

The Gisborne Herald

TE NUPEPA O TE TAIRAWHITI

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022

HOME-DELIVERED \$1.90, RETAIL \$2.20

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UNATTENDED COOKING A BURNING ISSUE

COVID-19

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- Govt set to reveal how NZ will reconnect with world
- Funding boost for 'forgotten' arts/culture industry
- Bid to clamp down on conspiracy theorists
- Cases soar worldwide as Omicron runs rampant

Pipīwharoua
Tūranganui-ā-Kiwa

INSIDE TODAY

RAINBOW CONNECTION

A Rainbow flag flies above Taruheru River at the back of Tairāwhiti Museum yesterday. It was one of 10 flags raised in the city yesterday to mark Pride Month 2022 throughout New Zealand and show support for the Rainbow community. **STORIES ON PAGES 2 AND 3**

Picture by Ben Cowper



Tenth case confirmed

Flight, cafe, holiday park latest locations of interest

ANOTHER three locations of interest have been released as Gisborne's Covid-19 outbreak has grown to 10.

Flight NZ8173 from Auckland to Gisborne on Thursday, January 27, from 7.25pm to 8.30pm is among these.

"You are a close contact if you were seated in rows five, six, seven, eight or nine" district health board Hauora Tairāwhiti said in a statement.

"Self-isolate, test immediately and on day five after you were exposed at this location of interest. Further isolation and testing requirements will be provided by public health."

The other two locations are Verve Café, 121 Gladstone Rd, on Sunday, January 30, from 11am to 1pm; and Waikanae Holiday Park, 280 Grey Street, from midday, January 27, to midday, January 30.

"Self-monitor for Covid-19 symptoms for 10 days after you were exposed," the Hauora Tairāwhiti statement said.

"If symptoms develop, get a test and stay at home until you get a negative test result."

The holiday park, owned by Gisborne Holdings (GHL), will remain open, GHL commercial operations general manager Jeremy Raymond confirmed.

"Officials have notified us that our staff and guests are not considered close contacts in this case, and as such, we will continue to be open.

"Staff have been asked to monitor themselves for symptoms and get tested if any arise.

"Our customer service team are protected by a perspex screen and are wearing masks when guests arrive.

"We are confident with processes at the park to minimise the impact on guests and staff.

"We are constantly reviewing our approach to ensure we adjust to the risks

when needed."

The new locations of interest have come at the same time Hauora Tairāwhiti confirmed a 10th Covid-19 case.

"There is a further case identified through rapid antigen testing today who is a close contact of other cases and already in self-isolation," the DHB statement said.

In addition, another case was identified for a person who is not a resident of Gisborne but was tested here.

"This result will not be added to the Tairāwhiti total and they will be followed up in their home location.

"There will be contact tracing locally."

TOMORROW

GISBORNE



RUATORIA



WAIROA



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‘Action behind their words’

Tairāwhiti police walking with Pride



PRIDE IN POLICE: Above, attending the Rainbow Pride flag-raising at Gisborne police station yesterday are (from left) Area Commander Inspector Tamuera “Sam” Aberahama, Senior Sergeant Whiti Timutimu, Sergeant Caroline Johns, Qmunity chair Henarata Kohere Pishief, Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective (TRC) member Chris Shotton, Tairāwhiti Museum director Eloise Wallace, Gisborne District Council cultural activities manager Pene Walsh and TRC chair Dr Jill Crisp. Left, reinforcing their support of Pride Month in New Zealand are Inspector Aberahama, Sr Sgt Timutimu and Sgt Johns, all members of the TRC. Right, the Rainbow flag flying above Gisborne police station.



Pictures by Rebecca Grunwell



by Akula Sharma

GISBORNE has become the first police station nationally to hoist the Rainbow Pride flag.

A flag-raising ceremony was held at Gisborne police station yesterday.

In attendance were Area Commander Inspector Sam Aberahama, Senior Sergeant Whiti Timutimu, Tairāwhiti Museum director Eloise Wallace, Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective (TRC) chair Dr Jill Crisp and other police staff and TRC members.

“Back when I started in 2005, there was no one who encouraged us LGBTQI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex) to be us,” Sr Sgt Timutimu said.

“I didn’t share with anyone that I was takatāpui (a part of the LGBTQI+ community).”

“During that period being takatāpui and wāhine Māori — a minority in an organisation that didn’t look like me and feel like me — had its challenges.

“But we have come a long way . . . what I can say for Tairāwhiti police is that they

have put action behind their words.”

Sr Sgt Timutimu is a member of Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective — a group who have come together to progress change for acceptance of LGBTQI+ whānau within the wider community.

“The flag-raising to celebrate Pride Month (in New Zealand) is really a journey in itself,” she said. “It’s taken us three years to get here. Prior to this, we made sure our staff fully understood what it’s like to be LGBTQI+ and to have the ability to work with them, be empathetic to their needs.

“The flag-raising is to ensure our LGBTQI+ communities understand that we care and celebrate diversity in our organisation. It really puts action behind our words.”

Area commander Inspector Sam Aberahama said it was a proud moment for Tairāwhiti pirihiimana (police) and a lot of hard work was put into getting to this stage.

“Three years ago one of my staff members, who is a part of the Rainbow community, spoke to me in confidence. She told me about her feelings and journey in the police.

“I decided to walk alongside her. I told her I want to learn more about what it means to be a part of the Rainbow whānau . . . I want to understand it myself and grow our staff’s knowledge about it.”

Insp Aberahama said police would have more Rainbow staff members, so walking alongside Sr Sgt Timutimu was significant.

“Our Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective group has grown since,” he said.

“We have done a number of things on our journey together, including training our police staff, workshops with the leaders, the Rainbow crossing in the CBD and many other things. To fly this flag here for the month of February, Pride Month, is icing on the cake.”

Last year, police staff attended diversity training and workshops to increase their understanding of LGBTQI+ whānau and the feedback was fantastic, Insp Aberahama said.

“It’s a real proud moment for us. One of my colleagues (Chris Shotton) said, ‘hey, what’s next?’, so I am looking forward to that.”

Mr Shotton, a member of Tairāwhiti

Rainbow Collective, said as a gay man within the community, having Tairāwhiti police station hoist the progressive Rainbow Pride flag sent a message to whānau that they would be looked after and listened to.

“This means we have somewhere safe to come if we are experiencing abuse in the community, whether it’s physical or verbal or whether it’s within our family.

“Also, for families who have nowhere to go, they have a safe place at Tairāwhiti police station. They can talk to them and the police will reach out to help them through their journey.

“Tairāwhiti is the first place to see the sun every day and now officially our police station is the first nationally to hoist our Pride flag.”

Gisborne Girls’ High School student and Qmunity Youth Gisborne leader Henarata Kohere Pishief said it was a big moment for the community.

“I think there is a lot of stigma in the Rainbow community around the police and authorities. The flag-raising shows us how far Tairāwhiti police have come in their journey of acceptance and diversity.”

TheGuide Arts & Entertainment

- Tairāwhiti Museum celebrates Pride Month with an exhibition highlighting the local community.
- Former Gisborne man Bryne Gregory played a part in raising \$1 million for Auckland City Mission by selling digital artwork.
- Kathy Boyle is running a waterless lithography workshop.

TOMORROW



PLUS: MUSIC GUIDE • FILM REVIEWS • GUIDE GOSSIP

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The Gisborne Herald
 TE HĀUPEPA O TE TAIRĀWHITI

2022 Calendar

\$10 From front desk

PHONE: 06 869 0600

Flags flying high in support of Pride

FROM PAGE 1
by Aaliyah Rogan

TEN Rainbow flags were raised around Gisborne yesterday morning to celebrate Pride Month in New Zealand.

The initiative was started by the Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective with support from Gisborne District Council, Tairāwhiti police, Tairāwhiti Museum and the Tairāwhiti Arts Festival.

It is the second year Pride Month has been celebrated in Tairāwhiti.

The flags will fly for the month at the council building, Gisborne police station, Gisborne Airport, i-Site building, Tairāwhiti Museum, Gisborne Girls' High School, HB Williams Memorial Library and Atawhai.

Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective chair Dr Jill Chrisp said the Pride flag had evolved this year.

"The flags are a representation of the whole spectrum," Dr Chrisp said.

The rainbow colours symbolise lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer pride.

The black and brown stripes represent LGBTQIA+ communities of colour. The

TAIRAWHITI Rainbow Collective (TRC) was established in 2019.

It is a combination of three groups — Qmunity Youth Gisborne, Aniwaniwa Tairāwhiti and Tairāwhiti Rainbow Action.

The groups focus within their own age groups but their objective is to celebrate diversity and raise awareness of the issues Rainbow communities face.

Holding activities such as the Pride flags throughout February lifts awareness for others and helps to make a positive difference for Tairāwhiti's rainbow community.

"Rainbow" and "LGBTQIA+" are umbrella terms to describe those whose sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or

sex characteristics do not conform to the majority.

Rainbow communities experience invisibility, inequitable treatment, abuse and discrimination which can lead to mental health issues, addictions, violence and suicidality.

Data also shows that LGBTQIA+ populations have 14.4 percent less disposable income than the heterosexual population.

While data for Tairāwhiti specifically is difficult to find, by proportioning per population national and Hawke's Bay/Tairāwhiti data, around 4.2 percent of the adult population identifies as rainbow and 5 percent of rangatahi (under-18). This is around 2500 people.

A further 3 percent of young people are "unsure".

blue, pink and white stripes represent the transgender community. The purple circle and yellow triangle represent intersex people.

"It sends a strong message that we support our Rainbow community," Dr Chrisp said.

Eastland Group chief operating officer Andrew Gaddum said Gisborne Airport was a key gateway to the region, welcoming everyone with open arms.

"We're proud to fly this flag to

acknowledge and celebrate our diverse Rainbow communities," Mr Gaddum said.

Tairāwhiti Museum director, Eloise Wallace said flying the Pride flag from the museum building was a way of publicly expressing the commitment to ensure organisations were a safe, inclusive, and supportive space for LGBTQIA+ communities.

HB Williams Memorial Library has its

Papatipu Launch Pad space for rangatahi decked out with colours of the rainbow.

Gisborne i-Site team leader Kara Hall said they were proud to support Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective and the global pride movement by flying the Pride flag.

"The Tairāwhiti Rainbow Collective does incredible work advocating for a region that is safe, inclusive and supportive of our LGBTQIA+ communities," Ms Hall said.

Girls' High principal Jan Kumar said the school worked towards inclusivity and ensuring all students felt they were safe and valued members of the school community.

Mayor Rehette Stoltz said the council was "flying the Rainbow flag to celebrate our diverse Rainbow communities and raise awareness about the discrimination and abuse they can experience".

Tairāwhiti Voyaging Trust manager Emma Van Berkel said they supported "encouraging and celebrating diversity and inclusivity in our communities".

"We promote learning and understanding, and encourage people to reflect on their own assumptions and consider different perspectives."

Good start to rural vax drive-throughs

THE rural Covid vaccination drive-through run by Turanga Health started well at the weekend, chief executive Reweti Ropiha said.

Sixty-nine people took advantage of Sunday's drive-through event at Waikohu Health Centre.

Another event was held at Muriwai School yesterday and today the drive-through was at Manutuke Domain.

The programme runs to Sunday and is open to children aged 5-11 years, and all others for their first, second or booster jabs.

The Turanga Health team will be at Waihirere Domain tomorrow, Patutahi Hall on Friday, Matawai School on Saturday and Waerenga-o-Kuri Hall on Sunday.

"Come along for a vax shot, a coffee and some food and remember there's no need to dress up."

High 20s forecast for next few days

WARM days and nights are forecast to continue for Gisborne until Saturday.

Residents might have had trouble sleeping last night.

The "coolest" it got was 18.4 degrees at round 3am this morning. However, that was not our warmest night so far this summer.

That occurred on January 24 — a daytime high of 26.6 and overnight "low" of 19.7 degrees in the early hours of the morning.

High humidity is not helping. By 10am this morning the humidity stood at 60 percent.

The cooler part of early morning also soon vanished, with the mercury over 19 degrees by 5am, over 20 by 8am and 22 by 9am.

Today's high is expected to reach 28 degrees, with 28 again tomorrow, 29 for Friday and 27 on Saturday. — RH



BUSY YEAR: The region's professional and volunteer firefighters had a busy year in 2021. The major house fires included this home on the corner of Queens Road and Karaka Street in Elgin in mid-June. The people involved got out safely. Herald file picture

Counting the cost of unattended cooking

by Murray Robertson

NEARLY one-third of the structure fires Tairāwhiti firefighters were called out to last year were caused by unattended cooking — a problem that continues to feature strongly in the region's annual fire statistics.

Of the 94 structure fires in the district last year, 31 were caused by cooking being left unattended.

"This continues the annual trend in Tairāwhiti of significant damage to property and threat to life of unattended cooking fires," a Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) spokesman said.

"We continue to encourage people to 'keep looking while you are cooking', and to not 'drink and fry'."

Tairāwhiti firefighters were called out 1012 times during the

calendar year.

"False alarms (252) made up the largest number of calls, followed by medical calls (202); other fires, usually rubbish fires (171); vehicle accidents (116); structure fires (94); vegetation fires (68); and then other calls to assist the public (39)," he said.

"Those were the main features. The remainder of our calls included hazardous substances, other rescues and special service calls."

The "other fires" category (171) was predominantly made up of outside rubbish fires," the spokesman said.

"A large number (42) of them were unlawful, either being unpermitted or lit during a prohibited fire season, or breaching a council bylaw.

"FENZ's current advice to

residents regarding lighting rubbish fires is to use an approved incinerator and always check — www.checkitsalright.nz — before you light."

Gisborne station (726) accounted for more than 70 percent of incidents in the statistics for 2021, with the rest spread over the other Tairāwhiti brigades — Tolaga Bay (102); Ruatoria (30); Tokomaru Bay (29); Te Araroa (22); Te Karaka (22); Manutuke (17); Matawai (15) — of note 10 of the Matawai calls were motor vehicle accidents; Tikitiki (14); Wharekahika/Hicks Bay (9); Patutahi (8); Whatatutu (6); Te Puia Springs (6); and Eastland Volunteer Fire Brigade - specialist rural firefighters (3).

ST JOHN AMBULANCE STATS FOR 2021, PAGE 4

FAMILY NOTICES

**Monumental
Masons**

In Memoriam

WRIGHTSON, Donald William. —
2.2.2022.
Remembered always.
- Arohanui, Sophie and Daryn.

STONEHAVEN
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and
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Loisels car fire threatens forest

TOLAGA Bay volunteer firefighters were called to Loisels Beach (Waihou Bay) yesterday morning after flames from a dumped car that had been set alight threatened nearby native and pine forests.

They were called out just after 8am. "The car was burnt out by the time we arrived but the fire had spread into the vegetation around it," a senior firefighter said. "The fire had burned about 80 metres up a fenceline and along the roadside verge. "Luckily it wasn't windy, otherwise the fire could have spread into the forest area nearby." Police have an inquiry under way.

Swim for Life flies flags for young swimmers

WITH New Zealand recording its highest number of drownings over summer since 2015, a Swim for Life Tairāwhiti (SFLT) programme has been given a timely boost.

Water Skills for Life, developed by Water Safety New Zealand, each year delivers free swimming lessons to 3200 primary school children from Motu to Wharekahika/Hicks Bay.

At an annual cost of \$250,000, the programme relies on funding from trusts and organisations, as well as donations.

To help fund its programme, the SFLT board established the Swim for Life Tairāwhiti Endowment Fund with The Sunrise Foundation.

Donations to the fund are invested and the capital is protected. The interest from the investment is returned to SFLT every year, less a small amount, which is retained to ensure the fund grows in line with inflation.

"Education is key," SFLT trust manager Carl Newman says.

"It's not about creating Olympic swimmers. It's about helping all kids in our region become competent and safe in the water.

"We try to take away any barriers for kids and their families who otherwise probably wouldn't be able to afford it.

"We work with them from when they're five right through until they leave primary school."

To donate to the Swim for Life Tairāwhiti Endowment Fund, contact glenda@sunrisefoundation.org.nz

Hawke's Bay service for problem gamblers

by Akula Sharma

POKER machines are the main cause of gambling harm in Tairāwhiti, a Gambling Harm support worker says.

Although Tairāwhiti has not had a government-funded problem gambling service since September 2018, Hawke's Bay Gambling Harm is providing an out-of-district support service to Tairāwhiti whanau affected by gambling here.

For every gambler, about 10 people are affected, says Hawke's Bay Gambling Harm general manager Vicki Berkahn.

"Family begins to impact because the gambler stops spending any time with them any more.

"If it's the mother who gambles, she won't have time for her children. There have been examples — a mother leaves the kids in the car and pops in to play the pokie machines, and then forgets about them.

"The whole time the gambler tries to win back the money they lost, it's like living with someone who's not really present."

Ms Berkahn said out of all forms of gambling in Aotearoa, poker machines were the most highly addictive, because they facilitated continuous playing.

"People have spent several hours on the machines and lost thousands of dollars.

"The machines are designed to be highly addictive by drawing the person in, paying out prizes at first and then having long spells of no



ADDICTION: Poker machines facilitate continuous playing, and have been identified as the most addictive of all forms of gambling in New Zealand. Gisborne has not had a government-funded problem gambling service since 2018, but Hawke's Bay Gambling Harm is making its service available to residents of Tairāwhiti. Hawkes Bay Today picture

prizes, so this chance of winning makes people go back for more.

"People who have gotten addicted have won a lot of money quite early on and thought it was easy cash."

The key issue of gambling addiction was time spent on the machines, Ms Berkahn said.

"People sit on the machines for hours, unaware of their surroundings — skipping work, losing jobs, stealing money from their families, using grocery money on pokie machines, coming home

and getting in trouble with their family.

"It can lead to domestic violence and all sorts of very stressful times."

Ms Berkahn said they were working with the Ministry of Health, who funds their service, to help set up more services around the country.

"It can be hard in provinces like Gisborne where the workforce simply isn't there.

"With digital services like Zoom and phones these days, people can

be helped if they reach out.

"We can help people who need it."

The Public Health team at Hauora Tairāwhiti said the district health board had worked with stakeholders on a submission to Gisborne District Council regarding the review of their Class 4 gambling policy.

The Ministry of Health recently did a public consultation process and is developing the Strategy to Prevent and Minimise Gambling Harm for 2022/23 to 2024/25.

Ambulance call-outs rising

by Murray Robertson

ST John Ambulance services throughout Tairāwhiti received 4934 emergency calls for help in 2021 for Gisborne, the East Coast and Wairoa, which was a 5.7 percent increase from 2020 (4670).

Nationally St John Ambulance responded to more than half a million emergencies across the year.

Of the Tairāwhiti call-outs, 4172 calls required an ambulance to be dispatched, compared to an ambulance-response total of 3931 in 2020.

The tally last year was up six percent on the previous year.

In 2021 St John saw a 53 percent increase in the number of calls for help received for mental health/suicide attempt incidents for Gisborne, when compared with 2020.

Only 29 of the 57 incidents required an ambulance dispatch in 2020 whereas 61 of the 87 incidents required an ambulance in 2021 — a 110 percent increase.

For chest pain (284), the number of incidents involving an emergency vehicle arrival for Gisborne saw a 43 percent increase in 2021 compared to 2020.

With breathing problems (441) the number of incidents with an emergency vehicle arrival in Gisborne saw a 1.7 percent decrease.

The number of calls for trauma incidents saw a 10.4 percent decrease.

Tairāwhiti ambulance officers attended 204 vehicle crashes, and 26 incidents that involved stab or gunshot injuries.

Nationally the reduced movement of New Zealanders, particularly in Auckland due to extended lockdowns, resulted in

fewer trauma-related incidents.

But overall, 111 call volumes in 2021 increased nationwide to 606,503 — 9.6 percent more than in 2020 (553,286).

Dan Ohs, St John Deputy Chief Executive — Ambulance Operations, said 2021 was another extremely busy year with the Covid-19 pandemic continuing to create ongoing challenges across the emergency ambulance service.

"This prolonged significant demand is compounded by a challenging work environment due to Covid-19, and longer times for ambulance crews to complete 111 call-outs due to additional safety precautions that must be taken both at the scene, during transport and at hospital.

"Our emergency call handlers responded to a significant number of calls in July and December last year — both recording more than 55,000 calls for each month. In December alone we recorded 56,692 calls — a 9.8 percent increase on December 2020."

Gisborne emergency ambulance incidents

Referral from a health practitioner 513; breathing problems 441; falls and traumatic back injuries 433; feeling sick 376; unconscious/passing out 342; chest pain 284; unknown problems 262; fitting 208; traffic crashes 204; assault/rape 194; abdominal pain/problems 189; haemorrhage/lacerations 131; stroke 131; heart problems 86; overdose and poisoning 69; back pain 65; cardiac/respiratory arrest 64; mental health/ suicide attempts 57; diabetic problems 49; headache 39; allergies/stings 36; pregnancy 33; stab/gunshot incidents 26; choking 25; animal bites/attacks 20; burns/explosions 15; drowning/diving incidents 10; carbon monoxide inhalation 6; eye issues 6; electrocution 3; heat/cold exposure 1; industrial/machinery incidents 1.

Sports awards to be presented online, Feb 11

THE Bronwyn Kay Sporting Excellence Awards to be held on Friday, February 11, have been shifted to an online format.

Following the announcement of New Zealand moving into the red setting under the Covid-19 Protection Framework, Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti (SGT) reviewed the structure and delivery of the awards and decided it was not feasible to be held in person.

"Due to the capacity limits under the red

setting we are unable to go ahead with the normal format of our awards," SGT chief executive Stefan Pishief said.

"We know this will be disappointing for some people, however, our priority is to keep our community safe, and we're determined to find a way to still give our sporting community the recognition they so richly deserve."

After evaluating a range of options available, SGT decided to move away

from the traditional sports awards setting to a digital environment with Rāngai Productions.

Rāngai Productions is a local multi-use studio and education space.

"We're excited about hosting our sporting awards through the digital space and trying something new that still makes it possible to celebrate the achievements of our region's sporting community," SGT event lead Debbie Hutchings said.

In a statement, SGT said it was grateful to all of its local sponsors and the wider community for their "understanding and ongoing support through these uncertain times".

Ticket holders will be contacted directly for a refund.

More information will be released about the screening, which will be launched online in late February on the SGT website and social media channels.

Council approves liquor bans

Temporary restrictions in place with aim to streamline process

by Wynsley Wrigley

TEMPORARY alcohol bans have been authorised for the rescheduled Rhythm and Vines festival at Easter and the Summer Frequencies East Coast music and arts festival planned for early March.

The liquor bans, requested by police, have been authorised by Gisborne district councillors who were sitting last week for the first time in 2022.

But councillor Shannon Dowsing said there had to be a better alcohol ban process in the future.

He suggested a significant events category, which could be rolled into the resource consent application instead of each event organiser having to go through the council.

A streamlined system would prevent the police having to waste time needing to make a new application every time R&V was held.

Council environmental team leader Julie Lloyd said she had previously thought the same and considered Cr Dowsing's idea worth looking at.

The R&V liquor ban could be looked at in the next alcohol bylaw review.

Their liquor ban details were well established and probably did not change that much.

That was not the case with other "newish" ban areas such as Marina Park, Kelvin Park and music events whenever they arose at the Soundshell.

Cr Dowsing said he did not agree that other events could not be included in the bylaw.

R&V should not require a specific liquor ban to be authorised each year.

He suggested a zone system with, for instance, Zone A covering the beach, including the



NO DRINK ZONE: Part of the 2020 Rhythm and Vines crowd at Centennial Marine Drive. This will be off-limits to drinkers as part of the temporary ban passed for the Summer Frequencies Music and Arts Festival in March. Picture by Liam Clayton

Soundshell; Zone B being the Lytton West area and so on; and a significant events category linked to a zone or zones.

