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AWARDS

WORLD CLASS
NEW ZEALAND

World Class New Zealand Awards 2013 – Category Winners

Category: Life Sciences
Winner: Dr Doug Cleverly



Dr Doug Cleverly is a self-confessed “hair-on-fire-type” – happiest when the sparks fly as science meets commerce.

With a rare mix of talents in research and business, he has built an international enterprise making healthcare products for creatures great and small – from cattle to kittens.

Argenta is the world’s first contract research and manufacturing company dedicated to animal health, with a rapidly rising share of the global market.

It now exports to around 40 countries and has two subsidiaries in its key United States market.

Argenta creates products that customers want by giving small teams autonomy, and choosing scientists with people skills and common sense as well as grey matter.

Doug believes the secret to global success for Kiwis is to maximize the problem-solving genius of the “number 8 fencing wire” mentality, while minimizing the dangers of the “she’ll be right” attitude.


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Category: Creative
Winner: Annabel Langbein



Annabel Langbein is on the threshold of what she calls “world domination by spatula”.

The television cook, food writer and publisher has found herself an overnight success – after more than 20 years of labour over a hot stove and a blank page.

Her best-selling books and her television series *Annabel Langbein The Free Range Cook* are carrying her brand of fresh, delicious and accessible food around the planet.

Set against the stunning backdrop of her family’s Lake Wanaka cabin, they demonstrate her philosophy that cooking can feed you life, not just your appetite.

Annabel learned her craft while living off the land and around the world – doing everything from jumping out of a deer recovery chopper in the Ureweras to running a croissant business in Brazil, picking grapes in France and studying horticulture in Canterbury.

She has so far written 19 cookbooks, which have sold a total of around two million copies worldwide, and her television show has screened in 84 countries.


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Category: Investment and Business
Winner: Judith Hanratty CVO OBE



Judith Hanratty is a game-changer – one of the most influential people in modern corporate governance.

A barrister from Wellington, she has broken new ground in the global energy, insurance and education sectors.

As Company Secretary at British Petroleum Group (BP) in the United Kingdom, she pioneered models for corporate governance and social responsibility, and in insurance she evolved new ways of financing cover for rare and severe risks.

She has been a member of the Council of Lloyd's of London and the UK's Competition Commission and Gas and Electricity Markets Authority.

She is now a non-executive Director of reinsurance company Partner Re [NYSE], and Chairman of the Commonwealth Education Trust, which she rescued and reinvented.

Judith has an OBE for services to the oil and gas industry and is a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

She is also a former New Zealand golf international who has maintained a single-figure handicap throughout her business career, and sits on the board of England Golf.

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Category: Information and Communications
Winner: Geraldine McBride



Geraldine McBride is a global expert in corporate evolution.

A zoology major from Wellington, she has taken into the information business her grasp of the natural world's imperative: adapt or die.

Geraldine has risen to key roles in one of the world's largest business software companies, SAP, by setting audacious goals and then exceeding them.

In postings for IT giants on every continent bar Antarctica, her transformational leadership has repeatedly delivered exceptional results.

She has been invited to address the World Economic Forum and the European Union, and has appeared on the cover of *Chief Executive Magazine* as one of a dozen leaders who exemplify the vanguard that is forging the new global economy.

She has also brought her business skills back to her alma mater – Victoria University of Wellington – as an advisor to the Centre of Biodiversity and Restoration Ecology.

Geraldine is now at work co-founding a global next-generation technology business from New Zealand.


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Category: Manufacturing, Design & Innovation
Winner: Bill Buckley CNZM



Bill Buckley's imprint is somewhere inside almost every computer, smartphone and digital appliance you own.

He is the sole owner of Buckley Systems Limited – the maker of the electromagnets used to create around 90 per cent of the world's silicon chips, which drive virtually every piece of electronic technology on earth.

Turning seventy, and after almost four decades in business, he now dominates the global market for precision electromagnets. These are used not just to implant the ions that make silicon chips work, but to treat cancer, run security scanners, make solar panels and flat-screen TVs, carbon-date objects and drive the giant particle accelerators at the bleeding edge of physics.

With about 60 per cent of this total market, Bill is renowned in the hi-tech business as a laid-back engineering genius of few words, who doesn't take no for an answer and moves on opportunities like a speeding particle.

But many Kiwis know him only for another kind of acceleration – as the devoted promoter and benefactor of the Western Springs speedway track.

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Category: New Thinking
Winner: Rob Fyfe



Rob Fyfe leads from the front.

Not one to demand his troops do something he wouldn't, the former CEO of Air New Zealand has appeared in one TV ad in nothing but body paint, and streaked naked on the set of another to encourage a bashful actor.

But it's an even more risky act on which his reputation rests – the execution of a spectacular 180-degree turn in the fortunes of our national carrier.

Rob reimagined a small airline as a nimble one, able to survive an era of rocketing fuel prices and plummeting economies. He turned the tyranny of distance into a victory for innovation in everything from fuel efficiency to seat design.

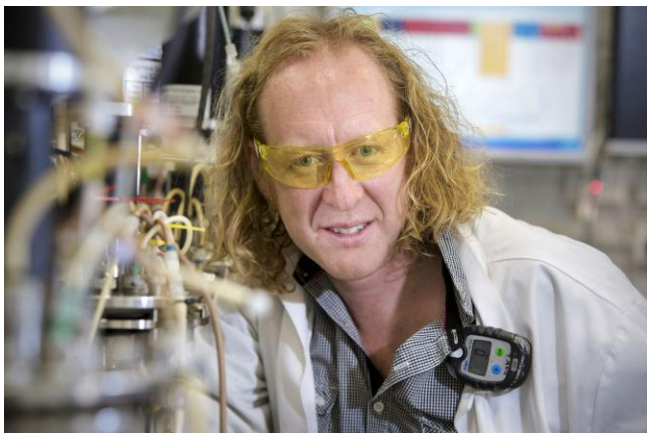
By encouraging staff to be themselves, he awakened a moribund corporate culture. And when he fronted up to the Perpignan and Erebus tragedies – he did so as a human being as well as a CEO.

Over Rob's seven-year tenure, as many other airlines failed, Air New Zealand consistently made a profit, and was twice named the best airline in the world.


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Category: Science, Technology and Academia
Winner: Dr Sean Simpson



Dr Sean Simpson is on the verge of a breakthrough in sustainable fuels — with a bit of biotech wizardry that's a little like brewing beer.

Sean is the Chief Scientific Officer and Co-founder of LanzaTech, which uses microbes to convert waste gases into fuels and valuable chemicals.

The company is in the final stages of commercialising a microbe that ferments ethanol out of the carbon monoxide from steel mills, and is working on other products including jet fuel.

LanzaTech is collaborating with steel mill, refinery and waste disposal operators in China, India, South Korea and Malaysia, and with the energy, defence and aviation industries in the United States.

Investors include the likes of global clean-tech guru Vinod Khosla and The Warehouse founder Sir Stephen Tindall.

The company is getting set to commercialise other microbes that make the chemical building blocks for plastics, paint, rubber, nylon and hydrocarbon fuels.

Meanwhile Sean is now at work on a new microscopic sensation – a microbe that consumes the key greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide.