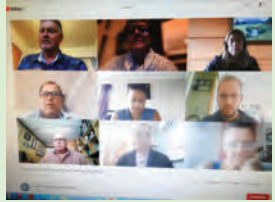




Inside



Having a meeting online. See page 5.



Community garden replaces church hall. Turn to page 14.



Commemoration of Christ's sacrifice. See page 9.



Lakeside Playhouse in Opunake upgraded. See pages 22-23.



Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge has been demolished. Turn to page 6.

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Large police presence in Okato as car ploughs into property

There was a large police presence in Okato when a vehicle being pursued by the police ploughed through a residential property in Okato's main street on Thursday afternoon April 14.

Shortly after crashing and ending up on the front lawn, two men took off with the police still in pursuit, this time on foot.

"We heard a huge bang followed by a rumbling noise," said Sonnie Harewood from COB Builders who was working across the street with a colleague.

They ran across the road and were the first ones there, said Sonnie who estimates it was within twenty seconds. By then, however, with the horn blaring and the engine still running, the occupants had disappeared.

The car had a wheel snapped in half and the whole side of the car was crumpled, said Sonnie.

He noticed an open wallet with "heaps of cash" in the vehicle which he said was a black Subaru Forrester. There was also food everywhere, including milk and a cooked chicken. They had clearly just been shopping.

"Initially it sounded like a head on collision," said Sonnie adding that he thought they'd be looking for a body.

He says he was wearing ear muffs at the time using cutting machinery, but still



The vehicle ploughed through a property in Carthew Street downing several trees on the way.

heard the crash. "It was a really loud bang."

A neighbour later said he saw the pair running down the drive towards the rear of the property.

A local who lives nearby said he was driving north in his van somewhere between Pungarehu and Warea when a car passed him "going about 150". A police car travelling in the opposite direction turned and gave chase pursuing the vehicle through Okato.

Ben's father Dave commented it was lucky no one happened to be walking along the footpath.

Fortunately the owner of the house was out at work at the time.



Tyre marks show the trajectory the vehicle took.

At least six or seven police and police were seen occupants. cars attended the accident combing the area for the



Left: Police officers on the scene confer over the situation.



Letters to the Editor

Response to cheer leading

"In response to Tom Stephens cheer leading letter for the Labour government and its two local MP's. Looking at Facebook which should be viewed as the

21st century 'Townhall'. Firstly I have never voted National however unlike all Labour MP's and their party on Facebook, Barbara Kuriger engages with posts disagreeing with her or Nats policy statements. Among my experiences with

the dishonesty of Labour (and the Greens) has been, around 2017 I posted advice on UN concerns around human rights abuses with cobalt mining when Labour was pushing EV cars. Their response was to erase my comments and block me from posting anything. That block remains now. My bet is thousands of New Zealanders have experienced the same. During COVID, in late 2021, I posted links to (MPs where I was not blocked) actual science research on Vitamin D levels in our blood and the correlation between low levels (a situation common for the aged, the obese, darker skinned people and those working indoors) and more negative outcomes with COVID). The posts were deleted and I was blocked by several MPs. The Whanganui MP Steph Lewis is slightly smarter, she 'shadow bans' everything that disagrees or counters her and Labour (that situation arose after other comments on issues were deleted and I simply reposted). Shadow banning is where you can

still see your comment and thus think it's still on her page, but no one else can see it. Tested by getting others to view page. You can also tell that Lewis does this to others. The comment count number, on a post she does, might be 20 but you can only view 5-10 comments. Mainstream media (eg TV1/NewsHubetc) which have been accused of simply parroting government directives are also now engaging in outright blocks, restricting comments and shadow banning. New Zealand is an open democracy with free speech and exchange of ideas. This is pretty much like the 'clean and green'/100% pure... an obscene myth. As PM Ardern asserted about the Parliament protesters not being representative of New Zealanders, my view is this government/New Zealand is not representative of a functioning democracy.

PS I sent the research information to these many MP's via email at Parliament. That was also ignored.»

Max Thomas
Awatuna

Mountain icon would be sadly missed

If Derek Andrews keeps to his word a Mt Taranaki icon will be sadly missed by other Mt Taranaki users, as he stated after his 870th summit ascent last week, which was to be his last ascent of the mountain.

During past years I have met Derek up there on the slopes of the hill, and he is always eager to tell us of the goodies he had collected, and most times he had far more rubbish than lunch. .

I take my hat off to him, a true Mt Taranaki icon. Who is going to pick up the litter up there now?

During the years Derek has been making his ascents over the decades, the mountain's name has changed from Mt Egmont to Mt Taranaki and now Maunga Taranaki, yet it is the old hill to him. Good luck and many trekking journeys still in those legs.

Many of us are far better people for climbing the

mountain/hill with you, thanks.

Ian McAlpine
New Plymouth

Doctor's House

The letter by Bianca in the latest issue about the GP's who were once in Opunake was interesting.

About 20 years ago I bought a house in Opunake for relocation to Oakura. It was owned by the Flemings who built a new one on the site. During renovation work I found a photo of a young Indian family. It turned out to be the Gunatungas, who lived in the house for many years. Dr G, as he was fondly known, was delighted to receive the photo.

A while ago I sold my son's car when he headed overseas. An Indian bloke bought it and commented that my house seemed familiar. I explained it's history and I don't know who was most surprised when he said I am Dr G's brother.

John Leith

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EDITORIAL

America's Cup defence to go to Barcelona: not a sporting decision, a financial one

Is there anyone in New Zealand who still believes the America's Cup has anything new to do with sport?

The latest decision of Grant Dalton to move the defence offshore to Barcelona, Spain merely underlines the fact that the event is mostly to do with money and how much of it can be acquired.

Try looking up Google and see how much the notable personalities are reputedly worth? It would seem that virtually all of them are multi-millionaires. As long ago as 2015, when then prime minister John Key said it was unlikely that any more taxpayers money would be delivered to Team New Zealand, it was revealed that Grant Dalton was being paid at least a million dollars

annually – that's over \$19,230 a week. Heaven know how much he's getting now that they've won it back. At the time the helmsman Dean Barker was reportedly being paid more than Mr Key for running the nation!

So, if you've ever questioned why the event is so expensive to run and the fact that taxpayers input is in the six figures of millions, one reason is laid bare: they are paying themselves handsomely. Try telling that to the nighttime cleaner, maybe struggling with two jobs, who is earning \$21 an hour why it is important that their hard-earned taxes are going to such a money-orientated enterprise. Mr Key had it right seven years ago.

Why is the Americas Cup so

overrated, almost as though it is more important than the Olympics. It's not, in reality, once the hype is removed. The yachts that win Olympic gold medals are competing against the world's best, while the Americas Cup winner (whoever it is) is competing against much fewer competitors and ones who are not there for reason of merit, but whether they can come up with the million dollar plus entry fee.

There is a lot of misinformation (I'll refrain from using the world Sir Tim Shadbolt made famous or infamous) about the advantages that this overblown event brings New Zealand. We were told that the last one would lead to a huge financial benefit for

our country with the word billions tossed about; in fact it reportedly made 156 million dollar loss.

If he was still alive Sir Peter Blake, a true hero of the event (when it wasn't mostly about money), would be shocked at how the event has fallen.

The last America Cup cost the taxpayer 136 million dollars. It's time this ridiculous junket is stopped and the money diverted into more serious concerns including promoting sport amongst younger athletes, helping potential Olympic athletes and solving some of our nations problems, including more money for Pharmac, more elective surgery and the like.

Rolland McKellar

ADELPHOS

The Bible is a story from cover to cover about the problems of people trying to get right with God. Spiritual health needed to be maintained just like physical health. Both the Old Testament Jews and New Testament Christians often failed. Why? Because they weren't committed to keeping God's commandments in His Word. Let's look at why God's people sometimes fail themselves and God.

To be in good spiritual health and stay right with God means more than just head knowledge. It is a definite commitment of faith and trust in Jesus. Without

Getting and staying right with God

faith, trust and acting upon God's commandments the word "believe" is empty and meaningless. Faith without good works is dead (James 2:17-18). Even Satan intellectually believes that Jesus died on the cross, was buried and resurrected. Since the Garden of Eden his main jobs, as the father of lies and deception, are to destroy the Christian's faith and trust in God and His Word. In today's world Satan's main objectives are to wreak global havoc, destroy morality, faith and trust in Jesus and to erode the Christian's spiritual health.

Getting right with god in the New Testament is about

3 things: 1.) Believing in Jesus as the Son of God who came to earth, 2.) that He died on the cross to forgive your sins, was buried and that God the Father raised Him from the dead on the third day, 2.) Repenting from any current sins (sorry for our sins) on an ongoing basis and 3.) Confessing them to God regularly for His cleansing forgiveness (1 John 1:8-9). Believing, repenting and confessing is like brushing your teeth or taking a daily shower. It's spiritual hygiene.

Jesus gave us a heads up for 2022 in the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23). Here He cautioned us to never give up your belief, trust

and daily faith walk because of criticism for believing in God's Word, trusting in materialism, succumbing to worry or just busyness and apathy that leaves no room for faith and trust. Jesus is clearly telling us these common spiritual diseases and deceptions are dead ends to Christian faith. Today, in a world that is spiritually at war with itself, Jesus wants Christians and everyone to get right and stay right with God and to have a renewed hope and inner peace.

That's how to get right and stay right with God.

Maranatha,

Adelphos



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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

Property valuations will affect rates

At Council we are currently as we are about to set the finishing off the Annual Plan rates for the new financial

year which starts from 1 July. Despite the rising costs we are experiencing, we expect to get the total average rate increase to below 3%. This year the rates will be significantly affected by the district-wide property valuation, done by Quotable Value NZ in September 2021. Since our last valuation three years ago, the district has had an average 20.4% increase in property value, largely driven by increases in the residential (average 86%) and commercial (average 40.7%) sectors - while dairy and pastoral properties saw a small (average -0.1%) decrease. If you haven't already you will soon receive a valuation notice from QV giving you your property's new valuation.



CHRIS YOUNG

The calculation of property rating values and the impact they have on rates is complex. Just because your property rating value may show a change, does not mean that your future rates will change proportionately - your rates will only be affected if your property value has increased or decreased by more or less than the average movement across the district.

The total amount of rates collected also does not change because of the increased value of properties in the district. If you think of the budget like a pie, that pie doesn't get any bigger because of revaluation. Your property's value just determines the portion of the pie that you're going to pay and ensures your portion is the same as others whose properties are valued the same as yours. The Coastal area from Opunake North is still trying to recover from the large-scale flooding in February. The very popular Opunake Loop Trail will need major work to be reinstated. On a more positive note, it's great to see the new playground coming together. Many thanks to all those people

who work so hard to make our place such a great place to live. The STDC and the Sinclair Event Centre have also come to an agreement to ensure that the roof is replaced on the Centre. Finally, as this crazy pandemic continues to plague the world, it is good to see positive case numbers starting to reduce. The number of cases has had quite an impact on Council activities/services with reduced hours at some libraries and rural pools. It's at these times we must be prepared to help family, friends, and neighbours if Covid affects their lives. Stay safe everyone.

Councillor Chris Young



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South Taranaki presents plan for water reform that works



STDC MAYOR PHIL NIXON

Last month I and Mayors and CEs representing the 32 member councils of Communities 4 Local Democracy (C4LD) presented politicians with our plan for three waters reform that could gain wide support. We presented our 10-point plan for reform to the Minister for Local Government, Nanaia Mahuta and Department of Internal Affairs officials, as well as Green Party co-leaders Marama Davidson and James Shaw, and Green MP Eugenie Sage. The group had already presented its models to the National Party and ACT.

C4LD is keen to work with all parties to ensure any reforms have the broad base of support needed for major long-term infrastructure investment. The proposals we've brought to the table enable the Government to deliver on all its aims, create opportunities for strong and lasting partnerships and deliver safe, sustainable and affordable water services for all New Zealand. They enable us to build on existing partnerships with Mana Whenua at a local level that consider co-design and partnership arrangements to acknowledge and also provide for the continuation of local influence and community property rights. We're confident that we're in line with the majority of New Zealanders. Our community have certainly given STDC a clear message that they're not in support of the government's reform model and I regularly get called or stopped in the

street to have that message reinforced. We've presented a reform framework that is directly supported by nearly half of the councils in New Zealand and is aligned with the views of the majority of other councils, most notably Auckland representing 1.7 million people. We all support the need for clean, safe, affordable drinking water and a healthy environment. This is the approach that our Council has always taken when investing in our assets and it will continue to be the key driver of future investment decisions. South Taranaki's water infrastructure, in general, is in a good condition with a robust and ongoing \$135million upgrade program planned in our current Long-Term Plan. Just some of these projects include replacing Waimate West and Inaha water pipes, water and wastewater network upgrades/pipe replacements across our towns, a new reservoir at

Waimate West, Opunake decolourisation, replacing the Rahotu reservoir and water treatment plant, new water bores at Eltham, Kapuni and Waverley, and building new tertiary wastewater treatment plants for Manaia, Kaponga, Patea, Waverley and Hawera. As a Council we have always agreed there needs to be change and improvements in the 3 Waters space and would like to work with the government to find a solution - we do not agree that taking our assets off us and amalgamating them with 22 other councils, is the solution. You can view the full presentation we made to the minister outlining C4LD's framework for reform at www.communities4localdemocracy.co.nz/ideas

Phil Nixon Mayor South Taranaki District Council



Left: An Easter floral splash of colour.


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Funding to plug centres power shortfall

Should Opunake be without power in a civil defence emergency there would be no power for the town's event centre.