Council director of environmental services and protection Helen Brown said staff would definitely look at Cr Dowsing's idea during the next alcohol bylaw review.

"It seems more efficient," she said.

Councillors passed the police application.

■ The first temporary alcohol ban is to protect the Midway Beach area and environs surrounding the Soundshell during the Summer Frequencies Music and Arts Festival.

The ban area is bounded by

Awapuni Road, Pacific Street, Centennial Marine Drive, Beacon Street, Salisbury Road and Midway Beach.

The duration of the ban is from 8am on March 4 to 8am on March 6.

■ The second temporary alcohol ban is in the vicinity of R&V. It involves the sites adjoining and including Grays Hill scenic reserve, and carpark, Gray's Bush lookout, Waimata Valley Road, Back Ormond Road from Hansen Road to Matawai Road (SH2), Waihiere Domain Road, Snowsill Road, Glenelg Road, Kawatiri Road and all the roads joining Matawai Road to Back Ormond Road. Lytton West Reserve is also included in the ban area.

The duration of the ban is from 6am

on April 13 to 6pm on April 18.

■ The third temporary alcohol ban is in the area of Kelvin Park and Marina Park, which is aimed at strengthening the permanent central business district alcohol bans.

These are areas where people may be drinking while waiting for buses to R&V.

The ban area is the whole of Marina Park bounded by the two rivers, Ormond Road, Fitzherbert Street and Peel Street, and the whole of Kelvin Park bounded by the river, Peel Street, Stout Street and Tairawhiti Museum.

The duration of the ban is from 6am on April 13 to 6pm on April 18.

■ The fourth temporary alcohol ban area is in the Midway Beach area

and supports the R&V festival alcohol bans as a lot of festival-goers frequent this beach area in the daytime and early evening during the event.

The ban area is bounded by Awapuni Road, Pacific Street, Centennial Marine Drive, Beacon Street, Salisbury Road and Midway Beach.

The duration of the ban is from 6am on April 13 to 6pm on April 2022 18.

This area is used regularly for music events at the Soundshell.

Councillors also revoked the 2014 food hygiene bylaw as the new Food Act and regulations mean the bylaw no longer has legal effect.

Issues previously covered by the bylaw are covered by the act and local food businesses already operate under the act.

Fight leads to bladed knuckleduster stabbing

TEMPERS flared after a woman arrived home, slammed the front door and threw a bottle at a wall, Gisborne District Court heard.

Then, as Judge Turitea Bolstad put it, "it all went pear-shaped", leading to a fight and a stabbing.

Michael Stewart Nga Tokowaru Brown, 44, pleaded guilty to wounding with intent to injure with reckless disregard.

The judge reminded him that it was only by chance that stabbing a man with a bladed knuckleduster had not turned out worse.

She sentenced Brown to five months community detention, followed by intensive supervision for a further 12 months.

A number of people were involved in the events of the day, the judge said.

She did not wish either to lay all the blame at Brown's feet or to excuse his behaviour.

Brown had several health issues, including using a hearing aid that could be affected by noise.

On February 26 last year, Brown was living with his niece and her partner.

At about 5pm, Brown's niece returned home and slammed the front door. She then threw a bottle in the lounge, causing damage to a wall.

Brown reacted by swearing from his bedroom.

The niece's partner emerged from his room, swore at Brown and a fight ensued.

The summary of facts did not specify who advanced on whom, prosecutor Bree McKenzie said. But the prosecution regarded the offending as serious. It had occurred in the context of a physical fight and at one stage a baby was caught up in it.

Brown's counsel Vicky Thorpe told the court he had been on bail without incident for 11 months. Bail conditions had been restrictive and prevented him from returning to Gisborne and the address where the stabbing took place.

She told the court the incident was perhaps best summarised as

the niece's partner confronting Brown.

"It was the niece's behaviour which prompted the response from Mr Brown," Ms Thorpe said. "He has difficulties with a hearing aid and responses to loud noises."

In the stabbed man's statement, he said he had walked up to Brown and "we ended up in each other's faces".

He punched Brown in the face about 10 times. During the fight Brown produced a knuckle duster with a knife attached and stabbed him in the chest.

Judge Bolstad noted that it was only by chance the stabbing did not result in a worse injury.

In sentencing, the judge reviewed Brown's previous convictions, which were historical. He had not appeared before the court since 2006, although he had offended violently previously.

Aggravating factors were that Brown had used a weapon — a knuckle duster with a knife edge on it — and that it was a domestic situation.

Brown pleaded guilty early and the judge accepted that he was genuinely remorseful for his actions. He had sought the restorative justice process to apologise to the victim but that had not been able to take place.

Brown suffered from several impediments, including poor hearing, and had already been on a restrictive bail for 11 months. The judge took all those matters into consideration with her final sentencing.

"I don't think it's fair that everything has to lay at your feet," she told Brown.

"Your niece has clearly come home with an attitude. She is slamming things around, throwing things at the wall. You are in your bedroom with a hearing disability and other disabilities that she was aware of, and her actions would have impacted on you.

"You responded by swearing, probably inappropriately."

That set off a "chain reaction" from his niece's partner, and once again Brown responded

inappropriately, the judge said.

The judge accepted counsel's submission for sentencing and the final period of imprisonment was commuted to five months of community detention followed by intensive supervision.

Brown agreed to move from his usual home to serve the sentence and was curfewed to his aunt's property in Hamilton.

"I accept you are remorseful for your actions," the judge said. "You have taken responsibility. There is no excuse for your actions and there is nothing before me to suggest you are trying to excuse your behaviour."

Probation did not support home detention without electronic monitoring, so Brown will wear a bracelet for the duration of the sentence.

Brown was also given a warning he was subject to the three strikes law — that if convicted for a further offence he would serve the maximum penalty without parole unless the court determined it manifestly unjust.

Stranded journalist offered MIQ spot

by John Weekes, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Pregnant Kiwi journalist Charlotte Bellis will return to New Zealand at the end of this month after surviving the “circus” of her battle with the Government over an MIQ spot. “It’s definitely up there,” she told ZB’s Mike Hosking today after being asked about the experience and her battle to get home from Afghanistan.

“What a circus,” she said. Bellis said the Government had twice breached her privacy as the matter played out in public.

Asked if she would be taking legal action over the breaches, she said: “There’s been such a circus that I don’t really want to add more fuel to the fire. But they did breach my privacy twice in a matter of days.”

She said her lawyer would likely want to pursue it, however.

Bellis said she wrote an opinion piece for The New Zealand Herald about her experience and then it spiralled after media picked up her story.

“I can’t really make sense about what it’s like in New Zealand,” she said.

Although it was “great” for her that she gets to come home, she acknowledged other pregnant women around the world trying to get home to New Zealand.

Bellis spoke of the anxiety she had experienced too.

“I’m going to keep on top of things.”

Bellis said authorities had told her to take the situation seriously.

“Did anyone think I wasn’t taking it seriously?”

Her partner Jim Huylebroek will be allowed to come to New Zealand at the end of the month — which she called a “win”.



‘WHAT A CIRCUS’: Charlotte Bellis will return to New Zealand at the end of this month to give birth to her baby girl. Her Belgian partner Jim Huylebroek is hoping to return with her or in early April if border rules change. Picture supplied

They wanted to stay together for the birth of their child, she said.

Her partner is now the sole breadwinner in their relationship after she lost her journalism job when she became pregnant.

However, if any changes to the border rules are made over the next few days — allowing foreigners to enter the country from early April, for example — her partner will wait to come to New Zealand then and continue to work in the meantime.

Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson denied yesterday that Bellis was given an MIQ spot because of political pressure.

There had been a lot of communication between officials and Bellis since she had applied under the medical classification,

which required people to return within 14 days, he told RNZ.

In the past three months the Government had received 8800 emergency applications and 5300 had been approved.

Robertson said it was a “very challenging area with a lot of different circumstances”.

Those who were pregnant and felt they needed to come back to New Zealand were able to apply and were assessed alongside a lot of other people in emergency and medical situations.

“I’m certainly not pretending this is easy for people, but MIQ has served a really important role for us and unfortunately it is one where difficult decisions have to get made all the time.”

RECONNECTING NZ

Government to reveal reopening plans tomorrow

WELLINGTON — Kiwis will learn tomorrow when and how international travel might resume, after the Omicron response put the skids under reopening plans.

It comes as daily case numbers top 100 and the Government secures millions of rapid antigen tests for use during the Omicron outbreak.

Among those hoping for a clear date and some guidance about the borders is Martin Newell, in Melbourne, who has been trying to get home to see his family since early 2020.

Newell, a spokesman for the Grounded Kiwis support group, said sensible measures around home isolation, vaccines and surveillance could help more people return home.

“I just want them to give us a date,” Newell said from Australia last night.

Cabinet met yesterday to discuss the pandemic response.

Afterwards, Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson said a speech tomorrow will outline how New Zealand will reconnect with the world.

On December 21, the phased border reopening was postponed as the Omicron strain of Covid-19 started circulating globally.

“For us, it was hard in December to hear the news that home isolation and self-isolation were postponed, but it was understandable given what was happening with Omicron around the world,” Newell said.

Newell said he expected a border reopening of sorts would be planned for the end of February.

“We’ll wait until that actually happens. We’ll believe it when we see it.”

Anything resembling pre-pandemic travel and tourism was unlikely to resume soon, he said.

But what he wanted was for people to get a chance to see parents, to introduce kids to grandparents and to reunite with loved ones.

“We are Kiwis that want to come home and hug our whānau.”

Newell said Kiwis overseas could safely return if sensible measures were in place.

“No Kiwi overseas would argue that MIQ was wrong to be implemented in 2020.”

But the managed isolation system had been totally incapable of keeping up with demand, he said.

“It should be a condition that you should be triple-vaccinated to get into home isolation.”

Yesterday, 126 new community Covid-19 cases were reported nationwide as the Omicron outbreak began to take hold.

New Zealand is at the moment in the red traffic light phase of the Omicron response.

That phase exists within the first stage of a planned three-pronged response to Omicron, a relatively mild but highly transmissible Covid-19 strain.

The current pandemic response phase bans gatherings of more than 100 people.

The hospitality sector says the Omicron response is scaring people into a sort of voluntary lockdown, and Auckland CBD turnover is down at least 50 percent.

“People are not going into work and they’re not going out,” Hospitality NZ chief executive Julie White said.

‘We are Kiwis that want to come home and hug our whānau’

—Martin Newell

BRIEFS

Man drowns in Auckland lake

AUCKLAND — A man has drowned after getting into trouble during a late night swim on Auckland’s North Shore.

The victim was with a friend at Lake Pupuke — just behind North Shore Hospital — last night when the incident happened.

“Around 9.15pm yesterday two men were swimming at Lake Pupuke when one of them got into difficulty,” a police spokeswoman said.

“Despite efforts from his friend, the man disappeared under the water.”

Emergency services including police, fire crews and St John staff were called to the scene and a search was quickly carried out.

However, they were unable to find him.

The Police Dive Squad will head back to the scene today in a bid to find the victim’s body.

Police say the matter will be referred to the Coroner. — NZ Herald

Large blaze in Wellington

WELLINGTON — A house fire in Wellington sent smoke billowing into the sky this morning as emergency services worked hard to tackle the flames.

A police spokesperson told The New Zealand Herald they were called to the blaze on Yule Street in Kilbirnie at 8.50am.

The occupants of the house were all accounted for.

Janet, a witness to the fire, described it as “massive”.

“It’s quite disconcerting, there’s lots of cars, lots of fire engines trying to get through . . . it’s pretty bad, quite sad to see.”

She said she was driving through the bay when she noticed the massive plume of smoke billowing towards the ocean. She urged people to stay away so that emergency services could get through easily. — NZ Herald

Search for missing man

MASTERTON — Police are concerned about a man missing from Masterton since Monday.

Antony Gerald Farrell, 52, was last seen on Te Ore Road in the Wairarapa town at 2am.

Police understand he travelled to the Lake Ferry area.

Extensive inquiries to locate him have been unsuccessful and police are now appealing to the public for help.

They said Farrell’s family were also worried about his welfare.

He is about 168cm tall and of medium build.

Police urge anyone with any information regarding Anthony’s whereabouts, or to Anthony himself, to call 105. — RNZ

Three killed in crashes

HAMILTON — Three people have died and 11 others are injured after three serious crashes yesterday in the North Island.

In Eureka, Waikato, two people died after a three-vehicle crash on State Highway 26.

Police say three people were also injured, one seriously and two moderately.

Meanwhile, one person died after a crash in Waitoa.

Police said the crash on Waiheke Road around 4.10pm involved a car and truck.

In South Auckland, police said eight people were injured in a two-vehicle crash on Burt Road in Runciman about 2.30pm.

All were taken to Middlemore Hospital, two with serious injuries and six with moderate injuries,” a police spokesperson said. — NZ Herald

Prisoner tests positive

KAIKOHE — A prisoner at Northland’s Ngawha Prison is in quarantine after testing positive for Covid-19.

The man returned a positive Covid test on January 31 while at the Northland Region Corrections Facility three days after testing negative for the virus when he arrived at the prison from the Whangarei District Court on January 28.

The RAT returned a negative test result but a follow-up PCR test was administered the next day and the positive result was returned on Monday evening.

“The prisoner has been moved into quarantine while close contacts have been identified and have been isolated and getting tested as required,” prison director David Pattinson said.

All newly received prisoners are managed separately from longer-serving prisoners for their first 14 days in custody. They undergo routine testing on arrival, on days five and 12 and identified close contacts would be tested on days three, seven and 12. — NZ Herald



OMICRON-HIT SECTOR: Many events were forced to cancel after New Zealand moved into the red light setting. Hawke's Bay Today picture

Boost for 'forgotten' industry

by Zoe Holland, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — The Government has announced the arts and culture industry will receive a funding boost following claims the sector had been "forgotten".

The country's move into the red traffic light setting meant many events up and down the country were forced to cancel.

However, Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Carmel Sepuloni has announced further support for the sector.

While the focus remains on slowing the spread of Omicron, Sepuloni said the red setting has impacted those in the arts and culture sectors.

"That is why we are committing to a one-off \$5000 grant for self-employed individuals/sole-traders who can show proof of a loss of income or opportunity to work."

Around 32,675 people are self-employed in the cultural sector which is around one third of the total sector.

Last week, Sarin Moddle, a self-employed music tour manager, wondered if the Government had forgotten about them.

"One of the prevailing feelings is of being forgotten. We have heard this line from the Government on repeat that 'most businesses can operate'. We can't," Moddle said.

Sepuloni also announced that the Arts and Culture Event Support Scheme, the Cultural Sector Emergency Relief Fund, and the Screen Production Recovery Fund will be extended.

The Cultural Sector Emergency Relief Fund has been provided with an additional \$35.5 million to give financial support to those in these sectors.

The Government has announced the Arts and Culture Event Support Scheme will be boosted by \$70 million, allowing the scheme to be extended to

January 31, 2023, for events planned before the move to red.

The Cultural Sector Emergency Relief Fund has given an additional \$35.5 million and the limit on funding for individual organisations has been increased from \$100,000 to \$300,000.

The scheme covers events that have been affected by restrictions in the red setting.

The Screen Production Recovery Fund has been granted an additional \$15 million with \$7.9 million of that funding allocated to the New Zealand Film Commission and \$7.1 million allocated to New Zealand on Air.

This fund will be extended until the end of this year to minimise the impacts of any outbreaks and maximise production, Sepuloni said.

"Internationally, Omicron is having a significant impact on the film industry, with cast/crew sickness in some cases causing productions to shut down, resulting in higher costs.

"Aotearoa New Zealand's screen industry will not be immune from these pressures, so we are acting now to provide extra support for this key sector of our economy," she said.

Sepuloni said she is "confident" the move to extend support for these two industries will allow people to "get back on their feet".

"I want to acknowledge the huge financial and emotional strain and uncertainty that everyone in the sector is facing, but I want to underline our Government's commitment to supporting the revival of the arts and culture sector," Sepuloni said.

Back when it was first created, the Arts and Cultural Covid Recovery Programme was a total investment of \$374 million across four years. After the Delta outbreak appeared in August 2021, \$37.5 million was announced for the sector.

Wellington kids roll up their sleeves

WELLINGTON — Nearly half of Wellington's children aged between five and 11 have received a Pfizer dose in the first two weeks since they became eligible.

Data provided by Capital and Coast DHB shows 13,389 Pfizer doses had been administered to five to 11-year-olds at the end of yesterday, amounting to 49.5 percent of the age group.

In the Hutt Valley, 45 percent of children aged five to 11 have received a dose, with 6791 doses administered.

Children aged five to 11 became eligible for the Pfizer vaccine on January 17.

As of yesterday, 169,322 vaccines have been administered to children between five and 11.

There has also been an uptick in boosters delivered throughout the region, as more people become eligible for their third dose.

Last week 28,459 boosters were delivered across the two DHBs. Seventy-one percent of people eligible for a booster in the Hutt

Valley have received it, and 70 percent in Wellington.

The region has also seen a surge in testing numbers since the emergence of the Omicron variant in New Zealand.

Last week 7269 tests were carried out across the two DHBs, a doubling of the 3612 tests the week before.

For the population aged 12 and over, CCDHB now sits at 97 percent fully vaccinated, with 98 percent having received a first dose. — NZ Herald



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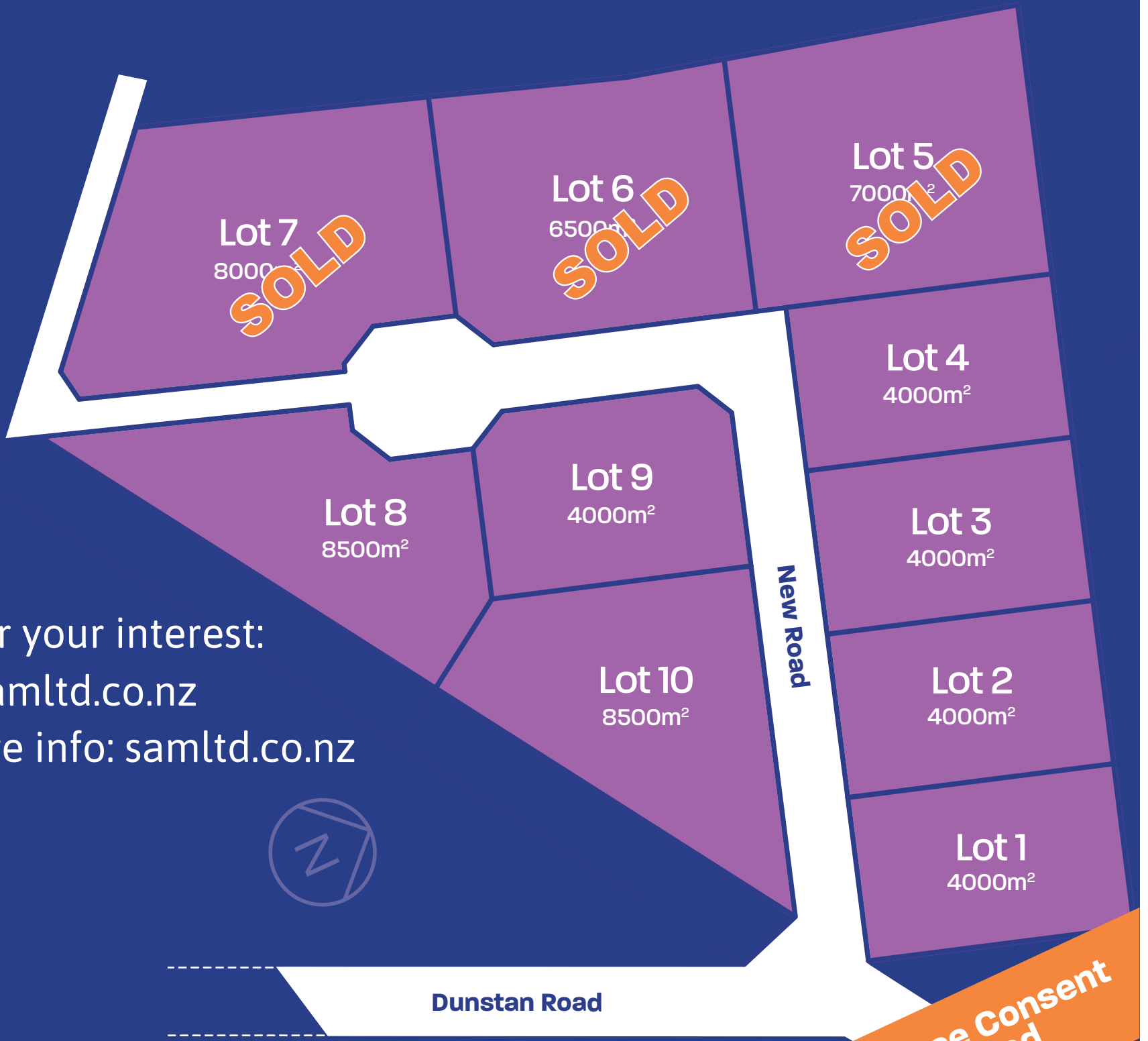
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Calls for social media platforms to take action against virus misinformation

WELLINGTON — A group monitoring conspiracy theories on social media is calling on Facebook to do more to stamp out false and misleading claims about the Covid-19 pandemic and vaccine.

Two leaders of antivax movements in New Zealand have been slapped with temporary bans from Facebook, although the social media giant will not confirm the situation.

The Outdoors Party posted on Facebook that co-leader Sue Grey, a Nelson-based lawyer, has been banned from the platform for 30 days.

The Destiny Church-affiliated Freedom and Rights Coalition Canterbury page said Derek Tait, Destiny Church's senior pastor in Christchurch, had also been slapped with a 30-day ban.

"We don't allow anyone, including elected officials or public figures, to share misinformation about Covid-19 that could lead to imminent physical harm, or misinformation that could lead to Covid-19 vaccine hesitancy," a spokesperson for Meta, the company that operates Facebook, told RNZ.

"People who repeatedly breach these policies will have restrictions placed on their page. If removals hit a certain threshold we will remove the page. We strongly encourage people to report content so we can review it and take appropriate action."

However, Facebook would not comment on whether Grey and Tait had been banned from the platform, or why.

Debunking Conspiracies Aotearoa said it had been frustrated by Facebook's response to disinformation and misinformation related to the pandemic.

"We are all pretty frustrated that no matter how many times we report harmful content to Facebook it is ignored and these recent bans are far too late as major influencers have already done a lot of damage," a spokesperson said.

"We are unsure why Facebook are not so willing to act on these people despite their claims of tackling Covid-19 misinformation. Many of the major people in fact seem to be amplified and come up in video feeds all the time."

It appeared retaliatory campaigns to report posts by Debunking Conspiracies Aotearoa en masse were being organised on messenger service Telegram, the spokesperson said.

"Our page itself got done for spam."

"Facebook gave us no way of challenging it even though it was a post against disinformation," they said.

"We are keeping an eye on NZ-targeted Telegram pages too, which of course are even worse, but if Facebook had taken action early, many people would not have been pulled into these echo chambers where they then encourage them to move to these more extremist platforms." — RNZ

Teacher recruitment scheme falls short

by Dubby Henry, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — Just eight teachers have arrived in New Zealand under a border exception class that was meant to get 300 teachers into the country — seven months after it was announced.

Employers say it is too costly and confusing to get overseas teachers through the approval process, even before the new recruits have to battle for an MIQ spot.

Meanwhile, more than 800 teaching vacancies are being advertised across the country. Half of them are in the early learning sector, which is experiencing a dire staffing shortage.

A teacher's union says most services can't afford to recruit from overseas through the border exception process.

But the Ministry of Education says it is doing everything it can to make the process simple and transparent and to help people through their applications.

Minister of Education Chris Hipkins unveiled the border scheme seven months ago, saying it would let 300 overseas qualified teachers and their families come to New Zealand under a critical purpose visa.

