



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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Graeme Lay who spent his formative years in Opunake revisits the place that moulded his talent.

## Writer returns to his roots

One of New Zealand's foremost writers Graeme Lay visited Opunake on Thursday April 4. The prizewinning author is currently engaged in writing his memoirs and wanted to refresh his memory of where he spent his formative years, Opunake, although he was actually born in Foxton.

"More and more I realised that I was writing about Opunake," he commented when looking back on his 42 books and many published short sto-

ries. He added with a smile, "You can take the boy out of Opunake but you can't take Opunake out of the boy."

Graeme's family lived at 31 Ihaia Road in Opunake and his father Don was proprietor of one of the three grocery stores. Graeme attended Opunake High School and in his final year was Head Boy. He was also very involved as a surf lifesaver. He got to know the streets of Opunake thoroughly as he carried out his after school jobs as delivery person for the Taranaki Herald and the Taranaki Daily News. "I got to know every street and house in the town," he commented.

He had other jobs at different times, including as a barman at what is now called the Club Hotel (It was earlier called Middleton's Hotel). His boss was the rather grumpy Mr Burt who famously banned writer Ronald Hugh Morrieson and his friend Gordon 'Mac' Sole from his hotel in the 1960s. Graeme also worked for a time in the town's fizzy drink factory, which no longer exists.

It was at Opunake High School in the sixth form that he read 'An Affair of the Heart', a short story written

by New Zealand's most influential writer Frank Sargeson that changed his life. Graeme was profoundly affected by this sad story of a devoted mother who never gave up waiting for her absent son to come home again (he never did!); Graeme decided to become a writer.

Later, when Graeme was living in Auckland he came across Frank Sargeson, firstly spotting him in the Takapuna Post Office. "Who is that?" he asked a lady across the counter.

"That's Frank Sargeson the writer," was the reply.

"As you are aware there is a lot of luck in becoming a successful writer. My lucky break was meeting Frank Sargeson," explains Graeme. It happened like this; Graeme posted one of his short stories to Sargeson asking for analysis. The famous writer replied and made several useful suggestions. Up till then Graeme had only had rejections - all five of his submitted short stories had been turned down. After studying what Frank had to say, Graeme continued writing, keeping in mind what he had been told and his next three submissions were all accepted - two in magazine

publications and the third one for radio broadcast. "You do need a mentor to guide you." Graeme became a good friend of Frank's and is one of the so-called 'Sons of Sargeson', along with such notable writers as Maurice Duggan, CK Stead and Kevin Ireland. His first novel 'The Mentor' was partly based on Frank.

Graeme's memories of Opunake are mostly positive. "You can't return to a place like Opunake that's had an indelible influence on you without it evoking memories - which are mostly pleasant."

However, there were one or two teachers he considered "bad" and these inspired a number of short stories. The short story collection entitled 'Dear Mr Cairney (1985)' was based on a particular teacher at Opunake Primary School. "I saw him treat appallingly boys he didn't like. He was almost demented." (The teacher's name was not, incidentally, Mr Cairney.)

The Chinese Yep family, whose shop was once where Opunake Plus is now, also inspired some fiction, namely 'The Children of Wah' which was published in Thursday magazine, which has since gone out of circulation.

"They were the only exotic

people in Opunake. They fascinated me because they were so different."

Although Graeme has been a full time writer since 1996, he worked as a teacher for quite a few years in New Zealand and overseas. Before heading overseas and later to Auckland (1972), he studied at Victoria University in Wellington and graduated with a BA (hons) in 1966. His other jobs have included being the Book Editor for North and South magazine (1990 - 1999). He has also been a travel writer and his prowess in this field was recognised by three times being nominated for New Zealand's Travel Writer of the Year award.

Like his literary colleague, the late Maurice Shadbolt, meritorious recognition of his writing is extremely broad in scope and ranges from novels, to children's books (Twice finalist in the NZ Post Children's Book Awards), books reviews (1999 Reviewer of the Year in the Montana Book awards), travel and nonfiction. He has edited several collections of short stories, has judged literary competitions, including the Opunake Sesquicentennial Literary Competition.

Continued page 3

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# Letters to the Editor

## Americarna

In reference to Letter to the Editor dated March 28 "Americarna an embarrassment". Sorry, Gwenyth you have it all wrong on what "Americarna"

represents in this case. Not taking away on what you said about Donald Trump etc, I totally agree, but Americarna is all about celebrating the old and new cars made in

America and the culture of that era. Have you, Gwenyth ever been to the showcase on Devon Street in New Plymouth on the weekend of Americarna, try it, I'm sure you will like it, if not love it.

Jude Eltham

## Leave politics at home

Americana is a celebration of American designed and built cars, which give the participants and spectators much joy and fun. Gwenyth, why do you have to bring politics

into it, it is not a political rally. Instead of being embarrassed by this event, perhaps next time, leave the politics at home and join in with celebrating these amazing cars.

Stingray.  
Inglewood

## Christians overlooked

Forty nine Muslims killed

Egalitarian  
Rahott

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## ADELPHOS

The physical resurrection of Jesus is the beating heart in a Christian's faith. Without the Easter Sunday resurrection Christianity gets reduced to a mythology or moral sayings of just another prophet. The resurrection challenges us to ask both old and modern day questions like: "What would my life be like if Jesus was my Lord and Saviour?" or "How would Jesus deal with the Christchurch, New Zealand massacre?" or "Doesn't God care about children dying, tragedies and man's inhumanity to man?"

Jesus is relevant today because he is always a God of the present. He doesn't care about our past faults and sins. He's only interested in forgiving them right now.

## Choosing Life

He wants each of us to live in the present because he said the problems and worries of the day are often more than enough. He doesn't always wave a wand and take away our problems, but wants us to both take action and trust in his guiding presence. The resurrected Jesus is saying that I've got your backs. Because He promised in his very last words on earth, "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Jesus will always be with us once our faith and reason makes the decision to live and trust in his resurrection hope.

There's the living eyewitness resurrection evidence of well over 500 people. The resurrected Jesus was

seen numerous times during a forty day period before ascending to heaven: it took that long to convince his still unbelieving apostles. Reliable scholarship tells us the earliest written New Testament accounts were recorded from as early as 45-70 AD, while many of the eyewitnesses were still alive. It's a 20th century urban myth, concocted by atheists and over-educated liberal theologians, that the resurrection account is unreliable and the biblical writings were tales made up hundreds of years later.

The New Testament says that Jesus came as our second chance Adam—the one and only sinless person that ever lived. He died on the Good Friday cross to offer us for-

giveness for our inherited and fallen spiritual DNA nature.

Good Friday is a matter of death to our self-centeredness. Easter is a matter of choosing life that's dedicated to selflessly serving others with Jesus beating in our hearts. Choose the living resurrected Jesus. Choose life.

Adelphos

PS. While walking through the old Te Henui cemetery in New Plymouth, I noticed countless 19th and 20th century gravestone inscriptions with references to the resurrection, God and biblical quotations. In modern day Awanui cemetery they were hard to find something to think about.



## Easter Walk

8am - a breakfast at St Pauls church, Opunake

9am - we meet at the cenotaph for prayer and start our walk through Opunake

10am - we end our walk at St Paul' where we will have our Easter Friday service.

## What Easter is all about

The four churches in Opunake give a short message about Easter below.

### New life and new hope

Dear local community. The season of Easter brings us new life and new hope, when after 40 days of our reparations, prayer, fasting and almsgiving we gather together to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Easter is the turning point, inviting us to live in an entirely new way that goes beyond the limitations of this world. We are challenged to become part of a new creation, inspired by the life of God which is poured into our souls at our baptism. The best way we can give thanks to God for the gift of his life within us this Easter is by opening our hearts to the risen Jesus and by allowing ourselves to be sent out into the world to proclaim the Good News of Christ's love, peace and joy to all people we meet. May the peace of the risen Christ be with you always  
Father Vijay Dung Dung

### An incredible gift

On Good Friday the combined churches will walk with a cross around the streets of Opunake. Why you may ask. It's the time when we remember that Jesus Christ (God's only son) gave his life willingly as a sacrifice on our behalf. His sacrifice means that we can be forgiven and made clean and right in God's eyes. It also means that we can have a close relationship with God the Father and know that when we die we will be with him in Heaven. This is an incredible gift that he is offering to us, but like all gifts if we don't receive it, it won't become ours. After three days in a tomb Jesus rose again to new life proving that he had power over death and hell. That new life is still available to all who are willing to step out in faith and believe.  
Murray  
The Wave Church

### Love and Reconciliation

The last few weeks have been quite extraordinary, both in terms of the tragic events in Christchurch and the amazing response from everyday kiwis. The dark side of humanity shocked us, and in the mist of such overwhelming sadness a deep compassion, and a reconciling love emerged. As we approach Easter where many Christians celebrate the great demonstration of reconciling love Jesus Christ made, we are again reminded about the incredible capacity we have been given to love each other no matter what. May this spur us into action in our families, our schools, our relationships and our communities this Easter and beyond.

Blessings from Jennie McCullough, Mission Enabler@St Pauls

### God's Spirit is always at work

As I think of the happenings in New Zealand over the past few weeks, I am reminded of the events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus the Christ. God's Spirit is always at work, overcoming evil with light and love. Jesus was raised from death to life, and since March 15, a vast wave of light and love has ignited unity across Aotearoa. O God, of many names, continue to make Aotearoa/New Zealand a light to the nations. May your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

Rev Ian Sargeant.  
St Barnabas Opunake.

See details of the Easter Walk above

## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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# March 15<sup>th</sup> 2019

He who is nameless, killed fifty blameless,  
Shot thirty others, sisters and brothers,  
Without a thought, he fired his gun,  
We'll remember the date!

This massacre was tragic, no rhyme or reason,  
No time is ever right, no, not any season!  
How this man, so filled with hate  
Ended lives, families are broken,  
We remember the date!

We'll learn to care, a whole lot more,  
A lesson we've all been taught:  
Love each other, show that we've heard,  
Don't let this be for nought!

Thousands have been affected, right throughout the world,  
And the people of Christchurch, have suffered enough,  
The earthquakes, now these murders,  
We have to ask, can we all learn to love?  
Remember the date!

To think this killer was once a helpless babe,  
He was nurtured and card for,  
Loved and protected,  
He needs our prayers, can he be saved?  
Remember the date!

If we're full of hate like he was,  
We're no better than he,  
Let's pray for love and peace, for safer countries!  
We'll remember the date!

*Jenny Cavaney Opunake*



## Writer returns to his roots

*Continued from page 1.*

For over twenty years he was Secretary of the Frank Sargeson Literary Trust. He has even contributed to published collections of photography, such as 'Auckland and Beyond' (1998). Yet it is a recent Cap-

tain Cook trilogy which has been Graeme's best-selling literary endeavour. These include 'The Secret Life of Captain Cook' (2013), 'James Cook's New World' (2014) and 'James Cook's Lost World' (2015), which saw book sales catapulting

him to the very top of New Zealand's best-selling lists. Graeme has come a long way from receiving a cheque for \$11.24 for six months sales of an early book, which he never cashed; it is framed and hangs on his Devonport home's wall.

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# Annual Plan reduces rate increase

The South Taranaki District Council (STDC) is proposing a lower rate increase in its 2019/20 Annual Plan compared to what was initially projected in its 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

The Council, which approved its Annual Plan at its April 1 meeting, is proposing to reduce the total rate increase from 3.47% to 2.98%.

The effect on individual properties will vary due to the district wide property revaluation which took place in 2018, where commercial and residential properties saw a significant increase in value compared to rural properties which saw a more modest increase.

South Taranaki Mayor, Ross Dunlop, says he is pleased that Council has been able to reduce the projected rate increase.

“Our Council is always conscious of the need to keep any rate increases to a minimum, so we are

pleased that by keeping a tight control on expenditure, and savings made through lower borrowing costs, we have been able to reduce the 2019/20 rate increase from what was projected in year two of our Long Term Plan.”

Mayor Dunlop says Council’s focus for the next year continues to be on the revitalization of the Hāwera Central Business District, (primarily the development of the Library, culture and arts centre, Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga), development of town centre strategies for Eltham, Manaia, Opunake, Patea and Waverley, implementation of the District Pathways Programme and further improvements to the district’s water and wastewater infrastructure.

Other notable projects the Council is working on in 2019/2020 include;

- designing a new community facility in Manaia
- upgrading the Manaia swimming pool

- earthquake strengthening Patea’s Hunter Shaw building,
- installing fully contained ablution pods at Halse Place, Opunake and Waihi Beach Reserve
- building the Wainu Beach wastewater plant, Waverley Water Treatment Plant and pipe replacements

for Eltham Water Treatment Plant

- completing a feasibility study for an industrial park
  - developing of a district digital strategy and
  - building the Nukumaru Station Road extension south of Waverley.
- Mayor Dunlop also says

that due to changes to the Local Government Act, councils’ are no longer required to consult with the community on their annual plans if there are no significant changes from what was outlined in their Long Term Plans. “Because there are no significant changes and the

rate increase is actually lower than what was outlined in the Long Term Plan, the Council has decided not to do a formal Special Consultative Procedure. However, we are still giving the public an opportunity to provide feedback on the Plan if they wish to.”

## Elizabeth at Pitone Beach



“Elizabeth at Pitone Road Beach” is the third painting that I’ve done of characters from the TV series Poldark. They seem to spend a lot of time down at the beach in the series so I thought that I would relocate two of them, Elizabeth and Demelza to two New Zealand beaches, one in Taranaki and one in Auckland.

Both paintings can be seen in the foyer of Kingsroy Electric in Devon Street New Plymouth. (Next to the TSB Showplace).

