fittings.

This is recommended for all households including public and private water supplies.

For more information please go to our website.

www.gdc.govt.nz
15 Fitzherbert Street
PO Box 747 Gisborne 4040
PHONE 06 867 2049
FREEPHONE 0800 653 800
EMAIL Service@gdc.govt.nz

Meetings

RADIO NGATI POROU CHARITABLE TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting for the Radio Ngati Porou Charitable Trust will be held at Radio Ngati Porou, Main Road, Ruatoria on **Sunday 12 December 2021 starting at 10am.**

The Agenda will include:

1. Mihi and Karakia
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of last AGM held 6 December 2020
- 3.1 Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Presentation of Annual Report for year ended 30 June 2021
- 4.1 Adoption of Annual Report
5. Presentation of Audited Accounts for year ended 30 June 2021
- 5.1 Adoption of Accounts
6. Election of one Community Representative
7. General Business

A vacancy exists for a community representative on the Radio Ngati Porou Board of Trustees, following the resignation of Lilian Tangaere-Baldwin. Nominations and the election of a replacement community representative will be held at the AGM.

No reira e te iwi, nau mai, haere mai. Our AGM will be live-streamed so check out our FB page for the link. If you require any further information please contact Deborah on 06 864 8020 ext 2.

LOST & FOUND

Found

PRESCRIPTION glasses, brown frame, found Kaiua Beach. Ph Bill 021 147 0009.

Work Wanted

AA tree removals, tree trimming, greenwaste removed, 027 466 8201.

ELECTRICIAN. All works certified. 10% off hourly rate. Paul, 0226 783 024.

EXPERIENCED Builder available for alterations, general maintenance, fences, decks, concrete. For free quote call Sam on 021 854 163.

Work Wanted

MESSY GARDEN?? "Let us do it for you." Ph 027 659 2915.

Meetings

HAMIORA HEI JNR TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Saturday 11th December 2021

Time: 10am

Venue: Maraehako Camp Ground

State Highway 35 RD 3, Opotiki 3199

AGENDA:

1. Karakia
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous AGM
4. Matters arising from minutes
5. Chairperson's Report
6. Financial Report
7. Trustee Resignation
8. Nominations of Trustees
9. Trust Deed
10. Camping Ground
11. Farm
12. Lease agreements
13. Reserve
14. Hunting
15. Urupa section
16. Occupation Orders
17. Audit
18. Meetings
19. Beneficiary Funding (Covid)
20. General Business
21. Karakia

Whakamutunga Chairperson: F Cooper

Public Notices



Office of the Māori Trustee

Nau Mai Haere Mai

SPECIAL COURT SITTING

Waipaoa 5A2

14 December 2021 10am

By zoom only - <https://zoom.us/j/96590370685>

Meeting ID 965 9037 0685

Application to Replace the Māori Trustee as Responsible Trustee

There is no in-person option for this hearing.

Any enquiries can be directed to the Māori Land Court on 06 869 0370 or Te Tumu Paeroa on 0800 943 682.

Meetings

HE PĀNUI NGĀI TĀMANUHIRI IWI MEMBER NOTICE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING / HUI Ā-TAU

Notice is given that the annual general meeting / Hui Ā-Tau for Tāmanuhiri Tūtū Poroporo Trust (TTPT) will be held on Saturday 11 December 2021, commencing at 10am.

The meeting will be held at Te Muriwai Marae subject to current COVID-19 restrictions. The AGM may be held in a different way (deferred, held virtually or in hybrid).

Agenda

1. Karakia / Mihimihi
2. Present / Apologies
3. Chair's Report
4. Special Resolution - Changes to Trust Deed
5. General Business

Documents to be presented at this meeting are available online and can be downloaded from www.tamanuhiri.iwi.nz

Details about the voting arrangements for the Trustee Election and Special Resolution are below

2021 Trustee Election

Three nominations were received for the two available positions on the Trust. An election is being held to determine those positions. Nominations were received from:

Athena EMMERSON
Maia GIBBS
Tangiwai WILSON

Voting opens on Wednesday 10 November 2021 and closes at 11:59pm on Saturday 11 December. Registered and verified adult members can vote online, by post or return their completed ballot at the AGM (COVID-19 dependent).

Special Resolution - Trust Deed Changes.

The Trustees are seeking an amendment to the Trust Deed to amend the existing trustee rotational system, so that elections will not be required every year. The primary reason for the change is the significant cost associated with annual elections. Further information about the changes are included with the voting packs and also available from the Trust.

If you require assistance with voting please contact electionz.com on 0800 666 045 or email iro@electionz.com



Situations Vacant

BUILDERS NEEDED

Taylor's Handyman Builder is looking for new builders.

Please contact the owner, Kirk 021 0293 3426

CASUAL garden work, family home. Suit student or a retiree. Ph 021 504 818.

Situations Vacant

FITTER WELDER

We are looking for a Fitter Welder with a good range of skills and experience to join our company.

We undertake a wide range of projects and maintenance for local industries.

Night Bright Engineering Ltd
Ph 027 2933 943 or 06 867 1484
Email: admin@nightbright.co.nz

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

Meetings

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

TE MARAE O TE POHO O RAWIRI

Notice of AGM

WHEN: THURSDAY 23 December 2021

WHERE: Te Poho o Rawiri Marae

TIME: 5:30pm

Order of Business:

Whakata tangata/whakata wairua

1. Present/Apologies
2. Minutes of Previous AGM
3. Matters Arising
4. Audit Report
5. Matters Arising
6. Chairperson's Report
7. General Business
8. Trustee Elections

Retiring trustees (by rotation) are: Hine Wharehinga - seeking renomination
Norm Ngaira - retiring
Awhi Wyllie - retiring

WE HAVE THREE VACANCIES THAT REQUIRE FILLING

For nomination forms please email tephoorawiri@gmail.com or you can pick up forms from the Pa, Mon to Fri 9:30am - 3pm.

Mauria mai he pereti kai

Situations Vacant

Te Kura Tuarua o Turanga Wahine Gisborne Girls' High School

JUNIOR SCIENCE TEACHER

We require a fixed-term, part-time teacher (FTTE UP TO 0.48 / 12hrs) for 2022 to join our well-resourced, experienced Science faculty. NZ teacher registration is required. Also, please state senior science subjects. Our school is focused on success for all our students.

Applications close 3pm, Monday 20 December 2021. Applications with CV and application form should be addressed to The Principal, Gisborne Girls' High School, PO Box 249, Gisborne 4040 or emailed to info@gghs.school.nz

Jan Kumar
Principal



Are you fit and strong? Are you a people person? Do you like diversity in a workplace?

This job requires driving and delivering parcels, inward goods receipt and retail assistance.

You need to have a full driver's licence and a can-do attitude.

We are looking for someone who is fun, motivated and a problem solver to join our growing team.

All training provided.

This job is Monday to Friday.

Fulltime and part-time options available.

Want to know more?

Call 869 0040 or email info@opdgisborne.co.nz to book an interview

Situations Vacant



Site Supervisor / Administrator - Gisborne

Get on board with Go Bus Transport and come work for largest passenger transport provider in NZ! The role would suit someone with operational and administrative experience as you will be looking after People, Fleet and Admin. Being able to manage multiple tasks and communicate with staff and customers is essential for this role. This Full Time role that involves Supervisor and Administrative Duties.

To be successful you must have:

- Current Class 2 Licence & P Endorsement would be desirable but not essential (we can assist you obtain these).
- Excellent customer service, operational and administrative experience.
- Leadership and interpersonal skills demonstrating a practical people-oriented approach.
- Focus on results with a hands-on practical approach.
- Attention to detail and be proficient with technology.
- Planning and organising.
- Ability to adapt & cope with change.

You will be required to undergo a Drug & Alcohol pre-employment check & Police Vetting Check. For more information you can online on our career page gobus.co.nz/JobOpportunities or contact Bill Hallgarth on 021 281 1403 or bill.hallgarth@gobus.co.nz

Get on board with gobus.co.nz

HOME & LEISURE

Readers Bargains

Readers Bargains

Readers Bargains

Readers Bargains

Cars Wanted

Cars Wanted

AT YOUR SERVICE

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

10 golf clubs \$50. Men's T-shirts & polo shirts, large & XL, 3 for \$10. Wooden extension table & 4 chairs \$200. 2 men's suits, 42cm \$30ea. Dark jacket, 42cm \$25. 3 long-sleeved white shirts \$10. Ph 06 867 2701.