It was initially aimed at low decile schools and subject shortages like science and technology but has been expanded to all deciles and subjects after takeup was not as high as expected.

Under the border scheme, eligible schools and early learning centres must apply to the Ministry of Education to get approval for the overseas teachers they want to recruit.

All the usual certifications like Teaching Council approvals must be complete before they are handed over to Immigration NZ, which decides whether to issue a visa.

Once that visa is issued, the person can apply for the MIQ lottery.

But as of January 31, the ministry only had 156 applications for the 300 places, with just over half from early learning centres and the rest from schools.

Of those, 61 teachers had had a visa approved and the rest were still being processed, according to the ministry. Eight teachers had arrived in New Zealand and 11 had booked an MIQ slot — the rest hadn't yet obtained MIQ vouchers.

Stephanie Greathead, Immigration NZ's acting general manager of border and visa operations, said as of Friday, the Ministry of Education had nominated 97 workers out of the 300 to INZ.

"INZ has received 82 requests for education workers and invited 81 people to apply for a visa (one person is still being processed)."

"Of those that have been invited to apply for a visa, INZ has received 69 visa applications."

"To date, 61 have been approved and the



WELCOME BACK: As children around the country return to school this week, some principals are struggling with staff shortages. NZ Herald picture

remaining eight are still being processed."

No MIQ spots were set aside for the education sector so people must apply as normal, Greathead said.

Entry to New Zealand remained strictly controlled to help prevent the spread of Covid-19 and protect the health of people already in the country.

New Shoots director Michelle Pratt employs 455 staff in her early learning centres, and in October applied to get three early childhood teachers into New Zealand through the scheme.

She said the Ministry of Education had been "incredible" and handled everything very smoothly, with one teacher approved in November and one in January, while the third was still waiting. But none had visas or an MIQ slot yet.

Liam Rutherford, president of the NZEI union, which represents teachers in the early learning and primary sectors, said the costs involved in the scheme were prohibitive.

He was not surprised that pickup had been "woeful".

"We're repeatedly hearing in the early childhood sector that people are finding the fast track, the 300 spots, are not an adequate solution," he said.

Non-profits in particular couldn't afford to recruit from overseas.

Covid had not caused the teaching shortage in early learning but had made it worse, Rutherford said.

The New Zealand Herald yesterday found 819 teaching job ads in the Education Gazette. Vacancies will be higher as some ads were for more than one job.

Nearly half of listings — 401 — were for early learning. The other 418 were for teaching vacancies in schools — up from just 271 this time last year.

Secondary schools accounted for 230 listings, 155 were for primary schools, and 33 for composite or area schools and resource teachers.

Anna Welanyk, leader of the ministry's education workforce, said the ministry had been trying to make sure schools, kura and ECEs with the greatest need for teachers could recruit through the scheme.

The ministry had made every effort to make the process as transparent and simple as possible and to work fast.

A small case management team was in regular contact with employers and could advise on navigating the process, which the sector had found very useful. Employers could also apply for a \$5500 grant for recruitment costs after a teacher arrived in New Zealand.

Asked why the process had not been made more streamlined — such as simplifying teacher registration requirements, or allocating MIQ spots in advance — Welanyk said teacher registration rules applied to everyone and gave the public confidence in the quality of overseas-trained teachers.

It would also not be appropriate to allocate separate MIQ spots for the teachers, she said.

"The use of a visa is not time-dependent so it isn't appropriate to connect it with a MIQ voucher, which is very time specific to enable effective management of the use of MIQ rooms."

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Top 10 car collision locations around New Zealand

Auckland Central	831
Christchurch Central	512
Henderson	478
Mount Maunganui	397
Mount Wellington	355
Palmerston North	347
Albany	344
Dunedin Central	304
Hamilton Central	295
Hutt Central	286

(Based on State Insurance motor claims in 2020)



What to do if you are involved in a crash

- Stop where it is safe to do so and make sure everyone's okay.
- Exchange details with the other driver including the other driver's name, address, phone number, email, license number, and vehicle registration number.
- Take photographs of all damage.
- Check if the other party has insurance and encourage them to lodge a claim also.
- Take a note of their insurance company if they know it.
- Collect the details of any witnesses.
- Contact your insurer to lodge your claim.

Man due to get bravery medal dies

CROMWELL — The Cromwell man who died after his vehicle plunged into Lake Dunstan on Monday was next month due to be awarded the New Zealand Bravery Medal for his actions in the 2019 Christchurch mosque shootings.

The body of construction worker Mark Miller (56) was recovered at the scene by police divers yesterday afternoon.

Friend Paul Stockdale described his best friend "Shorty" as "a humble person" who had turned his life around after a chequered past.

"He would do anything to help people," he said.

In December, Miller received word he was nominated for the bravery award for his actions during the 2019 Christchurch Al Noor mosque shootings.

"He was just waiting to hear what date he would be getting the medal."

One of the first on the scene, Miller stopped to help victims with no concern for his own safety.

He spent 20 minutes trying to save a man who had been shot at the mosque before going on to help others.

"He was very shy. He never told anybody about his bravery award because he didn't want people to think he was showboating."

"I told him, I would tell people, so now I am," Stockdale said.

Miller died after his Toyota Hilux and trailer left the road on the approach to the bridge on the Cromwell side of State Highway 8B about 5.15pm on Monday.

The police national dive squad arrived at the scene at noon yesterday.

Divers recovered Miller's body about 1.40pm.

He was the sole occupant of the ute. The trailer was recovered about 2.50pm, followed by the vehicle shortly after.

Gamal Fouda, the imam of the Al Noor mosque at the time of the attacks, said Miller embodied everything New Zealand stands for — "honour, courage, and sacrifice", Stuff reported.

"He will be remembered not only for his bravery, but also for putting his own life in jeopardy so that others could survive." — Otago Daily Times

NZ's worst crash spots

Data shows riskiest suburbs to venture into by car

by Kirsty Wynn, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — New Zealand's top 10 car-crash suburbs have been revealed, with Auckland central, Christchurch central and the West Auckland suburb of Henderson claiming the unfortunate honours.

The beachside town of Mt Maunganui, with its flyovers and off-ramps, and east Auckland's busy Mt Wellington also made the top five.

The new data, gleaned from claims information from State Insurance, shows there were 831 claims made resulting from collisions in Auckland central in 2020.

There were 512 crashes in Christchurch and 478 in Henderson in the same period.

People were more likely to crash between 1pm-6pm, when roads were at their busiest with after-school and work traffic.

Busy intersections, merging traffic, congestion and distracted drivers were a dangerous mix said State's executive general manager of claims, Wayne Tippet.

He said the latest data showed the importance of putting safety first when driving.

"Regardless of your age, driving experience or time of day that you're on



PAY ATTENTION: Wayne Tippet said most crashes could be avoided if people paid more attention at major intersections and when merging. Picture supplied

the road, safety has got to be the number one priority for all of us when we get behind the wheel," he said.

"Our claims data shows that most of the collisions are happening in busy centres at busy times of the day, and while it's tempting to multi-task while sitting in slow-moving traffic or speed through an intersection as the lights are turning red — it's not worth it."

Tippet said extra care needed to be taken at major intersections and roads

where cars merge.

The top three crash suburbs are known for multiple intersections and heavy traffic volume.

Henderson's busy Lincoln Rd runs right through the suburb joining the motorway to a major intersection with 34 fast-food distractions along the way.

The call for extra caution comes as a recent survey by State and Ipsos revealed that only 44 percent of Kiwi drivers have considered the value of their vehicle in the past 12 months, and only 48 percent knew the replacement cost if it was written off or stolen.

The same survey showed that only 64 percent of car owners were confident their vehicle replacement cover matches their vehicle's current market value.

Tippet said the findings were important because the price of second-hand cars had increased since Covid-19 hit.

New car production had slowed because of a global shortage of computer chips so buyers were turning more to the used car market.

Tippet said car owners should check their insurance details to make sure they were fully covered.

"To ensure there is enough cover in place to replace their vehicle against its current market value, in the event of a total loss."

Surge in homeschooling surprises principals

AUCKLAND — Principals say some parents are threatening to take their children out of school because of the mask mandate for older primary school children.

They say the families want to home-school their children because of the mandate which requires children in Year 4 and above to wear face masks while indoors to reduce the spread of Covid.

Principals say the trend appears to be affecting mostly rural schools and follows an unprecedented surge in homeschooling applications in November and December last year.

Oropi School principal Andrew King said he returned to his office recently to find emails waiting for him from families wanting to home-school their children.

He said he normally dealt with no more than three or four homeschooling applications in a year, but in just a few weeks he could be losing between five and 15 children from his school of 350.

"We always get homeschooling applications from time to time for reasons completely outside of the Covid situation and that's to be expected, but (there was)

no indication that this was coming," he said.

"There's been a massive increase in the number of homeschooling applications, not just in my school but in many other schools around the country."

"We're not talking a huge percentage of the school roll, but even if you're only talking a few children in each school, times 2000 schools, that's a lot of kids."

King said one school had told him it could lose 20 percent of its pupils and another school reckoned 5 percent.

He said he provided families at his school with information about

the mask rules, and as a result some applied for exemptions for their children and others had asked for support for learning at home.

Principals' Federation president Cherie Taylor-Patel said she was aware of the increase in inquiries about homeschooling. "In some of our rural communities there has been a little bit of a run on parents thinking about homeschooling," she said.

"That is definitely happening around the country and some of it seems to be

about the mask mandate, which in my experience as an Auckland principal having just been through four months of lockdown and having masks in schools actually turned out not to be a problem at all." Taylor-Patel said children should go to school if they could.

Latest figures show the Education Ministry received 735 homeschooling applications in January, 800 in December and 867 in November — in all cases about four times more than normal.

The Ministry's hautu (leader) Operations and Integration/Te Pae Aronui, Sean Teddy, said applicants did not have to provide a reason for homeschooling, so it did not know if the mask rules were driving the January applications. He said schools would support children who could not attend classes for medical reasons, but they were unlikely to be able to help those who chose to remain at home.

The ministry said it last year approved 2655 applications for homeschooling, declined 78 and was still deliberating over 983. The Ministry said the large number of applications had created delays in approvals and families could expect to wait more than six weeks for a decision.

It said all students who could attend school should do so, because it provided physical, mental and emotional benefits.

— RNZ

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Property values climb despite tougher lending rules

WELLINGTON — The property market is continuing to show some momentum, despite some volatility caused by tougher lending rules and higher mortgage rates.

CoreLogic's House Price Index for January showed property values rose 2.1 percent over the month to an average value of \$1.02 million.

It was a slight increase on December's 1.9 percent growth rate.

Auckland had the biggest jump in average value, up 3.3 percent in January, to \$1.47m.

Hamilton and Tauranga recorded increases of 2.8 percent and 2.4 percent respectively.

Hamilton's average value was at just over \$900,000 and Tauranga was at \$1.16m.

Despite the growth, CoreLogic said there was mounting evidence that residential property values could slow in the coming months, with some areas more vulnerable than others.

Head of research Nick Goodall said the outbreak of Omicron and the shift to the red traffic light added another layer of uncertainty to the market.

"But with the increased difficulty to secure finance being the lead topic and probably greatest influence over the future of the market right now, the impact of social restrictions is



RISING PRICES: There could be a slowdown but no major downturn in the property market, CoreLogic says. RNZ picture

likely to be minimal," he said.

Goodall said the expected slowdown was not expected to become a major downturn.

"Mainly because our economy is still quite

strong right now.

"Certainly the labour market is very strong with low unemployment and unless people lose their jobs or a significant proportion of

their income, you don't expect them to need to sell their property to get out of the market just because interest rates and mortgage payments have increased."

Despite the growth in the upper North Island, the remaining main centres recorded only marginal increases.

Wellington and Christchurch saw increases of 0.7 percent and 0.8 percent respectively.

Wellington's average property value was at \$1.13m and Christchurch grew to \$750,000.

Dunedin recorded the slowest growth, up 0.2 percent to \$715,000.

CoreLogic said some regional cities recorded monthly falls in prices for January.

The biggest monthly fall was Whanganui, down 1.7 percent to \$560,000.

It was followed by Nelson and Queenstown, both seeing a drop of 1.1 percent last month.

"Queenstown was a really interesting one, we actually saw its values drop in December as well.

"It's probably a reflection of the very high average value there where the average property is worth \$1.55 million . . . with restricted credit that's going to impact the amount that people can borrow," Goodall said. — RNZ

'We need good decisions now'

Banks urged to back off rush for record dairy payout

by Andrea Fox, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — Forget new tractor and car dealers — bankers are heading the queue to relieve dairy farmers of large chunks of their forecast record milk payout, says a sector specialist who's concerned some bankers have "lost touch" during Covid.

Nigel McWilliam, a dairying specialist accountant and director at Morrinsville's MBS Advisors, said banks need to be realistic and mindful of farmer wellbeing when setting timeframes for repayment of "big chunks" of principal.

While it's general sector opinion that dairy farmers will prioritise debt repayment with their forecast \$9-plus/kg record milk payout this season, escalating costs and rising interest rates mean that \$9 prospect will likely represent \$7 for the average dairy farmer, say farming sector leaders.

McWilliam said bankers are pushing for more principal repayment and shortening the terms of loans.

"Rather than 50c repayment, they're saying 'let's have \$1 back'. Let's not put too much heat on our people given the pressures some are under — with the labour shortages, they're working big hours.

"They need to be rewarded for that rather than banks stripping every coin out."

Industry good organisation DairyNZ said at the forecast payment prices, the profit margin for farmers is \$3.80/kg.

Average profit per hectare will be \$4256, said DairyNZ principal economist Graeme Doole. These numbers did not include debt repayment.

At Fonterra's latest forecast payment, dairy would contribute around \$47 billion to the New Zealand economy in 2021-2022, up from \$37bn in 2020-2021, Doole said.

Fonterra's latest forecast range is \$8.90-\$9.50kg milksolids.

Four key farming costs have experienced inflation of more than 10 percent, DairyNZ said. Fertiliser has gone up 15.9 percent, cultivation, harvesting and animal feed by 18.9 percent, and electricity by 21 percent. Stock grazing costs are nearly 37 percent higher. Dairy farm wages and salaries have increased 3.9 percent.

McWilliam said he was aware "a lot of new bankers have come into the game in the last two years".

"They haven't had the experience of client contact because they haven't done (farm) visits (due to Covid). It's quite evident they've lost touch with what's happening on the ground.

"They also haven't had experience with seeing how economic cycles play out. I don't want to have conversations that 'in hindsight we could have done something better'. We need good decisions now."

McWilliam said with overall agriculture debt at around \$63 billion, and housing debt at around \$320bn, the risk to banks was not agriculture.

"They need to lay off the agri-business

stuff in asking for capital back . . . I've said don't risk-price farming through the roof. We've already seen interest rates of six percent for five years — for farming that's unrealistic.

"We need to be mindful not to hit agri(culture) — it's the only sector holding this country together economically. It's probably one of the only sectors that will pay provisional tax and will continue to. We need to look after those on the land."

ANZ Bank, New Zealand's biggest rural lender, yesterday lifted its milk payout for 2021-2022 to \$9.30/kg.

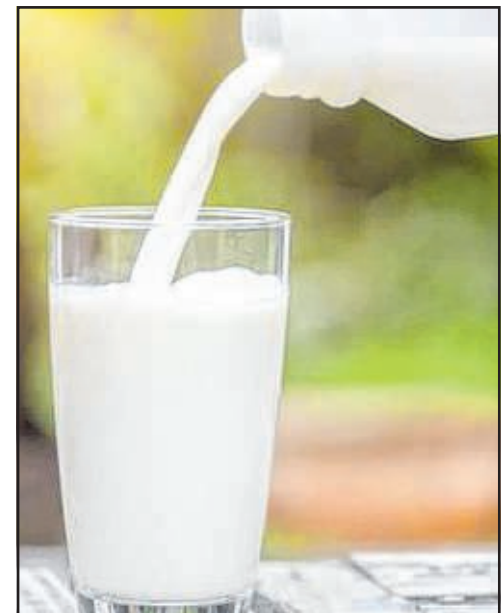
In a statement, Lorraine Mapu, the bank's managing director of business, said with rising interest rates and cost inflation, farmers needed to continue building strong businesses.

"We're mindful of the particular challenges New Zealand's dairy industry faces and we're proud of the work done by the sector on reducing its debt over the past decade. During the dairy downturn in 2014 and 2015, farmers who continued with debt repayments and smart on-farm investments came through."

Mapu said the bank had encouraged farmers to either pay down debt or invest in productive revenue streams. In the past year more than \$1 billion in debt had been paid off.

McWilliam said his firm was financial planning on the basis of a \$8.84kg cashflow payout for clients this financial year.

This was an "excellent" result, but costs



PAYOUT FORECAST: Dairy farmers can expect good returns but also rising costs. Picture supplied

escalation had been significant, with some fertiliser costs doubling.

Clients were being advised to consider one- and two-year interest rate terms, instead of the longer term splits advocated before. They had also been discouraged from signing up to fix milk pricing schemes.

While a dairy product supply shortage is driving up world prices that are boosting farmer milk payment, lower production is a two-edged sword.

In New Zealand, national milk production is down 3 percent on last year.

SHAREMARKET YESTERDAY

WELLINGTON — Led by Fisher & Paykel Healthcare, the New Zealand sharemarket posted its biggest single day rise of the year — unperturbed by the Reserve Bank of Australia's move to tighten its monetary policy.

The bank announced it was ending its bond buying programme on February 10 and the cash rate would remain at a record low of 0.1 percent. It has been buying AS\$4 billion (\$4.2bn) worth of government bonds a week to support the economy after Covid-19 struck.

Bank governor Dr Philip Lowe gave no indication when interest rate hikes would start, and this spurred the trans-tasman markets on. The S&P/NZX 50 Index staged a big relief rally, increasing 169.54 points or 1.43 percent to 12,058.94 on volume of 34.16 million share transactions worth \$156.27 million. There were

105 gainers and just 36 decliners over the whole market.

The bank has forecast underlying inflation to reach three and a quarter percent this year before falling to two and three quarters percent next year as supply-side problems are resolved.

At home, market leader Fisher & Paykel Healthcare rose \$1.25 or 4.5 percent to \$29 on trade worth \$26.41m; Mainfreight gained \$1.35 to \$84.85; Ebos Group was up 38c to \$39.28; PGG Wrightson increased 17c or 3.16 percent to \$5.55; and Skellerup Holdings collected 10c to \$6.

Meridian Energy increased 14c or 3.21 percent to \$4.450 after confirming the sale of its Australian business for AS\$740m (\$795m) to a consortium of Shell and Infrastructure Capital Group (ICG). Among other energy companies,

Genesis was up 7c or 2.62 percent to \$2.74.

Chorus was up 5c to \$7 after S&P Global Ratings increased the telecommunications firm's credit rating threshold, saying "the stable outlook reflects our expectations that Chorus will maintain its solid network position and earnings".

Apple exporter Scales Corporation surged 28c or 5.82 percent to \$5.09; SkyCity Entertainment rebounded 7c or 2.56 percent to \$2.80; and Sky Network Television was up 7c or 2.9 percent to \$2.48. AMP gained 5c or 5.38 percent to 98c; Heartland Group Holdings increased 6c or 2.54 percent to \$2.42; and Argosy Property picked up 4c or 2.68 percent to \$1.47.

NZME rose 7c or 5.79 percent to \$1.28; Move Logistics gained 6c or 3.9 percent to \$1.60; Vulcan Steel collected 19c or 1.92 percent to \$10.10; DGL Group increased 12c or 4.23 percent to \$2.96; Harmony was up 4c or 2.25

percent to \$1.82; and Gentrack rose 8c or 4.44 percent to \$1.88.

Among the retirement village operators, Arvida increased 5c or 2.94 percent to \$1.75; Ryman Healthcare was up 12c to \$10.02; and Summerset Group Holdings was down 12c to \$12.08.

Synlait rose 19c or 6.03 percent to \$3.34. Radius Residential Care increased 2.5c or 5.88 percent to 45c. ikeGPS Group gained 1c to 82c after reporting strong growth in the nine months ending December. New Zealand King Salmon Investments plunged 14c or 11.57 percent to \$1.07 after telling the market it is experiencing higher-than-expected sea farm mortality because of the warmer water, resulting in a lower harvest. Other decliners were Briscoe Group, down 12c or 2.02 percent to \$5.82; Marsden Maritime Holdings decreasing 9c to \$6.20; and Solution Dynamics falling 15c or 5.36 percent to \$2.65. — NZ Herald

EDITORIAL

Loss of public asset a disaster

Cases set to surge

Covid-19 cases in New Zealand are entering what will be a relentless rise, with the Omicron variant now dominant and an expectation we will follow the international experience of case numbers doubling every two to three days.

Case numbers have increased more slowly so far, and our public health response could mean we follow a lower but longer trajectory of cases. Thankfully we have a high vaccination rate and are further into our booster programme than many other nations were when Omicron began surging through their populations in December. Ninety-four percent of New Zealanders aged 12 and over are fully vaccinated (89 percent in this region, and 84 percent for Tairāwhiti Māori) and a third of those who are vaccinated have now had their booster.

The Omicron variant has mutated to such an extent that it is in essence the first really new type of Covid-19, likely to require updated vaccines. However, three large new studies from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released on Friday highlight that getting a booster shot does provide good protection against Omicron.

The studies involve millions of cases from a period in December and January when Omicron was dominant (it now accounts for 99 percent of cases in the US). One showed that getting boosted is 90 percent effective at preventing hospitalisations; having had two shots six months or more ago was 57 percent effective. Another found that people with three mRNA shots were less likely to get infected with Covid, with 149 cases per 100,000 people a week compared to 255 per 100,000 people who had two doses. The third found that the odds of developing a symptomatic illness were 66 percent lower for people who were boosted compared to those who had received two shots.

Because of these clear benefits for the public health response to Omicron, there is a case for the gap between second dose and eligibility for the booster in New Zealand to be cut again, to three months.

The international evidence also shows that Omicron is less likely to cause serious illness than previous variants, but the sheer number of cases means health systems worldwide have been under as much strain as ever during the pandemic.

The Government belatedly realised that vast numbers of rapid antigen tests will be needed to keep the country moving and people as safe as possible during what will be our first experience of Covid-19 surging through our communities. Tomorrow we will learn what our situation now means for plans to reopen the border and reconnect with the world.

by John Woods



LAST week's so-called explanation and justification for the closure and sale of the council-owned vehicle testing station by the chairman of Gisborne Holdings Limited is sheer bunkum.

The blather by GHIL chair David Mullooly (January 27 story) pitched as accounting for the loss of this service and facility did nothing to allay the concerns and frustration local vehicle owners have been experiencing since the testing station closed late last year, giving a virtual monopoly to VTNZ (Vehicle Testing NZ).

As a concerned resident who agitated Gisborne District Council more than two weeks ago by asking Official Information Act questions around the closure of the council-owned testing station, I find it a remarkable coincidence (not!) that they finally and belatedly attempt to justify the waste and appalling stewardship behind this loss of service and public convenience.

Gisborne vehicle owners seeking a warrant of fitness these days are forced into painfully long queues, controlled no less annoyingly by security guards who try to manage traffic outside the VTNZ testing station in a situation that is far

worse than the delays and inconvenience of the wait we had to endure at the old council station.

It is little comfort to hear that VTNZ (who paid how much for the business?) hope to improve and beef up their service after they renovate and move into the old GHIL-owned premises. What guarantee do we have that the VTNZ bureaucracy will do a better job? When has a government-owned commercial entity ever improved anything!

Mr Mullooly tries to tell us that a key reason GHIL could not sustain the testing station commercially, and what forced their hand in closing down, was the difficulty of finding and recruiting qualified inspectors, and then attracting them to live in Gisborne; so why will that not be a problem for a VTNZ monopoly?

My own inquiries have revealed that management incompetence, and therefore poor governance by GHIL as the owner-operator — which I put down to irresponsible and negligent stewardship — are the real cause of the problems that led to this failure.