Graham Kirk

## On this month in history Dave McKenzie wins the Boston Marathon

On April 19, 1967 David McKenzie from Westland in the South Island became the first New Zealander to win the prestigious Boston Marathon in the United States of America

The number of competitor entries was a record (601) and David McKenzie won in 2 hours 15 minutes and 45 seconds.

This event featured Kathrine Switzer who competed as a ‘numbered’ athlete, as opposed to

other women who ran as ‘unofficial’. An over-zealous official tried to remove Kathrine’s number during the race – doubtless a sexist gesture.

Fortunately, women were given official status to compete in 1972 on the same

basis as men competitors.

Hopefully, the male chauvinist official who harrassed Kathrine Switzer was not reappointed!

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# Jean Roach shares her memories

Local identity Jean Roach spoke at Opunake Library Plus on Wednesday April 3, as part of the South Taranaki Heritage and Family History Week, which has been organised by the Hawera Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists. Originally, Brian Vincent was scheduled to give this address, but had to withdraw for health reasons.

Jean gave a most interesting talk on her early memories of Taranaki after having arrived in 1960 from Birmingham, England where she was born and bred.

Jillian Williams, who is Convenor of the Hawera Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists, introduced Jean and spoke of the many activities her society has organised throughout South Taranaki for the week April 1 to Sunday April 7. Elsewhere, during the same day author Laraine Sole was speaking in Waverley, 'Bringing back Auntie Daisy' was featured in Hawera, a look through Mike Coils Museum in Eltham was on offer and an Open Day was held at Hawera Genealogy Rooms at 48 Union Street. Julie Ryde, Secretary of the same organisation as Jillian, was also present.

Jean, who was qualified as a secondary teacher in the UK, set off for New Zealand in 1960. She'd spotted an advertisement in a local publication seeking teachers in New Zealand. Getting to her new country was an adventure in itself. She travelled part of the way by airforce aeroplane and even stopped off at an airforce base in Iceland. Continuing en route, next was the United States, which was in the grip of the fear of nuclear war. She visited New York and San Francisco. 'Not to be opened except in the advent of nuclear war' read one unsettling sign she glanced at. Finally, via Hawaii and Fiji, she arrived in Auckland.



From left: Lorraine Ramsay, Val Wadsley, Jean Roach (guest speaker), Jillian Williams (Convenor) and Julie Ryde (Secretary).

She had two teaching options, a girls' school in Rotorua or Opunake High School. As she had already taught at a girls' school in England, she sought the new teaching experience of the Taranaki school, with her love of the sea a clinching factor. Jean taught for many years at Opunake High School with science her specialty.

Jean was shocked that the Maori students in the class sat in a group at the back of the classrooms. "This disturbed me." She is relieved that things have now changed, although not totally. Overall, she enjoyed the teaching. "The kids were great."

Before she met Peter Roach, whom she married, she initially lived in a teacher's hostel, which she shared with two other teachers. The rent was minimal, and was raised slightly when a much needed fridge was

eventually provided.

Later on, Jean spent about five or six years working for the Council in Customer Services, in the Napier Street building where this newspaper is situated. "I just loved it." However, she recalls a definite reaction when the Council trimmed a line of pohutukawa trees. "The phone went balmy, there was an uproar."

The New Zealand which Jean discovered back in the early 1960s was somewhat different from the one we know today. "There was 6 o'clock closing of pubs and the 6 o'clock swill."

"New Zealand was quite broke and struggling financially. You couldn't send money overseas and a ten shillings postal note was the limit. You couldn't buy baby clothes you had to make them."

After marrying Peter, Jean had four babies (sons) and washing was quite an issue. She had to make do with a ringer machine and later a twin tub one, but longed for an automatic version. However, there was a

waiting list mostly because the Fisher & Paykel motors were made in Australia and had to be imported.

The 110 acre farm Peter and Jean farmed was owned by Jean's mother-in-law (and others) and could be described as Maori land. It was divided into four paddocks. The first four years the couple farmed were tough, financially and otherwise. They did have

help from young people sent from Social Welfare, but later they were able to employ staff to help out. One issue on the farm was ragwort which, "you don't see much of now." Getting an upgraded cow shed helped greatly and made twice daily milking less arduous. Sadly, Peter passed away in 2004.

Jean remembers that there were no empty shops in Opunake when she

first arrived and the Court House was still going. The Court House was used once a week, until local legal proceedings were shifted to New Plymouth.

Jean continues to live on her property and her son Cr Bryan Roach, with his wife Kim, is her nearest neighbour on the farm next door.

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### OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

# Stay fire-safe this winter

I think it's fair to say the drought has broken as we move into the cooler weather and of course finish daylight saving. As you are all probably aware by now the change from daylight saving is a good reminder to check your smoke alarm batteries and also to give your alarm a bit of a service. This can be easily be done by using the vacuum cleaner to remove any dust etc that may have accumulated in or around the smoke alarm. We at Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) recommend that if you purchase new smoke alarms these should be photo electric and have batteries with a 10 year life. We are happy to come and provide you with advice on where to locate them and will install them for you if required. Contact our Chief Craig Dingle on 027 4446 148 and he will arrange someone to help you.

It has been a pretty quiet time for the brigade over the past two weeks with only

two callouts. The first one was on Monday afternoon 1st April to Fox St. This turned out to be a false alarm so no action was required by the brigade. The other callout was received on late Monday afternoon 8th April to a property fire on Auroa Road. Both Opunake and Kaponga responded to this call. Kaponga arrived first and found the call to be a bird's nest that had caught fire in a chimney. They were able to handle this themselves so turned the Opunake appliance back.

This serves as a good reminder with winter fast approaching to consider having your chimney cleaned and / or checked to ensure its ready for the winter fires.

On Monday night the brigade members were out training using the pumps and equipment. They also spent time going over some of the FENZ procedures to ensure everyone is aware of what to do at the various types

of incidents that the brigade gets called to.

We are pleased to say we have had a few new potential members turn up to trainings over the past few weeks. Our deputy Chief Andrew has started the application process by sending off their medicals etc to head office for processing. As always we are still looking for more new members so if you feel this may be a bit of you please come along on Monday nights you will be most welcome.

Thanks you to all those members of the public that let us know we had forgotten to reset the fire siren for daylight saving. It has been done now so things should be back to normal.

That's all for now remember if you are ever in doubt don't be afraid to "call us out"

Take Care  
VSO John

# Former Taranaki man returns to his first navy ship as commander

Commander Mike Peebles, who began his Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) training on Anzac frigate HMNZS Te Mana 18 years ago, has now returned as the ship's new Commanding Officer.

Commander Peebles, 36, returned to HMNZS Te Mana, becoming one of the youngest Frigate commanding officers in the RNZN's history.

Born and raised in Taranaki, Commander Peebles joined the RNZN immediately after gaining a University Bursary in his final year at New Plymouth Boys' High School.

"All my mates went to university, but I had a love of the sea and wanted to do something different and exciting," he said.

After he graduated from Junior Officer Common Training as a Midshipman,

he was posted to HMNZS Te Mana in 2001 for three months at sea, during which the ship took part in a large international exercise off Darwin.

"I vividly remember standing on the bridge with fighter jets passing low overhead, buzzing the ship in simulated attacks," he said. "That made a big impression on me as a fresh-faced 19-year-old and it cemented the feeling that this was where I should be."

He followed that first posting with training as a warfare officer on inshore patrol and support ships and gained service medals for maritime operations in the Persian Gulf and Arabian Sea.

"I served as a bridge watch keeper and boarding officer during two operations post the 9/11 terror attacks, looking for narcotics and illegal weapons in the fight against terrorism," he says. "It was great being able to put that early training into action being part of a team that was making a difference internationally."

In 2005 he became commanding officer of the inshore patrol craft HMNZS Moa, conducting fishery and customs patrols around the New Zealand coast, and in 2009 he spent a year in the United Kingdom completing the Royal Navy Principal Warfare Officer Course at HMS Collingwood.

After roles at sea and on land after his return to New Zealand, in 2015 he assisted with the successful interception and confiscation of almost 260 kilograms of narcotics as part of a combined Task Force for Maritime Security Operations off the Coast of Africa.

"One of the highlights of



Commander Mike Peebles with HMNZS Te Mana's Symbol of Command, a carved hoe.

that posting was being on the Gallipoli peninsula for the 100-year Anzac Day commemoration," he said. "I was proud to represent our country, Navy and ship as Te Kaha sailed past in an international formation."

In recent years he has completed a staff and command course, graduating with a masters degree in International Security from Massey University, and served as Operations Planner at Joint Forces Headquarters in Wellington.

His command of HMNZS Te Mana begins with the ship based in Canada, undergoing a systems upgrade.

"The regeneration package for the ship will result in new capabilities that will put us on par or above any navy in the world," he said.

"I'm looking forward to developing and preparing the ship for the next stage of its life. We will be busy preparing for the future by bringing the ship back to New Zealand ready to advance New Zealand's interests from the sea as a capable and credible fighting force.

"People are what makes the Navy and being part of this amazing team drives me."



Left: Royal New Zealand Navy Commander Mike Peebles receives HMNZS Te Mana's Symbol of Command, a carved hoe, from departing Commanding Officer Commander Lisa Hunn.

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# A warning against complacency



Shirley Hazlewood (left) with Post Polio Support Group patron Barbara Williams at the launch of We can do anything in 2015.

Shirley Hazlewood (nee Muggeridge) was 14 months old when she came down with poliomyelitis.

"I've been a polio victim for 71 years now," the disabilities advocate from Kaponga says. Until the Salk vaccine was introduced in the 1950s, New Zealand experienced polio epidemics in the 1920s, 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. There were 187 cases in Taranaki during the 1947-8 epidemic.

"It was quite a harsh epidemic," Shirley said. "Little babies were born and then died. You had infants and toddlers getting it. With some people it was quite mild, while some got it really bad. With some it affected the spine, the necks and the legs. Schools were closed for six weeks and you weren't allowed to mix with your neighbours."

Since 1962 only seven cases of polio had been reported in New Zealand, the most recent in 1998. The Salk vaccine may have turned what was once a scourge into little more than

a distant bad memory, but Shirley says there is always a danger of complacency. A recent outbreak of measles has highlighted the need for children to be vaccinated against this and other ailments, like polio. New parents who may be unfamiliar with the disease that once swept the country may be reluctant to have their children vaccinated, says Shirley.

"You never know when anything's going to hit like polio, or measles or mumps or diphtheria," she says. "People say you are hurting the child, but if your child gets any of these things, how are you going to feel?"

According to Polio NZ there are about 9000 people in New Zealand still living with the effects of polio, many experiencing the "late effects of polio," also known as Post-Polio Syndrome.

In 1993, Shirley placed a newspaper advertisement about setting up a Post Polio Support Group in Taranaki. The group lasted for 22 years with Shirley at

the helm. At its peak there were around 90 members. Along the way Shirley has been awarded the QSM and her group was awarded the Roosevelt Medal, named after the polio survivor who went on to become the longest serving president of the United States.

When the group held their final meeting in 2015, a book, *We can do anything*, was launched with stories about people from Taranaki who have experienced polio. All copies of the book sold out, as did a subsequent reprint.

The Support Group's patron Barbara Williams said at the time that contrary to popular opinion polio had not been completely eradicated and there had been 300 cases in Pakistan that year.

"It's really only a seat on an aircraft away from us," she said.

Shirley says many people who have had polio often pass off post polio syndrome as being no more than the effects of old age, and she

is pleased that the book has educated people on the effects of the disease.

"It's amazing how many people rang me and said I didn't realise polio had such an impact on you. People were a bit shocked at what we went through and how it affected us," she said. "One person rang me and said, I've been in denial all my life. I read your book and now I know what's happening to my body."

"People need to be honest with themselves," she says. "We are all getting weaker and our muscles are getting weaker. That's why I keep gardening it keeps you going. Some suffer from spinal pain or nerve pain, and people can't sleep like they used to."

She still keeps in touch with the people who have been members of her support group, and is still active in the Taranaki Disabled Persons Assembly, of which she has been president for the last 15 years.

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# Taranaki holding firm

Taranaki is holding firm with plenty of opportunities, but indicators are pointing to a slowdown in the New Zealand economy overall.

Labour inherited an economy growing three to four per cent, but the Government has squandered that momentum with bad policies, more taxes and wasteful spending.

A weaker economy means

less money in the back pockets of New Zealanders and less money for core services like health and education. Yet Labour's solution is to impose even more taxes.

Westpac's employment confidence survey shows workers are less confident, while ANZ's business confidence survey has dropped to a net negative

38 per cent expecting the economy to deteriorate. Businesses have become gloomier about the economy and their own prospects, according to the latest NZIER's quarterly survey and the Reserve Bank now says it may cut interest rates to support an economy that is slowing considerably under this Government.

This should be a real

warning sign for the Government. However, it has been too willing to dismiss evidence that its policies are damaging New Zealand's economy and think it knows best.

It's time for the Government to focus on policies that help New Zealand to prosper instead of discouraging enterprise and putting roadblocks in

the way of our innovators and entrepreneurs.

National has a proven track record as a competent manager of the economy. We believe Kiwis should keep more of what they earn and that Government has a responsibility to spend tax dollars carefully and in a way that delivers results for everyone.

*Jonathan Young | MP for New Plymouth National Party Spokesperson | Energy and Resources | Regional Economic Development (NI) Chair | Economic Development, Science and Innovation Select Committee*

# Where to for gun control?

Fifty people have died in Christchurch following Friday's shooting at two mosques.

Police say the alleged gunman had a valid New Zealand firearms licence but appeared to have modified the weapons used in the attack.

Professor Alexander Gillespie, Professor of International Law, University of Waikato, comments:

"All firearms are a risk, but some are a much greater risk than others. It's absolutely not about banning guns – it's about banning that high-risk gun.

