

# KONNECTIONS

NEW ZEALAND'S MAGAZINE FOR OUR ALUMNI



GLOBAL  
AGRI-  
INNOVATION



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KONNECTIONS Summer 2017/18



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# Kia ora

## Welcome to the latest edition of *KONNECTIONS*

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In this issue of *KONNECTIONS* 2017/18, we're focussing on a sector that holds a special place in the New Zealand psyche. We've literally built our nation on farming – and while we owe a great deal to the past, we believe the real era of opportunity still lies ahead of us.

When we talk about New Zealand's agri-sector, what exactly do we mean? For KPMG, it's not about having a stand-alone 'agribusiness division'. It's not just about helping farmers succeed in their day-to-day operations (although our Farm Enterprise team does a fantastic job at that too).

Instead, we've always recognised it's a deep and multi-faceted sector requiring a diverse and multi-faceted response. Today, KPMG works with Agri-sector clients from virtually every part of our business – whether it's exporting, accessing global markets, new business development, technology and IT, or future-state thinking; as well as the more traditional financial services.

Our new Accelerated Export offering, outlined on page 15, is a great example of this. We're excited about the opportunity to partner with a select pool of talented Kiwi exporters, and help them achieve next-level results. For an overview of the many other ways KPMG works with our agri-sector clients, see the 'Realising Opportunities' spread on page 20.

We also think deeply about the issues and opportunities within the agri-sector. Since 2010 we've produced the annual *Agribusiness Agenda*, which has arguably become New Zealand's most well respected piece of sector thought leadership. KPMG Field Notes is a weekly download of need-to-know content and updates (for further details on the app, see page 24).

KPMG's commitment to the agri-sector is also reflected in the investment we make in our people, and the community. In this issue of *Konnections*, you'll learn about the work we're doing to support farming education in inner-city Auckland; as well as meet two of our alumni who are carving out their own interesting careers in the sector.

We look forward to connecting with you again in 2018. Until then, best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.



**Ross Buckley**  
Executive Chairman



**Godfrey Boyce**  
Chief Executive



**Aaron Woolsey**  
Alumni Partner



**Ross Buckley**

**Godfrey Boyce**

**Aaron Woolsey**

# Notable Alumni

Once upon a time, inheriting the family farm was one of the few opportunities to enter the agricultural industry.

How things have changed.

The modern agri-food industry offers a wealth of different career paths – spanning science, technology, export and finance.

We caught up with two KPMG alumni, **Ross Verry** and **Emma Higgins**, to see where their agri-expertise has taken them.



**Ross Verry**  
CEO, Syndex

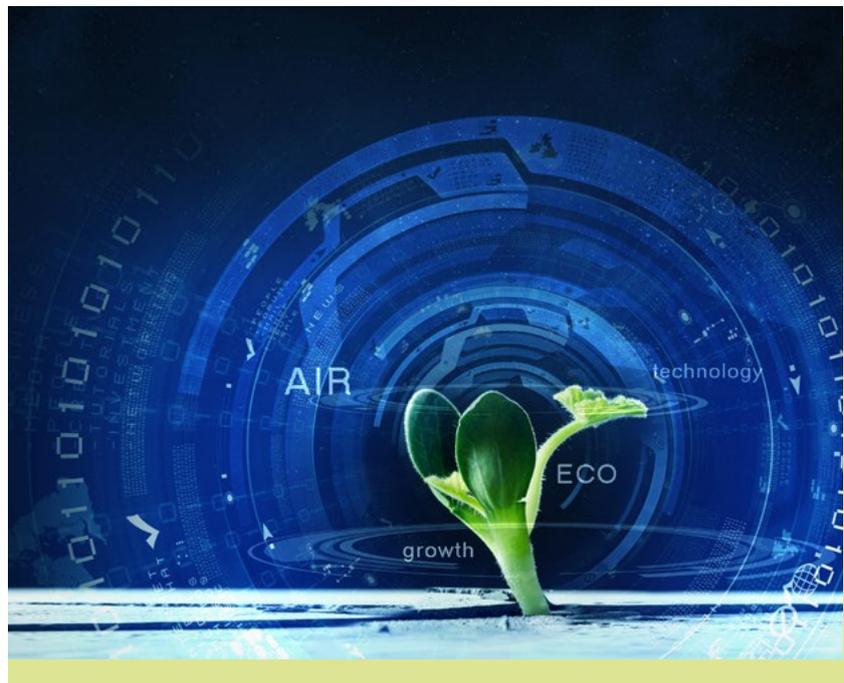


**Emma Higgins**  
NZ Dairy Analyst, Rabobank

## Ross Verry

**Now:** CEO, Syndex  
**With KPMG:** Wellington office, 1986-1992

Combining his knowledge of finance and the agri-sector, Ross Verry is now CEO of a digital trading platform that's linking innovative businesses in the sector with investment capital.



Syndex is an online trading platform for proportionally-owned assets in the private economy. As well as providing tools for asset owners to run their syndicates, it provides a seamless digital platform for investors to buy, sell and manage their holdings.



"We offer an independent trading exchange for shares in assets such as farming, commercial property syndicates and other privately-owned assets," explains Ross.