I'm still waiting for details and answers to my LGOIMA questions about the testing station, and expect these will shed better light on my theory — though it's not massaged facts and figures I want, but rather accountability by GDC as the owner or stakeholder in GHIL, for

their mismanagement and incompetence in not properly protecting and governing the ratepayer investment in this service and facility.

What I really want to know is when did GDC become aware our testing station was in trouble and what did either officers or council members do about it? Did the directors of GHIL get professional advice on addressing the operational problems? Or did they just blithely treat it as a fait accompli, arrogantly dismissing motor trade changes and issues as a fact of life? In other words, did anyone think entrepreneurially and try something innovative or new to try to save the service?

My advice based on interviews with former staff (albeit disgruntled ones) of the GHIL testing station is that no one in management listened to staff when they challenged internal decision-making and operational practices during the early days of troubles, nor did anyone try to change the inefficiencies that were dogging the station and would ultimately bring the place down.

I would like to think that the forum of Local Democracy Reporting will allow further investigation and holding to account of the powers that be in this minor disaster and ruining of a public service and ratepayer-owned asset.

What are the people we elected to look after our interests doing about this?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ONLINE COMMENTS

Help for swimmers, any age

Re: Clubs join forces for rescue, February 1 story.

I was one on the beach watching the smooth operation of the two clubs in making the rescue on Saturday. It prompted me to look around for some support in getting my own swimming skills up.

Lucky that Gisborne is served by two swimming clubs that are

more than happy to help people of any age to improve their swimming skills.

The life you will save will most likely be your own.

Reach out to either Comet or Enterprise clubs and see if they have a session time that can help.

LIFESAVER

Countering disinformation

Re: Not OK for protesters to appropriate Māori icons, February 1 letter.

I wrote my thoughts down after watching that video too. I will send it in as a column.

I'm not sure what the solution is because we're not dealing with reason in this case. I hope more people start confronting them peacefully. Let's not make it easy for them to disrupt the kids' roll-out.

AIMEE MILNE

Thanks Aimee, I am looking forward to reading your column.

I would also like to thank you personally for all the work you have done over the time of Covid-19 to debunk the massive amount of disinformation both online and in many other places. It appears to be a thankless task... but it is done because you care for the wellbeing of all in this community and country.

I hope people realise the

major part you have played in the ongoing battle against disinformation, and also hope that we will be coming to a point (sometime later this year) where we can finally feel like we are over the worst of this pandemic and are returning to "normal" again.

MAREE CONAGLEN

Thank you for the kind words. I can't wait until it's all over!

AIMEE

He mihi nui tenei ki a korua Maree, ko Aimee. Thank you both for stepping up and supporting both vaccinations and Māori who felt frustrated that Māori symbols were being co-opted by those opposed to vaccination. Thank you for showing leadership in this space as we all try to work through these issues. Nga manaakitanga ki runga i a tatau i roto i wenei ra taumaha.

NATASHA KOIA

We should be ashamed

Re: Under the bridge, January 20 story.

Of course she doesn't want to give up her dog — it's her support. She doesn't have anyone but I bet her dog loves her and that provides comfort. Trying to blame her homelessness on the dog is crap. There are thousands of people like Theresa without dogs sleeping rough.

I can't imagine how miserable a person you need to be to ring and complain about a woman living under a bridge. The council said "sanitation" was a concern but

had zero concern for Theresa living without a toilet or shower. Taking her belongings and standing over her waiting for her to leave when you know she has nowhere to go is so heartless. You humiliated her.

Tens of thousands of NZers are living in motels, we have some of the highest rents in the world and homelessness is now a criminal offence! We should be ashamed. What are they going to do? Fine her? Put her in jail?

TUI BELLA
Matakana Island

Children about but 70kmh

Mixed messages are appearing on our road.

Entering the south side of Tolaga Bay on the main road there is a flashing 70km sign.

Up the road heading towards Tolaga, a sign has just been erected with a picture of an adult and child and the word Marae at the bottom. Further towards Hauiti Marae is a 50km sign and a few feet from this is the red marae sign.

Now, turning around at the Hauiti Marae turnoff, heading back to Gisborne, opposite the 50km sign, is a 70km sign — not forgetting that further up the road is a sign with an adult and a child and the word Marae at the bottom.

My point about these signs

is that they do not provide safety for anyone walking along the side of this road, because all vehicles travelling this stretch of road can do so at 70kmh.

Then, travelling from Pouawa to the end of Turihaua, it is now a 60kmh speed limit; no adults or children crossing this stretch of road.

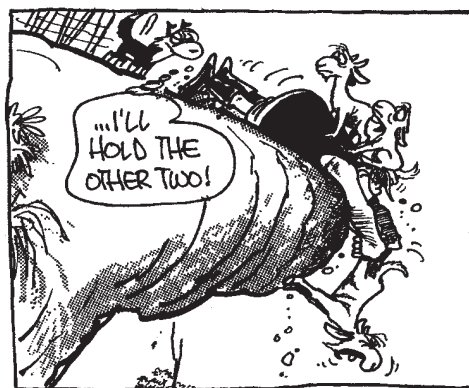
This just does not make sense, when you allow vehicles to travel at 70kmh along the south side of Tolaga Bay heading into Tolaga and heading out of Tolaga from the Hauiti turnoff.

Get rid of these 70km signs and put up 50km signs. Makes sense? Yes.

BERNIE KAA

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.



Omicron surge causes Covid-19 cases to soar

GENEVA — World Health Organisation (WHO) Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said on Tuesday (local time) that 90 million cases of coronavirus had been reported since the Omicron variant was first identified 10 weeks ago — amounting to more cases than in all of 2020, the first year of the Covid pandemic.

With many countries easing their restrictive measures amid public fatigue about them, Tedros cautioned that Omicron should not be underestimated even though it had shown to bring less severe illness than earlier variants.

He cited “a very worrying increase in deaths in most regions of the world”.

“We are concerned that a narrative has taken hold in some countries that because of vaccines — and because of Omicron’s high transmissibility and lower severity — preventing transmission is no longer possible and no longer necessary,” he told a regular WHO briefing on the pandemic.

“Nothing could be further from the truth,” Tedros added. “It’s premature for any country either to surrender or to declare victory.”

“This virus is dangerous and it continues to evolve before our very eyes.”

WHO said four of its six regions worldwide were seeing increasing trends in deaths.

Many European countries had begun easing lockdown measures, including Britain, France, Ireland and the Netherlands. Finland would end its Covid restrictions this month.

On Tuesday, Denmark’s government scrapped most of their restrictions that were aimed at fighting the pandemic, saying it no longer considered Covid “a socially critical disease”.

The nation of 5.8 million



OMICRON VARIANT SPREADING RAPIDLY: The logo of the World Health Organisation is pictured above at the WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Tuesday said 90 million cases of coronavirus had been reported since the Omicron variant was first identified 10 weeks ago, amounting to more than in all of 2020 — the first year of the Covid pandemic. AP picture

had in recent weeks seen more than 50,000 new cases a day, but the number of patients in intensive care units had declined.

“Now is not the time to lift everything all at once. We have always urged — always urged — caution in applying interventions as well as lifting those interventions in a steady and in a slow way — piece by piece,” said Maria Van Kerkhove, the WHO’s technical lead on the coronavirus.

Dr Michael Ryan, the WHO emergencies chief, said countries with higher vaccination rates “have more choices” about whether to ease their restrictions, but said they should assess factors like their current epidemiology, at-risk populations, immunity

in the population, and access to healthcare tools to fight the pandemic.

Speaking to countries’ governments, he said: “Every country has to find its feet, know where it is, know where it wants to go, and chart its path . . . You can look at what other countries are doing. But please don’t just follow blindly what every other country is doing”.

Ryan expressed concern that “political pressure will result in people in some countries opening prematurely — and that will result in unnecessary transmission, unnecessary severe disease, and unnecessary death”.

Meanwhile, Van Kerkhove also said a group of experts that was set up last year to look into the emergence of new

pathogens like the coronavirus — and assess its origins — was expected to issue a report “in the coming weeks.”

She said the group, known by the acronym SAGO, had held about a half-dozen meetings since its first one in late November.

She said the group would, among other things, look at early epidemiological studies and “our current understanding of the origins of this particular pandemic, building upon previous missions that have gone to China and worked with Chinese scientists.”

She alluded to the work of another WHO-led team that travelled to China, where the pandemic first emerged, and reported on the outbreak in March last year. — AP

New subvariant ‘does not appear to be more severe’ — WHO

GENEVA — The World Health Organisation (WHO) on Tuesday (local time) said there was no indication that Omicron’s new sister variant caused more serious infections than the original version, although initial data showed it was more transmissible.

The WHO and other researchers around the world found that Omicron generally did not make people as sick as the Delta variant, although it did spread faster than previous strains of the coronavirus and could evade some of the immune protection provided by Covid vaccines.

Maria Van Kerkhove, the WHO’s Covid-19 technical lead, indicated on Tuesday that those findings likely held true for the Omicron sister variant, which had been labelled BA.2 by scientists.

Van Kerkhove said information was limited, but initial data indicated that BA.2 was “slightly” more transmissible than the original Omicron variant, which scientists formally referred to as BA.1, which was currently the dominant version of the virus worldwide.

However, there was no indication that BA.2 was any different from the original Omicron variant in terms of severity, Van Kerkhove said, and the vaccines remained effective at preventing severe disease and death from Omicron and all of its subvariants.

The WHO was working with scientists around the world to track BA.2 infections and would share more information as it became available, she said.

“We need people to be aware that this virus is continuing to circulate and it’s continuing to evolve,” Van Kerkhove said during a Covid update Tuesday in Geneva.

“That’s why it’s really important that we take measures to reduce our exposure to this virus, whatever variant is circulating.”

BA.2 had become the dominant version of Omicron in Denmark, outpacing the original version, BA.1.

Danish scientists, in a study published this week, found that BA.2 was substantially more transmissible and was more adept at infecting people who were vaccinated or boosted.

However, vaccinated and boosted people were actually less likely to spread BA.2 once infected, compared with people who have the BA.1 strain. The unvaccinated, on the other hand, transmitted BA.2 more efficiently than they did the original Omicron variant, likely due to a higher viral load, according to the study.

The Danish scientists said BA.2, like the original Omicron variant, appeared to be associated with milder infections than the more severe Delta variant.

“The combination of high incidence of a relative innocuous subvariant has raised optimism,” they wrote.

The WHO had repeatedly warned that new Covid variants would likely emerge as Omicron spread rapidly around the world.

Van Kerkhove said last week the next variant would be more transmissible, but it was an open question on whether it would be more severe.

The WHO had labelled Omicron, including its sublineages, a “variant of concern” in November. The BA.2 subvariant had not been separately categorised as such because it fell under the Omicron variant, the organisation explained. — Agencies

One-tenth of England’s 2022 Covid cases suspected ‘reinfections’, data suggests

LONDON — Suspected reinfections account for around 10 percent of England’s Covid-19 cases so far this year, a Reuters analysis suggests, after the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) changed how it calculates coronavirus data.

With increased numbers of people catching the disease again since the Omicron variant began to predominate at the end of 2021, Britain on Monday (local time) started incorporating possible Covid reinfections into its daily data. “Reinfection remained at very low levels until the start of the Omicron wave.”

“It is right that our daily reporting processes reflect how

the virus has changed,” said Steven Riley, UKHSA director general of data and analytics.

Overall, case numbers were continuing to trend lower, he added.

Prior to December 6, the proportion of daily cases in England thought to be reinfections had been below 2 percent for nearly six months.

That rate is estimated to have risen to 9.9 percent so far in 2022, a Reuters analysis of UKHSA data found.

In Italy, a spokesman for the National Institute of Health said reinfection cases currently stood at around 3 percent of all infections — up from around 1.5 percent before

the Omicron variant emerged.

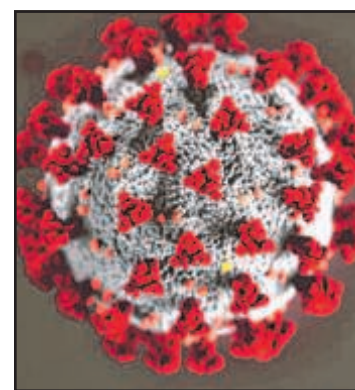
Monday’s data switch, treating positive Covid tests separated by at least 90 days as separate infections, was extrapolated back to the start of the pandemic.

The UKHSA said there had been 588,000 possible reinfections in England to date, taking the total number reported in Britain to 17.3 million.

The first suspected reinfection in England was on June 19, 2020.

Britain’s daily Covid statistics previously would only count people who had tested positive for the first time.

Monday’s daily-case data



revealed 92,368 new infections with 51 deaths. Britain had reported 155,754 Covid deaths overall — the seventh highest tally globally.

— Reuters story via RNZ

Property Brokers ^B

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42023-18



MORE TO CHOOSE FROM: The Matawhero saleyards hosted a bigger line-up of stock in Friday's weekly sheep sale with 2264 sheep presented. Ewes were dominant among the yarding, including 222 prime ewes and 237 store ewes. These 174 store ewes from Ormond, left, sold for \$102. They were healthy and suitable for fattening.

Picture by Trevor Brown

Changes to Farm of the Year comp

COMMENT by Toby Williams, Gisborne-East Coast Federated Farmers President

IT has been a cracking start to the year in the Gisborne-East Coast region.

For most we are faced with the polar opposite of what we were looking at last year.

Grass growth has been phenomenal and the prices we are receiving for sheep and beef at the works are near record levels.

There are headwinds with Omicron rearing its head. This is likely to bring severe disruption to fragile processing plants that are suffering from staff shortages.

Some farmers are more affected than others depending on who you supply your stock to, how they deal with the bookings they receive and how the space is allocated.

For my mind this shows the value of having a strong relationship and being a shareholder, where available, with your processor.

Also making decisions early and dropping weights to ensure you fulfil your entire commitment should not be discounted as a silly idea.

Cash in the bank is worth much more than a sheep running around a paddock waiting for maggots to get it, needing a dag and drench or parking up on you the day before the truck arrives.

If you are incredibly unlucky you will get the trifecta and I bet the bastard is over 50kg to boot.

Enough doom and gloom.

The main reason for this article is to announce we are relaunching the East Coast Hill Country Farm of the Year (HCFoY) competition.

Originally we had hoped to have a much larger farming celebration and gala dinner with the announcement of the winner of the Hill Country Farm of the Year being the blue riband award to top the evening off.

Unfortunately Covid has put that on the back-burner and we have decided to only have the HCFoY for the time being.

Since we last held the competition we have had a chance to review how we judge it and how the points are awarded.

One of the main criticisms we had heard was the difficulty in comparing farms in different areas with each other.

To help solve this we approached the organisers of the Wairarapa Farmer of the Year competition and asked whether we would be able to use their judging criteria. They gave their blessing.

For many years they have been able to

run their competition without one style of farming or area dominating.

A copy of the entry form can be obtained from either Federated Farmers or AgFirst Consultants, which has a detailed breakdown of all the judging criteria and how points are awarded.

There is a total of 150 points awarded covering the following categories; financial return, farm maintenance and reinvestment, farming ability and knowledge, non-farming community participation, environmental management, objectives, judgement, outlook, attitude, sustainable farm management and innovation, health and safety.

Each category has a different weight of points with the single biggest one being financial return and worth just under a third of the total points.

The financial return will be judged against your farming contemporaries in your part of the district.

So, if like me you farm in Whangara, then your financial return will only be compared with the financial performance of Whangara farmers, not every other region in our district.

This will level the financial playing field and enable a fairer comparison between the different farming systems in our district.

This year we have nearly \$11,000 in prizes available to the winning farmer.

Entries need to be in by 4pm on Friday, February 18.

Please email me or Peter Andrew at gisbornepresident@gmail.com or peter.andrew@agfirst.co.nz and we will send you an entry form.

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AgriHQ MARKET REPORT

Week beginning January 31

LAMB

Overseas lamb markets are all going very strong with the exception of a recent slowdown in buying from China.

This slowdown isn't unusual very near to the Chinese New Year, although it was noted a little earlier than usual and price deductions have stuck more easily. That's not to say prices are anywhere near poor, especially after factoring in the changes in the NZD:USD rate, but everyone is keeping an eye on how this market responds once back from holiday.

The EU and UK are stable, although logistics and other related issues aren't going away. Processors are currently working through chilled Easter production, which will close off in a week or two, depending on the processor.

Frenched racks are going strong into the US — the recent drop in the exchange rate has pushed these to almost NZ\$40/kg, an all-time record high.

BEEF

The perfect storm of dry weather, processor staff shortages and two short weeks coming up is increasing wait times at processing plants.

Comments from several agents this week noted that the backlogs are the worst they have experienced in a very long time. Some processors have indicated that five-to-six weeks of prime kill space is booked out.

An influx of dry cows is set to head to processing plants from next week, especially from drier areas such as the Waikato, as dairy farmers begin pregnancy testing.

A similar situation to Australia (up to

half the industry workforce out of action) is a possibility. Though the situation could potentially be worse in New Zealand if the close contact isolation requirements for the industry are not eased as they were in Australia. Currently, if a person is a close contact of a household Covid-19 case they must isolate for 24 days.

VENISON

There has been a positive start to 2022 for deer farmers.

Stag and bull sales have been successful with sales up 10 percent on last year. The venison market is having a turn around and is currently sitting above \$7/kg for the first time since autumn 2019.

However, this is a historically low period.

There is a sense of optimism as Europe consumption is increasing and the US food service returns.

Velvet has noted a 25-30 percent increase this season. A lot of this can be put down to consumers looking for products to boost immunity in Covid times.

With tight Chinese and Korean borders, there is also less stray product around, and with New Zealand having a reputable and legitimate product, demand is growing. Products have been held, particularly in China, to eliminate any Covid risks prior to the Chinese New Year and Winter Olympics. This may cause a bubble effect further down the line.

There is currently work being undertaken to tap more into the Chinese market and to try to get venison recognised as a staple part of the diet.

Whānau Vaccination Venues

Te Hauora o Tūrangānui a Kiwa Ltd

Turanga Health

Kia Whai Oranga-a-Whānau Mō Ngā Whakatipuranga
Building family wellness for future generations



Calling all farming families

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Children ages 5 to 11 years, booster shot 18 years plus

Any shot either 1st or 2nd dose NOW

Drive through . . .

Venue	Dates	Time
Manutuke Domain (Drive Thru)	Wednesday 2 nd February	4.00pm – 6.30pm
Waihirere Domain (Drive Thru)	Thursday 3 rd February	4.00pm – 6.30pm
Patutahi Hall (Drive thru)	Friday 4 th February	4.00pm – 6.30pm
Matawai School (Drive Thru)	Saturday 5 th February	10.00am – 1.00pm
Waerenga-o-Kuri Hall (Drive Thru)	Sunday 6 th February	10.00am – 1.00pm

44756-01

Stay at home if you are sick

For more information go to www.hauoratairawhiti.org.nz

Unite against COVID-19

Native Americans reach settlement over opioids

CLEVELAND, OH — Native American tribes in the US have reached settlements over the toll of opioids totalling US\$590 million with drugmaker Johnson & Johnson and the country's three largest drug distribution companies, according to a court filing made on Tuesday (local time).

The filing in the US District Court in Cleveland laid out the broad terms of the settlements with Johnson & Johnson and distribution companies AmerisourceBergen, based in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania; Cardinal Health, based in Columbus, Ohio; and McKesson, based in Irving, Texas.

Some details were still being hashed out.

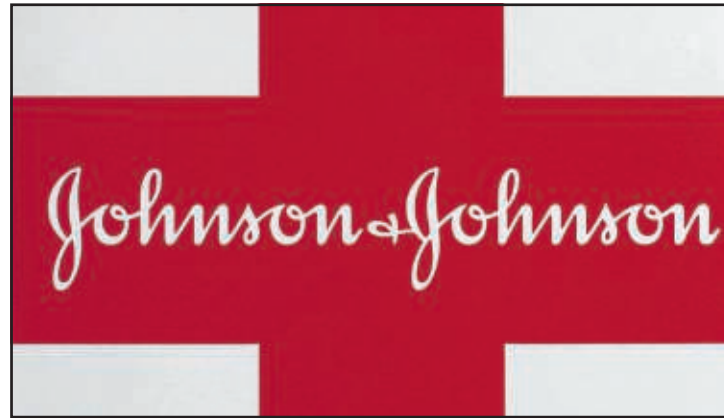
All federally-recognised tribes would be able to participate in the settlements, even if they did not sue over opioids.

Many tribes had been hit hard by the addiction and overdose crisis across the US.

One study cited in the settlement found that Native Americans had the highest per-capita rate of opioid overdose of any population group in 2015.

"American Indians have suffered the highest per-capita rate of opioid overdose and are more likely than other group in the United States to die from drug-induced deaths," Chairman Douglas Yankton of the Spirit Lake Nation in North Dakota, said in a statement.

"The dollars that will flow to tribes under this initial settlement will help fund crucial, on-reservation,



JOHNSON & JOHNSON: Above, the Johnson & Johnson logo. Native American tribes in the US have reached settlements worth US\$590 million over the nationwide opioid crisis. A court filing made on Tuesday (local time) in Cleveland laid out the details of the settlements with drugmaker Johnson & Johnson and distribution companies AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson.

AP pictures



OVERDOSING AN ISSUE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES:

Above, 5mg pills of Oxycodone. Native American tribes in the US have reached settlements worth \$590 million over the opioid epidemic.



MCKESSON: A pedestrian passes a McKesson sign on an office building in San Francisco.

culturally appropriate opioid treatment services."

More than 400 tribes and intertribal organisations representing about 80 percent of tribal citizens had sued over opioids.

Under the deal, New Brunswick, New Jersey-based Johnson & Johnson would pay



CARDINAL HEALTH: A sign of the Cardinal Health, Inc. corporate office in Dublin, Ohio.

US\$150m over two years and the distribution companies would contribute US\$440m over seven years. Each tribe could decide whether to participate.

The tribes would be required to use the money to deal with the opioid epidemic.

The deal would take effect when 95 percent of the tribes with lawsuits against



AMERISOURCEBERGEN: AmerisourceBergen Corp. office building in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

the companies agree to the settlement, said Tara Sutton, a lawyer whose firm was representing 28 tribes.

Sutton said settlements were also in the works between tribes and other companies involved in opioids.

The newly-announced deals were separate from a US\$75m one the Cherokee Nation and the three distribution companies reached last year ahead of a trial. — AP

GLOBAL BRIEFS

Australian Aged Care minister to face inquiry over Covid-19

CANBERRA — The Australian government's handling of Covid-19 in aged care will be put under the microscope when a parliamentary committee meets today.

Aged Care Minister Richard Colbeck would be grilled by senators following large Covid outbreaks at aged-care facilities across the country, as well as shortages of rapid antigen tests and personal protective equipment for staff.

It was revealed last month the minister said he was unable to attend a Covid committee hearing on the same day he attended the Ashes Test match in Hobart.

Senator Colbeck originally said he did not attend the previous committee meeting because he did not want to divert health department officials from urgent work.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has since defended Senator Colbeck, while indicating he understood the criticism the minister faced in light of the incident. — AAP

Tonga to enter a lockdown

The Kingdom of Tonga will go into nationwide lockdown from 6pm today.

Speaking via Tongan radio, Prime Minister Hu'akavameiliku and Minister of Health Dr Saia Piukala held a media conference last night to announce the news.

They confirmed that two cases of Covid-19 had been detected through routine testing at the wharf in Nuku'alofa.

Prime Minister Hu'akavameiliku ordered the lockdown.

Dr Saia Piukala said 50 people were tested as part of routine surveillance and the two positive cases were found.

Tonga's Speaker of the House, Lord Fakafanua — who was currently in Auckland waiting to return to Tonga — told RNZ Pacific the positive cases and their families were now in isolation at an army base.