"There are three types of guns to be looking out for: A Category: standard rifles, including semi-automatics with magazine capacity of seven bullets or less; B Category: pistols, and E Category: effectively a fully military-style semi-automatic firearms.

"What this guy had was an A Category gun, and an A Category licence – he is effectively at the entry level of a gun licence. The vast majority of New Zealand's firearms are A Category.

"But by having no prosecutions he wasn't on



the [police] radar, so he could buy a firearm and modify it to an E Category. He modified it very simply by changing the magazine from something that was less than seven bullets to anything up to 30 bullets – that is one of the most obvious holes in the law.

"If he had walked into the mosque with a [Category A] rifle with bolt action and had to reload each bullet you would have [far fewer] people dead. Because he

walked in with a semi-automatic firearm, he has managed to kill 50 people.

"For the last 10 years, we have had the gun debate in New Zealand and focused on criminals – people who have sourced their guns from gangs and got them unlawfully. You're always going to have illegal guns. This is about a lawful gun owner who was licenced buying something off the shelf.

"When Australia or England has had these incidents, the government

says because these guys are under the radar, the easiest way to deal with the problem is to take that firearm out of circulation. Australia acted after Port Arthur and removed the semi-automatics, and their murder rate by firearm has declined.

"The vast, overwhelming majority of gun owners are lawful citizens and they are about to lose something because of this one person. If they lose something it's essential that they get fair compensation – you must give them market

compensation on what they're about to lose.

"In New Zealand and Australia and England gun ownership is a privilege, not a right, and you have to balance that privilege with the risk to the rest of the community.

"The scale of what happened in Christchurch is bigger than the atrocities that happened in Australia and England that led to their change. On top of that you've got a Labour-led administration which is quite progressive. If you're going to follow international best practice, I think [change] is likely. It would be a very brave politician to stand up and say 'these semi-automatic weapons are not a risk to the community'. You've got 50 dead New Zealanders and you cannot argue that these things are no risk to the community anymore."

"There's no monopoly on hatred and anger, but we need to be particularly concerned about the far right at the moment, and that was part of the problem with the last attack. People weren't looking at the far right. You've got to look wider and deeper than we have been.

"There's a lot of debate on

whether [the accused] should be charged under terrorism legislation or whether he should be charged under the Crimes Act for the simple act of murder – in many ways it's academic debate. The main thing is that he ends up in jail forever. To me it's important he's kept in a kind of isolation, he gets no notoriety, and he never sees the internet ever again.

"There are so many unknowns about this because we've never had to deal with this before. When we had our last mass shooter – at Aramoana – he was killed. There was no one to bring to justice. You are dealing with a situation akin to after the Second World War when you had war criminals come up – you've got an absolute evil and you're not sure how it fits into the legal system. We have to bend the legal system to make sure it fully encompasses and captures this kind of evil.

"From having a national day of mourning to stricter gun control – the reaction from New Zealand is not just important to our domestic community, it's important internationally. The whole world is watching how we respond right now."

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Authorised by Jonathan Young MP, Liardet St, NP



# Farmers focused on climate change

New survey research, released today, shows farmers are focused on sustainability and the impacts of climate change more than ever.

The survey, by Nielsen Research, was commissioned by the Ministry for Primary Industries through the Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Research programme.

“These latest results show that 92% of farmers are focused on making their farm more environmentally

sustainable, up from 78% in the last survey of 2009. That’s really heartening,” says Agriculture Minister Damien O’Connor.

“Some of the specific actions farmers mentioned were riparian/shelter planting, waterway control, improved fertiliser management and more efficient irrigation systems. This gives us a really valuable understanding of what is front of mind for farmers.

“Slightly disheartening is that only 23% of farmers anticipate an increased focus

on reducing their greenhouse gas emissions in the next five years, so that’s something for us all to work on.”

Minister for Climate Change James Shaw says that the results of the survey are consistent with expectations.

“The survey shows that farmers have a better understanding of what they are able to do on-farm to be more environmentally sustainable, with the exception of greenhouse gas emissions reduction – an area where we know farmers feel they need more

information and advice.

“The Biological Emissions Reference Group (BERG) report told us that there are lots of solutions emerging, but that the situation varies from farm-to-farm and so solutions need to be tailored.

“That’s why we are now investing in developing that advice and integrated farm planning tools. We need to support farmers and growers to transition to sustainable land-use through planning and informed decision-making.

“Last year the government consulted on the Zero

Carbon Bill, which showed the need to give certainty and direction on the pathway to a low-emissions economy. We will also soon receive the recommendations of the Interim Climate Change Committee on addressing agricultural emissions. This will help us move forward and provide the certainty that will enable rural communities to make long-term decisions,” Minister Shaw says.

Minister O’Connor says farmers face a changing climate.

“They need to prepare to

cope with the intensifying weather effects of climate change and at the same time reduce their environmental footprint – that takes investment in infrastructure, and means you need to be financially viable.

“The Coalition Government is scoping the development of resources and information for farmers to fill the knowledge gap in ways to reduce emissions, working with the sector to develop practical on-farm knowledge.”

The full report is available on the MPI website.

# Teen smoking in New Zealand at lowest level

New research showing a record low in smoking among New Zealand students and a decrease in the uptake of vaping was announced by Associate Health Minister Jenny Salesa in a speech to the Vaping Policy Forum at Parliament.

Action for Smokefree 2025 (ASH) has released its 2018 Year 10 Snapshot which surveyed almost 29,000 Year 10 students on their smoking behaviours and attitudes. The data shows just 1.9 per cent of

Year 10 students smoke on a daily basis.

“This is the first time the rate has fallen below 2 per cent. That’s a dramatic drop from the 15.2 per cent of students twenty years ago who said they smoked on a daily basis,” says Jenny Salesa.

“More than 81 per cent of those surveyed haven’t smoked at all – not even a few puffs.

“The latest findings show the Government is making progress towards our Smokefree 2025 goal and

delivering on our plan to build healthier communities and improve wellbeing.

“This is really good news but we still have more work to do to achieve equity amongst all New Zealand teenagers.

“Almost 6 per cent of Maori girls who took part in the survey tell us they smoke daily and while that rate has decreased, it’s still higher than the overall rate of 1.9%.

“That needs to change and the gaps need to close. The Government is absolutely committed to doing as much

as it can to achieve our Smokefree 2025 goal.

“According to the ASH survey, Year 10 vaping in New Zealand remains low, and largely among students who smoke. There is still no evidence to suggest vaping is a gateway to cigarette smoking.

“Only 0.5 per cent of students who have never smoked vape daily – a drop from 0.8 per cent in 2017.

“It is very important to me to that children continue to be protected from taking up smoking and vaping.

“I have recently announced amendments to the Smoke-free Environments Act to ban smoking in vehicles carrying children and to support smokers to switch to less harmful alternatives.

“I am also focussed on developing an action plan to achieve our Smokefree 2025 goal. It is my intention that a full suite of possible actions is considered, and that a draft action plan will be available for public consultation by the end of this year.”



Associate Health Minister Jenny Salesa.

# Influenza cases on the rise in Taranaki

The Taranaki DHB is urging the community to protect themselves and get immunised against Influenza after a severe spike in the number of cases coming through the doors of Taranaki’s Emergency Department.

Taranaki DHB’s chief medical advisor, Dr Greg Simmons says “In the last week we have seen five people with confirmed Influenza A, H1N1 infection, admitted to Taranaki Base Hospital. Several of these have been severe enough to warrant a stay in the Intensive Care Unit. With this spate of early flu cases we are asking people to get protected from the flu as soon as possible by getting immunised”.

Dr Simmons wants to reinforce how easily influenza is spread.

“We have had cases being transmitted within the hospital from patient to patient. The best way to reduce the spread of influenza to the most vulnerable people in our community is by getting immunised. This will protect both you and your family.”

Medical Officer of Health, Dr Jonathan Jarman is also warning the community not to be complacent and says a bad flu season can happen any time.

“It is unusual to get a burst

of influenza cases at this time of year, some of whom have ended up in intensive care. Symptoms can come on suddenly and include fever, chills, sore throat, muscle aches, headache, runny nose, cough, stomach upsets and severe fatigue. Every year people die from the complications of influenza.

“For older people, it is important to be immunised against Influenza every year to stay healthy and active for longer. Even fit and healthy people can get seriously ill from the flu, and a serious case can worsen existing long term health conditions and have a long lasting impact on their quality of life and independence”.

People can get their influenza immunisation

free if they’re at high risk of getting the illness, including those aged 65 and older, pregnant women, and people with chronic or serious health conditions, such as heart disease, cancer or severe asthma. Children aged four and under who have a history of significant respiratory illness are also eligible.

Dr Jarman says “This year’s funded vaccine will protect against four strains of influenza A and B including the H1N1 strain of influenza A”.

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# Two days boost rain totals

Rainfall for March ranged between 79 % and 147 % of normal, with an average of 109 %, according to Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) figures. This high number may be surprising as rainfall only fell on between 5 and 11 days. This was due

to more than 50 % of the rainfall at the sites being recorded on just two days (March 8 and 27). Te Kiri recorded only 79 % of normal with 71.5 mm, while Kotare (Ahititi) recorded 147 % of normal with 157.0 mm. Rainfall was below normal for six of the sites

that rainfall was recorded at. These sites were: North Egmont (81 %), Kahui Hut (85 %), Cape Egmont (85 %), Te Kiri (79 %), Manaia (81 %), and Charlie's Clearing (90 %).

Year to date rainfall is ranging between 54 % and

103 % of normal, with an average of 72 %. North Egmont has so far received only 54 % of normal for the first three months with 659.5 mm. Duffys Farm (near Whareroa) has recorded 103 % of normal for the three months with 199.5 mm.

# Mac Sole looks back Episode 3

Like so many other farm jobs at this time, two other events have just come to mind so I will record them at this juncture. The first was when I was allowed to go to the Hawera A and P Show which Zak grudgingly allowed, given limited funds, but nonetheless I was going. This did mean I walked the six miles to Hawera and stayed with my dear mother the night after the show and walked back to the farm the next day.

The other event was me going with Zak to help when he had the work of well cleaning. Tom Hikaka was also helping. Zak would be down the well cleaning and putting whatever into buckets. Tom would be on the tractor pulley which pulled up the buckets on a rope and I would empty the buckets when they reached the well top. The well depth varied and was not all that wide, so only one person would or could go down, so looking back Zak must have had great faith in me, for if I had been careless and sometimes dropped a bucket, Zak may have had a problem being down the well.

While on the subject of Tom Hikaka, there had been times when I slept at Tom and Nita Hikaka's home, which was only a stone's throw from our home, and I must say they were always kind to me. The same could be said when I stayed at Piko and Dory Rangi's home on Whakatau Road. The electric power was not connected to some homes in the particular

area I speak of, which in their home meant the use of kerosene lamps and candles. Some of the times I write of I'm somewhat unsure of the years, as only the events, not the years, are kept in my young mind.

Another memory was of me going to Sunday School, a Methodist occasion run by a Sister Anne, a lovely lady at Warepuni Marae.

Every Sunday the kids would place a penny in a collection box while singing a song 'Dropping, Dropping, Dropping, hear the pennies fall for Jesus He shall have them all'.

I must have had an inquiring mind as I wondered how Jesus got the money as He was way up in Heaven, but I never asked Sister Anne to explain.



Mac Sole and his young friend Sharna-Lee Goldsmith.

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# Change of the guard at Collins Sports

Collins Sports Centre has long been a familiar name in Opunake and will continue to be so. That is the message new owners Terry Graham and his wife Jacinta want to pass on to the store's customers.

"After 28 years the community knows Collins Sports," says Terry. Everything including the store's full mechanic shop will continue working as before.

Brian and Lynette Collins are calling it a day from the business they have been running since 1991, and which for most of that time has been based at their current premises on 78 Tasman Street.

"I have mixed feelings about leaving here," says Brian. "I still enjoy coming to work every day and meeting the customers, but I'm looking forward to doing more of my own stuff like fishing and whitebaiting."

Terry says he wants to thank Brian and Lynette for the support they have given him and Jacinta

Although Terry hails from Auckland he has links to Opunake through his mother Faye Tamatea. Terry and Jacinta have a six year-old



From left, Terry Graham, Tiarnan and Jacinta.

son Tiarnan, and have closed up their family upholstery

business in Auckland.

"We wanted to get out of Auckland and have a better life for our son," said Terry.

Terry and Jacinta, who hails from Donegal, Ireland first met in London when Terry, like many other young New Zealanders was off on his OE and ended up staying away longer than planned. They married and settled in Jacinta's home town in Ireland where he sold motorbikes for "close to 10 years."

Jacinta says her home town is a small town by the sea, not unlike Opunake.

With Tiarnan attending Opunake Primary School, Terry said they wanted to do something for the school to thank them for welcoming Tiarnan into the community, so on Monday, Tiarnan was

on hand to present Opunake Primary School principal Lorraine Williamson with a \$500 voucher from Collins Sports Centre. Lorraine says the school is delighted to get the donation.

"We have a modest sports budget so this will be gratefully received," says Lorraine. She says she will

be talking to the school's students about the best way to use it.

Brian says he wishes Terry and Jacinta all the best for the future and hopes the store's customers will continue to support them.

He says that back in 1991, he hadn't expected to be still

running the business 28 years later.

"The guy before me had it for 19 years, and I thought that was a long time."

"I still won't be retiring properly," he says. He will still be making whitebait nets for Terry and others, as well as custom-made surfcasting rods.



Six year-old Tiarnan presents Opunake Primary School principal Lorraine Williamson with a Collins Sports Centre gift voucher.