METAL forklift set \$25; Milazo 18spd mountain bike \$160; Milazo 20" BMX bike \$60; Diamond Back girls 16" bike \$30; Vision boys 16" BMX bike \$40; Giant Road racing bike \$350; 20" BMX bike \$20. Ph 021 0287 9311.

PANASONIC stereo \$90; mini essentials spray tanning machine \$15; Japanese tea set \$5; car GPS system \$80, Magnetic chess and drafts set \$30; scooter \$10; men's shirts x 5 size 10, unopened \$10 the lot. Ph 021 028 79311.

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Classifieds Phone 869 0601
 The Gisborne Herald

LINEUP 4 Game \$5; 2x yard glasses + hangers \$40 each; 3 wheel Bumble bee scooter \$25; Dehumidifier \$20; rear wing to Toyota custom van \$60; kids wheel barrow \$15. Ph 021 028 79311.

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- Based in Gisborne.

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We're looking for a well-organised and enthusiastic Administration and Circulation Manager to join our team. Reporting to the Company Accountant, you'll manage and oversee the distribution and circulation processes for The Gisborne Herald ensuring that all products are delivered in a timely manner, and with the effective and efficient management of circulation staff. You will strive for high quality office administrative services, professional customer service, and financial assistance; & contribute to the efficient and effective operation of The Gisborne Herald.

You'll be responsible for:

- Co-ordinate the day to day running of the Front Office.
- Manage and oversee the distribution and circulation processes for The Gisborne Herald.
- Create and implement promotional newspaper sales campaigns and initiatives to enhance The Gisborne Herald and drive overall newspaper sales.
- Responding efficiently and effectively to customer enquiries and enhance and maintain a positive image of The Gisborne Herald, by adopting a professional approach and providing friendly, courteous, helpful and enthusiastic customer service to all clients.
- Promote and facilitate effective communication with staff by providing effective leadership. Manage & Motivate Employees.
- In coordination with Management and in line with The Gisborne Herald Group Recruitment Policy to play an active role in the recruitment of circulation collators, drivers and runners.

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- Excellent communication skills. Strong organisational skills with the ability to manage multiple tasks at once.
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We're looking for someone who can hit the ground running, so if you enjoy a challenge and are committed to prioritising your customers, please forward your CV and cover letter by 15th December 2021 to catherine.chrisp@gisborneherald.co.nz. Applications close on 17th December 2021.



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Applications close 3pm, Friday 10 December 2021. Applications with CV should be addressed to The Principal, Gisborne Girls' High School, PO Box 249, Gisborne 4040, or emailed on info@gghs.school.nz

Jan Kumar
 Principal

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Situations Vacant

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To apply or for more information on this opportunity please contact Grant.

Unichem Bramwells Pharmacy
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 bramwellsdispensary@gmail.com

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2pm publishing day prior to publication
 10am Saturday for Monday's issue
 9am publication day for Births and Deaths

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Pitman elects for home features with classy mare

CHRISTCHURCH — Michael Pitman won't be bringing Miss Tycoon Rose north for the rescheduled Gr.1 Rydges Wellington Captain Cook Stakes (1600m) at Te Rapa, deciding to chase some features closer to home instead.

Pitman, who trains at Riccarton with his son Matthew, wasn't upset at the decision to cancel the Trentham meeting last Saturday where the Captain Cook Stakes was set to be run, saying it was clear the conditions were unsafe.

But he's not happy at the decision to move the Captain Cook Stakes and the Gr.2 Wakefield Stakes (1200m) to Te Rapa, and has decided

to head back south for the Listed Timaru Cup (1600m) at Phar Lap Raceway on December 28.

"She would earn more money if she could win the Timaru Cup than she would if she finished second in the Captain Cook Stakes," Pitman said.

Although nominated for the Gr.1 Thorndon Mile (1600m) on January 29, Pitman said she may instead contest the Gr.3 White Robe Lodge Stakes (1600m) on February 5.

"We've been placed in a Group One and the ultimate is to win a Group One with her, but it might be that we head north in late February, March or April.

"Te Aroha, for the Gr.1 NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes (1600m) on April 9, is an obvious target for us."

Pitman was very disappointed the Captain Cook Stakes was transferred to Te Rapa, saying it should have stayed in the lower half of the North Island.

"The excuse for not having it at Awapuni on Saturday was that Te Rapa was on and the northern jockeys wouldn't go and ride at Awapuni, which is a hollow excuse," he said.

"But if that was the case, why didn't they just move Awapuni to Sunday? There's been plenty of

race meetings moved during Covid, so why take this out of the area? They're Central Districts races. If not Awapuni, they could have gone to Hastings on Wednesday."

He also thought the decision was too hasty. "I think it was stupidity to make the decision on the day. They should have let the dust settle and made the decision on Monday," he said.

Pitman's other scheduled Trentham runners, Okay Pal and Ohio Showgirl, will also head back south. Both are likely to contest the Listed Hazlett Stakes (1200m) at Wingatui on December 26. — NZ Racing Desk

Winton harness at Central Southland Thursday Jetbet 7 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: **HOT TO TROT, SHEZA GIFT, CHEEKY MONKEY**
- Race 2: **SISTA SAMMY, LOOKOUT, MEGHAN MARKLE**
- Race 3: **SPEIGHTS ON TAP, CHEZZ DALE, HENRY MAGUIRE**
- Race 4: **SPEIGHTS MATE, ARTATAC, SHOW ME HEAVEN**
- Race 5: **SIoux PRINCESS, DEM BONES DEM BONES, MISS BAMBOOCHA**
- Race 6: **HIRANYA, BEACH BALL, SAND WAVE**
- Race 7: **BIZZIE LOU, COOL IDEA, CHANGEAROUND**
- Race 8: **QUADDIE VC, TAXMAN, WHATA RAZZLE DAZZLE**
- Race 9: **CHUCKLES, KERRI MAGUIRE, I'M ALLABOUTTHEBASE**
- Race 10: **MR McLAREN, ROCK N DASH, THE OTHER BROTHER**

2 Raging Bull At Macca 12.47

\$10,000, non-winners 2yo+ f&m. mobile, 1609m

- 1 s5434 **Lookout** (Fr) 1 M Hurrell (J)
- 2 3535s **Sista Sammy** (Fr) 2 N Williamson
- 3 **Meghan Markle** (Fr) 3 T Williams
- 4 s9977 **Celtic Abbey** (Fr) 4 B Williamson
- 5 89074 **Eliz Angel** (Fr) 5 B McLellan
- 6 76s57 **Scarlet Ribbon** (Fr) 6 K Larsen
- 7 **Netherton Franco** (Fr) 7 M Williamson
- 8 86462 **Atarah** (Fr) 8 K Tomlinson (J)
- 9 00s00 **Ask Me Lou** (Fr) 21 A Kyle
- 10 400s8 **Rock My Mind** (Fr) U1 C Ferguson

1 Marshall Industries Trot 12.12

\$10,000, non-winners 2yo+. mobile, 2400m

- 1 s3557 **Crown Range** (Fr) 1 B Barclay
- 2 **Hot To Trot** (Fr) 2 S Ottery
- 3 09s8 **Sheza Gift** (Fr) 3 P Williamson
- 4 24434 **Cheeky Monkey** (Fr) 4 S Tomlinson
- 5 87890 **Ransom Spur** (Fr) 5 J Morrison
- 6 44939 **Tease My Tartan** (Fr) 6 T Williams
- 7 96303 **The Power Broker** (Fr) 7 M Williamson
- 8 286 **Kyle Loch** (Fr) 8 A Kyle

3 Woodlands Stud Pace 1.22

\$10,000, non-winners 2yo+. mobile, 1609m

- 1 53333 **Speights On Tap** (Fr) 1 B McLellan
- 2 53356 **Chezz Dale** (Fr) 2 K Larsen
- 3 0s066 **Donald Trot** (Fr) 3 R McLlwrick
- 4 230 **The High Commander** (Fr) 4 B Barclay
- 5 8s097 **Carrera Dance** (Fr) 5 N Williamson
- 6 08837 **Sly Tricks** (Fr) 6 N Williamson
- 7 025 **Henry Maguire** (Fr) 7 P Hunter
- 8 9s402 **Lou's Deal** (Fr) 8 S Ottery
- 9 87796 **Heritage** (Fr) 21
- 10 **Teddy Baker** (Fr) U1 M Williamson

