

The Gisborne Herald

TE NUPEPA O TE TAIRAWHITI

MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022

HOME-DELIVERED \$1.90, RETAIL \$2.20



FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY: This is how Gisborne Hospital allied health workers including lab technicians, physiotherapists, social workers, pharmacists and psychologists feel with wage negotiations not being concluded after 18 months. As part of their 24-hour nationwide strike today, Gisborne Hospital allied health workers/PSA members took their case to the public outside the hospital. The strike covers about 200 workers in Gisborne and 10,000 nationwide. Margaret Takoko of the PSA said a health board offer declined last week was “far short” of being acceptable. She said staff were really disappointed employers did not appreciate the value of their work. “The reality is that the Government funds hospital boards. For employers to pay a wage reflective of their skill base, the money does need to come from the Government. The strike sends a very strong message to the Ministry of Health and health boards,” she said.

Picture by Liam Clayton

ON STRIKE Disagreement over pay equity issues

GISBORNE Hospital PSA employees are among the 10,000 allied health workers who started a 24-hour strike at midnight this morning.

Allied health workers include such workers as lab technicians, physiotherapists, social workers, pharmacists and psychologists.

Spokeswoman for the country's health boards, Keriana Brooking, said acute and emergency services would be available during the strike.

“If someone does need urgent hospital care, they shouldn't delay getting help.”

Where elective and other community services need to be deferred, health boards will be notifying patients directly.

Ms Brooking said the industrial action was preventable as a comprehensive pay

offer presented to the PSA on Friday was rejected without being put to members for consideration.

PSA organiser Will Mathews said an 11th hour offer from health boards to settle the allied health collective agreement was rejected.

“We made it clear to the employers that if an offer was made that honoured the Employment Relations Authority (ERA) report, we would recommend it to our members.

“Several Government ministers have said publicly that they saw a resolution to the dispute through the recommendations of the Authority.

“Yet what we have received today is a kick in the guts.

“To blatantly disregard the ERA

facilitator's recommendations is not only a moral failing, but an act of bad faith.

“We would like to share these recommendations with allied health workers but have been stymied so far by the DHB's refusal to allow them to be released.

“We believe this lack of transparency is also in bad faith and can only be intended to keep allied health workers in the dark.

Ms Brooking said the PSA had said pay equity was the real concern of its members.

“That's a separate process and our aim is to settle these pay talks so we can concentrate on that.

“We've offered decent pay increases with a focus on increasing pay rates for our lower paid assistants, technicians and trainees.

“We need to settle the pay bargaining so health boards and the PSA can focus on

the issues of pay equity that we both agree on.

“Our allied health workforce plays a critical part in delivering care to people in hospitals and the communities and we all agree on the need to address the pay equity issues for allied health professions that have a predominantly female workforce.

“The decent pay deal we've offered is part of that, but pay equity has its own legislation and involves other unions, and the Government — none of whom are part of these pay talks.

“We acknowledge bargaining has been protracted and both PSA members and health boards have been waiting for some time. The sooner we can settle these pay talks, the sooner we can focus on the pay equity claim.”

TOMORROW

GISBORNE



RUATORIA



WAIROA



Local News..... 1-5
Births & Deaths...4
National..... 6-10,16

Business.....11
Opinion.....12
World..... 13-15

Television.....17
Classifieds.....18
Racing.....19

Sport..... 20-24
Weather.....23



'STRENGTH IN DIVERSITY'

THE Tairāwhiti Cultural Festival proved a hit yesterday with a diverse range of cultures providing colourful performances, exhibitions and activities.

It was a free event run at the Gisborne Soundshell at Midway Beach from midday to 5pm.

This year's focus was on local stories that celebrated variety and diversity in the region.

There were performances from high school bands, a Chinese band, a folk group singing songs from all over the world and the City of Gisborne Highland Pipe Band, as well as line dancing, Zumba and a group from South America who played Chilean and Brazilian music.

There was also food available — more than a dozen stallholders offering Indian, Turkish, Chinese, Japanese, Pasifika and Thai delicacies.

Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Race Relations Commissioner Meng Foon, the Ministry of Social Development and other community leaders attended.

Mayor Stoltz said it was a fun, multicultural event for everyone to enjoy, with singing, dancing and great food.

"Our strength as a community lies in our diversity, and yesterday we had the opportunity to learn and enjoy several of the wonderful ethnicities who call Gisborne home. A huge thank you and congratulations to Akiko and her team for organising it."

Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council

secretary Meredith Jass Noor Kaur said it was wonderful to be a part of the event.

"Tairāwhiti has a lot of talent which was visible in the different performances.

"It was awesome to reconnect with the community after such a long time (due to Covid) and Tairāwhiti Multicultural Council gave away 100 Opportunities Without Discrimination (OWD) socks as a way of us coming together and celebrating who we are.

"Opportunities Without Discrimination was founded by Arish Nareesh — using odd socks to highlight inequalities within the world — and this is an important part of our message promoting peace and harmony among people of all races, religions and cultures.

"It was also an opportunity to build awareness of how we can help the ethnic community, who are isolating due to Covid-19, and working together with the team from the Ministry of Social Development's connected programme, who shared additional information on what is available for the community."

MSD community liaison officer Calvin Robinson attended the event to promote various jobs available to whānau in the region.

"It was also about highlighting and supporting the mahi Meredith did for the ethnic communities in Gisborne throughout the pandemic," he said.

"The festival was great. We thoroughly enjoyed it."



FROM LION DANCING TO LINE DANCING: The crowd enjoys a lively performance of the Chinese lion dance. Below, Cowboys and cowgirls hit the stage for a line dancing display.



BEHIND THE MASKS: Milly (6) and Maddy (5) Morton show off the face masks they painted



GETTING CREATIVE: Five-year-old Ellie Yuan, left, lets her paintbrush run wild as she decorates a mask.

Pictures by Liam Clayton



WINTER WARMER: Dianne Spicer about to enjoy a cup of Iraqi vegan lentil soup made by Mayada Al-Sammarraie.



HEAR ME ROAR: Trying on the lion dance costume are Atlas (6) and Dublin (8) Gloistein at the Tairāwhiti Cultural Festival at the Gisborne Soundshell yesterday.

Kayaker dies in river at Tuai

A MALE kayaker died yesterday morning after being caught by floodwaters in a river south of Lake Whakamarino at Tuai inland from Wairoa.

Police said in a statement that an emergency locator beacon was activated on the Waikaretaheke River just after 10.30am yesterday.

"The emergency services responded to the incident but found the man deceased, in the water, when they arrived."

His body was recovered and police will conduct enquiries into the death on behalf of the Coroner.

Police said the man was caught by water released from floodgates on the river.

No further information had been provided at the time The Herald went to print today.

The man's name and where he was from have not been released at this stage.

Covid numbers expected to rise

HAUORA Tairāwhiti has reported 57 new cases of Covid-19 today.

"We've had an average of 65 new cases per day over the past few days and no one in hospital with Covid for a few days now," said a spokesman.

"We are expecting an increase in cases over the next two months, as we normally follow other cities' trends and Tamaki Makaurau (Auckland) has had an increase in cases recently.

"The drop in temperatures and the relaxing of border and local controls have a role to play in this.

"Please continue to be vigilant, wear your mask, wash your hands and keep your distance from people you don't know.

"We have had the first local case of influenza A.

"It is the time to get your flu shot to protect your whānau.

"The combination of Covid and flu ('fluorona') is concerning for our community.

"Please talk to your pharmacist or local health clinic.

"The flu vaccine is free for those over 65 (55 Māori or Pacific) or those with long-term conditions."

Rapid Antigen Tests (RATS) can be picked up tomorrow at the railway station.

"Thank you to everyone who attended one of the family vaccination events on Sunday."

Arson inquiry after house fire

POLICE and Fire and Emergency New Zealand have an inquiry under way into a suspicious fire that extensively damaged a house in Scott Street in Elgin on Friday night.

FENZ crews were called to the property at around 8.15pm.

"The vacant house was well involved in fire when the first crew arrived," a senior firefighter said.

"They used three hose lines and breathing apparatus to contain and then extinguish the fire."

The senior firefighter said there was extensive damage to the kitchen, dining room and lounge area, as well as smoke damage to the remainder of the home.

"The incident is under investigation with FENZ and the police to determine the cause of fire."

The cause is being treated as suspicious.

Police confirmed this morning the inquiry was being treated as an arson investigation.



FUTURE OF TE REO: Ruth Smith and Witi Ihimaera at the launch of the te reo Māori version of *Bulibasha: King of the Gypsies*.
Picture by Paul Rickard

'My favourite book by my favourite author'

by Matai O'Connor
Kaupapa Māori reporter

BULIBASHA: King of the Gypsies by Witi Ihimaera has been translated into te reo Māori by Tairāwhiti local Ruth Smith.

The translation, called *Puripāha: Te Pane Kaewa*, was launched at an event full of whānau, hapu and iwi at Toihoukura on Saturday.

It is part of an initiative launched in 2019 by Kotahi Rau Pukapuka Trust to translate 100 books into te reo.

Ihimaera made sure to be there "no matter what" to celebrate the launch of what he wanted to make clear to all was, "It's Ruthy's book. All the words, descriptions, everything in it is hers."

"Ruth's reo gives mana and beauty to the story. Every description in the book is hers, every word is hers, it's her mana wahine that goes through the book," Ihimaera said.

Ruth Smith, 32, who grew up in Waihirere, says getting the opportunity to translate the book was something she could never turn down.

"This story was actually my favourite book when I was at school. I think I was three when it came out, but when I read it as a teenager I absolutely loved it because I could see my cousins, my family in his stories," she said.

Ihimaera had asked her which book she wanted to translate. The original plan was to translate his book *Sky Dancer*.

"I told him my favourite story was *Bulibasha* and he said 'well if that's what you want to do, you should absolutely do that'. I was amazed and it kind of just took off from there."

Smith was asked during the first Covid lockdown in 2020 if she was interested in the work.

"Being able to translate a story that belongs to my favourite author, I was honestly tickled when the opportunity came up.

Ms Smith has extensive experience with te reo Māori. She works as a translator and interpreter at Parliament.

"I feel like I've been really privileged in my te reo Māori journey, growing up with it and being surrounded by kaumatua. Mentors, tutors and teachers have taken me under their wing which gave me the opportunity to expand on it."

Ms Smith was invited to Te Whare o Rongomaurikura, Institute of Language Excellence in Te Reo Māori by Sir Timoti Kāretu, Sir Pou Temara, and the late Te Wharehuia Milroy and supported by Paraone Gloyne.

"I have had a long time learning under those absolute experts of te reo Māori." On Saturday at the launch, she said it was surreal being there.

"I got to translate my favourite book by my favourite author and then have my best and dearest friend Erena Koope design the cover, it's like all these favourite things happening in my



favourite place in the world with my favourite language. It's just crazy."

She says it took about a solid five weeks to translate the book. But the whole process has taken two years to get to the release.

"For at least three weeks I was awake the whole time. I was so obsessed with getting it finished. We were right in the midst of the lockdown so I thought it was perfect, I've got nothing to do. But that was a lie — I had heaps to do but I just didn't want to do it because I was just obsessed with translating *Bulibasha*. "I'm super stoked to get it over the line."

This is the sixth book of 100 being translated into te reo Māori by Kotahi Rau Pukapuka.

Others include poems by Maya Angelou and Ihimaera's Pounamu Pounamu.

The trust's kaupapa is to make available a diverse array of original Maori books and outstanding translations of great books from English and other languages.

Street light repairs under way after parts arrive

WORK is under way to fix broken street lights on Gisborne's state highway network after the parts arrived from overseas recently.

A Waka Kotahi spokesperson said since the lights arrived some work was done last week to replace the broken lights, and the rest would be done this week.

About 70 lights need to be fixed.

"We expect another shipment to arrive in June, which will bring us to approximately 50 lights available."

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency national journey manager Helen Harris said due to a fault with some LED lights a large number of street lights needed replacing, but due to global supply issues there was a delay in getting the parts

needed to replace the faulty lights.

"We have been speaking to people in the community who are concerned about the lights not working, and we have advised that we are aware of the issue and have a plan for replacement, but are dependent on the parts arriving amidst a global shortage," Ms Harris said.

"Once the parts arrive, the plan is to fix

the lights in batches of 10-15 at a time."

Ms Harris said as they could not fix all the lights at once, they would be prioritising the areas where multiple lights have not been working.

"We're advising people to avoid touching the broken lights and if anyone sees dangling lights, please call 0800 4 HIGHWAYS."

FAMILY NOTICES

Deaths

Deaths

HALL, Douglas John. — Loving husband to Claire Angela (dec), were reunited on the evening of Friday 13th, 6.35pm. Loved father, husband, uncle, brother, poppa and friend to so many. He left an imprint on anyone he came in contact with and had a positive outlook on life, always keen for an adventure. Greatly missed but never forgotten.



WADE, June (nee Potaka). — Born June 29 1925, passed away April 30, 2022. Loved wife of the late Doug. Mother of the late Bernard, and of Warrick and Patricia, Dianne, Lindsay and Amanda, John, and Janet. Loving grandmother of 12, and great-grandmother of 13. Loved aunt of 14 nieces and nephews.

A private cremation has been held. A memorial service to celebrate June's life will be held at Evans Chapel, Ormond Road, on Thursday, May 19 at 10am.

- Evans Funeral Services Ltd FDANZ
www.evansfuneral.co.nz

In Memoriam

HIGGINS, Marjorie
7.12.1938 - 16.5.2021

One year has passed, and we miss you every single day. You're gone, but will never be forgotten.

Dearly missed by Karen and Edward (dec), Steve and Moe, Tony and Nicky, Sally and David, and all your grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

PLEASE HAVE
FAMILY
NOTICES IN BY
9AM
MON-FRI
DAY OF
PUBLICATION.
SATURDAY
PUBLICATION
IN BY 3PM
FRIDAY

Trust active in helping rural community during storms

THE Rural Support Trust has been active in helping the rural community during recent storms and is continuing to work with Federated Farmers, says Gisborne-Wairoa president Toby Williams.

A comment in Saturday's article covering the Feds' annual meeting, saying the Rural Support Trust (RST) had "been found wanting", did not reflect what the trust had been doing in the past few weeks in response to the storms, said Mr Williams.

"My comments were written a month before and reflected some of the challenges we were facing at the time of the storms. The RST was active during the storm, and was engaged with the Rural Connectivity Group and Civil Defence during the response phase. Not, as the article inferred, doing nothing.

"My qualifying remarks (at the meeting) on what has happened since are completely missing."

Mr Williams said the trust had accelerated its response to the recovery process.

Community meetings were planned for early June up the Coast and there were discussions around holding more in the Wairoa community.

"There has been an increase in staff who have done a fantastic job of moving forward with the response. Federated Farmers continues to work closely with the Rural Support Trust to ensure that, where support can be applied, farms that need it will receive it.

"It should be noted, though, that the recovery from these storms will be a marathon not a sprint."

Mr Williams said RST remains the lead agency in the recovery and "we are happy to be working with them providing assistance where we are able to".

"If you are in need of support with your recovery from the storms, please do not hesitate to get in contact with them."

Flying into town for a century

by Wynsley Wrigley

FUTURE Gisborne Mayor Sir Harry Barker was an early enthusiast of aviation back in the pioneering era between the two world wars.

A century ago, on April 1, 1922, Mr Barker, as he was at the time, was a passenger on the first direct Gisborne to Auckland flight.

Only eight years later, Darton Field — now Gisborne Airport — opened after Gisborne Borough Council, Cook County Council and Waikohu County Council, with the support of the Gisborne Aero Club and a group of visionary aviation enthusiasts, bought and developed the site.

Harry Barker was one of those enthusiasts who promoted the development of a Gisborne airfield.

He was one of two passengers to fly to Auckland on the Canterbury Aviation Company's de Havilland DH9, named Firefly.

The other passenger was a J.E. Brosnahan of Puha, possibly John Edmund Brosnahan (1870-1953).

The pilot was Captain Maurice "Buck" Buckley who went on to have a distinguished career in aviation.

When World War 2 broke out, he was the commanding officer of RAF Feltwell in England where 75 (New Zealand) Squadron was based for much of the war.

Also on board was another Canterbury Aviation Company pilot, Les Brake.

He had flown into Gisborne in December 1921 and sold flights from Waikanae Beach while operating another Canterbury Aviation Company aircraft, an Avro 504K named High Jinks.

The company was keen to prove a two-and-a-half, non-stop Gisborne-Auckland flight was commercially viable.

Captain Buckley took off from the beach in perfect conditions, but the flight was prolonged by an extra 45 minutes because of strong winds.

The route took the aircraft across to Opotiki and along the Bay of Plenty coastline.

Bay of Plenty offered numerous places suitable for an emergency landing, reported the Poverty Bay Herald.

Mr Brosnahan, unlike Mr Barker, was also on the return flight to Gisborne on April 4 which was completed in two hours



COME FLY WITH ME: Future Gisborne Mayor Sir Harry Barker was a passenger in the de Havilland DH9, pictured above at Waikanae Beach in April 1922, which shortly afterwards made the first direct flight to Auckland. The aircraft flew back to Gisborne three days later on April 4. Sir Harry, mayor from 1950 to 1977, was an early aviation enthusiast who believed air services would be of great benefit to Gisborne. He is pictured (right) at Gisborne Airport on July 13, 1968 as donated lemons are about to be flown to Invercargill.

Photos courtesy of Tairāwhiti Museum and from Herald files.



and 25 minutes.

The passenger spoke positively to the Poverty Bay Herald of the two flights.

He said that when he got on to the aircraft for the return flight, he did so with the same confidence he would have stepped into a tram car.