Tonga reported its first positive Covid case last year after an Air New Zealand flight arrived from Christchurch.

Tonga was currently recovering from the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcanic eruption, which triggered a tsunami that destroyed villages and resorts and knocked out communications for the South Pacific nation of about 105,000 people.

Three people died as a result of the disaster that occurred on January 15.

Several countries, including New Zealand, have sent aid but have observed strict Covid-19 protocols such as contactless delivery.

— RNZ

Putin offers more talks with West to defuse Ukraine tensions

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday (local time) that the US and its allies had ignored Russia's top security demands but added that Moscow remained open to more talks with the West on easing soaring tensions over Ukraine.

Putin argued that it was possible to negotiate an end to the stand-off if interests of all parties, including Russia's security concerns, were taken into account.

"I hope that we will eventually find a solution, although we realise that it's not going to be easy," Putin said amid a continuing build-up of an estimated 100,000 Russian troops near Ukraine that had fuelled Western fear of an invasion.

Russia had continually denied having an intention to attack its neighbour, but talks between Russia and the West had so far failed to yield any progress.

Washington and its allies rejected Moscow's demand for a halt to Nato's expansion to Ukraine and other ex-Soviet nations, a freeze on the deployment of weapons there and a rollback of alliance forces from Eastern Europe, describing them as "non-starters". They emphasised that Ukraine, like any other nation, has the right to choose alliances.

The Russian leader countered that argument by noting that the Western

allies' refusal to meet Russia's demands violates their obligations on integrity of security for all nations. He warned that Ukraine's accession to Nato could lead to a situation where Ukrainian authorities launch a military action to reclaim control over Crimea or areas controlled by Russia-backed separatists in the country's east.

"Imagine that Ukraine becomes a Nato member and launches those military operations," Putin said. "Should we fight Nato then? Has anyone thought about it?"

Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014 following the ouster of the country's Moscow-friendly president and later threw its weight behind rebels in Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland, triggering a conflict that has killed over 14,000.

Speaking after talks with Hungarian Prime Minister Victor Orban, who forged close ties with Moscow even though his country is a member of Nato, Putin noted that it was still possible to negotiate a settlement that would take every party's concerns into account.

"We need to find a way to ensure interests and security of all parties, including Ukraine, European nations and Russia," Putin said, emphasising that the West needs to treat Russian proposals seriously to make progress.

The Russian leader argued that Nato's

open-door policy did not oblige the alliance to offer membership to Ukraine, suggesting that the alliance could tell Ukraine that it could not join "due to earlier international obligations".

He said that French President Emmanuel Macron might soon visit Moscow as part of renewed diplomatic efforts following their call on Monday.

In a bid to exert pressure on the West, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov sent letters to the US and other Western counterparts pointing out their past obligations signed by all members of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, a top trans-Atlantic security grouping.

Russia has argued that Nato's expansion eastward has hurt Russia's security, violating the principle of "indivisibility of security" endorsed by the OSCE in 1999 and 2010.

Putin charged that the West has "conned" Russia by reneging on its promises in the early 1990s that NATO would not expand eastward. He argued that the US and its allies have ignored the principle that the security of one nation should not be strengthened at the expense of others, while insisting on every nation's right to choose alliances.

Lavrov made the same argument in his letter that was released by his ministry, stating that "there must be security for all or there will be no



Russian President Vladimir Putin

Picture via AP

security for anyone".

In Tuesday's phone call with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Lavrov warned that Moscow would not allow Washington to "hush up" the issue.

Blinken, meanwhile, emphasised "the US was willing, bilaterally and together with allies and partners, to continue a substantive exchange with Russia on mutual security concerns". — AP

Health hazard concerns as birds bombard street in poo

CHRISTCHURCH — A group of Christchurch residents are crying out for help dealing with a crappy situation plaguing their neighbourhood.

Families living on Dudley St say thousands of birds nesting in trees above their homes are covering their properties in poo, prompting concerns of a public health hazard.

Becca Hughes lives there with her husband and two children, and says they're trying everything they can to keep the place clean, but to no avail.

"It's right up our driveway, across our cars all over our windows and it's now this year it started on the back deck as well.

"We can clean the cars over the weekend like most people do and by Wednesday or Thursday they look like abandoned vehicles, and I've actually had that comment, taken one of the cars in to get valeted because we were selling it and we were asked how long it had been sitting and it had been maybe a week since it had been cleaned, but they honestly thought it was an abandoned vehicle because of the amount of bird droppings.

"Friends will come and park for one evening and the next day they'll come and collect their car and it's just covered in bird droppings."

The family has to dash from the house to

their cars to avoid the droppings.

"We've got a young family, as I say, we've got a 1-year-old and a 2-and-a-half-year-old and if we go out for a walk with the dog we cover them in the pram and we dash to the end of the street. As the trees stop, the problem stops. It's no longer an issue."

In addition, the smell is horrible.

"You roll your windows up as you drive up the entrance to our driveway. It's not nice."

They prayed for rain every week to wash the poo from the street, she said.

Hughes wanted — to start with — a response from the council.

"We've submitted (to them). We've emailed them directly. We've been to community board meetings. We've had a community board member at the house and they've just said it's not their responsibility and now they refuse to come back to us.

"If we ring we get pushed pillar to post and we speak to four or five different departments. The trees are their problem — and they recognise that — and therefore the birds roosting there are their problem, so cleaning the street would be a start.

"A long-term risk management plan or an understanding of if it is actually a health hazard?"



NO HELP: Residents say if they ring the council to complain they get pushed from pillar to post and speak to four or five different departments. Picture supplied

We don't know — and is it endangering our children and or is it just a hygiene, cleanliness thing?

"Honestly, we're in the dark and they are not helping."

She was not suggesting the trees be cut down — in fact, she would be disappointed if

that happened.

"It's just through 10 years of neglect post earthquakes. They haven't been maintained and they haven't been managed and they've become so dense that the starlings can continue to come home to roost and grow and grow and grow in number." — RNZ

NZ told to up action on emission targets

WELLINGTON — The OECD is warning New Zealand that relying on tree planting and carbon credits to slash emissions may not hold water internationally much longer.

The organisation of wealthy countries today released its survey of New Zealand.

The OECD said it was not certain what the future international rules for forestry would be, and that carbon markets have lost credibility offshore.

New Zealand is especially reliant on carbon markets — it has to purchase two thirds of its savings offshore, essentially paying other countries to make cuts on our behalf to meet our pledge to halve net emissions by 2030.

Meanwhile, the OECD said the price of carbon in the domestic market — currently nearly \$70 a tonne — was too low.

The Climate Change Commission estimated the price would have to double by 2030, and reach \$250 a tonne by 2050.

The OECD noted New Zealand's emissions were among the highest per-capita in the world, and said large cuts in the agriculture and transport sectors — responsible for large shares of emissions — were needed to meet our commitments.

It said New Zealand has low fuel taxes compared to most in the OECD, and suggested adding environmental levies and introducing congestion charging.

The OECD said New Zealand was taking action to improve water quality which has been degraded by the "huge expansion" of the dairy industry, as well as inadequate urban water infrastructure.

It said emissions from agriculture — mainly methane — made up almost half of total emissions, a much higher share than the OECD average.

"They have grown by 17 percent since 1990, driven by increased use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser and higher dairy cattle numbers."

The OECD said the emissions trading scheme — where the rising cost of carbon drives innovative ways for industry to cut climate gases — was the country's most important instrument to slash outputs.

It said it covers 96 percent of non-agricultural GDP (agriculture is currently excluded).

The organisation warned against imposing expensive cuts to emissions when it could be cheaper in some situations to let market forces do the work via the emissions trading scheme.

For example, it said caution was needed for the Government's proposed \$4 billion NZ Battery project, which will see water pumped and stored so it can be used to generate renewable electricity during dry periods.

Currently, coal powered generation is fired up to meet demand when needed.

The OECD said the project could perversely incentivise electricity generators not to invest in other renewable energy projects, which could distort the carbon market.

However, as the OECD notes, and many observers agree, cuts outside of the ETS are needed to reduce the total amount of climate gases released, and to hit targets within the agreed timeframes.

The OECD said while the Government has improved the legal framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, it needed to actually start cutting emissions.

It cited work done in urban development, building codes, and progress on expanding public transport, walking and cycling.

The Government is set to release its substantial plan for cutting greenhouse gas emissions in May. — RNZ



Whanganui district moves to restricted fire season

WHANGANUI — If it's hot and windy, do not light a fire.

That is the directive from Fire and Emergency New Zealand as all of the Manawātū-Whanganui District moves to a restricted fire season from today.

A restricted fire season means anyone planning on lighting an open-air fire will need a permit and must follow the conditions of their permit. You can apply for a permit at checkitsalright.nz.

But Manawātū-Whanganui District Manager, Nigel Dravitzki says If it's hot and windy, do not light a fire, even with a permit.

"Fires could start and spread very easily if people aren't careful and don't follow our safety advice."

The Ruapehu District has been in a restricted season since 28 January 2022.

Dravitzki said the hot and dry summer had caused the pre-determined fire plan triggers for a restricted fire season to be met.

"The conditions are rapidly drying out, leading to a high fire risk. By moving to a restricted fire season we can help to reduce that risk," he says.

Everyone planning on lighting fires should check the weather conditions.

For more info on how to stay fire safe this fire season head to www.checkitsalright.nz.

— Whanganui Chronicle

Radio station goes off air after vandalism act

COROMANDEL — An act of vandalism at a Coromandel radio station has cut part of its transmission.

In a social media post, Coromandel's CFM said someone forcibly entered one of their radio sites yesterday.

"At 12:36 today someone forcibly entered one of our radio sites by cutting through a chain and cutting through cables taking part of our transmission off air. Apologies to Whangamata/

Onemana and Opoutere who were impacted by this act of vandalism," the post read.

"Your actions have cost your local radio station thousands of dollars by damaging special cables that are expensive to repair and replace. We are a community station that focuses on promoting community events and wonder what motivates people to do such things?"

The post said emergency services equipment at the site was also damaged.

"The emergency services teams use communications to help supporting people in need in the community.

"Police have been notified and please let me know where we can send the bill for our repairs," the post read.

If you know anything about this incident please contact hello@cfm.co.nz or call your local police station.

Police have been approached for comment. — Bay of Plenty Times



SHAMEFUL ACT: Cut wires at Coromandel's CFM. It said someone forcibly entered one of their radio sites yesterday. Picture supplied

West Coast braces for deluge amid ‘summer of extremes’

by Jamie Morton, NZ Herald

BULLER — A forecaster is predicting a “tale of two extremes” for New Zealand over coming months — with hot, dry weather interspersed with heavy deluges like one expected to hit the West Coast hard this week.

As Niwa issued its three-month seasonal outlook yesterday, MetService declared a “red warning” for heavy rain in Westland and Buller from today, with the potential for hundreds of millimetres to drop within just 48 hours.

The event could include downpours potentially bringing 40mm of rain per hour, along with thunderstorms.

“The West Coast is one of the wettest parts of New Zealand, but this system is far from a normal wet day on the coast,” MetService meteorologist Lewis Ferris said.

“Rain accumulations are forecast to approach 750mm about the ranges in a 42-hour period with 150 to 250mm near the coast.”

“Significant impacts such as flash flooding and landslips were expected,” he said.

“It has been unusually dry in these areas which may compound the impacts.”

Even though river levels were currently low, the intensity of rain to come would mean these quickly rose and extreme caution is advised.

Closer to the coast, the highest risk of flooding came when the tides were high — and delays on the road network were also expected.

“We have been working with West Coast Regional Council and Civil Defence to provide as much early warning of this impactful event as possible for locals and those who might be planning on travelling



FLASH FLOODING: The West Coast of the South Island was battered by severe weather in July last year. NZ Herald picture

to the region for the long weekend.”

MetService has also issued orange warnings for heavy rain in most neighbouring regions.

The current warnings were in place until tomorrow night but were likely to be extended and rain was forecast to make it across the North Island during the weekend.

Meanwhile, Niwa was forecasting warmer-than-average temperatures

everywhere except eastern areas — where there was an equal chance of average temperatures — between now and April.

These balmy conditions would help create days with high humidity and warm overnight temperatures, although fewer expected westerly winds in the east might bring fewer scorching hot days.

More stretches of hot, fine weather would not be so welcome in several regions

where soil conditions were extremely dry — particularly in areas in Northland and Waikato already experiencing meteorological drought.

But forecaster Ben Noll said brief bouts of heavy rain could also be expected over the next three months.

Along with this coming event, moderate-to-heavy rain may affect the North Island during the second week of the month, with another big downpour potentially coming in March.

Some of those deluges would be what are called atmospheric rivers — systems capable of funneling moisture from the tropics and sub-tropics hundreds of kilometres away from New Zealand.

It was these events that caused what was New Zealand’s costliest year for natural disaster insurance claims last year. The storm that hit the West Coast in July cost \$122m in claims alone.

“We will likely have these periods of potentially extreme weather interspersed with our status quo of high pressure and more tranquil conditions,” Noll said.

“These two things are obviously very contrasting in what they offer. One is ideal for holidaymaking and enjoying the outdoors, the other can have you worried about your property or even your safety.”

“So it’s a tale of two extremes, these next three months.”

Further in the background, a La Niña climate system that has been colouring our summer weather was expected to linger on into early autumn.

And warm coastal sea conditions that recently reached “marine heatwave” thresholds could keep driving more abnormal warmth on land across the country.

Church reveals scale of abuse

by Isaac Davison, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — As many as one in seven Catholic diocesan clergy in New Zealand have been accused of abuse, according to an investigation by the church.

But groups representing victims say that is likely to be a fraction of the actual abuse within the church, which often went unreported or unrecorded.

The Catholic Church reported on the scale of alleged abuse within its New Zealand parishes, schools and other institutions for the first time yesterday, after a request by the Royal Commission on Abuse in State Care.

During a two-year inquiry, the church received 1680 reports by 1122 individuals against Catholic clergy, brothers, nuns, sisters and lay people from 1950 to the present day — of which 592 were named.

Nearly half of the alleged abuse involved sexual harm. And the vast majority of the complaints involved children.

“These statistics on abuse in the Catholic Church going back to 1950 are horrifying and something we are deeply ashamed of,” said Cardinal John Dew, the most senior representative of the church in New Zealand.

“I am grateful that so much work has been done in researching the details and making them public.

“As we continue to respond to the Royal Commission into Abuse and we build a safer church for everyone, I firmly hope that facts like these will help us to face the sad reality.

“The church will learn from this and affirm its commitment to the work of safeguarding.”

The inquiry was led by Te Rōpū Tautoko, a group that coordinates the Catholic

Church’s engagement with the Royal Commission.

Te Rōpū Tautoko acknowledged that it was not an exhaustive record of abuse, because it only covered recorded reports.

It found that allegations of abuse had been made about 182, or 14 percent, of the 1274 Catholic diocesan clergy who had worked in New Zealand since 1950. Multiple allegations of abuse were made about many.

Network for Survivors of Abuse in Faith-Based Institutions spokesman Murray Heasley said the church’s findings likely reflected a “tiny fraction” of overall abuse within the church.

“The majority of survivors did not go back to report their abuse within the institution. Nor did the institutions keep records.”

The higher rate of alleged abuse among clergy was probably the result of a major police investigation into Marylands School in Christchurch in the early 2000s, he said. Heasley said that if further, well-

resourced police investigations were carried out into other Catholic institutions, the scale of abuse across all parts of the church would be higher.

He also said the church did not appear to be showing any urgency in response to the damning findings.

“The church has come up with these stats, where’s the action?”

“We have to be reminded that we are talking about real human beings here. Behind these cold figures is horrific abuse and pain, of survivors that are living now, and carrying trauma from day to day as we speak.”

Of the 2286 brothers and priests belonging to the church, 187 (8 percent) had reports of abuse against them. And 3



INVESTIGATION: Cardinal John Dew says the Catholic Church should be “deeply ashamed” of the statistics on abuse. NZ Herald file picture

percent of the 4247 female congregational members were accused of abuse. Another 138 allegations were made against lay people within the church.

Half of the complaints related to sexual abuse against children. They most commonly occurred in school and residential care facilities, but also in parishes.

Victims did not always name their abusers. But in some cases, multiple allegations were made against individuals. Six alleged abusers had 15 or more complaints made against them.

“Each piece of data represents many

people’s lives,” said Sister Margaret Anne Mills, president of the Congregational Leaders Conference of Aotearoa New Zealand.

“Much of it represents terrible harm committed by one person on another. We can never forget that.

“Being involved in a part of healing that harm, as much as is possible is, and needs to continue to be, our focus.

“All church leaders need to urgently understand and acknowledge our shared history, understand and acknowledge the shocking impact of abuse in church settings on victims and their families, understand what it means for survivors and our faith communities and act today.”

Te Rōpū Tautoko chairwoman Catherine Fyfe said the extent of reports of abuse within the Catholic Church had not been collated until now.

“The Information Gathering Project was a major exercise involving dozens of people over two years, including searching paper files dating back 70 years in hundreds of places.”

The publication of the inquiry comes ahead of Royal Commission hearings on Catholic Marylands School and Hebron Trust in Christchurch. In all, 236 reports of abuse related to the two institutions, and another 239 reports relate to St Joseph’s Orphanage and Nazareth House, where brothers of Marylands and Hebron Trust were involved.

In previous commission hearings, victims accused the Catholic Church of covering up and minimising sexual abuse.

Witnesses spoke of how the church investigated itself after an allegation, usually with little separation between the investigator and the abuser.

It often minimised the abuse, in its actions and language. Survivors were not told to go to police. And abusers were rarely punished.

Survivors were usually offered money — with the caveat that it was an ex-gratia payment and not compensation for abuse.

WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY'S TELEVISION GUIDE

TVNZ 1 © TVNZ 2022

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

6pm 1 News At 6pm

7pm Seven Sharp

7.30 NEW Beat The Chasers Five quiz masters compete as a team against contestants hoping to win cash prizes.

8.20 Lotto

8.25 Beat The Chasers Continued.

8.30 Under The Vines The Oakley gang begin preparations for the Behind the Vines Showcase, while Louis attempts to repair his marriage.

9.30 Coronation Street

10.30 1 News Tonight

11pm Shortland Street Samira blurs the lines; Nicole loosens the reins; Tom leans in to support.

11.30 My Life Is Murder A podcast blames Kieran for not solving a murder and Alexa investigates the death of a man found with a strange branding on his forehead.

THURSDAY

12.25 Life Follow the lives of the residents of a block of Manchester flats.

1.30 Te Karere

2am Infomercials

5.30 Te Karere

6am Breakfast

9am The Ellen DeGeneres Show

10am Winning Combination

11am The Chase

Noon 1 News At Midday

12.30 Emmerdale Chas disowns Cain; Ryan ignores a phone call; Mackenzie is jealous.

BRAVO

5.45 Shark Tank

6.35 Million Dollar Listing New York

7.30 Tattoo Fixers

8.30 Emma Willis: Delivering Babies In 2020

9.30 Embarrassing Bodies

10.30 Snapped

11.25 Exhumed

THURSDAY

12.15 Infomercials

6am Infomercials

10am Hoarders

10.50 Face Off

11.40 Million Dollar Listing New York

12.30 Shark Tank

1.20 Celebrity Ghost Stories

2.10 The Real Housewives Of New York City

3.05 Hoarders

4pm Face Off

4.55 Celebrity Ghost Stories

5.45 Shark Tank

TVNZ 2 © TVNZ 2022

5.35 Superstore

6pm The Big Bang Theory

6.30 Friends

7pm Shortland Street Samira blurs the lines; Nicole loosens the reins; Tom leans in to support.

7.30 Australian Survivor: Brains v Brawn

8.35 MOVIE The Hangover Part II 16LSC 2011 Comedy. Phil, Alan, and Doug travel to Thailand for Stu's wedding. Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms.

10.35 Taskmaster NZ 16

11.35 Mom

THURSDAY

12.30 Motherland: Fort Salem 16V

1.15 Emmerdale

1.40 Infomercials

2.35 2 Tunes

3am Australian Survivor: Brains v Brawn

3.50 The Middle

4.35 Neighbours

5am Infomercials

6am Les Mills Born To Move

6.25 Hey Duggee

6.40 Paw Patrol

7.05 Miss Moon

7.30 Lego City Adventures

7.55 Unikitty!

8.15 Kangaroo Beach

8.25 JoJo And Gran Gran

8.40 Thomas And Friends

8.50 Chuggington: Tales From The Rails

9am Infomercials

9.30 Les Mills Body Attack

9.55 Mike And Molly

10.25 Shortland Street

10.55 The Middle

11.20 Charmed

12.10 Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist

1.10 The Drew Barrymore Show

2.10 The Mindy Project

3.10 Bob Hearts Abishola

3.35 Bluey

3.40 Mystic

4.10 Almost Never

4.40 The Simpsons

5.30 Superstore

CHOICE

5pm Mysteries At The Museum

6pm American Restoration

6.30 Forged In Fire

7.30 Jade Fever

8.30 Robson Green's Grand Slam

9.30 The Misadventures Of Romesh Raganathan

10.30 Forged In Fire

11.30 Mysteries At The Museum

THURSDAY

12.30 Hairy Bikers Route 66

1.30 American Restoration

2am James Martin's Islands To Highlands

3am Escape To The Chateau: DIY

4am Robson Green's Grand Slam

5am Mysteries At The Museum

6am James Martin's Islands To Highlands

7am Hairy Bikers Route 66

8am Escape To The Chateau: DIY

9am BBQ Pitt Masters

10am Mysteries At The Museum

11am Forged In Fire

Noon Jade Fever

1pm Robson Green's Grand Slam

2pm The Misadventures Of Romesh Raganathan

3pm Escape To The Chateau: DIY

4pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends

5pm Mysteries At The Museum

THREE

5pm Gold Rush

6pm Newshub Live At 6pm

7pm The Project

7.30 The Block Australia It is the last reveal on The Block 2021 before auction day. The winner of the front garden and facade is announced.

9pm Celebrity IOU: Joyride Danny Trejo has a surprise for his good friend Mario. Ant and Cristy assist him in the rehabilitation of a 1958 Chevrolet Impala.

10pm Newshub Late

10.30 Hawaii Five-0 (Starting Today)

11.25 How Do Animals Do That

THURSDAY

12am Infomercials

6am Yard Crashers

6.30 How Do Animals Do That

7am Cupcake Wars

8am American Ninja Warrior

9am Infomercials

10.30 Bondi Vet

11am Bondi Vet

11.30 How Do Animals Do That

Noon House Hunters International

12.30 House Hunters International

1.05 MOVIE The Charm Of Love 2020 Romance. Maddie, an art historian, travels around the world to find the Lovers Stone. She meets Fitz and her search may lead to true love. Katrina Norman, Tilly Jones, Ida Nerina.

3pm Cutthroat Kitchen

4pm Yard Crashers

4.30 Newshub Live At 4:30pm

5pm Gold Rush

PRIME

5pm 3rd Rock From The Sun When Mary gets a grant to make a documentary about the Solomons, they have to come up with elaborate cover stories.

5.30 Prime News

6pm Storage Wars

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

7.30 Traffic Cops

8.30 Ambulance

9.45 FINAL Strike Back 18VLC Section 20 faces the ultimate dilemma as they try to prevent Pavel and his team of Russian turncoats from initiating Armageddon.

10.50 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert

11.50 The Crowd Goes Wild

THURSDAY

12.20 Closedown

12.30 Infomercials

8am Blue's Clues

8.25 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

8.50 Hunter Street

9.15 Justice League Unlimited

9.40 Wheel Of Fortune

10.05 The Office

11am Whose Line Is It Anyway?

