

**HOME-DELIVERED \$1.90, RETAIL \$2.20**

# Fire at driftwood ‘beach house’

by Murray Robertson

GISBORNE firefighters attended to a house fire of a different kind yesterday. Firefighters were called out to a fire that had been started in a makeshift “beach house” built from driftwood on the sand along Centennial Marine Drive. A call came in about the fire at around 12.45pm. The bach-sized driftwood structure

had been painstakingly built and was quite elaborate. It featured several rooms and someone had even gone to the trouble of inserting a letter box into the sand. “A small fire was burning inside the structure when we arrived,” a senior firefighter said. It appeared someone had been cooking something on a fire and it spread to timber holding the roof structure up.”

Firefighters used a forestry hose line to put it out. “We felt the structure was compromised by the fire so we decided to make the situation safe by pulling down the roof timbers of the structure,” she said. “A reminder to the public that there is a restricted fire season in place. “That means no fires on the beaches, especially with all the long, dry grass in the dunes.”

**MILLION-DOLLAR VIEW:** But you won’t get a couple of million bucks for this do-it-yourself bach, complete with letterbox, despite the ocean view from its Centennial Marine Drive location. Firefighters attended to a fire at the elaborate driftwood construction yesterday. Picture by Liam Clayton



# New-look Relay for Life

RELAY Your Way  
That is the new branding for this year’s Relay for Life.  
Participants in this year’s Omicron-affected Cancer Society fundraiser will hold the relay “their own way, at their own venue”.  
Gisborne-East Coast Cancer Society fundraising and events coordinator Shay Podjursky confirmed this year’s event would not be held at Showgrounds Park on March 12 and 13 as originally scheduled.  
“As Covid continues to ruin all of our best-laid plans, we’ve created an alternative to our traditional Relay For Life so that our brilliant supporters can choose where and when they walk with the help of our online guide and your whānau cheering you on.”  
Teams will be given more time to stage their event.

Relay Your Way can be held any time between Friday, March 11, and Sunday, March 27.  
“We’re super-excited to bring you Relay Your Way,” said Ms Podjursky.  
“There’s nothing you need to do right now except continue fundraising.  
“Our events keep getting knocked down, but our supporters help us up every time.”  
Teams will be contacted directly by Gisborne-East Coast Cancer Society.

**WE’LL WALK APART BUT NOT ALONE:**  
That is the mesaage from fundraising and events co-ordinator Shay Podjursky (left) and administrator Thea Sutherland as they plan the new-look Relay Your Way on behalf of Gisborne-East Coast Cancer Society. Picture by Liam Clayton



# TheGuide Arts & Entertainment

- The sculptor of Hawaiki Turanga, Matt Randall, talks about the model version of his work installed at Tairawhiti Museum.
- Artist Holly Howman Evans is helping the next generation bring colour into the world with her after-school workshops.
- Local artist Kelly Spencer has given the Cooks Stores building in Kahutia Street a facelift with a mural for the ages.

TOMORROW



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The Gisborne Herald, 64 Gladstone Road, P.O. Box 1143, Gisborne • Phone (06) 869 0600 • Fax (Editorial) (06) 869 0643 (Advertising) (06) 869 0617  
Editor: Jeremy Muir • Chief reporter: Andrew Ashton • Circulation: Huatahi Wilson • Sports: Jack Malcolm/Fraser Ruru  
e-mail: editor@gisborneherald.co.nz • advertising@gisborneherald.co.nz • circulation@gisborneherald.co.nz • web site: www.gisborneherald.co.nz

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The Gisborne Herald

TE NUPĒPA O TE TAIRAWHITI

2022 Calendar

\$10 From front desk

PHONE: 06 869 0600

# River kayaker swept out to sea



by Murray Robertson

A MAN in his mid-70s was rescued by lifeguards yesterday afternoon after his kayak tipped over in the swollen Waipaoa River and he was swept out into Turanganui-a-Kiwa/Poverty Bay. The drama unfolded at about 3pm as the man attempted to paddle his kayak upstream against the swiftly flowing river — a result of rain in the past few days. “The guy was going to set a set net when he fell out of his kayak,” a member of the emergency services said. “Fortunately he managed to hang on to his kayak when he tipped out. “Some people who were surfcasting at the mouth of the river saw him floating past, wearing an old lifejacket and hanging on to his kayak, and they raised the alarm.” Police mobilised the Lion Foundation Coastguard, the Trust Tairāwhiti Rescue Helicopter and the Character Roofing Surf Life Saving Emergency Call Out Squad at around 3.15pm. The lifeguards drove a couple of IRBs to the river mouth and launched them from there.

“We found him about 800 metres south of the Waipaoa river mouth and about 200 metres offshore,” call-out squad coordinator Justin Martin said. “The river current had sucked him right out. He was cold when the crews reached him but he was in pretty good spirits.” Once safely ashore, the man was taken to a waiting St John ambulance and transported to Gisborne Hospital for a check-up. The 75-year-old was assessed at the emergency department and allowed to go home. Mr Martin said they had the man out of the water by about 4pm. “He was very lucky there were people fishing at the river mouth when he was swept past in the current, and that they saw him. “Otherwise this incident would have ended very differently.” Mr Martin said the incident again illustrated the close cooperation that exists between the emergency services. “Also, many of those involved were volunteers who left their homes and work places to respond to the emergency.”

**SAFE AND SOUND:** Surf lifeguards in IRBs rescued a man (third from right) in his mid-70s yesterday afternoon after he was tipped out of his kayak on Waipaoa River and was sucked out into Turanganui-a-Kiwa/Poverty Bay. Picture supplied

# ‘MAGIC’ RAIN

## Welcomed by region’s pastoral farmers

by Murray Robertson

NERVOUSNESS turned to joy for the district’s farmers as the weekend weather brought “magic” rain for grass growth and farm dam supplies. Pastoral farms across the whole region benefited to varying degrees from the rain. Places like Waerenga-o-Kuri collected 42 millimetres in 24 hours on Sunday/Monday and a total of 145mm in the previous seven days. Hikuwai got 49mm in a day and 153mm in the seven days, Mangaheia 45mm/161mm, Matawai 17mm/128mm, Ngatapa 26mm/126mm, Waipaoa up to 30mm/100mm and Wharekopae 18mm/37mm. “There was an air of nervousness considering what the rain event had done down on the West Coast earlier in the week and

the pummelling Taranaki was receiving,” Gisborne/Wairoa Federated Farmers provincial president Toby Williams said. “There was good reason for it. “But what eventuated was magic — heavy but not torrential rain. “At Pouawa we had 110mm of rain over 36 hours,” Mr Williams said. “The creek came up briefly but quickly dropped back down to being only slightly higher than usual and still running clear. “This shows how much of this rainfall has soaked straight in. “The region was starting to dry out but not in any way that is exceptional for this time of the year,” Mr Williams said. “Our early summer rain has kept the grass moving and the dams and creeks topped up.” The rain and the continued warm temperatures would get the grass rocketing out of the ground,

he said. “With the early rams already out and many people’s maternal dates only a month away, it will mean ewes will be in tip-top condition and farmers can look forward to an excellent tugging season. “With disruptions at most processing plants due to staffing issues it also means that the grass growth will take the pressure off farmers having to unload stock due to feed constraints.” Mr Williams said as with any rain event at this time of the year there was bad with the good. “Facial eczema and Barber’s Pole (parasite) issues are sure to start cranking up. “Farmers need to be proactive and talk to their vet to ensure these production limiting factors are managed the best they can be. “It also bears noting that for some of the horticulture and cropping properties the rain and humidity will not have been welcome,” Mr Williams said. “But for pastoral farming it is fantastic and it will help to heal the wounds of the last few dry summers.”

**‘...for pastoral farming it is fantastic and it will help heal the wounds of the last few dry summers’**  
— Gis Wai Fed Farmers provincial president Toby Williams

# Auction instead of hooks in water

THE annual Nicks Head charity fishing competition will be a bit different this year. Due to uncertainty around Covid-19 restrictions the fishing part of the event has been cancelled. However, in order to support

unwell children and their families, the event will be run as a silent auction at Gisborne Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club. The auction will run from February 28 to March 13. All funds raised will go towards supporting local children and

their families affected by illness. Auction items will be on display at the fishing club’s main bar. Last year the competition raised close to \$25,000. To donate, contact the fishing club on (06) 8684756 or email manager@gistatapouri.co.nz

## Over 1000 Covid-19 tests done in a week

FROM PAGE 1

JUST over 1000 Covid-19 tests have been done following the region’s outbreak, which remained at 17 today. Between January 31 and February 6, 1001 tests were administered, with another 199 tests carried out yesterday — 178 of those at the relocated drive-through clinic at Watson Park. A Hauora Tairāwhiti district health board spokeswoman thanked the “large number” of people who got tested yesterday following the end of the Waitangi Day long weekend. She also highlighted the need to use the Covid-19 Tracer app. “Using the Covid Tracer app is the best way to keep track of the places you have visited. “By using the Covid-19 Tracer app there will be no need to check the locations of interest page and search for the towns you visited during the holidays to see if you were at a location of interest.

“Whether at a location of interest or not, if you develop sore throat, runny nose or other flu/cold symptoms, please get a test.” There are no new locations of interest. “A reminder that if you were at the Waikanae holiday park during the locations of interest period please call Healthline before taking any action. We expect that location of interest to be reduced to January 29 to 30 January. “All locations of interest older than January 29 will be removed off the site soon.” Locations of interest can be viewed on the Hauora Tairāwhiti website at bit.ly/3L2urkV As of this morning those locations were Waikanae TOP 10 Holiday Park (close contact); Gisborne City Vintage Railway (close contact); Carl’s Jr; Flight NZ8173 from Auckland to Gisborne on Thursday, January 27, from 7.25pm to 8.30pm (close contact); and Gisborne InterCity bus terminal.

## Council confirms funding boost for Trust Tairāwhiti

REGIONAL economic development agency and tourism organisation Trust Tairāwhiti has been given a funding boost. Gisborne District Council chief executive Nedine Thatcher Swann confirmed the council would increase its funding. “At the meeting of the council in January, the council agreed to increase funding to Trust Tairāwhiti

from the current level of \$535,000 in year one of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan to \$587,000 in year two and \$598,740 in year three. “We appreciate the trust’s efforts to continue initiatives that encourage economic development and tourism promotion, and we look forward to ongoing collaboration for the benefit of the whole community.”

FAMILY NOTICES

Deaths

Deaths

ALLEN, Keith David.  
— On Tuesday, 8th February 2022, at Wairarapa Hospital, aged 87 years. Loved brother and brother-in-law of Lois (Gisborne), Ruth and Vernon Cook (Gisborne), Winton (Masterton), Rodney and the late Ariel Clague (Gisborne), and the late Elizabeth. Messages to the Allen family may be posted to C/- PO Box 2055 Masterton 5842.  
A service for Keith will be held at the Crossway Church, cnr of Worksop Rd and Queen St, Masterton, on Friday 11th February at 11am, followed by a private cremation. This is a vaccinated only event limited to 100 people. Vaccine passes are mandatory. The livestreaming code is www.spaceshipstreaming.com/keithallen



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## Nomination for top environmental gong

TAIRAWHITI conservationist Hamiora Gibson has been named a semi-finalist in the New Zealand Environmental Hero of the Year 2022. The award is given to people who have made remarkable contributions to restoring the environment by protecting unique species. It is jointly given by the Department of Conservation and Ministry for the Environment. The Eastern Whio Link co-founder believes that in order to understand our ecosystems we must invest time in research and collect data throughout the seasons. Using mātauranga Māori and western ecological thinking, Mr Gibson has developed new monitoring methodologies that use traditional mahinga kai species such as pikopiko, kareao, tawa and kohia fruit as well as the condition of introduced species such as trout and deer as indicators of ecosystem health.

## Evening of dragons and orangutans

COVID-19 restrictions led to fewer members turning up to the first meeting for the year of the Gisborne Combined Friendship Group. Those attending were welcomed by the president, Mrs Noelene McDougall, and enjoyed an early morning tea. Guest speaker Murry Cave showed a screen presentation of his six-week trip around Indonesia. He has a strong interest in photography and he worked on “Project-Primates in Asia” while he was there. He showed the group images of orangutans and monkeys in Borneo, crested macaque in Sulawesi, flying lizards and snakes in the forest and Komodo dragons on Komodo Island. Murry visited other islands in the Indonesian archipelago and observed animals, crabs and birds in their natural habitat. Makassar is known as a ship graveyard, which he said made for fascinating viewing. The Gisborne Combined Friendship Group meets at the Kahutia Bowling Club, Cobden Street on the first Wednesday of the month from 9.30am and everyone is welcome. For more information call Noelene on 868 4473 or Dianne 867 4294.

# EIT graduate headed to big screen

A TAIRAWHITI graduate's dream to capture action behind the scenes and tell visual stories has taken her to the big screen. After taking a Diploma in Screen Production (level 5), Rāmari Fox was one of the first students to study a Bachelor of Creative Practice (Screen Production) from the Eastland Institute of Technology (EIT) and graduate in 2020. “With this EIT course, you have three years, and you get to learn every single part of the creative process,” she said. “You get to learn what you love doing and what you don't like doing, which I think is really beneficial, especially coming into the industry where you have to be multifaceted.” Ms Fox (Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Rongomaiwahine) born in Ruatoria, spent eight years in Brisbane and moved to Wellington in 2015 to study make-up artistry. But giving birth to her son at the end of the same year meant she had to cut her course short. When her son turned two she decided to take the plunge and enrol at EIT's Hawke's Bay Campus in Taradale. “It's the best decision I could have made . . . also being able to collaborate and work with like-minded people was awesome and made it a lot easier to push through the hard stuff,” she said. An internship at Auckland-based Māori production company Pango Productions opened the doors for full-time employment. From starting at the company

POINT OF VIEW SHOT: Ramari Fox on set. The Tairawhiti graduate has learned every part of the filmmaker's art after studying a Diploma in Screen Production and a Bachelor of Creative Practice at EIT. She is now ready to take a big step into the film industry. Picture supplied



officially last year, she has climbed up the ranks and is now production manager. Since then, Ms Fox has worked on a number of projects including a game show, a dating show, a documentary, and TVNZ's weekly Sunday show Marae. Even though she's a successful production manager, she still loves being behind the camera. “I love having my hands on the camera and being able to manipulate everything,” she said. “I think that's one of the things that's so great but also so scary about the job that everything relies

on you. “You are the one that's capturing everything. The talent in front of you could be great and the light could be great, and the sound could be great, but if you are not on and if you're not great, then it's all for nothing.” She credits her success to the “wealth of knowledge” she was able to learn in the programme, and the tutors who went above and beyond. EIT lecturer Tessa Tylee said, “It is so wonderful to see Ramari working in the screen industry and doing so well. Over the three years

she was at EIT we watched her grow and through trying different things discover the talents she had. “Ramari took up every opportunity we threw at her and she became a central figure in our EIT Screen Production whānau, and always will be part of us.” Ms Fox said she would love to work in films and test her skills adapting to the different scenarios, and her ultimate goal was to be the boss and produce her own content. “I couldn't recommend studying at EIT more. You get to try everything, and that variety of skills is vital for a career in the industry.”

# A line of sight into clear and open communication

## Local advocate calls for greater engagement with sign language

FROM PAGE 1  
by Akula Sharma

NOT enough people in Tairāwhiti understand or are familiar with New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL), a community support worker says. NZSL is one of the official languages of this country. It is used by deaf people and those linked with them, such as people who have deaf relatives or interpreters who work with deaf people. “We need more people learning it and becoming aware of our community here in Gisborne so they can help our deaf and hard-of-hearing whānau, because more and more people are getting hearing problems,” Gisborne Care and Craft Centre supervisor Dot McCulloch said. “I myself will be needing hearing aids.” Ms McCulloch has been working for the Gisborne Care and Craft Centre for 33 years. The centre provides a range of interests and companionship for adults with disabilities, or lonely house-bound people. It runs on volunteers and the support of local communities. Some people who take part in centre activities are deaf and hard of hearing, and many rely completely on NZSL. “Some of the girls have been here for

‘The community is not always kind to (deaf people). One of the girls went somewhere and asked for help but was sent away by a business owner who should’ve known better’

—Dot McCulloch, Gisborne Care and Craft Centre supervisor

a significant time so we have developed a trusting relationship to understand one another and make communication happen with the little sign language I know,” Ms McCulloch said. “I took one of the girls to get her vaccination pass because she did not have one. I help them out as much as I can.” Among them are Penny McNamara and Betty Fox, both of whom communicate through NZSL, lip and facial reading. Mask wearing due to Covid-19 restrictions is a huge communication barrier for them, they told the Herald via Ms McCulloch. “The mask is obstructing. It is frustrating for us, because we can't lip-read or understand the other person's

facial expression to make out what they are trying to say.” Ms McCulloch said she had gone into shops and pretended to be deaf and the reaction was disappointing. “They shrug and get confused about what to do. The community is not always kind to them. One of the girls went somewhere and asked for help but was sent away by a business owner who should've known better.” Ms McCulloch said with the lack of a local deaf support service and lack of awareness about NZSL, there was little help available for deaf and hard-of-hearing whānau in the region. “They don't have a mask exemption, or a

clear mask but they probably should have. It's an expense that some of them can't really afford because they are on a tight pension like myself. “We all need to stick to a budget. “We need a supply of clear masks for whānau in Tairāwhiti.” Deaf Aotearoa's out-of-district support worker Lee Bullivan, who is deaf, understands the struggle. He frequently visits Tairāwhiti, but Ms McCulloch said it was a big area he alone covers. “He goes to the upper East Coast as well,” she said. “He hasn't been here since before Christmas. “It would help if we got a local support worker, someone who understands NZSL and whānau struggles.” A Hauora Tairāwhiti District Health Board spokesperson said patients unable to communicate clearly because they could not speak or hear did qualify for a mask exemption. According to the Ministry of Health guidelines, there are situations where face masks are not needed, including when communicating with deaf and hearing-impaired people. “We also know that some people who have a disability or health condition may not be able to wear a face mask. “Please be mindful of this. They still have the right to food, pharmacies, education and other services,” the guidelines advise. “You don't need to wear a mask when you need to communicate with someone who is deaf, hard of hearing, deaf/blind or has a disability which makes it hard to have effective communication.”



**SHIP-SHAPE:** Commander Kane Sutherland took control of frigate HMNZS Te Kaha from Commander Brock Symmons in a ceremony outside the National Museum of the Royal New Zealand Navy in Devonport last week. Picture supplied



**'I HAVE THE SHIP':** With those words Kane Sutherland, who schooled in Tolaga Bay and Gisborne and has family here, took command of frigate HMNZS Te Kaha last week. Commander Sutherland also marked 20 years in the Royal New Zealand Navy on Saturday. Picture supplied

# From Coast, Champion to frigate commander

by Andrew Ashton

A FORMER Gisborne student is now the officer in charge of one of New Zealand Navy's two combat vessels.