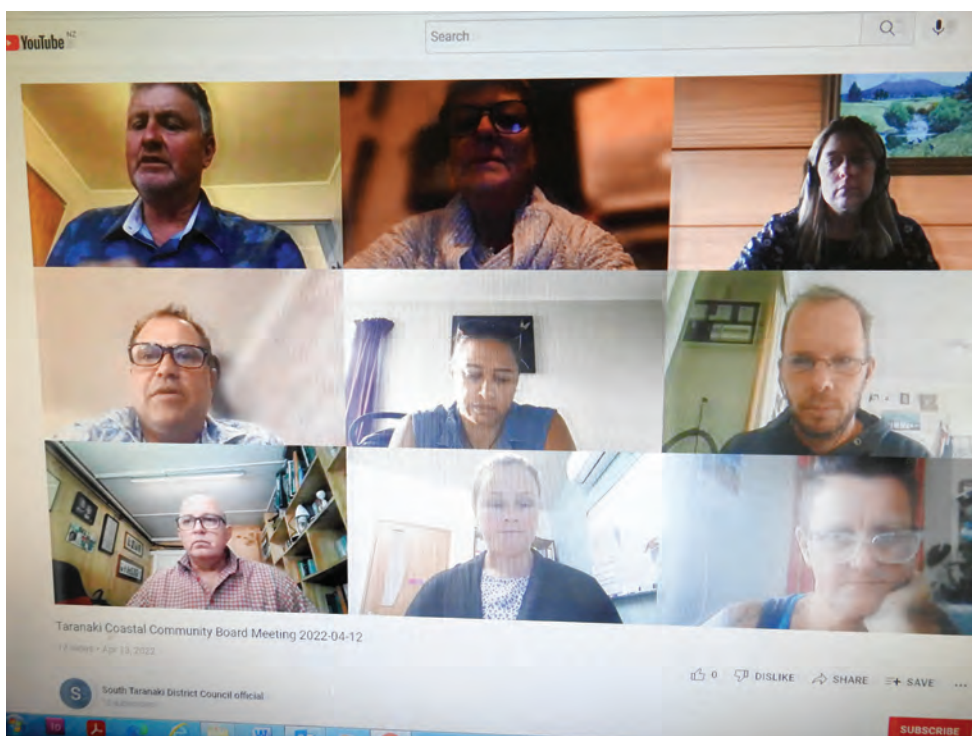
This was the message that Megan Dymond of the Opunake Emergency Management Group took to the Taranaki Coastal Community Board meeting held via video conferencing on April 12.

"If a big event happens, there is no power, and if there is power that means God is watching over our district," she said.

The Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Event Centre has been designated as a Civil Defence Evacuation Centre, but does not have its own independent supply of electricity in the event of Opunake being without power, said Megan Dymond. The Emergency Management Group were applying for a grant of \$9168.95 to install a plug for a generator setup for the Event Centre.

There had already been two flooding events this year in which people had been isolated for a time. There was also the possibility of other events like an eruption, and bridges in and out of town being cut off. In the event of anything like this happening power would be needed at the Event Centre to supply food, warmth and shelter.

Megan Dymond said there are concerns about how



The latest Taranaki Coastal Community Board meeting was held online.

power, bridges, electricity and telephone coverage would hold out in the event of an emergency.

"Telephone communication is probably the biggest at the moment," she said. The Kahui Road cell tower had been out "numerous times" in the last six years, including during the most recent flooding event.

Urs Signer spoke to the Community Board about how the Waitangi Day floods had affected Parihaka.

"The floods were full on, and I guess another storm is going to hit the East Coast tomorrow," he said. "There's been talk about

climate change for a long time, and it's only going to get worse."

Three houses and a marae were flooded.

"The river was running 100 metres away from where it normally runs," he said. "There was a massive lift in water, and it didn't help that the government bridge was clogged with trees and willows." He said about two or three metres of bank behind one of the meeting houses would have been lost during the flood. One bright spot however had been how other iwi had pitched in to help clean up after the flooding.

Community Board

chairman Andy Whitehead said the amount of money asked for would be nearly half the funds the board had available in the discretionary fund. Megan Dymond said the Emergency Management Group is seeking funding from other sources.

"We've had two floods at the end of an exceptional summer. I would hate to see what winter would bring."

Cr Aaron Langton said this was a worthy cause, and the Emergency Management Group is still to hear from other funding applications. He thought giving half the money asked for would be appropriate. The board voted to fund \$5000.

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No more gambling with lives on Inglewood's State Highway

Crossing the main road is about to get a lot safer for everyone in Inglewood as NPDC (New Plymouth District Council) is installing a half-million dollar signal controlled pedestrian crossing on state highway 3 through the town.

The work begins this week near the Purple dairy, Hinau Street intersection. The new crossing will use smart technology with video cameras, so that if someone pushes the button and then walks away the signals won't change, helping traffic to continue

to flow.

In 2021 NPDC Councillor Marie Pearce started a public petition which gathered over 2000 signatures and lobbied Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Head office and Board in Wellington, for a much needed pedestrian crossing on the state highway.

"Anyone who's stood on the side of the road there waiting to cross at busy times knows just how dangerous it is, especially for those with children. A third of the town lives on the northern side of the state highway and accessing the dairy,

the schools or the medical centre means running a gauntlet of 20,000 vehicles a day including 1,100 heavy trucks. Everyone has a near-miss story to tell, so having this safety improvement get underway is really wonderful and my thanks to NPDC, Waka Kotahi and everyone who has supported this project," says NPDC Councillor Pearce.

A temporary traffic detour via Miro, Kelly and Pukatea streets will be in place during construction.

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The perils of social media

Kia Ora everyone, well as we look forward to It's been a while since I have reported. I trust the summer treated everyone as well as we look forward to the winter. There are a couple of prominent issues that are

rearing their head of late. Unfortunately, I have been dealing with a number of incidents, as all Police do on a daily basis, with respect to bullying on the social media by youths. Many youths do not grasp how hurtful online bullying can be. Incidents I have dealt with have led to assaults occurring. I ask, as parents, that you monitor your child's social media content and messages. There are apps that allow you to do this. Please encourage your child that, if there is



CONSTABLE MATT STONE

any negative messaging occurring, to ignore, block, delete the conversation or withdraw from the chat group. A simple way to avoid harm. The second incident relates to online fraud. People are becoming more and more brazen with the need for quick money. Please make sure that you have good security measures in place online and I'd suggest not to buy anything through Facebook you pay cash and collect. If you would like

any more information on how to remain safe, feel free to contact me or look online at netsafe. Lastly, I note that there are a large number of teenagers breaching their particular licence. I have given out a few tickets recently, but I feel I shouldn't have to. If your child does not have the appropriate licence, then do not let them drive, thanks. Enjoy the beautiful autumn weather. Until next time. Nga Mihi,

Constable Matt Stone

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Replacing mountain lodge brings mixed reactions

The site where the Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge once stood is now fenced off. Last year the building which dates back to 1896, before there was a National Park, was demolished. The lodge is owned by Te Rere o Kapuni, a subsidiary of Te Korowai o Ngaruahine who bought it in 2016. The nearby Kapuni Stream, which includes Dawson Falls has significance for Nga Ruahine. Nga Ruahine say they are looking to build another lodge in its place, and that the former building had got to the stage where it needed replacing.



The site where the Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge once stood is fenced off, awaiting its replacement.

Taranaki senior ranger for DOC in Taranaki Cameron Hunt said that last year leaseholders Te Rere o Kapuni had sought DOC's permission to demolish and redevelop the Dawson Falls Lodge. "In October, DOC. provided its approval for Te Rere o Kapuni's proposal in accordance with their existing lease. "In essence, the leaseholders must operate the new venture and provide the same services as required by their existing lease. The demolition was completed late last year with construction works for

the new building expected to commence in the near future." "DOC supports the redevelopment of a new lodge as it presents an opportunity for people to stay within Egmont National Park and enjoy the Park's natural landscapes, recreation opportunities and wildlife." In its day the lodge had been popular with visitors to the mountain and used for various functions, including being a place for couples to spend their honeymoons.

One reason for its popularity had been the Swiss chalet-like ambience, a legacy of one of the lodge's previous owners, Keith Anderson, who was at the lodge from 1973 to 1983. Together with his Swiss wife Berta they introduced the Swiss feel with each room individually done up with a Swiss flavour. Taranaki mountaineering identities Ian McAlpine and Lindsay Maindonald have differing views on the new development. "I'm disappointed that the old historic part of the

building which was built over a hundred years ago was demolished without there being any discussion with anyone, except between DOC and them.," says Ian McAlpine. "There were additions made to both ends of the building by Keith Anderson. The middle section dates from 1896, but now it's gone, and what's going to replace it?" He says he's disappointed that DOC did not appear to have done anything to have

Continued page 7.

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Replacing mountain lodge brings mixed reactions

Continued from page 6.

the building listed with Heritage New Zealand so it couldn't be demolished. He had contacted Heritage New Zealand and been told that no application had been made.

He also says he wants to know what happened to memorabilia from the previous building, including a visitors' book dating back to the lodge's beginnings in 1896 which he says is a valuable historic record of comings and goings on the mountain. He says he had asked the current owners about its whereabouts and was told it had been placed in a container.

Lindsay Maindonald says he was initially disappointed to hear that the mountain house would be demolished, but now supports the new development and wishes the owners well in their new venture.

"It held lots of memories for me, and I was there for some of my wedding anniversaries. I knew Keith who was a fellow artist and friend and I spent a lot of time there at the café and restaurant," says Lindsay. "Initially I was disappointed when I heard it was going to be demolished, but it was only a whole lot of cosmetics that was holding it together. At the end of the day when it



As seen on Trip Advisor

got demolished you could see that it was completely shot and in a bad state of repair. Outside it looked great, but the tiles were as rusty as. From my unlearned building knowledge it looked like it was time for a new building. I'm not surprised that they decided to demolish it." Lindsay says that with the development of the Taranaki Crossing and with tracks on the mountain being done up, a new building would be well placed to take advantage of the return of international tourism.

He sees he also has a special interest as a member of the Eltham-Kaponga Community Board.

"Kaponga is the closest point to the start of the Taranaki Crossing, so as a local person and a mountaineer I think it will be absolutely great for Kaponga.

"I'm looking forward to the iwi working in with the mountain people and DOC. I trust it will be a great relationship and the lodge will still be used a hundred years from now."

Taranaki Swiss Club president Othmar Hebler said Nga Ruahine had invited the Swiss Club to Dawson Falls after they had purchased the buildings from the previous owners, and "they had talked about the history a bit."

Othmar says the club were later told that some of the memorabilia from the Lodge was coming up for auction, and they were able to get what they wanted.

"We wish them well for the future, and hopefully all the tourists and visitors will enjoy it," he says.

He says the mountain has a significance for the Swiss community as can be seen by the number of Swiss people who have been associated with it over the years.

Another wishing the new owners well is Lina De

Castro (nee Freimann). She and her husband Des were the lessees from 1950-61. She is a second generation Swiss New Zealander, whose father was a cattle drover. Today her home at Okaiawa has a view of the mountain and paintings of mountain scenes by artist John.L.Moore, who had been a frequent visitor to Dawson Falls.

"It was a good healthy life up there," she recalls. "We were only a young couple in those days. I was 22."

Her husband Des had served on minesweepers in the Pacific and as an ex serviceman he had got a loan from the government.

Lina says that in their early days at Dawson Falls the mountain house was run down.

"When we first started there were not many clientele," she said.

The road to the mountain house was unsealed. When snow blocked the road they would get a local farmer to come and clear it up. She remembers children playing in bare feet in the snow.

Their power came courtesy of a small hydro dam on the Kapuni Stream, from which the leaves sometimes had to be cleared.

In their time there the Mt Egmont Park Board had added new ceilings, basins in the rooms and central heating, as well as two new rooms at the front of the building and a renovated kitchen.

As time went on they got more people staying at the Mountain House, who Lina would always give a cooked breakfast.,

"We had a steady clientele over Christmas and New Year.," she says. "They were mainly doctors, accountants and professional people and all knew each other. They called themselves the Dawson Falls Clan and they would dance around the totara trees to see the New Year in."

Others came for health

reasons to take in the mountain air. One of these was a farmer from Baines near Palmerston North who would give a hand keeping the tracks tidy.

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Lina De Castro who with husband Des had the Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge in the 1950s.

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Cost of doing business jumps

At a time when farmers should be celebrating higher red meat and dairy prices, they like other New Zealanders, are feeling the pinch.

Already facing seasonal challenges, with either too much or no rain, the cost of doing business grows daily under Labour's watch. Results from the latest Federated Farmers survey show farmer confidence is the lowest it's been since the twice yearly surveys began in 2009. More than half of the 1000 surveyed in January — before the Omicron surge and Russia's invasion of Ukraine — expected economic conditions to worsen in the



BARBARA KURIGER MP FOR TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

next 12 months. They also believed their spending would increase because of it and their profitability decline. So far, they're not wrong. Even with stronger returns, revenue is quickly going back out the door to cover

rocketing fuel costs up 44%, fertiliser up 28%, stock feed and grazing more than 6%, seeds up 6%, as well as labour costs due to the nationwide overseas worker shortage. The last one, a problem which could have been relieved by relaxing immigration rules, two years ago. Meanwhile, New Zealand's 30-year high inflation rate of 5.9%, is set to keep climbing. Our current cost of living crisis will mean a \$150 per week per household increase this year and that is having a colossal impact on both rural and urban families. Life is hard for many people making tough decisions about where and how far every dollar they earn will

go. And as the Government's coffers swell with the ill-gotten gains of inflation, Labour is failing to provide any tax relief. Agriculture is New Zealand's biggest income earner. If it is under strain, the ripple effects will be felt by all New Zealanders. The massive rise in fuel costs, especially diesel, is just one example. All supplier costs, deliveries and services coming on to farms have risen rapidly. So too, has the cost of transportation from rural regions. From export goods to end food products in retail outlets, the cost of fuel is reflected in their price.

In recent weeks I've already said the Government's ignorance is making everything so expensive and difficult. In the four and half years they have been in power they have learnt nothing about the country they run. That shows in Labour's Clean Car package — the Ute Tax — which has just become operative. Buying a new Toyota Hilux will now cost an extra \$5175. Once again Kiwis, especially big users like farmers, growers, tradies, construction and forestry, will be paying for an ideological policy that 'robs Peter to pay Paul' in an attempt to have us all in

electric vehicles. Yet electric utes in numbers to meet this country's demands do not exist and won't for some years. As one farmer puts it: "We're on a knife edge really. While we have increased returns, there is huge apprehension at what will be coming at us next, in the way of increased costs and compliance." As a member of the Opposition, I can relate.

Barbara Kuriger National Party spokesperson Agriculture.

