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corrections *News*

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Chief Executive Mark Byers with kaumatua David Mackey at the Auckland Kaiwhakamana induction.

Auckland kaumatua inducted as Kaiwhakamana

A group of Auckland kaumatua were inducted as Kaiwhakamana specified visitors at a ceremony held at the Cultural Centre in Paremoremo Village last month.

The ceremony began with a powhiri for official guests and was followed by Chief Executive Mark Byers presenting the group with identification cards, allowing them greater and easier access to Maori inmates from their iwi.

The Kaiwhakamana Policy was launched in May last year and is a process whereby kaumatua are nominated and endorsed by their iwi or another

nationally recognised Maori organisation to the Department.

Their assistance provides Maori inmates with advice on things like te reo and tikanga, their whakapapa and whanau, and it will also help them when they return to the community.

Auckland Prisons Regional Manager Brendon Moynihan says he is pleased that a group of Auckland kaumatua have taken up the challenge.



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“The group are already quite involved in the prison and are held in high regard by their own communities. This is just one small way that we can recognise their status within the prison environment.”

Brendon says the group of kaumatua are taken through an induction programme which includes an explanation of the policy, health and safety, security aspects of the prison, emergency procedures, dealing with inmates and making arrangements to see them, before starting their role as Kaiwhakamana. **cN**



Judge Bruce Buckton.

Farewells

It was with sorrow that I, and people from Auckland Prison and Wellington, attended the funeral of Judge Bruce Buckton. Bruce had a long involvement with the Department, both as Visiting Justice at Auckland Prison and Deputy Chair of the Parole Board. He was well known to many of our people and offenders. Bruce was a person of good cheer, high energy with a strong sense of fairness and humanity which was coupled with wisdom hard grounded in the reality of Corrections and the behaviour of offenders.

Over recent times Bruce played an important part in the establishment last year of the New Zealand Parole Board and was vitally interested in ensuring it operated to high professional standards.

His early and sudden death was a profound blow to me and many others in the Department and he will be deeply missed. Bruce was admired and respected by many who came in contact with him in a variety of settings. His family's loss will be greater than ours, but I know that many of us will continue to remember him with affection and sadness at his passing.

Coupled with the death of Justice Dick Heron, the previous Chairman of the Parole Board, there will be a big gap to fill in terms of experience and the deep knowledge they both

brought to bear on the workings of the Board.

On a happier note the Chief Ombudsman Sir Brian Elwood retires this month. It has been largely his task to oversee the development of the role of the Ombudsman's Office in dealing with issues affecting inmates. The protocol between us has been in place for some years now and I think it can be said to be working well. I believe the need for the Office of the Ombudsman to exercise this independent role is an essential safety valve and check on the Corrections system to ensure abuses do not occur. The relationship that has developed has been constructive and richer over time. While there will inevitably be occasions where agreement cannot be reached the mutual respect and strength of the relationship is such to ensure we continue to work together in a professional way. Sir Brian has been instrumental in these developments and I have personally valued his patience, guidance and astuteness.

On all our behalf I wish him and his wife a long and enjoyable retirement. I also welcome John Belgrave, a previous Secretary for Justice, who will be the new Chief Ombudsman and look forward to working with him again. **cN**



Justice Dick Heron.



Sir Brian Elwood receiving a retirement gift on behalf of the Department, from Gordon Te Haara, kaumatua of Ngati Rangī (Kaikohe).

New diploma helps public sector merge worlds

Senior Policy Adviser (Maori) Harris Shortland has been recognised for his work in the development of a National Diploma in Public Sector Maori, which was launched in November last year.

Developed by Nga Tahu o te Ao Maori, the Public Sector Training Organisation's (PSTO) Maori Advisory Group, the diploma covers Public Sector skills including Maori management, Maori policy advice, Maori service delivery, Treaty of Waitangi, te reo Maori, tikanga, Maori business and management, and generic management, business and service delivery skills.

Harris' work has been so instrumental that he was awarded an honorary diploma at PSTO's Annual General Meeting last year.

PSTO Liaison Officer Maori Perspective, Donna Turuwhenua, says Harris dedicated a great deal of his time and work towards making the diploma successful.

"He is just wonderful and we really appreciated all his guidance and felt that this needed to be recognised."

Harris' involvement with PSTO goes back to PSTO's early beginnings in 1995. He says he has found it uplifting working alongside other like-experienced Maori from other government departments.

He has thoroughly enjoyed his role in the development of such a significant diploma and encourages all staff to find out more about it.

"It not only helps us to enhance our skills but it encourages us to look at things from both sides, merging both Maori and Pakeha worlds together. It's not enough to just be strong on Maori skills, we must be able to merge our skills to be multi-cultural practitioners," says Harris.

The diploma was highly commended in the Supreme Award at the 2002 Bearing Point Innovation Awards, recognising public sector innovation, and also won the inaugural award for Services to Maori last year.



Senior Policy Adviser (Maori) Harris Shortland at PSTO's Annual General Meeting.

For further information on the diploma speak to your manager or check out the PSTO website www.psto.govt.nz

cN

CPS on the road again for judicial seminars

In a week-long series of seminars, the Community Probation Service (CPS) went "on the road" last month to tell judges about sentencing options and outcomes for offenders dependent on alcohol and other drugs.

Arranged by the Institute of Judicial Studies, the seminars "Drug Dependence and the Courts: Options for Intervention", informed district, family and youth court judges about drug issues, offending, and the options available. The seminars were held in Auckland, Hamilton, Napier, Wellington and Christchurch.

Presenters included Detective Sergeant Schurr of the National Drug Intelligence Bureau, on drug availability and trends, and Associate Professor Doug Sellman, on causes and treatment of addiction.

Tracy Mellor, Manager Operational Policy and Planning CPS, spoke on the interface between courts and CPS. Her address outlined the prevalence of substance abuse among offenders, sentence management processes, sentencing options, and identifying appropriate interventions.

"Drugs are an ongoing problem and a significant contributor to offending behaviour," says Tracy. "Seventy percent of offenders link drug and alcohol issues to their most recent behaviour, and an estimated 90 percent of prison inmates have a history of drug and alcohol abuse or dependence.

"The CPS presentation was intended to give judges a greater understanding of the range of pre-sentence assessment processes

available, and how they link into the integrated sentence management processes Corrections has in place.

"For example, in addition to a pre-sentence report by CPS, judges can refer offenders for an alcohol and drug assessment. This will more clearly identify if there are addiction issues, and what treatment may be required from health providers."

She also spoke about CPS motivational and rehabilitative programmes, and options for community-based sentences.

Tracy says that judges have advised that they found the seminar information valuable and are taking it into account when making their sentencing decisions. cN

Inmates go to ground to help fight fire

A crew of eight inmates from the Corrections Inmate Employment (CIE) forestry unit helped the Rural Fire Authority to help douse hot spots after a recent forest fire between Turangi and Taupo.

The fire destroyed around 20 hectares of forest in early February. Teams from CIE, the Department of Conservation and Turangi and Taupo volunteer fire brigades worked in shifts over a two-week period to keep a 24-hour watch on the property.

“This was a large commitment and we were happy to provide our expertise, because the prison is part of the community and it is important that we do our bit to help out in times of need,” says CIE Site Manager Jimmy Knox.

To douse the underground fires, inmates used specialised hose-like equipment that is thrust underground and squirts water onto areas that are hot or on fire. A helicopter equipped with an infrared camera which identifies heated areas below ground, directs work crews to spots that require this attention.

Fires can burn along root systems for some time after the initial fire and can easily re-ignite above ground, explains Forestry Manager Graham Hardisty, who coordinated CIE’s support effort. This underground fire-fighting is critical to reducing the fire risk, he says.

Inmates also used traditional methods to dampen hot spots above the ground.

“This fire-fighting support gives the inmates valuable experience, and helps them develop skills that are highly sought after by employers. It is a real ‘feather in their cap’, and basically makes them more attractive to potential employers in the forestry sector.

“CIE is all about real skills for real jobs. Learning skills that employers want helps inmates to get a decent job when they get out, and helps stop them from coming back to prison,” says Graham. **cN**

Actions earn prison piggery praise

The actions of staff and inmates that minimised damage caused by a fire at the Corrections Inmate Employment (CIE) piggery at Christchurch Prison in late January have been praised by Chief Executive Mark Byers.

Staff and inmates saved more than 950 pigs before fire took over the sheds and ensured that nobody was injured during the rescue effort.

The commitment of instructors and inmates to ensure that surviving animals were healthy, re-housed, fed and watered was also commended by Mark.

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Animal Welfare Investigator David Barbour also praised the actions of staff.

“I am convinced prison farm staff acted responsibly and with due regard to animal welfare, while ensuring the safety of people remained paramount.”

Brian Goodes, Farm Manager, was particularly happy with the commitment from the inmates who helped out.

“They worked long hours alongside CIE staff, and demonstrated the

basic work ethic we are trying to instil in these guys. The fundamental time management, workplace relationships and basic work ethic skills are just as important as the industry-specific skills we teach. Many inmates haven’t held a decent job before, so we try and teach them the basics as well.”

The fire, fanned by strong winds and 30°C temperatures, destroyed two hay barns and their contents before spreading across nearby paddocks to the piglet-rearing area. Several hundred piglets were killed as fire took hold of the sheds where they were housed. It took the fire service several hours to bring the fire under control and hot spots were still being dampened down two days later.

The damaged piglet-rearing sheds have been repaired, and it is business-as-usual for inmates who work at the piggery, says Primary Sector Manager Scott Gretton.

“While it is sad that we lost a number of pigs, only a small part of the piggery operation was affected by the fire, so things are back to normal now.” **cN**

Overview outlines offender management

A new booklet explaining the Department of Corrections’ work is now available. **Managing Offenders** provides a general overview of the work of the Department and its approach to reducing re-offending. You can read about the current context of our work and how New Zealand compares with overseas corrections jurisdictions.