With many agri-savvy investors registered on their books, Syndex is well-placed to support innovation and

growth in the sector. For instance, they recently announced support for a New Zealand agritech company, Regen, to undertake a major expansion and have MyFarm as a key Syndex client on board also.

Regen's award-winning technology monitors irrigation scheduling with farm-specific data to real-time sensors and localised weather forecasts. It gives farmers recommendations on managing water and mineral levels, with case studies showing annual savings of well over \$50,000 on a 350-hectare farm.



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“Technology such as this provides a significant cost-saving mechanism for our farmers,” says Ross.

“Regen is just one example of the many innovative businesses supporting the sector that need supporting themselves, in terms of capital to grow. That’s where Syndex is able to help.”



Ross started his KPMG career in 1986 in the audit division in Wellington, before moving into the banking sector in 1992; where he took up roles that connected him more closely with the agri-sector.

“This ranged from responsibility for ANZ’s Institutional offering to the Food, Beverage and Agribusiness sector in New Zealand; to my previous role as GM Agri at ANZ NZ, which was responsible for the offering to our farming customers.”

In 2012, ANZ released a report that identified accessing capital was a major challenge for the sector. It highlighted that innovative ways of attracting capital to the sector needed to be found in order to source new pools of capital. That sparked an idea that ultimately attracted Ross to Syndex.

“Syndex is a fintech/agtech response to some of those capital challenges, offering liquidity to investors in previously illiquid assets; and providing transparency and price discovery to support investment decisions.”

Looking to the future of the agri-sector, Ross predicts exciting times ahead for innovative New Zealand companies.

“It’s great to see KPMG take such a strong lead in this sector. What attracts me to the agri-sector is the quality of our New Zealand products, the passion and energy of the people working in the sector; and the spirit of innovation that continues to grow.” ●



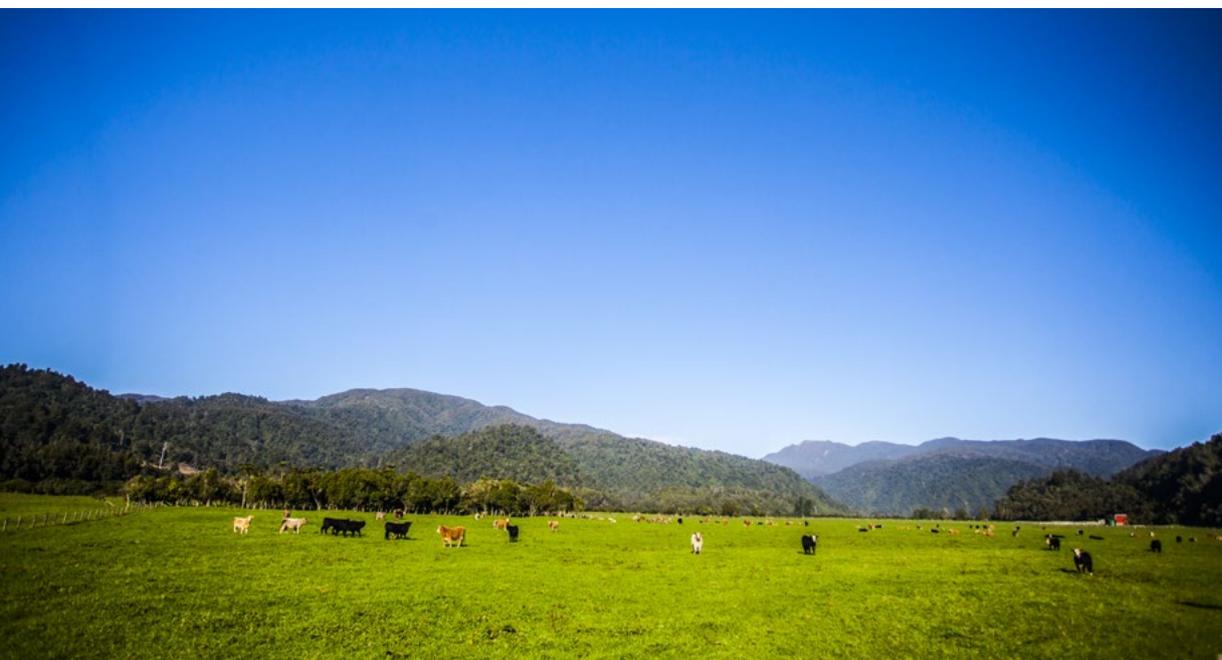
It’s great to see KPMG take such a strong lead in this sector. What attracts me to the agri-sector is the quality of our New Zealand products, the passion and energy of the people working in the sector; and the spirit of innovation that continues to grow...



# Emma Higgins

**Now:** NZ Dairy Analyst - Rabobank  
**With KPMG:** Wellington office, 2012–2014

Coming from a small sheep and beef property near Nelson, Emma Higgins came onto the agribusiness scene at a challenging time...



**A**fter studying law at Canterbury University, Emma secured a graduate role in the KPMG tax team in Wellington, which set the foundation for her career.

“The three years I spent with KPMG provided me with a great platform to begin my career. It was the professionalism, training and contacts through KPMG that enabled me to land my role at Rabobank,” says Emma

Speaking to farmers who had decades of experience about their industry challenges proved difficult to start with.

“Being relatively young and not a dairy farmer myself was tricky

at first. However my role is not to tell them how to farm. It’s to communicate what’s happening in the sector around the world and in New Zealand, and to provide that information in a way that helps their businesses.”

In her current role as the New Zealand dairy analyst for Rabobank, Emma is responsible for investigating everything and anything related to dairy in New Zealand.



“I work as part of a global team with 90 other Rabobank analysts, and between us we cover ten different

sectors. Dairy is an integral part of our business, both locally and internationally, and so within the dairy team there are around ten analysts spread out over six other countries whom I work closely with.”

Emma and her colleagues collaboratively pull together a global picture of the dairy market, which allows them to better inform Rabobank and its clients around the world about issues and opportunities for dairy.



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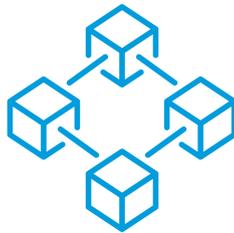
“In a nutshell, this means I am a communicator of dairy information. I travel around New Zealand discussing with clients the dairy market, liaising with the media on current dairy events and informing internal Rabobank stakeholders of current sector issues.”

Looking to the future, Emma believes the synthesis of agriculture and technology will revolutionise the sector.

“In particular, I’m interested in how blockchain, and the digitised approach to managing supply chains, might facilitate the transfer of physical commodities and finance in a way that enables traceability of information.”

As consumers begin to demand high-quality, safe products, blockchain will enable full visibility of each touchpoint along the way.

This opens up an exciting opportunity for New Zealand to truly leverage the value of its premium products.



“Transparency along the supply chain using new digital technologies will be crucial for New Zealand farmers going forward if they want to take advantage of consumer-driven market change, growing niche markets, and maintain their access to current markets by communicating quality, safety, and reliability of produce.” ●



...I travel around New Zealand discussing with clients the dairy market, liaising with the media on current dairy events and informing internal Rabobank stakeholders of current sector issues.





**GLOBAL  
AGRI-  
INNOVATION**





KPMG New Zealand's Agri-Food team prides itself on being ahead of the game when it comes to global trends. To ensure we bring a global lens to our work, we constantly harvest data and insights from our networks located around the world.

In recent months, we've identified the following key trends:





**Emma Wheeler**  
Manager – Agri-Food

As the world exponentially grows by three people per second, a world treated as having limitless resources is slowly losing its ability to feed itself. Not only are new food systems emerging to ensure we don't run out of food, these systems are ultimately being shaped by the consumer.

### Alternative protein



New options in alternative proteins have been pouring into the market – as society throws an ever-brighter spotlight on animal welfare, the environmental impacts of farming, and the sustainability of global resources. The rise of plant-based alternatives has disrupted traditional markets, and even the big players recognise these trends are here to stay. In late 2016, the United States' largest meat processing company (Tyson Foods) acquired a five per cent stake in Beyond Meat. This Californian-based company makes meat substitutes from protein sources such as plant-based soy, carrot fibre and peas. Shortly after, Tyson Foods announced that it was launching its own \$150 million venture capital fund that will support the development of plant-based foods. Even Bill Gates has invested in alternative protein companies; as many startups and some corporations have seen large growth rates in their plant-based product lines.

### Functional foods

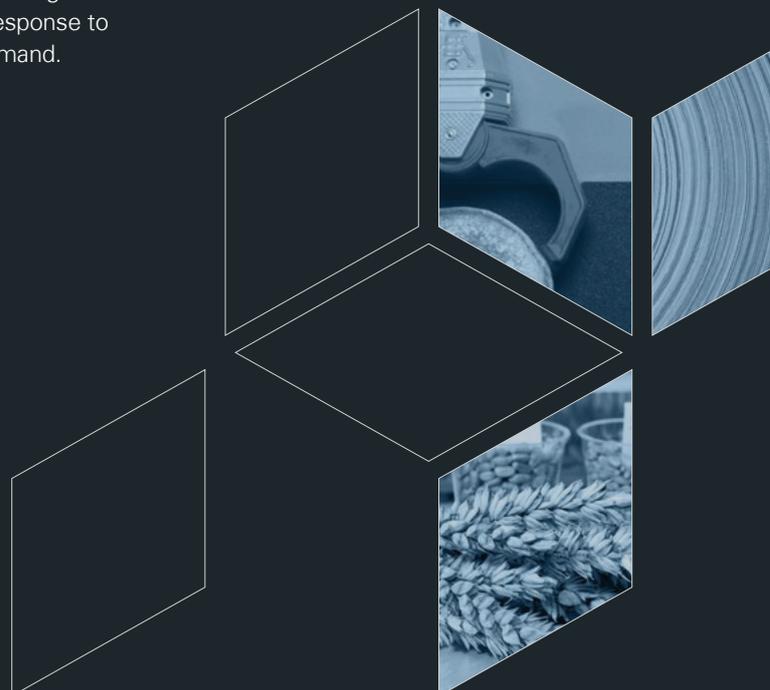


With the growing global focus on preventative healthcare, we're seeing increasing synergies between food producers and nutraceutical companies. As the gap between medicine and nutrition grows ever-closer, pharmaceutical companies will leverage the trend towards superfood diets. Food companies are already repositioning themselves as nutritional businesses, providing scientifically-enhanced functional foods. For instance, Nestlé recently announced they are looking to divest their under-performing US confectionery arm, in response to changing consumer demand.