The return journey enjoyed more favourable weather.

Clouds were low and few in number providing for excellent visibility at a maximum height of 11,000 feet.

But the Auckland landing, in Cornwall Park, left him concerned at the "hostile" behaviour of some of the land leaseholders who were concerned the aircraft had frightened their stock.

The argument with the lessees lasted for a hour.

Mr Brosnahan compared that to the landing in Gisborne at Makaraka racecourse where a garage proprietor drove them into town.

The plane had landed at the racecourse because the tide was too high at Waikanae Beach.

Captain Buckley said the aircraft had flown splendidly.

Flight times were not specially remarkable, but the flights were "excellent tests of reliability".

His aircraft was capable of flying for five-and-a-half hours.

The Poverty Bay Herald said the non-stop flights between Gisborne and Auckland "should do much to establish the practicability of aviation in New Zealand".

Three in hospital after two crashes

by Murray Robertson

FIREFIGHTERS had to cut the roof off a car and remove the front doors to extricate a man injured in a two-car crash in Gisborne mid-afternoon yesterday.

It happened at the intersection of Craig Road and Rutene Road at around 3.15pm.

"One of the cars T-boned the other at the corner," an emergency services spokesman said.

"The driver of one car was trapped

in the collision and firefighters used cutting gear to get him out."

The man, aged in his 60s, was taken to Gisborne Hospital for treatment for moderate injuries.

"The other driver, also a man, had minor injuries."

The hospital reported this morning that a man aged 61 and another man aged 66 were both admitted to hospital, and were both stable.

■ The sole occupant of a people-mover vehicle that rolled on the Whatatutu

Road was taken to Gisborne Hospital in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The crash happened at around 3.40am.

"The driver was assisted from the vehicle by firefighters from Whatatutu and Te Karaka fire brigades," a spokesman said.

"The woman, in her 40s, suffered a few lacerations, and she was able to walk to the ambulance."

At the time the Herald went to print today no update was available from the hospital on the injured woman.



AERIAL COMBAT: Whangara Old Girls goal keep Kelsey Hohipa and High School Old Girls goal attack Peyton Riri contest a high ball in premier-grade netball action at the Victoria Domain courts on Saturday. Whangara prevailed 28-21. Game report on back page.

Picture by Paul Rickard



IN CRUZ MODE: OBM's Cruz Hinaki scores near the corner in a rugby match against Eastern Bay club side Paroa at the Oval. Hinaki and Co piled on the points in a 54-18 win. The match was part of an exchange between Poverty Bay and Eastern Bay clubs and was hailed a success by Poverty Bay Rugby Football Union chief executive Josh Willoughby. Story on page 22.

Picture by Paul Rickard



GOAL-DEN TOUCH: Gisborne Girls' High's Keeley Smiler slips the ball past Waituhi goalkeeper Lia Collins in a Poverty Bay women's club hockey game on the turf at Harry Barker Reserve on Saturday. The students won 5-1.

Picture by Paul Rickard

Gash from beating needed 12 stitches

A MAN who beat his partner with a crutch while she slept was given a jail sentence when he appeared in Gisborne District Court.

But months spent in custody since the incident and other discounting factors resulted in a final sentence of home detention.

William David Jack Doughty-Maaka, 31, faced seven charges — one of assault with a blunt instrument, one of driving while disqualified, possessing utensils for using methamphetamine (pipe), one breach of a community work sentence, one breach of post-detention conditions and two of failing to answer District Court bail.

Counsel Eric Forster told the court that Doughty-Maaka had pleaded guilty at the earliest occasion and was remorseful.

He had been on bail from May 4 to November 11, 2021 and had spent time in custody for five months. A sentence of home detention was available, Mr Forster said.

Judge Warren Cathcart said Doughty-Maaka had a history of

not completing his community work sentences and had failed to report to Corrections on a couple of occasions.

He was given two warnings by Corrections but he did not re-engage with them.

Judge Cathcart said Doughty-Maaka had assaulted his partner of five years.

On May 4 last year, his partner was asleep on a bed in the shed next to the house. Doughty-Maaka was wielding a crutch and he hit her with it on the back of her thighs and legs. She woke up and fled to the Kaiti Mall public toilets, bleeding and in pain. She went to her cousin's house where she was transferred to the hospital.

She had a wound on her left thigh which needed 12 stitches, and bruises on her legs.

Doughty-Maaka told the police he admitted a verbal argument had occurred between the two but denied hitting her. The injuries must have happened when she jumped the fence while she was fleeing, he said.

Judge Cathcart said the violence

was serious. He had struck the victim with a weapon twice without warning and she suffered a deep wound.

It was obvious pre-meditation was involved in this incident because she was asleep.

"You intended to hit her, she was asleep and vulnerable," the judge said.

He set a start point of 16 months imprisonment and uplifted it by two months for previous convictions and offending on bail.

He gave Doughty-Maaka a discount of four months for his early guilty plea.

The five months he spent in custody were equivalent to a 10-month imprisonment sentence.

He cancelled Doughty-Maaka's community work sentence.

Judge Cathcart sentenced him to two months home detention with six months special and standard post detention conditions.

"Behave yourself, as I have warned you," the judge said.

He was disqualified from driving for 12 months.

GISBORNE DISTRICT COURT

THE court imposed a sentence on Trina Joanne Walsh that would allow her to resume being a contributing member of the community, and to return to her children.

Walsh pleaded guilty to a number of trespass and theft charges, which had all occurred over a short period from September to November 2021, and were fuelled by her methamphetamine addiction. She was sentenced to 15 months of intensive supervision, which would provide for her continued rehabilitation.

Counsel Manaaki Terekia told the court \$3500 was the total sum of losses to businesses. Walsh had already spent 82 days on electronically-monitored bail and 64 days in custody.

Judge Turitea Bolstad said Walsh had committed no further offences, and Walsh's mother had written an in-depth, open and honest letter, detailing their family background and circumstances that had led to Walsh's addiction.

"I have received a police submission and you were close today to receiving a lot harsher sentence," the judge said.

Police had sought a starting point of 12 months imprisonment, and were seeking additional terms of imprisonment of three months for other offences.

The judge afforded Walsh a discount for her early guilty plea, her personal

circumstances and the time she had already spent in custody and on electronically-monitored bail.

"I am going to step back from a sentence of imprisonment or an electronically-monitored sentence," she said.

"The reason is because as I indicated, while there are a large number of charges, they relate to theft to support her addiction.

"I acknowledge your sister, who is here to support you today, and she confirms the best place is back with your children.

"You are lucky to have the support of your mum and whanau, I hope for the sake of your babies you don't go down this path again."

The court imposed reparation of \$3500.

ARONA Alexander Shane Taylor faces a charge of wilful damage and three charges of failing to answer bail. Counsel Leighvi Maynard told the court Taylor had not appeared. A warrant was issued for his arrest.

JOHNIIEB Hazae-Llanasa Peachey faces a charge of assault on a person in a family relationship He failed to appear in court. Police sought a warrant for his arrest and the judge granted the request.

'Binding domestic framework'

Government to outline plan to meet climate change goals

WELLINGTON — The Government will today reveal its scheme — the Emissions Reduction Plan — to meet the country's very-first emissions budget.

Both Labour and National have committed to the first three budgets, which cap the amount of greenhouse gas New Zealand can emit over the next 15 years.

The budgets have been billed as New Zealand's first 'binding domestic framework' to guide a curbing of emissions, no matter who is in power.

Climate Change Minister James Shaw said bipartisan support of the emissions budgets gives New Zealanders a sense of certainty on future climate change policy.

"One of the main reasons that it has taken us so long as a country to get started on the path of cutting our emissions is because climate change policy has been so politicised and so subject to the back and forth vagaries of the political cycle," he told a special parliamentary debate last week.

"But it is a generational challenge. It requires a level of consistency across Governments and across decades and the critical thing about this framework is that the imperative is set and the direction of travel is clear."

The emissions budgets now serve as bipartisan climate goals but the National Party is already forewarning its support doesn't necessarily extend to the Government's plan to meet them.

"I think the Emissions Reduction Plan will be quite a long list of



EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN: The Government has already moved to introduce new import standards on high-emitting vehicles. NZ Herald picture

Emissions Reduction Plan off; arguing it is not necessary when the likes of the Emissions Trading Scheme is up and running.

"We won't support it because it's not necessary to reduce emissions. What ACT would do is actually make the emissions trading scheme better," ACT's climate change spokesperson Simon Court said.

"We would take the revenues from that scheme, which amount to billions per annum, and give Kiwis \$250 a year per person as an incentive to reduce emissions; a carbon dividend."

Te Pāti Māori is pessimistic about the Emissions Reduction Plan, having opposed the emissions budgets on the basis they don't go far enough.

Co-leader Debbie Ngarewa-Packer said climate action had to be approached with "a sense of urgency" as there was limited time to make a difference.

"We would have expected to see something more ambitious, as far as the budgets and targets set."

Te Pāti Māori has outlined its desire to see the Government put a price on methane emissions, limit cow numbers and phase out synthetic fertilisers by 2025.

Ngarewa-Packer said while she would have to wait until the plan had been released to comment on it, what she had seen so far hadn't given her much hope.

"We saw a very pastel green approach to environment and I would have expected a party that's in Government like this would have been a lot more progressive — a lot more."

The Emissions Reduction Plan will be released at midday. — RNZ

initiatives that the Government's come up with, some of them I suspect will be better than others," National's climate change spokesperson Scott Simpson said.

"So we will support the ends but that doesn't necessarily mean that we support the means because there will be some of those initiatives that, on analysis, will be more expensive, more costly and more impactful on people's lives,

communities and businesses."

Simpson said National believed the taxpayer should not have to shoulder the financial burden of climate action alone.

"If we look at the United Kingdom and what's been achieved there, it's actually been business and the private sector that have done many of the innovative emissions-changing programmes that have been most effective."

"And I would expect that could potentially be the case in New Zealand. In fact, the business sector is in many respects already ahead of where the politicians are."

The ACT Party has already written the

Te Pāti Māori co-leader Debbie Ngarewa-Packer said climate action had to be approached with "a sense of urgency" as there was limited time to make a difference.

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STRIKE: The workers from 70 allied health professions are on strike today. These health workers include medical technologists and oral therapists. Picture supplied



Ten thousand allied health workers walk off the job

WELLINGTON — Health services across the country will be reduced today as 10,000 allied healthcare workers strike for increased pay.

The workers, from 70 professions, are picketing and marching in an effort organised by the Public Service Association.

Oral therapists working for community clinics, which provide free dental care for under-18-year-olds are among them.

One industry trainer said he regularly warned graduates they would still have to live like poor students when they started working.

New Zealand Oral Health Association executive member Sam Carrington said starting wages for graduates were often just 80 cents above minimum wage, causing most to favour the private sector.

"It's a no-brainer really what they decide to choose, and so this is why the service itself is under constraint at the moment," he said.

"It's been going on like this as long as I can remember."

He said children were frequently being sent to hospital in significant pain from dental issues due to the overwhelming demand on the service.

District health boards have been negotiating with the PSA for 18 months on allied health worker pay.

An offer to the health workers was made last Friday following recommendations made by the Employment Relations Authority, but the PSA

quickly rejected it, saying it was below their bottom line.

PSA campaign organiser Will Matthews said it had been a number of years since this group of health workers took action, and it represented frustration felt across the professions.

"The DHBs have failed to produce a fair offer," he said.

"Health workers do not want to strike, it is our last resort."

"After two years of shepherding this country through the Covid-19 pandemic and receiving nothing for it, these workers have had enough."

DHB spokesperson and Hawke's Bay DHB chief executive spokesperson Keriana Brooking said the DHBs respected workers' right to protest, but thought the offer made on Friday was "decent".

"We understand that the PSA negotiators have not put that out to their members — we would like them to do so," she said.

Brooking said they were working constructively with the PSA, and looked forward to settling the dispute.

But the squeeze would be felt across health services today. Brooking said a number of appointments had been rescheduled, and some services would be reduced to their 'life-preserving' minimum.

She said it was difficult to predict the full effect of the strike because of the range of services performed by allied health workers. — RNZ

Hate speech law work in progress, says Faafoi

by John Weekes, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Developments on new hate speech laws are likely in the next few months, Broadcasting and Media Minister Kris Faafoi says.

But he conceded the issue was “fraught” and was unwilling to disclose detail or a timeline about proposed laws.

“In the next couple of months I think we’ll have some more news,” Faafoi told TVNZ’s Q+A yesterday.

“We’re committed to making sure that we meet the recommendations of the Royal Commission,” he told Jack Tame.

The Act Party yesterday said Faafoi had admitted how naive his Government was about the proposed laws.

“The hate speech laws would create a divided and hateful society where cancel culture would spiral out of control,” Act leader David Seymour said.

“Faafoi claims that Cabinet will consider hate speech in the next few

months but he wouldn’t commit to a law being passed before the election. It’s time to let this misguided policy go. It’s okay to admit when you’re wrong and move on.”

Race Relations Commissioner Meng Foon in March this year said the Government was dragging its heels over the proposed laws.

Last year the Government unveiled proposals and invited public feedback, including on a new criminal offence with harsher penalties and protections for more minority groups.

The Royal Commission into the 2019 Christchurch mosque attacks found the legal system did not adequately deal with hate crime and hate speech.

“The current laws do not appropriately recognise the culpability of hate-motivated offending, nor do they provide a workable mechanism to deal with hate speech,” it said.

The Royal Commission said the section of the Human Rights Act criminalising

CONSIDERING CHANGES: Kris Faafoi said the Government was committed to meeting the Royal Commission recommendations — but he was taciturn about how. File picture



certain types of hate speech was unfit for purpose.

“The section . . . unacceptably impinges on the right of freedom of expression.”

And the inquiry added, “More generally, it does not provide a credible foundation

for prosecution.”

It urged a reframed offence more accurately targeting behaviour warranting criminal prosecution, and encompassing hate speech directed at religious affiliation.

Nats urge action on rising cost of living

by John Weekes, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — Un-squeezing the middle class and setting people free from nanny-state behaviour is crucial to unlocking this year’s Budget potential, National Party leaders say.

In the midst of rampaging inflation, stagnating KiwiSaver balances, and turbulent petrol prices, Finance Minister Grant Robertson will release the Budget on Thursday.

National Party leader Christopher Luxon said he’d be viewing the Budget through three lenses.

“What’s in here for the squeezed middle that’s actually going to help them deal with the cost-of-living crisis?” he told The New Zealand Herald at a party conference yesterday.

Second, he said he wanted to see value for money in the Budget. Luxon in recent weeks has repeatedly sought to identify wasteful Government spending and white elephants.

Yesterday, he said the Government was squandering money on new civil servants and underachieving on education.

Luxon said his third Budget lens asked, “Is it going to drive into better outcomes for the New Zealand people?”

The former Air NZ chief executive ventured into familiar National terrain by suggesting Labour had a micromanagement mindset but a Cabinet bereft of managerial experience.

“This is a Government of ministers that haven’t run anything in their lives. They are not getting things done.”

He said in health, Three Waters, and the merger of polytechnics, the Government was fixated on centralisation, to the detriment of many business and community groups.

One national entity will replace all 20 district health boards in a plan due to take effect from July 1.

Luxon declined to say how much time, if any, was fair to give the Health NZ reforms before assessing the changes.

“These are the guys who built your KiwiBuild. You think they’re going to do a health reform really well? I don’t think so.”

Robertson last week said even though he was “well and truly over” Covid-19, health would play another major role in this year’s Budget.

Anticipating possible criticism of more health spending in light of inflation and

high petrol prices, Robertson said it was not a zero-sum game.

“If we decided against reforming our health system, we would not see lower petrol prices. We would just have both high petrol prices and a health system that was not set up to meet our needs.”

Luxon said he accepted New Zealand had weathered the Covid-19 pandemic well compared with most countries, and agreed the Government should have supported businesses during the crisis.

“But you’ve got to remember, (in) a large part of the pandemic, the Covid fund was also spent on non-Covid issues,” he said.

“This Government believes in centralisation and control. It believes that it does everything.

“And we believe there are three actors in society that have quite different roles, and complementary roles — community organisations, businesses, and Government, local or central. And we work together on rising to those challenges and realising those opportunities.”

He said one of the best things the Government could do was activate inflation-adjusted tax thresholds.

The first three brackets currently go to \$14,000, \$48,000, and \$70,000.

National has said it wanted the lowest

Luxon in recent weeks has repeatedly sought to identify wasteful Government spending and white elephants.

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Advocates fear young 'will die on waiting lists'

Govt labels eating disorder services 'priority area' ahead of Budget

by Aaron Dahmen, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — New Zealand's eating disorder services are at "crisis" level as demand and service wait times swell, amid fears of vast unmet need.

Documents obtained by Newstalk ZB under the Official Information Act warn patients are suffering and their health deteriorating as they await treatment.

At the end of July last year, Associate Health Minister Ayesha Verrall received a briefing from health officials, outlining concerns over a rise in young people requiring eating disorder support, especially those from Maori and Pacific communities.

"There has been a significant increase in the number of presentations to general hospitals for medical implications of eating disorder services, and DHB services report that this has accelerated in the Covid-19 environment," the briefing stated.

Anorexia and bulimia are two of the most critical conditions, with eating disorders recording some of the highest mortality rates of all mental illnesses.

"Some patients (are) getting more unwell while waiting and entering services in crisis via general medical services."

The documents show that from April 2019 to March 2020, 57 percent of 20-64 year olds couldn't access services for more than two months.

A full set of data for 2021 is not yet available, but quarterly figures show similar trends.