12.30 MasterChef USA

1.30 Parks And Recreation

2pm The Late Show With Stephen Colbert

3pm Wheel Of Fortune

4pm American Pickers

5pm 3rd Rock From The Sun

5.30 Prime News

MAORI TV

5pm Pukana

5.30 Taikura Kapa Haka Festival

6pm Tamararo

6.30 Te Ao Marama

7pm Waiaata Nation

7.30 5 Minutes Of Fame Aspiring singing stars go head-to-head before judges Pere Wihongi and Bella Kalolo for their shot at fame.

8.30 My Year With Helen

10.20 Sidewalk Karaoke

10.50 Te Ao Marama

11.20 Closedown

THURSDAY

6.30 Pipi Ma

6.35 Waiaata Mai

6.45 Takaro Tribe

7am Taki Atu Taki Mai

7.10 Te Nutube

7.20 Kia Mau

7.30 Potae Pai

7.40 Smooth

7.50 He Rourou

8am Polyfest

9am Oranga Ngakau

9.30 Whanau Bake-Off

10am Easy Eats

10.30 Toi Te Ora

11am Sidewalk Karaoke

11.30 The Negotiators

Noon Te Ao Tapatahi

12.30 He Aha To Say?

1pm Uka

1.30 Toku Reo

2.30 Ako

3.30 Pipi Ma

3.35 Waiaata Mai

3.45 Takaro Tribe

4pm Taki Atu Taki Mai

4.10 Te Nutube

4.20 Kia Mau

4.30 Potae Pai

4.40 Smooth

4.50 He Rourou

5pm Polyfest

5.30 Taikura Kapa Haka Festival



Under the Vines
8.30pm on TVNZ 1



The Hangover Part II
8.35pm on TVNZ 2



The Block Australia
7.30pm on Three

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

Noon Midday Report With Mani Dunlop.

1.06 Afternoons With Jesse Mulligan.

3.45 The Panel With Wallace Chapman.

5pm Checkpoint With Lisa Owen.

SKY SPORT 1

6pm Football: Women's A-League Review Show (HLS)

7pm Tennis: Australian Open (RPL) Men's Doubles Final. From Melbourne Park.

9pm Tennis: Australian Open (RPL) Women's Singles Final. From Melbourne Park.

THURSDAY

12am Football: Women's A-League (RPL) Perth Glory v Wellington Phoenix.

2am Cricket: West Indies v England (HLS) Fifth T20. From Kensington Oval, Barbados.

2.25 LIVE Currie Cup Griquas v Pumas.

4.40 LIVE Currie Cup Blue Bulls v Cheetahs.

6.55 LIVE Currie Cup Sharks v Western Province.

9am Tennis: Australian Open (HLS)

9.30 Sevens World Series (HLS) Day Three.

11am Road To Beijing

11.15 Road To Beijing

11.30 Currie Cup (RPL) Griquas v Pumas.

1.30 Currie Cup (RPL) Blue Bulls v Cheetahs.

3.30 LIVE Cricket: Women's Ashes First ODI.

SKY 5

5pm Storage Wars

5.30 Pawn Stars

6pm Ice Road Truckers

7pm The Force Real-life Australian police drama.

7.30 The Mentalist

8.30 FBI

9.30 Lethal Weapon 16VLS

10.30 Person Of Interest

11.30 Mountain Men

THURSDAY

12.30 Wheel Of Fortune

1am Jeopardy!

1.25 The Force

1.50 Lethal Weapon 16VLS

2.35 FBI

3.30 Ice Road Truckers

4.20 Person Of Interest

5.10 The Mentalist

6am Jeopardy!

6.25 Wheel Of Fortune

6.45 Pawn Stars

7.10 Storage Wars

7.35 Mountain Men

8.25 The Force

8.50 Ice Road Truckers

9.40 The Mentalist

10.30 Person Of Interest

11.30 Pawn Stars

Noon Jeopardy!

12.25 Wheel Of Fortune

12.50 FBI

1.40 Lethal Weapon 16VLS

2.30 The Mentalist

3.20 Mountain Men

4.10 Jeopardy!

4.35 Wheel Of Fortune

5pm Storage Wars

5.30 Pawn Stars

PAY TV

5.25 Ordinary Love 2019 Drama. Lesley Manville, Liam Neeson.

6.55 The Devil Has A Name 16VLS 2021 Drama. Kate Bosworth, David Strathairn.

8.30 Barb And Star Go To Vista Del Mar 2020 Comedy. Lifelong friends embark on the adventure of a lifetime when they decide to leave their small Midwestern town for the first time ever. Kristen Wiig, Annie Mumolo.

10.20 Dreamland 16VLS 2020 Drama. Margot Robbie, Finn Cole.

THURSDAY

12am Promising Young Woman 16VLS 2020 Thriller. Carey Mulligan, Bo Burnham.

1.50 Outback 2020 Thriller.

3.15 Christmas Movie Magic PG 2021 Comedy.

4.40 Bill And Ted Face The Music PGVL 2020 Comedy.

6.10 A Perfect Match PG 2021 Romantic Comedy.

7.35 Rams PGVL 2020 Drama.

9.35 Dreamland 16VLS 2020 Drama.

11.15 The Courier 2020 Thriller.

1.05 The Nest 16L 2020 Drama.

2.55 Human Capital 2020 Drama.

4.30 F9: The Fast Saga 2021 Action.

DISCOVERY

5.40 Fast N' Loud MLC NHRA and a '55 Pink Caddy: Part Two.

6.35 Homestead Rescue: Raney Ranch PG Twist of Fate.

7.30 Homestead Rescue: Raney Ranch PG

8.30 Building Off The Grid PG

9.30 Barnwood Builders PG

10.30 Aussie Lobster Men PG

11.25 Naked And Afraid MLC

THURSDAY

12.15 Building Off The Grid PG

1.05 How The Universe Works PG

1.55 Deadliest Catch PG

2.45 Naked And Afraid MLC

3.35 Yukon Men MLC

4.25 Bering Sea Gold PG

5.15 Outback Opal Hunters PG

6.05 How Do They Do It? PG

6.30 Pool Kings PG

6.55 You Have Been Warned PG

7.45 Building Off The Grid PG

8.35 Top Gear Special: Best Of British PG

9.25 Fast N' Loud PG

10.20 Homestead Rescue: Raney Ranch PG

11.15 Building Off The Grid PG

12.10 How Do They Do It? PG

12.35 Pool Kings PG

1.05 How The Universe Works PG

2pm Naked And Afraid MLC

2.55 Outback Opal Hunters PG

3.50 Deadliest Catch MLC

4.45 Bering Sea Gold MLC

5.40 Fast N' Loud MLC

KEY Closed captions; Repeat; (HLS) Highlights; (RPL) Replay; (DLY) Delayed; 16 Approved for persons 16 years or over; 18 Approved for persons 18 years or over; C Content may offend; L Language may offend; M Suitable for mature audiences; PG Parental guidance recommended for younger viewers; S Sexual content may offend; V Contains violence.

NOTICE BOARD

Entertainment

ODEON 5

Phone 867 3339

BELFAST (M)
THU 11am, 1.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm
CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG (PG) THU 10.30am
GHOSTBUSTERS: AFTERLIFE (PG)
WED 3.10pm
GOLD (R13)
WED 6.30pm
JACKASS FOREVER (R13)
THU 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm
KING RICHARD (M)
WED 5.35pm
THU 3.10pm
LICORICE PIZZA (M)
WED 1pm, 3.45pm, 8.35pm
THU 3.20pm, 8.30pm
MOONFALL (M)
THU 11am, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm
NIGHTMARE ALLEY (R13) WED 8.15pm
SCREAM (R16)
WED 8.40pm
SING 2 (PG)
WED 12.35pm, 3pm
THU 10.30am, 12.50pm, 3.30pm
SPENCER (M) WED 12.35pm, 5.45pm
THU 12.45pm, 6pm
SPIDER-MAN: NO WAY HOME (M)
WED 3pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm, THU 12.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm
THE 355 (M) WED 3pm
THE ADDAMS FAMILY 2: ROAD TRIP (PG)
THU 10.40am
THE EYES OF TAMMY FAYE (M) WED 6pm
THE KING'S MAN (R16)
WED 8.30pm
BOOK ONLINE NOW!
WWW.ODEONGISBORNE.CO.NZ
Times may vary subject to late change

Meetings

AOHUNA 5 NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a General Meeting for all owners and beneficiaries of Aohuna 5 Te Ahuwhenua Trust will be held on **Sunday 27 February 2022 at 12noon.**

A Zoom link will be provided prior to the meeting date.

- A G E N D A**
1. Karakia / Mihi
 2. Nomination of Replacement Trustees
 3. Election of Trustees
 4. Purpose / use of Aohuna 5 block
 5. General Business
 6. Karakia Whakamutunga

Public Notices



OUT OF SCHOOL MUSIC TUITION

Enrolments are invited for music tuition for years 4, 5 and 6 in 2022 for:

Violin, Cello, Flute, Clarinet, Guitar, Trumpet.

Like us on the Out of School Music Gisborne facebook page for information and photos.

Forms and further information from Gisborne Intermediate School
156 Roebuck Road
Ph 867 2246

Work Wanted

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

GATE Automation, existing and new, 20 years experience, free quotes. Call Wolf on 021 660 688 to discuss your project.

HOUSE plans drawn, alterations, extensions. Ph 0273 618 863.

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

LOST & FOUND

Lost

MISSING, grey Burmese cat from Hexton area 1 week ago, microchipped. Please check possum traps or sheds. Ph 027 6671 072.

Public Notices



HSOG NETBALL

Trials to be held Tuesday 8th February and Thursday 10th February, 4.30pm at HSOB Sports Club, Anzac St

Gisborne District Council

Public Notice

Creative Communities Funding Scheme

APPLICATIONS OPEN

Applications for financial assistance from the Creative Communities Funding Scheme are now being called for.

To be successful, applications must show the proposed project meets **one or more** of the following criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** – the project creates opportunities for many people to participate in arts activities
- **Diversity** – the project supports diverse arts and culture while promoting their uniqueness
- **Young people** – the project encourages young people (under 18) to engage and actively participate in the arts

Guidelines and application forms are available on our website.

Applications close **5pm Monday 28 February 2022**. For more information, contact funding@gdc.govt.nz

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



Work Wanted

SECTION/paddock clearing? I have machine to handle long grass, scrub, gorse and similar vegetation up to 20mm thick. Ph 027 4555 964 www.avantstcontracting.com

Situations Vacant

FENCER required. Position available for someone keen to learn to fence. Must be physically fit and able. Ph Haydon 021 223 4411.

GENERAL hand/-Fencer wanted for large sheep & cattle station 35 minutes from town. Bulldozer & post driver, class 4 truck & fencing experience necessary. Flexible working hours if need be. Ph 027 3734 477.

PHONE OPERATOR

Seeking inbound phone operator for busy Gisborne transport company. Successful applicant will need to possess sound keyboard input and people skills. Some shift-work required. Must enjoy busy working environment. Training provided.

Contact (06) 867 2222 or email contact details to gisbornetaxi@xtra.co.nz

HOME & LEISURE

Firewood

GUM, 23m \$230, 43m \$440. Pine 43m \$280. Mac's Firewood. Ph 862 8876.

Situations Vacant



Enterprise Cars workshop has a vacancy for a WOF Inspector to join our team. This is a fulltime position carrying out WOF checks on our new/used vehicles as well as our customer vehicles.

Contact the service manager by phone or email.



Justin Kent, 021 216 6700
Justin.Kent@enterprisemg.co.nz

Situations Vacant

Te Kura Tuarua o Turanga Wahine Gisborne Girls' High School

TEACHER AIDE

We are seeking expressions of interest for a fixed term teacher aide position, 29 hours per week in our Learning Support Unit. The successful applicant will be versatile and able to work in a team situation with Special Needs Students, in a busy unit as well as in the mainstream. This fixed term position is funding dependent upon students' enrolments.

Applications close 3pm, Monday 7 February 2022. 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

Situations Vacant

OFFICE MANAGER/RECEPTIONIST

Gisborne Denture Clinic is looking for a key team member to manage the Reception and Administration of their practice. Experience within a Dental or Denture clinic would be ideal but not necessary, however, experience with Office Administration and computer systems is required.

Tasks will consist of management of appointments, phone calls, replying to emails professionally and efficiently, communication and advertising on all social media platforms. You must also be willing to assist with following strict Covid 19 protocols set out by the NZ Dental Council including patient screening, sterilizing and cleaning of the clinic as required.

The successful applicant must be fully vaccinated for Covid-19 as per the healthcare mandate.

The position is Fulltime based on 36 hours a week. Please apply to gisdent@xtra.co.nz before Friday 4 February 2022.

Firewood

QUALITY Firewood www.thefirewoodguy.nz

Wanted to Buy


WANTED – Hay loader for conventional bales. Ph 027 7520 759.

DRINK drive/criminal lawyer. Strong defence. Ph/text 022 048 9086.

For Sale

MOBILITY scooter, Invacare Auriga, tidy, batteries 12mth old, \$1950 ono. Ph. 867 2202.

Situations Vacant



TE WHARAU SCHOOL
Graham Road
Gisborne

OFFICE SECRETARY
8.30am to 3.30pm - 30 hours per week

We seek a person with exceptional communication and people skills, who is fast and efficient, but above all has a friendly demeanour and is organised.

Applicants must be able to multi-task and cope with interruptions as well as being team players who enjoy working with children.

This is a position where no two days are the same, it is a fast-paced, challenging environment that will offer variety. Training will be provided.

We will be looking for someone to start asap. Application is by cover letter and CV.

Further information Phone Mark Harris on 868 9819 or Email principal@tewharau.school.nz

Fruit and Produce

TEESDALE ORCHARD

IS now open. Nectarines, peaches, plums, apples, tomatoes, sweetcorn, squash pumpkins, and much more. Back Ormond Rd. Open 7 days. Eftpos available.

Situations Vacant

MECHANIC REQUIRED

We have a vacancy for a qualified Mechanic able to work on an extensive, varied plant list at Martins Hiremaster, Gisborne. Must have full driver's license up to Class Two.

Contact Grant at the branch for more details.
Ph 027 210 4737

PROPERTY

To Let or Lease

2BDRM house, 18km from town, very tidy, \$300/wk + 3 wks bond. Credit check & refs required. Ph 06 862 7762.

SHARE half house, private, close town, suit single, quiet person, \$265pw. Ph 0274 928 653.

Wanted to Rent

PENSIONER looking for single flat/sleepout asap. Will pay good bond & rent in advance. Ph Lionel 022 6714190.

Hire

HYDRALADA'S for hire, \$65/day. Ph 0274 485 188.

Gisborne District Council

Public Notice

Proposed Road Stopping

BRIGHT STREET PAPER ROAD

Gisborne District Council proposes to stop the unformed road at the Waikanae Stream end of Bright Street being an area of 967 square meters.


The intention is for the land to become recreation reserve and to be added to Alfred Cox Park. A plan defining the land and details of the proposal is available at Customer Services or Council's website.

Any submission or objection to the stopping must be received by Thursday 10th March 2022.

This notice is given under Section 342 of the Local Government Act 1974.

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



Cars Wanted

WANTED:

UTES AND SUVs

CASH PAID

Phone Tyler, Enterprise
027 728 2472

Situations Vacant



ACCOUNTANCY OPPORTUNITY
GRAHAM & DOBSON LIMITED

Graham & Dobson, Chartered Accountants, are currently seeking an experienced accountant. Applicants should have 5+ years of accounting experience, CA or ACA qualifications or studying towards such qualifications. For further details refer to Seek adv Job ID 55695015. If this sounds like the job for you, please apply for an application pack to tricia@grahamdobson.co.nz

NO DEPOSIT

*PAYMENTS TO SUIT YOU

WWW.ENTERPRISEGISBORNE.CO.NZ



HONDA ODYSSEY ABSOLUTE

2.4 litre, 7 seats, alloys



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

4 AVAILABLE FROM **\$8766** + ORC

2012 MAZDA DEMIO

Auto, alloys, economy plus



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

REDUCED **\$9873** + ORC

MAZDA 3 SPORT HATCH

5 speed manual, NZ new



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

REDUCED **\$7882**

2009 LEXUS IS350

Auto, climate control, performance plus



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

\$11,990 + ORC

2019 NISSAN NV350

Petrol, auto, 6 seater



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

REDUCED **\$32,185**

2016 FORD RANGER

Double cab, 6 speed manual, canopy, roof racks



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

REDUCED **\$34,990**

ENTERPRISE MOTOR GROUP OUTLET CENTRE

PH 06 868 4581 OPEN 7 DAYS



Aaron Williamson 022 625 5779



Denver Chetty 027 288 3886



Trevor Braybrook 027 475 8747

OUTLET CENTRE

ROEBUCK RD

KEVIN HOLLIS

GLADSTONE ROAD

40952-03

*The total amount payable can be calculated by multiplying the payment shown by 312. The interest rate for the term is fixed. All contracts subject to Finance company approval. No repayments for the first 6 months. Interest runs from the commencement date and capitalised monthly through the repayment period. This offer does not apply to any other Specials/Sales promotions. Four year warranty available with purchase and does not apply to taxis, couriers or rentals. A \$100 excess for petrol and \$300 for diesel vehicles. Payments based on no deposit and include a 4 year warranty petrol \$1795 diesel \$2295 over 72 months and include a \$375 establishment fee ORC (on road costs) \$495 includes plates, 6 months registration, service, WOF and groom. This offer expires 5pm 16/07/2021.



Unlimited KMS & Claims

CLEARANCE SALE ON NOW

www.enterprisegisborne.co.nz



7 Days



2011 HOLDEN BARINA SPARK
1.2 litre manual, leather interior, economical, great value hatch
~~WAS \$9990~~
NOW \$7941



2010 TOYOTA RAV 4
2.4 litre, auto, 4WD, very popular SUV, great for the coast
~~WAS \$18,990~~
NOW \$8938



2016 FORD RANGER XLT
As traded 3.2 litre, 4WD, Bluetooth, reverse camera, canopy, deck drawer, great value
~~WAS \$39,990~~
NOW \$36,517



2014 TOYOTA COROLLA
1.8 litre, manual, NZ new, economical hatch, great colour
~~WAS \$14,990~~
NOW \$12,485



2016 TOYOTA CAMRY
2.5 litre, auto, late model sedan, Bluetooth stereo, alloys
~~WAS \$13,990~~
NOW \$11,930



2017 NISSAN X-TRAIL
2.5 litre, auto, 7 seater, reverse camera, Bluetooth stereo, alloys, sharp SUV
~~WAS \$18,990~~
NOW \$17,526



2017 SUBARU FORESTER
2.5 litre, 4WD, auto, NZ new, Bluetooth stereo, alloys, great looking SUV
~~WAS \$21,990~~
NOW \$18,417



2016 HOLDEN CAPTIVA
2.4 litre, auto, petrol, 7 seater, low 73,000kms
~~WAS \$20,990~~
NOW \$17,794



2016 SUZUKI SWIFT
1.3 litre, auto, very economical, late model, great value
~~WAS \$12,990~~
NOW \$11,576^{+ ORC}



2010 NISSAN X-TRAIL
2 litre, auto, 4WD, economical, full vinyl trim
~~WAS \$12,990~~
NOW \$11,835^{+ ORC}

***YOU CAN USE YOUR DISCOUNT FOR YOUR DEPOSIT**



2017 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER
2 litre, auto, 7 seater
~~WAS \$24,990~~
NOW \$22,760



2011 MAZDA AXELA
1.5 litre, auto, economical, sporty looking hatch
~~WAS \$12,990~~
NOW \$12,145^{+ ORC}



2014 MAZDA ATENZA
2.5 litre, auto, sportswagon, full leather interior, Bluetooth stereo, alloys
~~WAS \$18,990~~
NOW \$17,648^{+ ORC}



2017 NISSAN PATHFINDER
3.5 litre, 4WD, auto, 7 seater, full leather interior, Bluetooth, alloys, tints, towbar
~~WAS \$33,990~~
NOW \$31,358



2016 MAZDA CX-9
2.5 litre, auto, 7 seater, full leather interior, Bluetooth stereo, reverse camera
~~WAS \$35,990~~
NOW \$33,438



2011 SUBARU FORESTER
2 litre, auto, AWD, economical, roomy SUV
~~WAS \$13,990~~
NOW \$12,643^{+ ORC}



2017 MAZDA BT-50
3.2 litre, turbo diesel, manual, towbar, deckliner, grunty ute
~~WAS \$35,990~~
NOW \$33,131



2019 NISSAN NV350
2 litre auto, economical, late model, great trade van
~~WAS \$33,990~~
NOW \$31,565^{+ ORC}



2011 MAZDA MPV
2.3 litre, auto, 8 seater, ample room, great value
~~WAS \$12,990~~
NOW \$10,769



ENTERPRISE MOTOR GROUP

www.enterprisegisborne.co.nz
Ph 06 867 8368

KFC

Enterprise Motor Group

GLADSTONE ROAD



Mike Rite
027 252 8229



Tyler Prosser
027 728 2472



Tom Dymock TJ
027 395 6611



Trevor Braybrook
027 475 8747



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Sierra Sue ready to rock in Orr Stakes



SUCCESS: Sierra Sue winning the Gr.1 Sir Rupert Clarke Stakes (1400m). Picture supplied

MELBOURNE — Trainers Trent Busuttin and Natalie Young believe Group One winner Sierra Sue is firing on all cylinders ahead of her first-up assignment at Caulfield on February 12, the Gr.1 CF Orr Stakes (1400m).

The New Zealand-bred mare pleased her conditioners with her jumpout win over 1000m at Cranbourne yesterday, beating compatriot and fellow Group One winner I'm Thunderstruck.

"She had a bit of a blow this morning, but John Allen (jockey) gave her a nice test out to the line and she responded really well," Young told SENTrack.

"That was her second (jumpout). She had another one a fortnight ago over 800m where she coasted to the line nicely.

"Today she had that better hit-out heading into next Saturday in the Orr Stakes."

The daughter of Darci Brahma had a lucrative preparation last spring, winning the Mildura Cup (1400m), Gr.2 PB Lawrence Stakes (1400m), and Gr.1 Sir Rupert Clarke Stakes (1400m).

"She had a great preparation last time," Young said. "Coming off a Mildura Cup win and before then the fourth at Flemington she was almost going to go to the paddock."

"It was great to turn her form around and she spelled really well. She has come back probably bigger and stronger than ever."

"We are hoping for another really good preparation with her."

Young said they plan to have Sierra Sue at peak fitness ahead of

next Saturday where they hope she can add to her Group One haul.

"We are just going to try to have her a little more cranked up going into that first Group One," she said.

"Usually it is a lead-up for a lot of other horses where we want to make sure that she is ready to roll first-up."

"She did have a pretty good blow, so we will still have to give her two or three good gallops ahead of next Saturday just to get her right back on her toes."

A trial winner in New Zealand for trainer Peter Lock, Sierra Sue was purchased privately by a prominent group of Australian owners, headed by developer, hotelier and horse racing identity Aziz "Ozzie" Kheir through bloodstock agent Phill Cataldo.