### Food delivery



Food delivery apps and the plethora of home-delivered meal-kits have dramatically changed the concept of consumer food shopping. Amazon went a step further this month – creating a tool called Amazon Key, which allows couriers to open the front door and deliver food inside the home.



### Packaging innovation



From the brown paper bag to edible-algae wrap...food packaging has entered a new era. The new breed of science-based packaging products not only reduce waste and protect the environment; they're also delivering business-led benefits for storage, transport, shelf-life and export.

### Connecting to consumers



The 'gamification' of food is providing a fresh new way for producers to connect with their consumers, and remain connected. For instance, US-based Wise Snacks recently launched augmented reality packaging for their Cheez Doodles product. The scannable barcode opens a mini AR pitching game, in order to engage with their snack-eating baseball fans.

### Personalisation of food



Is the multi-billion dollar diet industry about to be turned on its head? Some believe so. Technology that delivers personalised nutrition advice is being embraced by consumers. One example is Habit, an online offering that combines DNA analysis, blood type and lifestyle factors to design an individual's nutrition plan.



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To help our clients plan for their future, KPMG New Zealand has developed a process called The Foresight Model. Using this proven process, we can help create an agile, intelligent strategic plan that is alive to all future possibilities.

# KPMG Agri-Food Foresight Solutions

Most Agri-Food businesses are facing the same challenge – the need to bridge the gap between today's practices and methods, and what will be required in the future.

To stay connected to a consistently accelerating industry, KPMG has launched a new platform: Agri-Food Foresight Solutions dedicated to global trends and predictions in agribusiness and food.

It's crucial that agri-food businesses have a real-time view of how global markets are evolving, and are keeping a close eye on the 'new shoots' of future disruption.

KPMG's Agri-Food Foresights team have spent the last four years watching and commenting on these trends. With the launch of KPMG Agri-Food Foresight Solutions, we are making it easier for businesses of all sizes to gain access to these insights.

Disruption is already upon the agri-food sector, and it's become imperative to challenge traditional assumptions around market trends. As part of KPMG's suite of growth solutions, Agri-Food Foresights provides access to information, tools and experts that can help governors, managers and teams interpret and respond to changes as they are identified.

The service provides scaled subscription levels to enable organisations to gain the depth of insight appropriate to their requirements.

Given the volatility and uncertainty inherent in the industry today, external perspectives and independent analysis can assist you in deciphering the key strategies that will contribute to success.



1



## The Connector

- + Quarterly insights on the developments surrounding agri-food innovation
- + Delivered in a concise slide pack
- + Backed by references to source information
- + Perfect for individuals, farming businesses and early-stage companies wanting to understand the evolving industry ecosystem

2



## Insights Plus

- + Deeper insights on disruption relevant to your business and the markets in which you operate
- + Select your targeted areas of interest from our menu of options; we will provide these insights to you in a bimonthly Board-ready package
- + Designed for small to medium-sized organisations

3



## The Deep Dive

- + Highly tailored analysis of trends relevant to your specific business
- + Presented in packages ready for presentation to Board and Senior Executive teams at an agreed frequency
- + Relevant insights from and connecting to the wider KPMG team
- + Includes attendance by KPMG experts at workshop sessions during the year
- + Geared towards large export businesses

For further information please contact:



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— INTRODUCING —

# Accelerating Export.

By 2025, trade will be powered by new tools of technology-driven collaboration. **Accelerating Export** is a new service offering from KPMG, designed to help New Zealand companies begin their export journey, streamline their business in-market, and capture greater rewards by moving up the value chain.

[kpmg.com/nz/accelerating-export](https://kpmg.com/nz/accelerating-export)

Let's land  
there  
together.

# Harnessing Growth

## Accelerating exports to fuel prosperity

Aotearoa New Zealand has been exporting for 225 years...it is the lifeblood of our economy and fuels our prosperity – but it is not safe from disruption. The digitisation of logistical processes, coupled with changing consumers demands, are presenting both challenges and a new wave of opportunities. We believe New Zealand has reached a level of global exporting and manufacturing maturity where we are now poised to fully realise and push the boundaries to accelerate our growth.

To embrace this new age, KPMG New Zealand has created a new offering called Accelerating Export; specifically designed to help Kiwi businesses achieve more in new markets.



KPMG Accelerating Export launch packs

We are now providing exporters with access to experts and solutions for the most complex of challenges during the exporting journey...from origination, through to delivery and optimisation.

But perhaps more importantly, Accelerating Export goes deeper to understand global consumers and their expectations, to optimise digital supply chains, and to manage compliance risk and reputation in-market.

// It's time to change where we play in the value chain – by getting our products closer to the plate //

**In 2015, New Zealand exported a total of \$37 billion in agri-food products alone – yet those same products ultimately generated more than \$0.25 trillion dollars in global retail sales. Closing this gap is our focus.**

Accelerating Export provides a range of targeted, high-impact services to a select group of export clients. Our goal is to help those clients unearth fresh opportunities in global markets and achieve accelerated growth.