Despite this, the last significant investment into eating disorder services was \$26 million over four years in 2009.

Speaking to ZB ahead of this week's Budget, Verrall said there's a "strong



Ayesha Verrall



Matt Doocey

case for improvement".

She gave little away over whether there would be new funding to boost services, but hinted it was squarely on the Government agenda.

"I certainly see this as a priority area where services need to be strengthened," Verrall said. The issue couldn't be fixed by one Budget.

"There have been small cost pressure increases, but I accept there's an unmet need in our specialist services area.

"What we need to do is make sure that those specialist services are built up . . . that will take a lot of time."

Specialist eating disorder services include inpatient or residential beds, day programmes, individual psychological therapies, and family-based support.

They also provide training for health providers who support sufferers.

In October, the Ministry of Health set up an Eating Disorders Advisory Group, which meets monthly, and features specialist representatives and those with "lived experience".

It comes as National, the Greens and the Eating Disorder Association of New Zealand (EDANZ) plead for funding and

a strategy to tackle the "preventable" issue.

National's mental health spokesperson, Matt Doocey, said there's been huge pressure in the system — and those suffering are being let down.

"It's just heartbreaking . . . we'll have young people dying on waiting lists," Doocey said.

"Some parents are being turned away and told their kids are not close enough to death to access services."

He wants the Government to put more money towards eating disorder support in Thursday's Budget.

"What we need is a clear strategy from the Government . . . and then understand what investment is required to implement that," he said.

The Green Party's mental health spokesperson, Chlöe Swarbrick, says she, too, is concerned.

"The system's failing at a number of levels. It's really important not to just see this as a one-size-fits-all solution, or something that you'll find some kind of resolution (for) by simply resourcing more beds," Swarbrick said.

She's confident the Government has listened to those on the ground in recent months. "My work with Minister Verrall has demonstrated that she takes this very seriously."

EDANZ spokesperson Nicki Wilson is calling for a review of the treatment model, calling the situation unacceptable and unnecessary. "The suffering is extreme of individuals and their whanau," Wilson said.

"We have a crisis situation that needs addressing now.

"Eating disorders are treatable . . . full, lasting recovery is possible at any age."

US shooting manifesto banned in NZ

WELLINGTON — The Acting Chief Censor has put a temporary ban on New Zealanders sharing the racist manifesto of a teenager arrested over a mass shooting in New York.

Rupert Ablett-Hampson said there were distressing similarities to the 2019 mosque attack in Christchurch in which 51 people were killed, with the suspected killer also publishing an online manifesto.

"The killer says in his document that he was inspired by the March 15 mosque killer.

"It has become a trend for terrorists, in particular white supremacist killers, to issue these kinds of publications to encourage others to follow their lead."

Payton Gendron, 18, has been charged with first-degree murder after 10 people were killed in the shooting at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. Most victims were black (story on page 13).

Ablett-Hampson said it was important the public was made aware this material was likely to be objectionable under New Zealand law. He made an interim decision to effectively ban it, using a power introduced after the March 15, 2019, shootings, with a final decision to follow.

"There is widespread coverage of this mass shooting and the fact that the killer produced publications and we urge New Zealanders not to seek these out," he said in a statement yesterday. "This decision means it is an offence to possess or distribute these publications.

"People who have downloaded this document, or printed it, should destroy any copies. We understand most people in Aotearoa reading such publications would not be supportive of these hateful messages but these kinds of publications are not intended for most people. We have seen how they can impact individuals who are on the pathway to violence."

Meanwhile, Internal Affairs is considering whether to refer material from a livestream of the shootings to the censor's office for classification. The New York shooting was reportedly livestreamed online. — RNZ

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Sunday 22 May	Bar & Pizza from 5pm 6pm A Hero (PG13) FINAL

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Omicron outbreak grows its clear-cut Kiwi lineage

by Jamie Morton, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — New Zealand's Omicron outbreak is being dominated by multiple BA.2 lineages genetically linked to our country — reflecting how widely the subvariant has spread and evolved here.

An ESR scientist says it is likely our variant profile will shift again when re-opened borders bring yet more forms of Omicron.

In a few months scientists have watched the original Omicron subtype BA.1 overwhelm the Delta variant, before it was also squashed by the faster-spreading BA.2.

ESR's bioinformatics and genomics lead Dr Joep de Ligt said genomic analysis of Covid-19 samples, mainly from cases picked up at our border and in hospitals, showed BA.2 circulating "almost exclusively".

"It has given rise to BA.2.10, a local lineage that is dominated by New Zealand cases in the international data."

But that wasn't unexpected, he said, and pointed to the fact the virus had mutated enough while spreading here to branch into genetically different virus "clades".

"The fact that New Zealand is now seeing these things means we have what we call persistent transmission chains that allow the virus to accumulate these mutations," he said.

"We can now also see a BA.2.10.1 — the next edition down this line."

He stressed the genetic changes hadn't made the virus any more severe or transmissible.

"It is really when it starts behaving differently that we need to pay closer attention."



SHIFTING BEHAVIOUR: Modellers expect New Zealand's next surge to come on the back of waned immunity from either vaccination, infection or both. NZ Herald picture

For now, he said, cases of BA.2 unlinked to our clades were rarely detected, while the most recent case of Delta was sequenced in March.

"Global data tells us Delta is now reported at zero percent, so it seems the Omicron variants have suppressed it to such a level where it has become undetectable," he said.

"That does not mean there are not Delta cases out there walking around, but just that it is being out-competed by all of these other subvariants."

Infections with the high-profile BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants had so far been confined

to border cases.

In South Africa, the two new sub-variants are suspected to have driven a six-fold jump in cases over recent weeks. But it wasn't clear whether that was because of waning immunity, or those sub types were better able to evade immunity or infect people.

Last weekend, officials reported the first confirmed case of BA.5 in New Zealand — a traveller from South Africa — but insisted the public health settings in place to manage BA.2 were appropriate to manage the other Omicron types.

The good news was BA.4 and BA5 didn't appear to be more severe, he said.

PM 'doing OK' after testing positive for Covid

WELLINGTON — Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has moderate Covid-19 symptoms and is "doing OK" at home as a big week in Parliament gets under way.

Ardern was sent to home isolation when her partner Clarke Gayford contracted the virus last week, and on Saturday she tested positive.

Their daughter Neve tested positive on Wednesday.

Housing Minister Megan Woods, who filled in for Ardern's media slots this morning, told AM that Ardern was "doing OK".

"As she described on Saturday, she has got moderate symptoms but like anyone else with Covid she needs to take this a day at a time and she needs to rest up."

Unfortunately, Ardern was not well enough to chair Cabinet remotely today or to deliver her speech virtually during the lockup for today's pre-Budget release of the landmark Emissions Reductions Plan.

Woods said Ardern was gutted to not be in Parliament.

"It's a really big week in parliament with the Budget and the Emissions Reduction Plan and we are gutted not to have her here."

A spokesman said Ardern's participation in events this week would depend on whether she was well enough each day.

Last week while Ardern was isolating but before she tested positive for Covid-19, she chaired Cabinet remotely and took part in Parliament's proceedings.

The Prime Minister will be required to isolate until the morning of Saturday, May 21.

Travel arrangements for her trade mission to the United States are unaffected at this stage. — NZ Herald

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Trampers rescued after seven-hour search and rescue operation

by George Clark, NZ Herald

MASTERTON — A couple rescued from Mount Holdsworth in Wairarapa on Saturday night would have likely suffered from hypothermia had they not been found in the dark, police say.

The couple had planned a gentle walk from Holdsworth Road to Atiwahakatu Hut and on to Jumbo Hut for the night.

However, they took a wrong turn that led them up the East Holdsworth Track and close to the ridgeline.

After the couple realised their mistake, they attempted to reroute to Powell Hut, but faced extreme weather conditions and were “blown off their feet several times”.

At around 4.15pm the pair hunkered down and called police. They were fortunate to have a cellphone and be within cellphone coverage for the call to get out.

They huddled together for several hours in the cold in the worsening weather conditions.

The couple were finally rescued from the mountain's ridgeline seven hours after the initial alarm was raised.

Wairarapa acting sergeant Richard Butler said a team of three LandSAR members successfully located the pair at around 11pm, and managed to get them to Powell

Hut where they spent the night before safely escorting them down to the road on Sunday morning.

“A helicopter was considered, but high winds meant it could not be deployed.

“The pair were fortunate to have had cellphone coverage, but people should never rely on cellphones solely as their means of communication.

“A quality Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) can be purchased for under \$500 which will last up to 10 years, that's \$50 a year to potentially save your life. Alternatively, you can hire them from various trusts for the price of a box of beer.

“A distress beacon lets you instantly signal for help and they work almost anywhere in the world.

“The beacon shows rescuers your approximate location, taking the ‘search’ out of search and rescue.

“The sooner rescuers can help you, the more likely you are to survive.”

Butler encouraged trampers to always be prepared and take sufficient clothing and equipment for an unplanned overnight stay.

“The Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand works 24/7, 365 days of the year responding to all distress beacon activations.

“The team acts quickly to find out as many details as they can about who set



WORSENING CONDITIONS: A couple has been rescued off the ridgeline on Wairarapa's Mount Holdsworth after being blown off their feet several times. Picture supplied by DoC

off the distress beacon and promptly send search and rescue teams to assist when an alert comes in.

“People heading into the mountains should seek information from the

Department of Conservation (DOC) visitor centres or via the DOC website.

“It can give you detailed information about weather forecasts, track issues and conditions.”

‘YOU’RE GONNA DIE’

Terrified kids in therapy after neighbour's deranged threats

ROTORUA — A terrified family are sleeping together in their lounge and the traumatised children receiving therapy after a deranged neighbour repeatedly threatened to murder them and burn down their house.

The children's mother has been fighting for over a year for police and Kāinga Ora to take action against the state house tenant and her gang member partner due to constant abuse, drug taking and threats of physical and sexual violence.

And despite the neighbour threatening to kill the mother with a shotgun and have her and another woman on the street raped, the mother says Kāinga Ora has refused to move the tenant on or take action to protect her family.

Instead, a tenancy manager told the mother to file a police complaint if she felt unsafe and apply for emergency housing with the Ministry of Social Development.

“If I die tonight this will sit with you,” the mother told the manager in a recorded call last week.

“Where am I meant to go?”

The mother lives in a private rental in Rotorua with her husband and two young children. Her neighbour rents the Kāinga Ora property next door.

The family estimate they have called police about the woman's erratic behaviour at least 60 times during their 14-month tenancy, resulting in numerous police callouts, and repeatedly complained to Kāinga Ora for help.

In the most recent and disturbing incident, the mother found her children “uncontrollably shaking with fear and crying” after a psychotic episode in the middle of the night culminated in the neighbour yelling, “I'm gonna f***g murder you”.

“That's right, we got a shotgun, and we ain't afraid to use it,” the woman screamed as the family covered inside.

“You don't know who my baby daddy is, don't f*** with me ... you're gonna die ... b***g nark b***g.”

The family fear the woman could have access to firearms through her patched gang member partner. The two terrified young children are now sleeping with their parents in a tent in their lounge and receiving weekly therapy sessions from a child psychologist.

“They're so confused and just don't understand why someone would scream at them like that or why we are under attack,”

the mother told the Herald.

“They're just so little.”

In a letter to Kāinga Ora in April, the mother warned the situation had “escalated even further”.

The letter said the woman had threatened to kill neighbours and told them she would arrange for her partner to sexually assault them.

She had also hurled racial abuse at an Indian woman who lives nearby before being removed from the property by police.

The letter warned that the woman is “not okay” and urged Kāinga Ora to place her in supported accommodation, “forced rehab” or a mental health treatment programme to address her needs before someone was hurt.

‘ This is very much a case which highlights the complexities Kāinga Ora is navigating with some customers who live in our homes ’

— Kāinga Ora Bay of Plenty regional director Darren Toy

In another written complaint in March, the mother expressed frustration that nothing had changed, telling Kāinga Ora her kids were now too scared to sleep in their bedrooms due to the “abusive, violent, drug using people” next door.

“My children think the wahine residing there is going to kill them because she screams at them she will “f***ing kill them” when they make noise playing in the back yard after school.

“She chucks dirty sanitary pads into our property. She has full-blown psychosis and is very hostile when we try to reach out to her to offer support or to de-escalate.”

The letter said local residents would seek legal representation if their concerns were not taken seriously.

The mother said she had earlier asked Kāinga Ora to find her family alternative accommodation or move the woman on, but the request had been refused.

Her family were now looking for a new rental in Tauranga.

The mother said that despite calling

111 the night the neighbour threatened to murder her with a shotgun, police told her they would not lay charges due to the woman's mental health problems.

She had since documented the incident in a written statement and forwarded it to police, Kāinga Ora and the Independent Police Conduct Authority.

The mother believed the neighbour was high risk due to her worsening volatility and drug use. She felt police had a “duty of care” to lay charges so a judge could impose conditions on the woman such as placing her in supported accommodation with 24-hour security.

“She's escalating in risk and she's just so unpredictable. She's a danger to herself and people living around her. Something needs to be done.”

The mother had contacted Auckland lawyer Adina Thorn who is documenting numerous cases of innocent homeowners and tenants whose lives have been destroyed by antisocial Kāinga Ora neighbours for a possible class action.

It follows The New Zealand Herald investigation last year into the state housing agency's “sustaining tenancies” policy, which revealed that just three Kāinga Ora tenants had been evicted since Labour came to power in 2017.

Kāinga Ora Bay of Plenty regional director Darren Toy said the agency understood neighbours' concerns. Their experiences in recent weeks had been “very difficult”.

“This is very much a case which highlights the complexities Kāinga Ora is navigating with some customers who live in our homes.”

Kāinga Ora was working closely with a raft of other agencies, including health and police, in relation to this case.

“We have visited or contacted our customer several times in the past weeks, and will continue to regularly visit and speak with them, checking up on how they are living, and encouraging them to get this specialist care and support in what is a difficult and challenging situation for all involved.

“We are also currently exploring with them other housing options which may provide a more suitable home for them to live in.”

Police said they could not comment on “specific mental health-related callouts”, which were difficult for police staff, the people suffering the mental health event and those impacted. — NZ Herald

BRIEFS

Death ‘a terrible accident’

AUCKLAND — The family of missing New Zealander Joseph Day say they believe the former TVNZ cameraman's death in the UK was a “terrible accident”.

The 31-year-old had been living in Bristol with his fiancée, who reported him missing after he left their flat and did not return.

His body was located and recovered in the Avon Gorge in Bristol on May 3.

Day's family released a statement, which was provided to RNZ by TVNZ, saying they believe his death was a “terrible accident”.

“At this stage Joseph's death is still being treated as unexplained and the coroner's inquest has not yet been completed,” the statement reads.

“From the evidence that has been presented to us by the police, as a family we believe that Joseph has had a terrible accident.

“We know that the Avon and Somerset police are under a great deal of pressure to give media a statement due to the exceptional public interest both in New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

“There are still further lines of inquiry taking place and we do ask for privacy during this incredibly difficult time until we have further answers.” — RNZ

Excavator used in ram raid

WELLINGTON — A stolen excavator was used to smash into a service station in Wainuiomata, Lower Hutt.

Police were alerted to the burglary at the BP service station on Wainuiomata Road just before 2.30am. Officers, including a dog handler, were in the area soon after but were unable to locate any offenders at the time.

The excavator was unlawfully taken from a nearby construction site, police said. — RNZ

Arrests after dramatic chase

AUCKLAND — Four people were arrested after police were led on a dramatic chase that saw a vehicle linked to a burglary driven the wrong way across Auckland's Harbour Bridge.

Authorities were called to a burglary at about 1am at an electronics store in Silverdale.

As officers approached, two vehicles fled the scene.

The Police Eagle helicopter spotted one of the cars transferring stolen goods into a third vehicle, Waitemata District Police Commander Superintendent Naila Hassan said.

“Ground staff were directed to this location and attempted to block this third vehicle, but it rammed two of our vehicles before fleeing.

“No pursuit was initiated. Instead, Eagle continued to provide observations of this vehicle as it entered the motorway network on the wrong side of the road,” Hassan said.

“It travelled across the Harbour Bridge and exited on Curran Street where spikes were successfully deployed.” — NZ Herald



RISING DEMAND: George Koreman with some of Ignite's car air fresheners. NZ Herald picture

Persistence the key to success for entrepreneur

by Chris Keall, NZ Herald

AUCKLAND — George Koreman's rapid rise in business has been marked by good luck, bad luck and a lot of making his own luck.

The good luck involved a chance meeting with a girl in a bar in Bali.

Koreman, now 26, was still doing his BCom at Otago, and on holiday with some mates.

The girl said her boyfriend — Nick Mowbray — worked for a company called Zuru and was in the midst of negotiating a deal with a big retailer.

At the time, Zuru's co-founders Nick, Anna and Mat Mowbray were a lot less known than they are today.

But the siblings soon hit the headlines as they bought the Coatesville property known as Dotcom mansion, as Koreman was graduating.

"I had a job offer at Mainfreight and a couple of other places, but I was like, 'no, I don't really want to do that'," Koreman says.

So he got in touch with Nick Mowbray's (now-ex) girlfriend and asked for an introduction.

That led to a meeting with the Mowbrays at their mansion, a couple of trial tasks, "and then they flew me out to Hong Kong for a six-month internship".

Koreman was just 20 when he arrived at Zuru's small Hong Kong office (the toy giant has most of its operations in China), and living in a room little wider than his bed. He made contacts by joining a local rugby team.

"I learned a hell of a lot," he says. He still keeps in touch with the Mowbrays.

After finishing his internship, Koreman went looking for his own business opportunity.