— NZ Racing Desk

Winton harness at Central Southland Thursday Jetbet 7 TAB Doubles 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 Trebles 2-3-4, 6-7-8 Quaddies 1-2-3-4, 5-6-7-8 Place6 3-8

Selections
 Race 1: MIXED FAITH, MYSHOUT, JACCKA JAKE
 Race 2: MATAI CHARLOTTE, SHERWOOD MAGGIE, TASHS BAD GIRL
 Race 3: GLORAFILIA, SWEET AND SOUR, THE Jafa EXPRESS
 Race 4: BOOTIES DELIGHT, FIREFOREFIDDLE, COOL IDEA
 Race 5: MISS BAMBOOCHA, AFTERBURNER, FAST WHISPERING
 Race 6: PLAY PHILLY, FEELTHEJOY, FERNLEIGH BLACKBIRD
 Race 7: SWEET ANNIE, ARNIES ARMY, TAILRAW TOLL
 Race 8: TERROR MARIA, YANKEE PARTY, CHEEZEL

1 Marshall Industries Trot 2.07
 \$9000, non-winners 3yo+ stand, 2400m
 1 90570 Action Packed (Fr) 1 K Franks
 2 5 Jaccka Jake (Fr) 2 B Barclay
 3 46406 Cheeky Monkey (Fr) 3 S Tomlinson
 4 76300 Son Of Majestic (Fr) 4 B McLellan
 5 656s3 Myshout (Fr) 5 M Williamson
 6 028D Mixed Faith (Fr) 6 B Williamson
 7 0P0 Joedium (Fr) U1 M Hurrell (J)
 8 07495 Kyle Loch (Fr) U2 A Kyle

2 Carpet Plus Willy's Flooring 2.42
 \$8000, non-winners 4yo+ mr40 to mr44, mobile, 1609m
 1 64000 Heritage (Fr) 1 A Kyle
 2 65677 Tashs Bad Girl (Fr) 2 M Hurrell (J)
 3 39s23 Sherwood Maggie (Fr) 3 S O'Reilly (J)
 4 8s584 Phil's Last Chance (Fr) 4 M Hurrell (J)
 5 7s800 Emma's Girl (Fr) 5 S Otley
 6 709s2 Matai Charlotte (Fr) 6 R McIlwrick
 7 s0520 Hunting Weight (Fr) 7 B Barclay
 8 s87Ps Oneloveonlife (Fr) 8 K Larsen
 9 s0058 Art Profile (Fr) 21 M Williamson
 10 79495 Donald Trot (Fr) 22 N Williamson

3 Forklifts NZ Pace 3.09
 \$9000, non-winners 4yo+ mr45 to mr50, mobile, 1609m
 1 2523 Glorafilia (Fr) 1 N Williamson
 2 785 You Said It (Fr) 2 B Orange
 3 P7 Call Me Sir (Fr) 3 M Williamson
 4 7 Hes Santas Excuse (Fr) 4 G Lee
 5 — Zarnia SCRATCHED
 6 403 Sweet And Sour (Fr) 5 B Williamson
 7 58330 The Jafa Express (Fr) 6 S Tomlinson

4 Winton Night 'N Day Pace 3.44
 \$8000, r39-r45,r47-r49 w/c. mobile, 2400m
 1 32416 Booties Delight (Fr) 1 S Tomlinson
 2 s8996 Bettors Atom (Fr) 2 C Ferguson
 3 76448 Fireforefiddle (Fr) 3 M Williamson
 4 835s9 Lock It In Eddie (Fr) 4 N Williamson
 5 20790 So Art I (Fr) 5 S Otley
 6 43430 Cool Idea (Fr) 6 M Hurrell (J)
 7 35266 I'm Watching You (Fr) 7 S O'Reilly (J)
 8 Os755 Zach Lowe (Fr) 8 B Orange
 9 58957 Jaffie J (Fr) 21 S O'Reilly (J)
 10 12809 The Cobbler (Fr) 22 B Orange
 11 55135 Atarah (Fr) 23 E Barron (J)
 12 58065 Tangier Tango (Fr) 24 J Morrison
 13 4s710 Swedish Starlet (Fr) 25 B Barclay
 14 80007 Kagee VC (Fr) 26

5 Winton Cup Day 9th April 4.14
 \$9000, r42-r55. mobile, 2400m
 1 04055 Miss Bamboocha (Fr) 1 S O'Reilly (J)
 2 33644 Fast Whispering (Fr) 2

3 37330 Sage Trouble (Fr) 3 M Hurrell (J)
 4 35089 Port Pegasus (Fr) 4 B Orange
 5 6415 Charlie P (Fr) 5
 6 s9767 King Of The North (Fr) 6
 7 12056 Break Out (Fr) 7 S Tomlinson
 8 s970 Jasmine Jaccka (Fr) 8 E Barron (J)
 9 87820 Afterburner (Fr) 21 B Barclay
 10 1P000 Top Pocket Chance (Fr) 22 R Close
 11 81085 Winning Chance (Fr) 23
 12 2198s Sunday Invasion (Fr) 24 B Williamson

6 Nevele R Stud Oaks Heat 4.43
 \$15,000, 3yo fillies r60. mobile, 1609m
 1 122 Feelthejoy (Fr) 1 E Barron (J)
 2 143 Fernleigh Blackbird (Fr) 2 S Otley
 3 s5107 Joyfuldolly (Fr) 3 B Barclay
 4 09721 Snow Robyn (Fr) 4 N Williamson
 5 s5534 Suntan (Fr) 5 B Orange
 6 1s316 Nutcracker (Fr) 6 C Ferguson
 7 s6141 Play Philly (Fr) 7 R Close

7 Fairbairn Plumbing Pace 5.08
 \$9000, r46-r54. mobile, 2400m
 1 65784 Changearound (Fr) 1 S O'Reilly (J)

2 52076 Melton Mafia (Fr) 2 B Barclay
 3 s1155 Sweet Annie (Fr) 3 C Ferguson
 4 78080 Dangerous (Fr) 4 S Otley
 5 32525 Arnies Army (Fr) 5 M Hurrell (J)
 6 36832 Tailraw Toll (Fr) 6 M Williamson
 7 78283 Proviseur (Fr) 7 B Orange
 8 17951 Emerald Abbey (Fr) 8 P Hunter
 9 s0334 Bettastar (Fr) 21 N Williamson
 10 70781 Franco Huntington (Fr) 22 J Morrison
 11 s0600 Dark Rage (Fr) U1

8 Aon Southern Belle Series 5.37
 \$12,000, 4yo+ mares r70. mobile, 1609m
 1 0P713 Bizzie Lou (Fr) 1 C Ferguson
 2 06655 Dress Code (Fr) 2 B Barclay
 3 21222 Terror Maria (Fr) 3 B Barclay
 4 71542 Better's Tart (Fr) 4 M Williamson
 5 21s21 Might Be Me (Fr) 5 B Orange
 6 38671 Yankee Party (Fr) 6 N Williamson
 7 96506 Art Courage (Fr) 7 S Otley
 8 55435 Cheezel (Fr) 8 R Close
 9 32237 Kerri Maguire (Fr) 21 E Barron (J)
 10 29414 Smokin Annie (Fr) 22 S O'Reilly (J)

Auckland harness at Alexandra Park Thursday Jetbet 5 TAB Doubles 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 Trebles 1-2-3, 4-5-6, 7-8-9 Quaddies 2-3-4-5, 6-7-8-9 Place6 4-9

Selections
 Race 1: COTTON SOCKS, ROCKNROLL ROULETTE, TONI STREET
 Race 2: AMERICAN LEGACY, HOLYROOD, SLY TERROR
 Race 3: CYCLONE LUCKY LINDA, AMERICAN MUSCLE, MUMS JEWEL
 Race 4: FIRST ROSE, BLAMEITONTHEIGHT, MAJOR PERRY
 Race 5: AARDIEBYTHEHILL, HIGHGROVE, MOUNTAIN MASS
 Race 6: FRANCO MAC, MR KAPLAN, OPTICAL ILLUSION
 Race 7: FRANCO INDIE, AKUTA, SELF ASSURED
 Race 8: TWO EYE SEE, LIGHTNING BABY, ART D'OR
 Race 9: WY FI, DREAM OF YOU, ELLARIA SAND

1 Au Revoir N. Moss-Penman 5.46
 \$12,000, 3yo+ r41-r48. mobile, 1700m
 1 600s6 We Have A Mach Two (Fr) 1
 2 41557 May Delight (Fr) 2
 3 5500P Berani (Fr) 3
 4 95239 Malaka Miss (Fr) 4
 5 31524 Cotton Socks (Fr) 5
 6 62262 Rocknroll Roulette (Fr) 6
 7 23217 Four Kisses (Fr) 7

8 7s063 Toni Street (Fr) 8
 9 37895 Governor's Bay (Fr) 21
 10 46646 Aiming For Glory (Fr) 22

2 Breckon Farms - 2019 Class 6.11
 \$12,000, non-winners 3yo+. mobile, 2200m
 1 08 Frankie J Holden (Fr) 1
 2 Ps435 Sty Terror (Fr) 2
 3 7946 Betterhandiva (Fr) 3
 4 67058 Jono B (Fr) 4
 5 24253 Holyrood (Fr) 5
 6 244 Dannemora (Fr) 6
 7 647 Dina Mo (Fr) 7
 8 7422 American Legacy (Fr) 8

3 Lone Star Alexandra Park 6.42
 \$12,000, 3yo+ r44-r55. mobile, 1700m
 1 80s30 Asteria Lavra (Fr) 1
 2 94320 Uncle Louis (Fr) 2
 3 sD147 Faith In Manchester (Fr) 3
 4 P2124 American Muscle (Fr) 4
 5 318 Mums Jewel (Fr) 5
 6 11333 Cyclone Lucky Linda (Fr) 6
 7 43063 Lexi T (Fr) 7

8 25694 Liaison (Fr) 8
 9 4889s Molly Belle (Fr) 21
 10 34010 Hill Of Peace (Fr) 22
 11 7P901 Kristofferson (Fr) 23

4 Woodlands Yearling Sales 7.17
 \$12,000, 3yo+ r49-r53. mobile, 1700m
 1 8s837 Artisan (Fr) 1
 2 1s129 First Rose (Fr) 2
 3 51771 Cos I Can (Fr) 3
 4 43129 Flyin Tommy (Fr) 4
 5 1s120 Blameitonthelight (Fr) 5
 6 15145 Dance Till Dawn (Fr) 6
 7 11697 Glenthorne (Fr) 7
 8 21462 Pujar Perry (Fr) 8
 9 6s552 Happy Place (Fr) 21

5 Dunstan Summer Series 7.47
 \$14,500, 3yo+ r57-r67. mobile, 1700m
 1 s3182 Mountain Mass (Fr) 1
 2 75517 Special Way (Fr) 2
 3 P15P6 Crazy (Fr) 3
 4 75450 Superfast Ninja (Fr) 4
 5 36755 Rain Mist And Muscle (Fr) 5

6 31799 Lady Be Good (Fr) 6
 7 9s116 Highgrove (Fr) 7
 8 11213 Aardiebythehill (Fr) 8
 9 68L70 Monkey Selfie (Fr) 21
 10 53426 In Sequence (Fr) 22
 11 89011 Son Of Patrick (Fr) 23

6 Woodlands - Your Success 8.19
 \$14,500, 3yo+ r56-r66. mobile, 1700m
 1 29s21 Mr Kaplan (Fr) 1
 2 33163 Cyrus (Fr) 2
 3 23116 Optical Illusion (Fr) 3
 4 21114 Franco Mac (Fr) 4
 5 53451 Hesashorething (Fr) 5
 6 04687 Pujar The Other Leg (Fr) 6
 7 s2136 Bettor Listen (Fr) 7
 8 6s117 Raven Banner (Fr) 8
 9 36755 Mimi E Coco (Fr) 21

7 Dunstan Summer Series 8.45
 \$17,500, 3yo+ r71+ ffa. mobile, 1700m
 1 11111 Franco Indie (Fr) 1
 2 63053 Taipo (Fr) 2
 3 11s1 Akuta (Fr) 3

4 68205 Franco Niven (Fr) 4
 5 34142 Steel The Show (Fr) 5
 6 66744 Dance Time (Fr) 6
 7 11352 B D Joy (Fr) 7
 8 11221 Self Assured (Fr) 8

8 NZB S'bred Sale 13-16 Feb 9.11
 \$12,000, 2yo. mobile, 1700m
 1 Art D'Or (Fr) 1
 2 Lightning Baby (Fr) 2
 3 3 Two Eye See (Fr) 3
 4 Bolramski (Fr) 4
 5 Merlin (Fr) 5
 6 Sooner The Bettor (Fr) 6

9 Harness Millions 12 Feb 9.36
 \$12,000, non-winners 3yo+. mobile, 2200m
 1 22s47 Wy Fi (Fr) 1
 2 6 Aldebaran Allback (Fr) 2
 3 5 Run Forest Run (Fr) 3
 4 8s Slippery Mistress (Fr) 4
 5 57s65 Ellaria Sand (Fr) 5
 6 280 Dream Of You (Fr) 6
 7 70488 Shakemjenny (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: KIRKBY, RIGHT ON RAMSAY, HOMEBUSH STASSER
 Race 2: ROSEHIP, SMASH GRENADE, GOLDSTAR SMILES
 Race 3: CALCULATED RISK, KING TOLIMAN, GOLDSTAR FLORA
 Race 4: OPAWA OSCAR, TAIERI TAYLEE, YOUNG ROMEO
 Race 5: RAJA BALE, KNOW GRIZZLES, STUDENT LOAN
 Race 6: ONESIE, KIKAU, GOLDSTAR HARPER
 Race 7: MILKY TEA, OPAWA GOAT, OPAWA ANITA
 Race 8: JOCELYN, SIMON THE PIEMAN, MUSTANG MEGAN
 Race 9: HOMEBUSH SIRIUS, MASTER PORTHOS, DIAMOND HARMONY
 Race 10: PALESA BALE, FAIRLY ABLE, OPAWA CHRISSEY
 Race 11: MONTY MAD HAMMER, CHEEKY LU, MADE THE CUT
 Race 12: PEGGY LU, THUNDER HALLOWS, MINE HUNTER

1 The Fitz Sports Bar Sprint 3.51
 \$2400, C3, 295m
 1 75635 Impressive Sonic 17.36 John McInerney
 2 53613 Homebush Stasser 17.23 John McInerney
 3 32232 Kirkby 17.18 Calum Weir
 4 41353 Homebush Peach 17.29 John McInerney
 5 53213 Right On Ramsay 17.30 Ashley Bradshaw
 6 62353 Smash Achiever 17.15 Malcolm Grant
 7 82876 Goldstar Mauney nwdt Riley Evans
 8 31148 Rowdy's Message 17.35 Janine McCook
EMERGENCIES:
 9 66816 Beck Eleven 17.04 Lisa Waretini
 10 11577 Sozin's Prince 17.47 John McInerney

2 Travel Bug Charlie On Insta. 4.07
 \$2400, C3, 295m
 1 63514 Smash Grenade 17.38 Malcolm Grant
 2 54775 Mitcham Sam 17.19 John McInerney
 3 62177 Hustle Ace 17.44 Norman Wanhalla
 4 21F71 Goldstar Smiles 17.34 Riley Evans
 5 44121 Amuri Patti 17.35 John McInerney
 6 34582 Homebush Glitch 17.15 John McInerney
 7 87336 Claws In Creed 17.46 Matt Roberts
 8 81542 Rosehip 17.24 Anthony Hart
EMERGENCIES:
 9 66816 Beck Eleven 17.04 Lisa Waretini
 10 11577 Sozin's Prince 17.47 John McInerney

3 Hart Family Grey Racing 4.32
 \$2400, C3, 295m
 1 13177 Calculated Risk 17.33 Ashley Bradshaw
 2 22567 Goldstar Flora 17.10 Riley Evans
 3 72135 Homebush Macho 17.42 John McInerney
 4 51742 Souffle Sue 17.19 John McInerney
 5 21114 Smash Ready 17.35 Malcolm Grant
 6 64484 King Toliman 17.06 Daniel Roberts
 7 41164 Bushvale Briley 17.36 Janine McCook
 8 33836 Impressive Isla 17.43 John McInerney
EMERGENCIES:
 9 66816 Beck Eleven 17.04 Lisa Waretini
 10 11577 Sozin's Prince 17.47 John McInerney

4 O'Shea's Public House 4.58
 \$2700, C4, 295m
 1 4s533 Opawa Oscar 17.10 Robin Wales
 2 17588 Dr. Bravestone 17.24 Dylan Voce
 3 16475 Young Romeo 17.24 Richard Breen
 4 31354 Tweet About It 17.25 Anthony Hart
 5 22242 Taieri Taylee 16.86 Ray Casey
 6 83417 Penny Jane 17.30 Anthony Hart
 7 36541 Homebush Liam 17.08 John McInerney
 8 61434 Free For All 17.44 Malcolm Grant

5 Thursday Place Pick 5.26
 \$5500, C1/2, distance, 645m
 1 52324 Run Run Rover 38.21 Ashley Bradshaw
 2 65576 Mayhem Made nwdt Ashley Bradshaw
 3 32221 Raja Bale 38.15 Craig Roberts
 4 24513 Black Stockings 37.92 Ashley Bradshaw
 5 74352 Know Grizzles 38.02 Garry Cleeve
 6 21445 Longshanks 38.04 Ashley Bradshaw
 7 73165 Know Account nwdt Garry Cleeve
 8 64444 Student Loan 37.79 J & D Fahey

6 Real Pet Food Rolleston 5.56
 \$2400, C3, 295m
 1 78318 Amuri Rock 17.25 John McInerney
 2 64451 Kikau 17.37 Daniel Roberts
 3 88s88 Sideline Sally nwdt John McInerney
 4 24424 Spice Spice Baby 17.32 Ashley Bradshaw
 5 32231 Onesie 17.10 Lisa Waretini
 6 16723 Homebush Zack 17.26 John McInerney
 7 65344 Button It 17.31 Janine McCook
 8 73644 Goldstar Harper 17.34 Riley Evans
EMERGENCIES:
 9 66816 Beck Eleven 17.04 Lisa Waretini
 10 11577 Sozin's Prince 17.47 John McInerney

7 Active Electrical C'church 6.21
 \$3300, SPECA, 520m
 1 14213 Milky Tea 30.14 J & D Fahey
 2 32173 Opawa Goat 30.14 J & D Fahey
 3 53174 Claws In Rambo 30.13 Matt Roberts
 4 17214 Opawa Rowan 30.25 Robin Wales
 5 46215 Not So Simple 30.02 Garry Cleeve
 6 51462 Carlos Jewel 30.24 Craig Roberts

7 655s3 Adobe Bro 30.24 Matt Roberts
 8 73764 Opawa Anita 30.22 J & D Fahey
EMERGENCIES:
 9 43674 Opawa Nut 30.19 Robin Wales
 10 26876 Jelly Fish 30.20 J & D Fahey

8 Camside Stud Sprint 6.51
 \$2700, C4, 295m
 1 s7226 Mustang Megan 17.16 Anthony Hart
 2 33352 Simon The Pieman 17.20 Alison Lee
 3 14613 Amuri Luck 17.40 John McInerney
 4 11413 Homebush Fanta 17.15 John McInerney
 5 23647 Taieri Missile 17.02 Ray Casey
 6 5s217 Opawa Jaws 17.07 Robin Wales
 7 85531 Gary 17.10 Anthony Hart
 8 22351 Jocelyn 17.18 Janine McCook
EMERGENCIES:
 9 23636 Mighty McCook 17.34 Janine McCook
 10 1755s Notorious Heist 17.10 Ashley Bradshaw

9 Suck It Up Ltd Dash 7.09
 \$3600, C5, 295m
 1 47514 Diamond Harmony 17.10 Malcolm Grant
 2 11112 Homebush Sirius 16.98 John McInerney
 3 41711 Master Porthos 17.10 Anthony Hart
 4 11871 Alternate Shot 17.15 Anthony Hart
 5 11276 Opawa Ranger 17.14 J & D Fahey
 6 31732 Aramoana nwdt John Guthrie
 7 4F134 Trousseau 17.00 Jason Dunn
 8 87251 Hilton Hope 17.06 Bruce Dann
EMERGENCIES:
 9 71738 Goldstar Wynter 17.20 Riley Evans
 10 16267 Nova Rapide 17.17 Ashley Bradshaw

10 Selwyn-Rakaia Vet Services 7.30
 \$5500, C4/5, 520m
 1 53122 Fairly Able 30.12 J & D Fahey

2 66642 Penalty Drop 30.01 Anthony Hart
 3 27587 Diamond Warrior 30.48 Malcolm Grant
 4 61166 Opawa Chrissy 30.02 J & D Fahey
 5 31117 Palesa Bale 30.00 Craig Roberts
 6 24243 Dembe 30.13 J & D Fahey
 7 53245 Mandy Jewel 30.27 Craig Roberts
 8 81551 Go Johnny Go 30.19 Matt Roberts

11 Balcairn & Coprice 7.56
 \$3600, C5, 295m
 1 51157 Homebush Archie 17.29 John McInerney
 2 73553 Edge Of Reason 17.03 Jason Dunn
 3 32323 Made The Cut 17.20 Anthony Hart
 4 21854 Goldstar Portia 17.17 Riley Evans
 5 45741 Cheeky Lu 17.08 Anthony Hart
 6 41121 Monty Mad Hammer 17.00 Ashley Bradshaw
 7 75112 Rapid Raccoon 17.28 Calum Weir
 8 73416 Ghost Mode 17.28 Anthony Hart
EMERGENCIES:
 9 71738 Goldstar Wynter 17.20 Riley Evans
 10 87672 Amuri Fury 17.19 John McInerney

12 Racing Again 4 February 8.12
 \$2700, C4, 295m
 1 51372 Mine Hunter 17.21 Janine McCook
 2 77225 Thunder Hallows 17.11 Ashley Bradshaw
 3 56s75 Know Pick 17.26 Garry Cleeve
 4 22227 Rose Thorn 17.52 Richard Breen
 5 22533 Homebush Chloe 17.15 John McInerney
 6 24461 Reddy Moth 17.21 Anthony Hart
 7 22511 Peggy Lu 17.23 Anthony Hart
 8 56674 Tiggerlong Demon 17.22 Daniel Roberts
EMERGENCIES:
 9 23636 Mighty McCook 17.34 Janine McCook
 10 1755s Notorious Heist 17.10 Ashley Bradshaw

Legend: T – Won at track. C – Won at this distance on this course. D – Won at this distance on another course. M – Won in slow or heavy going. B – Beaten favourite at last start. H – Trained on track. N – Won at night. S – Spell of three months. F – Fell. P – Pulled up. L – Lost rider. TV – Featured on Trackside TV.

Closer to golf's Hall Of Fame

LYDIA Ko is moving away from the pursuit of perfection to a more practical approach to her game, something that seems to be propelling the former world No 1 back to the top of the sport.

Ko expertly manoeuvred the tricky Boca Rio course in Florida on the final round of the Gainbridge LPGA to claim her 17th tour win of her career, thanks in large part to her sensational short game.

When other aspects of her game weren't at its best, Ko relied on her ever-consistent putting and scrambling, epitomised by a superb birdie putt on the 15th and an ice-cold bunker save at the last to stave off the challenge of American Danielle Kang for a one-stroke victory.

Despite her latest triumph, Ko said she still sees aspects of her game that she wants to improve, even suggesting that she's been a bit rusty coming into the first two tournaments of the season – perhaps a statement of intent and a worrying sign for her rivals for the rest of the year.

"I feel like there are parts of my game that still can improve," she said after her round. "Two of my biggest goals were to have a higher greens in regulation percentage and higher fairways hit percentage this year.

"I feel like if those parts are better, the scores are going to kind of come with that. I think that puts a lot less stress on the short game. So I think that was probably my biggest focus.

"And to be honest, going into the tournament last week I didn't feel super ready. My long game didn't feel very sharp. Sean (Foley) always tells me to trust my training, and that's what I tried to tell myself today."

Ko said one of the main changes to her game since rising to the top at the ripe age of 17 has been perspective, something she continues to absorb every day.

"I saw a quote that Jon Rahm said ... it's not about how many times you hit the fairway in golf, at the end you have to try and play like the best score you can in the circumstances.

"And I think that kind of hit me to say sometimes I think you get too carried away about, 'oh, it's in the fairway'. But



READING THE GREEN: Lydia Ko has won her 17th LPGA tour win. She feels like there is still room for improvement. AAP picture

you're just trying to scramble if you're out of position and manage your way around with how you're playing and not try and like hit it and do everything perfectly.

"That's something that happens on PlayStation. I still don't play perfectly on PlayStation. You know, I think his quote really helped me to realise that, you know what? It's golf. Sometimes I'm going to hit great shots; sometimes I'm going to hit not-so-pretty ones. I have to manage my way around and try and shoot the best score I can."