The booklet explains ‘what works with reducing re-offending’ and outlines how research and experience has led to the Department’s world-class offender management system. This system includes targeting interventions, such as rehabilitation programmes, at each offender’s needs.

For a copy of the booklet visit the Department’s website at www.corrections.govt.nz or contact the Department’s Communications Unit on 04 460 3365 or email commdesk@corrections.govt.nz **cN**



Alliance delivers for Maori offenders

A regional alliance between the Department of Corrections and Te Puni Kokiri (TPK) in Hawke's Bay will enhance Corrections responsiveness to the training and employment needs of Maori offenders, says Corrections Inmate Employment (CIE) National Manager, Royden Motu.

"The venture is the first of its kind and will focus on education and training, and the development of pre- and post-release employment opportunities for Maori offenders. The alliance is demonstrative of a 'whole of government' approach to reducing re-offending by Maori inmates," says Royden.

CIE Site Manager, Robin Benefield, explains that the main benefit of the alliance is CIE's direct link to whanau, hapu, iwi and Maori communities to maximise the success of training and employment opportunities.

"Initially, the alliance will focus on raising the profile of the Release to Work (RtW) programme, which allows inmates near the end of their term to be temporarily released to work at ordinary jobs in the community.

"We will also attend TPK-led Regional Intersectoral Fora (multi-agency meetings) to enhance our links with other agencies, and will work closely with TPK to develop training and employment solutions that meet the needs of Maori inmates.



Minister of Maori Affairs, Parekura Horomia (left), discusses the RtW programme with Mita Ririnui, Under-Secretary to the Minister of Corrections (far-right), Robin Benefield, CIE Site Manager and Derryn Ruru-Wallbank, CIE Site Coordinator.

Around 60 people, including the Minister of Maori Affairs, Parekura Horomia, and the Under-Secretary to the Minister of Corrections, Mita Ririnui, attended an open day at Hawke's Bay Prison in late February to showcase the alliance. Businesses that support CIE programmes, representatives from local government, iwi and various support agencies also attended the event.

Visitors were welcomed by the kapa haka group from Te Whare Tirohanga Maori (the Maori Focus Unit), and were taken on a tour of various prison industries including the joinery,

kitchen and laundry facilities. Visitors were able to interact with inmates and see the training and skills developed first-hand.

The alliance is a new phase in a long-established relationship between the two government departments in the region, explains Robin.

"TPK have been involved with activities at Hawke's Bay Prison for some time. They

supported the set-up of the Maori Focus Unit in various ways and have been instrumental in the development of the Kaitakawaenga, the whanau liaison role.

"Overall, the open day was a great first step in cementing the relationship between TPK and CIE in Hawke's Bay. We established some good relationships, and stakeholders who attended the day walked away with a better understanding about how CIE activities support the rehabilitation process. Ultimately, this will help us deliver for Maori offenders through improved training and employment opportunities." **cN**

Parole Board hearing more on Corrections

The New Zealand Parole Board were able to learn more about Corrections' systems and processes at a conference in Wellington in February.

A presentation by Public Prisons Service (PPS) Assistant General Manager (Corporate Development) Catherine Hall covered sentence management, special treatment units, education, employment, interventions for rehabilitation and reintegration.

Bridget White, PPS Assistant General Manager (Women's and Specialist Services) gave members an overview of the female inmate population, sentencing trends for women, and

programmes available to them.

Operations advisers from CPS, Peter Mildenhall and Kevin Wensor, spoke about community-based sentences and orders, programmes available, community residential centres, home detention and parole management, enforcement processes and recalls to prison.

David Riley, Psychological Service Director, explained the Service's work, including processes for preparation of psychological reports about offenders, and the myths and realities of offender treatment.

Speakers from other organisations

included Dr Warren Young, Deputy Secretary of Justice, Pacific peoples' elder Karl Puloto-Endemann, Bishop of Aotearoa the Rt Rev Whakahuihui Vercoe, plus representatives from Victim Support and Victims of Invasive Crime (VOICE).

"Feedback from the board members about the conference has been extremely positive," says Alistair Spierling, Manager New Zealand Parole Board Support Services.

"They found it valuable to learn more detail about how Corrections operates, and to have a forum to ask questions." **cN**

What's happening with offender management

Evaluations get under way

The Department's new approach to offender management has been "business as usual" for almost a year, and the Department is now looking at how well it is working, so any necessary improvements to services and working conditions can be made.

There are three evaluations taking place: an overall process evaluation, a pilot evaluation of Straight Thinking and the criminogenic programmes, and a review of the Criminogenic Needs Inventory (CNI).

Staff from across the country are being asked to provide their views and experiences of these aspects of service. The evaluations are due to report by September.

Claire Williams, Team Leader Evaluation in the Policy Development Group, says the information will be used to ascertain what is working well, and how, and the impacts on resources and the working lives of staff. It will fundamentally be used to ensure that the Department is reducing re-offending.

"Staff views are really important. We need to know how our new business processes and services are working, and the only way that is possible is by asking those who work with those services every day."