He settled on the auto-accessories market, including car seat covers and phone holders, in part because it was so pedestrian, which meant there was an opportunity to pep it up.

A buyer for a major retailer suggested an expansion into the "boring" category of air fresheners, which needed some spicing up, so to speak.

"I was like, 'Why don't we take the trends that are happening in toys, and bring them over to air fresheners and add some excitement. The googly eyes and all that type of thing.'"

Today, Koreman's company — Ignite Innovations — is selling millions of car air fresheners a month to clients that include Walmart, 7Eleven and

Walgreens in the US, Big W in Australia and The Warehouse, Repco and Super Cheap Auto here, who sell them to punters for around \$5.99 a pop.

More recently, he has expanded into a white label business, where major retailers put their own brand on products made by Ignite.

He estimates Ignite, which now has around 60 full-time equivalent staff, is in the top six or seven companies in the car air freshener market worldwide.

How did he get in a foot in the door at the likes of Walmart? In part, just sheer persistence.

Koreman says he would search for the name of a buyer, then find their email address through trial-and-error repetition of possible combinations of their name or initials.

Once he found a valid address, he would keep sending them product updates, over and over, regardless of whether he heard anything back.

He would also share snippets of information, such as how well a product was selling for a competitor.

"You have just got to keep knocking," he says. "It's a tough road, but eventually it pays off."

These days, he has close personal relationships with buyers at major retailers, and at some 30 different factories in China — which has proved crucial amid the pandemic chaos for the past two-and-a-half years.

The virus has meant an unintentionally long exile from his Hong Kong base, from which he used to visit factories in China at least every two weeks.

He remembers a moment in March 2020, when he learned someone in his boxing class in Hong Kong had caught Covid.

"Jacinda Ardern announced that same day that New Zealand was going into Alert Level 4, so within six hours I was on a flight home to New Zealand."

But what he thought would be a brief return home turned into an extended stay as borders remained shut. He still hasn't been back to his apartment in Hong Kong.

As travel restrictions eased in 2021, Koreman headed to the US, only to find himself stranded outside of New Zealand for eight months.

His latest headache is the new wave of lockdowns and border closures in China, and he says he's working "24/7" to keep Ignite's business on track.

"You have to get really creative."

Proposal for FPA condemned by UN agency, BusinessNZ

by Aimee Shaw, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — New Zealand risks being placed on a list of the world's "worst case" breaches of international labour law if it continues with its proposal to change Fair Pay Agreements to include compulsory collective bargaining.

BusinessNZ says the introduction of Fair Pay Agreements would essentially force collective bargaining, which would have detrimental effects for the country and its reputation, as well as set a bad example globally, while the FT says the Fair Pay Agreements would reverse 30 years of labour market deregulation.

The UN International Labour Organisation (ILO) last week said it was in favour of collective bargaining and that collective bargaining in the workplace was essential for the global recovery post-Covid-19 pandemic.

But the ILO, like BusinessNZ, is concerned that the proposal does not support voluntary bargaining but rather enforces it, Kirk Hope, chief executive of BusinessNZ, told The New Zealand Herald.

"The problem with this proposal is it compels people to bargain, which sends a pretty bad signal to many other countries," he said.

"It is quite serious to compel people to a bargaining table, which is why again the ILO language in their conventions are all about supporting and governments putting in place

things to support collective bargaining, not compelling people."

If enacted, the Fair Pay Agreements would breach the freedom of association rules and convention 98 relating to voluntary bargaining, Hope said.

"There is compulsory mediation as well so that would almost certainly breach convention 98, then there is government intervention that would then breach convention 98.

The signal and intention to breach from a country like New Zealand is a pretty serious matter."

Enterprise-level bargaining was commonplace around the world, but very little sector-level bargaining "left in the world", said Hope.

"France finally got rid of their sector-level bargaining in 2018, so what that means is workplace bargaining in businesses and enterprises as opposed to what we're talking about with FPA's sector-wide bargaining, hardly anywhere in the world does any sector-wide bargaining any more.

"Most countries have said it stifles innovation, it disables regions in favour of cities and it can have a range of pretty significant impacts, which is why they have all moved to enterprise-level bargaining."

Other countries had recognised that sector-level bargaining was not conducive to good-quality economic outcomes or good quality labour market outcomes, Hope said.

Calls for clear economic plan

by Liam Dann, NZ Herald

WELLINGTON — With the big focus on health, this week's Budget is unlikely to hold many specific policy initiatives for business to get excited about.

But Employers and Manufacturers Association chief executive Brett O'Riley says the business groups members will be looking for evidence of a broad, clear strategy to develop the economy and boost productivity.

"What business is looking for is a much more integrated approach from Government," O'Riley said.

"I think what we continue to see is well-meaning initiatives, but they're just not joined up. So, individual policies which do not connect into anything that looks like coherence."

A disjointed approach to policy making was damaging productivity, he said.

"I don't think it's unreasonable for the business sector to expect the Government to make policy in a more coherent way".

"We say you can't have higher wages without higher productivity. And it's a fact that one of the reasons for low productivity in New Zealand is the quality of our infrastructure."

So, regardless of the political debate about exactly where and which projects infrastructure investment targeted, it needed to provide a clear long-term pathway, he said.

"We know from a business perspective that having a consistent and visible project path creates an economic rhythm that allows people to invest."

Business felt detached and disconnected from Government decision making right now, O'Riley said.

"Take water as an example. We're all vested in a better outcome, but what's the model for getting there? There has been virtually no partnership with business around the Three Waters at all."

O'Riley said he felt the private sector and the public sector had decoupled.

While that might not seem like a Budget issue, it actually went to the heart of ensuring quality spending, he said.

"What I would like to see from the Budget is what does the partnership between the private sector and public sector look like?" he said.

Some of the things already announced — such as the extension of the apprenticeship scheme — had been well received by EMA members, O'Riley said.

In terms of other specific policy initiatives, business would like to see more focus on tax depreciation rules to encourage investment in plant and machinery, he said.

O'Riley is one of the co-chairs of the Advanced Manufacturing Industry Transformation plan, which will be launched in June.

"We have seen some great case studies of how business has deployed technology to improve productivity," he said.

"At the very least we would like to see some more investment into those programmes. But it does need to be coupled with an environment that does not discourage businesses from investing."

With worker shortages and a very tight labour market, everyone seemed to agree more investment in manufacturing technology was crucial, he said.

But the current lending environment was making it very difficult for business to borrow to invest.

"If we know that investment in technology and automation doesn't mean job losses, it actually means upskilling people and moving them into a higher wage bracket, then let's get on with it," he said.

"Let's get some integration around that."



BRETT O'RILEY

EDITORIAL

Hearing for gambling venue policy

New political poll has tables turned

In a week packed with news, the release on Saturday of the latest Taxpayers' Union Curia poll could have the most significance for this country. It is the first major poll since early 2020 to show the prospect that National and ACT might be able to form a government. The poll had National with 36.8 percent of the vote and ACT with 10.9 percent, and if repeated at the election would mean the two could form a government with 61 seats. There is a strong caveat in that the difference between political blocks is within the 3.1 percent margin of error, and a poll only shows the parties' positions over a certain period, in this case May 4 to May 11. But it does continue a trend shown in recent polls of National on the rise and the centre right edging closer to a change of government. Possibly just as significant was the fact the poll showed the most important issue for the majority of responders was the cost of living, with the economy second, while only 3.5 percent rated Covid-19 as their major voting issue.

This reflects a growing opinion among political commentators that, while still early days, the 2023 general election is looking too close to call. The momentum that Labour gained from its initial response to the pandemic seems to have turned into reverse and it is back to an old-fashioned wrestling match in which whoever can convince voters they are best able to handle the economy will be the winner.

While the poll is interesting, much more significant things are going on in the world.

The war in Ukraine is threatening to become something of a First World War-type stalemate that drags on and on, with devastating effect on the global and especially European economy as well as the suffering of the Ukrainian people.

The United States reached a grim milestone with the one millionth death attributed to Covid being recorded, and suffered another racially-motivated multiple shooting. The 18-year-old terrorist mentioned the Christchurch massacre in his rambling manifesto.

The Middle East was in turmoil again after the shooting of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh and violent scenes as her body was carried through the streets. After first denying involvement, the Israeli Army launched an investigation.

Reclusive North Korea admitted deaths from Covid-19 with its leader Kim Jong-un saying it faced the greatest turmoil in its existence.

It certainly all makes for a mighty curtain-raiser to this week's big event here, the Budget.

WHAT'S ON IN COUNCIL THIS WEEK
by Josh Wharehinga



OVER the weekend I had the privilege to attend two awesome events. First, the book release for the reo Māori translation for our own Witi Ihimaera's book, *Bulibasha*. Titled *Puripāha*, the translated version was created also by one of our own, Ruth Smith. The cover art was created by yet another of our own, Erena Koopu. The launch was a beautiful acknowledgement of "words".

Those present acknowledged matua Witi and his wonderful words that created the book. Matua Witi then acknowledged Ruth's words as a beautiful translation of his book, emphasising that "these words are hers".

Ruth in turn acknowledged her teachers, kaiako, kura, kaumatua and her parents, and emphasised that these were "our words" and they existed in her because of those who taught her. An absolutely beautiful statement.

A wonderful event and a brilliant translation of an equally brilliant book.

Second, I had the honour of attending Eid, the celebration for our Muslim community in

breaking their month-long fast for Ramadan. I felt a sense of awe being able to witness the saying of prayers so closely; it's the same awe I feel when our Māori Ministers conduct karakia on the marae. Similar to the marae, I was in awe consuming all the wonderful food at Eid also! Another wonderful event that demonstrates how truly diverse our community is. Eid Mubarak.

This week in council we have the Audit and Risk meeting on Wednesday and the public hearing for Gisborne District Council's gambling venue policy on Thursday.

For the uninitiated, a hearing is the face-to-face opportunity for those who have submitted to be able to speak to their submissions. Whether the submissions are spoken to or not, all submissions will be regarded equally.

The Gambling Act compels councils to have a policy on where and how many gambling venues and machines their region can have. Councils have to review this policy every three years.

So how does the council determine how many? The Act lays out the framework for deciding the number. It asks councils to consult on choosing either no cap, a district cap or a sinking lid on the numbers of machines and venues. No cap means there is no limit on how many machines or venues. A district cap is an agreed number that is the top limit for machines

or venues. Sinking lid is a cap that drops as the number of machines or venues goes down.

These are the three choices councils need to consult with the community on.

Councils can't make a cap that is lower than the number of machines currently in their region.

So how does the council determine where? The Act provides guidance ensuring the territorial authority gives regard to "the location of kindergartens, early childhood centres, schools, places of worship, and other community facilities" and "the characteristics of the district and parts of the district" in determining location. The application of this part of the Act applies to new and relocating venues only, so the location does not affect currently established machine numbers or venues.

The council's 2019 policy has a sinking lid cap for the number of machines and venues, the wording of which remains unchanged in the draft 2022 policy in front of the hearing committee on Thursday.

The hearings panel of Cr Seymour, Cr Foster and myself will meet to hear the supporters and the objectors, and will be tasked to make a decision based on all the evidence and information provided to us.

As always, it's a privilege to do this work on behalf of you Te Tairāwhiti.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, ONLINE COMMENTS

Sea transport better option

Re: GDC, HBRC put up \$30k each for rail study, March 24 story.

What, another study? It's just a waste of ratepayers' money flogging this dead horse. Gisborne has a great opportunity to develop its port to move freight cheaply into and out of the region, because sea transport can be cheaper than rail if there is a reasonable volume.

The problem for the railway line is the very high rainfall in Gisborne which will only get worse with climate change, combining with the highly unstable land in the Whareratas.

There is nothing new to be

learned in how to attempt to weatherproof the line. It would not be a one-off expenditure, it would be ongoing. History has proven that. The last big storm washed a whole hillside into the sea, which has just multiplied the reinstatement cost.

Whilst the latest BERL report has become more realistic as to these challenges, it is still not up with the reality experienced over the line's actual operating history, which shows it will be extremely hard to justify any reopening proposal.

PATRICK DUNFORD
Christchurch

Not an expert, however...

Re: What can be tolerated? May 14 letter.

Thanks for asking Dennis. I'm not a health professional nor an expert so my opinion counts for nought. I understand that Covid, a coronavirus, will become endemic. I think we are seeing that already in the variants circulating in New Zealand and overseas. A yearly booster shot will be offered to people to help control the number of infections and the severity of illness experienced. We can already get yearly flu shots.

Perhaps the reasons experts are so concerned about Covid colliding with our winter are the following:

1. Our homes are often cold and

damp and it's hard to stay well if you have to live in one.

2. Cost of power is exorbitant and many people struggle to pay to heat these old bangers of homes and put adequate food on the table at the same time. It's not nice being sick with a respiratory illness at the best of times.

3. We have a dire shortage of nurses in our health system, which is a concern coming into winter.

I haven't heard any expert talking about further lockdowns. I invite you to ask an expert for their opinion. Or better still listen to what Michael Plank and others have to say.

LARA MEYER

A few facts overlooked

I agree with much of Graeme Williams' poem (May 14, Focus on the Land). There are a couple of points I would raise, however.

Decrying sales of pasture land to pine forests overlooks the fact that it is farmers themselves who are harming their ilk by selling their land to the highest bidder.

If the Government was to step in and ban all sales of farmland to pines, farmers, being avid free-market supporters, would be the first to go screeching to it that it was interfering with the operation of the free market. You can't have it both ways.

As for "pristine pastures", a visit to the optometrist may be in order here.

It is really heartbreaking to see the steeper land just completely buggered by slips up and down the East Coast. The rolling countryside is

OK but anything steeper just can't handle it. This has been obvious for yonks but farmers generally have continued to ignore the problem.

As for those farmers continuing even now to spray tracts of natives on steeper land to bring it into pasture, they are committing acts of environmental vandalism, as are the helicopter companies carrying out the work.

We'll get to the "pristine pastures" when the steeper land has been planted in natives.

Best stop the whining and just get on with the mahi as fast as you can, and perhaps lean on your farmer mates to stop flogging off the land to pines while you're at it.

BRUCE HOLM

PS: I also signed the petition to stop the sale.

On supermarkets, living costs

Re: Freeze won't help at all, May 13 letter.
But the parking is better!!!

RUTH WALTON

Bring back Shane Jones lol. Remember National whipped him away to the islands when he took on Countdown? We need a government with balls to sort out the duopoly — unfortunately we haven't had one for years.

PERRY ANDERSON

Countdown led the way with its price freeze... the others have followed.

Maybe it's time for people to change their ways of shopping... start growing their own vegetables, set up a group with friends or family to purchase bulk wholesome food then share (no need for chips, fizzy and chocolate). We would end up with a healthier society!

H. HANNAM

editor@gisborneherald.co.nz

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



US mass shooter 'targeted Blacks'

White teenager arrested after Buffalo supermarket shooting; 10 lives lost

BUFFALO, New York — The white 18-year-old who shot and killed 10 people at a Buffalo supermarket in New York had researched the local demographics and arrived in the area a day in advance to conduct reconnaissance with the “express purpose” of killing as many Black people as possible, officials said on Sunday (local time).

The chilling revelation prompted grief and anger in the predominantly Black neighbourhood around Tops Friendly Market, where a group of people gathered to lead chants of Black lives matter and to mourn the victims.

“Somebody filled his heart so full of hate that he would destroy and devastate our community,” the Reverend Denise Walden-Glenn said.

Speaking at the National Peace Officers’ Memorial service at the US Capitol, President Joe Biden said “we must all work together to address the hate that remains a stain on the soul of America”.

As the country reeled from its latest mass shooting, new details emerged about the gunman’s past and Saturday’s rampage, which the shooter livestreamed on Twitch.

New York Governor Kathy Hochul, a Buffalo native, demanded that technology companies tell her whether they had done “everything humanly possible” to make sure they were monitoring violent content as soon as it appeared.

“If not, then I’m going to hold you responsible,” she said.

Twitch said in a statement that it ended the transmission “less than two minutes after the violence started”.

The shooter, identified as Payton Gendron, had previously threatened a shooting at his high school, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

Buffalo Police Commissioner Joseph Gramaglia confirmed at a press conference that the then-17-year-old was brought in for a mental health evaluation afterwards.



RESIDENTS IN SHOCK AFTER SHOOTING: Sharon Doyle gathers with others outside the scene of a shooting at a supermarket, in Buffalo, New York, on Sunday (local time). AP picture

Federal law bars people from owning a gun if a judge has determined they have a “mental defect” or they have been forced into a mental institution — but an evaluation alone cannot trigger the prohibition.

Federal authorities were still working to confirm the authenticity of a racist 180-page manifesto that detailed the plot and identified Gendron by name as the gunman.

A preliminary investigation found Gendron had repeatedly visited sites espousing white supremacist ideologies and race-based conspiracy theories and extensively researched the 2019 mosque shootings in

Christchurch, New Zealand, as well as the man who killed dozens at a summer camp in Norway in 2011, the law enforcement official told AP.

Portions of the Twitch video circulating

online showed the gunman firing volley after volley of shots in less than a minute as he raced through the parking lot and then the store, pausing for just a moment to reload.

At one point, he trained his weapon on a white person cowering behind a checkout counter, but said “Sorry!” and did not shoot.

Screenshots purporting to be from the broadcast appeared to show a racial epithet scrawled on his rifle, as well as the number 14 — a likely reference to a white supremacist slogan.

Authorities said he shot, in total, 11 Black people and two white people on Saturday.

“This individual came here

with the express purpose of taking as many Black lives as he possibly could,” Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown said at a news conference on Sunday.

The manifesto, posted online, outlined a racist ideology rooted in a belief that the United States should belong only to white people.