Kane Sutherland was appointed to Commander of the frigate Te Kaha earlier this week.

Born in Napier and educated at Tolaga Bay and Campion College, he joined the Royal New Zealand Navy in 2002 straight from school.

Speaking to The Herald, Commander Sutherland said the position of Commander was one he had been working towards over his near-20-year career.

"The primary task for the frigate is to conduct security patrols and surveillance.

"We do a lot around South East Asia. We can operate over in the Middle East whether it's full operations or conducting military

exercises with our partners to make sure we can work well with them if we need to.

"We have quite a lot of capability. The frigate has the full system of capability in the navy. We have a crew of 178 and can carry a naval helicopter as well."

Commander Sutherland celebrated 20 years in the navy on Saturday.

"I'm honoured to have the privilege of being able to get appointed Commander of a frigate.

"We only have two of them so it's not something that's afforded to everyone."

HMNZS Te Kaha is an Anzac-class frigate armed with a five-inch, 54-millimetre calibre fully automatic lightweight gun, anti-air missile defence and close-in weapons systems, as well as anti-submarine torpedoes.

It also has a Kaman Super Seasprite SH-2G(I) helicopter carrying a combination of torpedoes, depth charges, Penguin air-to-ship missiles and an M60 machine gun.

# Helping the kākā bounce back from the brink



**LOCALISED EFFORTS:** Hamiora Gibson says Kākā are an incredible native parrot that used to be common throughout our district. "They are at the brink of localised extinction but with a little work we could once again have them in our backyards eating the fruit from our fruit trees." Picture supplied

YOU may have seen flocks of boisterous kākā gathering in early morning and late evening to "socialise". Probably not in our district for some time, as they are now rare in Tairāwhiti.

Māori call their amusing antics and sharp voices a form of gossip.

Co-founder of Eastern Whio Link, Sam the Trap Man, aka Hamiora Gibson, said kākā were cavity-nesting birds which meant they needed trees that were old enough to have hollows where they could rear chicks.

"In many modified landscapes, there are not adequate nest sites available so people have built artificial 'hollow trees' for them to breed in," he said.

"Kākā chicks are very destructive as they build up their jaw muscles to tear apart rotten trunks in search of grubs."

The main threat to kākā is predation. Juvenile kākā are susceptible to stoat and possum predation, as is the mother when she is nesting.

"The chicks and eggs are also known to be predated upon by rats. Predation of the mother on the nest has resulted in most wild kākā populations consisting almost entirely of males, where predator control isn't being undertaken."

Mr Gibson said in several areas of Tairāwhiti, Kākā were still hanging on by their talons.

They are in incredibly low numbers and the remnant population is heavily skewed towards males.

"In Waioeka for example we are visited by kākā frequently and in Raukumara we know of just two individuals left."

Other regions such as Hawke's Bay, Wellington and Waikato have worked hard to re-establish kākā across their landscapes.

Mr Gibson said such conservation projects consisted of large urban and rural predator control operations, as well as reintroducing and supporting breeding projects.

"Now kākā are in such abundance that they are becoming a nuisance in places, eating fruit from people's fruit trees and shrieking in the early mornings."

Spell fact, Watch out for the macron! While "kākā" refers to a beautiful native parrot, kaka refers to excrement.

Mr Gibson said the beauty of te reo Māori is in its macrons. The macron means that you hold the vowel pronouncing the word as kaakaa rather than kaka, and this parrot deserves to have its name pronounced properly.

# Parliament protesters trespassed by police

by Sophie Trigger, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Protesters based at Parliament overnight have responded angrily after being trespassed by police. Upon receiving the trespass notice, protest organisers threw the notice back at the police officer in charge. At least 100 officers greeted protesters this morning, many of whom had camped overnight at Parliament after travelling across the country in convoy to protest vaccine mandates and the Government’s response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Furious protesters approached the line of police officers guarding the forecourt of Parliament chanting “tell the truth” while also hurling abuse at the media stationed on the balcony above. Speaker of the House Trevor Mallard had earlier threatened to trespass anti-vaccine mandate demonstrators who camped out overnight. Thousands of protesters brought Wellington’s city streets to a standstill yesterday when they arrived for Convoy 2022 — a movement in protest against ongoing Covid restrictions, including



**STREETS BROUGHT TO A STANDSTILL:** Protesters blocked streets around Parliament yesterday. NZ Herald picture

vaccine mandates. A spokesperson yesterday said they were “in for the long haul” and intend to stay for days, with some remaining on Parliament’s

lawns overnight. This morning Mallard said he would trespass the group if they refused to move. A letter handed out to protesters by the Speaker’s office reminded them of the rules of protest on Parliamentary grounds — including that they must not impede the flow of vehicular traffic, cannot set up tents and must direct all speakers away from Parliament. Speakers can only be used for speeches, and speeches can only be given during daylight hours. All protesters have been asked to take down their tents, and failure to do so will result in a trespass. Wellington District road policing manager Inspector Wade Jennings said they recognised individuals had a lawful right to protest and had been monitoring the protest throughout the day. “While there has been some disruption to traffic, there have been no significant incidents and subsequently no arrests,” he said. “Police staff will continue to have a presence at the protest and will deal with incidents as they arise.”

# Covid-19 continues to spread around NZ

AUCKLAND — Covid-19 is continuing to creep into schools around the country this week, but a leading immunologist says New Zealand is in a good position to face Omicron given most of the population has recently been boosted. University of Auckland Associate Professor Helen Petousis-Harris said having the best immunity possible would make a big difference to the number of people getting sick as Omicron continues to spread. Neither Petousis-Harris or Malaghan Institute of Medical Research director Professor Graham Le Gros envisaged a future of endless boosters and Le Gros said work was under way in New Zealand and overseas to develop a vaccine that would target all Covid-19 variants and create immunity for between five and 10 years. Almost a dozen Waikato schools have now had either staff or students test positive for Covid-19 within a week of schools reopening. A number of Auckland schools, including several large secondary schools, have also been forced to identify close contacts of positive Covid-19 cases.

As Covid-19 continues to spread around the country, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said yesterday that she would only close schools and early childhood centres as a “last resort” during Covid outbreaks. But she warned that new variants of Covid-19 were expected this year and it was time to “prepare for winter” as opening the borders was likely to lead to influenza re-emerging. Health Minister Andrew Little told Newstalk ZB’s Mike Hosking this morning that once the country’s borders reopen it is likely that flu incidents will increase. “We know that once we open the borders the incidents of flu are likely to go up. We have to prepare for it.” On modelling predictions that one million Kiwis could contract Omicron, Little encouraged people to get boosted. However, he added that he didn’t know how accurate the modelling was. “For safety’s sake, get the booster shot and have that extra protection.” So far 44 percent of the eligible population are yet to receive their booster. Modelling released yesterday by Te Pūnaha Matatini revealed that hundreds

will die from Omicron within the next few months. The report suggested peak daily hospital admissions could range from 200 to 800, and peak daily hospital bed demand range from 800 to 3300 for a modelled outbreak starting February 1 where there is high booster uptake. New Zealand’s hospital capacity would also come under “significant strain” even with high booster dose coverage, according to the modelling. These figures have prompted warnings from leaders in Māori health and intensive care that the Omicron surge could soon grow much worse, while one expert describes it as useful but still inconclusive without more local data. There were 202 community cases of Covid-19 reported yesterday, with 63 in MIQ. The new cases were in Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Lakes, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki, Hawke’s Bay, Hutt Valley, Capital and Coast and Nelson Marlborough. Fourteen people are in hospital with Covid-19, including one in intensive care in Rotorua. — NZ Herald

## Campion’s Power of the Dog leads Oscar race

LOS ANGELES — New Zealand director Jane Campion’s film *The Power of the Dog* leads the nominations for this year’s Oscars. Campion’s dark Western leads the field of this year’s Academy Awards contenders with 12 nominations, ahead of the 10 nods for science-fiction epic *Dune*.



JANE CAMPION

Both will compete for the prestigious best picture trophy against drama *Belfast*, about a family living amid sectarian conflict in late 1960s Northern Ireland; deaf community film *CODA*; and *Don’t Look Up*, a darkly comic allegory about climate change. Other best picture nominees included Japanese drama *Drive My Car*, King Richard, about the father of tennis stars Venus and Serena Williams, coming-of-age story *Licorice Pizza*, thriller *Nightmare Alley*, and Steven Spielberg’s remake of the classic musical *West Side Story*. Campion became the first woman nominated twice for best director with her nod for *The Power of the Dog*. She was a contender for her 1993 film *The Piano*, but lost out that year to Spielberg, who won for *Schindler’s List*. *The Power of the Dog* also received nominations across the top acting categories for stars Benedict Cumberbatch, Jesse Plemons, Kodi Smit-McPhee and Kirsten Dunst. In the running for lead acting honours are Nicole Kidman and Javier Bardem for playing TV comedy couple Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz in *Being the Ricardos*. Will Smith was nominated for the title role in *King Richard*, along with Andrew Garfield for biographical musical *Tick, Tick . . . Boom!* and Denzel Washington for *The Tragedy of Macbeth*. Kristen Stewart will compete for best actress for her portrayal of Princess Diana in *Spencer*. The other best actress nominees were Jessica Chastain for *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*, Olivia Colman in *The Lost Daughter* and Penelope Cruz for *Parallel Mothers*. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the group that hands out the Oscars, will reveal the winners at a live ceremony in Hollywood on March 27. — RNZ

# Test delays keeping returnees in MIQ

ROTORUA — Eighty frustrated MIQ returnees have been told they cannot leave their Rotorua hotel yet because of delays in getting the results for their final Covid-19 test. Joanne Zorkendorfer and her family were set to leave the Rydges Hotel in Rotorua and travel to Auckland early this morning after completing the required 10-day stay in MIQ. During their stay, returnees must have a Covid test on day five or six and day eight or nine. However, Zorkendorfer was told yesterday afternoon they wouldn’t be allowed to leave because the day eight test results had not come back. Zorkendorfer has spent the past 18 months trying to return to New Zealand to visit her terminally ill mother. “When you come into the country you make an agreement that you will stay in quarantine for 10 days. “Now the agreement has been broken and we are completely powerless to change it,” she said. Zorkendorfer said it was “infuriating” to be told just hours before they were set to complete their

10-day stay that they could not leave. “It feels like no one is advocating for us and it feels like no one cares,” she said. Since arriving in the country, Zorkendorfer said test results have taken around three days to return. “There is a lot of control and a lot of mismanagement for the sake of keeping everyone safe, which doesn’t make sense because Omicron is already in the community.” Zorkendorfer and other returnees in the hotel do not know when their test results will return and when they will be allowed to leave. “The Government has lost all credibility if it cannot live up to its own strict standards and cannot follow through and treat its citizens respectfully and humanly.” Another returnee in the same facility said the group had complied with every requirement set by the Government and he alone had completed five tests since arriving in MIQ 10 days ago. “And then the phone call came at 7pm on the eve of my release telling me that we were not going home tomorrow.”

He also questioned why a rapid test was not acceptable for his final release when he was able to use one to board his flight to New Zealand. Some guests had been in tears after hearing the news last night, he said. Head of MIQ Chris Bunny confirmed the laboratory processing the tests hadn’t been able to provide the results yet, which meant the guests’ departure had to be delayed. “The decision to extend their stay has been made by MIQ on the basis of the advice of the medical officer of health because we could not be satisfied that the returnees are at a low risk of having or transmitting Covid-19,” he said. One person in the group had tested positive on day five so they were taking every precaution. MBIE had asked the lab to prioritise returning the results and people would be able to begin the exit process as soon as they were received. “We apologise for the inconvenience this causes and for the disruption to returnees’ travel plans. “We will work with those affected to assist them with rearranging their plans.” — NZ Herald

# THE BIG BOOST WEEK *is now on!*

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# Rise in booster shots

by John Weekes, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — A million people due to get booster shots began receiving text or email alerts from yesterday, as Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern promised \$400,000 to rural communities to deal with Covid disruption.

At a joint press conference with Covid-19 Response Minister Chris Hipkins, Ardern said the Omicron outbreak was likely to accelerate quickly.

“Cases are growing but this is not unexpected.

“We were able to essentially stamp out Delta. With Omicron, we won’t be able to do that.”

It was the “big boost week” she said, with more than 150 sites open in Auckland.

The extra million people who became eligible on Friday would begin receiving text or email alerts.

On economic issues, Ardern praised exporters and said \$400,000 would be allocated to rural support agencies and similar groups.

The PM said the initiative would help farmers facing disruption from the outbreak.

Hipkins said the evidence showed governments should do whatever possible to keep public health systems from being overwhelmed.

He said booster shots helped, but added: “The additional public health measures we have at our red setting also make a difference.”

He said intensive-care unit staff were nervous, and it was important they were not overwhelmed.

Hipkins said schools wanted to help with vaccine drives but did not want to be targeted. In some cases, schools were



**CASES ACCELERATING:** Reducing the interval to three months means an additional one million New Zealanders are eligible to receive their booster before the end of summer. NZ Herald picture

victims of “pretty aggressive and in some cases, nasty anti-vax sentiment”.

Ardern and Hipkins were asked about the Director General of Health and reports Whānau Ora was again denied vaccination data.

“I absolutely have confidence in Dr Bloomfield,” Ardern said.

Hipkins said he had met many Maori health providers and took direct feedback about issues providers were concerned about.

“There is some concern around some communities that if data is used too assertively it can increase the level of hesitancy around vaccinations.”

Hipkins was asked what would happen if an Omicron outbreak hit Parliament.

“The short answer: It’s going to be a case-by-case thing. It’s a matter of when, not if, a Member of Parliament finds themselves testing positive.”

Agriculture Minister Damien O’Connor said \$400,000 had been allocated to aid primary producers if a farmer or grower got Covid.

The funding will go to Rural Support Trusts and other organisations. Wage support was also available through the Leave Support Scheme for people affected during this stage of the Omicron outbreak.

It is paid at the same rates as the wage subsidy, \$600 a week per full-time worker and \$359 a week per part-time worker.

The funding will initially be available until April 1.

## Reward offered for return of Covid diagnostic test

AUCKLAND — A \$500 reward is being offered for the return of a stolen instrument that is crucial to an Auckland laboratory’s newly developed Covid-19 diagnostic test.

Pictor Limited is desperate to have the reader — especially imported from Europe just three weeks ago — returned after a break-in at their Parnell laboratory and offices on Saturday.

“We had imported this reader as part of our Covid-19 diagnostic development,” chief executive Howard Moore said.

“I’m sure these burglars would not have realised what they were doing. This instrument is of no use to anyone except to a laboratory.

“We are so desperate to get it back.”

Pictor is just weeks away from its Covid-19 diagnostic tests becoming commercially available. A trial is planned at an Auckland laboratory this month.

The blood test allows it to differentiate between those who have antibodies from being infected with Covid-19 from those who have been vaccinated and there are hopes the test can be used to facilitate safe entry into New Zealand by foreign travellers.

Pictor developed its test with a \$500,000 funding grant from the Government’s \$25m Covid-19 Innovation Acceleration fund.

Moore said replacing the reader would be “frustrating and disappointing because that affects the team of five million”.

The stolen reader has a specialised camera which takes images of almost 100 samples on a plastic plate. The camera is incorporated into an instrument with software which ultimately gives the result of the diagnostic test.

“This particular reader cannot be replaced without bringing in another one from Europe, which would take a month or so, which is going to slow down our Covid-19 development,” he said. — NZ Herald



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# KIRI TE KANAWA VILLAGE WELCOMES DREAM DUO

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Penny Forrester (Ngāti Porou), Village Manager, and Jane Smith, Sales Advisor, have both been in their roles at Ryman Healthcare’s Kiri Te Kanawa Village for six months and enjoy the diversity of village life. “From the care centre through to independent living, it has been amazing meeting the fascinating people who come here to live and enjoy their lives,” says Penny.

Penny brings with her a wealth of experience in healthcare and management, firstly as a Registered Nurse and more recently as the Manager of the DHB Needs Assessment and Service Coordination (NASC) service. Jane has worn many hats in her working life, most recently as Advertising Manager at The Gisborne Herald, but in taking on her new role she is in her element. “I absolutely love it!” she says.

Penny recognises good care when she sees it. When a family member urgently needed hospital care and was admitted to the village, she witnessed first-hand the Ryman ethos of kindness.

“I knew the village delivered good care, but I hadn’t experienced it personally. I was blown away by the superior level of nursing care the village provided.

“People were kind and that was important to me.

“I have continued to be impressed with both the care and the communication.”

Penny believes it’s important to value the residents’ pasts, listen to their stories and remember the interesting lives they led and are still leading.

Relationship building is important to both Penny and Jane. They recognise that the village is the residents’ home and consider themselves guests.

Jane says, “It’s important to remember that. I’m a very social person so I love to



Penny Forrester and Jane Smith join the village management team

go and chat with the residents at happy hour and have a laugh with them.

“They’re still here doing activities when I go home in the evening - playing board games and cards or just enjoying the company of others.”

Jane was amazed at the wide selection of activities and outings that are available for residents in the village which has been a safe haven for residents during the pandemic.

Both have busy roles but are always ready to listen and do their best to help.

“I have excellent support,” says Penny, “Especially the strong clinical support from Ryman.

“Their systems are very robust, and their technology is streamlined with excellent communications to residents and their families. At a time when we are experiencing a lot of changes in our lives, Ryman are always ready and prepared for the next step.

“We offer all different levels of independence to match our residents’

needs and we ensure our residents have priority if they require a move to further care in our spacious care centre.

“My goal is to continue to develop relationships with the residents.”

Jane’s bubbly personality and a delightful sense of humour is balanced with the care, compassion and understanding she has for people about to make the move to the village.

She enjoys seeing residents living their best lives and knowing she has played a part in making that happen. She says the best time to move to the village is when you can make that decision yourself and take advantage of everything it offers.

Whether it’s a townhouse, independent apartment or a serviced apartment, Jane will spend the time finding out what you’re looking for and do her very best to find your new home.

To find out more about our Kiri Te Kanawa Village in Lytton West, or to arrange an appointment and tour of our village, contact Penny or Jane.



**Kiri Te Kanawa Village offers independent and assisted living, as well as resthome, hospital and specialist dementia care.**

**Call Penny or Jane for more details.**

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44560-02

Conversion therapy bill passes second reading in Parliament

WELLINGTON — A bill that would ban conversion therapy has passed its second reading in Parliament.

Conversion therapy involves attempts to change a person's sexual orientation or gender.