To communicate this opportunity we hosted an event giving select export clients the chance to hear from a panel of global and local ("Glocal") experts on food retailing in China, the digital tools needed to protect brand reputation, and consumer research in Japan and China. Clients were then treated to an experience at the Taste of Auckland Expo.



KPMG staff and guests at the Taste of Auckland expo

If you or anyone in your network is considering exporting their product – or is already in-market and looking to optimise their returns – our team is here to assist. More information on our Accelerating Export offering, along with short video presentations from our launch speakers, are available on the [KPMG website](#).

By ensuring producers move up the supply chain to be closer to their consumers, we can create an enhanced and sustainable export industry that will help fuel New Zealand's prosperity. ●



**Simon Hunter**  
Partner, Prosperity

# Meet our new Leaders



**Darshana Elwela**  
Partner – Tax  
KPMG in New Zealand

Darshana joined KPMG in 2007 and has over 15 years' experience as a tax advisor and senior IRD policy official. Based in Auckland, he specialises in funds management and international taxation issues. Darshana is heavily involved in working with Tax Officials and Government on various tax policy and technical matters.

 [View Darshana's Profile](#)



**Geordie Hooft**  
Partner – Tax  
KPMG in New Zealand

After several years as a tax partner, Geordie joined KPMG in 2017. His background of dealing with a wide range of businesses (including listed, owner-managed, and not-for-profits) has given Geordie considerable experience in a range of tax issues. This includes domestic corporates and trusts, cross-border issues, property transactions and indirect taxes.

 [View Geordie's Profile](#)



**Craig Jakich**  
Director – Enterprise  
KPMG in New Zealand

Craig is a Director in our Ashburton office and provides business advisory services to family businesses and SMEs in the wider Canterbury area. He brings over 15 years' local and international experience to the firm; having worked across a range of compliance, restructure, and merger and acquisition issues; both as an external advisor and as an in-house Tax Manager for Vector Ltd.

 [View Craig's Profile](#)



**Nicholas Moss**  
Director – Audit  
KPMG in New Zealand

Nick is a Director based in Auckland and works in our financial services audit team. He has 12 years' experience in the insurance sector both here and overseas. More recently Nick has been involved in presenting training to general insurers and specialising in the leasing, mining and exploration, and construction industries.

 [View Nicholas' Profile](#)



**Ann Au**  
Director – Audit  
KPMG in New Zealand

Ann is an Auckland-based Director in the financial services audit team, primarily servicing life insurance companies. She has more than 15 years of audit experience specialising in securitized reinsurance vehicles covering property-catastrophe reinsurance risks and mortality risks.

 [View Ann's Profile](#)



A Wild in Art event presented by  
Child Cancer Foundation

# KPMG is proud to announce our official sponsorship of the Haier Big Hoot Auckland 2018.

The Haier Big Hoot project is presented by Child Cancer Foundation in partnership with the international creator of the event, Wild in Art. The goal for this project is to raise funds to help Child Cancer Foundation continue with the wonderful work they do, providing support to families, parents and children impacted by child cancer.

The Haier Big Hoot will run in Auckland for ten weeks, beginning in March 2018. Forty-seven striking owl sculptures and 60 owlets designed by school children (including one by our partner school, Edmund Hillary School) will form a trail across Auckland, delivering a spectacular visual story for visitors, tourists and local communities - and positively contributing to the cultural and social life of the city.

Our artists, Bernie Harfleet and Donna Turtle Sarten, have designed our KPMG owl, titled Full Moon Ruru. They drew inspiration from the Waitakere Ranges, where

New Zealand's small forest-dwelling owl, the Ruru (Morepork) calls out the story of his day most nights.

At the conclusion of the trail, the large owls will be auctioned off to raise vital funds for Child Cancer Foundation.

We are excited to be a sponsor of this event as it aligns closely with our vision, values and purpose – to fuel the prosperity of New Zealand - and it reflects our commitment to helping improve the health, wealth and lasting well-being of all New Zealanders. Keep an eye out for Ruru and we will be “hooting” about more KPMG events early next year.



**For more information about the Haier Big Hoot check out:**

<http://www.thebighoot.co.nz/> and for a little more on our talented artists see <http://donnaturtlesarten.com>



# ASB MAGS farm development

## Supporting New Zealand's future agribusiness leaders

**Emma Wheeler** – Manager, Agri-Food KPMG

**Y**ou may not expect to find a thriving farm in the heart of Auckland's suburbs. Yet there is a 8.2-hectare working farm, attached to Mount Albert Grammar School, which is being used to inspire and educate our next generation of agri-food producers.

The farm dates back to 1932, when local authorities saw city children were losing knowledge of farming practices – and asked Mount Albert Grammar School (known as MAGS), to teach agriculture and horticulture.

The farmland was acquired by the Auckland Savings Bank (now ASB Bank) who have generously supported the farm over the years. Fast-forward to 2015, when plans were announced to develop the farm into a world-class teaching facility and Experience Centre, after the school and ASB entered into a new 99-year lease.

The project is being led by the MAGS Foundation, together with ASB and KPMG as lead partners; and supported by involvement of other KPMG clients Te Tumu Paeroa, Ravensdown, PGG Wrightson, Plant and Food Research, Fonterra and MPI.