All others, the document said, were “replacers” who should be eliminated by force or terror.

The attack was intended to intimidate all non-white, non-Christian people and get them to leave the country, it said.

It was not immediately clear why Gendron had travelled about 320 kilometres from his Conklin, New York, home to Buffalo and that particular grocery store, but investigators believed Gendron had specifically researched the local demographics of the population around the Tops Friendly Market, the official said.

He had conducted reconnaissance on the area and the store the day before the shooting, Gramaglia said.

Gendron had appeared on the radar of police last year after he threatened to carry out a shooting at Susquehanna Valley High School around the time of graduation, the law enforcement official said.

New York State Police said troopers were called to the Conklin school last June after a report that a 17-year-old student had made threatening statements. He had spent a day and a half at the hospital before being released, authorities said, and after that, he had had no further contact with law enforcement.

Gendron surrendered to police who confronted him in the supermarket’s vestibule



TEEN ‘RESEARCHED THE CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUE SHOOTINGS’: Payton Gendron appears during his arraignment in Buffalo City Court, on Saturday, in Buffalo, New York. He was arraigned on first-degree murder charges and ordered detained without bail. Police officials said the 18-year-old was wearing body armour and military-style clothing when he opened fire at a Tops Friendly Market. AP picture

and convinced him to drop the rifle he had put to his neck. He was arraigned later on Saturday on a murder charge, appearing before a judge in a paper gown.

Federal agents served multiple search warrants and interviewed Gendron’s parents, who were cooperating with investigators, the law enforcement official said.

The Buffalo attack was just the latest act of mass violence in a country unsettled by racial tensions, gun violence and a recent spate of hate crimes. It came just a month after a shooting on a Brooklyn subway wounded 10 and just over a year after 10 were killed in a shooting at a Colorado supermarket.

— AP

Coronavirus cases surge in Australia

SYDNEY — Last week Australia became a world leader.

But it was not for a feat of engineering or some sort of sporting achievement — it was an unwelcome title.

According to global databases, Australia led the world in per-capita Covid-19 infections (if you ignore the tiny islands of Montserrat, Anguilla, and The Falklands).

On Friday, 54,591 cases were reported across Australia, on the back of two consecutive days of about 58,000 cases, with Western Australia bracing for new infection records.

Saturday’s numbers moved the official seven-day average to more than 48,000 daily cases, putting Australia behind only Germany and the US in total new daily cases recorded.

Some countries, such as Denmark, have scrapped Covid-19 testing recommendations, and others have scaled back their testing regimes, meaning getting like-for-like comparisons across the world has now become a lot more difficult.

However, in Australia, hospitalisations and deaths are also tracking upwards, with the average number of Covid-related daily deaths hitting 40, doubling since March.

However, with the country in the middle of an election campaign — in which Covid barely gets a mention — a war raging in Ukraine, the cost of living rising and following more than two years of Covid-19 restrictions, the virus has, understandably to some, dropped off the radar.

And some experts can understand why. “I’m over it,” Burnet Institute chief executive, Professor Brendan Crabb, said. “We all are.”

“But the numbers we are seeing in Australia are extraordinary. So many people are very, very sick.

“Yet, there’s a massive disconnect between what’s happening with these disruptions to our lives and why it’s happening.”

For Prof Crabb, the “disconnect” came back to what he described as a fear of “Covid of the past” and “Covid now”.

He said after two years of extreme impacts, governments and politicians were now afraid to talk about Covid.

Instead, he said, they had removed mask mandates and kept their “heads in the sand”, ignoring the key element of why cases — and hospitalisations — had now increased: transmission.

And “Covid now”, he said, was having a massive impact on society.

“Remember, lots of Covid is bad for business,” he said.

“We can’t ignore that — we’ve been seeing that for months.

“And as a nation, we’re also ignoring the health impact. How many of the 350,000-plus active cases in Australia right now will have chronic impacts? Overseas data suggests at least 10 percent of them will. And that will impact your heart, impact your lungs, organs and brain.

“It’s not ‘nothing’.”

And according to University of Melbourne epidemiologist Nancy Baxter, the numbers could get worse.

“We’re at a point where Covid is now one of the major killers of Australians, and probably by the end of the year is going to be one of the top three,” she told the ABC.

“And with increasing case numbers, new sub-variants will be coming in. This may drive it even further, which would have a bigger impact.”

As Professor Baxter suggests, the emergence of new Omicron sub-variants in Australia is complicating matters.

Experts suggest the variants may lead to people becoming reinfected, leading to another rise in cases. — ABC via RNZ

Small wins buoy Ukraine

West says the Russians are losing momentum

BRUSSELS — Almost three months after Russia shocked the world by invading Ukraine, its military faces a bogged-down war, the prospect of a bigger North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), and an opponent buoyed at the weekend by wins — both on and off the battlefield.

Top diplomats from NATO met in Berlin with NATO's chief and declared that the war "is not going as Moscow had planned".

"Ukraine can win this war," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said, adding that the alliance must continue to offer military support to Kyiv.

He spoke by video link to the meeting as he recovered from a Covid infection.

On the diplomatic front, both Finland and Sweden inched closer to obtaining NATO membership — despite Russian objections.

Finland announced on Sunday that it was seeking to join NATO, citing how the invasion had changed Europe's security landscape.

Several hours later, Sweden's governing party endorsed that country's own bid for NATO membership, which could lead to an application within days.

If the two nonaligned Nordic nations become part of the alliance, it would represent an affront to Russian President Vladimir Putin, who had cited NATO's post-Cold War expansion in Eastern Europe as a threat to Russia. NATO says it was a purely defensive alliance.

While Moscow was losing ground on the diplomatic front, Russian forces had also failed to make territorial gains in eastern Ukraine.

Ukraine said it held off Russian offensives on Sunday (local time) in the east, and Western military officials said the campaign Moscow launched there after its forces failed to seize the capital of Kyiv had slowed to a snail's pace.

Ukraine had also celebrated a morale-boosting victory in the Eurovision Song Contest.

The folk-rap ensemble Kalush Orchestra won the glitzy pan-European competition with its song Stefania, which had become a popular anthem among Ukrainians during the war.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy vowed that his nation would claim the customary winner's honour of hosting the next annual competition in Ukraine.

"Step by step, we are forcing the occupiers to leave the Ukrainian land," Zelenskyy said.

The band's frontman, Oleh Psiuk, said at a news conference on Sunday that the musicians were "ready to fight" when they returned home.

Ukraine's government had prohibited men between the ages of 18 and 60 from leaving the country, but the all-male band's six members received special permission to go to Italy to represent Ukraine in the contest.



DETERMINED: Ukrainian servicemen walk in the forest near a recently retaken village, north of Kharkiv, eastern Ukraine, on Sunday (local time). Pictures all via The Associated Press

The band members would now be returning to their country, which was still fighting for its survival.

Russian and Ukrainian fighters were currently engaged in a grinding battle for the country's eastern industrial heartland — the Donbas.

Ukraine's most experienced and best-equipped soldiers were based in eastern Ukraine, where they had fought Moscow-backed separatists for eight years.

Even with its setbacks, however, Russia was continuing to inflict death and destruction across Ukraine.

Over the weekend, its forces hit a chemical plant and 11 high-rise buildings in Siverodonetsk, in the Donbas, the regional governor said.

Governor Serhii Haidaii said two people were killed in the shelling and he warned residents still in the city to stay in underground shelters.

Russia was also continuing to strike railways, factories and other critical infrastructure across Ukraine.

Russian missiles destroyed "military infrastructure facilities" in the Yavoriv district of western Ukraine, near the border with Poland, the governor of the Lviv region said.

Lviv was a major gateway for the Western-supplied weapons Ukraine had acquired during the war.

Still, the Ukrainian military said it had held off a renewed Russian offensive in the Donesk area of the Donbas at the weekend.

Russian troops also tried to advance near the eastern city of Izyum, but Ukrainian forces stopped them there too, the governor of Ukraine's Kharkiv region, Oleh Sinegubov, reported.

The Ukrainian claims could not be independently verified,



SEEKING TO EXPAND WESTERN MILITARY ALLIANCE: Finland's Defence Minister Antti Kaikkonen, left, and Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto attend a press conference on Finland's security policy decisions at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki, Finland, on Sunday (local time). Finland's government has announced that the Nordic country intends to apply for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), paving the way for the 30-member Western military alliance to expand amid Russia's war in Ukraine.

but Western officials also painted a sombre picture for Russia. It was not doing well.

Britain's Defence Ministry said in its daily intelligence update on Sunday that the Russian army had lost up to one-third of the combat strength it committed to Ukraine in late February and was failing to gain any substantial territory.

"Under the current conditions, Russia is unlikely to dramatically accelerate its rate of advance over the next 30 days," the UK ministry tweeted.

The assessments of Russia's war performance came as Russian troops retreated from around Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, which was a key military objective earlier in the war and was bombarded for weeks. The regional governor said there had been no shelling in the city for several days.

— AP



CELEBRATING A SUCCESS OFF THE BATTLEGROUND, TOO: Oleh Psiuk, the frontman of Ukraine's Kalush Orchestra, kisses his girlfriend Oleksandra after winning the Grand Final of the Eurovision Song Contest, in Turin, Italy, on Sunday (local time).

California church shooting

LAGUNA WOODS — One person was killed and four others critically wounded in another American shooting on Sunday (local time) at a Southern California church, authorities said.

Deputies detained one person and recovered a weapon following the shooting at Geneva Presbyterian Church in the city of Laguna Woods, in

The shooting came a day after an 18-year-old man shot and killed 10 people at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York.

California, the Orange County Sheriff's Department said on

Twitter. A fifth injured person was suffering from minor injuries, officials said.

All the victims were adults. Federal agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives were responding to the scene.

Laguna Woods was built as a senior living community, then later it became a city. More than 80 percent of

residents in the city (of 18,000 people) were at least 65 years of age.

Governor Gavin Newsom's office said on Twitter that he was closely monitoring the situation.

"No one should have to fear going to their place of worship. Our thoughts are with the victims, the community, and all those impacted by this tragic

event," Newsom tweeted.

The incident occurred in an area where there was a cluster of houses of worship, including Catholic, Lutheran and Methodist churches as well as a Jewish synagogue.

The shooting came a day after an 18-year-old man shot and killed 10 people at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York. — AP

Independent probe points to Israeli fire in Al Jazeera journalist's death

JERUSALEM — As Israel and the Palestinians wrangle over the investigation into the killing of Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, several independent groups have launched their own probes.

One open-source research team said its initial findings lent support to Palestinian witnesses who said Abu Akleh was killed by Israeli fire.

The outcome of these investigations could help to shape international opinion over who was responsible for Abu Akleh's death, particularly if an official Israeli military probe dragged on.

Israel and the Palestinians were locked in a war of narratives that had put Israel on the defensive.

Abu Akleh, a Palestinian-American and a 25-year veteran of the satellite channel, was killed last Wednesday while covering an Israeli military raid in the Jenin refugee camp in the occupied West Bank.

She was a household name across the Arab world, known for documenting the hardship of Palestinian life under Israeli rule, now in its sixth decade.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Sunday (local time) said he had spoken to Abu Akleh's family to express his condolences and respect for her work "as well as the need to have an immediate and credible investigation" into her death.

Palestinian officials and witnesses, including journalists who were with her, said she was killed by



MURAL FOR SHIREEN: A man walks in front of a mural of slain Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in Gaza City, on Sunday (local time). Abu Akleh was shot and killed while covering an Israeli raid in the occupied West Bank town of Jenin on May 11. AP picture

army fire. The military, after initially saying Palestinian gunmen might have been responsible, later backtracked and now they were saying she might have been hit by errant Israeli fire.

Israel had called for a joint investigation with the Palestinians, saying the bullet must be analysed by ballistics experts to reach firm conclusions.

However, Palestinian officials refused Israel's offer, saying they did not trust Israel, and instead they invited other countries to join their investigation.

Human rights groups said Israel had a poor record of investigating wrongdoing by its security forces.

With the two sides at loggerheads over the Abu Akleh investigation, several

research and human rights groups had launched their own investigations.

Over the weekend, Bellingcat, a Dutch-based international consortium of researchers, published an analysis of video and audio evidence gathered on social media. The material came from both Palestinian and Israeli military sources, and the analysis looked at such factors as time stamps, the locations of the videos, shadows and a forensic audio analysis of gunshots.

The group found that while gunmen and Israeli soldiers were both in the area, the evidence supported witness accounts that Israeli fire had killed Abu Akleh.

"Based on what we were able to review, the IDF (Israeli soldiers) were in the closest

position and had the clearest line of sight to Abu Akleh," said Giancarlo Fiorella, the lead researcher of the analysis.

Bellingcat was among a growing number of firms that use "open source" information, such as social media videos, security camera recordings and satellite imagery, to reconstruct events.

Fiorella acknowledged that the analysis could not be 100 percent certain without such evidence as the bullet, weapons used by the army and GPS locations of Israeli forces. But he said the emergence of additional evidence typically bolsters preliminary conclusions and almost never overturns them.

"This is what we do when we don't have access to those things," he said. — AP

AUSSIE BRIEFS

Policy a 'last desperate act from a dying government'

CANBERRA — Federal Labor has attacked the government's new policy allowing first-home buyers to dip into their superannuation to get into the housing market.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison used the Liberal Party's official election campaign launch yesterday to announce first-home buyers would be able to access 40 percent of their superannuation — up to \$50,000 — to buy a house.

However, Labor housing spokesperson Jason Clare said the policy would drive up prices and hurt young Australians, after the former prime minister and super architect, Paul Keating, called it a "full-frontal assault" on the system.

Clare branded the policy "a last desperate act from a dying government".

"This would be like adding kerosene to a fire. Their super will supercharge the property prices," he said. — AAP

Refugee releases: why now?

CANBERRA — More than 50 refugees have been released in Australia over the past few months, and the Australian government signed a deal with New Zealand in March for 450 refugees to be resettled here over three years.

Australia's Department of Home Affairs did not respond to BBC questions about the timing of those releases.

However, many have pointed to the Australian election on May 21, suggesting that Prime Minister Scott Morrison's government is trying to neutralise an emotive political issue.

Those making this suggestion included Behrouz Boochani — an award-winning author and political refugee — who spent six years in an Australian offshore detention centre and was granted refugee status in New Zealand.

"Over the past two decades . . . always a month or two before the election, something has happened for refugees," he said.

"The government has introduced a new policy or they do something (related to refugees)."

Boochani believed it signalled a "political shift" among Australian voters who were "not going to tolerate this policy anymore".

Ian Rintoul, an activist and spokesperson for the Refugee Action Coalition, also believed the releases were simply an "opportunistic calculation" by the Australian government.

But he also believed there was a "growing appreciation and awareness of the cruelty that's associated with the (Melbourne) Park Hotel and the Medevac refugees", and a perception there was nothing to be gained from withholding their freedom.

Rintoul also wondered whether the timing of the New Zealand resettlement agreement could be a sign that Prime Minister Scott Morrison is expecting an election loss. — Agencies

New police taskforce in Sydney

SYDNEY — A new police taskforce has been established to coordinate investigations into a spate of fatal shootings in Sydney involving rival organised crime gangs.

Thirteen people had been killed in gang violence in Sydney's west and southwest over the past 18 months. The latest shooting happened on Saturday, when the nephew of slain gangland figure Mahmoud "Brownie" Ahmad was shot dead at his western Sydney home. It was the third fatal shooting there in recent weeks.

Taskforce Erebos is being led by the State Crime Command under the National Organised Crime Response Plan and will oversee the strategic targeting of organised criminal networks. — AAP

World leaders descend on UAE to pay respects to late ruler

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — An array of presidents and prime ministers continued to descend on the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Sunday (local time) from around the world to pay their respects to the federation's late ruler.

They also came to praise his successor, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan — a vivid sign of Abu Dhabi's influence in Western and Arab capitals.

The first Western leader to jet to the oil-rich emirate was French President Emmanuel Macron.

He met with Sheikh Mohammed to pay tribute to Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahya — the long-ailing ruler who died on Friday at the age

of 73, after years of presiding over the country's rapid transformation into a global business hub and regional power centre.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson arrived later on Sunday to offer condolences, along with other leaders, including Israel's president after the two countries opened formal relations in 2020.

A high-profile American delegation, led by Vice President Kamala Harris, was due to visit the UAE on Monday, in a bid to ease tensions and show support — relations between the countries had strained under President Joe Biden. The delegation would include the US secretary of state, secretary of



Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

defence and CIA director, among others.

"He was respected by all for the

values of peace, openness and dialogue that he embodied," Macron wrote on Twitter of Sheikh Khalifa, expressing "full support" for the ascension of his half-brother Sheikh Mohammed after rulers in the federation unanimously appointed him as president.

Sheikh Mohammed had served as the nation's de facto leader after Sheikh Khalifa suffered a stroke in 2014.

Paris and Abu Dhabi had become increasingly aligned in recent years, sharing a deep mistrust of Islamist movements like the Muslim Brotherhood across the region, including in Turkey and Libya.

— AP

Gold miner reaches final resting place

by Jared Morgan,
Otago Daily Times

CROMWELL — Up to 300 people turned out in Cromwell on Saturday to farewell not only a complete stranger but a man who died generations before anyone in attendance was even born.

The unknown gold miner's remains were discovered buried near Cromwell in 1983, during archaeological work ahead of the construction of the Clyde Dam and highway.

Evidence of grave robbing was discovered, which had occurred some time after his burial more than 140 years ago.

The man's remains, including his well-preserved boots, were then housed in the University of Otago's anatomy department where the man was known as "E224".

