



FUELLED

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020

TRANSMISSION GULLY ALMOST COMPLETE



It seems hard to believe that the Transmission Gully Project which began in September 2014 looks to be about 85% complete and September 2021 will see it open. Fuel and road user charges will pay for most of the costs for the four lane, 27 kilometre motorway which will run from Mackays Crossing at Paekakariki to Linden. Some of the statistics reveal the size of the project is a massive one with 10.2 million cubic metres of earth moved and cuts of up to 70 metres made along the route. The largest structure is the 230metre long bridge over Cannons Creek (pictured) which is 60 metres above the gully.

Having taken so long people will be keen to see this infrastructure improvement. Other construction projects like the improvements needed to Palmerston North's water supply may occur sooner than anticipated with the post Covid stimulus package. Meanwhile, the return to Alert Level 3 in Auckland did not see sites shut down immediately but it is apparent that completion times will be impacted on for many of the construction projects that are underway or about to commence. The construction industry in Auckland has been faced with the need to work to the expected Covid Alert controls such as physical distancing, surface cleaning, tracking and tracing, and work bubbles which all add time to the daily output. Many of our customers in this sector are keen to see projects completed and new ones underway rather than lose the forward momentum and certainty they had prior to Covid.

LEADERSHIP SUSTAINABILITY RECOGNIZED



Hawkes Bay Area Sales Manager Liam Edwards with Nick & Nicky Dawson from Patoka who recently won the Fonterra Responsible Dairying Award. The award recognized Leadership Sustainability in dairying and was very much down to the couple being respected by fellow farmers and community. Nick grew up in Christchurch and Nicky on a sheep and beef farm in the King Country. "We have always wanted a farm together and we have brought our children up on the farm while Nicky taught part time. With hard work sharemilking, including 8 years in Taranaki we learnt a great deal. Owning our own herd came next and then last year the farm was purchased outright. Becoming involved in the community is just so important and Nick is currently Chair of Rural Community Board and the TB Free Committee Chairman. "The Farming Round Table is also an important group which keeps the local councils and the local farming groups up to date," said Nick. "Great Glen Farm is 220 hectares with 30 hectares of riparian planting which includes pittosporum, flaxes, sedge grasses. These are the basics to getting started. We are looking forward to introducing rimu and kahikatea. We have learnt from our mistakes when it comes to the planting."

TRIPOD TANKS WILL BE CONSIGNED TO THE PAST



McFall Fuel has agreed with the Fuel Distributors Industry Safety Committee's approach to the phasing out the tripod overhead tanks by December 31, 2021. This picture was taken to graphically illustrate an accident that occurred when one of the legs slipped out of a tank which then fell backwards as the driver was climbing up it. On the downfall a cleat on the ladder run caused the damage.

"For sometime now we have tried to encourage customers to move on from these tanks. Therefore, we have committed to the collective fuel industry stance to end the service life for overhead tripod tanks. Removing the risks that the tanks still in service present is a positive all round. The industry has taken a lead to provide the necessary protection for our fuel delivery drivers and so now the challenge is to do our best to meet the timeframes," said Allan McFall. The intention of the group is to see any new applications or requests to refuel overhead tripod tanks, including those relocated be declined from 1 October 2021. The deadline of December 31, 2021 is a challenging one but if we all work together we should come very close to achieving this.



What's Happening @ McFall Fuel

REGIONAL DINNERS SEE DRIVERS RECOGNIZED

In the four McFall Fuel Regional Dinners held to date thirteen of the Fuel Delivery Drivers have been recognized for either their approach to safety or their commitment to customers; or willingness to do whatever it takes to support their team mates and the needs of the business. While we cannot feature them all, it has been exciting to hear them talk about the value of their training to cope with the many and different situations that they are faced with daily. In Auckland, Max Martin (pictured left) was seen as a great example of a new driver following procedure and keeping a cool head while fuel was transferred from one truck to another. At the Mount Dinner, Aaron Flutey (pictured right) was recognized for his dedicated commitment to customers. His peers also acknowledged his personal interaction with customers. Jon Whaanga (pictured left) in Gisborne is not only a first class driver who is meticulous in approach but he also looks after his team mates exceedingly well when it comes to loading. Troy Ashcroft (pictured bottom left) drives in the Hawkes Bay and has also earned the reputation for outstanding customer management and a do whatever it takes attitude to get the work completed and support the team. Phil Hird (pictured right) has offered fantastic insights based on his knowledge as a driver into the Planning of Runs for the Taranaki Region.



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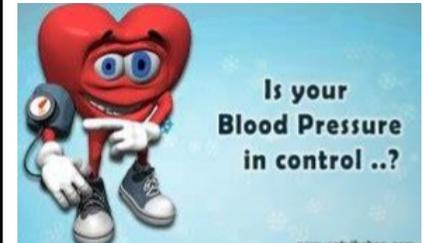
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HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE THE NO. 1 SILENT KILLER



Many of us are better at getting our cars checked when defects occur than ourselves. At least one in five New Zealanders have high blood pressure but most do not know they have it. So therefore, knowing the symptoms is important and so if you have headaches, fatigue, problems seeing, chest pain and difficulty breathing perhaps a check up may be wise. High blood pressure is very much an individual thing. The level of blood pressure that is high depends on lots of different factors related to the person being measured. The key for all of us is to be checked to remove the risk.

Like so many of the health challenges we face managing blood pressure is no different. Eating less salt, in fact less than one teaspoon a day is recommended. Stop adding salt to food and check the packs you buy and choose packaged products with under 120 milligrams of sodium per 100 grams. Smoking and stress also need to be dealt with to reduce the risk of high blood pressure. Take time to look after yourself as well as you do your vehicles and equipment.

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