4 Yaldhurst Hotel Transitional 1.57

\$15,000, 3yo r70. mobile, 1609m

- 1 3241 **Booties Delight** (Fr) 1 S Tomlinson
- 2 s6423 **Show Me Heaven** (Fr) 2 T Williams
- 3 81308 **Brigadiers Son** (Fr) 3 J Morrison
- 4 120s4 **Keep On Dreaming** (Fr) 4 B Williamson
- 5 s0123 **Bensons Mate** (Fr) 5 C Ferguson
- 6 84181 **Artatac** (Fr) 6 S Ottery

5 Plumbing World Trot 2.32

\$10,000, 3yo+ f&m r40-r60 special handicap stand, 2400m

- 1 0s316 **Love Is Everywhere** (Fr) 1 T Williams
- 2 32414 **Ruby Seddon** (Fr) 2 N Williamson
- 3 142s2 **Dem Bones Dem Bones** (Fr) 3 B Barclay
- 4 0s060 **Break Out** (Fr) 4 S Tomlinson
- 5 06423 **Miss Bamboocha** (Fr) 5 R McLlwrick
- 6 88896 **Denn Nee's Sister** (Fr) 6 K Tomlinson (J)
- 7 30575 **Sage Trouble** (Fr) 7 M Hurrell (J)
- 8 92000 **South Park** (Fr) U1 P Hunter
- 9 00s79 **Mystical Star** (Fr) U2 B Williamson
- 10 69008 **Svelt** (Fr) U3 A Milne
- 11 s1655 **Steve** (15) 1 C Ferguson
- 12 34916 **Allaboutthemoment** (15) U1 M Williamson
- 13 78080 **Sioux Princess** (15) U2 S Ottery

6 Nevele R Stud Pace 3.05

\$12,000, 2yo. mobile, 1609m

- 1 074 **Baileys Art** (Fr) 1 S Tomlinson
- 2 **Branxholme Lass** (Fr) 2

3 s2454 Sand Wave (Fr) 3

- 4 414 **Haley Robyn** (Fr) 4 N Williamson
- 5 21 **With A Bang** (Fr) 5 B Barclay
- 6 63041 **Hiranya** (Fr) 6 S Ottery
- 7 22s11 **Beach Ball** (Fr) 7 T Williams
- 8 1831 **Nutcracker** (Fr) 8 C Ferguson
- 9 6s121 **Duke Of Cornwall** (Fr) 21 M Williamson

7 Alabar NZ Pace 3.36

\$8500, 3yo+ r40-r46. mobile, 2400m

- 1 92258 **I'm Watching You** (Fr) 1 S Ottery
- 2 43874 **Changearound** (Fr) 2 R McLlwrick
- 3 35541 **Cool Idea** (Fr) 3 C Ferguson
- 4 90Ps8 **Bizzie Lou** (Fr) 4 K Tomlinson (J)
- 5 00557 **Lynryd Skynryd** (Fr) 5 T Williams
- 6 67068 **Beez Neez** (Fr) 6 N Williamson
- 7 90759 **Tad Lincoln** (Fr) 7 B Williamson
- 8 30800 **Stamp Duty(aus)** (Fr) 8 B Barclay
- 9 31036 **Bonnie Prince Louis** (Fr) 21 M Hurrell (J)
- 10 60020 **Playboy Prince** (Fr) 22 M Hurrell (J)
- 11 86832 **Fireforefiddle** (Fr) 23 M Williamson
- 12 06125 **Archaic Lustre** (Fr) 24 J Morrison

8 Breckon Farms Pace 4.01

\$11,000, 3yo+ r53-r57,r58 w/c. mobile, 2400m

- 1 8s143 **Quaddie VC** (Fr) 1 B Barclay
- 2 04s04 **Trinity Star** (Fr) 2 J Morrison
- 3 07161 **Proviser** (Fr) 3 T Dewe (J)
- 4 95875 **Ah Mach** (Fr) 4 N Williamson
- 5 77072 **Taxman** (Fr) 5 T Williams
- 6 701s6 **Wrecking Ball** (Fr) 6 A Milne

9 Regent Car Court Pace 4.34

\$11,000, r58-r70,r71-r80 w/c. mobile, 2400m

- 1 38180 **Dress Code** (Fr) 1 E Barron (J)
- 2 57994 **Kerri Maguire** (Fr) 2 S Ottery
- 3 51148 **Art Courage** (Fr) 3 (J,C)
- 4 11756 **Chuckles** (Fr) 4 T Williams
- 5 4P157 **Especial** (Fr) 5 M Hurrell (J)
- 6 46229 **I'mallaboutthebase** (Fr) 6 M Hurrell (J)
- 7 88635 **Santanna Mach** (Fr) 7 M Williamson
- 8 43359 **Warloch** (Fr) 8 T Dewe (J,C)

10 Tradies Day Out Xmas Eve 5.07

\$9500, 2yo+ r47-r52,r53 w/c. mobile, 2400m

- 1 20923 **American Eyetime** (Fr) 1 B Barclay
- 2 57994 **Kerri Maguire** (Fr) 2 J Morrison
- 3 593s4 **Port Au Prince** (Fr) 3 P Hunter
- 4 80s60 **Emerald Abbey** (Fr) 4 M Williamson
- 5 5147s **Superfast** (Fr) 5 N Williamson
- 6 73641 **Mr McLaren** (Fr) 6 K Larsen
- 7 81214 **The Other Brother** (Fr) 7 R McLlwrick
- 8 2s221 **Peroni** (Fr) 8 S Ottery
- 9 8s033 **Major Memphis** (Fr) 21 M Williamson
- 10 516s **Stoneyroyd** (Fr) 22 T Williams
- 11 01 **Rock N Dash** (Fr) U1

Christchurch greys at Addington Thursday Jetbet 9 TAB D. 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 T. 1-2-3, 4-5-6, 7-8-9, 10-11-12 Q. 2-3-4-5, 9-10-11-12 PL6 7-12

Selections

- Race 1: **AMURI ANDY, HILTON HEADACHE, NOTORIOUS HEIST**
- Race 2: **OPAWA GIRLS GET, OPAWA NUT, BAHATI BALE**
- Race 3: **GOLDSTAR ANGE, RIGHT ON RAMSAY, HOMEBUSH POPPY**
- Race 4: **COFFEE BISCUIT, FIREBALL FUDGE, BARBARA'S ANGEL**
- Race 5: **BLACK VINYL, THRILLING BRAX, THUNDER HALLOWS**
- Race 6: **BEES ARE BUZZING, BRUNO BARBARELLI, MR KUMAR**
- Race 7: **SAM AND SI, SIMON THE PIEMAN, BUTTON IT**
- Race 8: **GOLDSTAR PORTIA, AMURI ROCK, MY CURLY**
- Race 9: **MADE THE CUT, EVER RESTED, THRILLING MILLIE**
- Race 10: **RAJA BALE, IT'S A BABE, FAIRLY ABLE**
- Race 11: **JOCELYN, AMURI FURY, SOZIN'S QUEEN**
- Race 12: **ALTERNATE SHOT, TERESA MENDOZA, GINGER SHAW**

2 Kolorful Kanvas Stakes 4.41

\$3500, C3, 520m

- 1 23222 **Bahati Bale** n/wtd Craig Roberts
- 2 43125 **Longshanks** 30.12 Ashley Bradshaw
- 3 11231 **Opawa Nut** 30.19 J & D Fahey
- 4 28s15 **Talbingo Bale** n/wtd Craig Roberts
- 5 51536 **Meatloaf** 30.39 Sharon Hindson
- 6 45711 **Opawa Girls Get** 29.99 Robin Wales
- 7 11341 **Goldstar Yankee** 30.22 Riley Evans
- 8 73745 **Opawa Harper** 30.14 J & D Fahey

3 mayhounds.org.nz Rehoming 4.58

\$2100, C1/2, 295m

- 1 71453 **Homebush Poppy** 17.45 John McInerney
- 2 41513 **Right On Ramsay** 17.30 Ashley Bradshaw
- 3 83221 **Goldstar Ange** 17.32 Riley Evans
- 4 86864 **Crystal Cilla** 17.39 John McInerney
- 5 82656 **Angry Pete** 17.35 John McInerney
- 6 76176 **Miss Cairo** 17.35 John McInerney
- 7 78328 **Goldstar Whitey** 17.25 S & B Evans
- 8 61528 **Goldstar Aria** 17.29 Riley Evans

4 Amber Cleaning Services 5.17

\$2300, C3, 295m

- 1 81312 **Goldstar Warrior** 17.29 Riley Evans
- 10 67321 **Goldstar Ricky** 17.42 Riley Evans