All parties except National block-voted in favour of the bill.

National's leader Christopher Luxon announced in the lead up to the bill that his MPs would be able to vote with their conscience.

In total, 26 of National's MPs voted for the bill and seven voted against it.


The select committee heard oral submissions from 837 submitters in total, made up of 716 individuals and 121 organisations. Among the concerns raised were that parents could be criminalised.

However, the select committee found that "conversations between parents and children would not be criminalised under the offence in clause 8".


"We believe that the standard for a behaviour to be considered a conversion practice in the bill is appropriately high," it said.

The MP in charge of the bill, Labour's Kris Faafoi, said the bill received the largest ever number of submissions in Parliament's history.

He thanked the Justice Select Committee for listening to harrowing submissions of people who had undergone conversion therapy and from those stuck in a time where the diversity of gender and sexual orientation was not accepted. — RNZ



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# Struggling to cope

## St John experiencing 'extremely high demand'

by Nita Blake-Persen, RNZ

AUCKLAND — The Government has a shake-up of the ambulance sector in its sights as staffing and funding issues continue to plague St John.

The charity runs most of New Zealand's ambulance services, but has been struggling with response times amid massive demand for its services.

That has left some whānau concerned their loved ones could be at risk — including an Auckland woman who recently waited for an hour as she suffered a heart attack.

The woman's son, Sam, who does not want to be identified, said when his mother began having chest pain one evening this year, they waited to see how it would play out before deciding to call an ambulance.

The pair live on the North Shore — a seven-minute drive from hospital — but with his mother 95 years old, and in a deteriorating condition, Sam wasn't able to take her to the hospital himself.

As her condition worsened, they called 111 at 10.07pm. Call staff advised she take an aspirin while they waited for the next available ambulance.

But half an hour later no one had arrived so Sam called back — only to be told that they had yet to even be assigned an ambulance.

"The woman I got the second time, she said, 'look, your mother's case was logged as a priority one. We're terribly sorry. Auckland has just been flooded with priority one calls,'" he said.

An ambulance eventually arrived an hour after the first call.



**EMERGENCY:** St John said it was experiencing high demand and ambulances were committed to other emergencies. NZ Herald picture

St John Auckland area operations manager Andy Everiss said Sam's mother's condition was categorised as "potentially life threatening" when the call came in, but they were experiencing very high demand and all other ambulances were committed to other emergencies.

He said the ambulance arrived at 11.07pm and transferred her to hospital in a serious condition.

He apologised for "not meeting the caller's expectations", and said St John was experiencing "extremely high demand for services across the country".

Sam stressed the paramedics who helped his mother, and the call centre staff he dealt with, were all incredible and capable people. But he worries they are working in a

broken system, one that isn't coping now and could struggle significantly as Omicron cases rise.

Sam said the ordeal with his mother highlights issues with the way things are run. He thinks the ambulance service should be run like a state-owned enterprise.

Those are concerns Health Minister Andrew Little is aware of, with ambulance contracts currently being renegotiated.

He said ambulance funding was topped up in the middle of the last contract because they were struggling, but some of the issues continued.

Little said the issue of bringing the ambulance service into public ownership would need to be looked at in the next few years.

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## More Kiwis to be eligible for free flu vaccine

WELLINGTON — A quarter of a million extra flu vaccines will be made available for New Zealanders as the Government plans to protect vulnerable communities this winter.

Health Minister Andrew Little said this means up to two million New Zealanders will be eligible for a free flu vaccination this year.

"The efforts of the team of five million have helped prevent our hospitals from becoming overwhelmed with Covid-19.

"Now, as we prepare to reconnect to the world, we can expect to see more seasonal flu in New Zealand. Vaccinating more people from the flu will save lives, preserve capacity in our hospitals, and is a part of our plan to get through the Covid-19 pandemic," Little said.

Little said the flu vaccine can be safely administered at the same time as the Covid-19 vaccine, whether it be a booster shot or paediatric vaccine.

Professor Peter McIntyre from the Immunisation Advisory Centre said the flu hasn't spread much in the past two winters, but overseas situations show the flu may return this winter.

Vaccine expert Helen Petousis-Harris said a simultaneous Covid-19 and flu outbreak would create a "double whammy" for hospitals across the country.

"If we go right back to the beginning of the pandemic there was the concern about flu but we locked down and the flu didn't get a look in.

"But the more we are moving around, the more opportunity the flu is going to have," she said.

Currently, flu vaccinations are free for pregnant women, over 65s, and people who have certain medical conditions.

Clinical experts at the Ministry of Health and Pharmac are updating the eligibility criteria for free flu vaccination with a focus on reducing the age of eligibility for at-risk populations.

Little said it is important to continue protecting those who are the most vulnerable. — NZ Herald

# Countdown ditches its limits on goods, for now

*‘We think it causes unnecessary concern’*

WELLINGTON — There seems to be different approaches being taken by supermarkets at the moment over limited sales of some of the products they are selling; however, Countdown currently does not have any restrictions on products in place apart from Panadol and Ibuprofen.

Countdown corporate affairs general manager Kiri Hannifin told RNZ's Morning Report they had found that putting restrictions in place could be counterproductive.

“If we needed restrictions, if people were buying too much or we were short of stock, we would put restrictions in place. But we don't need to at the moment,” Hannifin said.

“We've only got a limit on Panadol and Ibuprofen, but that's not to do with Covid, that's to do with the Coroner's recommendation around misuse.”

Restrictions could raise anxiety instead of prevent panic-buying, she said.

“And that's counterproductive because it just wipes out the shelves . . . we think it causes unnecessary concern.”

Countdown corporate affairs general manager Kiri Hannifin said Countdown were very mindful of regions where they had only one store supplying customers.

Finance Minister Grant Robertson had already warned that it was “inevitable” there would be some impact on the supply-chain as Omicron spread in the community, but he said officials would be working to minimise disruption.

If there was a surge in buying as a result of any disruption in the supply, as



**RESTRICTIONS ON PRODUCTS ‘CAN BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE’:** Countdown says it does not feel it needs to put restrictions on products in place at the moment. However, it can bring in restrictions in a matter of hours if needed. RNZ picture by Nate McKinnon

witnessed in Australia, then Countdown could easily bring in restrictions in a matter of hours, Hannifin said.

“It's been very difficult for our business in Australia and they saw significant disruption and lots of supply issues in stores, that started basically in the farm or in the food plant,” she said.

“So, we're planning for it. I guess we've expected it before now. We were sort of thinking we might see some problems or some issues last week, but we're doing pretty well as a country, so we're . . . kind of bracing ourselves for disruption, but not seeing it at the moment.

“But if it's like Australia, it will be a bit difficult for us and Kiwis will have to be a little bit patient because there will be some gaps on the shelves, but hopefully if we keep going like we're doing at the moment as a country and scanning in and testing and wearing masks, we might not see it so significant.”

Countdown was also preparing for up to 30 percent of staff to be away at any one time — at any site, Hannifin said.

“We've got different plans, depending on where our stores are in the country. So, for Auckland or Wellington, it's very easy to manage (staffing numbers), but it's much harder to manage that in Taupo or Queenstown, where there's only one store.

“And of course, there are the distribution centres — we need about 85 percent of our team to be there to run it, so we've got different sort of Covid protocols depending on (where our stores are located) in the country and what we're doing.”

There was already one store where a section had to be closed down because of team members having to self-isolate, Hannifin said.

“So we're already sort of doing it (operating with

less staff on board), but it is nowhere near as difficult as it was last August when we had 3000 people away. We had to close nine stores in Auckland to kind of deal with it. So we can close stores, we can reduce hours, we can close the deli or the bakery, we can close down a particular aisle.”

She said Countdown were very mindful of regions where they had only one store supplying customers.

“In those areas, such as Dargaville, we're looking at whether we'll do . . . rapid antigen testing in that store to kind of have elevated Covid controls, stop online delivery if needed and really kind of reduce the service to very basic food and groceries so that we can run with say 60 percent of the team.”

But it was not just about the logistics of keeping a store open and running, Hannifin said they wanted to ensure the wellbeing of their staff too.

— RNZ

## Tiwai Point decision looking hopeful at the moment: Southland leaders

TIWAI POINT — Rio Tinto has sent a positive message to its workers and the region of Southland by signalling it hopes to remain at Tiwai Point beyond 2024, the Southland Chamber of Commerce says.

The murky future of the Tiwai Point aluminium smelter got murkier yesterday as the smelter's majority owner, Rio Tinto, issued a statement saying it believed there was a pathway to keep the operation running beyond 2024.

In 2020, the mining giant threatened to close Tiwai Point over electricity costs.

It had also been under pressure to secure and clean up toxic waste stored at the site, and locals had called on the company to reveal its long-term plans to deal with the problem.

After securing a cut-price power deal, Rio Tinto agreed to keep the site open for four more years.

The company's statement came amid historically high aluminium prices.

Southland Chamber of Commerce president, Neil McAra, said it was good news for the region and the smelter's workers.

“This is positive news, but there is a lot to continue on with for the development of Southland. I don't think we can control what that long-term future looks like.

“NZAS (New Zealand Aluminium Smelters), Meridian and others will continue with the commercial arrangements, but for Southland we want a long-term and prosperous economy, which hopefully includes Tiwai and other new industries as well.”

Minister of Energy and Resources Megan Woods said her vision for the future of Southland had not changed.

Last week, the Government announced a Just Transition work plan for the region.

“Developing new industries, creating new jobs, improving the community's ability to manage economic shocks, setting Southland up for the future — these (plans) give Southlanders options that are not dependent on one large employer,” Woods said when the plan was announced.

Woods told RNZ the future of the Tiwai Point smelter was a commercial decision for Rio Tinto. “While they've announced they are rethinking their decision I note Meridian stated today to the NZX it is not in discussions with NZAS, around future electricity contracts.

“Whatever the outcome, this Government has been clear and consistent that there will be no taxpayer subsidies paid to the multi-national. What I can also tell you is that my vision for the region has not changed, I remain focused on creating a more resilient local economy . . . ”

The Southland Just Transition work plan “is a big step forward in providing certainty for Southland's economic future”, Woods said. — RNZ

## SHAREMARKET YESTERDAY

WELLINGTON — Travel and leisure stocks gained the spotlight with a nice bounce-back as the New Zealand sharemarket began the shortened week with a small gain.

The S&P/NZX 50 Index gained strength in the afternoon after a strong opening on the Australian market. The NZX index finished the day up 39.77 points or 0.32 percent to 12,319.34, after reaching a morning low of 12,249.98.

There were 70 gainers and 64 decliners across the whole market, with 30.29 million shares worth \$134.1 million changing hands.

Matt Goodson, managing director of Salt Funds Management, said the local market was quiet and liquidity was poor, which “accentuates the volatility we have been seeing. Our market followed a late sell-off in the United States in the morning trading but then Australia was up strongly”.

The S&P/ASX 200 Index had increased 1.2 percent to 7196.3 points at 5.45pm NZ time.

Suncorp, which owned Vero Insurance in New Zealand, was up 5.65 percent to A\$12.045 (\$12.91) after reporting a healthy six-month result to the end of December.

Goodson said Suncorp believed it would be able to capture the significant inflationary pressures by increasing premiums, and this was an interesting statement for the New Zealand insurance market.

There were no corporate announcements, but Air New Zealand suddenly rose 7.5c or 4.72 percent to \$1.665; SkyCity Entertainment gained 18c or 6.19 percent to \$3.09; and online travel provider Serko rebounded 15c or 2.88 percent to \$5.359.

Contact Energy, up 5c to \$8.09, reported its new Tauhara geothermal power station near Taupo — coming on-stream in the second half of 2023 — would generate 168 megawatts instead 152 megawatts, and it would cost \$818m to build, up from the initial estimate of \$678m.

Goodson said it was encouraging that the geothermal resource was a little bigger but this was offset by the capital expenditure blow-out.

“That's not unexpected in the inflationary

times we live in and it should not have a material impact on Contact or the market.”

Meridian Energy told the market it was not in discussions with the owner of the Tiwai Point aluminium smelter about a new electricity contract.

The existing contract would end on December 31, 2024, and Meridian's share price was up 6c, to \$4.85.

Market leader Fisher & Paykel Healthcare gained 44c to \$29.94; EBOS Group rose 77c or 1.93 percent to \$40.77; Skellerup Holdings increased 10c to \$6.49; Pushpay Holdings collected 2c or 1.83 percent to \$1.11; and EROAD was up 9c or 2.09 percent to \$4.40.

Among the retailers, Briscoe Group rose 13c or 2.13 percent to \$6.23; Michael Hill International was up 6c or 4.08 percent to \$1.53; and The Warehouse Group was down 9c or 2.77 percent to \$3.16.

Other gainers were Synlait Milk, which rose 9c or 2.69 percent to \$3.44; a2 Milk was up 6c to \$5.70; Sky Network Television increased 4c to \$2.55; Turners Automotive improved 11c or 2.61 percent to \$4.32; Kingfish Investment fund was up 7c or 4 percent to \$1.82; and NZ Automotive Investments collected 3c or 3.37 percent to 92c.

Transtasman chemicals business DGL Group increased 5c to \$2.95 after buying a 1.78ha industrial property in Rocklea, a suburb in Brisbane, for \$11m.

Mainfreight was down \$1.50 to \$86.50; Freightways decreased 33c or 2.62 percent to \$12.27; Chorus shed 7c to \$6.855; and PGG Wrightson, a strong performer lately, declined 22c or 3.85 percent to \$5.50.

Retirement village operator Summerset Group Holdings had a late fall, down 20c to \$12.10.

Property for Industry fell 9.5c or 3.33 percent to \$2.755; Rakon decreased 6c or 3.19 percent to \$1.82; Steel & Tube shed 5c or 3.11 percent to \$1.56; Winton Land was down 6c to \$3.40; and New Zealand Rural Land Company declined 5c or 4.2 percent to \$1.14.

Online personal lender Harmoney has arranged a new A\$150m facility to push for further growth in the Australian market. Harmoney's Australian loan book increased 83 percent last year, and its share price was down 7c or 3.95 percent to \$1.70.

— The New Zealand Herald

EDITORIAL

New lending laws not just about mortgages, banks

Epic battle ahead

Like two men-of-war confronting each other in a 19th century sea battle, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and National leader Christopher Luxon fired their opening salvos yesterday as Parliament sat for the first time this year, starting what would be a long-running battle extending all the way to October next year.

Including some barbs aimed at the Opposition, which is in essence the National Party, Ardern set a clear theme by outlining what the Government hoped to achieve in the coming year.

The themes of the two leaders' thrust was pretty clear, with Ardern setting out a long list of achievements she hoped to achieve despite the fact that the worst of Covid was still to come, and Luxon saying the Government was ineffective and unable to deliver on its many promises and schemes.

Labour had a substantial list of things it wanted to get done like a fair-pay agreement, new accessibility arrangements for the disabled and the granddaddy of them all — the Three Waters legislation.

At the same time, it had to prove that its management of Covid-19 is up to scratch. Although Covid was still here, the Government wanted to get on with a lot of other stuff.

Turning to a cricket analogy, Luxon opened the bowling by saying that the Government was a spendthrift and inefficient.

In doing so, he was going back to a long-held mantra by his party that National was better able to manage the country's cash coffers than Labour. Reflecting on his career in management, Luxon was painting himself, and therefore his party, as the ones who would get the country out of its present difficulties.

Luxon has enjoyed a strong start, improving the party's poll ratings into the 30s and bringing home many who had defected to ACT.

But the latest Newshub Reid Research poll showed that the centre left was still well ahead. Labour was up slightly, with 44.3 percent, and the Greens were on 9.6. On those poll results, Labour would win 56 seats, meaning it would need the Greens so its time as a single-majority Government would end.

There is a lot of work ahead for Luxon, including focusing on inflation, which is pushing up the cost of living — something that is always a risk for an incumbent government.

This metaphorical sea battle still has a long way to go and there will be many wins and losses for both sides until we find which of the two parties will most resemble Admiral Lord Nelson at Trafalgar.

by 'Alapasita Teu, Maxim Institute researcher

IMAGINE this: a family has car loan repayments to make. To do so, they ration food. They only have \$20 left to feed a whole family with three kids under the age of six. Nappies and baby formula are unaffordable, so sugary water becomes food and old sheets are nappies. Their car is essential for travelling to work and commuting, so missing loan repayments is not an option. The loan absorbs a large part of their weekly income, often leaving them without daily essentials.

How did this happen? If we dig a little deeper; someone granted this family a high-interest car loan, despite the financial hardship risks.

Unfortunately, this is the reality for many families in our backyard. A reality propagated by unscrupulous and harmful credit lending, leaving many in vulnerable circumstances with unmanageable debt. These harsh realities — addressed through the new lending regulations — are absent from the public discourse.

Media stories of declined mortgages due to Netflix subscriptions and Kmart trips have pointed to apparent failings in the



new lending laws.

However, the new lending laws are only one part of the story. Somehow, they have become the sole villain. The other perpetrators? Global inflation, monetary and fiscal policies, a lowered cash rate, debt-to-income ratio income limits, lowered interest rates, loan-to-value restrictions, and banks reducing overheads.

The public backlash towards recent lending changes is in contrast to the "team of 5 million" throughout the pandemic.

Sentiments of kindness, the collective, and "loving thy neighbour" — once in abundance — are absent here. Frustrations appear to be justified when the banks are declining people who can afford home loan repayments. But let's not forget the intent of the laws, and who they protect.

For some in our team of 5 million, this disgruntled posture isn't an option. Those who become victims of predatory lending — leading to financial hardship — have not featured in the frenzy surrounding new lending requirements.

Discretionary expenses like gym memberships, Disney Plus subscriptions, and dining out now affect an individual's lending eligibility.

However, for many New Zealanders, having extra spending money and being eligible for

a mortgage will never be a possibility in their lifetime. Don't get me wrong, concerns around homeownership and the ability to finance mortgages are warranted. However, what of those in our families, neighbourhoods, and communities who fall prey to irresponsible lending actions? Do they not matter as well?

The new lending legislation intends to protect vulnerable consumers from having to choose between feeding children and making loan repayments. It aims to curb the predatory and unethical lending that traps people into unmanageable debt, financial strife, and generational poverty. It aims to promote responsible lending practices that ensure a family or person can repay a loan without sacrificing living essentials.

Now imagine a country where a family can provide food for children and afford a car loan without the anxiety of choosing between the two. This is what the new lending regulations aspire to achieve.

■ Maxim Institute is an Auckland-based independent think tank, working to promote the dignity of every person in New Zealand, by standing for freedom, justice, and compassion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ONLINE COMMENTS

'It started with the Romans'

Re: Acceptance will be hard for some column, Feb 5.