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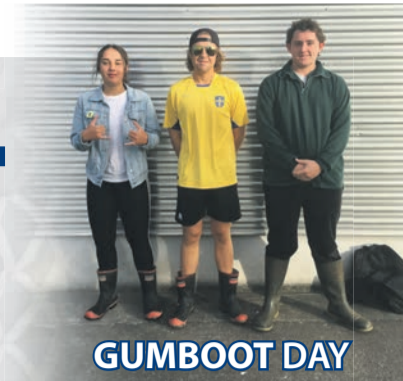
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## DON'T WALK AWAY

VICKI WALL

On Monday 11th March members of Opunake High Schools Kapa haka group - Te Haumonana - had the privilege of being part of the recording of the waiata "Don't Walk Away" with the Taranaki Riders Against Teen Suicide.

The Waiata will be released nationwide over the next couple of months and can be purchased via Spotify and iTunes. Proceeds from the sale of this waiata will go towards suicide awareness and prevention.

Our students represented our kura with the utmost pride and mana, giving a special performance to the R.A.T.S after their mahi was complete.

If you'd like to get involved with this project, Taranaki R.A.T.S still need a cover for the single, check out their Facebook page for more information - "Taranaki RATS Don't Walk Away Single"

Ka nui te mihi aroha ki a koutou.



### WHATS HAPPENING AT OPUNAKE HIGH?

If you thought Term 1 was hectic, check out Term 2:

- Year 12 TOPEC - Week 1, April 29th - May 3rd
- Home & School AGM - May 8th
- Cross Country- May 8th
- TSSSA Crossfit - May 9th
- Year 12 & 13 History to Puke Ariki - May 10th

- Senior Art, Govett Brewster - May 14th
- End of Junior School, Trimester 1 - May 17th
- Start of Junior School, Trimester 2 - May 20th
- Junior IDPs - Week 4, May 20th - May 22nd

*from the Principals desk...*



Nga mihi o te wa ki a koe me to whanau  
Greetings to you and your family

The students and staff new to Opunake High School have been finding their feet and are beginning to understand how we manage the day-to-day ups and downs of life in a busy school. Our core values of Diligence, Respect, Exceeding expectations, Aroha and Mana underpin the way we manage our interactions and relationships at Opunake High School.

This term has seen a lot of education outside of the classroom taking place. The traditional events of Athletics, Swimming, TSSSA events and Relay 4 Life, various subject field trips and PE activities have all gone very well, and have provided a rich dimension to school outside the classroom. I would like to thank the staff and students for making these events successful and also the community for assisting us at various times, especially with Academy days. Our sporting programme for Term One has been very successful and it is pleasing to see so many students opting to take part. Winter sports teams are training hard ready to start competitions this month. We are on track to meet our target of 70% of students engaged in a sporting experience at Opunake High School.

As well as these enriching activities, classroom programmes are moving forward through their year's plan. Academic success is the core business of a school and taking time to celebrate this is important, as it allows students to see what is possible. Thank you to the large number of parents and whanau who attended Individualised Development Planning (IDP) afternoons for our senior students. I'm sure you have found this valuable, and the foundation and goals are now set for the year for all of our senior students. The relationship that your learner has with their academic mentor is a very important one in assisting with goal setting and monitoring achievement throughout the year to enable academic success.

Research has shown that the single most effective input parents and whanau can have on their child's learning is to take an interest in what is happening at school, know about the assessment schedule, what is due in and when, and ask questions about class work and progress. These simple strategies engage the student and the whanau in "at home" learning conversations which are encouraging and productive.

On a personal note, I had the absolute pleasure of accompanying the prefect team to Rotorua for the GRIP Leadership conference last week. The conference focused on what students can do with their leadership roles; the things they can improve, change and make interesting for the students at school. Networking with student leaders from other schools allowed sharing of ideas and projects. This opportunity has allowed the prefect team to bond as a leadership team, further their leadership skills and provided a range of ideas that they are excited to implement around the school.



Finally, a big thank you to Mr Simon Reid and we wish him all the best as he retires from teaching. He has been a teacher at Opunake High School for the last 16 years and his contribution to the school and the community has been invaluable. He will be missed by both staff and students.

I wish everyone a happy and safe time over the school holiday break and look forward to seeing you next term. If you have any questions, concerns or feedback do not hesitate to get in touch.

Noho ora mai ano  
Peter O'Leary - Principal

**LOOKING FOR SOME EXTRA NEWS?**  
CHECK OUR WEBSITE or SOCIAL MEDIA

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## GROWING GOOD PEOPLE FOR A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

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# Opportunities in science beckon

While most high school students were enjoying their break from school over the summer, Joel Clement, Head Boy at Opunake High School, was attending the 30th Rotary National Science and Technology Forum in Auckland.

The forum, affectionately referred to as "Nerd Camp" by the 168 Year 12 students who attended, was a chance for budding scientists to experience lectures, labs and demonstrations across the different disciplines of science, in a tertiary setting.

Held at Auckland University, the students made O'Rorke Hall their home for two weeks from January 12-26. Selection to the conference came by way of invitation from the district selection panel, after students were recommended by their local Rotary Club. Joel was supported by the Stratford Rotary Club who endorsed his application to receive one of only 22 spots available to District 9940. This district extends



Joel Clement, at the Rotary National Science and Technology Forum in Auckland.

from south of a line from the mouth of the Mokau River (on the West coast) to Cape Turnagain (on the East coast) through Mt Ruapehu.

While at the forum Joel explored the fields of robotics, biology, microbiology, engineering, physics, mathematics, genetics, computer technology, and chemistry. Some of the activities that the students took part included dissecting a sheep's heart, extracting DNA from kiwifruit, building a robotic car, experiencing augmented reality, growing bacteria, and collecting and analysing data at the AUT Sports Science Department.

As well as attending lectures, labs and demonstrations within the university setting, the students also had opportunities to visit different industries and businesses which put 'science' into action. Joel had the chance to visit the environmental

resource department at Manaaki Whenua (Landcare Research), engineering at the Royal New Zealand Naval Base, and BECA Engineering.

Joel found the experience of attending the forum extremely rewarding, cementing his passion for Environmental Science as well as making new friendships with like minded people. Joel's next science adventure is attending the Sir Peter Blake Trust Young Enviro Leaders' Forum (YELF) in Waikato in the April school holidays. Fifty five students were chosen to attend this event from 350 applications.

Joel is looking at attending Otago University to pursue a degree in science in 2020. He totally recommends that any Year 12 students in the region who are interested in the science and technology field consider making an application to attend the forum.

## April's Good Sort



Katie Sinclair was the recipient of the Opunake Lakeside Lions 'Good Sort' award for this month. She was nominated because she has been a tireless worker in running 'Healthy Oceans', ensuring that our beaches are clear of rubbish, and in fact our town as well.

Remember, if you wish to nominate someone for this, please contact Opunake Lakeside Lions members Louise Knapman or Daphne Holley.

Opunake Lakeside Lions member Louise Knapman with this month's recipient Katie Sinclair.

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# St Joseph's Opunake

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Principal Margaret Duynhoven, PO Box 23, Allison Street, Opunake, 06 761 8388,  
[principal@stjo.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjo.school.nz)

To provide a caring, Catholic, family environment where faith, values and skills are nurtured, enabling pupils to be successful and responsible citizens.

The new school year has started well for St Joseph's Opunake.

Five busy classrooms, with enthusiastic teachers, and teacher aides, provide quality education for the 89 students who are currently enrolled at the school.

St Joseph's may be small but that doesn't stop the school from taking part in every opportunity that comes along to extend the classroom programme and learning for the students.



## EPro 8 Challenge

This year the school entered two Year 7 & 8 teams, and two Year 5 & 6 teams into the regional Epro 8 challenge.

The year 5 & 6 team with Savannah Watson, Sophie Gatenby, Crystal Jordan, Jacob Foley, came 3rd equal,

while Joshua Ramos, Melah Sinclair, Isabelle Neil-Warner, and Eleesha Fernando, were placed 5th.

The year 7 & 8 team of Charlie Carr, Cheska Centeno, Jerram Sinclair and Jono Lang placed 6th overall, while the team of Sophia Thompson, John Renz Torres, Caleb Neil and Shinae Minhinnick placed 1st equal and earned a spot in the Taranaki finals where they finished in 5th place.



## School Swimming Sports

The annual school swimming sports took place on the 14th March and were a celebration of the learning that had taken place at the Community Pools over the first few weeks of the term. St Joseph's follow the Kiwi Swim Safe programme. Teachers were provided with professional development in using this programme at the start of the school year.

## Community Outreach

Catholic social teaching is an important part of life at St Joseph's. Taking part in events that show care for the environment are included in this teaching. Students are encouraged to be people of action and so it was decided that on the feast day of St Joseph on the 19th of March, that the school would 'clean up' around the streets surrounding the school.

St Joseph showed us how to care for others and so it was fitting that on this day we showed care for our community.



## Student Leadership

Student voice is highly valued at St Joseph and all senior students are encouraged to take part in school leadership opportunities.

This year students were encouraged to apply for positions of leadership in formal roles on the school council and as house captains for the

three houses of Marcella, Nazareth, and St John of the Cross.

This year's leaders are: Alika Hunn, Jerram Sinclair, Charlie Carr, Jono Lang, and Cheska Centeno.

House Captains are; Shinae Minhinnick and Toby O'Rorke, Andrew Lawn and Kayleigh Fleming, and Charlie Carr and Jono Lang.

Congratulations to all of these students.

## Digital Learning

For the past two years the teachers have received professional development support in digital fluency from Sharp Kinane Ltd. This learning is continuing this year and we are thrilled to have Bex Langton supporting our teachers with this learning in her new role as a Ministry of Education Accredited Facilitator.



Faith, Values and Skills

# Outstanding value for money for lifestyle property



The spacious lounge has a modern woodburner, which is situated on an 'island' above the floor level. The beautiful polished Matai floor extends through the entire home.



The four and a half acre property is located at 6190 South Road, Pungarehu.



The well-equipped kitchen has a gas hob/electricity stove and a modern automatic dish washer.

Just recently arrived on the market is an exceptional property at 6190 South Road, Pungarehu. It is easy to find, as it is located opposite the Pungarehu Golf Club, about 40 minutes south of New Plymouth. The property is owned by respected builder Phill Brophy of HCL Builders and is marketed by Michelle Hofmans of First National.

The history of this property is interesting. Phill grew up on the site, although his childhood home was demolished some time ago. Phill then moved an existing house onto the four and a half acre site and has totally upgraded it, using all his tradesman skills. He firstly built a well-appointed sleepout in which he lived while he worked on the relocated house, which was built in the 1940s.

Much of the house is completely new, such as the roof, which consists of Coloursteel and is secured against storms by gale-resistant trussing. It would withstand a storm even as dramatic as Gita which caused damage in the recent past.

The exterior smart cladding consists of eight inch timber bevel back weatherboards (heart rimu) and a few new tantalised pine boards.

An extensive treated pine deck leads to the front door. There is a gas connection for

a new owner to utilise if a barbecue is to be installed on the deck.

Inside, the open style interior is very appealing, as is the high characterful studs (2.8m). A feature is the huge windows which ensure lots of natural light and these are complemented by state-of-the-art recessed LED lighting throughout the house. Recent rewiring of the entire house ensures safety and sufficiently numerous hot points.

The spacious lounge has a modern woodburner, which is situated on an 'island' above the floor level. "You don't have to bend down to put wood in the fire," comments Phill.

The floor consists of most attractively polished matai and this feature extends through virtually all of the house's interior.

All walls and ceilings have been recently repainted to a very high standard.

The well-equipped kitchen has a gas hob/electricity stove and a modern automatic dish washer. Hot water is provided by Infinity from the roadside so annoying bottled gas does not have to be used. The black Formica benches look most striking and the storage capacity in this room is impressive.

Three double bedrooms, with inbuilt wardrobes, complete the main living area, as well as the eye-

catching bathroom with 1 piece stainless steel shower box Phill and his team had to bring in through the window as the stainless steel wall is welded at 2.4 metres high. There is a good-sized bath, toilet and modern vanity unit. Elsewhere are two additional toilets, as well as a good-sized laundry with a toilet easily accessed from outside without traipsing through the house.

"All the trim of the interior is made of recycled materials," explains Phill. "All architraves are recycled cedar weatherboards I pulled off Bryan Roach's house some years ago and spent a lot of time in the shed machining," explains Phill.

The house has been upgraded to ensure optimal energy conservation with double glazing on all windows, as well as insulation in the ceiling, walls and underfloor. Power bills are, therefore, not likely to be a worry for the new owner.

The aluminium joinery throughout helps ensure the house is low maintenance.

Exterior security lighting is in place, as well as a security system (four cameras). This allows the owner to check that all is well on the property when he/she is elsewhere by simply accessing their smart phone or computer.

Outbuildings include a massive workshop/garage,

as well as several smaller sheds, all of which have power and concrete floors.

The water collection capacity is a huge 60,000 litres and a brand new septic tank (4000 litres) has been installed.

This property is excellent value for money at \$525,000. To learn more contact Michelle Hofmans of First National on 06 278 0360 or 027 531 7684. Her email address is michelle@mgfn.co.nz

Don't miss the Open Home on Sunday April 14 at 2pm.



Optimal energy conservation is a feature of this outstanding property.

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Coastal Taranaki School is a vibrant area school situated in Okato, only thirty kilometers from Taranaki's main city New Plymouth. The school caters for students from Years 0–13 (5 to 18 years old) and offers a variety of learning experiences alongside the core subjects required by the New Zealand government.

