

Giles Civil Ltd Newsletter March 2011

2011 Just a bad Nightmare

It would be great to see if Dr Who could help us back a few weeks & start 2011 all over again. The events of the past few weeks will be real character building and this is where we really shine in this world.

The Legatum Prosperity Index Rankings for 2010* confirms our place in the scheme of things. Despite slipping a couple of places over the previous year a world ranking of five is something that we can be proud of. This is out of a class of 110 countries. Being ranked number one in the world for Education is surely something that we should all be celebrating. Of all the fields, Education is the basic building block of all the other fields the Legatum Institute uses.

We are well ahead of many heavy weights, United Kingdom, United States, Germany, France etc. Our Australian cousins whom we seem to too often to measure ourselves against, have this time jumped ahead of us but we do lead them in half of the eight categories sampled. They would however easily lead us in creepy crawlies and climatic extremes which are not measured.

Our ranking of 19th in the Health sector is a bit of a worry and maybe well worth a good look at. Perhaps a goal of making the top five in all the categories is something we should strive towards. We are already in the top 4 for half of the categories.

We lead the world in free trade. We consistently top the list of the least corrupt countries.

We also consistently "punch above our weight" in many fields both sporting & academically.

Surely no other country has a participation level in multisport & adventure sport as we do in New Zealand. The participants in the sports range from the elite world champions to the everyday Kiwis. Every weekend there are myriads of events being held from one end of the country to the other.

We all know it as all not beer & roses. We will always have adversity.

When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it."

Henry Ford

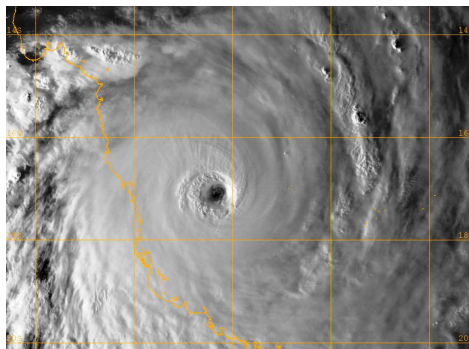
Maybe we ended up with pineapple chunks, but we surely cannot have too many things to complain about. Rather than compare ourselves with other countries we should hold our heads high and just be proud to live in the greatest place on Earth.

Christchurch will be rebuilt, just like Napier. The CBD will be a different place. The need for Corporate Towers was probably getting to their "Use By" date. Modern communications have changed the way we do business and the new Christchurch will immerse to lead the world in town planning.

David Hick Joe Coombe
Directors
Giles Civil Ltd

*www.prosperity.com

Impressive Satellite
Picture of Cyclone
Yasi off Queensland
Jan 2011



The 2010 Legatum Prosperity Index Table

Reset		Click here to change the weightings of any sub-index ▼							
Overall Rank	Country	Economy	Entrepreneurship & Opportunity	Governance	Education	Health	Safety & Security	Personal Freedom	Social Capital
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Norway	1	6	12	4	4	2	2	1
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Denmark	4	1	2	5	17	6	6	2
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Finland	9	4	7	3	10	3	12	7
4	<input type="checkbox"/> Australia	8	13	8	2	15	13	4	4
5	<input type="checkbox"/> New Zealand	17	14	4	1	19	7	3	3
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Sweden	7	2	6	10	9	8	5	11
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Canada	5	10	5	12	11	16	1	8
8	<input type="checkbox"/> Switzerland	2	11	1	29	3	12	19	6
9	<input type="checkbox"/> Netherlands	3	12	10	13	13	18	13	5
10	<input type="checkbox"/> United States	14	3	3	9	1	25	9	12
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Ireland	22	7	14	15	14	4	7	10
12	<input type="checkbox"/> Iceland	38	9	17	6	2	1	8	14
13	<input type="checkbox"/> United Kingdom	18	5	9	22	20	23	15	9
14	<input type="checkbox"/> Austria	12	16	13	17	8	15	23	15
15	<input type="checkbox"/> Germany	13	15	15	25	6	20	14	16
16	<input type="checkbox"/> Belgium	16	21	16	18	12	19	10	19
17	<input type="checkbox"/> Singapore	6	8	11	30	24	5	36	54
18	<input type="checkbox"/> Japan	11	19	20	24	5	11	42	31

Piers Morgan has taken over from Larry King on CNN. He recently interviewed **Donald Trump**. If you have a chance to see this interview it is highly recommended. Donald Trump comes over as an American who actually "gets it".



construction solutions

DID YOU KNOW ???

That the kilogram is different in that it is the only international standard unit of measurement that is based on a physical object rather than a fundamental physical constant.

The metre, for instance, is no longer defined as the distance between two scratches on a metal bar, but on the distance travelled by light in a vacuum in $1/299792458$ of a second, whereas the second is the duration of 9,192,631,770 cycles of radiation emitted by a particular electronic transition in an atom of caesium-133.



And that Karumba, situated on the Gulf of Carpentaria, Qld, Aust has only one high & low tide within a 24 hour cycle. Now this special one-tide-a-day thing happens in other places, for exactly the same reason - places like the Gulf of Thailand, the Persian Gulf, the South China Sea and even the Gulf of Mexico. It just so happens that all these places are some of the very best places on Earth for catching fish:

Tide Table

2011-02-07	9:42 PM EST	3.24 meters	High Tide
2011-02-08	6:31 AM EST	1.92 meters	Low Tide
2011-02-08	9:42 PM EST	3.04 meters	High Tide
2011-02-09	6:04 AM EST	1.88 meters	Low Tide
2011-02-09	9:25 PM EST	2.88 meters	High Tide

Waitaanga Fall: King Country

Ron Wiseman, one of our foremen, recently went with 4 generations of his family back to an often visited waterfall in the King Country. Rather than the 8 hour trek they opted for a quick helicopter trip in.



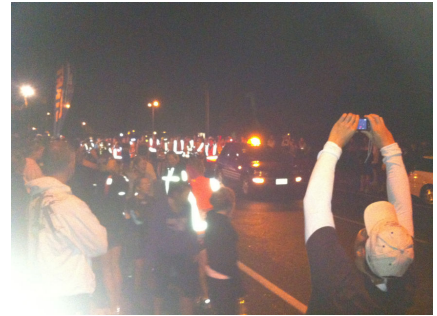
Would you prefer to receive this newsletter by pdf or hardcopy?

email us your preference: news@gilescivil.co.nz

All responses go into a draw to win a bottle of wine. Entries close 30/4/11

Round Taupo Relay Race: Update

Just a quick update of our round Taupo run of the 19th Feb.. 155km of gruelling up & down. We got



away at 2am Saturday am & finished some 14hrs 15mins latter in 79th spot. Well this was our first time & we didn't know the course. Just wait until next year! & we also lost a few second on baton changes.

This was a great team event and best summed up at 4am in the morning.. At the end of the very hard 14km leg 2. Overheard as a young lady came into the change over point:

"If you guys intend to do this bloody race next year: well there is no way I'm doing leg 2".

Team Leader (& Giles Civil rep) Joe Coombe deserves a mention anchoring the final leg in his own unique way.



CLUB PHYSICAL
you belong

Special thanks to Paul from Club Physical, Albany for the Tee Shirts.

Projects



New Life Church, Northcote: Palisade wall & Counterfort Drains



95 Hinemoa Street, Northcote: Driveway & Parking Deck

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A-Z of how we can help you: Asphalt, Bulldozer Work, Carpark Construction, Clearing, Cobblestones, Concrete Breaking & disposal, Concrete Work, Digger Hire, Drainage, Drilling (200,300,400,500 diam.) Driveway & Carpark Design & Construction, Earthworks, Emergency Work, Excavation, Grass Cells, Hotmix, Kerbing, Pothole Repairs, Project Management, Retaining Walls, Roading, Roller Hire, Sealing, Silt Control, Subdivisions (Complete Construction), Topsoiling & Grassing, Truck Hire, Vehicle Crossings & Those really difficult jobs that nobody wants to do!