Let's hope the healing and acceptance of past history will begin Bob — it is kind of taking its time though. My ancestors had little time to heal from one injustice after another — and it started with the bloody Romans.

I am always amused by the Monty Python Conversation In The Life Of Brian, where they discuss the merits of enforced colonisation. "Ok, but apart from the education, health, sanitation, vinny culture, running water, the roads and a safer community — what have the Romans ever done for us?"

BAZ DAVIES

murder . . . were being perpetrated on indigenous populations in areas of all continents and outposts of the British Empire. Even their next-door neighbour, Ireland, suffered many famines, leading to mass starvation under English rule (<https://tinyurl.com/2p89phy9>). It far surpassed the brutality of the Roman empire, hence the many divisive issues remaining to this day.

While a small percentage of the English were living the high life on Empire loot, life was grim for the underclass in Mother England — just read Dickens.

Like Rome, the British Empire was destined to become too big for its boots, beginning last century with WW1, steadily declining until 1997, then finally relinquishing the Hong Kong Gateway to the east.

Yet, like Rome, British colonialism left behind divisions and conflicts to be healed at a later date — overcome everywhere as it had previously existed, and this fits in with Baz's "bloody Romans" comment — from one injustice to another, leaving little time to heal.

It may have started with the bloody Romans. Both imposed cultural education, religion, health, sanitation, culture, running water, roads etc, but also equally monstrous in bringing divisions and injustices.

One other thing, the British Empire kicked off the industrial revolution and multiplied the speed of colonial expansion and exploitation of colonies and people.

PS. I like to think my ancestry is Irish, Baz.

BOB HUGHES

Is recent correspondence insightful — or incite-full?

Re: Correspondent standards slipping, February 8 Letter to the Editor.

"Thank you. Tautoko 200 percent. I've taken to applying my own form of censorship as follows:

- 1. Is the article insightful or incite-full?
- 2. Does the article draw me toward healthy critical-self-

examination or does it hinder?

3. Most importantly, what is the 'wairua' in the writing? And what does that wairua produce in me? Good fruit or just plain ugly?

To all the recent, clever contributors: consider including less emotion and more wise analysis (even some winsomeness and hope).

SHARLENE PILKINTON

Variety of opinions

Re: Variety of opinions at council table, February 8 column.

Yes, you have been indoctrinated after a year of sitting at the table.

You are in a figurehead position, where your job is to make sure that the public can't figure out that you have no power to do anything much more than collect your pay packet and eat your lunch.

No clones here . . . just clowns.

You can't even provide access to public assets that I choose to use — like the library and the pool.

For that alone you are all a disgrace to the region.

You asked so I just told you.

PETER JONES

Well said, councillor Hughes. We do take the Gisborne District Council for granted.

Just take electricity charges and service for instance (now private enterprise). My wife and I, as minimal power users, pay about \$100 a month with rates only a little more than double that.

I must agree with you Isaac, GDC services deliver a lot in comparison.

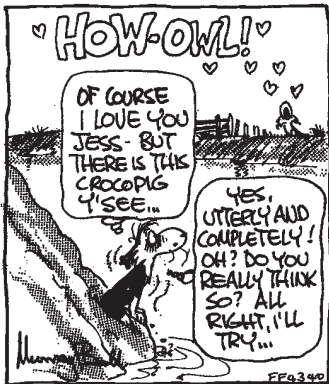
You being the new guy couldn't be there during pre-election campaigning, when the majority elected (present councillors) promised me they would declare a climate emergency. I know you all have different focus areas, still it's not too late and I trust you Isaac, to see all keep to their other pledge to always consider climate change in council decision-making.

The future is at stake.

BOB HUGHES

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.



PLATINUM JUBILEE YEAR

**MARKED:** Gun salutes rang out in London and Edinburgh to mark the official start of The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee year, as the 95-year-old monarch prepared for a busy season of public duties. Britain’s longest-serving monarch, Elizabeth became queen on the death of her father, King George VI, from lung cancer at age 56 on February 6, 1952. The monarch doesn’t celebrate the anniversary of the date she became queen, known as Ascension Day, as it is also the death anniversary of her father. Public celebrations of the Platinum Jubilee are scheduled for June. The festivities will include a military parade, a day of horse-racing and neighbourhood parties. There is also a competition to create a new dessert to be consumed over the jubilee weekend June 2-5. AP picture



Putin pledges no Ukraine escalation — French PM

KYIV — French President Emmanuel Macron said on Tuesday that Russian President Vladimir Putin told him that Moscow would not further escalate the Ukraine crisis.

Macron also said it would take time to find a diplomatic solution to the rising tensions, which represent the biggest security crisis between Russia and the West since the Cold War.

His remarks on a visit to Kyiv came as the Kremlin denied reports that he and Putin struck a deal on de-escalating the crisis. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that “in the current situation, Moscow and Paris can’t be reaching any deals.”

Macron met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy amid mounting fears of a Russian invasion. Moscow has amassed over 100,000 troops near Ukraine’s borders, but insists it has no plans to attack.

The Kremlin wants guarantees from the West that NATO will not accept Ukraine and other former Soviet nations as members, that it halt weapon deployments there and roll back its forces from Eastern Europe — demands the US and NATO reject as nonstarters.

At a news conference after meeting Zelenskyy, Macron said Putin told him during their more than five-hour session on Monday that “he won’t be initiating an escalation. I think it is important.”

According to the French president, Putin also said there won’t be any Russian “permanent (military) base” or “deployment” in Belarus, where Russia had sent a large number of troops for war games.

Peskov said withdrawing Russian troops from Belarus after the manoeuvres was the plan all along.

Zelenskyy said he would welcome

concrete steps from Putin for de-escalation, adding he didn’t “trust words in general.”

Macron also sought to temper expectations. “Let’s not be naive,” he said. “Since the beginning of the crisis, France hasn’t been inclined to exaggerate, but at the same time, I don’t believe this crisis can be settled in a few hours, through discussions”

Zelenskyy called his talks with Macron “very fruitful.”

“We have a common view with President Macron on threats and challenges to the security of Ukraine, of the whole of Europe, of the world in general,” Zelenskyy said.

He said France was giving 1.2 billion euros (US\$1.3 billion) in financial aid to Ukraine and helping restore infrastructure in the war-ravaged east of the country.

Western leaders in recent weeks have engaged in high-level talks, and more are planned amid the backdrop of military drills in Russia and Belarus. On Tuesday, Russia’s Defence Ministry said six large warships were moving from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea for exercises.

Macron said he had not expected Putin to make any “gestures” on Monday, saying his objective was to “prevent an escalation and open new perspectives . . . That objective is met.”

Macron said Putin “set a collective trap” by initiating the exchange of documents with the US. Moscow submitted its demands to Washington in the form of draft agreements that were made public, and insisted on a written response, which was then leaked.

“In the history of diplomacy, there was never a crisis that has been settled by exchanges of letters which are to be made

public afterward,” he said, adding that’s why he decided to go to Moscow for direct talks.

Putin said after the meeting that the US and NATO ignored Moscow’s demands, but signalled readiness to continue talking. He also reiterated a warning that NATO membership for Ukraine could trigger a war between Russia and the alliance should Kyiv try to retake the Crimean Peninsula, which Moscow annexed in 2014.

NATO, US and European leaders reject the demands that they say challenge NATO’s core principles, like shutting the door to Ukraine or other countries that might seek membership; but they have offered to discuss other Russian security concerns in Europe.

US President Joe Biden has said any prospect of Ukraine entering NATO “in the near term is not very likely,” but he and other alliance members and NATO itself refuse to rule out Ukraine’s future entry.

Biden met on Monday with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. They threatened Russia with grave consequences if it invaded, and Biden vowed that the Nord Stream 2 Russia-to-Germany gas pipeline, which has been completed but is not yet operating, will be blocked. Such a move would hurt Russia economically but also cause energy supply problems for Germany.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, in an article in the Times of London, also urged allies to finalise heavy economic sanctions that would take effect if Russia crosses into Ukraine.

He said the UK is ready to bolster NATO forces in Latvia and Estonia as he prepared to meet the Lithuanian prime minister in London to show support for the Baltic nations. — AP

Retired pope begs pardon for abuse

ROME — Former Pope Benedict XVI has acknowledged that errors were made in the handling of sexual abuse cases when he was archbishop of Munich.

In a letter released by the Vatican, the former pontiff asked forgiveness for any “grievous fault” but denied personal wrongdoing.

A German report into the Catholic Church alleged that he failed to act over four child sex abuse cases.

Then known as Josef Ratzinger, he was archbishop of Munich from 1977 to 1982.

The report by a German law firm alleges that abuse continued under his tenure, and that the priests accused of carrying out the abuse remained active in church roles.

In his first personal response to the report, the former Pope, now 94, wrote: “I have had great responsibilities in the Catholic Church. All the greater is my pain for the abuses and the errors that occurred in those different places during the time of my mandate.”

He described the actions against victims of sexual abuse as a “most grievous fault.”

“As in those meetings, once again I can only express to all the victims of sexual abuse my profound shame, my deep sorrow and my heartfelt request for forgiveness.

“Quite soon, I shall find myself before the final judge of my life”, he added.

Before the report was released in January, Pope Benedict had denied he had attended a meeting in 1980 about sexual abuse cases when he was archbishop of Munich.

But after the report’s release, Pope Benedict said he had indeed attended the meeting. His personal secretary at the time, Archbishop Georg Ganswein, said the omission was an oversight in the editing of the statement released at the time and was not done out of bad faith.

Pope Benedict referred to this in the letter, stating that he felt deeply hurt by how this oversight had been used “to cast doubt on my truthfulness, and even to label me a liar.”

The former pope became the first Church leader to resign in more than 600 years in 2013, citing exhaustion. Since then, he has led a largely quiet life in the Vatican City and is known as pope emeritus. — BBC

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COVID-19 TESTING & VAX CLINICS

AgriHQ  
MARKET REPORT  
Week beginning February 7

**LAMB**  
The December average export value (AEV) for lamb was the highest monthly value ever at NZ\$13.05kg, exceeding the previous peak in October 2021. This is an increase of 62c/kg compared to November 2021 and \$2.89/kg (28 percent) above the five-year average for December. Both frozen and chilled lamb AEV's jumped up to record highs too, \$11.78/kg and \$19.19/kg respectively. Export prices generally soften after peaking in October, but December bucked the trend, indicating the high demand for all cuts of New Zealand lamb around the time, and showing the flow-on effects of the more favourable exchange rate.

**BEEF**  
Processor backlogs are still increasing, and prime space wait times are up to seven weeks in some regions. Staffing shortages are the key reason for backlogs all over the North Island. However, a lack of chiller storage due to shipping delays is compounding the issue. With dairy farmers pregnancy testing and dry conditions, an influx of cows are heading to the processors in the Waikato and may add more pressure. While export pricing is high and is supporting current farmgate prices, processors are facing higher costs for transport and freight. Shipping also remains a real issue for getting product to global markets. Some ships that originally came to New Zealand weekly are now coming once a month due to longer transit times.

**GRAIN**  
The New Zealand cereal harvest is under way, with combines rolling through good-looking crops. Early barley crops have been coming off in a hurry, with reports of decent yields, with better yields coming from later planted barley. Seed harvest is in full swing across Canterbury, with grass seed crops being harvested over the last month. Seed condition reports are still rolling in, with seed cleaners busy at this time of year.

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**TOP PEN:** Prime sheep sold well at the weekly Matawhero sheep sale on Friday, and prices for them remained steady. K and J Gillies sold eight huge prime ewes (pictured above) for \$202 and Marotiri Farm P/S, at Tokomaru Bay, received \$160 for 10 prime lambs. The rain in the past few days will have done wonders for grass growth.

Picture by Trevor Brown

# Ahuwhenua postponed

THE 2022 Ahuwhenua Trophy competition to select the top Māori sheep and beef farm in New Zealand has become the latest Covid casualty. The competition has been postponed due to the current risk of the Omicron variant and the move to the red light setting. The trophy, one of the most prestigious agricultural events, was inaugurated 89 years ago by the great Māori leader, Sir Apirana Ngata and the Governor General at the time, Lord Bledisloe. "It is regrettable but necessary to postpone events given the current situation with Covid and the uncertainty it has created," management committee chair Nukuhia Hadfield said. The judging panel had just started to judge entrants to select the finalists, but the management committee deemed it unwise to continue in the rapidly developing situation and has decided to put the competition on hold until it can be safely reconvened. "This decision reflects the management committee's wish to ensure the safety of our



**COMPETITION ON HOLD:** The Ahuwhenua Trophy competition has been postponed due to Covid restrictions. RNZ picture

country, as well as ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our judging team and support staff," she said. "This also means the rest of our programme is delayed, particularly the upcoming parliamentary announcement, the field days and awards dinner scheduled for May." Entries for the Ahuwhenua Young Māori Farmer Award remain open and close on Friday. "The committee will look to modify the dates of this programme to align with the senior competition." The management committee will continue to monitor events over the coming weeks and will make further decisions on when judging can recommence, and then set the dates for the other key events in the programme, Ms Hadfield said. The competition faced a similar situation in 2020 due to Covid restrictions, but the programme was eventually able to run at a later stage. "I am confident that we will be able to do the same again later in the year."

whānau and wider communities across the

country, as well as ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our judging team and support staff," she said.

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# Wading into quicksand over carbon farming

THE Forest Owners Association (FOA) commented in Saturday's Focus on the Land on the hot topics of carbon farming and how the Overseas Investment Act works.

The FOA claims Federated Farmers was making more false claims about the issue.

"Carbon farming is where trees are not intended to be harvested and the only income is from carbon credits," FOA president Phil Taylor said.

"An unknown area of carbon farms have been planted by New Zealand landowners, with a number of farmers most likely planning such 'plant and leave' forests on the more remote, steep and unproductive parts of their farms."

Gisborne farmer Kerry Worsnop had these comments on the issue.

"Having a chuckle about the FOA insisting no foreign buyer is farming carbon — let's call that what it is — semantics.

"If that is true then they would be supportive of making these foreign-owned forests ineligible for earning carbon credits.

"It should make no difference, right?"

"Perhaps they would like to tell Minister Nash that.

"The reality is that anyone buying land for the money being paid right now is doing it because carbon revenues will pay off the investment," Mrs Worsnop said.

"When these revenues stop, which

they will for production forests after 17 years, there is nothing stopping these guys from selling the forests on to 'domestic' carbon farmers making a tidy profit.

By then the carbon price is projected to have doubled again, making the land, and additional credits earned, twice as valuable.



KERRY WORSNOP

"They cannot lose," she said.

"Domestic carbon farmers can then enter this land in the permanent forest category and keep growing for carbon for decades longer.

"Those are the rules right now.

"The game is all about carbon. Logs are sadly just a nice distraction.

"The FOA know this, a good part of their narrative on permanent carbon forests reflects it, so it is surprising to see some smoke and mirrors at this late stage.

"New Zealand needs to be hugely wary of the quicksand we are wading into.

"We are way too naive as a country to think we can roll with these big fish and not get eaten for lunch."

# Major upgrades for Ravensdown

by Gary Hamilton-Irvine,  
Hawke's Bay Today

PLANS are afoot to topple three chimneys on a Napier landmark and replace them with a taller 50m stack.

The project is part of a \$40 million investment into the Ravensdown fertiliser factory in Awatoto and nearby regional park and includes an overhaul of how water is discharged from the plant.

Ravensdown received consent from the Napier City Council last year to knock down three chimneys between 36m and 38m tall at its factory base and replace them with one stack roughly 14-storeys tall.

The stack will connect to a new scrubber system, which removes harmful materials from the plant before air is discharged, as the old system is nearing the end of its life.

The fourth and tallest stack at 55m, which stands at the southern end of the site on what is known as the acid plant, will remain in place.

"The four existing stacks are a prominent feature and have been a local landmark for many years. They are visible from many viewpoints in the area," a council document read.

"The proposal will result in three of these four stacks being removed and replaced by the new 50m-high stack."

While consent has been granted for that part of the project, Ravensdown is seeking further approval from Hawke's Bay Regional Council around an overhaul of its water discharge system and other upgrades.

That resource consent application is currently before the Hawke's Bay Regional Council and is open for public submission until February 18.

"Under the current arrangement,



PLANT OVERHAUL: These chimneys at the Ravensdown plant in Napier are set to be replaced by one bigger stack.  
Hawke's Bay Today picture

stormwater and process water is discharged from Ravensdown via a settling pond located at the southern boundary of the site," the proposal read.

"The pond discharges via two pumps through a stopbank to a drain that flows to the Tūtaekuri River/Waitangi Estuary."

Water is currently added to the settling pond from bores to provide dilution before discharge.

Under the proposal, Ravensdown would invest in a new system which would take that water from a new settling pond and spray it on to land owned by the company, behind the factory.

In essence, it would divert most of the stormwater and treated water on to land.

The company owns about 17.5ha of land that is available for spray irrigation.

"Ravensdown accepts that there is a

strong cultural and community preference for discharges to be directed to land rather than water wherever possible," the proposal read.

"When discharge to the land is not possible, it is proposed to preferentially discharge to the estuary three hours before and three hours after high tide to provide for enhanced dilution and flushing of contaminants."

Water would be discharged on dry land via a spray irrigation system and that option would only be unavailable when the land was saturated.

Infrastructure would be replaced and upgraded as part of the new discharge system.

The company is also planning to pay \$630,000 for a restoration project as part of the nearby Waitangi Regional Park, which is owned by the regional council.

The upgrade will see two hectares of the regional park turned into a restored wetlands area.

When the wetlands are complete, they will be used on occasion to discharge treated water from the plant, according to the proposal.

The acid plant's converter is also set to receive an upgrade under the project.

Ravensdown works manager Andrew Torrens said the huge investment was about the long-term future of Ravensdown and protecting the environment.

"We strongly believe that the solution we are proposing is best for the environment but is also a sustainable investment for Ravensdown to make in our operations side here in Napier," he said.

"It is the right investment to make to enable that sustainable community model we are looking for."

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# Canada protests threaten border trade with US

OTTAWA — Canadian lawmakers expressed increasing worry on Tuesday about the economic effects of disruptive demonstrations after the busiest border crossing between the US and Canada became partially blocked by truckers protesting vaccine mandates and other Covid-19 restrictions.

The blockade at the Ambassador Bridge between Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, prevented traffic from entering Canada while some US-bound traffic was still moving, Public Safety Minister Marco Mendicino said, calling the bridge “one of the most important border crossings in the world.” It carries 25 percent of all trade between Canada and the United States.

Canadian Transport Minister Omar Alghabra said such blockades will have serious implications on the economy and supply chains. “I’ve already heard from automakers and food grocers. This is really a serious cause for concern,” he said in Ottawa, the capital.