1 The Fitz Sports Bar Dash 4.23

\$2600, C4, 295m

- 1 21871 **Cupid's Day** 17.44 Richard Breen
- 2 12154 **Amuri Andy** 17.26 John McInerney
- 3 42154 **Mine Hunter** 17.21 Janine McCook
- 4 22623 **Hilton Headache** 17.20 Bruce Dann
- 5 41755 **Notorious Heist** 17.10 Ashley Bradshaw
- 6 36375 **Sonja** 17.04 Anthony Hart
- 7 14264 **Delarochie** 17.49 Rosemary Blackburn
- 8 82131 **Tammy The Tomboy** 17.40 Alison Lee

5 Thursday Place Pick Sprint 5.33

\$2600, C4, 295m

- 1 17861 **Mega Dream** 17.20 Lisa Waretini
- 2 26722 **Thrilling Brax** n/wtd Calum Weir
- 3 13667 **Thunder Hallows** 17.11 Ashley Bradshaw
- 4 44276 **Tweet About It** 17.25 Anthony Hart
- 5 56641 **Romeo** 17.19 John McInerney
- 6 13454 **Black Vinyl** 17.03 J & D Fahey
- 7 74168 **Joyful Tears** 17.41 Matt Roberts
- 8 61315 **Goldstar Harper** 17.34 Riley Evans

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 28646 **Know Nugget** 17.13 Garry Cleeve
- 10 75747 **Maffra Daisy** 17.22 John McInerney

6 24535 Smash Achiever 17.15

- 7 s6s7s **Punters A Hero** n/wtd Robin Wales
- 8 11723 **Claws In Creed** 17.46 Matt Roberts

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 28646 **Know Nugget** 17.13 Garry Cleeve
- 10 75747 **Maffra Daisy** 17.22 John McInerney

8 Active Electrical Christchurch 6.25

\$2300, C3, 295m

- 1 52536 **My Curly** n/wtd Lisa Waretini
- 2 13132 **Goldstar Portia** 17.17 Riley Evans
- 3 26F22 **Spot Lu** 17.51 Anthony Hart
- 4 14854 **Denarau Delight** 17.33 Malcolm Grant
- 5 28237 **Rose Thorn** 17.52 Richard Breen
- 6 11124 **Miss Madrid** 17.51 John McInerney
- 7 51873 **Amuri Rock** 17.25 John McInerney
- 8 31353 **Souffle Sue** 17.19 John McInerney

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 28646 **Know Nugget** 17.13 Garry Cleeve
- 10 75747 **Maffra Daisy** 17.22 John McInerney

9 Real Pet Foods Rolleston 6.43

\$3500, C5, 295m

- 1 28718 **Homebush Chloe** 17.20 John McInerney
- 2 22813 **Made The Cut** 17.20 Anthony Hart
- 3 21371 **Sneaky Snitch** 17.18 Anthony Hart
- 4 86531 **Diamond Harmony** 17.10 Malcolm Grant
- 5 86243 **Miss Adolie** 17.11 Matt Roberts
- 6 34431 **Thrilling Millie** 17.19 Calum Weir
- 7 32442 **Ever Rested** 17.01 Ashley Bradshaw
- 8 31217 **Mitcham Magic** 17.03 John McInerney

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 36414 **Goldstar Larson** 17.32 Riley Evans
- 10 35741 **Suck It Up** 17.34 Anthony Hart

10 Hart Family Grey Racing 7.01

\$5000, C4/5, 520m

- 1 27114 **Mandy Jewel** 30.27 Craig Roberts
- 2 82324 **Raja Bale** 29.85 Craig Roberts

3 18174 It's A Babe 30.17

- 4 56830 **Jelly Fish** 30.20 J & D Fahey
- 5 86818 **Smooth Step** 30.18 Malcolm Grant
- 6 55453 **Money Spinner** 29.93 Craig Roberts
- 7 84641 **Diamond Warrior** 30.48 Malcolm Grant
- 8 61223 **Fairly Able** 30.12 J & D Fahey

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 75266 **Opawa Lucy** 29.99 J & D Fahey
- 10 25665 **Quincy Bale** 29.93 Craig Roberts

11 Suck It Up Ltd Sprint 7.28

\$2300, C3, 295m

- 1 54576 **Prince Rohit** 17.26 John McInerney
- 2 57626 **Amuri Fury** 17.19 John McInerney
- 3 25671 **Sozin's Queen** 17.24 John McInerney
- 4 84252 **Culvie Dale** 17.30 Anthony Hart
- 5 83224 **Free For All** 17.44 Malcolm Grant
- 6 42F28 **Homebush Boots** 17.20 John McInerney
- 7 12112 **Jocelyn** 17.18 Janine McCook
- 8 14483 **Goldstar Gigi** 17.24 Riley Evans

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 28646 **Know Nugget** 17.13 Garry Cleeve
- 10 75747 **Maffra Daisy** 17.22 John McInerney

12 Protexin Dash 7.54

\$2600, C4, 295m

- 1 21723 **Teresa Mendoza** 17.13 S & B Evans
- 2 17224 **Ginger Shaw** 17.25 Janine McCook
- 3 61787 **Curve Crusher** 17.22 Ashley Bradshaw
- 4 62856 **Claws In Cobra** 17.15 Matt Roberts
- 5 77614 **Ghost Mode** 17.28 Anthony Hart
- 6 87111 **Alternate Shot** 17.25 Anthony Hart
- 7 45573 **Young Romeo** 17.39 Richard Breen
- 8 33386 **Punters Bolt** 17.15 Lisa Waretini

EMERGENCIES:

- 9 36365 **St Andrews** 17.33 J M Lane
- 10 17618 **Homebush Dream** 17.31 John McInerney

Victoria races at Warrnambool Thursday TAB doubles 3-4, 7-8 Trebles 2-3-4, 6-7-8 Quaddie 1-2-3-4, 5-6-7-8

Selections

- Race 1: **TULLAROAN, THERE FOR YOU, DASHING POET**
- Race 2: **TUKI TWELVE, AROHABOY, WRITE TO ROSSA**
- Race 3: **I SEE YOU COMING, BARCLAY'S BANK, BULLZEYE BEAUTY**
- Race 4:

SailGP seals four-year deal for NZ SPORTS BRIEFS

SAILING

AUCKLAND will see sailing one way or another in the summer of 2024 after SailGP's commitment to a four-year agreement to host a New Zealand stop in their world series.

The new agreement, beginning with a visit to Christchurch in early 2023, will see the stop alternate between Christchurch and Auckland in consecutive years, giving an opportunity for fans to get a first-hand look at exciting high-speed racing.

"It's pretty awesome news for us; a major announcement to get a four-year deal bringing SailGP to Aotearoa New Zealand," New Zealand SailGP team co-chief executive and sailor Blair Tuke said.

"With the disappointment of having the season two Christchurch event cancelled, the team's been working really hard to get that back and to do it in a way now to have it locked in for four years . . . it's just going to be great to encompass a wider audience right across New Zealand."

The tour was scheduled to stop in Christchurch in January 2022 as part of its circuit for season two, but the event had to be cancelled after the Government

refused managed isolation and quarantine places to SailGP crews. About 170 places were sought for the eight racing nations, including New Zealand.

With Lyttelton Harbour getting first hosting rights and joining the calendar in 2023 for season three, Auckland will host the event in 2024, ensuring there is some live sailing for fans to enjoy on home waters with the location of the 2024 America's Cup regatta still unknown but likely heading abroad.

For the New Zealand team, having more than one regatta in a Kiwi-friendly time zone will do wonders for promoting the competition to the local audience.

"It has been a shame, or sort of a challenge for us as a team as we're starting to build the team up. SailGP is only in its second season, a lot of Kiwis don't know exactly what it is," Tuke said.

"It's awesome racing; a really cool style of sailboat racing – but when we've been racing in Europe, the majority of it has been around 3am, so it's pretty difficult to get engagement with the Kiwi public.

"Now that we've got that commitment and we know it's coming here for four years, that's an important boost for us as a team."

New Zealand fans will get the

opportunity to see the Kiwi crew in action at a reasonable hour next weekend, with the penultimate leg of the series in Sydney. New Zealand goes into the event sitting fifth on the eight-team leaderboard with 36 points from six events.

The Sydney event will be the second time the women in the teams will sail on board on race days, as part of the competition's women's pathways programme. Initially, due to Covid-19 difficulties and strict quarantines seeing the team sizes reduced, the women were not going to be sailing on board in Sydney. However, Tuke confirmed that was no longer the case and, just as Erica Dawson did in Spain in October, Liv Mackay will be on board in Sydney.