#### We know what we are working for -

Our Mission: Mā te whānau te tamaiti e puawai  
By the whole community, the child will blossom

#### We know what we want for the future -

Our Vision: Learning for Life

#### We know what is important to us -

Our Expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible,  
Be Ready to Learn

### LET'S GO SCOOTER & CYCLE SKILLS



*"I liked it when the lady scared us when we were scootering past, I learnt how to stop safely" -Pixie*

Year 1-4 students have been participating in 'Let's Go Scooter Skills' training. Students learnt about safe scootering, breaking and being safe when scootering. Years 4-9 completed a course in Cycle Safety skills lessons which focused on safety while on the road with traffic.

### BEACH SAFETY

All Year 1-9 students completed Beach Safety Skills, a programme run by Surf Lifesaving NZ as part of our health curriculum. We thank the Pelorus Trust for some funding to subsidise students for this learning experience.

Lifeguards from Surf Lifesaving NZ taught students aspects of beach safety, we were introduced to all the equipment used by the lifeguards from the IRB to surf ski's, then we learnt about surf rips, being sun safe, beach safety. The fun part of the day was the actual beach activities: sprints, flags and water races followed by boogie boarding in the very challenging surf conditions.



### SWIMMING SPORTS & ATHLETIC SPORTS DAY

Term One has been very busy with Sport. Coastal Taranaki School's Swimming Sports day was held at the Okato community pool. The morning saw many students compete in competitive racing, and in the afternoon the entire school competed in fun Whānau races with many fun team relays for all our year 1-13 students. Team spirit and collaboration was amazing on the day and everyone had a great time.



This term also saw everyone compete in school Athletics, with our Year 1-4 kids taking part in fun games as well as the traditional events.

Year 5-13 had a full day of events with some stand out achievements, particularly Chaz Taipari who jumped a new school record of 1.70m in the senior boys high jump.

### COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Following all of the consultation and review last year our School Vision and Values are nearly all set to be adopted by our school Board of Trustees. The curriculum inquiry team, staff, students and the community were offered the opportunity to provide feedback at this final stage of consultation. The feedback will be considered and valued before the final submission.



# Student from Taranaki school heading to AgriKidsNZ grand final



From left. Pippa Waite, Liam Hutchinson, Darren Pease.

A student from a tiny Taranaki school with 17 pupils has qualified for the national final of a major agricultural contest.

Darren Pease is a Year 8 student at Marco School, east of Whangamomona.

The 12-year-old was part of a talented trio who placed second in the Taranaki/Manawatū AgriKidsNZ regional final in Whanganui

on Saturday.

His teammates Liam Hutchinson, 12, and Pippa Waite, 12, attend nearby Toko School.

The fiercely-contested event saw 144 students take on a series of fun agricultural modules.

"They are over the moon. They are all very excited and wearing their medals at school today," said Pippa's

mum Kim Waite, who's also the principal of Toko School.

"The students are extremely proud of themselves. They really enjoyed taking part in all the modules and activities."

The aim of the event is to get kids excited about opportunities in the primary industries.

Modules tested the

students' practical skills and knowledge. The top seven teams went head-to-head in a fast-paced race-off hosted by Te Radar.

"They won that part of day. They did so well, but I couldn't watch as they attempted to jam that tent back into the bag," laughed Kim.

Toko School works with three small eastern districts schools Huiakama, Makahu, Marco to provide opportunities for their students.

"If those three schools

don't have enough students to field a team for an event or competition we will help them out," said Kim.

"At the end of the day, we don't want kids missing out because of the size of their school."

Sam Cranstone, 12, Falcon Proffit, 11, and Thomas Revell, 11, from Huntley School in Marton won the AgriKidsNZ contest.

Hugh Thomas, Abbey Grant and Grier Cunliffe, from South Makirikiri School in Marton, were third.

All three teams have qualified for the AgriKidsNZ Grand Final in Hawke's Bay in July and will now begin fundraising to get there.

The event will see more than 60 students from across New Zealand tackle a series of modules and challenges.

It will take place alongside the prestigious FMG Young Farmer of the Year and FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year grand finals.

Brad Markham

## Ravensdown pays early rebate



MIKE DAVEY

Mike Davey, Regional Manager at Ravensdown, is

delighted the co-operative is in a position to pay an early interim cash rebate for the fourth year running.

"Paying \$15 for every tonne purchased before 31 May 2019 is great news for farmers and farming services businesses in the Taranaki. It signals the co-operative is tracking well despite challenges with the weather over the summer and a slower season than last year. The money will be

in shareholders accounts in June which helps with their cashflow.

"Of course there's likely to be a further final rebate, but that's up to the board to decide after assessing the financial year accounts.

The only thing is that the spreading teams, especially Aerowork, are sure to get busy so it's best to arrange fertiliser applications and deliveries as early as possible."

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**HERBY LUTZ, SELECT SIRES**

Herby Lutz, Select Sires/WWS Jersey Development Manager is traveling to the Naki this month. Please join this very enthusiastic Jersey expert in an open session digging into all things Jersey at Select Sires, what the future looks like, and what kind of cow does the world and New Zealand need in the future.

*Herby has been instrumental as a Dairy Sire Analyst for Select Sires since September 2008 and has had a huge impact on the World Wide Sires Jersey program. He is respected as one of the world's great Jersey Sire Analysts as well as being an accomplished judge, having judged national shows in many countries, including the 2005 IDW Jersey Show.*

*Herby's wife, Amanda, and their son Hobbs currently operate Her-Man Jerseys at Sunny Day Farm in Chester, South Carolina.*



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Photo by Samantha Lenahan

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# Farmers face radical change

Breeding Worth (BW) was introduced decades ago and has served farmers well as a breeding guide – or has it. The national herd is a good representation of its legacy – small cows which produce, on average, 380 kg.

Times and demands have changed, however, and farmers are faced with radical change because, to maintain viability while protecting the environment, they need to reduce the size of their herds and maintain or improve profitability. And that requires a new approach – fertile cows which consistently produce more than 550kg over a long time.

The New Zealand Animal Evaluation Unit recently conducted a weightings change to the BW index which saw kgs of fat increase – favourably impacting Jerseys and some crossbred cows with a consequent increase in Jersey and crossbred sire rankings.

Turning the tide in favour of Jerseys was welcomed by farmers with a proliferation of endorsing comments on social media. It's good to see the breed come back into the spotlight as it's been one of the foundations



Hank Lina

of a large number of highly productive Kiwi herds.

But that breed endorsement was drowned out by a clamour of confusion from farmers who, in the main, say BW doesn't necessarily mean a profitable cow.

We all know farmers who will point out their top cows – sometimes they have high BW but more often than not they don't. Often they have low BWs because they are the offspring of an overseas

sire or dam which doesn't have a New Zealand ranking.

It's a dilemma AEU has grappled with – how to provide a fair ranking which accurately guides farmers on which sires to use, and which cows to bring into the herd.

The changing dynamic of dairy farming is, however, increasing the 'weighting' on providing farmers with information which helps them transition from

high numbers of low or moderately producing cows, to fewer highly fertile, productive animals which last in the herd.

We need to consider how quickly a farmer receives a return on his or her investment in a cow.

I frequently talk with farmers who rear high BW heifers only to find that, when they enter the herd, they are weak with poor udders and have to be culled within the first lactation with many more failing to last two lactations.

Farmers – and the country – can't afford that wastage.

Farmers need moderately sized, robust animals bred to produce and last in the herd from day one.

Over the past few decades, focus has been on numbers but nitrate leaching and increased environmental awareness is sending a very strong message that the tide is turning with the focus turning from numbers, to productive life.

The absence of an evaluation tool which suits all farmers is seeing a shift to a growing appreciation that it's what's in the vat (and the back pocket) that counts.

Hank Lina

## Farmers focused on climate change

New survey research, released today, shows farmers are focused on sustainability and the impacts of climate change more than ever.

The survey, by Nielsen Research, was commissioned by the Ministry for Primary Industries through the Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Research programme.

"These latest results show that 92% of farmers are focused on making their farm more environmentally sustainable, up from 78% in the last survey of 2009. That's really heartening," says Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor.

"Some of the specific actions farmers mentioned were riparian/shelter planting, waterway control, improved fertiliser

management and more efficient irrigation systems. This gives us a really valuable understanding of what is front of mind for farmers.

"Slightly disheartening is that only 23% of farmers anticipate an increased focus on reducing their greenhouse gas emissions in the next five years, so that's something for us all to work on."

Minister for Climate Change James Shaw says that the results of the survey are consistent with expectations.

"The survey shows that farmers have a better understanding of what they are able to do on-farm to be more environmentally sustainable, with the exception of greenhouse gas emissions reduction – an area where we know farmers feel they need more

information and advice.

"The Biological Emissions Reference Group (BERG) report told us that there are lots of solutions emerging, but that the situation varies from farm-to-farm and so solutions need to be tailored.

"That's why we are now investing in developing that advice and integrated farm planning tools. We need to support farmers and growers to transition to sustainable land-use through planning and informed decision-making.

"Last year the government consulted on the Zero Carbon Bill, which showed the need to give certainty and direction on the pathway to a low-emissions economy. We will also soon receive the recommendations of the Interim Climate Change Committee on addressing agricultural emissions. This will help us move forward

and provide the certainty that will enable rural communities to make long-term decisions," Minister Shaw says.

Minister O'Connor says farmers face a changing climate.

"They need to prepare to cope with the intensifying weather effects of climate change and at the same time reduce their environmental footprint – that takes investment in infrastructure, and means you need to be financially viable.

"The Coalition Government is scoping the development of resources and information for farmers to fill the knowledge gap in ways to reduce emissions, working with the sector to develop practical on-farm knowledge."

The full report is available on the MPI website.

## Rural Women Supports Arms Amendment Bill

Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) supports the Government's ban on military style semi-automatic firearms and believes that action must be taken to avoid tragedies in future.

"Earlier this week, RWNZ conducted a comprehensive survey of our membership to gauge the response of New Zealand's rural communities to the Arms (Prohibited Firearms, Magazines, and Parts) Amendment Bill 2019," says National President,

Fiona Gower.

"There was overwhelming support for the ban, at 88 per cent, while a further 60 per cent of respondents saw no place for semi-automatic firearms on farms.

"We acknowledge the heartbreak of the Christchurch Mosque shooting on Friday, 15 March and the affect it has had on victims' families, friends and communities.

"We are sending our thoughts, prayers and aroha to you," says Ms. Gower.

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Claire Bourke's World Wide Sires cows at their farm.

## Landowners let down by select committee on firearms changes - Government has time to fix it

Unless further changes are made to the Arms Amendment Bill, pests will be the winners and the environment will be the losers.

Federated Farmers says the Government has failed

to deliver on its commitment to farmers and other major landowners that they would continue to have access to the firearms they need for effective animal pest control.

"Labour has the opportunity to fix the Bill over the

next few days - otherwise Federated Farmers will feel duped by this process," Feds Rural Security spokesperson Miles Anderson says.

As the Select Committee reported back yesterday, landowners with significant

pest problems will no longer have access to one of the tools they need to effectively manage their land. Farmers will have to rely on contractors who are unlikely to be available when required. Pests don't wait around for contractors to turn up.

"The whole Select Committee has shown both a lack of trust and a complete lack of understanding of the needs of the rural sector on this issue," Miles Anderson says. "We have publicly backed the Government on this important issue from day one, based on the need to both protect public safety and ensure continuing access to the appropriate firearms for those who have demonstrated a genuine need.

"There are 5 million hectares of privately owned high and hill country in New Zealand. What these landowners have been left with is the equivalent

of painting the Auckland harbour bridge with a toothbrush.

"Where were the Agriculture, Biosecurity, Forestry, Conservation and Land Information Ministers when common sense was needed around this important issue?"

The Select Committee considers that Department of Conservation and Regional Councils staff can be trusted with these firearms, but a small number of carefully vetted private landowners cannot, Anderson says.

"Our farmers would like an explanation why a junior DoC field staffer on freely accessible public land is somehow safer with these firearms than a landowner on thousands of hectares of a back-country station with strictly controlled access."

Farmers are being told to use contractors instead of doing it themselves. Where are these contractors going to come from?

"Will they be available at 10pm on a frozen winter's night to shoot wallabies off a forage crop? Or up at 5am waiting for a mob of pasture-wrecking pigs? And if they are, how much will they expect to get paid to do it? By the time the contractors arrive the pests will have moved on."

Instead of a limited number of rural landholders having these firearms locked away in a safe on the property where they will be used, we are being told that having people travelling the country with these firearms in their vehicles, staying in temporary accommodation with no firearms security, is a safer option.

"It is completely illogical," Mr Anderson says.

Farmers and landowners are being loaded with more responsibility to look after the native biodiversity on their properties than ever before, and at the same time the Government is taking away one of the tools necessary to do so.

"We were astonished that the Department of Conservation that constantly advocates for conservation on private land appears to have simply looked after themselves when it comes to controlling pests that threaten New Zealand biodiversity," says Mr Anderson.

All Federated Farmers is asking is that rural landowners who can demonstrate a genuine need to use these firearms as part of their business be eligible to apply for an exemption, just as provided for other professional firearms users in the Bill. None of the changes we seek undermine public safety.



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## Premiers start season strongly



.Daniel Crowley breaks upfield in the last play of a tight game between Coastal and Clifton Prem's.

The 2019 Club rugby season kicked off on Saturday March 30. Farmsource Coastal Premiers had its first hit out against Spotswood United at Raho. Coastal were first to score after 15 minutes with a try by hooker Sam Lawn and a conversion by Rick McKenna. This was followed by a penalty by Rick McKenna after 30 minutes. Spotswood struck

back with a 35th minute try to make the half time score 10 - 5. Scoring was just as hard in the second half. Two penalties for Coastal and a try for Spotswood pushed the score out to 16 - 10 after 80 minutes. It was a positive start for Coastal with the win, and roll on next week. Man of the match was Andrew Trolove. Round 2 on April 6 was

also in Raho, this time against Clifton. The lead changed three times in the first half with Clifton taking a 14 - 12 lead into half time. Coastal took the lead early in the second half, but the match was far from over. Another three lead changes kept supporters on edge. After 80 minutes Coastal had earned a 25 - 24 win and a two from two start to the season.