Immense work has been done in shaping and articulating a vision to turn the farm into a world-class Agricultural education and Experience Centre to inspire and host 20,000 students a year from all over Auckland. The Centre also creates the opportunity for overseas visitors to utilise the space and showcase New Zealand's commitment to producing the best agri-food products the world.

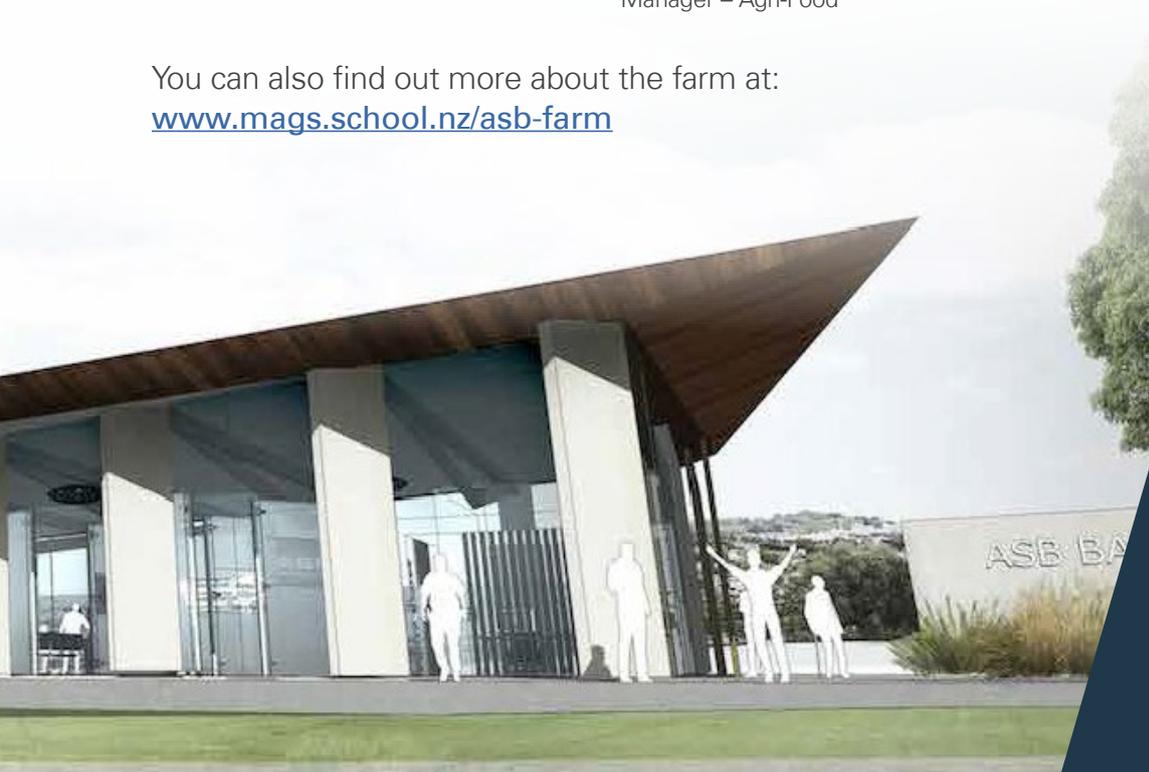
KPMG's support of this programme is extensive and has included: vision setting, business case creation, and ongoing governance from KPMG's Global Head of Agribusiness, Ian Proudfoot, and Agri-food Manager, Emma Wheeler. KPMG's support also extends to ensuring that the profile of this initiative is part of our marketing and agri focused events; and that we are driving the creation of a prosperous future for New Zealand's agribusiness sector.

If you know of any potential contributors that would like to be a part of driving the prosperity of our primary industry through education and inspiration, please get in touch with Ian Proudfoot or Emma Wheeler. ●



**Emma Wheeler**  
Manager – Agri-Food

You can also find out more about the farm at:  
[www.mags.school.nz/asb-farm](http://www.mags.school.nz/asb-farm)



# Realising opportunities in a disrupted world

Our disrupted world requires every business to think differently. At KPMG we recognise that our clients are looking for more than our traditional services. We are investing heavily in bringing experts into our business with the skills to help our clients prosper into the future.

Our clients are looking for different perspectives and insights to help them understand the opportunities ahead, while bringing fresh approaches to working through challenges. We then help put this thinking into action – whether that’s refining the infrastructure to deliver, or mapping the flight path for a changing world.

