

Exercise 1: Answer

Māori Market big success

Buyers snapped up more than \$1 million worth of contemporary Māori art at the Māori Market, held at the TSB Bank Arena last weekend.

There were about 7000 visitors at the event, checking out more than 100 artists' work.

Notes

The amount spent on the art is a stronger, more concrete angle. Also, the when needed to be more specific.

Exercise 2: Answer

Volunteers retire

After more than 45 years helping Dunedin's homeless and needy, two St Kilda volunteers are hanging up their soup ladles.

Bernard Jones and Patrick White, both 78, are two of the longest-serving volunteers at the Compassion Centre soup kitchen in Taupo St.

Notes

This angle is more creative, giving a more human dimension to this simple story and emphasising the local angle. The fact they are two of the longest-serving volunteers is also newsworthy and needs to be high in the story.

Exercise 3: Answer

Three dead in school bus crash

Three people were killed when a school bus collided with a car driven by a 14-year-old boy near Makara Beach yesterday morning.

Killed were the bus driver, Tuakana Hohepa Ngere, 42, of Johnsonville, Gordon Keith Souness, 11, of Newlands, a passenger in the bus, and the driver of the car, Ken Joseph Torry, 14, of Makara Village.

Ten other members of the bus party from Newlands School were injured: two teachers, one parent and seven children. Three people were admitted to Wellington Hospital with serious injuries.

The crash happened at 10.45am, about two kilometres from Makara Beach.

The Newlands Bus Services coach was carrying 45 children, the two teachers and four parents on a farm visit.

“It was awful,” teacher Julie Smith said.

“The car came around the corner going really fast for the road conditions. It was inevitable that we would hit.

“There was a loud, thumping bang. The bus lurched to the right, bounced over the grass verge through the hedge and ploughed into the house...Some [of the pupils] were scared, some were hurt, but there was very little panic or screaming.

“It all happened so fast.”

The owner of the house hit by the bus, Carlene McDonald, 74, said the crash sounded like an earthquake.

“I was having a cup of tea in the kitchen at the back of those house when there was such a terrific crash and the house rocked...It almost jolted me off my chair.

“I got quite a shock when I rushed outside to see what had happened and the bus was halfway into my lounge.”

Enquiries were continuing into the cause of the accident.

Notes

The deaths are the most newsworthy aspect of this story and must be in the lead. This was a serious accident.

The bridge must then immediately and clearly identify those killed. This is what readers will want to know.

Strong quotes are used to support the strong intro.