

Coastal Storm Database - Event Summary

Date: 6-7 Apr 1948	Wind Direction: S
Event Type: Wave	Gisborne Duration (Hours): -
Location: Napier/Wellington	Wellington Duration (Hours): -
Origin: Southern Ocean	Pressure Gradient: SW
Type: Trough	

Synoptic Conditions

A deep cyclone passed eastward well south of NZ (near 55S) and was southeast of the South Island on the 6th. At the same time a large anticyclone was in the western Tasman sea.

Sea Conditions

Heavy seas on Wellington south coast

Impact Area

Napier

Wellington

Canterbury

Impacts and Damages

- Ship broke from moorings at Port
- Several coastal ships held up in Port due to high seas on south coast; ferry 'Arahura' turned back to Port due to huge waves at entrance
- Barretts Reef buoy broke from moorings
- Heavy seas on south coast and at Port entrance
- Waves at sea estimated to be over 40ft (12m) off Canterbury coast

Data Source

- 1 Winter is Here - Southerly Storm - Years Coldest Day: Evening Post, 8/04/1948, p8
- 2 Arahura Forced Back to Port by Terrific Seas: Dominion Post, 8/04/1948, p8
- 3 Vessel with Sheep Cargo Strikes High Seas off Chathams: Dominion Post, 8/04/1948, p8
- 4 Full Force Not Felt in Wellington: Dominion Post, 8/04/1948, p8
- 5 Roofs Lifted, Fences Flattened in Violent Hawkes Bay Storm: Dominion Post, 8/04/1948, p8
- 6 Ship Breaks Loose - Storm at Napier - Mooring Lines Broken: Gisborne Herald, 9/04/1948, p4
- 7 Gale Forces Ship to Put Back - Huge Seas at Wellington Heads: Gisborne Herald, 8/04/1948, p8