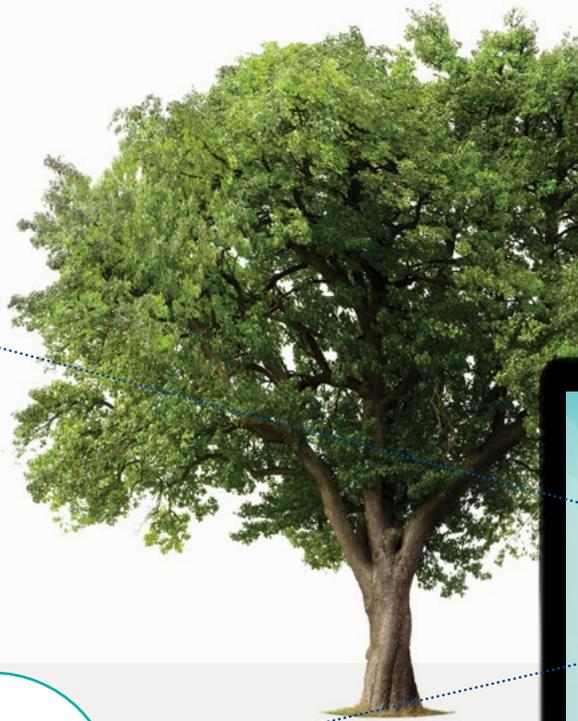
## Māori Business Team



**Trevor Newland**  
Partner  
Audit



**Riria Te Kanawa**  
Director  
Performance



We’re passionate about helping New Zealand’s small to medium-size businesses reach their full potential. Our Enterprise DNA programme is based on eight traits that high performing businesses share. Over the course of the programme, we work with you to build these traits into your business and enable your high performance. If you are enthusiastic and open to change in order to get to the next step on your journey, we can help.

## Enterprise DNA



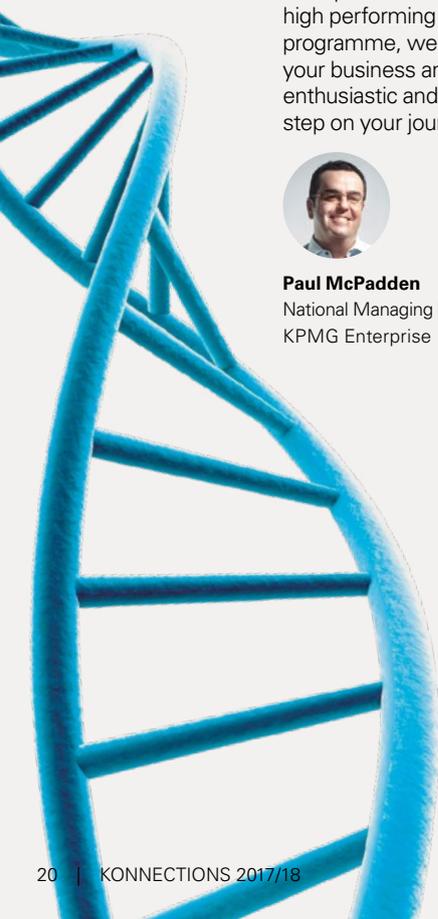
**Paul McPadden**  
National Managing Partner  
KPMG Enterprise



**Andrew Hawkes**  
Partner  
KPMG Enterprise



**Richard Campbell**  
Director  
KPMG Enterprise



InnovateNZ is a national innovation and business growth community that helps provide a supportive eco-system for Kiwi companies to connect, innovate and grow. Programmes include forums, nationwide access to experts, investor introductions, online business resources and events. The NZ Innovation Awards and Innovation Heroes series celebrate and profile Kiwi innovators. For more see [innovationcouncil.org.nz](http://innovationcouncil.org.nz)

## InnovateNZ



**Craig Cotton**  
Director  
InnovateNZ



## Digital Futures and Foresight

Traditional approaches are falling short in the face of disruptive technologies and new business models. KPMG's Digital Futures and Foresight offering provides the foundation for innovation, agility and readiness for emergent change. It enables leaders to explore future worlds and develop a collective understanding of preferred scenarios. Only by continuing to engage in such future-focused thinking can leaders ensure they take advantage of emerging technologies and avoid being surprised by underlying trends, uncertainties and disruptors.



**Steven Graham**  
Director  
Digital Strategy

## Accelerating Export

New Zealand has reached a level of global exporting and manufacturing maturity where we are now poised to push the boundaries and really accelerate our growth. To embrace this new age, KPMG has created a new approach, 'Accelerating Export,' designed to help Kiwi businesses achieve more once in-market.

We are now providing exporters with access to experts and solutions for the most complex challenges during the exporting journey: from origination, through to operation and optimisation.



**Simon Hunter**  
Partner  
Performance



**Maree O'Neill**  
Manager  
Performance



**Patrice Feary**  
Director  
Enterprise

## Cognitive and Analytic Platforms

The future will belong to those who harness data and use it to fuel innovation. We can help you bring this to life with rapid time-to-value by leveraging Cloud Cognitive platforms. Combining this data with all kinds of sensors (Internet of Things) with cognitive technologies such as machine learning will result in new insights and possibilities.



**Andrew Tubb**  
Partner  
Advisory



**Mike Clarke**  
Partner  
Advisory

## Farm Enterprise

Farm Enterprise combines a practical knowledge of farming with a real passion for helping farming businesses evolve and thrive in the fast-changing world of food and agribusiness. We work alongside farmers tailoring practical solutions that inspire them to find opportunity in challenge, and set them up to succeed.



**Roger Wilson**  
Partner  
Farm Enterprise



**Brent Love**  
Director  
Farm Enterprise



**Julia Jones**  
Specialist  
Farm Enterprise

## Strategy and Performance

Achieving sustainable growth is a top agenda item for CEOs. Companies are targeting aggressive growth strategies in response to structural shifts caused by new technologies, changing regulations, evolving customer needs and sector convergence. Our Strategy & Performance team helps organisations to achieve and sustain their growth ambitions.