Some will receive a survey to complete, and others may be asked to participate in focus groups to discuss their experiences. Staff will also have a chance to look at the findings and give more information if they choose.

The CNI evaluation will involve a survey sent to a sample of 1000 staff.

They will be selected from across the country, and will include Probation Officers, sentence planners, case managers, and field psychologists.

Probation Officers who use the CNI in assessments, sentence planners and case managers will be invited to participate in focus groups. The groups will be run so that Maori staff are able to contribute in a Maori-only context. In addition, focus groups will be run with the design team, CNI trainers, the implementation team, the New Zealand Parole board, defence lawyers and others.

The process evaluation aims to identify the pathways that offenders take through the corrections system. It also aims to ascertain the way the system works to help that to happen.

"We want to find out whether one stage leads properly to the next, such as whether assessment gives enough information for sentence planning. We will be interviewing staff members from across the services, and we will be sending surveys to a sample of 1000 staff. In addition, we have been looking at information contained in IOMS, and noting both the information contained in there and any apparent problems with the system," says Claire.

Pre- and post-treatment questionnaires have been devised as part of the programmes evaluation process. The evaluation team will also be videotaping programme sessions in some areas, as well as conducting focus groups.

"So that we can see that any changes in people on programmes have happened because they were on the programme and not because of something else, we will also be interviewing other Corrections' clients who have not been on programmes," says Claire. **cN**



WHAT'S NEW IN THE LITERATURE

Why we now know a lot more about offending¹

Over the last 30 years there has been a huge shift in thinking about the best way to manage offenders, moving from a position that "nothing works" in the area of rehabilitation and that "the punishment should fit the crime", to a point where we are a lot more optimistic about what can be done to successfully reintegrate these people back into society.

The major reason for this change in our thinking is the large amount of research that has taken place over this period and, even more importantly, the development of ways in which the information contained in this research is able to be summarised and better understood. What we now know is based upon meta-analytic reviews of the criminal justice literature. Meta-analysis is a statistical technique that allows for the results from large numbers of studies to be coded and then statistically analysed to reveal trends. This lets us ask questions which are much more subtle than "does treatment work?", such as "what treatments work best for which offenders?", and "what effect does giving people several different types of treatment have on their successful survival in the community?".

Since the mid 1980s, there have been over 30 meta-analytic reviews published which collectively summarise the findings of well over 2000 individual pieces of research. This approach to summarising the information contained in all of these investigations enables sound decisions to be made by those

responsible for the management of offenders; decisions that are based on firm evidence about what the best approach may be, and also what level of success we may expect. A good example of this type of approach is a recent thesis undertaken by Craig Dowden at Canada's Carleton University under the supervision of Professor Don Andrews, one of the authors of the *Psychology of Criminal Conduct*. In addition to providing a strong endorsement for the principles of risk, need, and responsivity which have been a cornerstone of our Department's approach to offender management, Dowden's work has thrown new light on the importance of other factors such as the elements which contribute to programme integrity and the significance of various characteristics of programme providers, and highlighted future areas of investigation which may address important but yet unanswered questions.

Dowden's work, and that of other similar investigators, has also succeeded in dispelling a number of widely held beliefs regarding such things as the impact of shock incarceration, crime as a response to personal suffering, and the sorts of things we need to consider when we are trying to assess the risk posed by releasing offenders back into the community. **cN**

¹ Dowden C., (1998), A Meta-Analytic Evaluation of the Risk, Need and Responsivity Principles and their Importance Within the Rehabilitation Debate Masters Thesis, Carleton University, Ottawa.

Units help make transition smoother

The first “graduate” of Arohata Prison’s self-care units (SCUs) has returned to the community.

The inmate was released at her final release date after a lengthy sentence including several months spent in one of Arohata’s SCUs.

The units are residential-style accommodation designed for selected inmates who are nearing release. They prepare inmates for a successful reintegration into the community by enabling them to take responsibility for things such as budgeting, food preparation and cleaning in a “flat-type” situation. Arohata has four units capable of housing a total of 16 inmates. They were officially opened in August last year.

The units cater for inmates serving over two years who have reintegrative needs, and for women with babies up to six months old who meet the entrance criteria.

For inmates who have served long sentences the units provide a supportive environment to ease their transition back into the community.

“We watched her go through a range of emotions as she approached her release date. There was excitement at the chance of a new



One of Arohata Prison’s four self-care units.

life but also fear of the unknown and anxiety at the approaching dramatic change in surroundings,” says Unit Manager Annie Rainford.

“The SCUs provide an environment in which inmates can have a greater deal of freedom and independence. They have helped this inmate get accustomed to everyday tasks like shopping, transport and dealing with other government agencies. A Release to Work placement has also provided experience in coping with the outside world and will further support her new beginning.”

Site Manager Janey Bowen says the units are a valued addition to Arohata.

“They provide an opportunity for offenders to be realistically reintegrated back into the community, and the attitudes and behaviour of the inmates takes on a positive direction in their interaction with staff and others. They make the transition from the ‘inside’ to the ‘outside’ much smoother.”