Authorised by B Kuriger, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

Stay safe and well these holidays

I'm wishing families in South Taranaki happy school holidays. I hope everyone had a lovely Easter too spending time with loved ones while doing the things you love. We are counting down to our next long weekend to mark Anzac Day. This year will be the centenary of the Anzac Day Act 1922, which made Anzac Day a national holiday for New Zealanders to remember all

Kiwis and Australians who have served, and fallen, in war and peacekeeping operations. Some local dawn services are going ahead while some of us will commemorate Anzac Day in a similar way to how we did in 2020 — at the end of our driveway or by our mailboxes. As we saw then, we have found new ways to be connected even when we are apart. I will be drawing on this united spirit



on 25 April since I unfortunately won't be able to attend in-person events as I start my parental leave. My thoughts will be with our local

veterans, their families, and those who are impacted by the current wars overseas. I recognise the recent conflict in Ukraine will be a stark reminder for our service personnel who have served our country, it will also be a particularly heart-breaking time for people in our community who have ties to Ukraine. If you are traveling over

the long weekend and during school holidays I encourage you to consider the advice from Chris Hipkins, "Make a plan in case you get COVID-19 on holiday. If you're not using your own vehicle to travel — such as being reliant on airplane or public transport - you need to make sure you can isolate where you are." Omicron is still in our

community so stay vigilant these holidays by washing hands regularly, using hand sanitiser and keep thinking of others — wear a mask, get vaccinated (& boosted) and isolate if required.

Steph Lewis MP Whanganui

Call for free public transport

"The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's latest report calls for 'rapid, deep and immediate' cuts in carbon dioxide emissions. The time to act for climate justice is now or never" says Urs Signer, spokesperson for Climate Justice Taranaki.

Transport contributes to over a fifth of New Zealand's emissions and is the sector with the fastest rise in emissions. Since 1990, transport emissions here have doubled, he says. "Taking cars off the roads is the number one thing to do if

we are serious about reducing transport emissions. With the introduction of half-price fares for public transport, local anecdotal evidence suggests a significant increase in the use of our Taranaki buses."

"There are now well over 400 members of the 'I Love Public Transport, Taranaki' online group and a recent contributor commented that The Connector bus, which links Hāwera and New Plymouth, was so full that three people had to stand. The time is right for free public transport across

Aotearoa to reduce our CO2 emissions and ensure people who can no longer afford a car or petrol can still get from A to B and C." "In the French city of Dunkirk, not much bigger than New Plymouth, residents have enjoyed free public transport since 2018 with buses running every 10

minutes. Eight months after abolishing fares, patronage had increased by 65% during the week and by 125% during the weekend. "We are calling on the government to use this year's Budget to announce free public transport for all and work together with the Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) to upgrade Taranaki's public transport network by significantly increasing the number of bus runs on each route. A bus every 15 minutes during the day and services in the evening and weekends have got to be implemented urgently to decarbonise our transport needs. What we are currently lacking is political will by the government and TRC councillors to make public transport a viable climate solution." "If we want to be serious about transitioning off fossil fuels and private vehicles then we need to get serious about public transport. Making it free helps those who are most vulnerable to climate change. We demand free public transport now" concludes Urs Signer.

Barbara Kuriger
MP for Taranaki-King Country
Backing Rural and Provincial New Zealand

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Authorised by Barbara Kuriger MP, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.

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Authorised by Glen Bennett MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



Commemorating the Saviour

On Good Friday Opunake Christians carried a cross through town remembering Jesus carrying the cross to his crucifixion nearly 2000 years ago.

The annual Walk of Witness began and finished at St Paul's Co-Operating Church. Cobus Blom told everyone that when Jesus was crucified the veil in the temple at Jerusalem was torn in two. Until that time the veil had been seen as something which stopped people coming to God, and also kept God away from the people, he said.

The Walk of Witness then visited each of the town's churches, with those taking part taking turns at carrying the cross and singing hymns along the way. At The Wave Church Belinda Philp read from the prophet Isaiah. The sound of church bells greeted



Carrying the Cross in remembrance of Christ's sacrifice.

everyone when they got to St Barnabas Anglican Church, where the Rev Ian Sargeant and church members gave readings on those, particularly the women, who are often overlooked in the

telling of the Easter story. At Our Lady Star of The Sea Catholic Church, Anna-Lyn Hall read a greeting from the church.

From there the Walk proceeded along a stretch

of the Opunake Walkway taking in Hurst Park, and finishing where the Walk began, at St Paul's Church. The morning concluded with a combined service led by the Rev Chris Barnes.

Relay for life

The Manaia Community Services Committee entered a team in Relay for Life raising money for the Cancer Society. Owing to Covid the normal Relay for Life that is usually held at Inglewood couldn't be held this year. Its name changed to Relay Your Way. So on March 26 they held theirs at the Manaia Domain which they walked around the football fields.

The team raised \$1,814-20. Team Members. Gordon Chisnall, Noelene Taylor, Ann Chisnall, Morghan Meldrum, Brenda Meldrum, Janice Walsh, Caleb Glover [absent, Chynna Close. Due to covid she walked around her house.



The Manaia Community Services Committee Relay for Life team.

On this month in history Ferdinand Magellan killed

On April 27, 1521 Ferdinand Magellan was killed by people on the Philippines at the battle of Mactan. Technically, Magellan was not the first person to circumnavigate the world by ship, as he did not make it (due to his untimely death). Juan Sebastian Elcano

took over the leadership and did complete the circumnavigation. However, of the 270 sailors who set off from Spain on September 20, 1519, only 18 survived (Scurvy was an issue). Also only one of the original five ships (The Victoria) made it back.

Magellan was born February 1480 in Sabrosa, Portugal, but renounced his Portuguese nationality when his king (Manual I) would not agree to his leading an expedition to the Spice Islands (East Indies). However, King Charles I of Spain asked him to complete the same

journey for Spain. In 1518 he was made Admiral of the Spanish Fleet.

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Mountain to Sea cycle event coming soon

Mark this date in your diary, Sunday April 24; for the Mountain to Sea cycle event, which will start at 10am from the top of Upper Arawhata Road, Opunake 4681, ending at Opunake Beach around 1.30pm. The event is organised by Rowen Huckstep of the Opunake Lions and is a fundraiser for the public-spirited organisation, who are behind so many worthwhile community projects.



Taking a break on the trail.

The bicycle course runs over a trail of about 38 kilometres (mostly downhill), crossing a

number of farms on the way to the coast. About 80% of

the course is on farm tracks, 10% on road and the balance

through paddocks.

For younger and less fit

participants you can enter or exit at certain places along the course.

"I'd like to thank all the farmers whose land is crossed. Without them we could not hold this event," explains Rowen.

For participants you can register on the day (by 9.30am please) and the entry fee is \$40 for adults and just \$15 if you are under 15. (There is no eftpos). You can also pre-register (details on Opunake Lions facebook page).

It should be an enjoyable challenge for all those who love cycling and the great

outdoors. Rowan is hoping for a great turnout of riders, hopefully over 300. "Make sure you bring a helmet and plenty of energy," says Rowan.

After your ride there is a free barbecue at Opunake Beach, as well as number of spot prizes for lucky riders. To get back to your vehicle there is a complimentary ride on a shuttle bus.

If you'd like to know more try the Opunake Lions facebook page or phone Rowan Huckstep on 0274 803 097.

New career path to support community

South Taranaki Funeral Services' newest team member has always been intrigued by the industry.

Ruth Ainsworth came on board to support Managing Director Glenn Rogers and will soon undergo full training in all aspects of funeral directorship.

"I do really enjoy it. It's an adjustment, but I'm enjoying



what I'm coming across in my new role."

Ruth is looking forward to her new career, including embalming. It's something she's always had a fascination with.

Ruth was born in Opunake, but was mostly raised in Hawera. She moved there at 6 years old and now raises her two teenage sons there.

Her new career is a bit different to her former

careers in hospitality and commercial administration, but the skills crossover well and she brings a wealth of valuable experience when it comes to working with many local businesses and organisations.

"A funeral director makes a personal and deep connection with the bereaved family. They really take it upon themselves to ensure no added stress is involved for the family," she says.

I really want to support

them through that experience. I, myself, have struggled at times."

Ruth has many interests, past and present. She has acted with Hawera Repertory and has participated in performing arts competitions (piano and singing). Arts and crafts are also interests of hers.

A caring and compassionate person by nature, Ruth's many pets keep her busy, the cats, dogs and even the axolotl.

A community minded

woman, Ruth credits her parents as being role models who were committed to supporting their community. Ruth's father has been a volunteer firefighter of 50 years duration and her mother a caregiver for 30 years.

Ruth herself now aims to be a positive role model for her two teenage sons. Pop by South Taranaki Funeral Services when you're in town and say hello. Ruth would love to meet you.



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On this month in history George Washington inaugurated as US President

On April 30, 1789 George Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the United States. He continued in the supreme leadership role until 1797.

He was born on February 22, 1732 in Popes Creek, Virginia. His family were wealthy planters with tobacco their main crop. He later inherited a number of slaves, the practice being legal at the time.

In the battle against the British, in the War of Independence, he was Commander-in-Chief (1775-1783).

He was involved in the drafting of the US Constitution (1787).

His is one of the Mount Rushmore statues carved out of the Black Hills, South Dakota in the years 1927-

1941. Other presidents include Abraham Lincoln, Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt and Thomas Jefferson.

One of Washington's saying is "The harder the conflict the greater the triumph."



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Vandalism attack damages flood warning gear

A remote flood monitoring station on the Waiwhakaiho river has been vandalised and equipment stolen, leaving the community vulnerable to unexpected flooding.

Damage to the station established in 1991 is so severe that the Taranaki Regional Council has to decommission the site and start fresh in another location says Regan Phipps, Science and Technology Manager.

“We’re gutted to find the site beyond repair. Our flood monitoring networks are a hugely important asset.”

“This particular station was used to monitor flood flows in the lower Waiwhakaiho River, generating flood warning alerts.

“These alerts provide a final warning for industry and businesses in the Waiwhakaiho Valley in the event of a flood and ensures the public knows when to take other precautions or when road access may be at risk.”



Damage caused by mindless vandalism.

The site was initially broken into at 3am on 23 March and after being discovered by Council staff, was padlocked shut to stop public access. Unfortunately, the site

was broken into again that weekend, the monitoring site was further damaged, and all monitoring equipment was stolen.

“The site was broken into while there was a severe weather event in progress, and river levels were high. Having no data being captured presented a risk to the community. The cost to replace equipment and rebuild a site is also significant, and that cost is carried by the region’s ratepayers. It’s frustrating given the equipment will have very little value for any use outside of what it is intended for” says Mr Phipps.

Mr Phipps encourages anyone with information about vandalism at this site to call the Police, and asks the public to get in touch with either Council or the Police if they see people tampering with monitoring equipment.

The Council operates 22 flood warning stations across the region, with key warning sites in the Waitōtara River, Waiwhakaiho River and Waitara River catchments. They are among the 62 automated environmental monitoring sites the Council operates across Taranaki.



Another image of senseless vandalism.

Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre



A time for herbs

Autumn is the time of year to tackle a garden project. Perhaps your herb garden needs an overhaul or maybe start one from scratch?

Herbs can be grown in pots on the windowsill, on the patio or in a garden bed close to your kitchen. Herbs add beauty, colour and texture to the garden, so include them in with flowers and vegetables as well. Some herbs are a natural deterrent to unwanted insects so are perfect for the organic gardener. Herbs need sunshine, good drainage and like soil with added compost. Water little and often - so they don’t dry out - but don’t saturate. Small leaved varieties such as thyme and rosemary come from the Mediterranean, so like open sunny spots with protection from cold winds.



A selection of thriving herbs.

when the concentration of aromatic oils is high. Watch for aphids and use a spraying oil if needed. Our picks to get your herb garden started - parsley, rosemary, and chives. At Palmers we stock many varieties of thyme – why not try two or three? Plant mint in a pot on its own as it can take over. Leave basil and coriander for later as these herbs are best planted in summer.

Aromatic herbs such as basil and coriander prefer a more sheltered position and don’t like to be overwatered. Herbs produce better and grow into a bushier plant when regularly picked or trimmed. Regular replacement of plants that have lost their vigour ensures that you have a full plant to pick from and can discourage disease. Leafy herbs should be harvested just before the plant flowers,

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WE ARE EXPANDING

Opunake Communities Kindergarten is expanding! We are nearing the final stages and it is hoped to be completed in the coming months. How exciting! The tamariki have been observing the builders closely outside. The tamariki have been using tape measures to measure out distances around Kindy like the builders, whilst others have been sharing their prior knowledge from home and showing us how they can measure out distances by counting strides (Cohen copying Shae (dad) at home).



The kaiako and the tamariki have been exploring the building plans. It can be challenging visualising the end result of a plan. We have been doing lots of locating and walking through the plans for the existing parts of the building. Some tamariki have even chosen to create their own plans, whilst others have used the building as a platform where they can extend their existing knowledge and explore more complex structures using the wooden blocks, duplo, cardboard boxes, natural resources like the wooden rounds and other loose parts.

The tamariki have been exploring the carpentry area more too and have been keen to create plans before they start their constructions. Having a plan in place (mental or physical) is key when building to ensure we achieve our goals. Sometimes our visions and goals change so the tamariki have also been modifying their constructions and even revisiting them later exploring their creativity even further. The building project supports all strands of Te Whaariki - wellbeing, belonging, contribution, communication and exploration. The tamariki are recognising and appreciating their own ability to learn with and alongside others (contribution). The tamariki are learning strategies for active exploration, thinking and reasoning (exploration).



Above left: Sebastian Vollebregt measuring out his pieces of wood with Owen Goodman who helped Sebastian cut them to the right length.
Above centre: Bella Warr and Leonie Lundon create a house for their cats and then become the cats themselves!

Above: Arlo Stanley creates his own plan using the building plan for inspiration.
Left: Collaboration - Arthur Langton was the foreman with his fellow builders Eli Severn, Nikau Severn and Monty Julian and teacher Leonie.

STAFF CHANGES AT KINDY

Danni is our new centre manager and she took on this role at the beginning of the year. We would all like to congratulate Danni on her new position and thank Suzie Pentelow for all her hard mahi at Kindy over the last 20 years. In the time with Suzie as our centre manager, Kindy became a bronze and then STRONG silver Enviroschool and we are well on our way to obtaining Gold status later this year. Worm baths have been created and have been distributed to our schools thanks to the leadership of Suzie - not only has Suzie impacted the lives of the tamariki, whanau and kaiako of Opunake Communities Kindergarten but also the wider community.

Suzie is a keen volunteer firefighter and continues to support our community through her volunteer role. Suzie will not be far away from Kindy and she has told us that she will be back to help us in the gardens - another passion of hers. We all wish Suzie the very best in her future endeavours and we cannot thank Suzie enough for all her hard work and dedication which has impacted the lives of many at Kindy and will continue to do so in the years to come. Opunake Communities Kindergarten is a strong stand alone centre with a HEART Philosophy (Health, Empathy, Aroha, Resilience and Tikanga) and has thrived under the leadership of Suzie - so thank you Suzie from all of us! Suzie has been an inspirational leader who has been an advocate for equality and wellbeing.

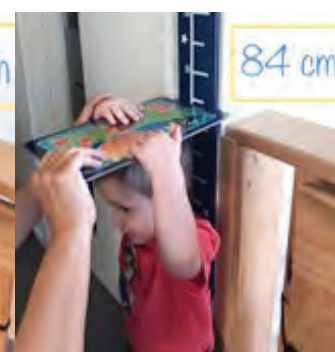
Danni Newsome has jumped into the new Centre Manager Position and has been continuing Suzie's work. Danni has a calm, nurturing nature which has had a flow on effect for the centre during the challenging times of covid. The teaching team looks forward to the new expansion of Kindy under the new leadership of Danni.



Above left: A special thanks to Andrew Pentelow too for all the time and effort he has put into Kindy!
Above right: Suzie and most of the current teaching team at Kindy, December 2021.

MOANA ROOM

We've been busy in the Moana Room! One of our learning focuses for term one is exploring early numeracy, under the communication strand. Developing an early numeracy will help children to develop their ability to recognise and apply maths concepts in all areas of their lives. We thought that one of the fun ways of doing it would be by measuring our heights (approximation). We measured it now during the first term and we will measure it again in term four to see how much we've grown! We are learning about mathematical symbols and concepts, and using them with enjoyment, meaning and purpose. So, watch this space!



From left: April-Maree Lowe and Liam Clark with the help of Meera see how tall they are in the Moana Room.



NZCB Taranaki president Chad Niwa and apprentices (First Prize winner Michael Craig in centre). Front. Glen Bennett MP, Barbara Kuriger MP.

Michael Craig wins Taranaki's NZCB Apprentice Challenge sponsored by ITM

Apprentice Michael Craig has claimed the title of the Taranaki New Zealand Certified Builders (NZCB) Apprentice Challenge champion for 2022, after competing against six other apprentices on 9 April and coming out on top.

The apprentices were put through their paces, given just eight hours to build a park bench that followed specific design plans and met minimum safety standards.

The park benches were assessed by a panel of expert judges who looked at technical aspects such as the quality of workmanship, measuring, cutting and assembly, as well as other essential skills while working against the clock, including their ability to follow a detailed plan and safe working technique,

with Michael receiving the top score overall.

Michael, aged 18, is currently undertaking their building apprenticeship at Adan Larsen Builders in Stratford. As well as winning the title of regional champion, Michael also won a \$500 ITM voucher to redeem on trade tools and earned a place in the national final representing Taranaki.

There he will compete against 19 other regional winners from across New Zealand for the Ken Read Memorial Trophy and \$25,000 worth of prizes. The national final will be held at the NZCB Annual Conference in Hamilton in November.

NZCB Industry Pathways and Apprenticeship Manager, Nick Matthews, said the competition on Saturday highlighted the

high-calibre of passionate apprentices currently training in the industry, following a record uptake of building apprenticeships in recent years.

"Nationwide we're seeing increasing numbers of eager and talented apprentices entering the trade from a variety of backgrounds. The regional competitions have really set the bar for what excellence looks like ahead of the national final, with all competitors either employed by NZCB member builders or enrolled with ITAB (Industry Training Association Building).

"The future of the building industry depends on a robust pipeline of trade-qualified and well-rounded builders, and the NZCB Apprentice Challenge is one way we help to foster that. We also encourage NZCB

member builders to take on apprentices to help to ensure there are highly-skilled builders coming through to meet increasing demand," says Nick.

"These events are a great opportunity to give the community an inside look at building apprenticeship training and what it takes to be successful in the trade, and to celebrate those apprentices that have excelled in their field," says Nick.

The park benches built will be auctioned off via TradeMe from Monday 18 April, with all proceeds going to the Cancer Society of New Zealand.

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Garden aims to put unity into community

A bare space of ground where a church hall once stood is due to be transformed into a community garden.

On April 6, about 20 people gathered where St Mary's Church Hall in Hawera once stood to hear and discuss plans for the community garden project being planned for the site.

The hundred year old hall had been demolished at the end of last year. Now it is bare ground but a project bringing together Sustainable Taranaki, St Mary's Anglican Church and EnviroSchools aims to turn it into a community garden.

There had been an Anglican Church on the site where St Mary's now stands since the early days of the town. The hall had been added around the end of World War I and in its day it had been a popular community hall. In recent times however, the building had started to crack to the point where windows were breaking, and it had fallen into disrepair. It had not been used for several years. St Marys Church was undergoing earthquake strengthening and it was decided the hall should come down, so it was



From left. The Rev Shirley-Anne Flynn, Alice Arnold, Andrea Rowe.

demolished..

At the moment the site is a "blank canvas," says community gardens co-ordinator Alice Arnold.

"We don't see this as a site to just grow vegetables, but as a platform for an

education space, to build friendships and pass on skills."

She said they wanted to hear people's ideas for the garden's future.

"Don't be overwhelmed by how big the space is. It

may not even be big enough for what you envisage. The possibilities are endless. This is enough for us to start with."

Sustainable Taranaki partnership project manager

Andrea Rowe said they had been looking at developing a community garden since July last year, and then Anglican archdeacon Chester Borrows had told them that site would be available.

They were hoping to see other community gardens set up in South Taranaki in centres like Opunake, Manaia and Patea.

"Let's put the unity back into community," she said.

Hawera High School and Tawhiti School had already shown an interest in the project, and there are hopes other schools will come on board.

Tane Manukonga from Sustainable Taranaki, who is project head for Te Ara Taiao Environmental Pathways said this was just the beginning of the conversation.

"We have put our stake in the ground, and we will start here today. This is a central point for the community to be a community, which is what the community wants."

The Rev Shirley-Anne Flynn of St Mary's Church said the former building had been a "wonderful hall," with a matai floor.

One of the surprises uncovered by the demolition had been a hundred-year old time capsule that nobody had previously been aware of, containing among other things, hundred-year old newspapers.

"They dusted it off, brought it in and treated it like a treasure," she says.

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Successful season for Surf School

Opunake Surf School has wound up for the year after a successful season with a surf competition and prize giving on Saturday April 10.

With music blaring forth from the sand hills overlooking Opunake Beach the heats held over the morning attracted an interested audience which included some film makers. The competition held within age groups of the competitors was followed by a barbecue and free Easter eggs and a prize giving in the Opunake Board Riders Club.

Open to young people aged from 6 to secondary school age. 18 young surfers were enrolled in the course which started in November. Sixty are registered with the Club.

Commented Harry James, President of the Opunake Board Riders younger people are "more flexible" and pick up the sport easily. They had "progressed really well," over the season said Harry.

The Opunake Board Riders Club supplies wet suits and surf boards for those who don't have them.

There are two Level 2 coaches and four Level 1 coaches in the Opunake

Board Riders Club with several in attendance at the surf school. All are qualified surf coaches. The course covers running, swimming and theory, as well as skills useful in surfing such as how to paddle over a wave and how to roll under a wave. Instructors are in the water with them.

Surfing is good for health, co-ordination, fitness and health, says Harry. It also keeps you in touch with nature. It's a "very healthy lifestyle to be involved in."

Quipped Harry surf school meant a couple of hours away from their devices.

He explained that the wet suits offer both buoyancy and warmth.

Some of the parents join in. Their youngest surfer is just 4 years old.

Commented one mother they were also learning confidence, safety, how to listen to authority and discipline.

Harry also coaches the popular Surfing for Farmers.

Murray Weir who was commentating at the heats also commented when wrapping up the day's events:



Waikawa Ruakere receiving a prize for Most Improved Junior Girl from Harry James. At left is Club Captain Murray Weir.

RIGHT:

It was good for people to "have another skill and enjoy it and have a good time."

Continued on pages 18 and 19

"It's awesome," said Alex Greig (16), who started attending Opunake Surf School a year ago after his neighbour began surfing. "I thought it would be fun." He's progressed to standing up "most of the time".

Travelling from Halcombe is a five hour round trip but Jo, his mother, thinks it's worth it. Though Whanganui has a surf club and there are beaches all the way up, the Opunake Surf Riders and the Opunake Board Riders Club is amazing she said, and especially Harry.

"He loves the people." In Harry he's found a bit of a father figure.

Commenting on the surf competition, Alex was happy with his performance and said the waves were "a good size and there was a lot of them."

The competitors had 15 minutes to demonstrate their prowess on the waves.



Alex in action.

Photo: Jo Priestly



From left Harry James, Alex Greig and Patrick Flanagan, who along with Harry also coaches.

Photo: Jo Priestly

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Surfing for farmers - see you next season

One lucky dairy farmer from Toko has won a brand new surfboard valued at \$1200 in the nationwide Surfing for Farmers. He was one of 14 winners throughout the country.

Marc Jackson is part of the popular Opunake Surfing for Farmers group each of whom put their names in a hat for the surf board.

The draw was made after the final session of Surfing for Farmers which was followed by a barbecue to mark the end of the season.

"The Opunake Board Riders Club and all the helpers have all thoroughly enjoyed teaching them the basics of surfing," said Harry James, President of the Opunake Board Riders Club who added "We definitely saw a big improvement in their surfing."

He then presented the surf board to a delighted Marc.

Marc in response said he had enjoyed the surfing and added he and his young family looked forward to coming down to the beach.

Claire Hunn from Rabobank commented it was "A very successful event and good to see so many farmers getting out and surfing."

Simon Ripia, vice president of the Opunake Board Riders Club who co-ordinates the Opunake Surfing for Farmers said he'd like to extend a big thank you to all of the sponsors and all the farmers and helpers that took part. He added "We're looking forward to seeing everyone back this year in October."

Harry reflecting on the season said they'd had great weather even towards the end of the summer. The big rains however lately had sometimes proved a bit of a challenge. As well as muddying the water and creeks, a lot of debris, logs and branches and driftwood came down the Waiau River and washed onto the beach. Contractors had been brought in to clear a lot of it away.



At right Marc Jackson with his new surf board alongside wife Tanya and Jebbe (6 months). At left is Harry James and Claire Hunn from Rabobank..



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Successful season for Surf School

Continued from page 16

He is particularly interested in showcasing the “real” New Zealand and the real kiwi. “New Zealand is more than a lot of bungy jumping hobbits,” he says.

He has come up with a concept for a television show called NZ Poker Tour and is touring the length of the country in a classic caravan – he began at Stewart Island and is intending to end at Cape Reinga. “The idea is that we travel round holding poker tournaments in 9 regions in New Zealand – 3 in the South

There’s something very special about living in New Zealand, I love it, said film maker Danny Caldwell who was filming the Opunake Board Riders surfing competition. From Montana in the United States, he moved to New Zealand 13 years ago where he lives in Wellington. “I love it. It’s fantastic. I can’t imagine living anywhere else,” says Danny of New Zealand. He wants to tell the world.



Danny Caldwell (left) and Tyler Redmond at the Opunake Board Riders end of season Surfing competition.

As well as some impressive looking zoom lenses, and a number of cameras set up, they were using a drone. Interestingly and understandably there are rules governing then

Island and 6 in the North Island. Ultimately there will be a New Zealand final, the World Series of Poker 2023. Meanwhile he’s also showcasing some of New Zealand, places that are off the usual tourist trail.

“It’s a love letter from an ex pat. I love it. It’s fantastic. I can’t imagine living anywhere else.” The enthusiastic film

maker seems to be finding people who he says are typical kiwis, some of whom he refers to as “legends.” “They’re thinking well

beyond just themselves.” Brought up in a very small town himself in the States on a horse ranch, he says “There’s something very special about small towns that the rest of the world has forgotten – he referred to how much goes on in little towns organised by locals who, unlike in cities don’t have laid on entertainment. He cites the Surf competition he was filming, the local Everybodys picture theatre that he’d attended the previous night. Next he was off to Opunake’s market. He’d also just come across a couple of English people in their 90s fishing. He’d talked to farmers and before arriving in Opunake where he’d met some identities mentioning Clem Coxhead had met some “really interesting people” in Kaponga. The rest of the world has New Zealand on their bucket list, he says.

Ultimately he hopes to do a television series with 14 hour long programmes which he hopes may be shown worldwide.



From left, Star pupils Taylah Gargan (13) from Auroa and Tilly Williamson (9) from Kaponga.

Both started in November and were doing “really well” said Harry. Tilly is one of four girls in the family and has a twin sister. Commented Tilly’s mother Nicola, “all our girls love it.” Nicola paid special tribute to Harry and said, “He’s been awesome with the kids.”

Taylah said one of her friends surfed and “I decided I wanted to have a go.” “It’s fun,” said Tilly.

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Daniel Barr from Opunake says he's really enjoyed learning to surf.



LEFT:

Erin Polaczuk had come up to Opunake from Kapiti with friends to learn surfing and described the experience as "far out, amazing." Erin's family have a bach in Fox Street, Opunake. The group of friends had come away for the weekend and were enjoying themselves. "No children, no husbands and no cleaning," said Jodie Trainer. The others laughingly agreed.



Waikawa Ruakere, showing her skill.

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Mangatoki WI

On Friday March 25, Cathy White and myself met up at the Elizabeth R Lifecare and Village in Stratford. After signing in and having our temperature taken etc.,

we met with our honorary member, Betty Skedgewell, who resides there, to present her with her WI 70th year Good Service Badge. She was in good health and



Betty Skedgewell receiving her 70th Year Good Service Badge from Lucy Moger.

recognised us both. We then had morning tea together. Betty enjoyed our company. At the Annual Meeting of the South Taranaki Federation of Women Institute, held at Kapuni on March 21, our secretary Helen Whyte's Annual Report was placed second. Congratulations Helen, and also to President Robyn Roberts, who was awarded a Good Service Badge.