Attempts in recent years to identify the miner have been in vain.

A push in February for a final resting place for the man now known as "the Gold Miner" culminated in his burial at the Cromwell Cemetery on Saturday in a traditional Anglican service that was taken straight from the Victorian era in which he died.

The service was heavy on symbolism even in the lead-up to his burial, every step a nod to how things would have been in the mid-to-late 19th century.

The man's bespoke coffin was carried through Old Cromwell by a horse-drawn hearse to the cemetery, where the miner was given a final resting place.

The funeral was organised by Alexandra-based funeral director Lynley Claridge and the team at Affinity Funerals.

Affinity owner and fourth generation funeral director Clark Campbell, of Campbell & Sons in Mosgiel, spoke to the Otago Daily Times before taking part in the funeral cortege from the Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust headquarters in Historic Cromwell.

Wearing his great-grandfather's original morning coat and his grandfather's top hat, he said it represented his own family's undertaking history.

"He (his great-grandfather) was obviously quite small because this is quite tight and I wouldn't consider myself large."

Many others in the cortege also donned Victorian garb, including pioneering restaurateur Fleur Sullivan, owner of restaurant Fleur's Place in Moeraki and who runs the Loan and Mercantile in Oamaru.

She has an affinity for Central Otago having set up Olivers in Clyde and she accompanied Campbell on the dray carrying the miner's casket.

Campbell said the miner might or might not have had a funeral or formal send-off after



LAI D TO REST: The funeral procession for the unknown gold miner is led through the Cromwell Heritage Precinct.

Otago Daily Times picture

his death.

"But he's going to have one today (something) which all New Zealanders should be entitled to, a dignified ceremony and acknowledgement they were on this earth."

At the cemetery, University of Otago bio-archaeologist Professor Hallie Buckley,

honorary research fellow Dr Peter Petchey, and Dr Neville Ritchie, who originally discovered the remains, served as pallbearers.

At the service, presided over by the Rev Barry Entwisle, Claridge said in her address the funeral was an important event for Central Otago against the

"backdrop of the goldfields, with everything they brought and took away from our community".

"We have heard from many locals whose relatives were lost during those hard times, and for whatever reason didn't have the burial they deserved.

"Mr Gold Miner is at rest now, his work is done."

Tensions run high at community meeting

Rates reduction on the cards for Bromley residents

CHRISTCHURCH — Residents affected by the stench from Christchurch's fire-damaged wastewater plant may get their healthcare and laundry paid for by the council.

Tensions ran high and Christchurch City Council workers were booed at a public meeting on Friday over the area's ongoing Bromley stench.

Councillor Anne Galloway said proposals around how to provide relief for residents are being put to the council tomorrow.

She said a community pop-up health centre, rates reductions and paid trips out of town for affected residents are also on the cards.

Residents on the eastern side of the city met to address the smell the council's wastewater plant has been giving off since it was damaged by fire six months ago.

The meeting was attended by local and regional councillors, MPs and the mayor. Paid healthcare, relocating schools and insurance claims were all discussed, RNZ reported.

Mayor Lianne Dalziel profusely apologised to the packed-out Bromley Community Hall.

Dalziel declined a resident's offer to camp in their backyard and experience the full force of the stench for the weekend, but said she will visit.

RNZ reported one Christchurch resident said her children have stopped going to



THE BIG STINK: Drone footage shows the extent of the damage to the plant's roof.

Picture supplied by Christchurch City Council

school because they constantly feel ill from the stench. The resident said the Ministry of Education has said her children have had too much time off school.

She wants more resources for nearby schools to do what they can to lessen the smell on their grounds.

The council admitted it hasn't contacted any local schools about the smell, and has promised to do that today.

Another Christchurch resident asked the council to provide extra mental health support for children.

They said children in Christchurch had grown up with a constant stream of disaster from the earthquakes to the mosque attacks.

She said mental health services are hard to access but are desperately needed as kids struggle to cope with the pungent stench. — NZ Herald

Shooters urged to remember responsibilities

DUNEDIN — Otago police are calling for duck shooters to take care of themselves, their mates and their firearms, after opening weekend in the area was marred by a tragic death and an incident of unattended guns.

Owaka family man Rikki McCall was killed in what appeared to be a hit-and-run while walking home after spending the opening day of the season duck-shooting.

In another incident, loaded firearms were found unattended in a maimai (duck shooter's shelter) in North Otago.

Senior Sergeant Anthony Bond said shooters need to remember their responsibilities when it comes to firearms.

"We were working with Fish & Game and travelling together with them.

"They were checking maimais in that inland Palmerston area and came across one that had loaded firearms left out and no one around.

"They seized them and there will be an investigation into why that happened."

Alcohol and shooting did not mix, and if people were drinking they should plan travel ahead of time, Bond said.

"If you're going to be drinking, put the guns away, make sure they are secure and then have some drinks if you're going to be, hopefully, celebrating getting some ducks.

"In the rural areas travelling to the bars can be quite some distance and taxis are limited.

"Hopefully there are some courtesy vans on but remember not to drink and drive. Police will be breath-testing. But if you're drinking and you have got a gun around that can be a very lethal combination.

"Use the courtesy vans or have a sober driver to get you to and from the pub. That way your weekend will be memorable for all the right reasons." — RNZ

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MON 1.15pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8.40pm. TUE 10.40am, 1.15pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA (PG)

MON 1.35pm, 6.45pm
 TUE 11am, 1.35pm, 6.45pm

EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE (R13)

MON, TUE 8.20pm

FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (M)

MON 3.25pm

OPERATION MINCEMEAT (M)

MON 12.50pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.40pm. TUE 12.50pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 2 (PG)

MON 3.40pm

THE BAD GUYS (PG)

MON 3.50pm

THE LOST CITY (M)

MON, TUE 1.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm

THE UNBEARABLE WEIGHT OF MASSIVE TALENT (R13)

TUE 11am

THE VELVET QUEEN (TBC)

MON, TUE 1.20pm, 6.15pm

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Symonds the rebel with a cause

CRICKET by Adam Lucius, AAP

SYDNEY — Andrew Symonds was a cricketing rebel with a cause. He had a cause to entertain and enjoy himself but also an ability to hit the self-destruct button. Symonds, who died in a car crash in north Queensland on Saturday night aged 46, was hard to miss on a cricket field. Wearing zinc cream on his lips, sporting dreadlocked black hair and a rugby league player's build, the laidback Queenslander who flirted with a switch to the Brisbane Broncos in 2002 was brilliant with bat, ball or in the field and a genuine match winner. But controversy — much of it self-inflicted — was never too far away. Symonds found himself in the middle of a massive international sporting incident in 2008 after accusing Indian spinner Harbhajan Singh of calling him a "monkey" during a fractious Sydney test. Australian teammates Matthew Hayden, Adam Gilchrist, Ricky Ponting and Michael Clarke were all called to give evidence in an explosive hearing into the incident. Singh and the Indian camp vehemently denied the slur, saying the bowler had used a Hindi insult not racist in nature, and were incensed when a three-match ban was handed down.

With the backing of the powerful Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), the tourists threatened to pull out of the tour as relations between the two countries hit an all-time low. The suspension was subsequently overturned, with Singh's punishment reduced to a fine. Symonds felt let down by the whole process and pinpoints the incident as the beginning of the end of his career, later revealing his life spiralled out of control. "I suppose this would be the moment where my whole persona to cricket changed," Symonds told Fox Cricket on the 10th anniversary of Monkeygate. "I didn't realise the politics, the power, the money until this moment in my career. "I didn't realise how powerful one player, one incident (could be), how much money was at stake and the ramifications. "I went downhill pretty fast after this because I felt responsible for four of my mates — close mates — that I dragged into this whole situation and it (weighed) very heavily on me. "I started drinking way too much and my cricket, my mindset... I started to go downhill. I just wasn't in the right frame of mind." Symonds was no stranger to brushes with cricket officialdom, his refusal to conform to tight team policies and



ANDREW SYMONDS AAP picture

regulations landing him in trouble more than once. Also in 2008, the outdoors-loving Queenslander was famously sent home from an Australian camp in Darwin after choosing a fishing expedition over a team meeting. Stand-in captain Clarke said at the time: "The main concern from us is Andrew's commitment, to playing for this team and, in my opinion and I know the rest of the leadership team's opinion, you

need to be committed 100 percent." Two months later Symonds was back in the news for all the wrong reasons, reprimanded for being involved in an incident at a Brisbane hotel after a night out with members of the Australian rugby league team. He was cleared of any wrongdoing but apologised for his role. Despite his building CV of indiscretions, Australian cricket refused to give up on the gifted all-rounder. Symonds was selected for the 2009 T20 World Cup in England but didn't play a game, sent home for an "alcohol-related" incident on the eve of the tournament. He had been out at a bar, without permission, celebrating a Queensland State of Origin match win. Fed-up by his antics, Cricket Australia cut Symonds from its list of contracted players and an international career pockmarked by both brilliance and belligerence was at its end. "I do go out hard and drink all in one hit — too fast, too much," he told 60 Minutes, denying he was an alcoholic but admitting to being a "binge drinker". But for all his waywardness off the field, Symonds will rightly be remembered for his on-field flair, aggression, flamboyance and capabilities with bat and ball. Born with Afro-Caribbean bloodlines

and adopted as a baby by an Australian couple, he could easily have fitted into the West Indies sides of the '70s and '80s due to his cool demeanour, swagger and on-field presence. He may have been hard to handle outside playing hours, but every Australian captain wanted Symonds in his team for his ability to alter a match with his explosive batting, an outrageous piece of fielding or his under-rated medium pace and spin bowling. Statistics tell some of the story, his 26 tests yielding 1462 runs at 40.61 and 24 wickets. It was with the white ball Symonds felt most at home, smashing 5088 runs and taking 133 wickets in 198 ODIs. He played a key role in Australia's successful 2003 and 2007 World Cup campaigns, rising to the occasion whenever his team needed a lift. Symonds was a genuine match-winner and a crowd favourite, making headlines around the world after flattening a streaker with a shoulder charge at the Gabba in 2008. Andrew Symonds loved cricket but loved life even more. It was a life sadly cut short late on Saturday night when Symonds' car overturned after leaving a road 50 kilometres out of Townsville. He is survived by wife Laura and two children, Chloe and Billy.

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

2950 HARD

SUDOKU

SUDOKU is a logic puzzle made up of 81 squares on a 9x9 grid. To solve the puzzle, each row, column and 3x3 grid within the larger grid must end up containing each number from 1 to 9, and each number can only appear once in a row, column or box. A sudoku grid has a single unique solution, which can be reached without using guesswork.

SOLUTION IN NEXT PUBLICATION.

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

2949

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 by Eugenia Last

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:
Nikki Reed, 34; Derek Hough, 37; Trent Reznor, 57; Craig Ferguson, 60.

Happy Birthday:
Put greater emphasis on health and emotional well-being -- schedule time for relaxation, creative endeavors, personal growth and fitness. Surround yourself with people who put a smile on your face. Call the shots, set the stage for a year filled with self-improvements that make you feel and look your best, and achieve a healthy lifestyle. Romance is on the rise. Your numbers are 9, 12, 21, 26, 33, 38, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19):
Invest in your future. Supplement your qualifications, update your look and prepare to promote what you want to do next. Don't limit what you can do; follow through with your plans. A healthy attitude will prompt others to join your quest. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20):
Consider what others expect of you, and address your responsibilities head-on. Leave nothing to chance or up to others to complete. Keep your money and important papers and passwords tucked away someplace safe. Change what isn't working for you, then move forward. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20):
Participate in something that concerns you. You can make a difference if you speak up and offer concrete solutions. Don't trust anyone promising the impossible or delivering vague responses. Show your willingness to work hard, and you'll get the backing you need. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22):
Put on a happy face, even if you find someone irritating. It's amazing what a positive attitude can do when you're faced with cranky people. Pitch in, keep busy and show compassion, and you'll make a difference and set an example. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):
Choose your associates wisely. Listen carefully and be resourceful. Follow through and get the facts. Take responsibility for your actions and words, and live up to your promises. Self-improvement projects will earn compliments. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):
Open your mind and learn. A change of attitude will give you a new take on an old situation or relationship. Pick up the pace and say what's on your mind. Clearing sensitive issues tactfully will ward off an untimely vendetta. 2 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):
Open topics of conversation that need addressing. Show compassion, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Keep your money and possessions tucked away someplace safe. Change things around at home to better suit your needs. Comfort and convenience will pay off. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):
Call the shots and do things your way. Don't waste time trying to convince others to follow your lead. If someone doesn't like your decisions, give them the freedom to take a different path. Avoid emotional spending. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):
Distance yourself from people who take you for granted. Put more time and effort into domestic responsibilities and personal growth. Make improvements to your surroundings or clear a space to relax or take on a creative pursuit. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):
Be secretive regarding finances, contracts or medical issues. Focus on changes that improve your lifestyle or drum up worthy connections at networking events. Take better care of your health, and avoid a run-in with a friend or lover. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):
You'll attract unique people and opportunities, but before deciding to change your life, do your research. If you act on hype alone, disappointment will follow. Know what you are up against, and use your intelligence to outmaneuver anyone who opposes you. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):
Be careful not to offend someone. Choose your words wisely and concentrate on doing what's right. Unique action will have greater validity than empty promises. Control your emotions, work on yourself and don't try to change others. 2 stars

Birthday Baby:
You are charming, playful and friendly. You are demonstrative and generous.

STAR RATINGS
FIVE STARS: Nothing can stop you now. Go for the gold.
FOUR STARS: You can pretty much do as you please. It's a good time to start new projects.
THREE STARS: If you focus your efforts, you will reach your goals.
TWO STARS: You can accomplish a lot, but don't rely on others for help.
ONE STAR: It's best to avoid conflicts. Work behind the scenes or read a good book.

DOUBLE CROSSWORD No. 11,592

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

CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Disinclination to illness (13)
 - Member of an old Jewish sect points to new parish (8)
 - Final object used by shoemakers (4)
 - Rearrange the poster quickly for the musicians (6)
 - Lets us break up a fight (6)
 - Prisoner at home with a friend (6)
 - See about a man in the American chamber (6)
 - Look for a lord (4)
 - Said to be quoting an instance of seeing (8)
 - Are they obtained in the crow's nest? (5-3,5)
- DOWN**
- Like a fugitive during the race? (2,3,3)
 - Remits a new order for joints (6)
 - Work in a shop, usually (4)
 - Seat boss made from fireproof material (8)
 - Follows stems (6)
 - Assumes the dress of professors (4)
 - Foreman in charge of prophet (8)
 - Does it appear in the obituary column? (4,4)
 - Wear away a piece of ribbon, say (6)
 - Being a fool a twin is confused by it (6)
 - Send out when sentence is up (4)
 - Great joy from an old type of song (4)

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE 11,591

QUICK
Across: 1 Boss; 8 Honourable; 9 Juvenile; 10 Host; 12 Fright; 14 Settle; 15 Infant; 17 Beckon; 18 Here; 19 Attorney; 21 Loquacious; 22 Heel.
Down: 2 Occurrence; 3 Shoe; 4 Enlist; 5 Duress; 6 Pathetic; 7 Zest; 11 Silhouette; 13 Grateful; 16 Trance; 17 Button; 18 Hill; 20 Rash.

CRYPTIC
Across: 1 Emir; 8 Oscar Wilde; 9 Corsairs; 10 Daft; 12 Charge; 14 Stayed; 15 Guises; 17 Hustle; 18 Belt; 19 Flagging; 21 Side street; 22 Host.
Down: 2 Manor house; 3 Rows; 4 Scribe; 5 Crises; 6 Windlass; 7 Test; 11 Freelances; 13 Rosettes; 16 Safety; 17 Heaped; 18 Busy; 20 Gath.

Quick Crossword answers also fit the large grid

- QUICK CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- Unutterable (13)
 - Tirade (8)
 - Simple (4)
 - Accent (6)
 - Stop (6)
 - Reply (6)
 - Amuse (6)
 - Cast off (4)
 - Stick out (8)
 - Stupid (13)
- DOWN**
- Release (8)
 - Breathe out (6)
 - Narcotic (4)
 - Climbed (8)
 - Frogmen (6)
 - Additionally (4)
 - Discarded (8)
 - Shrill (8)
 - Extends (6)
 - Termagant (6)
 - Suspend (4)
 - Leer (4)

1	2	3	4	5	6
7					
8				9	
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14		15		16	17
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22					

First-half goals do the job for Gisborne United

FOOTBALL by John Gillies

FIVE first-half goals were enough to send Gisborne United into the last eight of Central Football's Federation Cup knockout competition.

They beat Palmerston North Marist Reserves 5-0 at Park Island, Napier, on Saturday.

Heavy Equipment Services Gisborne United will find out in the next few days who they will play in the quarterfinals on June 6.

United player-coach Josh Adams said his side took control of Saturday's match from the start. They could have gone a goal up in the first two minutes, but he missed the target when he was through, one on one, with the goalkeeper.

Elder brother Corey Adams scored United's first goal, in the sixth minute. Advancing from midfield, he pushed the ball through the defensive line, ran on to it and pushed it past the keeper into the bottom right corner.

Five minutes later, Corey turned provider, playing the ball into Josh Adams, who turned his marker and sidefooted the ball into the bottom right corner from 18 metres.

Josh Adams made it 3-0 when he got to a Stu Cranswick flick-on from leftback Jonny Curle's throw-in. Adams turned and shot from the corner of the goal area (six-yard box), and the pace of the ball beat the keeper at the near post.

Power was the key to United's

fourth goal. They were awarded a free-kick on the edge of the penalty area and central midfielder Dane Thompson blasted it to the side of the defensive wall. Before the keeper had time to react, the ball had whistled over his head and into the net.

The fifth goal came just before halftime. A right-wing corner by Malcolm Marfell ended up in a goalmouth scramble that was settled when Cranswick hammered the ball home from a metre out.

United's halftime talk was about keeping the ball and making their opponents do the running.

"We had our chances in the second half but didn't take them," Josh Adams said.

"They came out a little bit stronger, but I don't think our keeper, Seth Piper, had a proper save to make."

He said Corey Adams and Thompson were outstanding in the midfield, while holding midfielder Aaron Graham fitted easily into the team pattern.

Marfell and Cranswick had lots of room out wide and made the most of it.

Central defenders Mal Scammell and Kieran Higham and fullbacks Adam Simpson on the right and Curle on the left were not put under much pressure. Nevertheless, it was satisfying for them to have their first clean sheet of the season.

Corey Boocock and Josh Blair came on during the latter part of the second half for Jonny Curle and Josh Adams respectively.

Penalty save denies City

FOOTBALL

ANOTHER Premier League trophy was virtually in Manchester City's hands. All it needed was Riyad Mahrez to convert a penalty, like he had done in each of his previous seven attempts from the spot this season. Not this time.

There's still plenty of life in this title race after Mahrez's penalty attempt was saved in the 86th minute, leaving City to settle for a 2-2 draw at West Ham and a four-point lead over Liverpool heading into the final week of the season.

Liverpool, fresh off their FA Cup win over Chelsea yesterday, head to Southampton for their game in hand on Wednesday needing at least a point to take the title race to the last day of the season.

A win is probably required, though, given City have a superior goal difference of seven compared to Liverpool.

City finish at home to Aston Villa and that throws up an intriguing storyline. Villa are coached by Liverpool great Steven Gerrard, who was never able to win the league for Liverpool. He still could but as a manager of another team.

Liverpool host Wolverhampton in their last game and still, somehow, retain hope of an unprecedented quadruple of major trophies — having won both domestic cups and reached the Champions League final.

Everton missed the chance to secure their place in the Premier League for another season after having two men sent off in losing 3-2 at home to Brentford.

Everton stayed two points above the bottom three (on 36

points) and have two games remaining. The two sides just below them — Leeds (35, one game remaining) and Burnley (34, two games remaining) — both had losses.

Arsenal, in fifth place one point behind Tottenham and with a game in hand, face Newcastle tomorrow.

RESULTS: Tottenham 1 Burnley 0, Wolves 1 Norwich 1, West Ham 2 Manchester City 2, Watford 1 Leicester City 5, Leeds 1 Brighton 1, Aston Villa 1 Crystal Palace 1, Everton 2, Brentford 3.

■ ADD the FA Cup to the collection. Jürgen Klopp has now won every major title for Liverpool.

A 6-5 victory over Chelsea on penalties in yesterday's final produced Liverpool's first FA Cup triumph since 2006 and kept them in contention for a quadruple of trophies.

Just like in the League Cup final in February, the FA Cup showpiece ended 0-0 through 120 minutes before Liverpool prevailed again. The Reds were helped by Chelsea midfielder Mason's penalty being saved before Konstantinos Tsimikas clinched the shootout win with his first-ever goal for the club.

"The small margins are again the difference and I cannot be more proud of my boys," said Klopp, who emulated Alex Ferguson with Manchester United and become only the second manager to win the European Cup, Premier League, League Cup and FA Cup with the same English club. — AP

SPORTS BRIEFS

Rugby results from weekend

COMBINED TEAMS: Nuhaka Domain, Turanga Combined 26 Wairoa Combined 24.

POVERTY BAY/EASTERN BAY OF PLENTY CLUB EXCHANGE: In Gisborne, East Coast Farm Vets YMP 29 Whakatane Marist 28, Enterprise Cars OBM 54 Paroa 18, Larsawn Ngatapa 22 Poroporo 19, Kevin Hollis Glass Pirates 19 Ruatoki 38, Gisborne HSOB 50 Te Teko 5.

NGATI POROU EAST COAST CLUB COMPETITION, ROUND 1: Waiapu 25 Ruatoria City 19, Hicks Bay 10 Tokomaru Bay United 12, Tokararangi lost by default to Hikurangi.

2022 FIRST 15 FESTIVAL OF RUGBY, ROUND 2: In Napier: Gisborne Boys' High 11 St Patrick's College Silverstream 39 (report in tomorrow's Herald).

SECONDARY SCHOOL PRE-SUPER 8: Nuhaka Domain: Gisborne Boys' High School second 15 12 Hastings Boys' High second 20.

Poverty Bay hockey results

POVERTY BAY CLUB HOCKEY, ROUND 1, MEN'S COMPETITION: YMP A 12 Gisborne Boys' High School 1, LOB Masters won by default over YMP B, LOB HPY Advisors 5 Waituhi 1.

WOMEN: YMP B 4 Paikea 3, YMP A 3 Ngatapa 1, Ina Contracting GMC Green 18 Te Aowera 0, Amber Dental Gisborne Girls' High 5 Waituhi 1.

Park v Patutahi in Oligoi final

ELECTRINET Park (1) and Patutahi (2) will battle for the 2022 Oligoi Jug men's interclub pennants golf title. The teams won their respective semifinals at Poverty Bay golf course on Saturday to set up a matchplay final at the Park this Sunday. Park (1) defeated Tolaga Bay 7-1 in the semifinals while Patutahi (2) beat Te Puia Springs by the same margin. Tolaga Bay and the Springs will play off for third on finals day while Patutahi (1) and Poverty Bay will contest the fifth-sixth playoff. Full report to follow.

School basketball results

GISBORNE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION SECONDARY SCHOOLS LEAGUE: TOLAGA BAY AREA SCHOOL/KAHUKURANUI 49 (Manaia Puha 20, Keanu Reedy 11) **TE KURA KAUPAPA MAORI O WHATATUTU 42** (Angus Epairama 24, Aubrey Brown 8). Q1, TBAS/K 16-12; HT, TBAS/W 28-24; Q3, 35-35.

CAMPION COLLEGE JUNIORS 43 (Owen Buchanan 21, Phoenix Nickerson 6) **GISBORNE BHS JUNIOR DIAMOND 39** (Kiwa Ria-Reneta-Kokiri 16, Sam Crosby 6). Q1, 14-8; HT, 20-14; Q3, 38-27.

GISBORNE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION UNDER-13 BOYS 70 (Kauri Kennedy-Hogan 20, Anakin Ormsby-Cairns 12, Jackson-Renata Robin-Smith 9, Isileli Kamoto9) **LYTTON HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS 25** (Jarrod Waikawa 7, Anaru Vertongen 6). Q1, GBA 19-5; HT, GBA 31-10; Q3, GBA 52-17.

GBHS JUNIOR EMERALD 53 (Quaydon Chaffey-Kora 23, Cohen Laing 9, John David Papuni 7) **GBHS JUNIOR BLACK 49** (Cruze Robinson 19, Jonario Edwards 11, Nikau Peard 8). Q1, 14-14; HT, GBHS Junior Emerald 31-22; Q3, GBHS JE 39-32.

Fox second-equal in Belgium

A WAYWARD final stretch cost Kiwi golfer Ryan Fox a second win on the DP Tour this year. He finished in a share of second at the Soudal Open in Belgium today. Fox had a three-shot lead with 11 holes to play, but lost a head-to-head battle with England's Sam Horsfield who captured his third DP World Tour title. Horsfield shot a final round 68 to finish at 13-under, two shots clear of Fox and German Yannick Paul who both took home \$NZ277,043 for second. Fox will now head to the US PGA Championship at Southern Hills in Oklahoma for his 12th major appearance. A consolation from today's that the second placing secures him a spot in next month's US Open at The Country Club in Massachusetts. — NZ Herald

Winning warm-up for Novak

ROME — A week after his defeat to the 19-year-old Carlos Alcaraz in Madrid, Novak Djokovic won the Italian Open without dropping a set on Sunday for his first title of the year. Having missed a large portion of the season because he wasn't vaccinated against Covid, top-ranked Djokovic beat Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-0, 7-6 for his sixth Rome title. Djokovic and Alcaraz will be the front-runners for the French Open, which starts this Sunday. The status of Rafael Nadal, who has won 13 of his record 21 Grand Slam titles at Roland Garros, remains uncertain after the Spaniard's Italian Open ended when his chronically injured left foot began bothering him again. — AP

Early fright for Jags

Wake-up call puts them on right track

FOOTBALL by John Gillies

GISBORNE Thistle conceded a goal in the first minute of their Central Football Federation Cup match against Linton in Napier on Saturday.

It proved to be just what they needed. "It felt like we hadn't quite got off the bus," ALH Thistle head coach Garrett Blair said.

"They came out out of the gate raring to go and scored.

"That kicked us into gear a bit and we started playing our brand of football. We dominated possession and scored about 10 minutes later."

Thistle man of the match Ash McMillan, playing a holding midfield role alongside redeployed frontrunner Jarom Brouwer, clipped the ball in to striker Cullen Spawforth.

He turned the defender marking him and from 10 metres slotted a right-foot shot into the bottom left corner.

Five minutes further in, Thistle went ahead when Spawforth played the ball in to Leo Maisey — who turned out to be available after all — and he smashed it into the top right corner of the goal.

Thistle kept creating scoring chances but good saves by the Linton goalkeeper, coupled with shooting that needed to be more clinical, kept the Jags from scoring again until five minutes before halftime.

The ball was played in to Maisey, who gave himself room to open his shoulders

and guide the ball into the bottom right corner.

Thistle had plenty of opportunities to extend their lead but did not score again until just before the end.

The ball was played in from the right and the Linton keeper came for it but misjudged the flight. Brouwer, shifted forward in a positional shuffle brought about by a substitution, controlled the ball, beat a man and — from about the penalty spot — stroked the ball into the right corner . . . 4-1.

Blair said the whole team played well, but some stood out.

McMillan featured in a lot of the play from his defensive midfield base.

Lately Thistle had changed from having one holding midfielder to having two. An injury to skipper and centreback Ryan Anderson prompted Blair to shift Kieran Venema from his holding midfield spot to the centre of defence.

"We wanted someone to anchor the back three, and Kieran did that well," Blair said.

He also drafted Raydon Semmens from the Reserves into the first-team back three. The combination of Venema, Semmens and regular centreback Ander Batarrita proved rock-solid, and keeper Mitchell Stewart-Hill had little to do.

The wing backs were Alex Davies on the right and Daniel Venema on the left.

Davies troubled the Linton rearguard with his pace and skill, while Venema

ranged up and down the left flank relentlessly. Venema has also equipped himself with an accurate mid-range pass — the 30-to-40-metre ball that at once clears the lines and sets up attacks.

Matt McVey had an attacking midfield role feeding and supporting frontrunners Spawforth and Maisey.

When Maisey became available for the trip, Blair pushed Brouwer back to the holding midfield gap left by Kieran Venema's shift to centreback. Maisey took Brouwer's place up front.

Blair said Linton struggled to deal with Maisey's pace and skill. On top of that, Spawforth was dropping into the space between the frontline and midfielders, and defenders were caught in two minds about whether to follow him.

Blair used all three of the Jags' subs in the second half. Maisey, having scored two goals, came off for Reece Brew, who took on a holding midfield role that allowed Brouwer to move up front.

Spawforth came off, Davies was pushed forward and Reserve team centreback Brad Hill came on at right wingback.

Man of the match McMillan came off, replaced in the engine-room by Reserves player Levi Julies.

Blair said all of the substitutes did well. It spoke volumes for the depth of talent at the club that the first team could be without eight squad members and still put on three subs and not miss a beat.

FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE

Players and spectators enjoy spirit of occasion

AND HE'S OVER: YMP's Hayze Nepia scores near the posts in his side's 29-28 win over Whakatane Marist in a rugby exchange between Poverty Bay and Eastern Bay of Plenty clubs over the weekend.

Picture by Paul Rickard



RUGBY by Ben O'Brien-Leaf

POVERTY Bay Rugby Football Union struck gold on Saturday. A two-pronged initiative in which Civil Project Solutions premier teams played and hosted five Eastern Bay of Plenty clubs — and a Turanga Combined side made up of the local clubs' Senior 1 players took on Wairoa Combined away — was a resounding success.

The Turanga Combined team won a thriller 26-24 at Nuhaka Domain — left wing Moses Bulicakau scoring to equalise on fulltime. YMP first five-eighth Waiti Tamatea sealed victory for Turanga by converting what was Bulicakau's second try.

To top off a wonderful weekend, Poverty Bay women beat Tapuae 19-5 at the Tapuae Sports Grounds yesterday.

One of Wairoa rugby's tireless contributors — Tapuae player-coach Wayne Hema, who with Turuki Tahuri and Paul Morunga had worked with the Wairoa Combined team leading into the Turanga-Wairoa exchange — was the referee at the Sports Grounds yesterday.

Hema of Tapuae (Roseland Tavern Tapuae, Charteris Choppers Wairoa Athletic and Nuhaka V8s being the three clubs from which Wairoa Combined were drawn) is a man who works as hard for rugby's future as he does for its present.

Last Friday he said: "Turuki, our head coach, has the team looking sharp, and ready to display Wairoa rugby. He's pushing players to express their skill-set and show our rawness and roughness."

The months of planning for this rugby weekend paid off. Ngatapa Senior 1 coach Kohi Waihi, who ran the Turanga Combined team at Nuhaka, said: "These matches, this exchange, it's a great concept and it's been a good experience for players, coaches . . . everybody."

"For our boys here against Wairoa Combined, it was hard, honest rugby. Both teams came to play. The spectators got to enjoy a tight, 80-minute tussle."

Turanga Combined veteran Pat Thomson was on Cloud 9.

"It was an absolute pearly of a game — and for us to gel, put into practice what we'd only trained twice to do was magic, unbelievable really," the battle-scarred lock said.

"Wairoa were even tougher than I expected and both teams were still trying to get their heads around some of the new laws of rugby."

"The referee, Ben Holt, explained his rulings to us. He didn't just look to blow the whistle and he did an awesome job."

Wairoa Combined skipper and blindside flanker Hickson Raroa was typically gracious: "The game went well and we played as we'd planned to, but we needed to do that for 80 minutes. We're happy with how we played, and hope that the score will be different next time."

PBRFU chief executive Josh Willoughby confirmed yesterday that the plan was to run both elements of the event again in 2023.

"This was a huge day for community rugby because a union's purpose is to strengthen its community game," he said.

"The quality of the games and hospitality of the clubs at the aftermatch functions here was special. It's something that our rugby community can be incredibly proud of."

Of events at home, although ill-health prevented Opotiki Sports from taking on two-time premier champions GT Shearing Waikohu at Te Karaka Domain, the availability of Waikohu players to other sides benefited those clubs enormously.

For High School Old Boys, giant prop Jarryd Broughton played at loosehead and scored a hat-trick. His Waikohu teammate, hooker Tulsa Kauai, also grabbed a try for HSOB.

Every team got something out of the day. Persistence paid off for Te Teko in the second half of their clash with HSOB on ground 2 at the Oval, when left wing Pene Heihei scored the last try of the match for a scoreline of HSOB 50, "Texas" 5.

In other results, East Coast Farm Vets YMP beat Whakatane Marist 29-28 on Barry Park 1, Enterprise Cars OBM beat Paroa 54-18 on Oval 1, and Larsawn Ngatapa beat Poroporo 22-19 at Paddy's Park.

The influence of the Poroporo coach, former Bay of Plenty Steamers lock Baden Wardlaw, a dynamic player whose career was cut short by injury concerns three years ago, was to be seen in the

visitors' fitness, high skill-level and controlled aggression.

Ngatapa, under the low-key but effective coaching duo of Heith Hawea and Matt Evans, have reason to be proud of a win against Poroporo.

"It was a game played in great spirit," Hawea said.

"Poroporo were a pleasure to host, and as far as rugby goes, we're definitely taking steps in the right direction — I thought our scrum was dominant."

Ruatoki captain and second-five David Tawhi was at the top of his game against Kevin Hollis Glass Pirates in the visitors' 38-19 win on Rectory ground No.1. On that Gisborne Boys' High School turf of superb quality, the hard-running Tawhi was an inspired performance.

Pirates captain and lock Bernard Nepe was in awe of the output of his fellow forwards, blindside flanker Michael McClutchie and reserve No.8 Paora Mullany.

Nepe is seeing premier and Senior 1 players — such as reserve first-five Henare Keepa on Saturday — step into the breach to help the club.

"We were at our best when we got fast ball on the front-foot," Nepe said.

"And we enjoyed not just playing but also hosting Ruatoki very much."

YMP head coach Kahu Tamatea would know that the Eastern Bay teams, having now seen and experienced the standard of CPS premier teams' fitness and play, will be well-prepared for a rematch when that time comes.

In reference to the one-point win against Whakatane Marist, Tamatea said: "We're happy with our efforts because this game gave us a chance to give some young guns a go, and to try some new combinations. Our boys did well to come back from being three tries down early in the first half."

Behaviour from players and spectators was very good at Nuhaka and Tapuae, and in Poverty Bay.

Eastern Bay supporters and the public took in the best of the local game, the referees entered into the spirit of the occasion and the ball travelled from edge to edge, more often in hand than by way of the boot.

It was bright rugby across the board with appreciable camaraderie.