SCUs operate at Christchurch Men’s, Christchurch Women’s, Hawke’s Bay Regional and Wanganui Prisons, and there are self-care beds planned for the new Auckland Region Women’s, Northland Region, Spring Hill and Otago Region Corrections Facilities. **cN**

Work parties improve access to native bush

Wheelchair-bound bush lovers will be able to enjoy native forest after Community Probation Service (CPS) work parties complete an extensive boardwalk in Feilding’s Kitchener Park.

The raised wooden track meanders about a kilometre through the tranquillity of native bush, including some 500-year-old trees.

Being raised off the ground, the track protects tree roots from being trampled by walkers and keeps users to the track. Another benefit is that, even in wet weather, a walk in the bush need not be a muddy affair.

“The area is a lowland swamp and gets very wet in the winter,” says Albert James, Reserve Manager, Manawatu District Council. Albert says the Council has a good relationship with CPS and often engages work groups on council projects.

At the time of writing, the work party had

approximately two more weeks of work to finish building the boardwalk track. The official opening ceremony is planned later this year.

The scenic reserve is also a protected area and Albert says the quantity of bird life is improving due to the possum-trapping programme at the reserve. Visitors to Kitchener Park may see morepork, tui, wood pigeon, kingfisher and plenty of fantails and finches.

“The offenders have learnt a range of new skills, from carpentry to the protection of the environment,” says Palmerston North CPS work party supervisor, Blue Taylor.

He says some of the workers had never seen a morepork up close and others appreciated learning, from Blue and other supervisors, about ancient Maori medicine produced from the native trees. **cN**



The beginning of the track in Feilding’s Kitchener Park.

Otago team working on Notice

It's been a busy summer for the project team working on the proposed 330-bed Otago Region Corrections Facility.

Project Coordinator Justine McDermott says that plenty has happened since last November, when the Corrections Minister announced he would seek planning approvals to build the prison at a site near Milton.

"The project team is working through a number of tasks to prepare for the Notice of Requirement being lodged. The notice will formally seek a designation to develop the corrections facility at the site. This is expected to be lodged by the Corrections Minister with the Clutha District Council in June."

The location of the prison's main buildings on the site and road access have been decided.

"These decisions reflected the community's feedback, particularly the responses from site neighbours. Through the consultation process we've learned that open spaces and the rural setting are important to those living near the site."

Feedback from those most affected by the facility's presence will be considered on aspects such as landscape planting, building layout, possible building materials and colours, fencing and lighting. Specialist advice will be used to design the facility to "fit in" with the site's contours and surrounding environment.

"In liaison with the District Council, water and wastewater options are currently being explored. This includes the possibility of on-site wastewater treatment and disposal on or off-site.

"The Clutha District Council confirmed their interest in supplying water to the facility if required. On the other hand, it looks like wastewater disposal will require a local and more technical solution," Justine says.

Further technical assessments, reports and consultation are being undertaken for the Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE).

After the council receives the Notice of Requirement it will publicly call for submissions in support of, or against, the facility. A council-appointed hearing committee will review the application and related submissions, and recommend to the Corrections Minister whether to approve or decline the designation.



A drill-rig tests the "buildability" of the area on the site at Milburn where the main prison buildings are planned.

What is a Notice of Requirement?

The Notice of Requirement lets the local council, in this case the Clutha District Council, know that a designation is needed.

What is a Designation?

A designation is a provision in a District Plan that allows certain activities (such as operating a prison) to be carried out on a specific piece of land. An approved designation would provide long-term certainty over building and operating a prison at the site.

What is an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE)?

An AEE is submitted to support the Notice of Requirement. It will include details of potential visual, lighting, traffic, acoustic, ecological, economic and social effects and how they can be reduced. Among other things, this document outlines the tangata whenua and community consultation that has occurred.

What about resource consents?

Around the same time that the Notice of Requirement is lodged with the Clutha District Council, applications will be made with the Otago Regional Council for any necessary resource consents. **cN**

Old wing makes way for visitors

The second part of a major upgrade at Arohata Prison is underway, with one of the old accommodation wings due to be demolished to make way for a \$2 million visits facility.

Inmates currently meet their friends and loved ones in the prison gym, but the new facility will have family rooms and a day visiting area for mothers and babies.

Site manager Janey Bowen says the new facility will be better for everyone -inmates, visitors and staff.

"The area will be bright and airy with an outdoor space for children. Inside there will be wall features designed by a local artist and completed with the help of inmates," says Janey.

"Access to the area will be direct, removing the need to walk the length of the building to gain entry, and visits will

be able to be processed in a more timely way."

Senior Property Adviser Rohan Bush, who has been involved with the project from the beginning, says the visits area is just one aspect of a bigger site development project.

"Last year stage one involved building a new receiving office, at-risk unit, secure unit, health unit, kitchen and control unit. The visits facility is part of stage two. There will also be new parole board facilities, an upgrade for the admin area, and a new building for Corrections Inmate Employment.