"It's a great initiative that SailGP have been working hard to do and I think we've seen some good steps forward this year with the women's pathway programme, but we need to continue to do that," Tuke said.

"Having both Erica and Liv with the team this year, they've been really key parts – especially Liv who has been at every event. It's going to be awesome to have her on board for the races in Sydney." — NZ Herald

Cricket draw

THE Poverty Bay Cricket Association draw is — **SATURDAY — Premier Grade, Doleman Cup semifinals, 40 overs —**

1pm: Harry Barker Reserve No.1, Bollywood Stars High School Old Boys v Siteworx Civil Horouta; HBR 2, Coastal Concrete OBR v Galaxy World Gisborne Boys' High School (1).

Senior B, Hope Cup, Round 7, 30 overs —

2pm: HBR 4, Rawhiti Legal OBR v Horouta; HBR practice wicket, Campion College v GBHS (2); HBR 3, Bollywood Stars HSOB Presidents v Civil Project Solutions Ngatapa Green Caps.

Junior Colts, Twenty20 finals —

8.30am: Nelson Park 4, Bollywood Stars (1) v David File Decorators OBR Sharks (2); NP 5, Bollywood Stars High School Old Boys Pups (3) v Horouta Dragons (4); NP 6, Ngatapa Knights (5) v High School Young Boys (6).

Barty WTA Player of the Year

WORLD No.1 Ash Barty has been named WTA Player of the Year for the second time following her success at Wimbledon.

It is the second time the Australian has won the award, made by the women's game's governing body and voted by members of the international media. She also won in 2019.

Barty won a tour-leading five titles this year including the second grand slam trophy of her career at Wimbledon, where she beat Czech Karolina Pliskova in the final.

She also defended her title at Miami and triumphed in Melbourne, Stuttgart and Cincinnati to secure her third year-end No.1 ranking in a row.

Barty topped her stellar year by announcing her engagement to her long-term partner, golfer Garry Kissick. — AAP

Bangladesh on the ropes

OFFSPINNER Sajid Khan claimed a career-best 6-35 as Pakistan reduced Bangladesh to 7-76 and produced a glimmer of hope of forcing a result in the second and final test.

After day three was washed out, Pakistan resumed the fourth day on 2-188 and declared at 4-300 after lunch.

Then Sajid got to work until stumps was called an hour early because of bad light. Bangladesh trailed by 224 runs and still needed 25 runs to avoid the follow-on at the end of a dramatic day.

Bangladesh's last hope to avoid the follow-on rests with Shakib Al Hasan on 23. Taijul Islam was with him, the tailender yet to score after facing 10 balls.

With the light insufficient to allow any more than just the one over from fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi, spinners Sajid and Nauman Ali bowled relentlessly in a desperate bid to win the rain-hit game. — AAP

Man Utd seek 'smarter, cleverer'

INTERIM manager Ralf Rangnick has confirmed Sascha Lense will join Manchester United in the "vital" role of sport psychologist to ensure the group "think in the right way".

Having been handed the reins until the end of the season following Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's exit, the 63-year-old kicked off his time in the hot-seat with a 1-0 win against Crystal Palace on Sunday.

United worked over the weekend to add new faces to the existing backroom team and Rangnick admitted at his unveiling that they would have to be "a bit smart and clever" when looking for additions.

The German has now confirmed Chris Armas, the former New York Red Bulls and Toronto FC manager, will be joining United as assistant coach, with Lense coming in as sport psychologist. — AAP

Wanderers knocked out of Cup

A THRILLING second-half strike by APIA-Leichhardt's Tynan Diaz has led the NPL NSW club to a famous FFA Cup upset win over A-League Men's side Western Sydney.

Diaz caught Wanderers keeper Daniel Margush off his line in the 61st minute with a free-kick from 40 yards which flew into the net as Apia went on to claim a 2-1 win at Leichhardt Oval.

The defeat means APIA are the first state-league team to defeat A-League Men opponents twice in the Cup's history.

The result also heaps more pressure on Wanderers coach Carl Robinson, ahead of a crunch derby with Macarthur FC on Saturday.

Despite having come through a gruelling round-of-32 clash in the ACT last week against Cooma Tigers, which went into extra-time, it was APIA who hit the front when American-born striker Jason Romero opened the scoring in the 27th minute. — AAP

Allegations against coach spark review by NZ Rugby

RUGBY

NEW Zealand Rugby is investigating allegations against Black Ferns coach Glenn Moore that veteran hooker Te Kura Ngata-Aerengamate says contributed to her mental breakdown on the team's recent European tour.

In a social media post on Monday evening, Ngata-Aerengamate outlined the depths of her struggles since returning home, saying she never thought she would become mentally ill in a sport she loved so much.

Ngata-Aerengamate, who was part of the World Cup-winning team in 2017 and has played 32 tests, said she battled mental health challenges during her eight years in the Black Ferns, and that it finally came to a head with a breakdown on the northern tour "in front of everyone".

In detailing the series of allegations, Ngata-Aerengamate claimed throughout the years Moore, the former Highlanders head coach, Blues assistant and Black Ferns leader since 2015, told her she had been selected but didn't deserve to be in the team; that he was embarrassed for her and couldn't tell her worth in the Black Ferns.

Ngata-Aerengamate said Moore asked her what her students would think of her. She claims she was sworn at for wearing her jacket around her hips, yelled at running to rucks, for how she ran with the ball, and told recently she was picked only to play the guitar.

"Anything I did I felt I was doing wrong," the 30-year-old said.

From these alleged comments Ngata-Aerengamate says she ended up going crazy. She says she had to do anger management counselling after discovering anxiety and hyperventilating for the first time in her life, and that she could hear the comments as she threw the ball into the lineout.

"My confidence and self-esteem were so low that it made me play like I was walking on eggshells and was constantly too scared to express myself," Ngata-Aerengamate



BREAKDOWN: Te Kura Ngata-Aerengamate has alleged that her treatment by Black Ferns Coach Glenn Moore contributed to her mental breakdown. Instagram picture

said in the post.

"I invited self-doubt and insecurities; some being unbearable to look at myself in the mirror. The reality is that I had been defeated and it was so dark that I could no longer see my why. I had forgotten about the 5-year-old girl who started playing rugby with her cousins 25 years ago.

"I let the words over the years get to me, the words became the flesh. Lesson is, never let anyone dim your light. Be proud of who you are.

"If you are treated unfairly, hit them up unapologetically because at the end of the day it's your mana on the line. I know I'm not everyone's cup of tea, but I'm still a person and at the very least deserve to be treated with respect. Now I'm on a journey of healing."

Ngata-Aerengamate also said she grappled with whether to publicly voice her experiences.

New Zealand Rugby general manager of performance manager Chris Lendrum fronted media 12 hours after Ngata-Aerengamate's post and admitted the allegations were deeply concerning.

"My first reaction is it's really distressing to read. You never like to see any human describe their own situation in the way that Te Kura

has," Lendrum said. "We feel for her. Our first priority is to make sure she is okay. Clearly we take any issues raised like this very seriously."

Lendrum had reached out to Ngata-Aerengamate and spoken with Moore on Tuesday morning.

The Black Ferns suffered their four heaviest defeats in history on their European tour, losing to England (43-12 and 56-15) and France (38-13 and 29-7) after a two-year absence from the test scene largely due to Covid restrictions. A review into the tour is underway. Lendrum said Ngata-Aerengamate's allegations would be canvassed within that.

"He's distressed and upset as well," Lendrum said of Moore.

"I think it's really important for me to acknowledge we've got duties to everyone involved in this case. Glenn is a long-serving employee of New Zealand Rugby and Te Kura is a long-serving Black Fern and they've worked together for a long time.

"We've got some work ahead of us to explore this issue as part of the review. Glenn will be part of that. It's a tough time for him and his whanau as well absorbing those comments.

"We've had an initial conversation but we have to get our processes

right in order to get to the bottom of this situation and I don't want to pre-judge any of that now."

Moore is contracted to lead the Black Ferns through next year's home World Cup but his position is now under immediate scrutiny.

"The allegations are certainly thought-provoking," Lendrum said.

"Respect and inclusion and care and connection are principles at the heart of New Zealand Rugby and how we expect our teams to operate and behave. Those expectations are really clear on all players and staff alike. We need to look into those, but on the face of it some very serious allegations."

Despite the presence of a mental skills specialist who is a qualified psychologist and doctor on tour, Ngata-Aerengamate clearly did not feel comfortable expressing her challenges with those within the team environment.

"Some of those people will have been aware. I'm aware there was an issue on tour but it's very personal to Te Kura," Lendrum said.