On Wednesday April 6, 13 members and one visitor went to Inkpot Café in Stratford for morning tea and a look around the garden centre. We then headed out to Te Popo Gardens and were told some history of the gardens and what's been happening there during the last six years. There are beautiful and lifelike big South African animals displayed in the garden. An amazing place to visit. After a walk to view its beauty, we enjoyed a picnic lunch together. A short meeting was held and we enjoyed a cake brought along by Karen Joblin. An enjoyable day out.

Lucy Moger
Mangatoki WI Reporter

Kaponga WI

A good gathering of members met at the home of Dene Lines in New Plymouth in April and both Dene and Rosalie Gibson were our very able hostesses. The roll call - your best all time singer / musician, - reminded us of many old favourite and almost forgotten names. eg Winifred Atwell, Howard Morrison, Dean Martin, Isla Grant, Malvina Major. Had a discussion on the upcoming National Conference in Wellington May 30-31 and Kaponga will have three members representing them there. A very extensive and interesting report was given by President Jo Ellis on the AGM held recently at Kapuni and our own members received several places in the competitions as follows. Jo Jones first for the floral. Dot Hughes second for the embroidery, first for the Christmas scrapbooking, first for the flax flowers, and second for the single stem flower, Jo Ellis third for the knitted sherpa hat. So proud of you ladies for the beautiful work you do. An invitation was extended to all the members to the 60th wedding anniversary of Margaret Broomhall and we all wish you hearty congratulations from us all Margaret.



Joy Eliason having a go on the wheel.

Competition results. Cup and Saucer. 1. Jo Jones. 2. Dene Lines. 3. Diane West. Prettiest Handkerchief. 1. Dene Lines. 2. Rayleen McDonald. 3. Diane West. Three Peanut Brownies. 1. Diane West. 2. Nancy Stokes. 3. Dene Lines. After a beautiful finger lunch we then visited a fellow WI member from Lower Mangorei WI - Elsie Morgan - to view

her pottery. Pottery has been Elsie's passion for a large part of her life. Elsie showed us how she uses the clay to make her many different designs and she has a big collection of finished articles, and members did some shopping. Elsie kindly gave us afternoon tea to conclude a wonderful day among friends.

Carolyn Nicholas





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Lakeside Playhouse has much to celebrate

A special celebration was held on Friday April 8 as Opunake Players held a special evening to showcase all the renovations and improvements at the iconic Lakeside Playhouse, 17a Layard Street, Opunake. A special guest was Phil Nixon, Mayor of South Taranaki.

The occasion was introduced by Lynelle Kuriger, the President of Opunake Players, who opened with, "Look at our new space, isn't it amazing." She went on to thank the many people who had contributed, with special emphasis on the Renovation Committee, which was brilliantly chaired by Diane Baldie.

Tribute was paid to the "awesome financial contribution" of the Toi Foundation and the South Taranaki District Council. "We couldn't have started without their contribution." A plaque commemorates the generous grant of the Toi Foundation.

Diane explained that the project was immense and a number of pitfalls had to be negotiated along the way. "I'd like to make a heartfelt thank you to all who helped to get the auditorium as it is now."

There is so much to be proud of, such as the state-of-the-art overhead lighting, courtesy of Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration. The floor no longer creaks and groans



From left: Alice Martin, Debbie Cooksley and Trish Anderson at the opening of the revamped theatre in front of a photo montage of the renovation work in progress.



Commented Mayor Phil "If there's anything I know Opunake, every dollar spent will turn into \$30. The South Taranaki District Council gave \$6000 towards the renovation

as its underpinning has been strengthened and firmly secured. The upper floor surface itself was sanded and revarnished. Interior walls, which had been unsightly patched in places, have been replaced and painted a majestic green. The floor is now covered by new quality carpet, supplied by FlooringXtra, which means that noise is kept to a minimum. High quality curtains (purchased from Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration), cover the walls. Finally, sturdy coffee tables are placed at convenient intervals within the seating arrangement.

As she continued her speech Diane thanked many people including her husband John. Vice president Mike Smith was notably mentioned: "His knowledge and advice has been invaluable." Others acknowledged included Wendy Smith and Heather Jensen for their excellent contribution in many ways.

Mayor Phil Nixon opened with a compliment. "We know that whenever we

(STDC) invest in Opunake every dollar increases in value to twenty dollars." He pointed out that the improvements "will help the Opunake Players well into the future." He concluded, "It's great to see the community work so well together. It gives me much pleasure to be here and see how all of you have produced such a wonderful facility."

A huge amount of effort had gone into producing photo albums of the many shows down the years, as well as a wealth of other memorabilia. The photographs and press clippings must have stimulated many memories. Maybe the earliest production was The Poltergeist, a three act comedy-drama staged in 1950. There were some familiar names such as Kay Mickelson who acted as Prudence Hannacott in The Camel's Back (1952).

The Band Rotunda by James K Baxter in 1987 was directed by Stuart Ward and drew the critics headline 'Baxter at his best'. The actors and actresses included more familiar names such as James Barr, Val Wallace, Peter Trolove, Bart Ockhuysen and Mary Barron.

I have seen many wonderful shows over the years, but perhaps my personal favourite was Garbo of the Sky (2008) – the musical about aviatrix Jean Batten, which was co-written by Paul Andersen-Gardiner and Rebekah Hornblow. It was superbly co-directed by Mike and Wendy Smith.

A sumptuous supper concluded the evening and many people lingered to reminisce. Congratulations to all of the people (and businesses) who have contributed to such an amazing upgrade of the Lakeside Playhouse.

Rolland McKellar



Diane Baldie, Chair of the Renovation Committee.

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Lakeside Playhouse has much to celebrate



Above: From left the reno team Heather Jensen, Lynelle Kuriger, Wendy Smith, and on the building side Mike Smith, John Baldie and Diane Baldie, Chair of the Renovation Committee. Were there any problems with the building work? "Being managed by three women," quipped Mike to laughter. All agreed it had been a real team effort.



Above: The Toi Foundation plaque in the theatre acknowledging their generous \$15,000 grant towards the upgrade.

Right: The extensive upgrade of the Lakeside Playhouse is a credit to all people who contributed as well as businesses such as Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration and FlooringXtra.



Mayor Phil Nixon (left) with Mike Smith, Vice President of Opunake Players.

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Pleased to have worked with the Opunake Players with their upgrade to the Playhouse. Proud to support them as ticket sellers for their productions.

Dairy Industry winners front up

Taranaki's hopes for National Sharefarmer of the Year will rest with a Matapu couple from the farm which has been in the family for 140 years. Alongside them will be a previous Manawatu Dairy Trainee winner vying for Dairy Manager of the Year, and a herd manager who once worked in England making a bid for National Dairy Trainee of the Year.

On April 12 they were all at the Taranaki Dairy Industry Awards Winners' Field Day at Lower Duthie Road, home to this year's Taranaki Sharefarmers of the Year, Murray and Rachel Perks.

The Perks milk 455 cows on a 134.45ha farm with a 50 bail rotary farm dairy. They also have a 54ha support block at Te Roti.

The winners had been announced at the end of last month, and about a hundred people turned up to the field day to meet and hear from them.

This year's organisers Simon and Natasha Wilkes who had been Taranaki Sharefarmers of the Year two years ago welcomed everybody. Dairy Trainee of the Year Kate Logan, Dairy Manager of the Year Nick Besinga and Murray and Rachel were introduced to everybody, and took



Taranaki Sharefarmers of the Year Rachel and Murray Perks with farm owners Alistair Abbott and Imelda Abbott.

questions.

Murray comes from a Taranaki dairy farming background, while Rachel grew up on a sheep and beef station near Ohura. They met in Christchurch where Murray was studying Agricultural Science at Lincoln and Rachel was studying for a Bachelor of Speech Language Therapy

at Canterbury University. After graduating they lived in Hamilton where Murray worked as a consulting officer for DairyNZ and Rachel worked as a speech language therapist for the Ministry of Education.

In their first year sharemilking on Garry and Donna Mellow's Opunake farm they decided to enter

the Dairy Industry Awards. It was to be 10 years before they entered again, this time emerging as 2022 Taranaki Sharefarmers of the Year.

In between they spent a season in an equity partnership near Hokitika. This was the season when the dairy payout crashed through the floor to \$3.50/kg MS, forcing them to sell

their equity partnership at a loss.

Rachel said at the field day that their experiences from that season brought home the need to get the mental wellness right. The family have regular holidays together in summer and before calving, and they encourage their staff to have off-farm interests. Murray is

active in Te Kiri Hockey and Rachel is president of the Kaponga Play Centre.

After Hokitika they moved back to the family farm at Matapu owned by Imelda, Stephen and Alistair Abbott in the Abbott Trusts Partnership.

Alistair and Imelda were at the Field Day and said they were proud of what Murray and Rachel had done.

"It's a great contest and we're in a great industry," says Alistair. "It's changed so much. There's so many tools available to benchmark and to measure your performance than there were 30 years ago."

Imelda says Stephen would have been there but for an operation being carried out that day.

The farm has been in the family for nearly 140 years. Thomas Abbott had settled the original block back in 1883. Murray and a cousin are the fourth generation farming in the area.

The field day also included a chance to see and ask questions about the dairy herd.

Farm manager of the Year Nick Besinga is Farm Manager for Mary and Geoff Butler on their 181ha farm

Continued page 25.



McFall Fuel is proud to have sponsored the Dairy Manager of the Year McFall Fuel People & Leadership Award

Congratulations Nick Besinga



Dairy Industry winners front up

Continued from page 24.

near Kaponga. He came to New Zealand from the Philippines in 2015 where he had studied agribusiness for four years at Xavier University.

“All I knew about dairying was that it was about milk and cows,” says Nick. “My Dad had been involved in agriculture, not farming, more on the business side. I thought I was going to be applying for jobs in the Philippines, then some mates asked me to come to New Zealand for the big opportunities here.”

He began his dairying career in Manawatu and Bulls, making the progression from farm assistant to herd manager to 2IC. In 2019 he was awarded



Looking over the farm. Rachel and Murray Perks with Ashley Primrose of DairyNZ.

Surfing for Farmers group in Opunake.

Nick says he has come to love the dairy industry and wants to do something to counter the bad publicity it has been getting in the larger

current employer and the feeling is mutual.

“Nick came to us two years ago and said he wanted a challenge,” recalls Geoff Butler. “We got on well at the interview, and there

Before the Field Day concluded with a barbecue, Johanna and Dion Bishell who were Taranaki Sharefarmers of the Year in 2017 spoke about their progress in the years since and what to expect in future.

“The biggest thing Dion learnt from John Washer when he was working for him is the importance of your own reputation, as it can come crashing down,” says Johanna. “It’s about looking after your people and looking after your farm owner’s business.”

The National Dairy Awards dinner will be held in Christchurch on March 25.



Dairy Manager of the Year Nick Besinga with his employer Geoff Butler.

Manawatu Dairy Trainee of the Year.

“He says being in the Dairy Industry Awards gave him the confidence to make friends, and since coming to Taranaki he has joined the

centres.

“I think each of us should push the message out to the big cities that dairying is the backbone of this country,” he says.

Nick paid tribute to his

was a good vibe from that. For the first 12 months we worked side by side. This is his second season and we let him have free rein. He’s been exceptional and we’re very proud of him.”

Dairy Trainee of the Year Katie Logan is herd manager for Shirley and Bede Kissick at Auroa. She grew up on an Omata dairy farm and spent seven months on an arable farm in England. She went back to dairying in New Zealand, planning to go back to England, but COVID and lockdown put paid to that. She was a farm assistant at Matapu before starting work for the Kissicks.

“I’ve really enjoyed working with her,” says Bede Kissick. “She’s a good team member on the farm.”

Among those who encouraged Kateto enter the Dairy Industry Awards was Jacinta Kete, this year’s runner-up in the Dairy Trainee category.

Kate says she is looking forward to the nationals.

“I’m going to go and give it my all and see what happens,” she says.

Her other interests include eventing and show jumping.



Dairy Trainee of the Year Katie Logan.

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Why horizontal pond stirrers are recommended

Trying to decide between a floating vertical shaft pond stirrer or shore mounted pond stirrer? We'd 100% recommend shore mounted every time – and we've got the science to show you why...

When investing in a stirrer you want something that's going to get the job done as efficiently and effectively as possible...obviously, otherwise what's the point? So the first thing to keep in



LLOYD THOMAS

mind is what you want to achieve from stirring:

The aim of stirring your effluent is to keep solids in suspension ready for pumping out.

Why?

Because there are several unwanted issues that occur if you allow solids to settle:

- Accumulation of solids can lead to blockages in your pump and/or irrigators.
- Nutrients lose value when solids are left to settle in the pond.
- Effluent storage capacity is reduced which can impact on council compliance.
- You end up creating an additional job in cleaning out the pond with a slurry tanker or getting a contractor in to dig it out.

This leads to why we recommend shore mounted or PTO pond stirrers over floating vertical shaft stirrers...because they are far more effective in keeping those solids in suspension for the entire effluent pond. Here's why...

To create a stirring action that will get the entire pond swirling, you need to create a strong horizontal flow of water with sufficient velocity to carry the suspended solids. A consistent speed of approximately 0.8 metres per second will stop solid particles from dropping out of suspension, and the only way to do this is by creating a strong horizontal thrust. This is where a shore



Shore mounted pond stirrers are best.

mounted electric stirrer is recommended as they are able to provide the right combination of angle, power and speed to churn up the entire pond.

In the past, floating vertical stirrers were promoted for having low power requirements, however these are not recommended for the following reasons:

Having a vertical shaft, the solids are merely pushed away from the propeller, and will then slow down and drop out of suspension in the water, so they never

end up being effectively mixed. Moving the stirrer around the pond will only shift the solids from one area to another, so nutrients are not getting mixed in and therefore don't end up leaving the pond.

While some floating effluent stirrers may have low power requirements, a lot of the time these need to be run constantly to achieve any results.

In terms of safety, it is always better to keep electricity out of water, and not have the need for

anyone to venture out onto an effluent pond should the stirrer require maintenance.

Another option which has been suggested in the past is using a pump type stirrer. In theory these stirrers should work, however in reality you would need a massive pump, or even several pumps to even come close to what a shore mounted stirrer can achieve.

*Lloyd Thomas
Nevada Effluent
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Farmers urged to take up increased international worker opportunity

The government's announcement last week that it will open up our borders to an additional 1,580 experienced primary sector workers is a shot in the arm for those struggling to recruit enough staff locally, Federated Farmers says.