"An upgrade to the programmes area will allow for programme providers to be located together, along with the chaplain, counsellors, sentence planner and scheduler." **cN**

Corrections staff prove good sports

About 80 Corrections staff will compete in the second Supergames World Services Sporting Challenge being held in Christchurch in April.

Corrections staff will join members of the armed forces, emergency services and law enforcement agencies from about 50 countries and compete in 56 sports ranging from angling to wrist wrestling.

Bryan McMurray, Public Prison Service Assistant General Manager Operations, will compete again this year in the team triathlon event and in pool and open water swimming events. His rigorous training regime involves nine 80-minute sessions per week. Six of these are 3-4 km swimming sessions, the others are aerobic (running, walking or cycling) sessions and weight training at the gym.

“My goal is actually competing in the World Police and Fire Games in Barcelona in July, hence the strict training regime”, says Bryan.

Corrections competitors will renew friendships and maintain networks on the field and in the Supergames Village with personnel from other agencies in New Zealand and overseas.

Special athletes attend Special Olympics

Rimutaka Prison’s Property Manager, Brian Telfer, will manage a group of 40 New Zealand athletes competing in the 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Dublin in June this year.

Brian will accompany the group of athletes who will compete in athletics, aquatics, bocce (petanque), equestrian, golf, power-lifting and ten-pin bowling.

Inmates in prisons across Ireland are working on a number of special projects for the event, such as building awards podia and football benches, scoreboards and platforms and designing and manufacturing towels for the Special Olympics athletes and their coaches.

“A personal best time, distance or score is more of an achievement than winning a medal,” says Brian.” **cN**

CPS Wairarapa work widespread

“You name it, we’ve done it!” says Wairarapa Community Probation Service Manager Siobhan Garlick.

Siobhan says that Community Work has been a win-win situation for the Wairarapa community.

“Non-profit-making groups or agencies are able to undertake projects which they would not be able to consider if they had to pay for the labour costs, while offenders are able to make reparation to the community that they have offended against.

“Offenders are also taught transferable skills which have, in many instances, led directly to full time employment, and this often reduces the likelihood of re-offending.”

Work parties have been scattered across the district to help with events and tidy up community facilities.

Projects have included helping the Masterton A&P Society with their annual show by helping maintain the Solway A&P Showgrounds, preparing Masterton’s Hood Aerodrome for a drag racing event and helping the community of Alfredton with their new sports pavilion.

Offenders also played a vital role in preparing Hood Aerodrome for “Wings Over Wairarapa” which attracts close to 30,000 people.

Many spectators took the opportunity to visit the recently rebuilt Sports and Vintage Aviation Museum at the Aerodrome.

Masterton Probation Officer and member of the Sports and Vintage Aviation Society, Phil Patterson, says that work parties helped the non-profit society organise its new premises for the big weekend.

“Leading up to the air show, we had workers making sure the museum was ready. They’ve been painting the building, doing gardening and general tidying-up,” says Phil.

The completion of the air show does not mean an end to work at the museum, with offenders expected to help the museum volunteers paint, clean and prepare exhibits.

“Workers can help restore donated exhibits, remove rust, clean, paint and bring them up to scratch.”

Probation Officer Shaun McGillicuddy says that the work undertaken at the aerodrome by offenders was a good example of being able to match an offender’s skills to the job required.

“The new museum is a huge building and we were able to send a worker out there who was an experienced painter. The guys are enjoying the work and it has raised the profile of Community Work as people around town know what we can do,” says Shaun.

Work parties also helped Riding For The Disabled clear a piece of badly overgrown land used by the society.

“The area is about an acre in size, but was no good for horses as it was an overgrown mess. A community work party cut everything back and cleaned the site up.

“It looks amazing and the agency have said they are really pleased with the work that’s been done,” Shaun says. **cN**

Auckland Kaiwhakamana inducted



Chief Executive Mark Byers (sitting second from right) with staff and kaumatua at Paremoremo Village’s Cultural Centre. See story page one.

CRM helps Department with ACC claims



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

If you've suffered from a work-related injury recently you may be missing out on getting the best service available.

Under the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) Partnership Plan the Department self-insures itself for any work-related injuries. This means that the Department covers all the medical costs incurred for work-related injuries.

Senior Adviser Human Resources Gail de Lee says the Department uses a third party administrator in order to do this.

"The Department contracted the CRM Group two years ago to act on its behalf and

manage the administration of work-related injuries that would normally be done by ACC. This includes organising and accepting invoices from medical providers and contacting payroll to confirm income compensation entitlements where an employee requires time off work as the result of a work place injury."

Gail says there are some real benefits for employees but unfortunately not everyone knows about them.

"Using a third party administrator like the CRM Group provides a seamless process which is more often than not a lot quicker than dealing directly with ACC. This results in better rehabilitation planning and faster calculation and payment of income compensation entitlements."

Gail says all employees are issued with a business sized card when they are inducted which they should present to the treatment provider at the time of treatment, should they



putting control in your hands

suffer from a work-related injury.

