

### **MANAWATU TARARUA HIGHWAY WILL SEE NEW ROUTE**



The slips that closed SH3 along the Manawatu Gorge on 24 April 2017 have forced planners to come up with a new route between Woodville and Ashurst. The old highway was abandoned and closed permanently because of the ongoing geological movements that occurred following the slip. It is proposed that there will be four main traffic lanes for the majority of the new road which should see cars and heavy vehicles able to travel safely and reliably. The updated design

concept was announced in October and it is hoped that following the round of public open days early in December that construction will get underway in the new year during the summer season. Completion of the 11.5 kilometre road is scheduled for 2024. The towns of Ashurst and Woodville will be pleased for different reasons. Ashurst has seen increased traffic and Woodville is suffering because no one is going there. The total Project is estimated to cost around \$620 million and it is hoped that this investment will see an economic boost to the Region.

It appears that the direct link has generated a lot of positive comments with people in Woodville, in particular, because they now see long term benefits for business. For the people of Ashurst having had to deal with the extra 5000 plus vehicles a day it seems the desired bypass may be on hold.

**LUUKA JONES QUALIFIES FOR 2020 OLYMPICS** 

Luuka's performance at this years World Championships held in La Seu d'Urgell on the same water channel as was used for the Barcelona Olympics was a surprise given she has always struggled with the rocky course. "My goal was to race without fear and the final tested this. The woman before me had gone 3 seconds faster than my semifinal time and I did not allow this to effect me. I had one of my best ever race runs, attacking the course with only a couple of mistakes. It was nerve wracking having to watch four more paddlers come down before I knew if I had won a medal or not. I finished 0.5 seconds off first place to win the bronze. So frustratingly close to the gold. It is ideal to have the C1 And the K1 for the Tokyo (Olympics) selections wrapped up already," said Luuka, pictured proudly showing off her McFall Fuel sponsored paddles. The build up to Tokyo has been planned with train-

ing camps following a season debrief and as part of this Luuka has been training in Tokyo on the course and competing in the Olympic test event. "A huge thank you to McFall Fuel for all of your support, and for sponsoring my new paddles this season. I really appreciate it!!"

## FOCUSSING ON INJURY MANAGEMENT & RETURN TO WORK

We need to look into how we manage injuries and the way we have personnel return to work. It has often been believed that you need to be off work to recover and that being injured prevents you from returning to work.

A line of thinking now emerging is that work is generally good for health and wellbeing and if the alternative duties are safe and seen as useful then these can actually help promote the injured persons recovery. There is no obligation on employers to provide alternative duties. however, when return to work plans are arranged well with excellent support and first class communication the outcomes can be extremely positive for both employer and employee.

The search for alternative duties can include things like first aid training or updating relevant information or any other duty that fits within the work restrictions the employee may have.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO FAST 54 CREW ON ACHIEVING 3500 DAYS LTI FREE

HEM N7 Central recently recognized this exceptional achievement along with Smiley and Ange Alexander of Fast Logging who presented the Fast Titanium Award to the crew. This result is clearly an example to us all in the work place as we aspire to achieve ZERO HARM-no harm to people, no harm to the environment, no accidents.

# What's Happening @ McFall Fuel

## **REFLECTING ON OUR HISTORY**



In 1837 Brush-tailed possums were introduced to New Zealand from Australia in an attempt to start a fur trade, however, this possum became a pest. An initial programme to control the TB infected possums was put in place in 1972 and an intensive control programme began in 1974. A number of farmers will remember having to deal with the ravages of the bovine TB disease had on their herds. Compulsory bovine TB Testing was introduced in 1961 for dairy cattle and 1971 for beef cattle in New Zealand. Morris McFall began

farming in Arohena in 1965 and knowing that he needed to grow his dairy herd from about 100 to 300 cows he decided to voluntarily test his current herd prior to buying further dairy cows. "It was such a shock to learn 85% of the herd were infected and if tests proved positive you had no choice but to kill them," said Morris. By 1970 the Department of Agriculture increased the frequency of testing to every three months and farmers were forced to comply. 1972 saw the three monthly testing abandoned. "Compensation was provided for those who were part of the 1970 compulsory three month testing but for those of us who tested earlier we will never forget the shock of losing the numbers we did and the cost or replacement."

Internationally, New Zealand's approaches to tackle bovine TB has been seen as very successful because from 1995 onwards TB in New Zealand has dropped significantly. The total expenditure for TBfree New Zealand Bovine TB Programme per annum sits at around \$17 million for beef, \$26 million for dairy and close to \$1.5 million for deer.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LUBRICANTS

McFall Fuel offers a wide range of lubricants to suit all types of machinery and equipment. Business Development Manager for Lubricants, Todd Pelham, has been invited to work with a group of forestry and ag customers in the Conference Room at the Ohakune Library. An example of what has been requested for explanation is the applications used for everything from loaders and other forest machinery right down to the lubrication needed for chainsaws. "The purpose is to provide customers with confidence and information so that they are able to consolidate their lubricants. For example instead of carrying two or three engine oils they can consolidate and just choose the one that fits best. It is a great opportunity to ask questions and gain an even better understanding of the lubricants used each day in the field not only from their perspective but ours as well," said Todd.

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### **REDUCING FATIGUE**

This is the very time of the year that we need to be much more aware about managing fatigue at work and at home. 45% of workers in 2016 said they worked when tired from time to time and 24% of businesses said that their workers, worked when tired from time to time. With the changes in the weather and as we move closer to the pre-Christmas rush it is important that we become much more aware of what we are doing each and every day.



Fatigue is more than just feeling tired. It can cause a vast range of other physical, mental, and emotional symptoms. Some of these tiredness include chronic or sleepiness, headaches, dizziness, sore or aching muscles, slow reflexes and responses, impaired decision making and judgement, and moodiness such as irritability. Reducing the chances self of fatigue requires responsibility by taking breaks, drinking plenty of water, and eating healthy food. Studies reveal that if we are healthier and happier, it results in less time off work as well.

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