"Last night's post was a surprise, definitely. We're a big environment and we're not immune to mental health challenges. Sometimes they can come into the workplace and sometimes they can be triggered by other things.

"Whilst we're really confident in the support structures we have they are never a guarantee of outcomes.

"That's the case for any part of society. There was a lot of support available for Te Kura but she's detailed the challenges she faced on that tour and it's not nice reading for anybody.

"I'm not aware of other issues being raised by players at the moment but our team management and the culture of the Black Ferns will be at the core of our review.

"It is concerning that in spite of those range of outlets Te Kura felt making her comments on social media was how she needed to have her voice. When we get the opportunity to sit down with her we'll try to understand why that was a necessary step for her."

Moore has been approached for comment. — NZ Herald

Reedy, Jennings win matches

GOLF by Chris Taewa

TWO Gisborne players remain in the hunt for senior men's division glory after the opening matchplay round of the NZ 66th National Veteran Championship at the Poverty Bay course.

Electrinet Park member Anaru Reedy and home course player Alister Jennings won their first-round matches on a windy day on the Awapuni Links where 100 over-50-year-olds are competing.

Reedy, who at 50 is the minimum required age to be a veteran, was made to work for his 2 and 1 win over Poverty Bay's George Brown.

The +3-handicapper — easily the lowest in the field — got there but wasn't particularly happy with the way he played, so went out for another nine holes to sort things out.

How that went was to be known today when Reedy took on Tokoroa's Ian Christie.

Jennings had a humdinger battle with Mount Maunganui's Matthew Champness on his way to a 17th-hole victory.

It was a par-fest on the back nine, with both players refusing to give an inch but a couple of missed putts on the 16th and 17th sealed Champness' fate.

Jennings was happy enough with his performance but said he would need to lift his game against quarterfinal opponent Ron Sisson (Omanu), who was only a couple over the card in his win.

Among the others to advance in the senior division was top qualifier Peter Rankin of Royal Wellington.

Gisborne players are scattered throughout the 80-strong men's field split into five divisions.

Tene Goldsmith (Poverty Bay), the top seed in the senior reserve division, moved into the quarterfinals with a 3 and 2 win.

He was joined there by his Bay clubmates Carl Carmody, Richard Foon and Clive Dean.

Goldsmith's younger brother Kitt is still in the running in the intermediate division, alongside Gisborne district councillor Larry Foster.

The intermediate reserve division features a handful of locals who negotiated the first matchplay round — Bill Simpson, Warwick Thompson, Alan Baldwin, Brian Hall and Keith Daniels, all of Poverty Bay, and Electrinet Park's Barry Cox.

The junior division quarterfinalists include Poverty Bay's Brian Read.

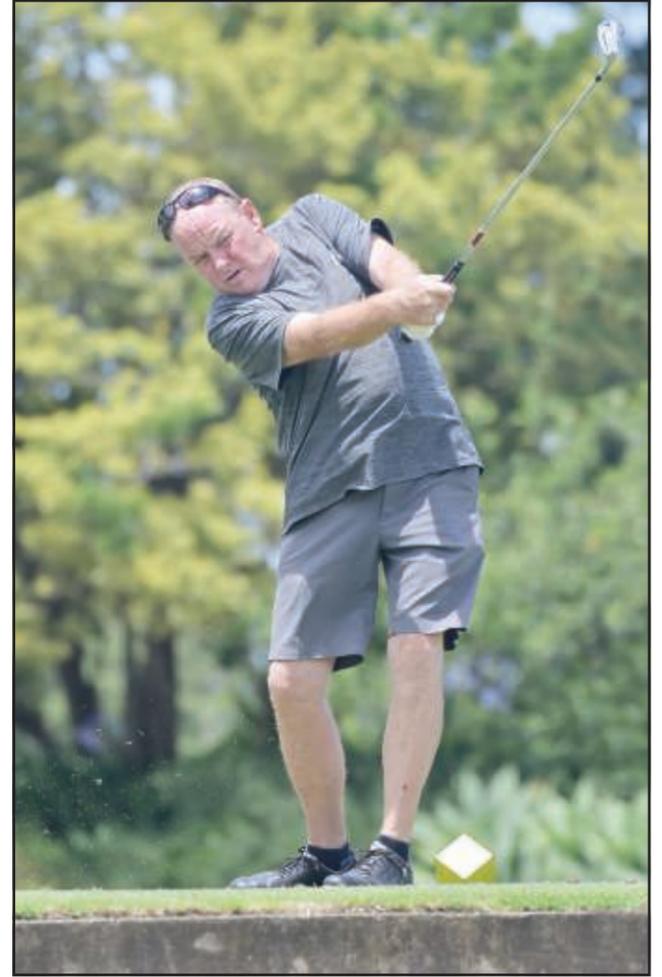
Marg Colebourne continued her impressive form in the 20-strong women's competition.

Colbourne added 87 to her opening round of 85 to be the overall leader in the gross (172) by one shot, the net (138) by five strokes and the stableford by five points.



THROUGH THE BALL: Ian Christie watches his ball off the sixth tee at Poverty Bay Golf Club during his senior division match of the national vets tournament. Christie advanced and faced local man Anaru Reedy in today's quarterfinals.

Picture by Liam Clayton



GET CLOSE: George Brown goes pin-hunting on the par-3 sixth hole at the national vets golf championship yesterday. Brown was beaten 2 and 1 by Anaru Reedy in the first round of matchplay in the senior division.

Picture by Liam Clayton



BEST FOOT FORWARD:

Electrinet Park member Jean Foot tees off during Round 2 of the NZ 66th National Veteran Championship being held on the Poverty Bay course. Foot had a solid round yesterday in the women's competition.

Eighty men and 20 women are competing over the week.

Picture by Liam Clayton

Thriller for McDonald

GOLF

GISBORNE'S Tessa McDonald teed off the women's national interprovincial in Timaru yesterday with an 18-hole thriller.

McDonald, playing at No.1 for Hawke's Bay-Poverty Bay at the week-long matchplay tournament, was on the wrong end of the result as her team were beaten 4-1 by Northland.

The 25-year-old lost 1-down to Kylie Jacoby in a match that was tight all the way through, with no more than one hole separating the pair through progress points

on the Timaru course.

HBPB's points came through two halves. Veteran Janie Field, at No.2, squared her match, as did No.5 Kayla Van De Den.

No.3 Kathy Olsen lost 3 and 2 while No.4 Martha Manaena went down 5 and 3.

HBPB had a bye in Round 1. They faced Taranaki and Canterbury today.

This year's national interprovincial features only 11 of the 13 provinces.

Auckland, who would have been gunning for a sixth consecutive crown, and North Harbour are not at the tournament due to Covid-19.

Abbreviated scoreboards, standings from local competitions

CRICKET

STANDINGS after Round 6 of Poverty Bay Cricket Association's Doleman Cup 40-over competition for Premier Grade teams: Bollywood Stars High School Old Boys 14 points (4 wins from 6 games); Coastal Concrete OBR 11pts (3 wins from 6); Galaxy World Gisborne Boys' High School 5pts (1 win from 6); Siteworx Civil Horouta 5pts (1 win from 6). Abbreviated scoreboards with reports on Monday.

ABBREVIATED scoreboards from Round 6 of the Hope Cup 30-over competition for Senior B teams —

HOROUTA 199-9 (Aman Kamboj 70 not out,

Mel Knight 55; Akira Makiri 6-27) beat **GISBORNE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL (2) 104** (Kelan Bryant 54; Mel Knight 3-2, Grace Levy 3-16, Aman Kamboj 2-19).

RAWHITI LEGAL OBR 130-7 (Mana Taumaunu 32, Rongomai Smith 31, Thom Berry 21; Michael Francis 3-10, Jason Lines 2-27) beat **BOLLYWOOD STARS HIGH SCHOOL OLD BOYS PRESIDENTS 105** (Isaac Hughes 31, Anil Kumar 20; George Reynolds 4-16, Rongomai Smith 2-23).

CIVIL PROJECT SOLUTIONS NGATAPA GREEN CAPS 118-5 (Ryan West 39 retired, Dylan Torrie 20; Luke Hurlstone 2-32) beat **CAMPION COLLEGE 114-8** (Luke Hurlstone 23, Rhys Grogan 20; Chris Hurlstone 3-13, George Whitehead 2-9).