Ko's latest trophy, which came with a handy \$458,000 cheque, also puts her one step closer to joining the Hall of Fame, with the win at Gainbridge bringing her Hall of Fame points tally to 21, just six short of joining the elusive club.

Ko said it would be an honour to

achieve that accolade one day, but added that improving in all aspects of her game remains the number one priority.

"Obviously I have to play well, win, to kind of collect those points along the way. All those awards and accolades and being in the Hall of Fame is great and not many people are there. If I could have my name alongside the many amazing legends in this the Hall of Fame, it would be a huge honour.

"I know there are still things in my game I want to improve and get better at to kind of give myself a run for it.

"When I'm out there playing I'm just trying to make as many birdies as I can and shoot the best score and just enjoy being out here. If I can get all the other things done at the same time it is a bonus." – NZ Herald

SPORT BRIEFS

All Whites v Uzbekistan off

A NUMBER of positive Covid-19 test results in the All Whites has caused the cancellation of an international friendly match with Uzbekistan in Dubai on Wednesday morning. The positive cases were detected as part of the team's regular testing regime and they are currently isolating from the rest of the squad.

All players and staff are fully vaccinated against Covid-19. New Zealand Football chief executive Andrew Pragnell said it was hugely disappointing to cancel the game, but was confident it was the right decision.

New Zealand Football was working with the team in Dubai to undertake further testing of the squad before they departed, as well as supporting the players who had tested positive while they recovered, Pragnell said. – RNZ

New tricks from kiwi Zoi

KIWI snowboarder Zoi Sadowski-Synnott has revealed she has a new trick she wants to bring out at the Beijing Winter Olympics which start later this week - but the conditions may not allow her to try it. The 20-year-old is the in-form freeboarder heading into the Games after picking up two gold medals at the recent X-Games in Colorado. Sadowski-Synnott will compete in both the Slopestyle and Big Air events over the next week – with her first run on Saturday.

The 20-year-old won bronze in the Big Air in Pyeongchang four years ago. She landed a couple of new tricks at the X-Games and told Glen Larmer she needed to bring those out then, rather than saving them for the Olympics. – RNZ

Brady confirms retirement

TAMPA Bay Buccaneers quarterback Tom Brady, widely considered the greatest player in NFL history, has announced his retirement. During his career, he won a record seven Super Bowl championships.

The 44-year-old Brady spent 20 seasons with the New England Patriots, winning six Super Bowl titles, before relocating to Tampa Bay and leading the Bucs to a championship last season. "I have always believed the sport of football is an 'all-in' proposition - if a 100% competitive commitment isn't there, you won't succeed, and success is what I love so much about our game," Brady wrote on Twitter on Tuesday. "There is a physical, mental, and emotional challenge EVERY single day that has allowed me to maximize my highest potential." – AAP

Plenty in it for the spinners

Pacemen having to work hard in the Gisborne heat

CRICKET by Ben O'Brien-Leaf

THIS Super 8 tournament is one for the spinners.

In Pool 2 action at Harry Barker Reserve yesterday, Tauranga Boys' College captain and off-spin bowler Darcy Collett, Hastings Boys' High School leg-spinner Kulwant Singh, New Plymouth BHS leggie William Jull and offie Chester Oldfield, and Gisborne BHS leggie Dylan Foster were the leading wicket-takers.

Collett took 4-15 against Hastings, Singh took 3-17 against Tauranga, Jull and Oldfield both took 3-15 against Galaxy World Gisborne, and Foster took 3-31 against New Plymouth.

In only one game — defending champions Palmerston North Boys' High School's 23-run win against Napier in Pool 1 — did the pacemen hold sway.

Palmerston North opening bowler Saim Ahmed took 3-22 and Napier left-armer Finn Diphoorn took 2-34.

Former Black Cap Chris Kuggeleijn, whose Hamilton BHS side had the Round 2 bye because of Rotorua Boys' High School's absence, has been impressed by what he's seen.

"Good spinners are a huge part of the game and here we've had offies, leggies, left-armers — it's been great," said the three-time national Gillette Cup-winning, 11-time Super 8-winning coach.

"This is my 21st tournament and the camaraderie among Super 8 sports teams is always good. I take my hat off to the people behind the scenes who've made

this happen."

Gisborne leg-spinner Dylan Foster's star turn with the ball against New Plymouth came on the heels of off-spinner George Gillies's 3-36 against Tauranga in Round 1.

New Plymouth captain Jacob Mitchell won the toss on HBR No.3 and chose to bat.

Gisborne dismissed New Plymouth for 255 in 42.4 overs. Eighth option Bekko Page (2-29 off five overs) and third-change seamer Luke Fisher (2-30 off six) both kept the ball up to the bat on a wicket that rewarded the disciplined bowler.

Mitchell, who batted at No.3, looked invincible during his 42-ball innings of 59, the highest individual score of the match. He hit 11 fours in an hour at the crease.

Hrishi Bolar (46), Riley Bettington (40) and Braydon Baker (39) at 4, 5 and 6 respectively also made promising starts on a day during which at least one of the four New Plymouth batsmen might well have joined Tauranga opener Sebastian Heath as a century-maker here.

Gisborne stuck to their task with the ball and in the field. They held some great catches and produced deliveries of rare calibre, such as Page's off-cutter to No.7 batsman Logan Hislop (2) — it was a beauty to bowl five balls into any batsman's innings.

Gisborne's tall wicketkeeper Sebastian Wilson held three catches yesterday, showing good agility to glove the ball at different heights.

Leg-spinner Jull achieved more bounce than any other bowler on show against

Gisborne yesterday as he took 3-15 with two maidens in 10 overs. The two byes conceded by New Plymouth 'keeper Hugo Roy were the product of wrist-snap and a nice loop from Jull, which made the ball spit.

Gisborne lost opening batsman Luke Fisher (9) with the score at 38 after 13.2 overs and lost three wickets with the score at 65.

Fisher's opening partner Cohen Loffler and No.7 Travis O'Rourke both top-scored for the home team with 15.

Undoubtedly the catch of the match was Hislop's effort at deep backward square leg to dismiss Gisborne No.4 Kelan Bryant (8) on the sweep off Jull. Having been set forward of square leg, Hislop caught the ball in two hands with his arms outstretched.

Gisborne were bowled out for 93 in 36.5 overs of the 50-over match.

Gisborne coach Malcolm Trowell said: "In our next game against Hastings, we want to play more strongly with the bat. I think our change bowlers need to stay in a channel outside off-stump, not waver on both sides of the wicket. They need to build on the foundation set up by Nathan and Cohen.

"I can't fault our commitment in the field but we need to take any easy catches on offer."

Trowell's opposite, former Namibian International JB Burger, is working with a solid unit.

"We managed to keep our cool and keep scoring runs even though we kept losing

wickets at regular intervals," he said.

"Gisborne did well to take wickets at key stages, as we got into position to accelerate. Gisborne capitalised on our mistakes but similarly we put pressure on them in their innings by getting wickets. William (Jull) has had a good run in the past few games; he's in rhythm and makes use of his variations."

Super 8 schools first 11 cricket tournament, Harry Barker Reserve, Day 2, Round 2 (50 overs)

Pool 1
PALMERSTON NORTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL 208-9 (Jaiden Meyer 67, Jett Donald-Charnley 35, Ethan Campbell 31, Sam Kennett 21; Finn Diphoorn 2-34) beat **NAPIER BHS 185-9** (Jacob Cotter 41, Charlie Pawson 35; Saim Ahmed 3-22, Jerome Robinson 2-15).

Bye: Hamilton BHS.

Pool 2

NEW PLYMOUTH BHS 255 (Jacob Mitchell 59, Hrishi Bolar 46, Riley Bettington 40, Braydon Baker 39; Dylan Foster 3-31, Bekko Page 2-29, Luke Fisher 2-30) beat **GISBORNE BHS 93** (Cohen Loffler 15, Travis O'Rourke 15; William Jull 3-15, Chester Oldfield 3-15, Braydon Baker 2-14).

TAURANGA BOYS' COLLEGE 127-7 (Aiden Green 29, Sebastian Heath 21; Kulwant Singh 3-17, William Taylor 2-18) beat **HASTINGS BHS 125** (Koji Hardgrave-Abe 48, Brayden Reeve 19; Darcy Collett 4-15, Harsh Patel 3-21, Troy Barnett 2-22).

Draw for today, Round 3 —

Pool 1: Palmerston North BHS v Hamilton BHS on HBR 3. Bye: Napier BHS.

Pool 2: Hastings BHS v Gisborne BHS on HBR 2; Tauranga Boys' College v New Plymouth on HBR 4.

Around the Greens

Club bowls news

Gisborne

SIX rinks of tough players battled the heat following a wet morning to play triples at Gisborne Bowling Club for the Hilton Croskery Trophy.

It was all hands to the pump as grounds that were under water in the morning were made playable for the 36 bowlers in the Gisborne Glass-sponsored event.

With the No.1 green out of action, dedicated volunteers have worked to enable large numbers of players to enjoy a summer of bowls at the Gisborne club. The pressure will soon be off when the No.1 green is available again.

Winners of the trophy were: Graham Moore (skip), Bruce Ball and Diane Doyle, with three wins and 33 points.

Second were Carol Hawes (skip), Rex Richardson and Hugh Trafford, with three wins and 30 points.

Third were Arthur Hawes, Tim Sherriff and Joy McFarlane, with three wins and 13 points.

Fourth were Harry Jackson (skip), Marion Jones and Tony Dobson, with three wins and 11 points.

Poverty Bay

THE second of Poverty Bay Bowling Club's Twilight Triples competitions was held last Thursday.

Six teams of triples and two of pairs competed in the Star Service Centre-sponsored event.

Four teams had two wins so ends and differentials decided the placings. Kathryn Flaugere (skip), Ron Seabrook (director) and Jude Hall (lead) were the winners with nine ends and a differential of 13.

Second place went to Erin Sutherland (s), Norma Miller (d) and June Kinder (l) with nine ends and a differential of 12.

Third placed were Kim Walters (s) and John Andrews with seven ends.



TWILIGHT TRIUMPH: Winners of Poverty Bay Bowling Club's second Twilight Triples competition were (from left) Jude Hall, Ron Seabrook and Kathryn Flaugere (skip). Pictures supplied

The final night in the series starts at 5.30pm on Thursday next week. Winners of the club mixed triples



MIXED TRIPLES VICTORS: Winners of the Kimbra and Peter Walters Mixed Triples Trophy were (from left) John Andrews, Win Baker and Les Whittington (skip).

championship were junior players Les Whittington (s), John Andrews (d) and Win Baker (l). Four games of 12 ends or 105

minutes were played in good conditions. Six teams had three wins but the winning team had three wins and a draw.



INTERCENTRE DELIVERY: Ray Young gets down on one knee to deliver his bowl while representing Gisborne-East Coast. Teammate Andrew Ball is seated on the left. Picture supplied

All set to play Hawke's Bay

BOWLS by Crackerjack

THE men's and women's junior teams from Bowls Gisborne East-Coast will play their annual Waitangi Day junior intercentre fixture against their Hawke's Bay counterparts at Wairoa Bowling Club on Monday.

Both centres agreed to include junior players with eight years' playing experience or less.

Gisborne-East Coast junior women's team members this year are: Karen Pinn,

Adrienne Torrie, Libby Clay and Ginny Sherriff from Gisborne Bowling Club; Joan Gledhill from Poverty Bay; Erica Thompson and Lyn Hayes from Te Karaka; and Bernie Smiler from Wairoa.

The selector/manager is Sarah Brown.

The junior men's team comprises: Geoff Pinn, Tim Sherriff and Peter Clay from Gisborne Bowling Club; Vern Withey from Wairoa; Andrew Ball and John Andrews from Poverty Bay; Willy Murray from Te Karaka; and Ray Young from Kahutia.

The selector/manager is Steve Goldsbury.

New Zealand Open given the red light

GOLF

One of New Zealand's pre-eminent international events, the New Zealand Open, scheduled to be played 31st March to 3rd April 2022 at Millbrook Resort, has been cancelled.

Organisers have reluctantly come to that decision due to the continued border entry restrictions for international players, coupled with the prohibitive restrictions operating under the current Red Traffic Light setting, which means it is no longer possible to hold the event in 2022.

Tournament Chairman, John Hart, acknowledged that the challenges of putting on major events in New Zealand in the current environment had created barriers that cannot be overcome.

"We have done everything within our power to make this event happen. However, with the current government restrictions in place, running an event that includes 250 players, 250 caddies, 500 volunteers, nearly 100 tournament staff and officials, plus numerous contractors, as well of course spectators, is just not possible," said Hart.

"After announcing in December that the New Zealand Open would proceed, including having direct entry into the prestigious 150th Open Championship at St Andrews for the leading three players, we are devastated to have now come to this decision."

"We know how important this tournament is for the Queenstown Lakes region, tourism in New Zealand, and in particular for golf in New Zealand. We would like to thank our tournament

partners and sponsors and in particular our underwriter Millbrook Resort for their unwavering support throughout the difficulties of the past few months."

"We remain fully committed to the tournament and the Queenstown region and we are now setting our sights on holding the 102nd New Zealand Open in 2023," said Hart.

Golf New Zealand Chief Executive Dean Murphy noted the impact this decision will have on New Zealand professionals.

"We would like to thank Millbrook, our financial underwriters, who have supported the tournament in every way possible, in a concerted effort to proceed with the 2022 event, regardless of the many challenges thrown up by the Covid-19 environment," said Murphy.

"This cancellation only adds to the extremely difficult past two years that many of the leading New Zealand professionals and leading elite amateur players have had. Opportunities have been severely limited, and we will be doing all we can in the immediate term to see if we can add a small event for domestic players, within the current restrictions, during the week that was set aside for the New Zealand Open."

"It is also pleasing to know that both Millbrook and the supporting international golf tours have assured us of their ongoing support," said Murphy.

The 102nd New Zealand Open will now be played 2nd to 5th March 2023 at Millbrook Resort and will include a full field of players from the PGA Tour of Australasia, the Asian Tour and the Japanese Tour.

SURFING by Jack Malcolm

GISBORNE Boardriders Club members got together last weekend for their annual club gathering longboard competition.

With blue skies and beautiful waves on tap, surfers from around the region descended on Midway's Pipe for a day of fun but competitive action.

Former national champion Daniel Procter shone in the open division, beating club president Dan Croskery and old mal division winner Geordie Sawyer in a competitive final.

Guatemala-born Lili Porres took home the title in the women's division, fending off a defiant Simi Bub, who finished in second place.

Kelly Geiseler walked away \$200 richer after he was awarded first place in the novelty division for his 6.2-second headstand during which he sped down the face of a wave to the delight of onlookers on the beach, Gisborne Boardriders surfing development officer Flo Bub said.

"It was a beautiful day," he said. "We ran all morning with perfect onshore conditions."

Several top competitors were out of town for the long weekend, but Bub said it was a "stacked" final.

"It's probably harder to win a club comp in Gisborne than at nats."

Bub said the day also acted as a fantastic appetiser for the club's national Gathering of Stoke longboard competition, which is scheduled for Easter weekend.

- Results —**
 Open men: Daniel Procter 1, Dan Croskery 2, Sam Johnson 3, Geordie Sawyer 4.
 Women: Lili Porres 1, Simi Bub 2.
 Old mal: Geordie Sawyer 1, Kelly Geiseler 2, Dan Croskery 3, Andy McCulloch 4.
 Headstand: Kelly Geiseler 1, Dan Croskery 2, George Busby 3.

COMPETITION FUN



SECOND TO ONE: Gisborne Boardriders Club president Dan Croskery with a wave that helped him to second place behind open men's winner Daniel Procter in the annual club gathering longboard competition at the weekend.

Picture by Origins of Light

WEATHER FOR TOMORROW

2 Feb, 2022

GISBORNE CITY

TOMORROW morning min 16 max 28 Fine. Northwesterlies.	FRIDAY morning min 16 max 29 Fine with northwesterlies.	SATURDAY morning min 17 max 27 Fine with light winds and sea breezes.
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GISBORNE REGION

Fine. Northerlies.	Fine with northerlies.	Mainly fine. Northerlies dying out.
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GISBORNE SUN PROTECTION ALERT

9:05 AM - 5:35 PM PROTECTION REQUIRED
 Seek shade, reapply sunscreen
 Data provided by NIWA

SUNDAY
 Partly cloudy, with rain developing in the morning. Southerlies.

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MIDNIGHT TONIGHT

NOON TOMORROW

GISBORNE TIDE MOVEMENT

Thursday Feb 3		Friday Feb 4	
am	pm	am	pm
Hicks Bay	H 9:06am 9:25pm L 2:44am 3:18pm	Hicks Bay	H 9:56am 10:15pm L 3:34am 4:08pm
Waipiro Bay	H 8:53am 9:12pm L 2:19am 2:53pm	Waipiro Bay	H 9:43am 10:02pm L 3:09am 3:43pm
Tolaga Bay	H 8:41am 9:00pm L 2:07am 2:41pm	Tolaga Bay	H 9:31am 9:50pm L 2:57am 3:31pm
Gisborne	H 8:23am 8:45pm L 2:03am 2:38pm	Gisborne	H 9:17am 9:38pm L 2:57am 3:32pm
Wairoa	H 8:01am 8:28pm L 1:44am 2:20pm	Wairoa	H 8:56am 9:21pm L 2:39am 3:14pm

SUN-MOON-MAORI FISHING GUIDE

© OceanFun Publishing www.ofu.co.nz
 Maori fishing guide by Bill Hohepa

Rise 6:22 am Set 8:21 pm	Rise 6:23 am Set 8:20 pm
Rise 8:04 am Set 9:54 pm	Rise 9:14 am Set 10:22 pm
Best at 2:38 am 3:04 pm	Best at 3:29 am 3:53 pm

NZ SITUATION

A series of active fronts affect the South Island and central New Zealand through Saturday, while a ridge remains to the north. Another ridge builds behind the front over the far south from Friday.

NZ TOMORROW

Auckland	fine	27
Hamilton	fine	30
Tauranga	cloudy	25
Rotorua	cloudy	23
Taupo	fine	27
Napier	fine	32
New Plymouth	fine	24
Palmerston North	fine	28
Wellington	windy	22
Christchurch	showers	28
Queenstown	showers	23
Dunedin	rain	21

TODAY IN HISTORY

1936 — A rare Red-tailed Tropicbird was found at Lake Taupo. The bird was probably blown there from the Kermadec Islands north of New Zealand during the passage of a cyclone, which whipped the eastern North Island with gale force winds and rain.

GISBORNE READINGS

Taken at the Airport, for the 24 hours to 9am, Wednesday 2 Feb 2022

SUNSHINE hours
 On Tuesday, 1 Feb 9.1
 To date for February 9.1
 Average for February 199.0
 To date this year 234.2
 To date last year 307.4

WIND km/h
 Max gust on Tue 1 Feb NE 39

RAINFALL mm
 24 hours to 9am, Wed 2 Feb 0.0
 To date for February 0.0
 Average for February 74.0
 To date this year 47.0
 To date last year 48.4

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION mm
 Daily average for past week 4.5

TEMPERATURE °C
 Maximum 26.4
 Minimum 18.1
 Grass minimum 15.2

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE
 At 9am 2 Feb (hPa) 1021.2
 At 9am 2 Feb (inches) 30.16

WORLD TOMORROW

Adelaide	fine	14 24
Amsterdam	rain	6 10
Bangkok	fine	23 32
Beijing	cloudy	-6 3
Berlin	drizzle	1 7
Brisbane	rain	24 27
Buenos Aires	thunder	24 27
Cairo	fine	8 18
Canberra	fine	10 23
Cape Town	drizzle	17 22
Delhi	thunder	8 20
Frankfurt	cloudy	6 10
Geneva	cloudy	1 8
Hong Kong	drizzle	13 16
London	cloudy	6 11
Los Angeles	fine	5 19
Melbourne	cloudy	13 21
Moscow	snow	-6 -4
New York	rain	5 8
Paris	cloudy	6 9
Perth	fine	22 37
Singapore	thunder	24 34
Stockholm	cloudy	-3 1
Suva	thunder	25 28
Sydney	showers	18 24
Tokyo	fine	2 11
Toronto	snow	-7 -6

For the latest weather info including Weather Warnings visit metSERVICE.com



Gisborne duo take on Iron series
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Competition conditions, perfect
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SAVING SUPER SEASON

Games played in Queenstown during the day, Invercargill at night



2021 CHAMPIONS: The Auckland Blues won the Super Rugby Championship of 2021 and hope to defend their title this coming season. There are plans to try to save the competition from cancellation because of the pandemic. AAP picture

INVERCARGILL is expected to host all New Zealand-based night matches and this weekend's Blues and Hurricanes preseason game may be moved from Auckland at the last minute as further details of plans to save the Super Rugby season emerge.

Last Friday, news of plans to shift the six New Zealand-based Super Rugby teams, including new additions Moana Pasifika, to one hub in Queenstown came to light on the eve of the season.

New Zealand Rugby is attempting to avoid a scenario where entire teams must isolate for at least 10 days as the result of one positive Covid case or close contact which would force games to be cancelled.

In New Zealand's Covid red light settings, all games must be played behind closed doors so moving matches to one location makes no difference to the 100-cap crowd limit.

In a fraught climate, basing the six teams in Queenstown is viewed as the best possible option to get through as many games between the New Zealand teams as possible by mitigating the risk of household community exposure as

Omicron cases expand in the coming weeks.

The Herald understands further meetings on the relocation proposal were held on Tuesday and, with the Queenstown hub expected to gain signoff from all parties, teams could travel south as early as this weekend.

Plans are understood to be under way for the 24 New Zealand-based matches to be split between Queenstown and Invercargill.

Queenstown will host day games and teams will bus to Invercargill, the closest venue with broadcast quality lights, for night matches. Airports and public planes are high-risk exposure sites and will therefore be avoided.

Dunedin's roofed Forsyth Barr Stadium would guarantee ideal playing conditions and was considered to host night fixtures but with teams to bus in and out securely on the same day, the almost four-hour journey one way – compared with Queenstown to Invercargill's five-hour round trip – was deemed too much.

Once the decision to move all teams to Queenstown is finalised NZ Rugby plans

to act swiftly to justify the expense of housing six teams – up to 300 personnel including coaching and support staff – for at least the next month.

The national body is believed to have secured a favourable accommodation deal as Queenstown hotels continue to struggle with no foreign tourists.

The Blues' scheduled preseason match against the Hurricanes at Takapuna's Onewa Domain on Saturday is expected to be the latest game relocated. The Blues' second preseason match against the Chiefs in Te Puke the following week will also need to be moved.

With all teams set to relocate south, the Blues may travel by charter flight to Wellington or Queenstown for this weekend's preseason match.

The Highlanders preseason fixture against Moana Pasifika, scheduled for February 11 in Queenstown, was cancelled last week but may now be revived with all teams venturing south.

At this stage the Highlanders are scheduled to play the annual Farmlands Cup preseason match against the Crusaders in Oamaru on Friday.

The Crusaders and Hurricanes are also supposed to meet in the preseason – this match was relocated from Blenheim to Christchurch but could now be staged in Queenstown.

Suggestions New Zealand teams will be forced to move from their Queenstown bubble to base themselves in Australia to complete the trans-tasman component of the inaugural Super Rugby Pacific season, meanwhile, appear premature.

The remodelled draw will see New Zealand and Australian Super sides play local derbies until April 22. All 12 teams are then scheduled to converge on Melbourne for the maiden 'super round'.

While such a prospect seems improbable with the complex border situation, the New Zealand government is set to allow Australian-based Kiwis to skip MIQ and self-isolate from the end of this month which may eventually lead to greater travel flexibility.

Given the mass changes Super Rugby Pacific has endured before the season-opening match on February 18, tournament organisers will certainly hope the landscape improves. – NZ Herald