Try scorers were Josh Thomson, Troy Stevenson, Liam Hurley and Jeremy Newall. A conversion and a penalty by Rick McKenna made up the remaining five points. Man of the match was Dylan Schuler. Next week will see Coastal travel to Hawera to take on Southern.

Brian Olliver



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# Two out of two for Div 1



Jonno Butler carries with pace in a strong debut as the Coastal Div 1 have a good win over Clifton.



Matty Hooper evades the clutches of the Clifton defenders as the Colts put on a strong display in their first game. Coastal Colts 17 Clifton 22.

What an exciting start to the 2019 FBT senior B year. With numbers a bit low at trainings, to encountering Spotswood at home in our first game. This was a hard fought game from the lads, with a couple of stand-out players-Jono Butler with a great all round game, followed by Daniel Rae and Richard Beckett showing their experience within the game. Coastal FBT Div 1 managed to get their first win under their belt with a close 26-20 finish. In Round two, Coastal FBT Div 1 hosted Clifton on a windy blustery day, opting to play with the wind first. Strong defence from Clifton proved a harder job than we anticipated, with Coastal ending the first half 12-0. The lads knew the second half was going to provide more challenges playing into the wind. Keeping play tight and passes clean, Coastal were able to dominate and produce an outstanding finish with a 33-5 win over Clifton. Stand out players were David White, Jacob Gopperth, David Hughes and Scott Anderson. Next week's game is away to Southern.

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**Alesha Williams supported by Iritana Hohaia carries the ball strongly.**

As defending champions Coastal Women wanted to kick the season off with a win. They opened the season playing Southern in Hawera on the 30<sup>th</sup> March in front of a big crowd. It was good to see Southern getting behind ladies day with the game played on the number one field. Coastal were a bit light on numbers due to injury and illness so played 13 aside. Alesha Williams playing at fullback used her speed

to beat the Southern players on the outside and ended up with four tries. Miriam Karalus at openside flanker had a good game on debut turning over ball and making numerous tackles. Coastal finished up winning 42-7. Coastal were excited for their first home game of the season. All the teams were playing at Rahotu so there was lots of support. Coastal knew it was going to be a tough game against Clifton who are the team to beat

this year. The conditions were challenging as it was a windy old day at Rahotu but the game was evenly matched. Coastal were playing into the wind in the first and struggled to get out of their half which Clifton capitalized on with the score being 15-5 to Clifton at half time. In the second half with the wind at their backs Coastal managed to get some good territory and managed to get three well worked tries to Alesha Williams, Leah

Barnard and Iritana Hohaia. Clifton managed to get a couple of their own though and ended up winning 30-20. Kate Anderson had an outstanding game playing loose forward while Brooke Sim controlled the play in the backline.

Come along to Rahotu and watch Coastal Women take on Okaiawa Women this Friday (12<sup>th</sup> April) at 7 pm.

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# Grass gymkhana for classic cars



One of the 15 entrants.

## Opunake Bowling Club

24/3/19 – Men's Western Division played Wells Cup at Opunake. Pihama fielded three teams, Opunake three teams and Rahotu and Okato one each. 1<sup>st</sup>: Terry Mullin, Pihama. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Paddy Deegan, Opunake. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Ian Winter, Pihama.

23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March – After qualifying for the First Year Player at West End, Daryl McKenzie finished equal third. Congratulations.

28/3 – The final of the Women's Championship Pairs was played in very trying conditions. The winners were Eileen Rothwell and Val Langton against Joy Collins and Kay Fleming.

31/3 – The winner of the Women's Championship

Singles was found with Eileen Rothwell beating Pauline Davy. The game was played in very warm conditions. The men's final was also played during the week. The winner was Bob Commane who beat first year player Kiwane Ratahi.

7/4 – The winner of the women's singles was Rita Davey from Julie Hemahema 21-20. This was a very close game with the lead changing many times. The final of the Women's Championship

Fours was played in showers and chilly conditions. Bev Robinson's team of Eileen Rothwell, Rita Davey and Julie Hemahema beat Joy Collins' team of Heather Radford, Kay Fleming and Val Langton.

With the new season many people have changed grades so it's great to see everyone back and enthusiastic.

Clare Bramley

### Classic Car workout at Hawera.

The Egmont Classic Car Register recently held their annual grass gymkhana on a property on Turuturu Road near Hawera. The attendance was one of the best on record with 15 drivers entering.

Three different courses were laid out by some

members in the morning ready for the afternoon.

The first course was a salmon course driving in a zigzag manner through nine poles then navigating clockwise around a pole and anti clockwise around the next pole before returning back to the start.

The second course involved driving between two poles then backing out and backing between two poles then driving forward between two more poles but this time they were on an angle and again backing between two more poles then returning to the start.

The third course was the most popular as it involved two laps driving around a nearly circular course in a

zigzag fashion making it very much like a race track but on grass.

As some drivers like to go as fast as possible and others just want to finish each course the overall winner goes to the driver who manages to be the closest to the average time overall

The overall winner was Stuart Craig

Lester Bulmer

## Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club

April 1 saw the official start of the Indoor target season for the Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club, with many shooters showing they hadn't forgotten what to do. Top score of the first night went to Garry Rowlands with two 99s and two 98s – 99.4, 98.6, 98.6/99.8. Clare Bramley came a close second with

scores of 99.5, 97.4/98.5.

It's great to see some new faces this season as well as those who have had a break for a while come back again. New shooters this year are led by Alex Sadovnikova who, while only just starting, shot a very respectable 96.5; another new shooter, Bjorn Fowler is also doing very well with 91.2, 95.4, 94.4;

Matt Vaughan continues to have some good practices. Junior shooter John McGill tried his eye at full cards scoring 72.0 and 84.2; Henry Armond 94.2, 96.3.

Don Litchfield has come back to the range and you'd hardly realise he'd taken a few months off scoring 94.4 and 95.2. Paul Tidswell 98.7, 97.6, 98.7/98.4; Bob

Bramley 98.5/94.2; Craig McGill shot an almost-personal best of 97.4, 92.2; Alan Drake 94.2, 96.3/92.0; Murray Chinery 95.3, 96.1, 94.2. And a hearty welcome back to Michelle Hofmans scoring 89.1 and 94.4.

With the new season many people have changed grades so it's great to see everyone back and enthusiastic.

Clare Bramley

## Taranaki Rugby announce largest deficit in operational history

Taranaki Rugby has recorded a net deficit of \$818,445.00 for the year ended 31 December 2018, it was announced at the annual general meeting at the Southern Rugby Football Club in Hawera.

This compares to a net

surplus of \$235,644.00 in the 2017 year. The result is largely attributed to the loss of the earthquake prone grandstands at Yarrow Stadium.

Total revenue for the year was \$4,018,377.00, down from \$4,967,084.00 in the previous year, which included the hosting of an All Black test match.

Total expenses increased from \$4,626,427.00 in 2017 to \$4,724,421.00 in 2018. Increased costs were incurred in erecting a shelter over the southern terraces for Mitre 10 Cup games, sideline marquees and costs sustained due to a significant number of injured players.

Taranaki Rugby CEO, Jeremy Parkinson estimated that the closure of the grandstands contributed approximately \$565,000.00 of the deficit in 2018.

Taranaki Rugby Union Chairman, Lindsay Thomson, stated that the Union was in "survival" mode.

"Rugby, as a business, is

unusual in that much of our fixed costs are incurred up front and then we endeavour to recover these costs in the second half of each year through commercial revenue and game day income. With the loss of the Yarrow Stadium grandstands that revenue did not materialise in 2018.

"The business model which Taranaki Rugby has built up over the last 15 years is not sustainable when the grandstands and Legends Lounge are out of action", he said.

"The challenge the TRFU now faces is to cut our costs to reflect our current position and to look at ways we can raise income to recapitalise the business and to ensure we are not saddled with debt over the next 10 years", Thomson said.

Despite the challenging conditions, Taranaki continue to produce men and women who are excelling on the world stage and for the first time the number of registered players in the province exceeded 7,000.

Some notable achievements in growing the community game include an 8% increase in teenagers playing in 2018, which goes against national trends. Women's rugby continues to see unprecedented levels of growth up 11.7% on 2017 with over 2,000 females participating. Coaching numbers grew to align with the increasing player numbers to deliver a coach to player ratio of 1:16. Referee numbers also grew with the referee to player ratio 1:38, which is below the New Zealand Rugby key performance indicator of 1:43.

Thomson acknowledged the Union's loyal sponsors, commercial partners, community funders and local Councils during this unprecedented time in the Union's history.

He also acknowledged the recent passing of much respected and admired Patron and life member, Ian Eliason.



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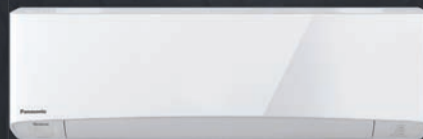
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# RDA regional games held in Hawera



Riding for the Disabled (RDA) at the Hawera Showgrounds.

On Sunday March 24 the Regional Games for the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) central area were held in brilliant sunshine at the RDA grounds in Hawera, coordinated this year by the Wanganui

group. This involves a team of four riders from each of the four groups; Hawera, Wanganui, Stratford and New Plymouth. They participate in four different games with all riders gaining a ribbon in the heats and

then the winners of each heat take part in a final, again receiving a ribbon for their effort. At the end of the day the kids are adorned with a mass of colour round their necks and large smiles. Almost as large as all the family and friends watching them.

This year the chosen games were a bending race, musical poles, letter posting and an obstacle race. Although riders came from three other groups, all the mounts were provided by Hawera. Plenty of volunteers were on hand to lead the horses, some of these being at least as competitive as the riders. Spectators were very vocal encouraging their teams, which adds to the excitement.

During a break between competitions a prize giving was held with Wanganui RDA winning the shield for the most points and

Stratford being awarded the Team Spirit prize, mainly from the support given by supporters.

## Manaia Golf results

End of month tournament. 1. Rod Le Fleming 41. 2. Denis Hurcomb 40. 3. Phil Elliott 39. 4. Margaret Putt 37. 4. Nathan Ngere 37. 6. John Oliver 35.  
Saturday. Men. Bogey Round. 1. Grant Gopperth +3. 2. Paul Hunn +3. 3. Ralph Symes +2. 4. Bruce

Duffus +2. 5. Joshua Symes +2.  
Waimate Plains. Gross. 1. Caleb Symes. 2. Caleb Andreoli. 3. Greg Elliott. Nett. Grant Gopperth, Grant Gibbs, Craig Jones.  
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**GARDENING** - Experienced (18 yrs) weeding, pruning etc. Ph Eden 06 763 8634 or 027 464 4896.



**LOOKING FOR WORK?**

At the suggestion of a regular advertiser, the Opunake & Coastal News is considering starting a Work Wanted column in the classified section of the paper which will be free.

This is partly to fill a gap in the media.

Another newspaper used to run such a column.

Anyone seeking work is invited to submit their details to the paper.

Your skills, experience, availability etc, is a suggestion but this will be up to the person.

**SITUATIONS VACANT**



**OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL**

Opunake High School  
Te Kura Taiao o Opunake

**PART-TIME CLEANER REQUIRED**

After school 5 days per week.  
Must be reliable and honest.

Applications close 26th April, 2019  
Written applications and CV to:

The Principal  
Opunake High School  
P O Box 4  
Opunake

Email: admin @opunake.school.nz

**GARAGE SALE**

**Garage Sale**



... moving house after 65 years!  
Sale Venue ... Southern end of Domett St  
Opunake  
When ... Easter Saturday from 9am

... way too many items to list!  
Everything from furniture, books, games, clothing, linen, electrical appliances, garden tools, vinyl records, preserves, jewellery, and much much more; even some 'freebies' and a complementary coffee to enjoy while you browse.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**ANZAC DAWN PARADE MANAIA**

The Egmont Plains Community Board and Manaia & Districts RSA cordially invite the public to the ANZAC Dawn Parade to be held in Manaia on Thursday 25 April 2019.

The parade will assemble at the Manaia Bowling Club (Riemenschneider Street) at 6.15am to march off at 6.30am then proceed to the Band Rotunda for the service - Medals to be worn.

Refreshments will follow the service at the Manaia Bowling Club.

**ANZAC DAWN PARADE OPUNAKE**

The Egmont Plains Community Board and the Opunake RSA cordially invite the public to the ANZAC Dawn Parade to be held in Opunake on Thursday 25 April 2019.

The parade will assemble at the Opunake Town Hall at 6.00am to march off at 6.15am - Medals to be worn (if wet the service will be conducted at the Opunake Town Hall).

At 8.00am there will be Public Services at the Services Cemetery.

Refreshments will follow the services at the Town Hall.

Further services will be held at the Cenotaphs at Te Kiri (11.00am) and Pihama (5.30pm).



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5.30PM**

Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake (opposite the CoastalCare Medical Centre)

**BUDGET ADVICE** available by appointment, home visits or at Coastal Care office. Phone 0800 333 048.



Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events. Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Phone: 06 761 7016  
23 Napier St, Opunake

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

Next issue due out April 25.

Contact us now on 06 761 7016 or email us to be in it!

# What's On Listings



## We are all family

### ONGOING

**Opunake Music Workshop:** Every fortnight at CoastalCare community lounge. See CoastalCare facebook page for dates and more details.

**Jonathan Young:** Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young? Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care. For more information phone: 06 7591363. Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

**Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake:** Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

### SUNDAYS

**Opunake Country Music Club:** Second Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome

### MONDAYS

**Tainui Day Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake:** Each Monday 10 am - 12:230 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025

**Opunake Friendship Club:** Meeting last Monday of each month in Opunake Town Hall at 1.30pm. All welcome.

**Opunake Business Association:** Usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

### TUESDAYS

**Club Hotel Pool:** Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

### WEDNESDAYS

**Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake:** Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

**Schnitzel Night:** Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

**Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker:** Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

**Opunake Embroiders Guild:** Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.

### THURSDAYS

**Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker:** Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

**Coastal Young Farmers:** Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

**Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia:** Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

**Egmont Euchre Club:** Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

### FRIDAYS

**Eltham Business Association Friday Markets:** 8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

### SATURDAYS

**Diet & Dance at the Wave:** 64 Domett Street, Opunake, 2pm.

### WEEKENDS

**The Historic Cape Light & Musuem:** Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

### MARCH 29 TO APRIL 21

**'Purely Pastel' Exhibition:** At Percy Thomson Gallery, Miranda St, Stratford. Refer advert.

### APRIL 6 TO OCTOBER 6

**'Whare Kahurangi: 100 Years of Collecting' Exhibition:** At Puke Ariki, New Plymouth. Refer advert and article.

### APRIL 12

**Morning Tea with Jonathan Young, MP:** Coastal Care Meeting Room, Opunake. 10am.

### APRIL 12 TO 14

**Taranaki Home & Lifestyle Expo:** At the TSB Stadium. Friday & Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. Refer advert.

### APRIL 14

**Open Mic Gig at Rahotu Tavern:** From 1-5pm Sunday, and then the second Sunday of every month.

### APRIL 17

**Pihama Women's Institute Annual Walk for Cancer:** At 309 Patiki Road, Pihama. Registrations from 9.30am. Walk starts at 10am. Refer article and ad in March 28 issue of OCN for details.

**Taranaki Irish Social Club Inc Quiz Night:** At the Good Home, NP at 7pm. Name your team of six. prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd - fundraiser for Taranaki Rose selection. Taranaki Rose Selection - enter now online [www.roseoftralee.com](http://www.roseoftralee.com)

### APRIL 20 TO 21

**National Meccano Exhibition:** At Inglewood Town Hall, Cutfield St. From 10am-4pm on both days. Refer advert.

### APRIL 25

**Manaia Anzac Dawn Parade:** 6.15am start. Assemble at Manaia Bowling Club.

**Opunake Anzac Dawn Parade:** 6.00am start. Assemble at Opunake Town Hall.

**Opunake Anzac Day Public Service:** At the Services Cemetery, Opunake. Starts 8am.

**Te Kiri Anzac Day Service:** At the Te Kiri cenotaph. Starts 11am.

**Special viewing of Peter Jackson's 'They Shall Not Grow Old':** At Everybodys Theatre, Opunake at 1pm.

**Pihama Anzac Day Service:** At the Pihama cenotaph. Starts 5.30pm.

### APRIL 27

**Taranaki Rose Selection:** Meet & Greet and lunch, 11am. \$20 tickets at Plymouth Hotel.

**Taranaki Rose Selection Final Dinner & Dance:** 6.30pm. \$65 tickets at Plymouth Hotel.

### APRIL 27 TO MAY 10

**TET CUE Theatre presents 'The Ladykillers':** 2pm Sunday matinees, 7.30pm evenings. No performance on Mondays.

### JUNE 7 TO JUNE 15

**Hawera Repetory Society presents 'Annie':** To be performed at the Hawera Memorial Theatre. Early bird tickets on sale now. Refer advert in March 28 issue of OCN for details.

This year's RSA Poppy Appeal has been launched with a focus on the support needed for families of service men and women.

The 2019 Poppy Appeal, which raises vital funds to support the growing needs of New Zealand's 41,000 veterans, current service men and women and their families, will culminate in an earlier-than-usual Poppy Day on Friday April 12.

RSA National President BJ Clark said the RSA was committed to providing a wide range of help to former members of the military who have served in deployments around the world.

This year's Poppy Appeal theme is.... He whānau kotahi tātou - We are all family

"Service to New Zealand often comes with some sacrifice," says Mr Clark.

"Most of the time this is seen as a personal sacrifice, yet the impact is also felt intensely by family members and sometimes this can last across many generations."

The Minister for Veterans' Affairs, The Hon Ron Mark, says this year's Poppy Appeal will remember and acknowledge the 'whole sacrifice' that was made and is still being made by today's NZDF personnel and their families.

"Of the 41,000 veterans in New Zealand, around 31,000 are what we call contemporary veterans," says Ron Mark. "This means they've been involved in more modern operations such as Bosnia, East Timor, Afghanistan or Naval and Air Force patrols off the Horn of Africa.

"Each of these operations involved a lot of time away from family, and it can be a struggle for those returning from operations to integrate back into society upon their return.

"Services which assist with this transition are a vital part of supporting our modern day military and it's great to see the RSA doing work in this area," says Ron Mark.

The RSA is committed to supporting all service personnel and their families, says Mr Clark.

"In the last five years the RSA have built a nationwide, comprehensive and effective support services network that provides funding and support for serving and ex-service personnel and their families in need.

Jenny Martin is the Director of Post Transition and works with her partner, Willie Apiata VC, on assisting former service men and women and their families during and after transition from military to civilian life.

"The changing tide of transition has a ripple effect across families and communities," she says.

"The impact on those who



did not serve, did not receive training and did not leave their homes is immeasurable and often forgotten. Their voices will be heard. Their stories will be shared."

Simon Strombom is the founder and lead coordinator of the New Zealand Remembrance Army, a National volunteer network with a mission to clean and restore New Zealand military graves.

"Families are the core of our society," says Simon. "Legacy and heritage are as important as service and sacrifice. We are family and we look after our own."

This year's Poppy Ambassadors are former New Zealand SAS soldier Willie Apiata VC, mental health advocate and comedian Mike King, naval reservist and recording artist Rebecca Nelson and current NZDF Person of the Year, Leading Combat System Specialist Alicia Wall.

Mr Apiata knows what it is like to serve overseas and return home and the impact that can have on individuals and families.

"All those in our Defence forces who serve on operations overseas or here at home in New Zealand face significant challenges as we transition from uniform to civilian life. It is another mission patrol in itself. The environmental affects we all experience through transition not only impacts ourselves but affects those closest to us and our Whanau.

"We must all as New Zealanders stand up and support our men and women of service. The RSA has been supporting our returned servicemen and women since World War I and continue to do so every day. Please support the RSA to support our people during Poppy Appeal to pay it forward and give life back to our men and women to become purposeful people within their whanau and communities," Mr Apiata says.

Royal New Zealand Navy sailor Alicia Wall who was named the New Zealand Defence Force's 2018 Person of the Year is the newest Poppy Ambassador and says representing her fellow serving members of the NZDF is a huge honour

and responsibility.

"I come from a very strong military family and within the services, we regard our colleagues as family also, so the theme of this year's Poppy Appeal really rings true. We care for each other and often when serving overseas we are looking after others in need. But current service people need help too as do their families and it's great that the RSA - supported through the Poppy Appeal - can be there for us."

Mike King is a leading advocate for mental health support and his work through The Key to Life Charitable Trust saw him named Kiwibank New Zealanders of the Year in February this year.

"Having been overseas visiting our NZDF people around the world, I know from their stories the impact that military service has on them, their families and the communities back home.

"It doesn't matter who you are - any of us can be doing it tough and it's hard for others to see that. Organisations like the RSA and their network of people around the country are there to help. And giving to the Poppy Appeal is one way you can help the service men and women who represent us - and their families who can be doing the hard yards at home."

International Kiwi singer Rebecca Nelson is no stranger to the battle fields where New Zealanders have fought and died, having sung at official commemorations around the world.

"As a reservist in the Royal New Zealand Navy I have served alongside many fellow Kiwis who have made major sacrifices to serve their country. This has an impact not only on them but on their families and extended families. I know many of these people find themselves in need of help and the RSA is an organisation that is there to help those people - my colleagues and friends and their whanau. I hope every Kiwi will take the opportunity to show they care for our extended family of service people by wearing the Poppy and making a generous donation during the RSA Poppy Appeal."

The 2019 Poppy Appeal marks the 97th running of the appeal, making it New Zealand's oldest continuously run appeal.

RSA Chief Executive Jack Steer says the Poppy Appeal is a poignant time for all New Zealanders.

"Having collected for Poppy Day in uniform over many years, I know there is genuine respect and care from the people of New Zealand, and we are so grateful for donations made through the Poppy Appeal."

# Meccano Exhibit at Inglewood

What is Meccano?

Most of us have seen it, but few will realise the potential. On the simplest level Meccano is a toy construction system, like Lego. Look a bit closer though and there is just so much more to it.

The story of the World's greatest construction toy goes something like this.... The idea came from Frank Hornby in 1898 (who later gave us Hornby trains and Dinky toys). Frank was working as a shipping clerk and was struggling to decide what to buy his two sons for Christmas and toys were expensive. His boys quickly tired of their toys, but Frank had a real interest in engineering which gave him an idea. What if you could buy a toy just once only, but then make any number of different models with it, over and over again?

In this way, a boy could have a locomotive one day, a truck the next, maybe a crane at the weekend and an aeroplane after School



A lot of the angle girder framing of the rollercoaster went into the framework of my diorama model 'Meccanoland' This photograph was taken at our 2011 Palmerston North convention. The model was finished for this gathering having been started many years before. This is the only time this model has been shown and it will be in Inglewood with a few more modules added since this photo.

on Monday and...he would never get bored of having the same toy and he would also enjoy the process of building each new one - Genius!

So Frank made some simple metal pieces in his garden shed, allegedly cut from an old biscuit tin. He decided on having a hole every half inch and bought some nuts and bolts to hold the pieces together. He showed his boys

how to build a simple crane or a bridge. Wheels, axles and hooks followed and before long, Frank had a decent set of parts. Other people (parents and children) liked this toy and Frank's idea soon became a business.

The first sets were called 'Mechanics Made Easy' and marketed in 1901, this was changed to 'Meccano' in 1908. It is thought that this name was chosen because it sounds rather like 'Mechanical' or 'Make' and 'knowledge' or Know. This standard 1/2 inch (12.7mm) system is still the same today so parts from the latest sets are still compatible right down to the 5/32" Whitworth thread nuts and bolts.

Evolution of Meccano Over the decades which followed, hundreds more

parts were added to the system and the early nickel-plated parts gave way to red and green painted parts, then blue and gold, then a different shade of red and green, then silver, yellow and black, then yellow, blue and shiny zinc, then yellow and dark blue. Meccano is often described as 'Real Engineering in Miniature' as real working models can be constructed of any mechanical device.

Alongside the main sets have gone countless 'special' sets with an Aeroplane, Car, Army and Space theme or a 'Highway Vehicles' theme. There have been gears sets and caterpillar track sets, electrical sets, clock sets and motors powered by electricity, clockwork, steam and even water! Meccano

had gone way beyond a child's toy and was appealing increasingly to adult model makers.

There are countless stories of famous engineers and inventors who had Meccano sets as boys and even of adult engineers who have built things in Meccano before 'doing it for real'. Sir Alec Issigonis, the great mind who designed the Mini and Morris Minor, developed his revolutionary front wheel drive mechanism with Meccano parts - now copied on most real cars the whole world over.

Like so many good things, the popularity of Meccano has diminished over the last 20 or 30 years, with plastic kits, computer games and a generation of youngsters who perhaps sought a more fast-paced hobby. Meccano was never cheap and perhaps it was a toy of its' time - a

slower and more thoughtful time when the lives of our children were not driven by television, mobile phones and the mad rush to grow up far too quickly.

The hobby today There are Meccano clubs all over the world. Most enthusiasts are adults, and those youngsters joining the hobby are very actively encouraged by the many clubs around the country. In New Zealand there are five Meccano clubs, Auckland, Waikato, MWT (Manawatu, Wanganui Taranaki Meccano Club), Wellington, Christchurch as well as enthusiasts in other areas. As well as local meetings and displays the National convention is held every two years at Easter and this year will be held at the Inglewood Town Hall. The last convention was held at Christchurch Arts Centre in 2017 and the one before that at Te Papa in 2015. The last time it was in Taranaki was 2003 in Hawera. There are 35 modellers coming from all over the country and two from Australia who have requested 70m of table space. There will be a large variety of working models to help get the message across to get kids off devices and use their brains.

What will we see? There will be models of cars, trucks, trains, cranes, aeroplanes, fairground rides, clocks and many others, and this year there is a special model theme 'Meccano goes digital' with models using the latest electronic control systems. The Convention is being held over four days with set up Thursday and Friday is 'modellers only' day with model tours and workshops on electronic control systems. The public are very welcome to view the models on Saturday and Sunday 10-4 both days and grandparents are encouraged to bring their grandchildren to view the wonderful creations for the very reasonable entry fee of \$5 adults, \$10 family and children under 15 are free.