"They say good things take time, and Feds has been ratcheting up the pressure for this necessary step for many, many months," Federated Farmers employment spokesperson Chris Lewis said.

"Let's hope the system is agile enough to get these people into New Zealand and out into workplaces by the time we need them

- particularly for the super busy spring dairy calving season."

The new settings include an increase in the current border exception for assistant dairy farm managers, 2ICs, dairy herd managers and dairy farm assistants by 500 to a total of 800 for those earning at least the median wage plus \$1 per hour (currently equates to \$28 per hour).

"The Federation's message to farmers is to take up these places," Chris said.

"We know that with fuel and fertiliser price rises, concerns in some districts about supplementary feed, and other factors, there may be a temptation to try

and struggle through with workforce gaps.

"But just remember the stress that puts on you and the rest of the team, the health and safety factors, and the difficulties of rostering to give people decent time off when your staff complement is deficient."

Also good news for farming is that the meat worker border class exception cap will be extended by a further 500 workers on top of previous agreed figure of 150 workers.

"There are very real meat supply chain constraints and while some districts are in

Continued page 27.

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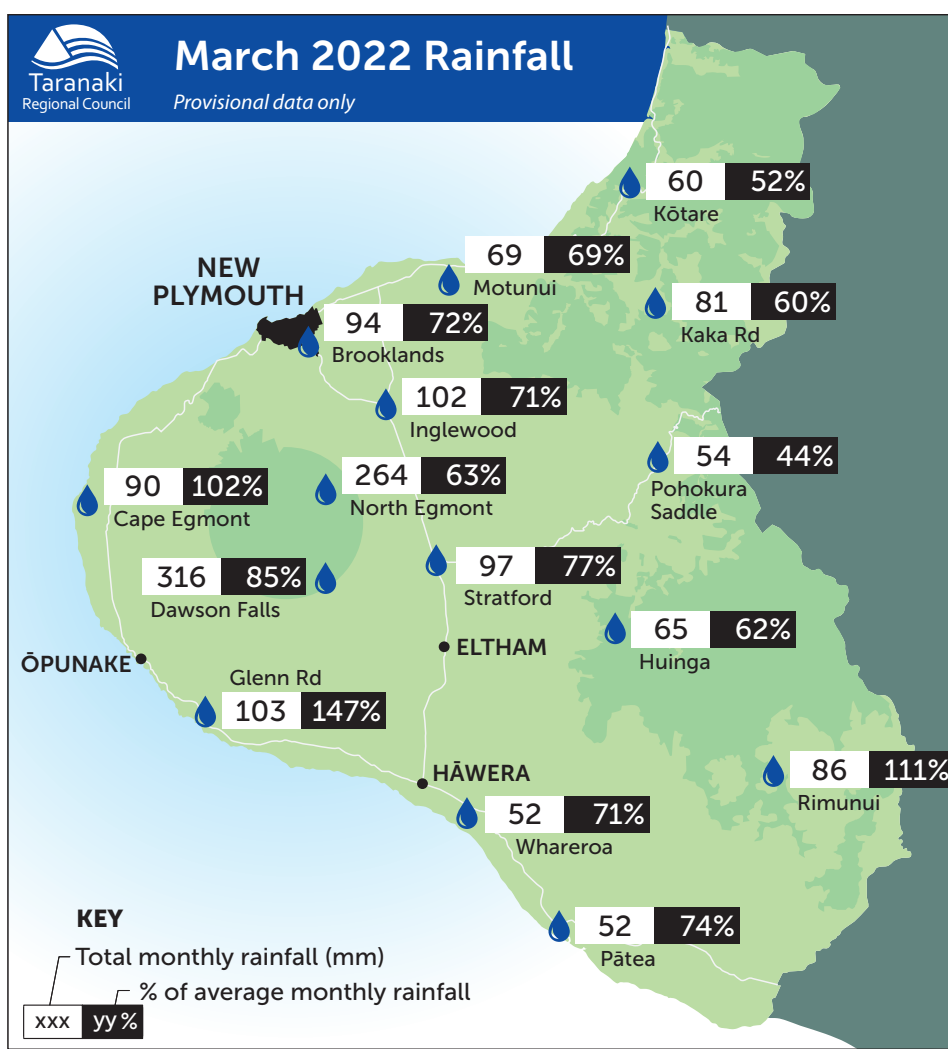
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A wet March for Manaia

Rainfall for March was varied, ranging between 44% and 147% of normal, with an average of 82% of normal. Just five sites recorded above normal for the month, these were Bell Block (105%), Egmont Village (101%), Cape Egmont (102%), Te Kiri (111%) and Manaia (147%). There was no rainfall until March 21 for the majority of the region, with rainfall only recorded on between 4 and 7 days throughout the region. Te Maunga recorded between 63% and 85% of normal.

Year to date rainfall is sitting between 78% and 270% with an average of 145% of normal. There are only four sites that are sitting below normal to date, and these are Kahui Hut (96%), Tongaporutu (78%), Okoki (87%) and Pohokura Saddle (87%). Cape Egmont has recorded 270% of normal to date, and has received 53% of its average annual rainfall in the first three months of the year.

River flows were all well below normal to date, except for the Tawhiti Stream near



Whareroa which had a mean flow of 800 L/s, which was 434 L/s higher than its March long term average.

Water temperatures were mixed for the month with three sites (Timaru, Waitara and Waiwhakaiho Rivers) recording above normal by between 0.18°C and 0.20°C, while the Patea and Mangaoraka streams recorded normal conditions with 15.47°C and 17.01°C respectively. The remaining streams of Waingongoro, Kapuni, Kaupokonui and Kapoiaia streams recorded below normal by between 0.21°C and 0.71°C.

The average air temperature for the region, excluding Te Maunga, was 17.05°C, which was 0.33°C higher than the long term March average. Stratford and Uruti

recorded new maximum March air temperatures for the month with 29.69°C and 26.61°C respectively, while Whareroa recorded a new minimum air temperature for March with 0.40°C.

Soil moisture was mixed for the month, with Hillsborough, Cape Egmont, Manaia and Patea recording above normal by between 2.94% and 11.27%. The remaining sites recorded below normal for the month by between 0.06% and 5.30%.

Soil temperatures were also mixed for the month, with Hillsborough and Te Kiri recording below normal by 0.05°C and 0.56°C respectively. The remaining sites recorded above normal by between 0.15°C and 2.26°C.

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RWNZ says don't forget rural

Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) say they are delighted to see a focus on women's health in Aotearoa New Zealand.

"We know from our work to support quality maternity services and in raising awareness of gynaecological cancers that this focus is sorely needed and well

overdue," says National President Gill Naylor.

"We are particularly aware of the challenges faced by rural women where a lack of services, unreliable connectivity and distance add further complexity.

Mrs Naylor notes that when the announcement was made regarding the health

reforms, Minister Little said the changes were designed to end postcode lottery healthcare.

"We're disappointed not to see a rural health strategy included in the legislation alongside the women's health strategy. Addressing inequity based on where a person lives is vital to ensure better health outcomes for all New Zealanders.

"We now need to see some evidence that rural issues will not be forgotten. Improving health outcomes should never be based on geography or post code – rural communities deserve better," says Mrs Naylor.

Farmers urged to take up opportunity

Continued from page 26.

drought, in other parts of the country farmers have possibly been holding back stock. More of them will send animals to the works to get down to wintering numbers and it will be very positive to close up workforce gaps so that plants can again operate at full capacity," Chris said.

Border class exceptions have also been approved for up to 300 silviculture forestry workers and up to 280 wood processors and manufacturers to enter New Zealand.

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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.

CTS SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND COUNCIL

Student Leaders

On Wednesday 23rd March our newly appointed school leaders for 2022 attended a training day at Pukeiti Gardens which was facilitated by Mr Walden and Mrs Richardson. Students had the opportunity to discuss and learn about their roles as leaders. They discussed and unpacked the characteristics, abilities and beliefs of effective leaders. There was also time dedicated towards planning some actions for our school to make sure the improvements students would want happen this year! During this time the students also received their leader badges. Unfortunately some of our leaders missed the event due to covid.

Head Boy - Alex Gibson
Deputy Head Boy & Treasurer School Council - Cain Longstaff
Council Chairperson - Caleb Rayner
Arts Captain - Aliya Fever
Academic Captain - Jordan Smith
Cultural Captain - Piri Chapman
Sports Captain & Council Secretary - Connor Rayner
Sports Captain - Malachai Gibson
Environmental Captains - Fynn McGaw & Thomas Moffitt
School Council - Krystal Ryder
School Council - Deakin Philips-Sinton



From left: Alex Gibson Head Student, Cain Longstaff Deputy Head Student, Student leaders at Pukeiti.

VERTICAL HORIZONS YEAR 5 & 6 CAMP

Camp was a huge success this year with most students attending. A massive thanks to the awesome parent help, who ensured student safety and well-being. These parents joined in and encouraged students to give everything a go and try their best.

The activity options allowed for all students to be engaged, build on their resilience and support each other as teams. These included the catwalk, the flying kiwi, the multivine, orienteering, the zipline, the 3-wire, grass carts, shooting, and archery. The water activities were popular with everyone; these included the mud slide and mud run, kayaks, the battle log and 3 wire, as well as just swimming in the lake. The team raft build and race at the end created fun competition. Matt Stone even got the rule book out!

Break times included swimming, the glow worm walk, spotlight, and marshmallows around the campfire, which were wonderful opportunities for everyone to come together, share their experiences and have more fun! On the second night it poured down, so we had a pyjama party and watched a movie together.

The food went down well. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were well catered and a hit with students and adults alike. The baking provided by parents was a real treat! Morning tea and afternoon tea were definitely something to look forward to.

Overall, a wonderful time was had by all. Most students overcame challenges in some form or another and felt a huge sense of pride in doing so.



FOCTS - REPORT

FOCTS (Friends of Coastal Taranaki School) has been busy again this term.

We had our Hangi on March 11, once again this was a well-supported event given the covid levels rising at the time, but the committee pulled together and pulled it off. 237 portions were served up. 150 potatoes and kumera were cut up and 15 pumpkins wedged amongst it all. Ravi and Sangita from the Okato 4 Square donated the bread for Nana to make her yummy stuffing. Tracey as always made the best fry bread.

Special mention to Tegal for donating the chickens, CTS/FOCT pigs from the school farm that were tasty, our school and wider community that donated the beef and lamb which was very much appreciated. Wendy and Craig who donated vegetables to complete our hangi. Thank you also to all of the helpers who were there to prep and put the hangi down. Without you this wouldn't be possible, and to the year 7 and 8 boys who were very helpful on the day. Roll in the next one!

The sports shed is near completion. This will be to house the kids lunch time sport balls etc....another fabulous project that Tom Debreceeny and his team have lead with ease. Thank you very much. FOCTS next fundraiser is the Duathlon early next term. The funds from this will be going towards the upgrade of the current school courts, so get behind your children and help get them excited for this event it will be so much fun.

You are always welcome to join our schools FOCTS group. contact Jacky at the school office, she will point you in the right direction.

Happy Easter from the FOCTS committee - Bex Ripia, Chairperson

Coastal Taranaki School Sports Roundup

Surf Team
Kia Ora, we are coming up to the end of our second summer taking kids from CTS surfing this month.

The idea was about getting local kids surfing on the very coast they live on as well as adding another option for kids to get into for the school summer activities.

We started out on sand beaches to see what physical abilities and water confidence each member had, so we had a starting point and direction for the season. As the season progressed the kids have learnt the basics of surfing, body position etc, reading how waves break at different spots, competitions surfing, surfing terminology, and the benefits of surfing with your friends.

We currently have 12 members in our group, we head out to our local surf breaks one afternoon during the school week.

There are competitions in the Y5-Y8 that we have participated in, and have had good results, even though it's not the WSL level of competing it is still exciting and sometimes hard to watch as parents, but all fun just the same! Elena Barron finished the Year 7/8 Surf competition in March in 4th place overall, an excellent result! Hopefully we can get enough kids surfing to represent the school at a national level...

If you would like to get your child or family into surfing, please check out our local Boardriders clubs in Opunake and Oakura, both clubs have all the gear to help you get started.

Our school group will start back up round November, if it's something you would like your child to be a part of from Y5 and up, or if you would like to become a surf coach, please let school know.

A big thank you to the parents and the school who have helped out to make it possible and made it an awesome experience for the



The Coastal Taranaki School Motocross team that represented our school at the King of the School event in Te Kuiti.

kids.
That's the CTS Surf Report...by Simon Ripia - Head Surf Coach

Surfing update
Last weekend members of our surfing team also had success at the Opunake Board Riders in house Fun Competition to end the season.

- Under 10 Final
- 1st Millah Ripia
- 4th Pixie Debreceeny
- Under 12 Final
- 1st Knight Baylis
- 3rd Kalani Dalton
- Most Improved Boy
- Joel Becroft

Touch Rugby - Year 1 - 8
We had four teams entered into the Super 6 Touch Rugby competition in Oākura this term. Awesome team effort from our Under 8s, two Under 10s and Year 7 and 8 teams.

Congratulations to the Year 7 and 8 team - 2022 Runners up winners!

Thank you to our coaches, Kerry Johns, Rebecca Ripia, Deb Burmeister, Dee Heath and Johannah Poutini for your time and support with our teams.

Basketball - Term 1/2
We have three teams Year 5/6 Coastal Hoppers, Year 7/8 Coastal Shakers and Year 9-13 Coastal Cowboys entered in the Opunake Basketball Junior League competition at the Sandford Event Centre. Due to COVID protocols our Year 5/6 and Year 7/8 teams will start their competition in Term 2.

Zoe Kensington, has been taking training sessions with all our teams after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays teaching our players drills and skills they can use on the court. Our Coastal Cowboys have improved a lot and are playing really well using the techniques and skills they have learned. Thank you to Zoe Kensington for taking the time to share her skills with our teams. Thanks also to our staff who have stepped up to support the teams, Nicky Phillips manages our Senior Boys Team and principal Scott Walden co-ordinates the year 7&8 team.

Mini Mini ball (Y0-2) and Mini ball (Y3/4) - Junior Basketball

We have two teams entered into the Opunake Junior Minimini and Miniball League in Term 2. Games will be played at the Sandford Event Centre on Mondays after school. Please see Nicky in the school office if you're keen to join a team.