Standings: Rawhiti Legal Old Boys' Rugby

13pts (4 wins from 5 games); Civil Project Solutions Ngatapa Green Caps 13pts (4 wins from 5); Horouta 9pts (3 wins from 4); Champion College 3pts (1 win from 4); Bollywood Stars High School Old Boys Presidents 1pt (no wins from 5); Gisborne Boys' High School (2) 1pt (no wins from 5).

ABBREVIATED scoreboards from Round 4 of the Twenty20 competition for Junior Colts — **DAVID FILE DECORATORS OBR SHARKS 150-7** (Charlie Castles 23ret, Izayah Morrison 23, Jonah Reynolds 23; Jack Holden 3-17, Jakeb Te Kani-Brown 2-23) beat **HOROUTA DRAGONS 141** (Keanu Makiri 23, Jakeb Te Kani-Brown 20no; Alexander Langford 3-15).

BOLLYWOOD STARS 101-6 (Josh Levy 21; Marcus Gray 2-18) beat **HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG BOYS 100-4** (Rylan Crosby 23; Arlo Willis 2-10, Max Gaddum 2-15).

BOLLYWOOD STARS HSOB PUPS 118-3 (Caleb Taewa 33ret, Luke Weston-Arnold 31) beat **NGATAPA KNIGHTS 105** (Cam Walters 25; Charlie Whitfield 4-6, Caleb Taewa 3-10).

Standings: Bollywood Stars 12pts (4 wins from 4 games); David File Decorators Old Boys Rugby Sharks 9pts (3 wins from 4); Bollywood Stars High School Old Boys Pups 6pts (2 wins from 4); Horouta Dragons 3pts (1 win from 3); Ngatapa Knights 3pts (1 win from 4); High School Young Boys no points (3 losses).

Welcomed into select 'club'

FROM BACK PAGE

Russell coached Gisborne Boys' High School teams from his arrival in 1994 to his retirement in 2016. The smallest programme in the Super 8 has had to work hard since the competition began in 1997. Gisborne Boys' High had their first Super 8 win at home, 72-70, under Russell and captain Chris Andersen — versus Hamilton BHS at the YMCA — in 1999. Two-time Askew and Bilham Shield winner as Sportsman of the Year Scott Colebourne's epic dunk-shot made the crowd of 856 go nuts but it was Frank who had kept the home fires burning.



From left, Dwayne Tamatea, Frank Russell, Ben O'Brien-Leaf and Cliff Blumfield.

Ben O'Brien-Leaf did his first sports commentary — of Gisborne Boys' High School first 15 rugby — in 1988, at the age of 12, and saw then-Gisborne Mayor the late Brian Crawshaw throw up the ceremonial tip at the Sun's (yes, singular Sun, as it was originally) opener in 1989. He wrote his first Gisborne Herald sports report in 1992, and his first basketball story in 1996. He commented club ball weekly from 1997 to 2002, called every Suns home game bar five since 1994, and has covered every club grand final since 1997.

shot to beat Tauranga 82-81 here in 1999 (the final score was 84-81: the Suns scored one more field goal).

Amoe Tarsau, who with her fellow GBA league marshal Miri Katipa invited O'Brien-Leaf to cover women's club ball games in 2006, said: "Ben has unselfishly given his time to publicising basketball in Tairāwhiti and has been an integral part of growing the best sport in the world. I remember, when I started playing 25 years ago, seeing him and his cameraman drag gear up to the back two rows of the YMCA bleachers or even the old crow's nest (scorers' box) at club ball.

"When everyone else goes home to rest, Ben's writing our games up past midnight: the passion he has for his work is phenomenal. He's one of a kind."

Until snacking, the weight of gold pins and the arrival of a brilliant young referee in Ethan Ngarangione-Pearson let him slink

off the floor, O'Brien-Leaf blew the storm all-weather safety and survival whistle — the world's loudest.

In the best traditions of officiating not to be forgotten, it was he (not his partner, Cliff Blumfield) who decided — the timekeeper having been late to start the game-clock with 0.34 of a second left in the 2011 grand final, Purp and Yellow versus Bladez — that the instrument would be reset and run down three times in an attempt to stop it, once more, on 0.34.

Somewhat understandably, Blades' Ray Noble — player-coach of the Suns in 2000 — had asked: "Tell me how Jimmy Wilson can catch an inbound pass near halfway, dribble the ball twice, and shoot a three-pointer. Tell me that."

A satisfactory answer has never been provided. The effort to hit 0.34 proving fruitless, Purp and Yellow were awarded the win, 50-48.

O'Brien-Leaf loves the game. "Basketball is my favourite sport, rugby my sporting religion and cricket my way of life," he said.

He would love to see a two or four-court stadium in Gisborne, but finds the thought of a YMCA without the sights and sounds of ball a heart-wrenching prospect.

"I owe Frank Russell for inviting me to cover the Suns in 1994 and giving me a sense of occasion. I owe Billy Maxwell and Daniel Beets for ferrying me to club ball in 1997 and 1998, and Hirini Pewhairangi, Caleb Hamling, Bevan Ratcliffe, Evan and Shane Mooney and Shaun Boyd for filming games for us.

"As an aspiring broadcaster, from 1994 I had the chance to learn to front and commentate, and interview fans, players, coaches and officials. For me to share an honour with Tama, Frank and Cliff — to be made a life member of the GBA — it's made my sporting year."

PBBA and GBA icon Steph Beattie has recently also been named a life member of Bowls Gisborne-East Coast.

She said: "I'm delighted to see these four people have been awarded life membership. That Cliff is still refereeing is fantastic. I loved watching Frank on the sideline (he was so entertaining, magic for the sport). Tama was amazing in how he interacted with youngsters — they were drawn to him. He brought them into then up through basketball.

"And I always read Ben's column. He does a brilliant job of telling the public, especially us older people, what's going on."

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WEATHER FOR TOMORROW

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MIDNIGHT TONIGHT

NOON TOMORROW

GISBORNE TIDE MOVEMENT

Thursday Dec 9		Friday Dec 10	
am	pm	am	pm
Hicks Bay	H 11:29am 11:47pm L 5:03am 5:41pm	H 12:23pm L 5:56am 6:36pm	
Waipiro Bay	H 11:16am 11:34pm L 4:38am 5:16pm	H 12:10pm L 5:31am 6:11pm	
Tolaga Bay	H 11:04am 11:22pm L 4:26am 5:04pm	H 11:58am L 5:19am 5:59pm	
Gisborne	H 10:50am 11:12pm L 4:29am 5:07pm	H 11:45am L 5:23am 6:02pm	
Wairoa	H 10:31am 10:59pm L 4:13am 4:52pm	H 11:27am 11:54pm L 5:08am 5:48pm	

SUN-MOON-MAORI FISHING GUIDE

Sun		Moon		Maori	
Rise	5:37 am	Set	8:24 pm	Rise	5:37 am
Set	12:23 am	Rise	10:27 am	Set	8:25 pm
Best at	5:21 am	Best at	6:14 am	Best at	6:38 pm

NZ SITUATION

A weak ridge of high pressure lies over the upper North Island from Friday through to Sunday. A front weakens over the lower South Island on Friday, then another front moves across the South Island and lower North Island from Saturday.

NZ TOMORROW

Auckland	showers	26
Hamilton	fine	26
Tauranga	fine	26
Rotorua	showers	25
Taupo	showers	24
Napier	fine	27
New Plymouth	fine	22
Palmerston North	fine	23
Wellington	fine	20
Christchurch	showers	24
Queenstown	showers	21
Dunedin	showers	19

GISBORNE READINGS

Taken at the Airport, for the 24 hours to 9am, Wednesday 8 Dec 2021

SUNSHINE hours	9.3
On Tuesday, 7 Dec	42.4
To date for December	238.0
Average for December	—
To date this year	2250.9
To date last year	—
WIND km/h	NW 48
Max gust on Tue 7 Dec	—
RAINFALL mm	0.0
24 hours to 9am, Wed 8 Dec	1.2
To date for December	64.0
Average for December	1041.9
To date this year	844.8
To date last year	—
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION mm	4.2
Daily average for past week	—
TEMPERATURE °C	26.1
Maximum	18.9
Minimum	17.0
Grass minimum	—
BAROMETRIC PRESSURE	1020.4
At 9am 8 Dec (hPa)	30.13
At 9am 8 Dec (inches)	—

WORLD TOMORROW

Adelaide	fine	11 21
Amsterdam	drizzle	1 5
Bangkok	fine	21 31
Beijing	fine	1 8
Berlin	snow	-3 -1
Brisbane	thunder	21 31
Buenos Aires	fine	20 27
Cairo	fine	12 21
Canberra	showers	11 19
Cape Town	fine	15 24
Delhi	fine	10 24
Frankfurt	drizzle	1 4
Geneva	cloudy	1 4
Hong Kong	fine	18 23
London	rain	3 7
Los Angeles	rain	11 14
Melbourne	showers	12 19
Moscow	snow	-12 -11
New York	fine	-2 4
Paris	showers	3 7
Perth	fine	23 34
Singapore	showers	24 33
Stockholm	cloudy	-2 0
Suva	thunder	24 30
Sydney	showers	17 24
Tokyo	cloudy	8 12
Toronto	snow	-7 1

GISBORNE CITY

TOMORROW	morning min 17 Partly cloudy. Chance of an evening shower. Light winds.	FRIDAY	morning min 17 Partly cloudy. Chance of an evening shower. Light winds.	SATURDAY	morning min 18 Cloud increasing. Northwesterlies.
	max 28		max 26		max 27

GISBORNE REGION

Partly cloudy. Isolated showers in the afternoon and evening. Light winds and sea breezes.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers in the afternoon and evening. Light winds and sea breezes.	Cloud increasing. Isolated showers. Northwesterlies.	Rain, clearing later in the day but remaining cloudy. Southeasterlies.
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SUNDAY

Rain, clearing later in the day but remaining cloudy. Southeasterlies.

GISBORNE SUN PROTECTION ALERT

8:40 AM — 5:15 PM PROTECTION REQUIRED
Seek shade, reapply sunscreen
Data provided by NIWA

TODAY IN HISTORY

1995 — An eight day heatwave affected all New Zealand apart from the West Coast. The highest temperatures occurred in the north and east with a number of places breaking their all-time December records. The maximum temperature for the month occurred during this period; 32.5°C at Taumarunui.

For the latest weather info including Weather Warnings visit metSERVICE.com



IOC rules out Covid-forced postponement of Games PAGE 24



National Veteran Championship contenders get down to the nitty-gritty stages PAGE xx

Olympics 24
Rugby, sailing 25
Golf, cricket 26
Basketball 27

LIFE MEMBERS

Tamatea, Russell, O'Brien-Leaf and Blumfield

BASKETBALL

THEY'VE been true to the cause through thick and thin.

The Gisborne Basketball Association has honoured four of its most loyal contributors to the sport in bestowing them with life membership.

Former GBA chairman Dwayne Tamatea, the Rising Suns' third head coach Frank Russell, legendary referee Clifton Blumfield and sports commentator Ben O'Brien-Leaf have joined administrator Steph Beattie and the late Ivan Cowley as life members.

The longest-serving of the four inductees is referee of 58 years Clifton (known as Cliff) Blumfield, who blew his whistle at the Army Hall in the days of the Poverty Bay Basketball Association and officiated in the inaugural Draft League at the YMCA last month.

Blumfield's good humour away from the game, calmness on the floor and enthusiasm for sport generally have made him a valued member of the basketball community before, during and after the days when the Suns filled the YMCA as the best show in the city on a Saturday night.

He refereed professionally in the United Kingdom and played a part in the creation of the Suns in 1989. It was Blumfield who was tasked with the collection and delivery of 6ft 8in, 17-stone Doug De Vore and 6ft 7in, 19-stone Robson Tavita to Gisborne from Auckland (in a Ford Laser) in 1990.

"The great thing about Cliff is that he was always in control and although he was a first-division referee, if he was available, he'd step in for us at second-division level if the assigned refs couldn't make it here," said Dave Conway, former GBA committee member, Gisborne Herald chief sub-editor and announcer at Suns home games.

"He was fit, quick around the court, highly qualified and highly regarded."

His gentleman cop/zero-tolerance cop partnership with Whakatane official Bruce Copeman in Suns home games is the stuff of legend.

Blumfield was the first of the four new life members to be presented with his certificate by Tall Blacks head coach and former captain Pero Cameron at the association's annual general meeting.

He spoke of playing for Gisborne Boys' High School, first picking up a whistle while still a student there, travelling to tournaments, refereeing professionally in the United Kingdom and the Suns' opening second-division game — a 96-72 win to Rotorua — here in front of a more-than-full house on April 22, 1989.

Later he added: "I've loved every minute of it. I've met a lot of people, a lot of characters, here and elsewhere that I never would have if it hadn't been for basketball."

"The crowds we got at Suns home games — especially in the early years — the quality of the play, was magic. I've kept going because I love being involved, and I think that this year's Draft League was brilliant. The intensity there was a step up from normal club ball, although as you'd expect, a step down from second division."

"I'd be keen to referee that Draft League level of competition again, for sure."

Dwayne Tamatea, point guard and captain of notables such as American import Zac Bose, Ray Noble, Nathan "Cowboy" Martin, Reggie Namana and



MEMBERS FOR LIFE: Gisborne Basketball Association's newly inducted life members are (from left) Dwayne Tamatea, Frank Russell, Ben O'Brien-Leaf and Cliff Blumfield.

Picture by Camille Collier

Dave Smith in the Suns' Attitude Era following the Golden Age of giants De Vore and Tavita, spoke of both Cliff Blumfield and his former head coach in both New Plymouth and Gisborne — Frank Russell — with affection and respect.

"Cliff's refereed thousands of games around the country, from kids' under-13s to men's first, second and third division and women's basketball. His commitment and contribution over many years have been outstanding and reflect the kind and generous man he is," said Tamatea, who then turned his attention to Russell.

"Frank spent long hours planning for and preparing the Suns during his tenure as head coach — he was a great motivator who built relationships with his players. As director of GBHS basketball, his commitment to them was huge and for 22 years he provided many students with the opportunity to play the sport. He still volunteers to help out the GBA today."

"As for being made a life member myself, it's a privilege to get that sort of recognition. I'm proud to receive it on behalf of my family and others who have served over many years."

"I thank the GBA committee for this honour."

Tamatea won a national second-division title with the New Plymouth Royals under Russell in 1992, played for him again in the first division the following year and for him in Gisborne with the Suns in 1995.

While the end of regular second-division play in 2008 might have seen Tamatea and competitors of a similar calibre lose interest in and exit the game, Opunake-born Tama and others of his generation instead chose to drive the development and promotion of opportunities for every boy, girl and budding

baller they could attract to the sport.

The transfer of knowledge to a solid base of young players is one thing; access to tournament-level hoops is quite another, but Tama and his GBA committee were able to do both. They gave players younger than nine years of age through to the under-19s a quality coaching session and experience on at least 40 Sundays a year.

In 2018, GBA age-group players attended Gisborne clinics run by Australian NBL coach of the year Aaron Fearn (proponent of pack defence), whose philosophy and delivery were vastly different from the then-GBA head coach Tama's own.

But the three-time Northern Kiwi All-star felt it was important that the players heard other voices and were challenged to take on board the most useful parts of their message.

Under him, the effort of the GBA administration to facilitate travel, accommodation, uniforms and managerial support for age-group teams was consistently high. That was a factor in some teams' success in qualifying for national tournaments immediately before the Covid-19 era.

Tama's basketball nous and local knowledge, and judgement of which coaches to put alongside which teams and how best to support both, then became the make-or-break factors.

Making big calls at courtside during Suns games between 1994 and 1999 was the task of Whittier, California, native and former dairy farmer and now-retired schoolteacher Frank Russell.

Following on from Dean Donnellon, player-coach Tom Brodie and the late Willie La Nere, the colourful Russell poured his

last full measure of devotion into coaching.

He knew ball; his coaching was all about effort, tough defence and running hard for teammates to make the machine roar — as opposed to just running. And he made skilful use of the underdog tag.

"When I was coaching, I approached every Saturday night game as warfare — we took great pride in beating Auckland teams who had a much bigger population base and the Suns reached the final four twice in the years I coached," said Russell, who this year at 70 played with Tamatea's son Jerome, 12, for Old Surfers in the men's Open B Grade. Russell hadn't played since 2000 — the Surfers made their return last season.

"Through sport we build a strong community," he said.

"I'm impressed that my former players have carried the torch on and are putting back into basketball. The current committee does an outstanding job; the game here is in good heart. The biggest thank-you for my efforts is that former players have told me that they wouldn't be where they are today without my support."

Mark Elers was often at the helm for Rotorua in the second division and Rotorua BHS against Russell.

"Frank always came with a passion on the side of the court — his voice was unmistakable, his animation lit up the gym," Elers said.

"His teams were willing to compete and were tough. Away from the game, Frank didn't mind sharing his thoughts and experiences with others."

"Congratulations, Frank, on your life member status, and happy surfing too."

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