WINNING NUMBERS

DRAW No. 2168

BONUS NUMBER

WINNING NUMBERS **03 05 07 18 31 35** BONUS NUMBER **04**

Total Lotto prizes **\$3,152,409**

DIVISION	PRIZE MONEY	No. OF WINNERS
ONE 6 winning Nos	\$500,000	2
TWO 5 winning Nos plus the Bonus No.	\$61,260	4
THREE 5 winning Nos	\$572	425
FOUR 4 winning Nos plus the Bonus No.	\$58	968
FIVE 4 winning Nos	\$28	17,056
SIX 3 winning Nos plus the Bonus No.	\$21	22,607
SEVEN 3 winning Nos	Bonus Ticket	234,218



WINNING NUMBERS **35 03 18 07**

Total Strike prizes **\$686,881**

TOTAL	PRIZE MONEY	No. OF WINNERS
Four out of Four	\$300,000	1
Three out of Four	\$750	59
Two out of Four	\$65	3804
One out of Four	Bonus Ticket	95,371



WINNING NUMBER **06**

DIVISION	PRIZE MONEY	No. OF WINNERS
ONE Lotto Division 1 + winning Powerball No.	ROLLOVER	0
TWO Lotto Division 2 + winning Powerball No.	0	0
THREE Lotto Division 3 + winning Powerball No.	\$1,756	27
FOUR Lotto Division 4 + winning Powerball No.	\$117	65
FIVE Lotto Division 5 + winning Powerball No.	\$54	1225
SIX Lotto Division 6 + winning Powerball No.	\$39	1578
SEVEN	Bonus Ticket + \$15.00	16,313

46775-01

The Gisborne Herald does not make any assurances as to the accuracy of this information. Please check your tickets at a Lotto shop.



SEASON UNDER WAY: Poverty Bay club hockey was in full swing for round 1 of the men's and women's competition on Saturday. Gisborne Girls' High player Jade Martin lets fly as Waituhi's Nicole Nepe stands her ground and Marlene Nikora closes in. Girls' High won 5-1. Hockey wrap in tomorrow's Herald. Picture by Paul Rickard

SISTER ACT

Braithwaite siblings runners-up

SURFING by Ben Kennings

GISBORNE sisters Asia and Mahia Braithwaite finished runners-up in their divisions of the Gisborne Junior Pro surfing contest at the weekend.

Asia Braithwaite was second to Christchurch surfer Ava Henderson in the under-18 girls' division.

Henderson leaves for El Salvador on Saturday, along with the rest of the New Zealand junior team for the world junior championships.

Asia's younger sister Mahia was second to Chloe Groube, of Pauanui, in the u16 girls' division. East Cape surfers Casey Dewes and Te Waiotu Fairlie were third and fourth respectively in the final.

The Sequence Surf Shop Gisborne Junior Pro — part of the New Zealand Grom Series — was the last national surfing event of the summer season.

Whangarei surfer Te Kauwhata Kauwhata and Henderson yesterday won the Gisborne Junior Pro u18 divisions.

They dominated after it was decided to move the final day of the event to Red Bus at Makorori Beach.

Gisborne produced the goods for the final day of the event with clean one-metre waves fanned by light offshore winds all day.

"It feels really good to win one of these events," Kauwhata said.

"I have been doing them since the under-14 boys' division and it just feels good to finally get the win."

Kauwhata credited the win to his time at Raglan Surfing Academy this year.

"I have had amazing support from coaches, and surfing good waves every day has given me the chance to improve my surfing heaps," he said.

Kauwhata took the win in the tightest final of the day with first through third separated by just over half a point.

Fellow academy student Tyler Perry (Kaikoura) finished in second place, having led for much of the 20-minute final.

Jai Wallis came back late in the final with a well surfed 6.73 to get himself into contention but his last wave of 4.43 came up just short of the 5.05pts required for the win. Hawke's Bay surfer Luca Rendle finished in fourth place.

Henderson made the most of her time at Gisborne in the lead-up to the World Junior Championships.

Henderson surfed to a 12.60 heat total in the final.

Asia Braithwaite was four points behind Henderson in the final with Isla Prins (Hawke's Bay) placing third and Amelie Wink (Christchurch), fourth.

Chloe Groube (Pauanui) smashed the final of the u16 girls' division. A 13.70 heat total meant her opponents needed a combination of scores to catch

her. Mahia Braithwaite finished in second place with 5.67pts, followed by Casey Dewes (3.50) and Te Waiotu Fairlie (3.47) in third and fourth placings respectively.

Tava Santorik (Mt Maunganui) won his first event of the New Zealand Grom Series when he took out the u16 boys' division.

Theo Morse (Raglan) was second, Dale Cromhout (Hawke's Bay) third and Christian Fougere (Piha) fourth.

Tyler Stenzel (Mt Maunganui) made his comeback to events memorable with a win in the u14 boys' division.

Mount surfers Sol Fritchley and Indica Corcoran were second and third respectively, and Zac Becroft (Auckland) was fourth.

Raglan's Maya Mateja stormed to victory in the u14 girls' division, ahead of Indi-Lee Ruddell (Whangarei) in second place, Poppy Entwisle (Christchurch) third and Lani Frazerhurst (Raglan) fourth.

Winners of the Biggest/Best Turn Award were —

Under-18 boys: Tyler Perry. U18 girls: Ava Henderson. U16 boys: Dale Cromhout. U16 girls: Chloe Groube. U14 boys: Indica Corcoran. U14 girls: Maya Mateja.

The Volkswagen x Skinnies Wave of the Day for Sunday went to Chloe Groube for a 7.60-point ride in the final and Tyler Perry for an 8.77-point ride in the semifinals.

Transtasman series honours to Aussies

HOCKEY

THE Black Sticks women lost the transtasman series after going down 2-1 in the final test in Auckland yesterday.

Against the run of play, the hosts managed to force a penalty corner from which captain Megan Hull duly slotted in with a powerful strike to put the Black Sticks up 1-0.

However the Australians retained dominance over the ball and despite some plucky defending from the New Zealanders, the Hockeyroos levelled

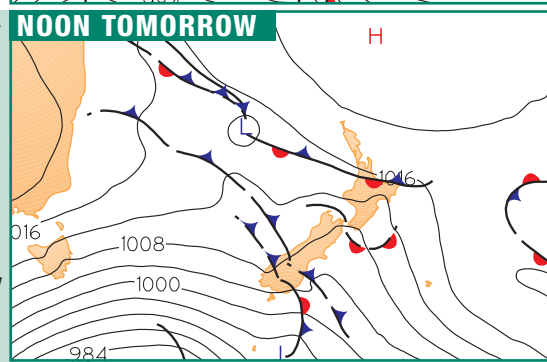
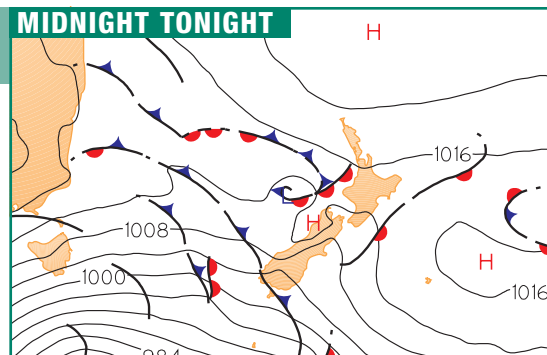
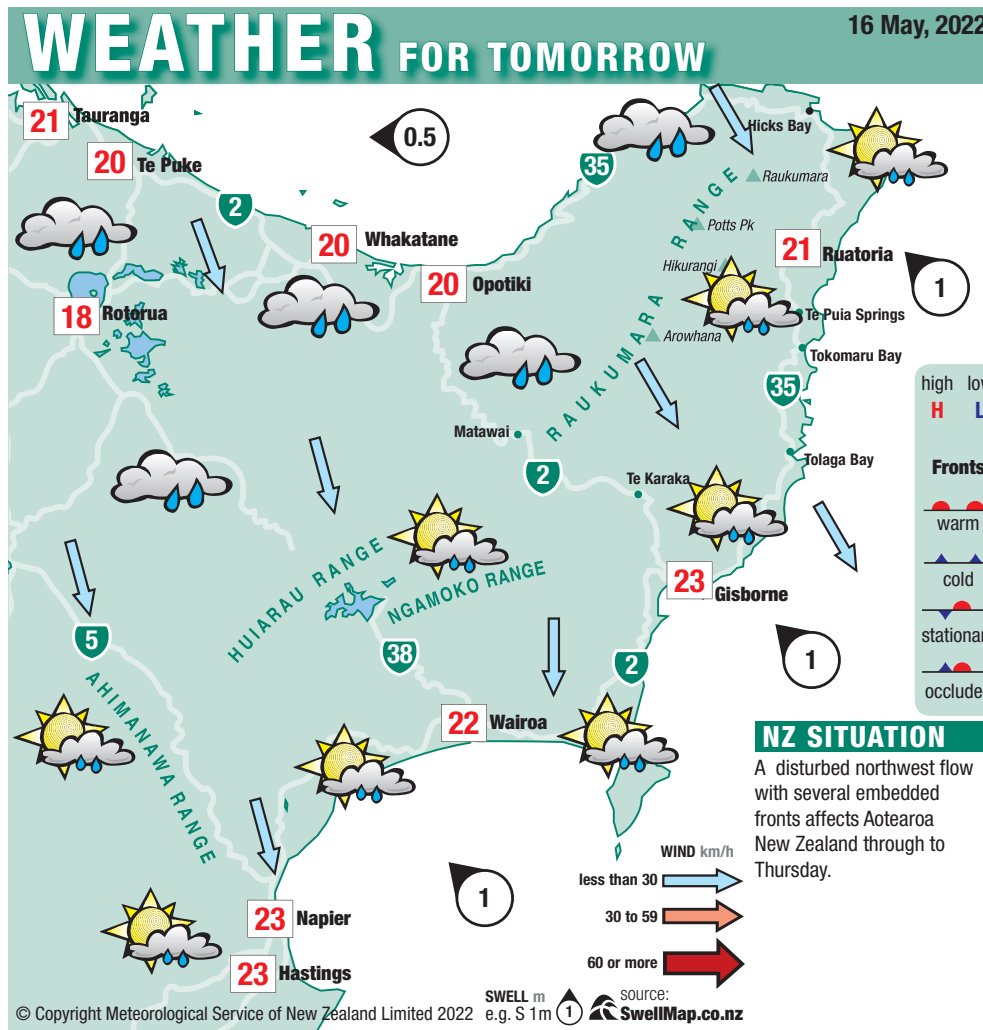
the scores with a good play into the circle that resulted in the ball sneaking under goalkeeper Brooke Roberts.

Australia continued to dominate in the second half with Brooke Peris scoring the winner.

Australia won two games while the other two were drawn.

The men's transtasman series begins May 31.

The women depart for Europe early June ahead of their world cup and Commonwealth Games campaigns. — Radio NZ



GISBORNE TIDE MOVEMENT	
Tuesday May 17	Wednesday May 18
Hicks Bay H 7:04am 7:41pm L 12:56am 1:22pm	Hicks Bay H 7:56am 8:33pm L 1:49am 2:13pm
Waipiro Bay H 6:51am 7:28pm L 12:31am 12:57pm	Waipiro Bay H 7:43am 8:20pm L 1:24am 1:48pm
Tolaga Bay H 6:39am 7:16pm L 12:19am 12:45pm	Tolaga Bay H 7:31am 8:08pm L 1:12am 1:36pm
Gisborne H 6:18am 6:55pm L 12:11am 12:35pm	Gisborne H 7:13am 7:48pm L 1:05am 1:29pm
Wairoa H 6:02am 6:31pm L 12:16pm	Wairoa H 6:58am 7:26pm L 12:49am 1:11pm

SUN-MOON-MAORI FISHING GUIDE	
Rise 7:04 am Set 5:04 pm	Rise 7:05 am Set 5:03 pm
Set 7:57 am Rise 5:44 pm	Set 9:14 am Rise 6:37 pm
Best at 12:23 am 12:53 pm	Best at 1:24 am 1:56 pm

GISBORNE CITY	
TOMORROW morning min 9 max 23 Partly cloudy, then occasional rain from afternoon. Northwesterlies.	WEDNESDAY morning min 15 max 23 A few showers, mainly morning and evening. Northwesterlies.
THURSDAY morning min 13 max 22 Showers easing. Northwesterlies.	FRIDAY Fine with northwesterlies.

NZ SITUATION	
A disturbed northwest flow with several embedded fronts affects Aotearoa New Zealand through to Thursday.	

NZ TOMORROW	
Auckland	showers 22
Hamilton	showers 20
Tauranga	showers 21
Rotorua	showers 18
Taupo	rain 18
Napier	showers 23
New Plymouth	rain 21
Palmerston North	showers 21
Wellington	showers 18
Christchurch	fine 21
Queenstown	fine 16
Dunedin	showers 16

GISBORNE READINGS	
Taken at the Airport, for the 24 hours to 9am, Monday 16 May 2022	
SUNSHINE hours	1.1
To date for May	77.9
Average for May	146.0
To date this year	814.8
Average year to date	845
WIND km/h	NW 30
Max gust on Sun 15 May	NW 30
RAINFALL mm	9.6
24 hours to 9am, Mon 16 May	9.6
To date for May	32.3
Average for May	88.0
To date this year	628.1
To date last year	302.3
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION mm	1.3
Daily average for past week	1.3
TEMPERATURE °C	19.9
Maximum	19.9
Minimum	13.6
Grass minimum	12.4
BAROMETRIC PRESSURE	1009.3
At 9am 16 May (hPa)	1009.3
At 9am 16 May (inches)	29.80

WORLD TOMORROW	
Adelaide	showers 10 17
Amsterdam	fine 12 23
Bangkok	rain 24 31
Beijing	cloudy 13 30
Berlin	cloudy 12 20
Brisbane	showers 19 27
Buenos Aires	cloudy 9 17
Cairo	fine 17 33
Canberra	fine 3 14
Cape Town	fine 17 26
Delhi	thunder 27 41
Frankfurt	cloudy 13 25
Geneva	fine 13 28
Hong Kong	fine 20 26
London	showers 14 25
Los Angeles	fine 14 26
Melbourne	fine 8 16
Moscow	rain 7 13
New York	fine 15 21
Paris	fine 15 30
Perth	showers 10 24
Singapore	fine 25 35
Stockholm	fine 3 13
Suva	showers 19 30
Sydney	fine 13 21
Tokyo	cloudy 15 21
Toronto	fine 6 17

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Aussie rebel entertained and enjoyed

PAGE 20



Union exchange a resounding success

PAGE 22

Cricket.....	20
Football.....	21
Rugby.....	22
Surfing.....	23

Whangara sink champs

Fresh legs prove the difference in premier clash

NETBALL

by Sherrill Beale and Murray Robertson

WHANGARA Old Girls eked out a small lead and maintained it to beat defending champions High School Old Girls 28-21 in premier-grade netball at Victoria Domain on Saturday.

Both teams started strongly but Whangara had the edge by two goals, 7-5, at the end of the first quarter.

They led 14-11 at halftime and 22-13 at three-quarter time.

Both teams made changes in the third quarter. F45 HSOG made positional changes with the players already on the court, while Whangara brought on fresh players.

The fresh legs worked well for Whangara and the whole team lifted their play, working together through the court and outscoring HSOG by eight goals to two.

HSOG recovered in the fourth quarter, which they won by eight goals to six, but the damage was already done.

Whangara defenders Kelsey Hohipa, Ashley Osborne and Torepe Taumaunu, worked well together for the full game.

They went out hunting the ball and pressured the HSOG ball carriers at every opportunity, which led to tips and intercepts.

Whangara's Nadia Whaitiri-White moved from goal attack to centre in the third quarter. She is speedy and has tactical awareness, which helped her link both ends intelligently.

When they got the chance, HSOG moved the ball through the court at speed.

Ashley Te Patu had a good game at centre, driving to the goal circle, feeding good passes to her shooters and being available for in-and-out passes.

It was another busy day at the netball courts, 79 games being played from Year 5 and 6, to intermediate, secondary and senior grades.

Results (* denotes bonus point gained for score within three goals) —

Premier Reserve: JT Contracting Horouta Taimana 41 Claydens Waikohu (3) 23, YMP Masters 33 Farmlands Ngatapa 32*, Ritana Snr A 39 Waikohu (3) 24.

A Grade: Pharmacy 53 Campion/NUAM 27 Waikohu (2) 22, Farmcare HSOG 39 YMP Hine Taiohi 28, Farmcare HSOG 31 Waikohu (2) 26, East Coast Log Haulage HSOG 35 YMP (2) 24.

A Reserve: Enterprise Cars OBM Blue 36 The Tav Sportsfit 24, Whalis 29 GGHS Snr B 17, Steve Craill Builder Ngatapa 31 Ferkins Farming HSOG 15, GGHS Snr B 30 Ferkins Farming HSOG 17.

First Grade: Tyre General Ngatapa 26 Thistle Storm 15, GGHS Jnr A 27 Uawa Ngarangikahiwa 14, Uawa Ngarangikahiwa 25 Tyre General Ngatapa 20, Gis Glass Ngatapa defeated Wahine Hauora HSOG by default.

First Reserve: Tatapouri Sportsfit Social 20 JT Contracting Horouta Hiriwa 10, Zeafruit Ngatapa 36 Tatapouri Sportsfit (2) 13, Zeafruit Ngatapa 32 Tatapouri Sportsfit (2) 11, Uawa Nui 16 Waikohu (4) 14*.

Second Grade: YMP Manawanui 31 De Costa Ngatapa 14, XLR8 15 DMed 11, OBM Red 31 Thistle Phoenix 24, XLR8 34 YMP Manawanui 12.



PRESSURE PLAY: Whangara Old Girls goal shoot Tiara Weir (left) prepares to take a pass under pressure from High School Old Girls goal keep Alyssa-Dion Whitewood.

Picture by Paul Rickard