Motocross
Massive congratulation to the Coastal Taranaki School motocross team that represented our school at the King of the School event in Te Kuiti. Out of all the schools that entered we walked away with 1st place. A huge achievement by

the whole team that went, which was Liam, Ethan & Curtis Hooker, Jai Harfield, Ryan King, Tula, Luka & Billy Maclean, Te Kawea Bradley, Josh Burmeister, Josh Williams, Kyan Cox, Te Mokena & Te Ihorangi Walden and Caleb Van Ejik, unfortunately not all members could make it! Luccas Ripia, Josh Staite and Jacob & Tyson Harris, were missed on the track. We wouldn't have these successes without our amazing parents and families that support our team.

Individual placing were: Josh Williams 4th in the 50cc Intro MX 5-7 year class, The 7-11 year trail class taking out 4 of the 5 spots on the podium, Ethan Hooker 1st, Luka MacLean 2nd. Caleb van Ejik 3rd & Ryan King 5th.

Overall a huge improvement seen by all our riders with lots of 6-8th in classes with over 25 kids in them and a number of students representing well on the big track! Huge thanks to our sponsors Honda Hub and Puniho Engineering.

Bring on our next event in the King of the School Series in Whakatane on the 20th of May

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EVENT CENTRE

OPUNAKE

NAME CHANGE FOR OPUNAKĒ'S EVENT CENTRE.

The Opunakē Sport and Recreation Trust (OSRT) was formed in 1993 to ensure the construction and management of Opunakē's sporting and recreation centre. The mission of the OSRT is "to provide a centralised facility catering to our local and greater community's social, recreation and sporting needs for the present and the future". During the time of construction, local support was exemplary, and Sandfords Rural Carriers became naming right's sponsors; as a result, The Sandfords Event Centre was open for public use in 2003.

The OSRT is a charitable trust, reliant upon volunteers, local financial support, donations and grants to provide facilities for our community. After 18 years of continued support, the Opunakē Sport and Recreation Trust would like to sincerely thank Phil Sandfords and the team of Sandfords Rural Carriers, for their generosity towards the operation of the Sandfords Events Centre. The trustees would like to acknowledge the integral role Sandfords Rural Carriers has contributed towards our community facility, as the contribution provided by Sandfords Rural Carriers ensured the OSRT has been able to achieve their intended goals. The chairman of the OSRT, John Kensington, stated: "without businesses like Sandfords Rural Carriers in our small communities, facilities like ours would not be able to exist".

We are now excited to share the news of our new naming rights sponsor: Opunakē's event centre is now known as the Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Event Centre. We have brand new signage and a website to share, www.sinclaireventcentre.co.nz. The OSRT would also like to thank Brian and Monique of Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration for their kindness towards our facility and their community.

Despite Covid restrictions, The Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Event Centre continues to greet up to 50,000 visitors each year by providing facilities for public meetings, community groups, sports organisations and encouraging the physical fitness of adults and children of all ages. Our facility offers plenty of parking and provisions for field sports, indoor stadium sports, squash courts, tennis courts, plus a health and fitness gym. The OSRT looks forward to seeing all members of our community participate in various organisations, whether promoting their physical fitness or enacting their right to membership within a quality facility close to their home.



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Playing basketball with legends of the game



Opunake High School Students with ambassadors from Basketball New Zealand Hoops in Schools programme.

A programme to put outdoor hoops into Taranaki schools and encourage people to play basketball was launched in Opunake on Tuesday April 12.

Basketball New Zealand (BBNZ)'s Hoops in Schools programme puts high quality outdoor hoops into schools for their use as well as surrounding communities. The initiative is supported by Basketball Taranaki, Taranaki Airs, Sport Taranaki and New Zealand Community Trust. Opunake High School was one of the first of 12 schools around the region to benefit from the programme.

Tall Blacks head coach Pero Cameron, Tall Fern Zoe Richards, members of the Taranaki Airs and BBNZ chief executive Dillon Boucher were among those at the launch, which was to be held at Opunake High School.

"The launch was transferred to the Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Events Centre when the weather proved a bit challenging but everyone involved had a great time playing basketball with legends of the game" said Bryan Roach of the Opunake Basketball Association. The principal Andrea Hooper was presented with a

signed Pero Cameron Tall Blacks singlet and a Tall Ferns singlet signed by Zoe Richards.

"One of the key objectives of Hoops in Schools is to ensure more tamariki and rangatahi are physically active and having fun playing hoops in their local communities," BBNZ facilities and insights lead Daniel Dawick said.

"With the rapid growth in participation and increasing popularity of the sport, there still remains some real challenges to cater for this growth."

Some challenges include low participation

amongst high deprivation communities, where basketball is popular, and the lack of suitable facilities and equipment in many areas, he said.

Hoops in Schools ensures there are more sustainable, long term participation opportunities for local

communities.

"Basketball is a game that can be played by young and old, by any gender and by one person or a group of people," says Basketball Taranaki general manager Kevin Fenwick. "All that is needed is a ball and hoop and we are pleased to be able

to provide the hoops through the amazing support of New Zealand Community Trust." After the Taranaki project, 98 hoops would have been installed across 49 schools as part of the national initiative, with more to come.



From left. Pero Cameron, Bryan Roach, Andrea Hooper, Zoe Richards.



SOME FEATURES OF

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www.selenohealth.com

The Health Shop Centre City 067587553

Manaiia Golf results

April 9. Saturday Men.
1. Blake Symes. 2. Denis Hurcomb. 3. Caleb Andreoli. 4. Jacob Gopperth.

Juniors. Putting. 1. Jack Gargan. 2. Archie Joyce and Theo Joyce.

Sam Jones still in top form, winning New Zealand Long Drive held at Nelson hitting 318 metres.

April 16. Saturday Men. Bogey Round. Cory Symes +14. S.Laing +11. Craig Jones +6. Jim Greenough +4. Jim Ngere +3.



Opunake Basketball Association 

KIDS CAMP



Saturday 30th April

13 years and under: 11am-12.30pm
13 years and over 12.30pm-2.00pm

WHERE: Sinclair's Event Centre Opunake
COST: Gold coin donation entry
Turn up and register on the day

DON'T FORGET A DRINK BOTTLE & BALL

Contact Bryan Roach with any questions
phone 027 445 7888



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Cafe, bar, restaurant,
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Quiz nights last Tuesday of every month.
Quiz night on April 26



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Opunake & Coastal News**

Call our sales team on
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NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

**QUALITY REDUCTION COW
AUCTION**

On A/c B J & K M Moffitt

**Tuesday 26th April 2022 12pm
Stratford Saleyards**

120 Jersey/x & Ayrshire/x cows

All vetted in calf to PB Hereford bulls DTC
25/7/22.

Lepto vaccinated, TB Status C10

Cows will be in milk on sale day and will come
forward in sound health & good condition.

Due to a relinquish of a lease property these
cows have become available for sale.

Genuine cows faithfully farmed, herd tested
and fully transferable this auction presents an
opportunity to purchase cows that will shift and
produce.

Payment due 1st June 2022 and delivery of all
cows on the day of sale.

Catalogues available from the auctioneers.

**Contact Bryan Goodin 027 531 8511 or
Vendor Bruce Moffitt 027 528 0950**

MyLiveStock

Website | Mobile | App



**TARANAKI
RUGBY
COCKIES
CLUB 2022**

Rugby and farming go hand in hand and at Taranaki Rugby,
we invite you to become a part of the legacy. Donate a cull
cow to become a member of the TRFU Cokies Club.

The Cokies Club is a group of members from the rural
community who donate a cull cow(s) to their chosen
meatworks with proceeds going to support the development
of the local rugby talent in the region. In return of a cull cow,
donors receive a Cokies Club Membership Pack for the
2022 Taranaki Bulls NPC Season.

Per donated cull cow, you will receive:

- 2 x grandstand tickets to every home game
- 2 x pre-event corporate hospitality passes (off site)
- Taranaki Rugby Merchandise
- Recognition as a member on trfu.co.nz

To register or to find out more, please contact
Commercial Operations Lead, Alice Marshall on
alice@trfu.co.nz or 0278572067.

ARTS ON TOUR NEW ZEALAND PRESENTS
Albi & THE Wolves



"They carry the folk label but this is
folk that someone has tinkered with
under the bonnet."

**Thursday 12 May, 7pm,
Kakaramea Hall**

**\$10 from South Taranaki i-SITE
Visitor Centre or Patea LibraryPlus**

Cash bar, no eftpos, no BYO



ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

www.aotnz.co.nz

Families and communities urged to take part in Road Safety Week

Families and communities are being encouraged to take part in Road Safety Week (9 – 15 May 2022) and join hundreds of communities, schools and organisations running activities to help raise awareness of road safety.

Road Safety Week is coordinated by Brake, the road safety charity and sponsored by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and Beca. This year the week has the theme Road Safety

Heroes, recognising the professionals who are working to make roads safer for everyone – from designing safer roads to caring for people after a crash. The theme will also focus on the part everyone who uses roads can play in making journeys safer.

The week will also highlight the safe system approach to road safety and will encourage people to learn more about it, how it links to the current national

road safety strategy Road to Zero, and about the system design solutions that can enable everyone to get around in safe and healthy ways, every day.

Road Safety Week has been engaging communities in road safety for over ten years and is a great chance for community groups, families and schools to take action on local road safety issues and raise awareness to prevent needless casualties.

Caroline Perry, Brake's

NZ Director said: "We believe it's everyone's human right to be able to get around in a safe and healthy way every day. There are lots of people who work to make our roads safer, to save lives when crashes happen, and to support those affected by crashes, so this Road Safety Week we want

to recognise all these Road Safety Heroes, and highlight how everyone can be a hero too. We want everyone to learn about the design-led solutions that help to save lives and end suffering from road trauma, and create a safe and healthy future for all.

Kane Patena, Director

of Land Transport, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency said: "To achieve a vision of an Aotearoa New Zealand where there are no deaths and serious injuries on our roads, we need to work together. Every day there are many people working hard to make our roads safer and deliver Road to Zero, New Zealand's road safety strategy. Road Safety Week is a great opportunity to celebrate these road safety heroes - It takes everyone to get to no one. Mā tātou e kore tētahi e hinga."

Andrea Rickard, GM Transport & Infrastructure – New Zealand, Beca said: "We are proud to support Brake, Waka Kotahi, our partners and everyday community heroes across Aotearoa, on this vital mahi of improving road safety. Working together to deliver safer journeys for all transport users, and to reduce the devastating impact to our communities from deaths and serious injuries on our roads is incredibly important to us at Beca."

Brake is also encouraging fundraising as part of Road Safety Week, to help the charity to continue providing free support to people affected by road crashes.



Road Safety Week (9 – 15 May 2022)

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



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New Plymouth

29th April 2022

IN-Milk Cows 11.30am

175 M/A In calf Cows Frsn, F/x
10 x Holdover Cows
20 x Mt Cows
58 x In calf Heifers

This is a quality herd that has never been offered for purchase, its now come onto the market due to farm being sold.

These cows will be in milk on sale day and will come forward in sound healthy condition. TB Status C10, Lepto vaccinated. Scanned In calf to Frsn & Crossbred 5 weeks AB, tailed off with Hereford bull removed 7th Jan 22. The herd will be rescanned 10 days prior to the sale. DTC from 25/7/22.

Catalogues available online talk to your local agent.

Delivery available from 2nd May
Payment deferred until 1st June 2022

Machinery 10am

John Deere 2006 IVT 6920 tidy tractor (6000hrs) good rubber, 1996 MF 390 front end loader (forks & bucket incl, Husqvarna ride on mower, 3x PKE troughs fixed, Milk bar 50 teat, Stallion 50 teat, Bartolini causmag spreader, 2015 Grizzly 550 Yamaha 4x wheeler, Ag 200 2x wheeler, Quick hitch auger for feedin out on feed pad, Hustler bale feeder, 2x Chiller units for vats, Burkhart 4T tip trailer, Farm guard back blade with rams, Tyre harrows for motorbike, Tractor set of harrows, Calf trailer & create, Engineers table/work bench, Diesel generator 40kpa, Inex sprayer 600ltr, Porta trough, Weed eater, Steel cut off saw, Grinder, Drill press, Compressor, E/F reels & standards, Calf feeders, 5mtr meal feeder on wheels, 60ltr C-Dax bike weed sprayer, Hydraulic top link, Meal feeders, 1100ltr milk tank, Clear lite sheets, Fencing gear, Wire netting, Chainsaw, Weigh bench, Scaffolding, Petrol water pump, 150ltr portable diesel tank, Dog run & kennel, Cambridge Roller, 2 farm fencing trailers, spray unit, 2 transport trays, 2 tonne Sam spreader single axle.

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Saturday 30 April 9-3pm

Sunday 1 May 9am-2.30pm

Course will take around 2 hours (including interactive activities, discussions, 2 practical courses)

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Call: 0800 111 323

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Email: roadsafe.taranaki@stdc.govt.nz

Complete the course and be in to win one of **12 places** on a full day Advanced Driving Course at Manfeild Raceway in Feilding



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Reggae legends coming to the Bowl

It might be turning wintry but NPDC's Bowl of Brooklands is already looking ahead to a scorching summer with the announcement of reggae legends UB40 set to grace the stage on 30 December, alongside special guests Jefferson Starship and Dragon.

The legendary British band, known for such hits as Red Red Wine, Kingston Town and (I Can't Help) Falling In Love With You are the first announcement for the Bowl's 2022-23 Summer season. "We always look forward to trips down under," said the band in a statement. "It's one of our favourite places in the world to perform, but with so many uncertainties in the world these past two years, we felt it was far more important to focus on everyone's safety. Now that borders have reopened, we're finally ready to get back to New Zealand and perform the show fans have been waiting for."

New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom says he is thrilled with the announcement after a tough couple of Covid years. "The Bowl of Brooklands



Ready to celebrate summer shows at The Bowl of Brooklands in stunning Pukekura Park.

in our stunning Pukekura Park is a fantastic venue and we can't wait to welcome the legendary UB40. Part of building a Sustainable Lifestyle Capital is securing top class acts to the Bowl

and after a quieter than usual summer of events this year. It's fantastic to have our first Summer at the Bowl act to look forward to, a much needed injection for the local economy," says Neil

Holdom.