"This explains to the treatment provider that they should send all ACC forms and claims for reimbursement to the CRM Group rather than ACC. Presentation of the card at the time of treatment is very important and I'd encourage everyone to use the card as it ensures the documentation goes promptly to CRM enabling them to arrange commencement of income compensation and rehabilitation."

If you would like a new or replacement card please contact your manager or health and safety representative. [cN](#)

Corrections Bill tabled in the House

The Corrections Bill, introduced into Parliament last month, will see existing corrections legislation replaced with a simpler, more modern legal framework - a change Acting Minister of Corrections Hon Margaret Wilson says is well overdue.

The Bill will repeal the Penal Institutions Act 1954 and some sections of the Criminal Justice Act 1985. It is part of a major package of reforms including the Sentencing Act, Parole Act and Victims Rights Act passed last year.

"All of these measures reflect the Government's commitment to having a criminal justice system that better protects the public and gives greater recognition to the needs of victims," Ms Wilson said.

"The Corrections Bill states that maintenance of public safety is the paramount consideration in decisions about the management of offenders, and that victims' interests must be considered. It also recognises the importance of reducing re-offending through the provision of effective programmes to rehabilitate offenders and reintegrate them into society."

"We need legislation that puts public safety first, facilitates a modern approach to the management of offenders and that supports Corrections staff to do the best possible job."

The Bill has entered the first phase of a process culminating in its enactment. There are likely to be amendments along the way, for example, to correct drafting errors or to implement more substantive changes that may be recommended by a Select Committee.

The Bill will be enacted by the end of 2003, if possible. The Bill cannot commence on the date of assent because it needs to be supported by associated regulations. It is not clear how long will be needed to develop the regulations, but it is anticipated there could be six months between the date of enactment and the commencement of the legislation.

Changes under the new legislation include:

- A statement of the purpose of the corrections system and the principles guiding its operation.
- Private contracting for the management of prisons is not permitted beyond the expiry of the current contract for the management of Auckland Central Remand Prison in July 2005.
- The use of non-lethal weapons in prisons may be permitted by regulation, if the benefits of the weapon outweigh any potential harm.
- There are changes to search powers to improve the capacity to detect drugs and other contraband in prisons. The Bill permits an enhanced strip-searching procedure to be carried out when there are reasonable grounds to believe an offender is concealing contraband.
- Prisoners' minimum entitlements are based on current regulations and are expanded in accordance with international standards. [cN](#)

Psychological Service hosts Canadian researcher

Dr Stephen Wong of the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) met last month with David Riley, Director of Corrections' Psychological Service.



CSC's Dr Stephen Wong (left) with David Riley, Director of Psychological Service.

In addition to being Director of Research at CSC's Regional Psychiatric Centre in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Dr Wong is also an Adjunct Professor of Psychology at the

University of Saskatchewan. He has published extensively in the area of correctional psychology, on a range of topics including violence, psychopathy, risk assessment, treatment programming and the working therapeutic alliance.

Dr Wong's recent work includes programme guidelines for

the institutional treatment of psychopaths and development of specialist scales to measure dynamic risk factors in violent and sexual offenders. He is making his assessment protocols available to the Psychological Service and these are to be trialed on violent offenders. In addition, he will be forwarding the Department more detailed descriptions of programmes delivered at CSC's Saskatoon facility.

While in New Zealand, Dr Wong also visited Montgomery House in Hamilton and the Violence Prevention Unit at Rimutaka Prison, Upper Hutt. **cN**

Committees to continue key role

Regional committees set up to better coordinate and aid the smooth implementation of the Department's new approach to offender management are continuing their good work in 2003.

Regional Management Committees (RMC) comprise the regional managers of Community Probation Service (CPS), Public Prisons Service (PPS) and Psychological Service (PS), with representation from Corrections Inmate Employment and specialist offender services such as programme delivery.

General Manager Probation and Offender Services Katrina Casey, who is responsible for the matrix management of improving the integration in service delivery between services says there are benefits to having an integrated management structure such as the RMCs. Katrina also provides oversight at a senior management level for the RMCs.

The three key roles of the RMC are to ensure safe, effective and culturally appropriate management of local service delivery, to ensure integration of service delivery and to demonstrate ownership of the implementation of the Department's Treaty of Waitangi Strategy.

The Chair of each committee meets quarterly with the General Management Team in head office to discuss and address issues impacting across the various groups and services.

The committees have a strong focus on communications and relationship management, particularly with Maori communities, as well as operational management.

PS Southern Regional Manager Steve Berry is much more aware of the challenges other services face and has a greater sense of teamwork as a result of his experience on the RMC.

"The services are now working together to a level that we have not previously seen. It's an extra effort but the payback is increased communication, developing and understanding a shared vision and increased accountability to each other.

"There is also simply a bigger pool of resources now - not just financial ones but ideas, perspectives and information. Being on the RMC helps you see the bigger Corrections picture."