Local news, Local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events. Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS 06 761 7016



'Within the Realm', Vicki Jackson

## Purely Pastel

A selection of 100 works from New Zealand's most accomplished pastellists

March 29 -April 21



PERCY THOMSON GALLERY PERCYTHOMSONGALLERY.ORG.NZ MIRANDA ST. STRATFORD 06 765 0917

**cue theatre** TET CUE THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS  
www.cuetheatre.co.nz

# The Ladykillers

By Graham Linehan

Director Joan Ertel

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

Evenings @ 7.30pm Sunday Matinees @ 2.00 pm  
No Performances on Mondays

\$22 general admission \$20 per person for prepaid groups of 10+

Tickets available from www.cuetheatre.co.nz OR FunHo phone 7567 030

A Community Theatre presentation by Special Arrangement with Samuel French and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd

COME AND SEE THE NATIONAL

# MECCANO EXHIBITION

## EASTER 2019

**Inglewood Town Hall**  
CUTFIELD ST, INGLEWOOD  
Saturday 20 April & Sunday 21 April 10am-4pm

**POPULAR FAMILY ENTRY PRICES**  
Family \$10.00 Adult \$5.00 Child free (under 15)

**LARGE DISPLAY OF WORKING MECCANO MODELS**

Telephone 06 753 7414 for further information

# Hillsborough Holden Museum



Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events. Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



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**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**



**YES**

**CHADDY'S CHARTERS ISLAND TOURS**

Mountain Bike, Kayak and Paddle Board Hire

*Fun to share with friends and family 8.30am to 4pm*

**Open Daily**  
Ph: 06 758 9133

The Hillsborough Holden Museum and Bathurst-themed mini putt course is a fun outing for the family and a great social opportunity conveniently only 10 minutes from the centre of New Plymouth at 683 Egmont Road. To book call 0274 470 708.

The Holden Museum is a must see with 44 cars and loads of memorabilia. Entertain the whole family with a game of mini golf, ride on the train and merry go round, challenge your brains to a game of outdoor giant chess or draughts, or just relax in the sun or shade and enjoy a coffee, ice cream or cold drink from the kiosk.

The Hideaway Café has recently opened and they will be Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Saturday and Sunday 9am -4pm over the School Holidays and Easter

Opening hours are 10 am to 4 pm weekends and public holidays for the Museum and the Mini Putt will be open every day over Easter and the School Holidays 10 am -5pm

## Chaddys Charters



Dave Chadfield of Chaddys Charters with some of his E bikes ready to hire for rides along the New Plymouth Coastal Walkway.

As well as running the fantastic Island Tours around the Sugarloaf Islands Chaddy hires out Kayaks and Paddle Boards. There is also a little trailer available to tow small children behind a bike.

CALL OUR FRIENDLY SALES TEAM AT THE



**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

23 Napier St, Opunake

06 761 7016

See how our high readership rate can work for you



**683 Egmont Rd, NP**  
**Ph: 027 447 0708**  
Mini Putt open school holidays and Easter. 10am-5pm.



An immaculately displayed personal collection of Holden cars and memorabilia. This is a must see!

683 Egmont Road, RD2, New Plymouth  
Mob: 027 4470 708  
Opening hours 10am-4pm weekends and public holidays.

The Hideaway Cafe will be open Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat & Sun from 9am-4pm during the school holidays

# Taranaki Home & Lifestyle Expo promises experts and inspiration



Pieroth Wines. Visitors can learn about the brewing or distilling process, enjoy a drink, and purchase their favourite beverage to take home. For those who are more passionate about food there will be food trucks offering cuisines from India, the Philippines and France, classic Kiwi fish and chips, gelato and coffee.

An exhibitors' prize pack worth more than \$3,000 is up for grabs. To be in to win, buy tickets from Ticketek before April 12. The lucky winner will get a Hyundai EV to drive for the weekend of the Expo and a free WOF thanks to Energy City Motors Hyundai, one year's free internet service from Speedster, food vouchers, cash, and other goodies from local businesses.

Resene is also giving away a \$1,000 voucher to spend at the New Plymouth Resene ColorShop. To enter, visitors must complete a short survey at the Expo.

**Taranaki Home & Lifestyle Expo TSB Stadium on April 12, 13 and 14.**

Whether it's building, landscaping, or a new lifestyle pursuit in mind, visitors to the Taranaki

Home & Lifestyle Expo this year can expect a huge range of expert businesses ready to help them out.

Taking place at the TSB Stadium on April 12, 13 and 14, the Expo has more than 100 local and national

exhibitors ranging from kitset builds and sheds, to swimming pools and outdoor planters. With so many businesses in one place, visitors will be able to compare prices and take advantage of exclusive

Expo deals.

Stop by the new garden bar featuring local craft breweries Mike's Beer, Theoretical Brewer and Forgotten 43, local distiller Juno gin, and international wine supplier

Attracting more than 3,500 people over the three days, the Expo is organised by NPDC and is the place to be for everything home and lifestyle.

## TARANAKI HOME & LIFESTYLE EXPO

12 - 14 April 2019  
 TSB Stadium  
 Fri & Sat: 10am-5pm, Sun: 10am-4pm



90 Tasman St, Opunake - Ph: 06 761 8550

### Arty Tarts

Genuine Home Cooked Food, Pies, Savouries, Fresh Scones, Muffins, Cakes, Slices and Sandwiches.  
 All Day Breakfast  
 Open 6am - 4pm  
 Open 7 Days a week



**TAWHITI MUSEUM, HAWERA - Share our passion for history**  
 Open every Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday (including Easter) 10am-4pm  
[www.tawhitimuseum.co.nz](http://www.tawhitimuseum.co.nz)

The Taranaki Home & Lifestyle Expo is on this week at TSB Stadium! With over 100 businesses in one place, you can finally bring your building, renovating, interior or landscaping dreams to life.

[homeandlifestyleexpo.co.nz](http://homeandlifestyleexpo.co.nz)

# Todd Energy Aquatic Centre



The school holidays are the last two weeks of the season that the outdoor pools are open before closing for the winter. We have a family fun day on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April from 12pm – 2.30pm with games and competitions, normal entry costs apply.

# Pihama Annual Walk for Cancer



Join the Pihama Walk for Cancer on April 17.

The Pihama Walk for Cancer was started by Val Wallace in 1995 when her grandson had cancer. At that time she wanted to raise some money for the Cancer Society. Val contacted Jen Trolove and talked about how they could achieve this. Jen came up with the idea of a walk being a good fundraising activity. Since then the Pihama Women's Institute have raised \$36,156 for the Cancer Society and much

of this money has stayed in South Taranaki. This year the walk will start from Jen and Peters home at 309 Patiki Road on April 17. Registration is from 9.30am and the walk starts at 10.00am. The cost of \$10.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children includes a country lunch. Please take note of the advertisement in this paper with the details. This is a great school holiday activity.



Red Gate photographed by Mark Bellringer

An interesting assortment. Some for a fixed price. Some inviting an offer. And some offered as an auction, with a really low starting point. Do have a look, see if

there's something you'd like on the Virtual Tart website. Thank you for looking. cheers

Dale Copeland

# Virtual Tart

More artworks than space to put them. A group of art collectors who have got more

artworks than they've got wall space to hang them has led to this month's exhibition on the Virtual Tart website.

Open 10am till late 7 days  
 41 Tukapa St - Westtown - New Plymouth  
 Phone: 06 758 4430  
 Email: howdy@westsidegrille.com  
**Closed Good Friday**

**CoastalCare**  
Haumarū ki Tai  
Health and Community Centre  
Haumaia ki runga, Hauora ki raro

Haumarū ki Tai  
Health and Community Centre  
Delivering essential community health and social services now and into the future....

## DID YOU KNOW?

CoastalCare offers for hire, quiet, private, well-appointed room's for meetings, training opportunities and social gatherings. This will seat up to 60 people or it has the flexibility to be divided into two smaller rooms. The facilities include a lounge area & kitchenette for self service of coffees and tea

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

- TARANAKI OSTEOPATH Every Tuesday
- TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE Offering full dental services every Thursday
- LISA KEEN - AUDIOLOGY Every Wednesday
- NEW PLYMOUTH PHYSIOTHERAPY Every Tuesday and Friday
- TARANAKI PODIATRY Every 3rd Wednesday
- BROWNING & MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS Every 2nd Thursday
- MIH'S PLACE Every 4th Thursday
- COUNSELLING SERVICES Various providers and specialties including, anger and violence, relationships, drugs, alcohol, quit smoking.

Permanently residing in the building are:

- OPUNAKE PHARMACY,
- OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE,
- ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE,
- PLUNKET,
- HEALTH BOARD SERVICES,
- COASTAL PRINTERS

For a full list of Services and happenings here at CoastalCare

**Find us on Facebook**

or visit us at [www.coastalcare.co.nz](http://www.coastalcare.co.nz)

## EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE – HIRE  
 For information email: [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com) or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre  
 Check out our website at [www.everybodystheatre.co.nz](http://www.everybodystheatre.co.nz) – Phone 027 3837926

**APRIL**

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale **No Eft-Pos** **Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8.**

8yr and under must be supervised by 14 yr or older **ID required for all R movies**

 <b>DUMBO</b> Adventure, Fantasy   1hr 40mins   G Circus owner Max Medici enlists Holt Farrier to care for a new born elephant whose oversized ears make him a laughingstock in an already struggling circus. But when they discover that Dumbo can fly, the circus makes a comeback. <b>Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm   Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm</b>	 <b>MARY POPPINS RETURNS</b> Fantasy, Adventure   2hrs 11mins   G Michael and Jane are now grown up. After Michael suffers a personal loss, the enigmatic nanny Mary Poppins re-enters the lives of the Banks family and uses her unique magical skills to help the family rediscover the joy and wonder missing in their lives. <b>Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm   Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm</b>
 <b>FLYING THE NEST</b> Adventure, Family   1hr 23mins   G A young plover chick named Ploey is struggling to learn to fly before his family migrates south. Isolated and afraid, Ploey embarks on a journey where he must use his cunning, and rely on the help of new friends to make it through the winter. <b>Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm   Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm</b>	 <b>A DOGS WAY HOME</b> Family, Adventure   1hr 37mins   PG As a puppy, Bella finds her way into the arms of Lucas, a young man who gives her a good home. When Bella becomes separated from Lucas, she soon finds herself on an epic 400-mile journey to reunite with her beloved owner. <b>Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Apr 1pm   Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr 1pm</b>
 <b>DESTROYER</b> Drama, Thriller   2hrs 3mins   R16; <b>Violence, Language &amp; Sexual Content</b> As a young cop, Erin Bell went undercover to infiltrate a gang in the California desert -- with tragic results. Years later when the leader of that gang suddenly re-emerges, Erin embarks on an obsessive quest to bring him to justice and make peace with her tortured past. <b>Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Apr 7pm   Sun 28<sup>th</sup> Apr 7pm</b>	 <b>GRETA</b> Drama, Thriller   1hr 38mins   R13; <b>Violence &amp; Content that may disturb</b> Frances is a bored, struggling waitress who returns a lost handbag to its owner Greta. The two begin to spend time together as friends, until Frances makes a discovery that encourages her to pull away. Of course, Greta won't let her get away easily. <b>Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 7pm   Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Apr 7pm</b>
 <b>THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD – 25TH April 1pm</b> Documentary, War   1hrs 33mins   RP16 <b>(recommended) Graphic content may disturb</b> Reaching into the mists of time, Jackson aims to give these men voices, investigate the hopes and fears of the veterans, the humility and humanity that represented a generation changed forever by a global war.	 <b>CAPTAIN MARVEL</b> Fantasy, Science Fiction   2hrs 5mins   M; Violence The film follows Carol Danvers as she becomes one of the universe's most powerful heroes. While a galactic war between two alien races reaches Earth, Danvers finds herself and a small group of allies at the centre of the maelstrom <b>Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Apr 7pm   Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Apr 7pm</b>

Mon	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
			12 Hotel Mumbai 7pm	13 A Dogs way home 1pm Vox Lux 7pm	14 Captain Marvel 7pm
15 Flying the nest 1pm	17 Mary Poppins Returns 1pm Greta 7pm		19 Flying the Nest 1pm Captain Marvel 7pm	20 Mary Poppins Returns 1pm Destroyer 7pm	21 Greta 7pm
22 A Dogs Way Home 1pm	24 Dumbo 1pm The Guilty 7pm	25 ANZAC 1pm They shall not grow old	26 Wonder Park 1pm Hellboy 7pm	27 Dumbo 1pm Fighting with my Family 7pm	28 Destroyer 7pm

# Puke Ariki Whare Kahurangi



Opunake's Vicki and Alan Sandford have a collection of over 2500 salt and pepper shakers and are featured in the exhibition.

the Temporary Exhibitions Gallery, Whare Kahurangi: 100 Years of Collecting not only features objects from the Museum's storerooms but also from private collectors from around Taranaki.

Puke Ariki Acting Director Colleen Mullin says the exhibition has been a century in the making. "NPDC's Puke Ariki is continuing what the Taranaki Museum started when it opened in 1919 - we're combining the historical with the high-tech, the entertaining with the educational, and we look to forever preserve the stories of the past and present for the visitors of the future."

Whare Kahurangi means house of treasured possessions and Curator Chanelle Carrick says the exhibition celebrates everyone who has contributed to the museum over the past century, from hundreds of generous donors to visitors who come from all over the world.

"The exhibition explores the diverse history of our region and we hope that it will inspire people to keep recording and sharing their stories for future generations," says Chanelle. "Puke Ariki is such a unique place and we hope this exhibition will instil a sense of pride in what our museum

and libraries are today." The exhibition includes interactive experiences from putting yourself in the shoes of a curator and coming up with a fake news story, placing your own treasured possession into the Cabinet of Curiosities, to voting on an ethical dilemma - should the museum open the sealed pages of a letter book dated 1841?

Whare Kahurangi: 100 Years of Collecting is on show 6 April - 6 October 2019.

Puke Ariki Museum, Temporary Gallery. Free entry. Open 7 days a week.

What does a dog-skin cloak, a meteorite, a missing face towel possibly belonging to King Edward VII, the oldest picture of New Plymouth

and a Transformer all have in common?

They are just some of the many weird and wonderful objects that are part of

a major new exhibition at NPDC's Puke Ariki looking back on a century of collections and collecting.

Opening on 6 April in



Enjoy some 1980s and 1990s technology nostalgia.

**WHARE 100 YEARS OF COLLECTING**  
**KAHURANGI**  
**6 APRIL - 6 OCTOBER**

Puke Ariki NPDC TSB COMMUNITY TRUST