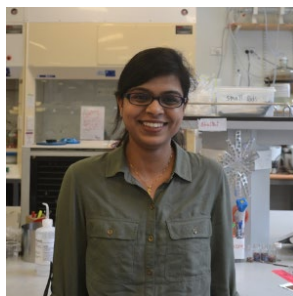
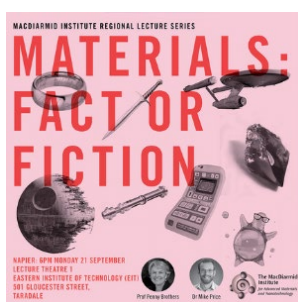




The MacDiarmid Institute

for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology

News and Updates



[Materials: Fact or Fiction](#)

Our annual Regional Lecture Series kicks off next week in Napier. Based on '[Materials: Fact or Fiction](#)', our collaboration with [RNZ Nights](#), this year MacDiarmid researchers delve into the periodic table to give us their scientific take on whether fictional materials from Star Wars, Dr Who, Harry Potter and more, could be reality in a not too far off future.

[MacDiarmid spinout with recycling breakthrough wins C-Prize](#)

MacDiarmid researcher [Associate Professor Aaron Marshall](#) and alumnus Jonathan Ring won Callaghan Innovation's prestigious [C-Prize](#) for their innovative University of Canterbury startup Zincovery, which recycles acid waste from the steel industry.

[Three MacDiarmid Institute finalists for the KiwiNet Research Commercialisation Awards](#)

Aaron Marshall was also selected as a KiwiNet Research Commercialisation Awards finalist along with MacDiarmid Emeritus Investigator [Professor Jim Johnson](#) and alumnus [Dr Eldon Tate](#). Winners will be announced on 15 October.

[Aluminium battery research](#)

Our alumna Shalini Divya presented her [aluminium battery research](#) at a lunchtime session at 'Downstream', a two-day energy sector strategic summit in Wellington in August.

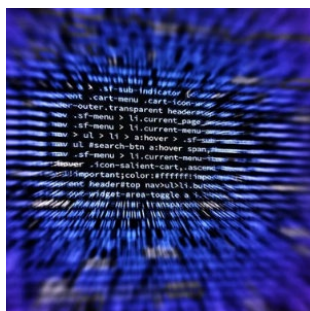
[New Zealand researchers at 'turning point' with solar paint project](#)

Newshub featured the work of MacDiarmid researcher [Dr Nate Davis](#) who is close to creating paint that generates electricity. The solar paint contains luminescent molecules that absorb and emit light and is set to revolutionise sustainable energy.



[15 Minutes Smarter](#)

The latest episode of our new podcast - 15 Minutes Smarter – is out on our website, [Otago Access Radio](#), [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#). Jono and Claire talk about what energy is, how coal is renewable if you are just prepared to wait, and chat to [Professor Justin Hodgkiss](#) about the power of solar power.



[Deep tech and the Māori economy can be the backbone of NZ's recovery](#)

Deputy Director [Associate Professor Geoff Wilmott](#) writes about how the tech sector is well-placed to lead New Zealand's recovery from Covid-19. Deep tech provides a chance for that recovery to be sustainable and values-led – an approach already bringing success to the Māori economy.



[Five alternatives to aluminium at Tiwai](#)

[Co-Director Nicola Gaston](#) discusses different options for the future use of electricity from Tiwai Point that offer a path to a zero-carbon economy, like developing energy storage, silicon solar panels and green data centres.



[National New Energy Centre opens in Taranaki](#)

Co-Director [Professor Justin Hodgkiss](#) spoke with Jesse Mulligan on RNZ about the launch of [Ara Ake](#) (formerly known as the National New Energy Development Centre, NNEDC) and why the new centre will help speed up the development of clean and renewable energy.



[Ambitious proposals for surplus electricity once Tiwai closes](#)

Professors [Sally Brooker](#) and [David Williams](#) discuss clean and sustainable options for using surplus energy from the Manapouri power station to create more jobs in Southland.



[DiscoveryCamp addresses the low numbers of Māori and Pasifika in science](#)

Our annual DiscoveryCamp programme gives Māori and Pasifika high school students a taste of life as a scientist. Teuila Fuatai from [The Spinoff](#) finds the experience often leads to much more.



[DiscoveryCamp 2021](#)

We've had our highest number of applications ever for DiscoveryCamp 2021. Now in its 11th year, the camp gives Māori and Pasifika students with a passion for the sciences a chance to enhance their scientific knowledge and help them carve out a potential career in science and technology.



[NanoCamp 2021](#)

A huge number of applications also for our NanoCamp 2021, a full week of lab experience for year 12 and 13 students completing hands-on investigations into a range of topics including electron microscopy, laser physics and nano-electronics.



[RadioNZ Nights' Materials: Fact or Fiction](#)

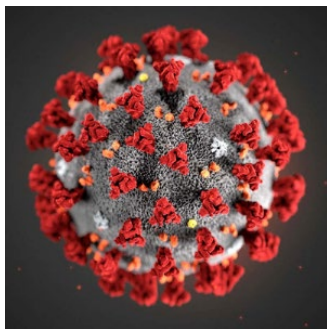
In our partnership with RadioNZ Nights, our researchers are explaining the science behind fictional materials in Game of Thrones, Star Trek, Wonder Woman and Star Wars.

During these unfamiliar times, once again independent science communication is helping us all navigate the current pandemic and the recent level changes.



[Toby Morris & Siouxsie Wiles at The Spinoff](#)

Our partner The Spinoff released the bumper Toby Morris and Siouxsie Wiles Covid-19 box set with all their illustrations and animations all in one place.



[Professor Shaun Hendy on Covid-19](#)

Professor Shaun Hendy is continuing his work and thinking on the spread and management of Covid-19.