RMC Northern Region has met with communications staff from head office and begun its planning and development processes, including putting some structure around the way services will move forward in an integrated manner.

The committee has identified eight areas of focus for the coming year

with a high priority being given to the integrated management of high-risk offenders. An inter-service working party has already been established with the aim of ensuring that processes are in place to manage the risk associated with releasing these offenders into the community.

RMC Central Region Chair Marion Dixon (PS) is pleased about the establishment of the RMCs.

"They will provide an excellent opportunity to better integrate the three services and we have already made a good start to our 2003 planning"

The Central committee's focus will include the development of stakeholder relationships, especially Maori networks, and the commissioning of Spring Hill Corrections Facility. **cN**



Principal Psychologist Glen Kilgour works with members of the Central RMC at their meeting in Taupo.

Complexity of the Corrections IT Environment

Corrections now has a network of just under 3800 laptops, PCs and terminals, plus 1000 printers, located in over 230 sites nationwide. These all connect to central servers in Auckland and Wellington. This network depends on multiple suppliers who provide hardware, software and services all around the country. Some of these suppliers are New Zealand based, some international, and some have only a marketing presence in NZ.

A large and complex environment for the delivery of IT services? Yes.

“However, when you examine what we actually carry out in Corrections, there are not many ways we could reduce the complexity, yet still deliver the IT services that we now require for the business.” says Derek Lyons, IT Manager.

“For example, we need to certify all the hardware and software that we use, and restrict some kinds of software, to ensure that the systems operate in the best possible manner. The aim is to have the IT systems performing seamlessly for everyone in Corrections.”

Although most problems can be resolved before they affect users, the occasional problem is too complex for early detection. An example of this is the recent 45-minute outages in IOMS. These have direct impacts on everyone: users lose the system and IT has increased maintenance as it works to solve the problem.

The cause of this particular problem has been worked on by a combination of:

- Sun who provide the hardware
- Oracle who provide the database software
- Gen-I who carry out development

• Corrections database management specialists

Working together with these parties we have managed to identify the issues that are causing this problem (a combination of software that combines to cause a particular fault) and are now working on short-term patch, and a longer term fix.

“It is the role of IT to ensure that the systems we have meet the needs of users across Corrections, and support the Department. We are well aware that any fault or ‘bug’ has serious impacts on users, which is why we work closely with our vendors, and also have tight policies and processes in place across IT, to ensure that the environment operates in an as effective and reliable manner as possible, while meeting the Department’s needs.” cN

www.corrections.govt.nz updated

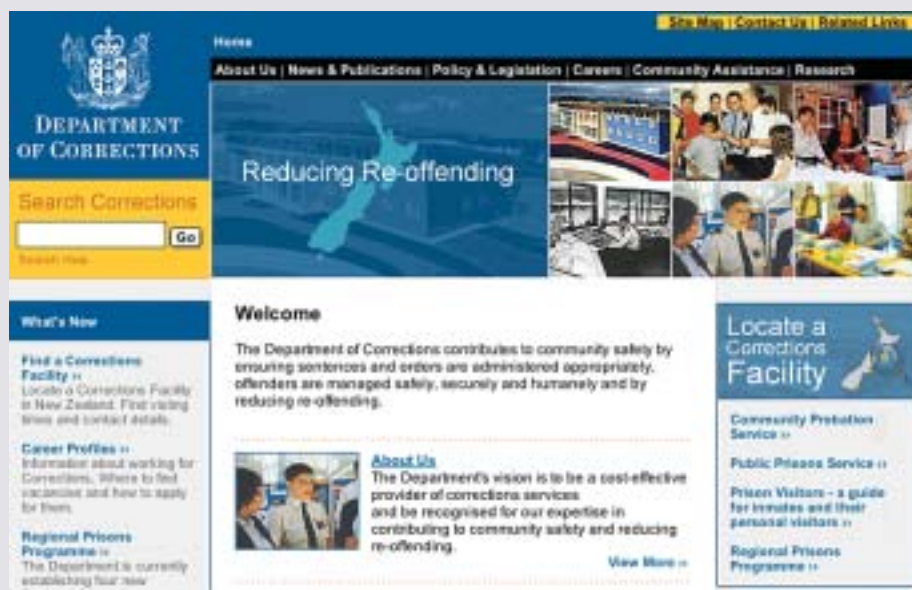
Website manager Mike Howson says the Department’s new look website, re-launched last month, is easier to use and delivers more information focused on users.

“As well as updating the site we were also aware of the requirement to adhere to the State Services Commission’s e-government website guidelines, improving the site’s usability and making it a primary source of information about the Department.”

Mike says the site will be continuously updated, with the addition of new content and the improvement of functions as it grows.

“A business infrastructure to support the ongoing improvement of the website is being put in place.”

Key audiences, including the public, media or international researchers can use the site to access the latest information and statistical data about the Department or to learn the latest news about the



Department’s regional prison developments, or how to visit someone in prison.

The site also includes additional information about how the Department works with the New Zealand Parole Board, and its responsibilities for contributing to the Victim Notification System. cN

corrections News

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