Added Mendicino, “Most Canadians understand there is a difference between being tired and fatigued with the pandemic and crossing into some other universe.”

Speaking in an emergency debate late on Monday in Parliament, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the protesters are “trying to blockade our economy, our democracy,” and it has to stop.

The daily demonstrations staged by the so-called Freedom Truck Convoy began in Ottawa, where demonstrators have used hundreds of parked trucks to paralyse parts of the capital for more than 10 days. The protests have infuriated people who live around downtown, including neighbourhoods near Parliament Hill, the seat of the federal government.

Dave Weatherall, a federal civil servant, lives near the truckers’ prime staging

## China locks down city as cases surge

BEIJING — China has ordered inhabitants of the southern city of Baise to stay home and suspended transportation links amid a surge in Covid-19 cases at least partly linked to the Omicron variant.

Classes have been suspended, non-essential businesses closed and mass testing of residents ordered. Restaurants are only permitted to serve take-out. Traffic lights have been switched to red only to remind drivers to stay home.

As of Tuesday, 135 cases had been reported in the city — at least two of them found to be Omicron, health authorities said.

The city has become the latest to be placed under lockdown in keeping with China’s “zero-tolerance” approach to the pandemic. The policy requires strict measures be applied even when only a small number of cases have been found.

A major concern is preventing outbreaks during the ongoing Beijing Winter Olympic Games. No new cases were reported in the Chinese capital on Tuesday.

More than 30 athletes at the Beijing Olympics are in isolation facilities after testing positive for the coronavirus, organisers said on Tuesday.

State media reported customs clearance at the

crossing points of Longbang and Pingmeng were delayed, causing further disruptions to cross-border trade that have already inflicted major losses on Vietnamese fruit farmers.

The first cases in Baise were reported on Saturday at the tail end of the Lunar New Year holiday, when many Chinese travel vast distances to their hometowns. For the third year running, the government asked people to remain in place to avoid a major spread, although such calls had only a slight effect on the numbers of trips taken.

Despite the occasional regional outbreak, China has largely brought the pandemic under control through lockdowns, mass testing, case tracing, mask mandates and other strict measures. Almost 85 percent of the population is fully vaccinated, according to Our World in Data, although questions have been raised about the efficacy of Chinese vaccines, particularly against the Omicron strain.

Chinese health authorities say the continuing emergence of outbreaks despite the high vaccination rate justifies the continued implementation of “zero-tolerance” policies and the quarantining of travellers arriving from abroad. — AP

area in a city-owned parking lot outside of the downtown core. “They’re using the lot to terrorise people in Centretown,” he said, asking why the city has allowed the convoy to remain parked on its property for free and without intervention.

“It’s the first time since having kids that I’ve seriously wondered about the world we brought them into. I always figured they could handle most things the world will throw at them, but this feels different,” he said.

Demonstrations have spread to

locations on or near the Canadian border, including the Ambassador Bridge, where a protest caused long backups and at one point stopped traffic in both directions. The bridge remains blocked on the road to Canada.

At a news conference after Trudeau spoke, trucker spokesman Tom Marrazzo reiterated that the protesters want to overthrow the government. Marrazzo said he is willing to meet with the opposition parties and the nation’s governor general, the representative of Britain’s Queen

Elizabeth as head of state.

All three opposition parties technically could join together and defeat the government because Trudeau does not have the majority of seats in Parliament, but that is highly unlikely because the vast majority of lawmakers have condemned the protests.

Protesters have also closed another important US-Canada border crossing in Coutts, Alberta.

“The border at Coutts continues to open and close at the discretion of a group of protesters who believe they are above the law. It has to stop,” tweeted Rachel Notley, Alberta’s former premier and current opposition New Democrat leader.

Protesters have said they will not leave until all vaccine mandates and Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. They also called for the removal of Trudeau’s government, though it is responsible for few of the restrictive measures, most of which were put in place by provincial governments.

François Laporte, the president of Teamsters Canada, which represents over 55,000 drivers, including 15,000 long-haul truck drivers, said the protests do not represent the industry in which 90 percent of drivers are vaccinated.

The Freedom Convoy “and the despicable display of hate lead by the political Right and shamefully encouraged by elected conservative politicians does not reflect the values of Teamsters Canada, nor the vast majority of our members, and in fact has served to de-legitimise the real concerns of most truck drivers today,” Laporte said in a statement.

Joel Lightbound, a lawmaker for Trudeau’s Liberal Party, rebuked his leader on Tuesday for dividing Canadians and said his government needs to create a road map for when coronavirus measures should be lifted. — AP

# Row over hijab deepens

UDUPI, Karnataka — When students were barred last month from entering their classrooms and told not to wear hijab, a headscarf used by Muslim women, they began camping outside the all-girls high school.

The story cascaded across the internet, drawing news crews to the front of the government-run school in Udupi district, in the southern Indian state of Karnataka.

Battle lines were swiftly drawn. The students began protesting outside the school gate and sat huddled in a group, reading their lessons. The school staff, who said the students were defying uniform rules, remained unmoved.

A month on, more schools have begun implementing a similar ban on hijabs, forcing the state’s top court to step in. It will hear petitions filed by the protesting students on Tuesday and rule on whether to overturn the ban.

But the uneasy standoff has raised fears among the state’s Muslim students who say they are being deprived of their religious rights. Hundreds of them, including their parents, took to the streets against the restrictions, demanding that students should be allowed to attend classes even if they are wearing hijab.

“What we are witnessing is a form of religious apartheid. The decree is discriminatory and it disproportionately affects Muslim women,” said AH Almas, an 18-year-old student who has been part of the weeks-long protests.

So far several meetings between the staff, government representatives and the protesting students have failed to resolve the



**DISCRIMINATED AGAIN:** Indian girl students who were barred from entering their classrooms for wearing hijab, a headscarf used by Muslim women, walk outside their college in Udupi, India. AP picture

issue. The state’s education minister, BC Nagesh, has also refused to lift the ban. He told reporters on Sunday that “those unwilling to follow uniform dress code can explore other options.”

For many Muslim women, the hijab is part of their Islamic faith. It has for decades been a source of controversy in some western countries, particularly in France, which in 2004 banned it from being worn in public schools. But in India, where Muslims make up almost 14 percent of the country’s nearly 1.4 billion people, it is neither banned nor is its use restricted in public places.

In fact, women wearing hijab are a common sight in India, and for many of them, it symbolises religious identity and is a matter of personal choice.

Because the debate involves alleged bias over a religious item worn to cover hair and maintain modesty, some rights activists have voiced concerns that the decree risks raising Islamophobia.

“Singling out hijab for criticism is unfair and discriminatory. Those opposing it are on record decrying secularism and for openly espousing majoritarianism,” said Zakia Soman, founder of a Muslim women’s group, the Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan.

Others contend it underscores the

potential isolation and marginalisation of Muslims who feel Modi and his Hindu nationalist party are slowly isolating them, compounding an already growing unease felt by the minority community, in a multicultural country that has guarantees of religious freedom enshrined in its constitution.

“What we are seeing is an attempt to invisibilise Muslim women and push them out of public spaces,” said Afreen Fatima, a New Delhi-based student activist. She said the ban is the culmination of a growing climate of hate against Muslims “which has now manifested itself in the physical realm.”

The protests have drawn public condemnation, with the hashtag #HijabIsOurRight circulating widely on social media, but also led to a rather unexpected pushback.

For the last week, some Hindu students in the state have started wearing Saffron-coloured shawls, a symbol of Hindu nationalist groups. They have also chanted praises to Hindu gods, while protesting against the Muslim girls’ choice of headgear, signifying India’s growing religious faultlines and bitter tensions between the country’s Hindu majority and its large Muslim minority.

The events have prompted the state government to ban clothes it said “disturb equality, integrity and public order” and some high schools to declare a holiday to avoid communal trouble.

On Monday one of the schools yielded partially and allowed its Muslim students to attend class with a hijab but made them sit in separate classrooms. The move was heavily criticised, with Muslim students alleging the staff of segregating them on the basis of faith.

“It is humiliating,” said Almas. “How long are we going to accept that citizens can be stigmatised because of their religion?” — AP

WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY’S TELEVISION GUIDE

TVNZ 1

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

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

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

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

**8.20 Lotto** The Lotto draw.

**8.25 Beat The Chasers** Continued.

**8.35 Under The Vines** Daisy is ecstatic over Griffin's visit; everyone is fed up with Louis' self-pity; Nic asks Daisy and the Oakleys for support.

**9.35 Coronation Street** PG

**10.35 1 News Tonight**

**11.05 Shortland Street** PG

**11.35 My Life Is Murder** M Alexa heads back to school to investigate the suspicious death of the teacher who changed her life.

**THURSDAY**

**12.25 Life** M Gail's loyalty to Henry is tested; Andy faces a decision about his new baby; David is disturbed by a hint about Kelly's past.

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

**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** PG Manpreet struggles; wedding plans are afoot; Irene's funeral takes place.

**1pm Coronation Street** PG

**3pm Tipping Point**

**4pm Te Karere**

**4.30 Neighbours** PG Leo's lack of focus leads to disaster; Paul surprises Terese with a change in perspective.

**5pm The Chase**

BRAVO

**5.15 Shark Tank** PG

**6.10 Million Dollar Listing: Los Angeles** PG

**7.30 The Terminator** MVLSC 1984 Sci-fi.

**9.40 Embarrassing Bodies**

**10.35 Snapped** MVC

**11.30 One Deadly Mistake** MVC

**THURSDAY**

**12.20 Infomercials**

**10am Hoarders** PG

**10.50 Million Dollar Listing Los Angeles** PG

**12.05 Snapped** MVC

**1pm One Deadly Mistake** MVC

**1.55 The Real Housewives Of New York City** PGLSC

**2.50 Hoarders** PG

**3.45 Face Off** PGC

**4.40 Celebrity Ghost Stories** PGVLC

**5.35 Shark Tank**

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.

TVNZ 2

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**5pm The Simpsons**

**5.30 Superstore** PG

**6pm The Big Bang Theory** PG

**6.30 Home And Away** PG

**7pm Shortland Street** PG

**7.30 Australian Survivor: Brains v Brawn** PG

**8.35 The Hangover Part III** 16 2013 Comedy.

**10.35 Taskmaster NZ** 16

**11.35 Mom** PG

**THURSDAY**

**12.30 Motherland: Fort Salem** 16VS

**1.15 Emmerdale** PG

**1.40 Infomercials**

**2.35 2 Tunes**

**2.50 Australian Survivor: Brains v Brawn** PG

**3.45 The Middle**

**4.10 The Ring Inz** ML

**4.35 Neighbours** PG

**5am Infomercials**

**6am Les Mills Born To Move**

**6.25 Mighty Little Bheem**

**6.35 Hey Duggee**

**6.40 Paw Patrol**

**7am Miss Moon**

**7.30 Dragons: Riders Of Berk**

**7.55 Pokemon Journeys: The Series**

**8.15 JoJo And Gran Gran**

**8.40 Thomas And Friends**

**8.50 Chuggington: Tales From The Rails**

**9am Infomercials**

**9.30 Les Mills Core**

**10am Home And Away** PG

**10.30 Shortland Street** PG

**11am The Middle** PG

**11.25 Charmed** PG

**12.15 Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist**

**1.10 The Drew Barrymore Show** PG

**2.10 The Mindy Project** PG

**2.40 B Positive** PGL

**3.05 Bob Hearts Abishola**

**3.30 Bluey**

**3.40 Mystic**

**4.10 The Parker Andersons** PG

**4.35 Amelia Parker** PG

**5pm The Simpsons** PGC

**5.30 Superstore**

CHOICE

**5pm Mysteries At The Museum** PGC

**6pm American Restoration**

**6.30 Forged In Fire** PG

**7.30 Jade Fever** PG

**8.30 Where The Wild Men Are With Ben Fogle**

**9.30 The Misadventures Of Romesh Raganathan** PG

**10.30 Forged In Fire** PG

**11.30 Mysteries At The Museum** PGC

**THURSDAY**

**12.30 Adam And Poh's Malaysia In Australia** PG

**1am Rick Stein's Cornwall**

**1.30 American Restoration** PG

**2am ChoccyWoccyDoodah**

**3am Escape To The Chateau: DIY**

**4am Where The Wild Men Are With Ben Fogle** PG

**5am Mysteries At The Museum** PG

**6am ChoccyWoccyDoodah**

**7am Adam And Poh's Malaysia In Australia** PG

**7.30 Rick Stein's Cornwall**

**8am Escape To The Chateau: DIY**

**9am BBQ Pitt Masters** PG

**10am Mysteries At The Museum** PG

**11am Forged In Fire** PG

**Noon Jade Fever** PG

**1pm Where The Wild Men Are With Ben Fogle**

**2pm The Misadventures Of Romesh Raganathan** PG

**3pm Escape To The Chateau: DIY**

**4pm Rick Stein's Long Weekends**

**5pm Mysteries At The Museum** PGC

THREE

**5pm Gold Rush** PG

**6pm Newshub Live At 6pm**

**7pm The Project**

**7.30 Married At First Sight Australia** PG

Twelve couples try to make their marriages work, despite meeting for the first time on their wedding day.

**9pm Sort Your Life Out UK** PG

A family is helped to declutter, by laying out the entire contents of their home. They decide what to keep and what to lose.

**10.15 Newshub Late**

**10.45 Hawaii Five-0** M Tani and Junior have to lead others to safety, after becoming trapped in a collapsed tunnel.

**11.40 Yard Crashers**

**THURSDAY**

**12.05 Infomercials**

**5.30 AM Early**

**6am AM**

**9am Infomercials**

**10.30 Bondi Vet**

**11am Bondi Vet**

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

**Noon House Hunters International**

**12.30 House Hunters International**

**1.05 Deadly Mom Retreat** M 2021 Thriller. A recent divorcee goes to a singles retreat with her new friend and suffers a series of near-fatal accidents. Christina Cox, Lara Amersey, Chris Violette.

**3.05 Cutthroat Kitchen** PG

**4pm Yard Crashers**

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

**5pm Gold Rush**

SKY SPORT 1

**6.30 Cricket: Women's Ashes** (HLS) Australia v England: Second ODI. From Junction Oval, Melbourne.

**7.30 Japan Rugby League One** (RPL) Green Rockets v Steelers.

**9.30 Tennis: ATP Tour 500** (HLS) World Tennis Tournament: Day Two.

**11pm LIVE Tennis: ATP Tour 500** World Tennis Tournament: Day Three. From the Rotterdam Ahoy in Rotterdam.

**THURSDAY**

**5am Japan Rugby League One** (RPL) Green Rockets v Steelers.

**7am ATP Uncovered**

**7.30 LIVE Tennis: ATP 500** World Tennis Tournament: Day Three. From Rotterdam, Netherlands.

**11.30 Six Nations** (RPL) France v Italy.

**1.30 Six Nations** (RPL) Ireland v Wales.

**3.30 Tennis: Australian Open** Tournament Review.

**4pm Tennis: ATP 500** (RPL) World Tennis Tournament: Day Three. Coverage of the match of the day from Rotterdam, Netherlands.

**5.30 Basketball: NBL** (RPL) NZ Breakers v Illawarra Hawks.

PRIME

**5.30 Prime News**

**6pm Beijing Winter Olympics** Day Five. Extensive coverage, including all of the New Zealanders in action.

**THURSDAY**

**3.35 Closedown**

**4am Infomercials**

**8am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** A mysterious new enemy with superhuman speed is on the hunt for Tiger Claw.

**8.25 Hunter Street** PG The eclipse is rapidly approaching and the kids must put their heads together to figure out how to stop their enemy and get to the treasure first.

**8.50 Football: A-League** (HLS)

**10am 3rd Rock From The Sun** PGC Dick's erotic fantasies about Nina cause problems with Mary; Sally becomes a fanatical follower of a catering guru.

**10.30 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert** PG

**11.25 MasterChef USA** PG The three finalists begin their battle for the MasterChef title. Chef Curtis Stone returns as a guest judge for the appetiser round.

**12.30 Parks And Recreation** PGC

**1pm Beijing Winter Olympics** (HLS) Day Five.

**2.15 Beijing Winter Olympics** Day Six.

**5.30 Prime News**

MAORI TV

**5pm Pukana**

**5.30 Taikura Kapa Haka Festival**

**6pm Tamararo**

**6.30 Te Ao Marama**

**7pm Waiata Nation**

**7.30 5 Minutes Of Fame**

**8.30 Barbershop 2: Back To Business** PG 2004 Comedy.

**10.20 Sidewalk Karaoke**

**10.50 Te Ao Marama**

**11.20 Closedown**

**THURSDAY**

**6.30 Pipi Ma**

**6.35 Waiata 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 Waiata 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**

PAY TV

SKY 5

**5pm Storage Wars** PGL

**5.30 Pawn Stars** PG

**6pm Ice Road Truckers** PGVL

**7pm RBT** MC

**7.30 The Mentalist** MVC

**8.30 FBI** MV

**9.30 Lethal Weapon** 16VLS

**10.30 Person Of Interest** M

**11.30 Mountain Men** PGVC

**THURSDAY**

**12.30 Wheel Of Fortune**

**1am Jeopardy!**

**1.25 RBT** MC

**1.50 Lethal Weapon** 16VLS

**2.35 FBI** MV

**3.30 Ice Road Truckers** PGVL

**4.20 Person Of Interest** M

**5.10 The Mentalist** MVC

**6am Jeopardy!**

**6.25 Wheel Of Fortune**

**6.45 Pawn Stars** PG

**7.10 Storage Wars** PGL

**7.35 Mountain Men** PGVC

**8.25 RBT** MC

**8.50 Ice Road Truckers** PGL

**9.40 The Mentalist** MVC

**10.30 Person Of Interest** M

**11.30 Pawn Stars** PG

**Noon Jeopardy!**

**12.25 Wheel Of Fortune**

**12.50 FBI** MV

**1.40 Lethal Weapon** 16VLS

**2.30 The Mentalist** MVC

**3.20 Mountain Men** PGVC

**4.10 Jeopardy!**

**4.35 Wheel Of Fortune**

**5pm Storage Wars** PGL

**5.30 Pawn Stars** PG

MOVIES PREMIERE

**5.15 Strange But True** MLC 2019 Thriller. Margaret Qualley, Nick Robinson.

**6.50 Force Of Nature** 16VLC 2020 Action. Mel Gibson, Emile Hirsch.

**8.30 Every Breath You Take** 16VC 2021 Thriller. A psychiatrist's life is torn apart when he introduces the brother of a deceased patient to his wife and daughter. Casey Affleck, Sam Claflin.