**Ian Williamson**  
Partner  
Performance



**Tuhi Isaachsen**  
Director  
Performance



# Work hard, play hard

KPMG in the business, social and community environments



25 6

KPMG Auckland  
Spring Carnival Ball



12 5

[CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

"Reinventing the Wheel"  
event with KPMG  
Richard Threlfall



7 9

[CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

"Future of Corporate  
Reporting in  
New Zealand" event



8 5

[CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

Infrastructure  
New Zealand Building  
Nations Symposium  
in Wellington



14 9

Golf Day Auckland



17 11

Auckland Social Club  
Ski Trip to Turoa



23 13

Wellington Enterprise  
Volunteer day at  
Taita School



17 3

A&P show Ashburton



15 11

KPMG's Network of  
Wāhine New Zealand



4 5

A&P show Christchurch



31 15

As part of our nationwide Partner  
Schools programme, KPMG's  
Tauranga office helped fund the  
Kapa haka uniforms for  
Merivale School



35 3

[CLICK TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

"Accelerating Export"  
panel discussion



28 13

Auckland Enterprise  
Volunteer day at  
Edmund Hillary School



46 16

KPMG helping out at  
Ronald McDonald House



# KPMG Field Notes app.

Now available in the field, the office or anywhere you are.

KPMG New Zealand invites you to receive Field Notes through our brand new app; KPMG Field Notes. Keep up-to-date as we share our field notes stories, insights, blogs and services through our new digital channel.

## Download now!

Search "KPMG Field Notes" on your iOS & Andriod devices.



Up-to-date news articles across the agri-food sector at your finger tips



Listen and watch updates on agri-food topics straight from your device

Thought leadership blogs on hot topics in agri-food

Get in touch with our KPMG specialists across a range of services

# Keeping you Konnected

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## Careers

### Auckland

**Vivek Singh** (Audit) is now a Financial Controller at Nexus.

**Mike Hawkins** (Private Enterprise) has just moved back to NZ after 11 years in the UK.

### Christchurch

**Patrick Thompson** (Private Enterprise) is now a Customer Success Business Partner at Anaplan.

**Tim Best** (Audit) is now a Financial Analyst at Silver Fern Farms

**Roger Nuttall** (Enterprise) is now the Group Financial Controller at Ryman Healthcare

**Polly Chen** (Audit) is now a Corporate Accountant at AgResearch

**Joel Chakson** (Audit) is now a Group Accountant at Tait Communications

**Helen Peters** (Tax) is now the Tax and Treasury Manager at Tait Communications

**Kieran Hayes** (Tax) is now a Commercial Manager at Dairyworks NZ Ltd

### Tauranga

**Julianne Keast** (Audit) is now the acting CFO at Comvita Limited

### Wellington

**Felicity Stickney** (Audit) is now the Group Finance Manager at Real Journeys.

**Blair McLachlan** (Audit) is now a Vineyard Supervisor at Peregrine Wines.

**Charlie Wright** (Corporate Finance) is now an Infrastructure/ PE Fund manager at Foresight Group in London.

**Alecia Love** (IARCS) is now a Senior Programme Advisor at Oranga Tamarika Advisor

**Michael Boyd** (IARCS) is now a Senior Internal Auditor at the NZ Transport Agency

## Retirement

**Grace Neal** (Wellington Deal Advisory) after over 20 years at KPMG, Grace has now retired.

## Births

**Julie Lewis** (Wellington Tax) welcomed twin boys on 4 June 2016 called Jordan and Nate Lewis.

**Marale Du Plessis** (Wellington Tax) welcomed Colette Du Plessis on 25 June 2017.

**Joanne Wood** (Wellington Tax) welcomed Cerys Wood on 14 November 2017.

**Kate Gibson** (Christchurch Audit) and her husband Chad welcomed their daughter Sophie.

**Mitch Bennett** (Christchurch Audit) and his wife Brooke welcomed their daughter Paige.

**Matt Moir** (Christchurch Audit) and his wife Charlotte welcomed twins Madeleine and Edward

## Marriages

**Felicity Stickney and Blair McLachlan** (Wellington Audit) got married at the start of this year and have moved back to NZ after a few years in London.

**Luke Norman** (Wellington Deal Advisory) and his partner, Emma got married on 7 January 2017 at Tarureka Estate in the Wairarapa.

**Charlie Wright** (Wellington Corporate Finance) got married last year.

**Michael Earby** (Wellington Audit) has just become engaged to his partner, Tab. Michael and Tab are coming back to New Zealand in February 2018 to get married.

## Bereavements

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends of our past colleagues.

**Athol Mann** a former Partner and Chairman of KPMG and Executive Partner at Peat Marwick Mitchell in New York sadly passed away in November 2017.

# Contacts

KPMG has a network of Agri-specialists in our offices throughout New Zealand. Please get in touch with one of our contacts below.

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## Season's Greetings

This holiday season, in lieu of cards, KPMG will be supporting our local partner schools with donations and gifts for the kids.

MERRY CHRISTMAS  
FROM US ALL AT KPMG

# FUELLING PROSPERITY