**10.19 Blackbird** MLC 2019 Drama. Susan Sarandon, Sam Neill.

**11.54 Zack Snyder's Justice League** 16VL 2021 Action. Ben Affleck, Gal Gadot.

**THURSDAY**

**3.47 The Furies** 18VL 2019 Horror. Airlie Dodds, Linda Ngo.

**5.08 Penguin Bloom** ML 2020 Drama. Naomi Watts, Andrew Lincoln.

**6.40 A Bramble House Christmas** PG 2017 Drama. Autumn Reeser, David Haydn-Jones.

**8.05 City Of Lies** 16VLS 2018 Drama.

**9.53 The Professor And The Madman** MVC 2019 Drama.

**11.53 Trauma Center** 16VLC 2019 Action.

**1.18 The Devil Has A Name** 16VLS 2021 Drama.

**2.53 Misbehaviour** ML 2020 Comedy.

**4.37 Target Number One** 16VLS 2020 Thriller.



Under the Vines  
8.35pm on TVNZ 1



The Hangover Part III  
8.35pm on TVNZ 2



Beijing Winter Olympics  
6pm on Prime

RNZ NATIONAL

**5pm Checkpoint** With Lisa Owen. News and current affairs programme.

**6.30 Trending Now**

**7.06 Nights** With Bryan Crump.

**10pm News At Ten**

**10.15 Lately** With Karyn Hay.

**11.04 Inside Out** With Nick Tipping.

**THURSDAY**

**12.04 All Night Programme**

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

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

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

**Noon Midday Report** With Mani Dunlop.

**1.06 Afternoons**

**3.45 The Panel** With Wallace Chapman.

**5pm Checkpoint** With Lisa Owen.

DISCOVERY

**5.40 Fast N' Loud** MLC Road to Barrett Jackson: Part Two.

**6.35 Homestead Rescue: Raney Ranch** PG Fire on the Forty.

**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: Ambitious But Rubbish** 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

# Company apologises for posting graphic images

**Warning:** This article discusses suicide and could be distressing for some people.

CHRISTCHURCH — A trauma cleaning business that has been posting graphic death-related images on social media has apologised.

Crime Scene Cleaners co-owner Carl Loader put out a statement after RNZ exposed the company's posts yesterday.

He said the business was "deeply upset" the pages had caused a reaction, and he "sincerely apologises to anyone who has been offended".

Loader said he thought that sharing images of the work would raise awareness of important social issues.

He said he should have kept a closer eye on the content. The pages have been taken down and the company is reviewing its future on social media.

Images posted by the business included gory images of the aftermath of suspected suicides, attempted suicides, assaults, sudden deaths and domestic violence.

Crime Scene Cleaners started its Facebook page in March 2019, and it began posting photos of scenes in April 2020, with some garnering more than 100 reactions, dozens of comments, and shares.

The Facebook page has more than 2000 followers and the Instagram has more than 5000.

The business is a contractor for Ports of Auckland and KiwiRail, and the Auckland and Christchurch City Councils also confirmed they had paid



**'DEEPLY UPSET':** Trauma cleaning business Crime Scene Cleaners has been criticised for posting jarring images on social media pages. NZ Herald picture

the business for cleans.

The Ministry of Justice confirmed three payments had also been made to the business in 2017, through the Victim Assistance Scheme.

Crime Scene Cleaners has said in Facebook posts that New Zealand police and the Ministry of Social Development have paid for cleans too, but these agencies would not confirm this to RNZ, instead saying an Official Information Act request — which can take up to 20 working days — was necessary.

Crime Scene Cleaners helped clean Al Noor mosque after the 2019 terrorist attacks, but Loader told RNZ photos

were not taken in the mosque because staff were asked not to have phones onsite.

The police publicly thanked the business for its services at the time.

— RNZ

**Where to get help:**

- If you or someone else is in danger, call 111
- Depression helpline: 0800 111 757
- Lifeline: 0800 543 354
- Need to talk? Call or text 1737
- Samaritans: 0800 726 666
- Youthline: 0800 376 633 or text 234

## Catholic Church yet to hand abuse findings to police

by Isaac Davison, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — The Catholic Church in New Zealand says a more thorough investigation is needed before it involves police in its historic abuse findings.

Following a two-year inquiry, the church reported last week that it had found 1680 recorded instances of alleged abuse since 1950 — of which 592 alleged abusers were identified. Many of the complaints were upheld at the time, but it is not known how many resulted in a police investigation.

Victim advocates, who said the inquiry likely covered a fraction of overall abuse, questioned what would be done with the new findings.

"There's still a lot not clear from our analysis about how many of the allegations were upheld," Cardinal John Dew told The New Zealand Herald when asked about the plans for the investigation.

"Most of them have been. But considerable research is still needed to be done to see how many have been upheld, and that is something we're continuing to work on."

Dew, the most senior representative of the church in this country, said the information had not been centralised until now and had been spread across dioceses and congregations. Further analysis would show what had happened to the perpetrators and what redress had been made to the complainant, he said.

Asked what would be done with upheld complaints that had not yet been referred to police, a spokesman noted that many of the alleged abusers had died.

A change in church protocol in 1993 required complaints of illegal acts to be referred to police and for the appointment of an independent investigator — usually a former police officer. This was partly in response to concerns that serious abuse cases had been dealt with in-house, or were covered up.

The church's investigation into historic abuse was released ahead of the next stage of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into State Abuse.

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### 2013 SUZUKI SWIFT

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GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

NOW \$8912 + ORC

### 2016 FORD RANGER

Double cab, 6 speed manual, canopy, roof racks



GET \$500 FUEL VOUCHER ON THIS VEHICLE

NOW \$34,990

# ENTERPRISE MOTOR GROUP

# OUTLET CENTRE

PH 06 868 4581 OPEN 7 DAYS



Aaron Williamson  
022 625 5779



Denver Chetty  
027 288 3886

## OUTLET CENTRE

ROEBUCK RD  
KEVIN HOLLIS

GLADSTONE ROAD

\*All contracts subject to finance company approval. During the no repayment period for three months interest runs from the commencement date and is capitalised monthly through the repayment period. This offer does not apply to any other Specials/Sales promotions. 4 Year warranty is available with purchase cost for petrol is \$1795 Diesel \$2295 and does not apply to taxis, couriers or rentals. An \$100 excess for petrol and a \$300 excess for turbo or Diesel vehicles. All finance contracts include a \$375 establishment fee and a \$5 monthly account fee. ORC (on road costs) \$495 includes plates, 6 month rego, service, W.O.F and groom. This offer expires 5pm 16/02/22.

NOTICE BOARD

Entertainment

ODEON 5  
Phone 867 3339

**BELFAST (M)**  
WED 1.10pm, 6.20pm,  
8.30pm. THU 11am,  
1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6pm  
**BLACKLIGHT (M)**  
THU 3.40pm, 8.20pm  
**CLIFFORD THE BIG RED  
DOG (PG)** THU 10.50am  
**DEATH ON THE NILE  
(M)** THU 10.40am,  
1.30pm, 4.10pm  
**JACKASS FOREVER  
(R13)** WED 1.50pm, 4pm,  
6.10pm, 8.45pm  
THU 10.50am, 1pm,  
6.10pm, 8.20pm  
**KING RICHARD (M)**  
WED 3.10pm  
**LICORICE PIZZA (M)**  
WED 3.20pm, 8.30pm  
**MARRY ME (M)**  
THU 10.40am, 1pm,  
5.50pm, 8.20pm  
**MOONFALL (M)**  
WED 3.10pm, 5.50pm,  
8.30pm  
THU 1.10pm, 8.30pm  
**SING 2 (PG)**  
WED 12.50pm, 3.30pm  
THU 3.30pm  
**SPENCER (M)**  
WED 12.45pm, 6pm  
THU 6pm  
**SPIDER-MAN: NO WAY  
HOME (M)**  
WED 5.50pm, 8.20pm  
THU 3.10pm  
**THE BEATLES: GET  
BACK - THE ROOFTOP  
CONCERT (TBC)**  
THU 6.50pm  
**BOOK ONLINE NOW!**  
**WWW.ODEONGISBORNE.CO.NZ**  
Times may vary subject  
to late change

LOST & FOUND

Lost

**MISSING**, grey  
Burmese cat from  
Hexton area, micro-  
chipped. Please check  
possum traps or sheds.  
Ph 027 6671 072.

Meetings

**MANGATU**  
**THE PROPRIETORS OF  
MANGATU BLOCKS**  
266 Childers Road, Gisborne

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual  
General Meeting of the Shareholders will be  
held in the Conference Hall, 266 Childers  
Road, Gisborne on Saturday 19 February  
2022 commencing at 9am.

Proxies and Powers of Attorney must be in  
the hands of the Secretary at least 48 hours  
prior to the meeting.

In accordance with the Ministry of Health  
COVID-19 Protection Framework,  
vaccination passes will be mandatory for  
attendance to the meeting. The Committee  
will also follow mandatory health  
requirements in relation to face masks  
relevant at the time of the meeting. A second  
venue has been secured to handle any  
overflow of attendees - each venue limited to  
100 people.

Dated this 20 January 2022.

Alan PT Haronga Jnr  
CHAIRMAN

Meetings

TEAOHOU MARAE  
ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING

**Date: 5 March 2022**  
Time: 11am

Location: Marae Site  
Rangitukia Road,  
Tikitiki

AGENDA

- Karakia
- Apologies
- 2021 Minutes
- Finance Report Brief
- Amendments/  
Additions to Marae  
Charter.
- 1. Addition of multiple  
means to advertise  
meetings
- 2. Addition of  
alternative meeting  
venues other than  
Marae
- 3. Marae Trustees will  
also be Trustees of  
Kopara Urupa
- 4. Charter Document  
and archived  
documentation  
available to all  
Beneficiaries by  
request to Secretary
- 5. Composition of  
Trustees. Up to 10,  
minimum 3  
Haukainga
- 6. Quorum attendance -  
50%
- 7. Term as Trustee
- 8. Definition of Active  
Trustees, Power of  
Trustees.
- Election and  
reconfirmation of  
Trustees/Officers
- General Business
- Kapu ti - Bring a  
plate

Christine Morrison  
Interim Chair

**Classifieds  
Phone  
869 0601**  
**The Gisborne Herald**

Public Notices

**TAHORA HORSE  
SPORTS 2022**  
Regrettably, the Tahora  
Horse Sports won't be  
taking place on 12  
February as hoped - due  
to the current red traffic  
light Covid alert level.  
Thanks, and we hope to  
see you next year.

**The Gisborne  
Cosmopolitan Club  
Bistro and Restaurant  
are now up for lease.**

If you are interested  
in one or both,  
|please email  
Debbie@giscossie.  
co.nz  
or drop a letter of  
interest off to the  
Club Office.

CALLING OUT FOR  
ALL  
SHAREHOLDERS  
OF WHANGARA A15  
BLOCK

**To urgently contact**  
Peni Niwa  
peni.niwa@gmail.com  
Manu Niwa  
manu.niwa@  
outlook.com

by Thursday 4th March.

Meetings

**EIT**  
EASTERN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
**TE AHO A MAUI**  
EASTERN  
INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY  
LIMITED

NOTICE OF 21  
FEBRUARY 2022  
MEETING

A meeting of the Eastern  
Institute of Technology  
Limited Board is  
scheduled to be held  
virtually (via Microsoft  
Teams) on **Monday, 21  
February 2022 at 10am**  
from the Boardroom,  
EIT Hawke's Bay.  
Please contact company  
secretary@eit.ac.nz  
if you would like to  
attend. The agenda  
and associated reports  
for the meeting will  
be available at least  
two working days  
beforehand by emailing  
companysecretary@eit.  
ac.nz

Public Notices

WAIROA DISTRICT ROAD  
CLOSURES

**8AM, MONDAY 28th FEBRUARY  
2022 to 5PM FRIDAY 4th MARCH  
2022**

Pursuant to section 342(1)(b) of the Local  
Government Act 1974, notice is hereby  
given that the Wairoa District Council, for  
the purpose of carrying out the  
replacement of the bridge deck on the  
Matoitoi Bridge, Mangapoike Road RP  
18.62:

- Mangapoike Road RP 18.62. From 8am  
Monday 28th February 2022 to 5pm Friday  
4th March 2022. There will be pedestrian  
only access available across the bridge.  
There is no Detour available.

Any further queries can be directed to the  
Wairoa District Council on 06 838 7309.

K Tipuna  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Situations Vacant

Te Kura Tuarua o Turanga Wahine  
Gisborne Girls' High School

**RTLb (1 POSITION)  
1MU + 1SDA**  
**Fulltime, Permanent**  
**Start Date: As soon as possible  
(negotiable)**

The successful applicants must be an  
experienced NZ registered teacher, have a  
strong commitment to educational success for  
all students, with excellent communication  
skills, a proven track record of quality teaching  
and ability to work collaboratively supporting  
teachers to meet the needs of students. The  
ability to work across education sectors will  
also be an advantage e.g. primary-secondary,  
mainstream-Maori medium. RTLb  
qualification and experience is desirable. Full  
driver's licence and own vehicle is required.  
**The position will be based in Wairoa.**

Applications close 4pm, Monday 21 February  
2022. Applications with CV should be  
addressed to The Principal, Gisborne Girls'  
High School, emailed on info@gghs.school.  
nz

Jan Kumar  
Principal

Situations Vacant

**GISBORNE  
OFFICE PRODUCTS DEPOT**  
we love your work

Retail Customer Service  
Fulltime position  
Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm

Office Products Depot (OPD) is passionate  
about our community, our products and  
quality customer service. We are locally  
owned and offer our clients a one-stop  
shop for all their office supplies, from  
stationery, cafeteria, hygiene and first aid  
supplies to furniture solutions tailored to  
their needs.

- Key Expectations:
- Help to create a fun, energetic  
environment for our customers
  - Contribute to daily sales and KPI  
targets
  - Consistent exceptional customer  
service
  - Perform to operational and  
merchandising standards
  - Product knowledge of all our stock
  - Support superior standards around  
store cleanliness and store safety
  - Act in accordance with store policies  
and procedures at all times

- Essential Attributes:
- Strongly customer focused, delivering  
outstanding customer service
  - Store opening/closing experience
  - A team player who sets high standards
  - Must be able to perform all retail  
floor functions including standing  
and retrieving merchandise
  - Able to communicate clearly (written  
and verbal) with colleagues and  
customers
  - Must perform basic retail math
  - Basic computer skills, including Word,  
Excel and Outlook experience

We are looking for someone who can  
hit the ground running, so if you enjoy a  
challenge and are committed to providing  
quality service to your customers, please  
forward your CV and cover letter by  
5pm, on Friday 11th February to info@  
opdgisborne.co.nz

HOME & LEISURE

Firewood

**GUM**, 23m \$230, 43m  
\$440. Pine 43m \$280.  
Mac's Firewood. Ph 862  
8876.

**QUALITY** Firewood  
www.thefirewoodguy.  
nz

Classifieds 869 0601  
Business 869 0616

Situations Vacant

FENCER/GENERAL HAND -  
DRYSTOCK OPERATION,  
MATAWAI

- 2,025 hectare property in Koranga  
valley area, Matawai
- Running 8,500 stock units
- Unique property offering the scale and  
satisfaction of a strong traditional  
Drystock operation
- All experienced, quality candidates  
will be considered on their merits
- Potential for advancement with 2,000  
Hectare beef/dairy grazer/forestry  
operation also within Group
- Accommodation provided +  
competitive package
- Combination of fencing and general  
farm work including; water systems,  
drenching & maintenance etc
- Must be able to take responsibility and  
work autonomously
- Initially one year fixed term to be  
reviewed

Please apply to kms.hr.coms@gmail.com  
by 21 February 2022.

Situations Vacant

EDUCATION  
PROGRAMME LEADER  
Manaiakalani

Tūranganui A Kiwa Cluster

Are you an experienced, credible  
educator with a sound understanding of  
effective teaching and learning practice  
and enabling digital technologies?

We are seeking an expert teaching  
practitioner with a good working  
knowledge of raising achievement by  
linking evidence to practice.

This is an exciting opportunity to be a  
Manaiakalani Education Programme  
Leader supporting schools, teachers, and  
learners in Gisborne as they move to  
digital learning environments.

The successful applicant will join a highly  
collaborative team and be supported to  
develop good working relationships with  
education researchers, ed-tech providers,  
principals and staff.

Facilitation will be in the context of the  
New Zealand curriculum and include  
implementation of the Manaiakalani  
Programme including the Learn Create  
Share pedagogy and visible teaching  
and learning. Manaiakalani's PLD  
programme will provide a positive and  
supportive environment.

Some travel may be required.  
Remuneration will consider skills and  
experience. The appointment will be for  
a fixed term through to December 2023.

For more information or to request  
the Job Description, please email jo@  
thinkwrite.co.nz.

Apply with CV and cover letter by email  
**by Friday 11 February 2022 to the  
General Manager, Connex Trust  
jo@thinkwrite.co.nz**

Situations Vacant



Family Works Tairāwhiti Social Worker

Family Works Tairāwhiti, a service of Presbyterian Support East Coast (PSEC), provides diverse, culturally appropriate, strength-based social work to tamariki and whānau experiencing family harm.

The successful applicant will engage respectfully, work collaboratively and have a passion for making positive change and empowering whānau. This person will have:

- excellent organisation and communication skills
- strong cultural competency and experience working in Tairāwhiti communities
- experience working in a multi-disciplinary team
- registration as a social worker and a practising certificate.

At Family Works Tairāwhiti, we value our team. We offer ongoing support, training and an outstanding work culture.

If you'd like to know more, contact Caroline Thompson, Service Manager: 06 868 1399

For an application pack: adminFWgisborne@psec.org.nz  
Applications close 5pm Friday 25 February.

Situations Vacant

Advertising Account Manager

We are on the lookout for an advertising account manager to take over an established client base. At The Gisborne Herald it isn't all about sales, it's about building trusted relationships with our clients and helping them to build their business. This is a full time Sales position available within our fun, creative team.

Key Responsibilities

- Offer current and prospective clients advertising options within The Gisborne Herald, online, and in our special features
- Establish and maintain trusted relationships with our customers
- Be organised and confident, with an ability to meet deadlines
- Have a great personality and enjoy dealing with people

Who are you?

- You have previous sales or customer service experience or are willing to learn
- You have great communication skills, both written and verbal
- You are a team player, able to collaborate, communicate and work well with the other members of the sales and creative teams
- You are a 'People Person'
- You enjoy meeting and exceeding targets

If this is you, please send your CV and cover letter to **Ander Batarrita**, Sales Manager  
64 Gladstone Road Gisborne email [ander.batarrita@gisborneherald.co.nz](mailto:ander.batarrita@gisborneherald.co.nz)

Applications close on February 28, 2022



Applicants for this position should have NZ residency or a valid NZ work visa and a current New Zealand driver's licence.

HOME & LEISURE

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

Readers Bargains

2 pantries \$100ea ono. Vanity \$100. Hot water cupboard \$100. Bar stools \$100ea. Coffee table \$75. TV unit \$100. Kayak \$250. Ph Ana, 022 043 4915.

**CURTAINS**, sea green, 210 x 210 (x2), fawn 130 x 190, light yellow, 120 x 200, all \$25 a pair. Girl's bike, Shimano 18spd, helmet, lock, vgc, \$50. Ph 863 0010.

**ELECTRIC** line trimmer, as new, used twice, \$55 ono. Ph 868 4504, 021 237 4077.

**FREE** swimming pool, round Intex, 16ft diameter. Filter pump not working. Ph 027 707 9000.

**WALL** cabinet, good cond, \$150. Computer desk, ex Warehouse, \$20. Ph 868 1123, 021 078 4345.

Readers Bargains

**GIRLS** clothes, as new, size 16, 5x jackets, 3x knitwear, 4x dresses \$3. 6x tops, 7x pjs, 6x shorts, 3x leggings \$2. 5x T-shirts \$1. Pink bike helmet \$6, size 7 rollerskates \$50. Ph 027 237 5453.

**SUMMER**/winter women's clothing, xl, l, m, size 8 shoes (lots), purses, handbags, \$80 the lot. Electric egg beater, 2 bowls, vgc, \$50 the lot. Heaps of CDs, all sorts, all good, \$1ea. Ph 863 0010.

**TRAVEL** Portacot plus Sleepyhead junior portacot mattress, good cond \$65. Ph 868 0910.

**VACCUM** cleaner, Work Horse, good cond, \$40. Outdoor goldfish pond, kidney shape, \$20. Ph 867 4303.

PROPERTY

Wanted to Rent

**PENSIONER** looking for single flat/sleepout asap. Will pay good bond & rent in advance. Ph Lionel 022 6714190.

AT YOUR SERVICE

Hire

**HYDRALADA'S** for hire, \$65/day. Ph 0274 485 188.

Trade Services

**DRINK** drive/criminal lawyer. Strong defence. Ph/text 022 048 9086.

**WANTED:** Seeking house repiling & stucco repairs, prob not same tradie. Please ph/txt 021 047 3399.

Business For Sale

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES - BIG MONEY EARNER

Looking to be your own Boss? - This outstanding business ticks all the boxes:

Main Road location, established and growing customer base, experienced staff, modern workshop. It doesn't get better than this.

Asking \$400,000.

All inquiries to **Michael Clarke** Licensed Agent REAA 2008 E: [michael.clarke@nzbs.net.nz](mailto:michael.clarke@nzbs.net.nz) Ph 021 0891 4083

Situations Vacant

Civil Project Solutions Ltd - Experienced Land Surveyor or Licensed Cadastral Surveyor

**ABOUT US** - Civil Project Solutions Ltd (CPS) is a civil construction project management firm with capabilities spanning procurement & contract management, detailed engineering design, environmental management, planning, drafting, as well as a strong Survey Division that provides an integral service to our projects and clientele. With the head office in Gisborne and a sister office in Queenstown, CPS is engaged in a number of exciting and diverse projects across the Tairāwhiti, Hawkes Bay, Bay of Plenty and Central Otago regions.

Over the years CPS has invested in top-of-the-line surveying equipment from Trimble, including a SX10 Laser Scanner, multiple GPS sets, Robotic Total Station and Phantom 4 RTK Drone. The Survey Division is involved in a wide range of projects including topographic surveys, cadastral surveys, engineering design, modelling and machine control, set-out, volume calculations and more.

We have a young and dynamic team and are looking for like-minded Surveyors to join our Survey Division in sunny Gisborne.

The ideal candidates would have:

- 5+ years' experience, however less experienced applicants will certainly be considered.
- Diploma in Surveying or a Bachelor of Surveying degree.
- Licensed Cadastral survey qualification an advantage.
- Advanced knowledge in AutoCAD Civil 3D or 12D preferred.
- A desire to work on high profile and complex projects.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Be a team player.
- Willingness to learn and support our team in their projects.

BENEFITS:

We offer attractive remuneration packages for the right candidates ranging from \$70,000 to \$185,000. Included is the following:

- Competitive salary.
- Company phone for full personal use.
- Company vehicle for full personal use.
- Mid-year bonus.
- End of year bonus.
- Health Insurance.
- Career progression and expansion of skills.
- Opportunity to work on a broad range of projects.

This is a great opportunity to join a growing company with a strong forward workload. For more information contact:

Lennon Wiltshire on 027 849 5931 or email your CV to [lennon@civilprojects.co.nz](mailto:lennon@civilprojects.co.nz)



Cars Wanted

**WANTED:**  
**UTES AND SUVs**  
**CASH PAID**  
**Phone Tyler, Enterprise**  
**027 728 2472**

**Secret Squirrel**

Let us collect responses to your advertisements. Only \$7.00 (incl GST) for 30 days. Ask about Herald box numbers. ph 869 0601

The Gisborne Herald

**gisborne property**

COMMERCIAL  
RESIDENTIAL  
RURAL



# England cut Broad and Anderson

CRICKET

LONDON — James Anderson and Stuart Broad are among eight players to have been dropped by England from the test squad to tour the West Indies next month.

The veterans’ axing, and other omissions, suggests England are embarking on wholesale change after the Ashes debacle when they were lucky to escape with a 4-0 defeat.

However, Andrew Strauss, who led the selection panel in the absence of a permanent head coach, said of “Branderson”, “this does not mean the end for them as England players”.

Also left out are opening batters Rory Burns and Haseeb Hameed, No.3 bat David Malan, spinner Dom Bess, wicketkeeper-batsmen Jos Buttler and Sam Billings. Of those, Buttler has been nursing a broken finger suffered in Australia, while Billings was his replacement.

Recalled to the side is wicketkeeper Ben Foakes while four uncapped players are included: opening batsman Alex Lees, seam bowlers Saq Mahmood and Matthew Fisher, and legspinner Matt Parkinson.

Ollie Pope and Chris Woakes survive despite performing poorly in the Ashes,

as do Dan Lawrence and Craig Overton, who toured Australia, but did not play a test.

“With the start of a new cycle, it has allowed the selection panel to refresh the test squad with a particular focus on competing away from home,” Andrew Strauss said.

“We felt that it was time to draw a line after the Ashes defeat, look forward and give some impetus with an influx of new players. In respect of James Anderson and Stuart Broad, I want to emphasise this does not mean the end for them as England players. We feel that it is important to look at some exciting new bowling potential and give some added responsibility to other players who have featured previously.

“No one doubts the quality and experience that James and Stuart bring to the England set-up. It will be up to the new managing director and permanent head coach to decide on whether they will be involved this summer and beyond.

“This selection of this squad is the start of a process and a journey to get England test cricket back to where it needs to be, and the hard work starts now.”

Anderson made his debut in 2003, Broad in 2007. Both have indicated they wanted to continue playing test cricket.

The pair have taken 1177 test wickets,

640 to 39-year-old Anderson, 537 to 35-year-old Broad.

In the Ashes, Anderson topped the bowling averages with eight wickets at 23.37, Broad came third with 13 wickets at 26.30. Both would have done better were it not for England’s habit of dropping catches.

Last week England sacked managing director Ashley Giles, head coach Chris Silverwood, who was solely responsible for selection, and assistant coach Graham Thorpe.

An interim selection panel comprising Strauss, Paul Collingwood (who will coach the team in the Caribbean) and head scout James Taylor have chosen the West Indies party.

It will be the first time an England touring party has included neither player since the West Indies tour of 2004, which is also the only time England have won in the Caribbean since 1967-68.

The first test is in Antigua from March 8 to 12, with subsequent tests in Barbados and Grenada.

**ENGLAND SQUAD**  
Joe Root (captain), Jonathan Bairstow, Zak Crawley, Matthew Fisher, Ben Foakes, Dan Lawrence, Jack Leach, Alex Lees, Saqib Mahmood, Craig Overton, Matthew Parkinson, Ollie Pope, Ollie Robinson, Ben Stokes, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood. — AAP

# Recovering after attack by bull moose

IDITAROD by Mark Thiessen, AP

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska —** A large bull moose spent more than an hour stomping on the sled dog team of a rookie Iditarod musher in the wilds of Alaska last week — and the attack didn’t end even after Bridgett Watkins emptied her gun into the animal.

She said on Facebook last Friday that the moose, after seriously injuring four of her dogs, wouldn’t leave and that the ordeal stopped only after she called friends for help and one showed up with a larger-calibre gun and killed the moose.

“This has been the most horrific past 24 hours of my life,” she posted after the moose attack on Thursday on the Salcha River trail system near Fairbanks.

Watkins wrote that the attack first reported by the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner happened while she was on a 52-mile (83.7-kilometre) training run for the nearly 1000-mile (1609-kilometre) Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. It starts on March 5 in Anchorage.

Watkins posted that her four injured dogs were taken to a veterinarian in the nearby community of North Pole and were recovering.

5	9			7	3			1
	1							8
		4	8			9		
	7				6			3
	5		9		2		7	
4			1				9	
		1			8	3		
6							1	
8			2	1			4	6

2871MEDIUM

SUDOKU

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

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

SOLUTION IN NEXT PUBLICATION.

8	7	6	5	3	4	2	1	9
2	5	9	8	1	6	4	7	3
1	3	4	7	9	2	8	5	6
7	6	2	4	5	9	1	3	8
3	9	8	6	2	1	5	4	7
5	4	1	3	7	8	6	9	2
4	2	3	9	6	5	7	8	1
6	8	7	1	4	3	9	2	5
9	1	5	2	8	7	3	6	4

2870

DOUBLE CROSSWORD

No.11,513

1	2			3		4		5		6		7
										8		
9		10										
11								12				
13				14			15					
						16						
17						18		19				
		20									21	
22												
				23								

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE 11,512

Quick Crossword answers also fit the large grid

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

DOWN

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

DOWN

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

Thursday, February 10, 2022

by Eugenia Last

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Happy Birthday:

Chloe Grace Moretz, 25; Emma Roberts, 31; Elizabeth Banks, 48; Laura Dern, 55.

Take domestic matters seriously, and build a future that is full of potential. Stick to a plan, and budget wisely. Consider what's meaningful. Be mindful of others, but don't give anyone the right to take you for granted or make you feel bad. Take the initiative to be the master of your domain and the reason for your happiness. Your numbers are 9, 16, 22, 25, 32, 37, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19):

TAURUS (April 20-May 20):

GEMINI (May 21-June 20):

CANCER (June 21-July 22):

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):

Trust in your instincts, experience and knowledge. Use your talents and resources to get the lowdown on a position or opportunity that is perfect for you. Hash out any concerns you have with someone close to you. Keep the peace. 4 stars

It's up to you to bring about change. Initiate what you want to happen, and don't stop until you are satisfied with the results. Don't expect everyone to back you. What you learn in the process will help you excel. 3 stars

Put everything you've got into getting ahead. Don't listen to anyone trying to entice you not to fulfill your dreams or responsibilities. Do what's necessary, and you will gain respect and benefits for your hard work. 3 stars

Spread your wings by trying something new and exciting. Engage in something that uses your talents in a fun, unique manner, and you will make a splash that leads to recognition from someone of influence. Love and romance are encouraged. 3 stars

Protect your ideas and reputation. Don't expect everyone to play fair. Keep your eyes open, and don't give anyone information that might incriminate you. Shared expenses will turn into a problem; keep your finances separate. 4 stars

You'll have an unusual outlook regarding your relationships with others. Discuss your thoughts, concerns and intentions, and you'll come to an agreement that can enhance your life and how you move forward. Love and romance are in the stars. 2 stars

See what's happening in your industry; check out something that can contribute to your qualifications, skills, knowledge or experience. Listen to complaints, but don't give in to anyone trying to make you feel guilty or inadequate. Love and be proud of yourself. 5 stars

Handle domestic and financial matters carefully. If you let your emotions take over, you are likely to overspend or get involved in a stressful joint venture. Listen to the people you know and trust, not a persuasive salesperson. 3 stars

Choose your words carefully to avoid misinterpretation. Express your true feelings and what you want and expect from someone close to you. Distance yourself from anyone who promotes indulgent behavior or uses emotional manipulation to mislead you. 3 stars

Implement the changes you want to incorporate into your daily routine. A disciplined approach to fitness, health and taking better care of your finances will push you in the right direction. Share something special with someone you love. 3 stars

Get organized at home to make life easier. Take care of those less able to do for themselves. The goodness you offer will reflect how others treat you. Stick to the basics, and you'll have time for what's important to you. 5 stars

Don't trust anyone playing mind games. Stick to what you know and trust, and go directly to the source if something interests you. You stand to prosper if you take command. Share your intentions with someone you love. 2 stars

You are compassionate, helpful and organized. You are responsible and sensitive.

STAR RATINGS

FIVE STARS: Nothing can stop you now. Go for the gold.

FOUR STARS: You can pretty much do as you please. It's a good time to start new projects.

THREE STARS: If you focus your efforts, you will reach your goals.

TWO STARS: You can accomplish a lot, but don't rely on others for help.

ONE STAR: It's best to avoid conflicts. Work behind the scenes or read a good book.

# Wright takes his best shot

BEIJING — Under the brightest lights of his young career, Kiwi biathlete Campbell Wright shone.

At 19, Wright was the youngest of the 92 athletes competing in the men’s 20km individual race at the Winter Games last night (NZ time), but was more than up to the challenge.

In an event that requires a mix of accuracy, focus, speed and talent — combining the grind of cross-country skiing with rifle shooting — Wright had one of the best performances of his life.

Wright finished in 32nd place in his Olympic Games debut — 4min12.4sec off gold medalist and current world No.1 Quentin Fillon Maillet of France — stopping the clock with a time better than 60 other athletes.

“I’m super happy,” Wright told Sky after the race. “Of course, I can’t compete for a medal because I’m still young in the sport of biathlon, but I’m really happy with how I went today.

“I turned it on; I don’t know how but I turned it on, so I’m really stoked with today.”

Wright was strong and showed some speed on his skis, while he was a near perfect marksman at the range.

The shooting aspect of the race was always likely to trip some athletes given the conditions, with wind making things that much tougher. A bad day on the range can prove costly in biathlon, with every missed target costing the athlete a minute on their final time. Only two of the 92 athletes managed to hit every one of their 20 targets throughout the race.

Wright, who has been working on his shooting in the lead up to the Games, hit 18 of his 20, missing one target at the first standing range and one at the second prone (lying down) stop. The misses saw him tack an extra two minutes on to his time. In comparison, Fillon Maillet also missed two targets.

In his first Olympic race, Wright said he wasn’t feeling too nervous in the lead-up, and that showed in his performance.

“Being from New Zealand and being 19, I



**TURNED IT ON:** Campbell Wright is pictured in training. The youngest of the athletes to compete in the men’s 20km individual race at the Winter Games, he finished in 32nd place, making him a reserve start for the mass start race later in the Games. Olympic.org.nz picture

should come last in these races, so there’s no pressure at all,” he said.

“I think that’s the second-best I’ve ever shot in an individual, so there’s not much criticism from me. You can’t ask much more from the Olympics; it was my biggest race and one of my best.”

Finishing 32nd, Wright will be a reserve for the 15km mass start race later in the Games — with the top 30 from the individual race qualifying.

He’ll be back in action in the 10km sprint race on Saturday, in which the top 60 finishers will compete in the 12.5km pursuit race the next day.

Speed skater Peter Michael was the only other New Zealander to compete in Beijing yesterday,

lining up in the 1500m event.

Michael, who had two fourth place finishes in the 5000m and team pursuit at the Winter Olympics four years ago, was off the pace in the shorter distance, finishing 26th out of the 29-man field.

He was well off his personal best of his 1:44.96 record five years ago, which would have been good enough for sixth. Michael recorded a time of 1:48.68, 5.47 seconds behind gold medal winner Kjeld Nuis of the Netherlands in an Olympic record time. Fellow Dutchman Thomas Krol claimed silver while South Korea’s Minseok Kim took the bronze. — NZ Herald

# Warriors deny Reece is ‘unsettled’

RUGBY LEAGUE  
by Michael Burgess

THE Warriors have rubbished claims that young fullback Reece Walsh is “unsettled” at the club and could seek an early release from his contract.

Walsh was a standout for the Warriors last year, one of the bright spots from an overall disappointing campaign.

Although he struggled at times with the week-to-week intensity of the NRL, the rookie managed several spectacular performances that belied his inexperience and lack of senior football.

In 16 first grade games, Walsh scored more tries (9) and made more line breaks (14) than any other Warrior, while only Kodi Nikorima had more try assists (14) than the Queenslander’s 11.

The 19-year-old is seen as a key element of the club’s future and there are high hopes about his combination with Shaun Johnson in 2022 and beyond.

However, a report in the Daily Telegraph on Monday claimed Walsh was feeling uneasy at the Warriors and indicated he could seek a move to another Queensland-based club before the end of his current contract, which expires in 2024.

The Telegraph story didn’t cite any specific sources and Warriors chief executive Cameron George said it was baseless.

“I’m refusing to give it any airtime whatsoever,” George told the Herald. “Our focus



**INTENSITY:** Reece Walsh is seen as a key element in the Warriors’ future, but a recent news report indicated he was uneasy at the side and could seek a move to another Queensland club. The chief executive of the Warriors has called the report ‘baseless’. AAP picture

is on this year. Everyone is going really well, Reece is doing a good job and the squad is doing a good job.”

George said he is in regular contact with both Walsh and his manager Nash Dawson and added that the player was completely focused on the upcoming season.

Though it has been reported that Walsh has a player option in his favour for the 2024 season, but that’s not quite right. It can only be triggered for welfare or family reasons and former Warrior’s recruitment manager Peter O’Sullivan described the

clause as “pretty watertight” last year.

That was in response to a report that Brisbane were preparing a long range bid for Walsh.

O’Sullivan is now with 2023 expansion team the Redcliffe Dolphins, though there was an understanding at the time of his departure from the Auckland club that he wouldn’t target any of the Warriors players in 2022, given his inside knowledge around their contracts along with the unusual situation of the Warriors training out of the Dolphins base this season.

Given his importance to the team, the chances of Walsh being granted an early release seem remote at this stage.

Meanwhile, George will assume the role of Warriors’ interim chairman, in place of former chair Rob Croot.

Croot has left his role as managing director of Autex Industries, after a long tenure at the Avondale-based company.

Croot had been Warriors’ chairman since September 2019, when Autex assumed sole ownership of the NRL club, after previously being in partnership with the Carlaw Heritage Trust.

Croot’s role became broader than a typical chair over the last 12 months, helping to manage commercial relationships in New Zealand, with George forced to relocate to Australia to be based with the team, with the borders locked down.

Autex owner and chief executive Mark Robinson remains on the Warriors board, along with George and two other Autex representatives.

“I’m assuming those responsibilities (as chair) for the foreseeable future,” said George. “I’ll be working closely with Mark and Autex and we will continue the strong connection and relationship between the two businesses.”

“Rob was fantastic and a great guy to work with and Mark is very proactive in our space, in the business sector. We are looking forward to a lot of success with the club moving forward.”

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### White Ferns open to changes

THE White Ferns plan to experiment with their line-up in the series against India in Queenstown.

The White Ferns haven’t played since last year’s tour to England and captain Sophie Devine says this final hit out for the world cup squad is important.

“We know building momentum into the World Cup is going to be extremely important, but we also know this is an opportunity to iron out a few of those kinks and maybe test a few people out in different positions,” said Devine.

“What is really important is that we keep trending in the right direction whether results go our way or not.”

India won’t rest their front-line fast bowlers in the series.

Captain Mithali Raj says the side is looking ahead to next month’s World Cup and want to take advantage of the opportunity to play in local conditions ahead of the showpiece event. — RNZ

### F1 changes format on racism

LEWIS Hamilton will have to stop “taking a knee” at the front of the grid after Formula One bosses revealed they are removing the gesture.

Hamilton — and a number of his fellow drivers — have knelt ahead of every race for the past two seasons in a show of solidarity against racism.

But F1 is set to pull the allocated slot from its pre-race schedule for the new season which starts in Bahrain next month.

The sport has instead vowed to build on the impact of the gesture — announcing on Tuesday that it will extend its funding commitment to the Formula One Engineering Scholarship programme for under-represented groups until 2025 — and will carry on screening an anti-racism message ahead of every race. — AAP

### West Ham player condemned

WEST Ham United have condemned the actions of defender Kurt Zouma after a video emerged of him kicking his pet cat.

The 27-year-old France international has apologised after the video showed him slapping the cat and kicking it across the floor. He is also seen throwing shoes at the animal and chasing it around the room.

“West Ham United unreservedly condemns the actions of our player, Kurt Zouma, in the video that has circulated,” the Premier League club said in a statement.

Zouma said it was an isolated incident.

The video has caused outrage, with animal charity the RSPCA saying it could investigate the matter. — AP

### Peng’s freedom in doubt

BEIJING — The reporter who conducted the first face-to-face interview with Chinese tennis star Peng Shuai by western media has said he is unsure if she is free to say and do what she wants.

Peng’s allegations of forced sex with a former top-ranked Communist Party official, and subsequent disappearance from view, triggered a global outpouring of fear for her safety.

Marc Ventouillac is one of two journalists for French sports daily L’Equipe who spoke to Peng this week in a restrictive interview arranged with Chinese Olympic officials.

He said: “This interview don’t give proof that there is no problem with Peng Shuai.

“It’s a part of communication, propaganda, from the Chinese Olympic Committee.” — AP

### Anderson and Broad dropped

ENGLAND’s all-time leading test wicket takers James Anderson and Stuart Broad have been dropped for the three-test tour against West Indies.

Fast bowlers Anderson and Broad have taken a combined 1177 wickets in test cricket but were left out by the selection panel comprising interim managing director Andrew Strauss, interim head coach Paul Collingwood and head scout James Taylor.

Other players who played in the Ashes but have also been dropped include Dom Bess, Sam Billings, Rory Burns, Jos Buttler, Haseeb Hameed and Dawid Malan.

Durham opener Alex Lees and Yorkshire seamer Matthew Fisher received their first call-ups while wicketkeeper Ben Foakes also returns to the squad.

Collingwood was named interim head coach after Chris Silverwood stepped down last week following the team’s 4-0 series defeat in the Ashes against Australia.

The test begins on March 8 in Antigua. — AAP

Around the Greens

Club bowls news

Gisborne

ON yet another hot Saturday, 26 players with water bottles and various cooling aids stepped up to play four games of singles on the Gisborne Bowling Club greens.

This is not a game for sissies at the best of times but it was pot luck who you struck in the draw and they could have a handicap of up to 10 shots. The aim is to be the first to 21!

This was also a red-letter day for the club as it was the first tournament held on the new No.1 green.

This has been a massive project for the club and required many working bees and members spending hours sweeping, sifting and weeding.

One of the best volunteers was Graham Moore, who turned up to work most days, so he was given the honour of putting down the first bowl on the new surface . . . and he did it beautifully.

Players were impressed with the speed and accuracy of the green. The next time it will be played on will be during the Gisborne club's marquee event, the Burton Cup, on February 19.

Winners and grinners of the club handicap singles were those who won four games. Peter Ferris was first, Carol Hawes second and Emily Hongara third.

Poverty Bay

POVERTY Bay Bowling Club's championship mixed fours had to be decided on ends won after four teams finished with three wins each.

This championship was won by Joy Davis (skip), Les Whittington (director), John Andrews (two) and Jeff Davis

Teams named for octagonal tournament

BOWLS By Crackerjack

THE Bowls Gisborne-East Coast representative teams have been named for the octagonal tournament in Manawatu from Friday to Sunday.

The senior men's team will comprise: David File (Te Karaka), Don Hoepo-Williams (Poverty Bay), July Hoepo (Te Karaka), Paul Harrison (Gisborne), Andrew Ball (Poverty Bay), Willie Murray (Te Karaka), Steve Goldsbury (Gisborne), Ben Elkington (Tolaga Bay), Geoff Pinn (Gisborne) and Ray Young (Kahutia). Manager: Tim Sherriff (Gisborne)

David File will play the singles.

Don Hoepo-Williams will skip his brother July Hoepo in the pairs.

In the triples, Paul Harrison will skip Andrew Ball (director) and Willie Murray (lead).

In the fours, Steve Goldsbury will skip Ben

Elkington (director), Geoff Pinn (two) and Ray Young (lead).

Gisborne-East Coast centre women's selector and manager Bobbie Beattie has chosen: Dayvinia Mills (Gisborne), Glenda Kapene (Wairoa), Tanya Harrison (Gisborne), Lyn Trueman (Gisborne), Anita Vaotuua (Poverty Bay), Sharon Olsen (Tolaga Bay), Mere Nepia (Te Karaka), Jasmine Merrick (Te Karaka), Carol Hawes (Gisborne) and Lesley Seymour (Poverty Bay).

Dayvinia Mills will play the singles.

Glenda Kapene will skip Tanya Harrison in the pairs.

In the triples, Lyn Trueman will skip Anita Vaotuua (director) and Sharon Olsen (lead).

In the fours, Mere Nepia will skip Jasmine Merrick (director), Carol Hawes (two) and Lesley Seymour (lead).

Good bowling and all the best to the Bowls Gisborne-East Coast representative teams.



**FIRST BOWL:** Committed volunteer Graham Moore sends down the first bowl of the handicap singles tournament on Gisborne Bowling Club's new No.1 green.

(lead). They won the championship and the Bill Ferris Trophy as they won the most ends.

Second place went to Andrew Ball, Bruce Ball, Otto Louw and Win Baker. This team changed positions for each game.

Players welcomed the decision to reduce the four games to 75 minutes each as it was a very hot day.

**MIXED FOURS CHAMPIONS:** Poverty Bay Bowling Club's championship mixed fours winners are (from left) skip Joy Davis (holding the Bill Ferris Trophy), Les Whittington, John Andrews and Jeff Davis.

Pictures supplied



**HANDICAP SINGLES WINNER:** Peter Ferris (left) receives the Handicap Cup for club handicap singles from Gisborne Bowling Club president Tim Sherriff.



Cummins to lead Australia in first test tour of Pakistan since 1998

CRICKET

MELBOURNE — The unknowns of touring Pakistan and the challenges of travel during the Covid-19 pandemic have led selectors to name an 18-man squad for Australia's first test tour of the subcontinent nation in 24 years.

Pat Cummins will lead a team aiming to put the messy exit of former coach Justin Langer behind them when the three-test series starts in Rawalpindi on March 4.

Given Australia haven't played a test in Pakistan since 1998, selectors have covered themselves for multiple scenarios with the squad featuring three spinners, all-rounders Cameron Green and Mitchell Marsh and a pace line-up bolstered by the return of Josh Hazlewood.

"If we were to take a smaller squad and suffer some injuries, it's not particularly easy to get people from point A to point B at the moment," chairman of selectors George Bailey said.

"For a little while the larger squads will probably remain."

Opener Marcus Harris has been named, but Bailey said the Victorian would be travelling as a third opening option behind incumbents David Warner and Pakistan-born Usman Khawaja.

Bailey said there was also the scope for Queensland legspinner Mitchell Swepson to make his test debut depending on conditions alongside No.1 spin option Nathan

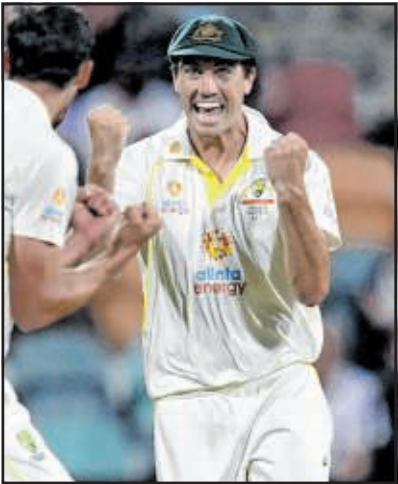
Lyon, while WA all-rounder Ashton Agar could feature as well.

"All three are capable of playing test cricket absolutely," Bailey said.

"We don't know what conditions will be like."

"A lot of the first-class data that we've been looking at, and chatting to a few people that have played over there, there's one pitch in particular that we think will suit the fast bowlers."

"I think Karachi will take a little bit of spin and we're not quite so sure on Lahore — that generally has been a bit of a better batting wicket."



**CAPTAIN:** Pat Cummins will lead the Australian team on the Pakistan tour next month.

AAP picture

"I'm not entirely sure what to expect."

There remains a possibility of changes to the squad with the Australian Cricketers' Association bracing for players to pull out of the tour due to safety concerns.

"Clearly there's some anxiety about touring and that's perfectly natural given an Australian cricket team hasn't toured Pakistan for almost 25 years," ACA boss Todd Greenberg told SEN on Monday.

"We may have one or two players that won't be comfortable despite all of the advice and guidance that we provide, and that's OK."

However, Bailey said he hadn't heard about any such concerns.

"The briefings have been particularly thorough and obviously Pakistan are incredibly keen to get international cricket back to their country," he said.

"I certainly know our playing group and staff are excited to get over and play there as well."

**Australia's test squad for the Pakistan tour:** Pat Cummins (capt) (NSW), Ashton Agar (WA), Scott Boland (VIC), Alex Carey (SA), Cameron Green (WA), Marcus Harris (VIC), Josh Hazlewood (NSW), Travis Head (SA), Josh Inglis (WA), Usman Khawaja (QLD), Marnus Labuschagne (QLD), Nathan Lyon (NSW), Mitchell Marsh (WA), Michael Nesar (QLD), Steve Smith (NSW), Mitchell Starc (NSW), Mitchell Swepson (QLD), David Warner (NSW). — AAP

# Relegation fears ease slightly for Newcastle

FOOTBALL

NEWCASTLE — Kieran Trippier scored off a dipping free-kick to cap Newcastle’s 3-1 win against Everton that lifted his team out of the bottom three and pulled the beaten visitors closer to the relegation mire in the English Premier League today.

The England rightback, one of five new signings for the Saudi-owned club in the January transfer window, completed Newcastle’s comeback in the 80th minute at St James’ Park in just the team’s third victory of the season.

Everton, playing their first league game under Frank Lampard, took the lead through Jamaal Lascelles’ own goal — only to concede barely a minute later when Mason Holgate put the ball into his own net, too.

Newcastle went in front for the first time through Ryan Fraser’s close-range finish in the 56th minute, before Trippier’s crowning goal.

In jumping out of the relegation zone, Newcastle moved within a point of Everton, who are only three points above the bottom three.

Two high-profile players signed on transfer deadline day last month — midfielders Dele Alli and Donny van de Beek — came on as substitutes for Everton. — AP



**BEND IT LIKE TRIPPIER:** Kieran Trippier scores Newcastle United’s third goal, from a free-kick, during an English Premier League football match against Everton at St James’ Park, Newcastle, today. Picture by Owen Humphreys/PA via AP

## WEATHER FOR TOMORROW

9 Feb, 2022

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### GISBORNE CITY

TOMORROW	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
morning min 18 max 29 Fine spells increasing. Northwesterlies.	morning min 20 max 28 Rain developing. Warm northerlies.	morning min 21 max 29 Showers. Morning southerly change.

### GISBORNE REGION

SUNDAY
Rain with southerlies.

### MIDNIGHT TONIGHT

### NOON TOMORROW

### GISBORNE TIDE MOVEMENT

Thursday Feb 10	Friday Feb 11
am 3 6 9 noon 3 6 9 pm	am 3 6 9 noon 3 6 9 pm

### SUN-MOON-MAORI FISHING GUIDE

© OceanFun Publishing www.ofu.co.nz Maori fishing guide by Bill Hohepa

Rise 6:30 am Set 8:14 pm	Rise 6:31 am Set 8:13 pm
Set 12:33 am Rise 3:29 pm	Set 1:08 am Rise 4:28 pm
Best at 7:56 am 8:20 pm	Best at 8:44 am 9:09 pm

### NZ SITUATION

An active frontal rainband over the South Island drifts onto the lower North Island tomorrow, and becomes slow-moving on Friday and Saturday. A humid east to northeast flow covers much of Aotearoa. However, southwesterlies develop over the South Island behind the front.

### NZ TOMORROW

Auckland	fine	28
Hamilton	showers	29
Tauranga	drizzle	26
Rotorua	showers	24
Taupo	showers	27
Napier	fine	29
New Plymouth	showers	26
Palmerston North	showers	29
Wellington	showers	24
Christchurch	showers	26
Queenstown	showers	26
Dunedin	showers	23

### GISBORNE READINGS

Taken at the Airport, for the 24 hours to 9am, Wednesday 9 Feb 2022

<b>SUNSHINE hours</b>	3.7
On Tuesday, 8 Feb	
To date for February	57.8
Average for February	199.0
To date this year	282.9
To date last year	362.5
<b>WIND km/h</b>	
Max gust on Tue 8 Feb	SE 31
<b>RAINFALL mm</b>	
24 hours to 9am, Wed 9 Feb	0.4
To date for February	95.2
Average for February	74.0
To date this year	142.2
To date last year	48.8
<b>EVAPOTRANSPIRATION mm</b>	
Daily average for past week	4.2
<b>TEMPERATURE °C</b>	
Maximum	22.9
Minimum	18.8
Grass minimum	17.3
<b>BAROMETRIC PRESSURE</b>	
At 9am 9 Feb (hPa)	1019.2
At 9am 9 Feb (inches)	30.10

### TODAY IN HISTORY

1998 — After a run of very warm days, the Waikato River became too hot to cool the turbines in the Huntly power station. People were warned to conserve their electricity or blackouts could be forced upon them.

### WORLD TOMORROW

Adelaide	fine	15 26
Amsterdam	rain	3 8
Bangkok	showers	24 33
Beijing	fine	-5 9
Berlin	drizzle	7 10
Brisbane	fine	20 31
Buenos Aires	fine	20 32
Cairo	fine	7 16
Canberra	fine	13 30
Cape Town	rain	18 23
Delhi	fog	8 22
Frankfurt	cloudy	2 9
Geneva	fine	-1 10
Hong Kong	fine	16 19
London	fine	-1 8
Los Angeles	fine	12 32
Melbourne	fine	17 23
Moscow	rain	-1 2
New York	fine	3 10
Paris	drizzle	4 9
Perth	fine	19 39
Singapore	thunder	24 33
Stockholm	fine	-4 4
Suva	thunder	24 29
Sydney	fine	19 31
Tokyo	snow	1 4
Toronto	snow	-3 0

# ‘A perfect rhythm’

## Olivia Corrin feels things have clicked into place

SURF LIFESAVING by Murray Robertson

GISBORNE “iron” athlete Olivia Corrin produced her best results so far in Australia’s elite ironwoman series this summer, and she was thrilled about it.

The 21-year-old finished 10th out of 20 women across the six rounds of the Nutri-Grain IronWoman Series, which ended at Kurrawa Beach in Queensland on Sunday.

It was a fine achievement, given she came into the competition as a “wild card”.

“I am extremely happy with how I raced over the six rounds,” Corrin told The Herald.

“I feel like all of the sacrifices my family and I have made to help me get to where I am now have been worth it.

“I’m now living out my dream as a professional ironwoman.”

She was injured last summer and had to withdraw from the 2020/21 series after three rounds.

Corrin said the conditions on Saturday and Sunday for rounds 5 and 6, the last of this summer’s series, were “super wild and challenging”.

“But it made racing so much more exciting, not only for us as competitors but also for the spectators. It’s awesome to showcase what our sport involves . . . battling all sorts of elements.”

Her 10th placing makes her an automatic qualifier for next year’s series.

“That’s something I am already very excited about,” Corrin said.

Her next competition will be the Shannon Eckstein Classic at Northcliffe on Friday and Saturday.

Corrin competes for the Northcliffe club on the Gold Coast, along with fellow Gisborne and Midway competitor Cory Taylor, and the eventual runner-up in the women’s ironwoman series, fellow New Zealander Danielle McKenzie.

“It will be interesting to see how all of us athletes who have raced this series go.

“After this event there is a good training block to do some hard work before the Queensland state titles and then the Australian titles.

“Unfortunately, due to Covid still hanging around, it is unlikely I will be able to return for the New Zealand nationals this year, which is upsetting.”

At this stage the nationals remain scheduled for Christchurch in March.

“I think what made a difference for me in this year’s series was that I feel like I’ve finally found my place in Australia and a perfect rhythm that suits my lifestyle,” Corrin said.

“After spending 18 months overseas on my own, away from family, and figuring out a routine that works best for me involving training, working and studying, everything feels like it has finally clicked into place.

“I have had a good 18 months of solid training with Naomi Flood and the Northcliffe girls’ squad, as well as learning to do all the admin of adulthood.

“So I feel like I have developed and grown stronger as an athlete and a person.”

That growth was certainly reflected in her results in this summer’s series, where she has lived her dream of racing against the world’s best in this event.



**TOUGH WORK:** Big seas added to the challenge of the final two rounds of the elite ironwoman series at Kurrawa Beach in Queensland at the weekend. Gisborne’s Olivia Corrin (on the board second from right, and running to the finish) said it was exciting for competitors and spectators alike.

Pictures by Harvey Allison