UB40 is one of the UK's biggest exports. They have achieved more than 40 top 40 hits in their native Britain. With international sales of over 100 million records, the

band are one of the biggest UK music acts of all time and continue to record charting albums while touring across the world including regular trips to New Zealand, where

they have firmly found a place in the hearts of fans.

UB40 are founder members Robin Campbell (vocals and guitar), Earl Falconer (bass, vocal), Jimmy Brown (drums) and Norman Hassan (percussion, vocals) with new lead vocalist Matt Doyle. The band also features Martin Meredith (sax) and Laurence Parry (trumpet), who have both been in UB40's touring and recording line-up for over 20 years, Tony Mullings (keyboards) and Ian Thompson (sax) creating a genre-defining synergy of horns and rhythm section that are uniquely UB40.

After four decades of success including their hit singles, international stadium tours and festival headline slots, the band suffered the devastating loss of founder member, lyricist and lead sax player Brian Travers who lost his long battle with cancer in 2021. Although «There is a giant Brian shaped hole that can never be filled», they continue with the surviving key founding members and songwriting core, staying true to and building on the legacy and ethos of the band.



UB40 set to grace the stage at NPDC's Bowl of Brooklands.




HYWAY 45 CRUISERS

SHOW 'N SHINE

Mother's Day, Sunday 8th May
Rahotu Domain 10am – 2pm

Classic's, Hot Rods, Bikes, Farm machinery
or any vehicle of interest.
Bring them along!

Food, Beverages available.
Free entry.



72 Tasman Street, Ōpunakē - www.everybodystheatre.co.nz - Phone 027 383 7926

April 2022

Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs and Senior Citizens \$8, Under 4 free

<p>DOG Comedy, Family 1hr 30mins PG Fri 29th Apr 7pm</p> <p>FANTASTIC BEASTS 3 The Secrets of Dumbledore Adventure, Family 2hrs 15mins M: Violence Sat 23rd Apr 1pm</p> <p>NIGHT RAIDERS Drama, Sci Fi 1hrs 48mins M: Violence Fri 22nd Apr 7pm</p> <p>THE LOST CITY Comedy, Romance 1hr 32mins M: Violence Sat 23rd Apr 7pm</p> <p>FIONA CLARK: UNAFRAID Documentary 1hr 22mins Exempt Sun 24th Apr 7pm</p>	<p>THE BAD GUYS Animated, Family 1hr 40mins PG Fri 29th Apr 1pm</p> <p>SONIC 2 Comedy, Family 1hr 50mins PG Fri 22nd Apr 1pm</p> <p>OPERATION MINCEMEAT Drama, War 2hrs 8mins M: Language Mon 25th Apr 1pm and 7pm</p> <p>CINDERELLA AND THE LITTLE SORCERER Animated, Family 1hr 31mins PG Sun 24th Apr 1pm Sat 30th Apr 1pm</p> <p>THE UNBEARABLE WEIGHT OF MASSIVE TALENT Action, Comedy 1hr 45mins R13: Violence Sat 30th Apr 7pm</p>
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Two special screenings for ANZAC day

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Haumaru ki Tai - Health and Community Centre

Our regular services

TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE
Every Thursday and Second Friday

LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY
Every Wednesday

NEW PLYMOUTH PHYSIOTHERAPY
Every Tuesday and Friday

TARANAKI CHIROPRACTIC
Every Wednesday

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Leonie Landsheer 027 559 0982
Alex Jones 021 0816 3248
Manuka Matthews 027 239 5896

BROWNING & MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS
Twice monthly on a Thursday

TARANAKI PODIATRY
Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

Mihis Place - Rongoa

Every 3rd Thursday of the month



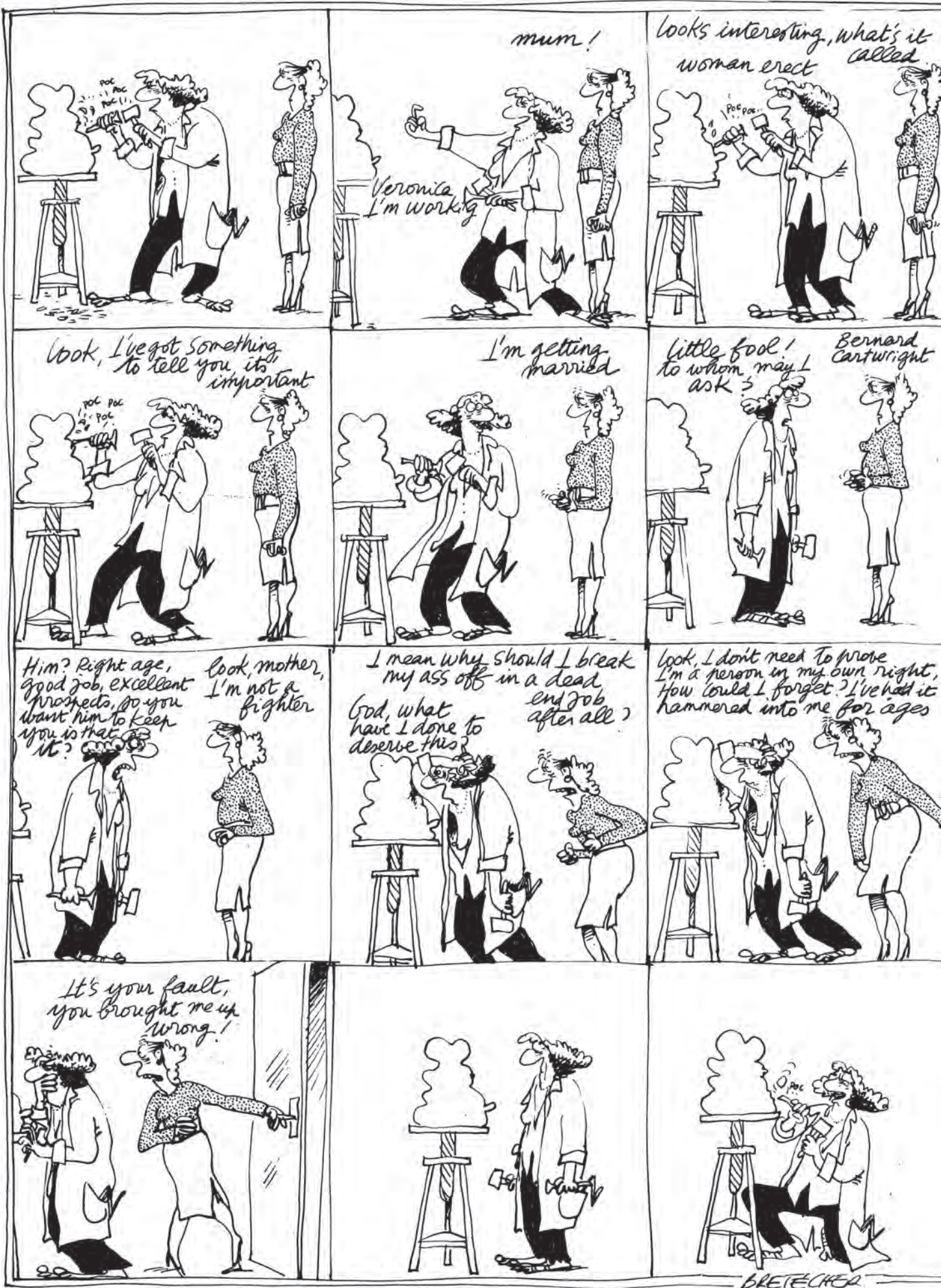
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Contact Aretha Lemon Facility Manager on 06 761 8488

What's On Listings

A MOTHER'S STRUGGLE



ONGOING

Movies at Everybodys Theatre in

Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

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

TUESDAYS

Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.

Life Drawing Group: Weekly at the Emporium, 86 Tasman St, Opunake 7pm to 9pm. \$10 to pay for the model. If anyone is interested please call Marianne Mugeridge on 06 274 5713.

WEDNESDAYS

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

Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.

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.

Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4.30 to 6.30pm.

Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.

THURSDAYS

Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.

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

FRIDAYS

Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth: Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm.

WEEKENDS

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

APRIL 11 TO MAY 6

In All Dimensions exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham.

APRIL 24

A special screening of Fiona Clark: Unafraid. At Everybodys Theatre, 7pm.

APRIL 25 - ANZAC DAY

Manaia ANZAC Parade: Assemble at 6.30am at Band Rotunda.

Cape Egmont Boat Club ANZAC Service and social: 1pm at the Clubrooms, Warea.

APRIL 29

Opunake's 48 hour Theatre Challenge: Registrations open at the Playhouse 6.30pm. See article and ad for more details.

APRIL 29 TO MAY 1

Roadsafe Taranaki Free Driver Training: Egmont A & P Grounds, Hawera.

MAY 8

Hyway 45 Cruisers Show 'n Shine: Rahotu Domain, 10am-2pm.

MAY 12

Albi & the Wolves: Kakaramea Hall, 7pm.

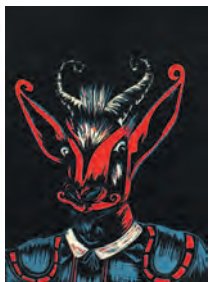
JUNE 11 TO 25

Mamma Mia: A production by Hawera Rep. At Hawera Memorial Theatre.

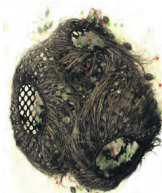
Taranaki National Art Awards



20 YEARS



2020 Category Winners



ENTRIES OPEN: 16 MAY 2022

AWARDS CEREMONY: 7PM 28 OCTOBER 2022

EXHIBITION: 10AM - 4PM 29 OCT - 6 NOV 2022

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ARE YOU getting enough sunshine?!!! If you are feeling down, achy, no energy - you may need Vitamin D. Call into the Health Shop Centre City for more info. 06 758 7553.

VIRULENT VIRUSES have threatened human health from ancient to modern times. Medicinal plants used in previous epidemics such as Echinacea, Olive leaf, Angelica, Thyme, will help support your immune system. At the health shop Centre City, 06758773

GRAZING

GRAZING WANTED - 9 carryover Jersey cows require grazing from May to May. Ph 021 741 130.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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www.moltenmetals.co.nz

WANTED - HAY not suitable for stock. ph 027 222 0071

PUBLIC NOTICES

RSA MANAIA ANZAC PARADE

25TH APRIL 2022 at 6.30 A.M.

ASSEMBLE AT BAND ROTUNDA FOR REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Owing to covid restrictions there will be no refreshments afterwards

CAPE EGMONT BOAT CLUB

Remembering the Warea & Pungarehu Servicemen with our **SERVICE & SOCIAL**

On Monday 25th April 2022 From 1.00pm, at the Cape Egmont Boat Clubrooms, Bayly Road, Warea.

ALL WELCOME
Please bring a plate to share after service.

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake Co-operating Parish
Havelock Street, Opunake - St Pauls - 9.30am every Sunday
Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month

Okato Co-operating Parish
Okato - St Pauls – 10.00am, 1st and 3rd Sundays each month
Okato - St Pauls – 5.00pm, Evensong, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month

Opunake Catholic Church
St Martins, Pungarehu: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday Other areas
Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am All welcome

Easter Mass Times:
14 April - Holy Thursday 7pm at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake
15 April – Good Friday 3pm at Our Lady star of the Sea, Opunake
17 April – Easter Sunday 8.30am at St Martin's, Pungarehu - Easter Service 10.00am at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

The Wave
Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Come along or contact Belinda Philp 027 935 6191

St. Barnabas Anglican Church
141 Tasman St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10am
Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday
Prayer & Praise 1st Sunday
Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

Okato Community Church
Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.
Everyone welcome



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23 Napier St, Opunake
06 761 7016
See how our high readership rate can work for you

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on Thursday April 21, 2022. Phone us on 06 761 7016 to be in it.

The Opunake & Coastal News is distributed free to every home and business within the rural area, bounded in the north by the New Plymouth City border, extending east to Egmont Village and around to the edge of Stratford, south to the border of Hawera township and inland to Kaponga and through Eltham.

OPUNAKE & DISTRICT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Next Meeting is on Monday May 2, 2022 at 5.30pm
Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake (opposite the Coastal Care Medical Centre)

Call us on **06 761 7016**
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2013 FORD KUGA TITANIUM 4WD

2.5 Turbo 5 Cylinder Automatic 5 Stage Tiptronic, Duratec, Power Steering, Climate Control Air Con, ABS Brakes, Airbags x 6, Cruise Control, Leather Trim, Alloy Wheels, Stability Control, Tinted Windows, Driving Lights 50km

ONLY \$21,995



2011 MAZDA AXELA SPORTS

2.0 Tiptronic Auto, I-Stop Technology, Stability Control, ABS Brakes, Multi Airbags with Side Curtain, Climate Control Air Con, Auto Lights, Auto Wipers, Remote Central Locking with Push Button Start, Tinted Windows, Driving Lights, Electric Windows, Rear Spoiler, Alloy Wheels, Reverse Camera, 61kms

\$14,995



07-09 AXELA SPORTS 2.0, TWO FROM \$8995

2008 HONDA ELYSION VG 8 SEATER

Beautiful Hi Spec Example. Auto, QuadCam, 24 Valve, iVtec, V6, Alloy Wheels, 8 Seater. Bodykit, Headphone Sets for Rear Passengers. 74km

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NZ NEW, Tiptronic Automatic, Stability Control, Multi Airbags, ABS Brakes, Cruise Control, Stereo With B/Tooth USB & AUX, Electric Sunroof, Keyless Entry & Start, Front & Rear Aircon, Daytime Running Lights, Driving Lights, Auto Lights, Alloys, Leather Trim, Electric Drivers Seat Adjust, Electric Windows, 7 Seater, Reverse Camera & rear Parking Sonar. 62KM



ONLY \$25,995

2014 SUBARU IMPREZA SPORTS 2.0i

LOW KMS. Tiptronic Auto with Paddleshift, ABS Brakes, Climate Control Air Con, Cruise Control, Auto Lights and Wipers, Electronic Stability Control, Driving Lights, Tinted Windows, Dual airbags, Spoiler, Alloy Wheels. 85km

ONLY \$14,995



12 IMPREZA SPORTS HATCH 1.6 Auto 76km \$12995

2006 HONDA ODYSSEY ABSOLUTE

2.4 Automatic, Climate Aircon, Cruise Control, ABS Brakes, Dual Airbags, Partial Leather Trim, Driving Lights, Tinted Windows, Alloy Wheels 131km.

ONLY \$6,995



2009 MAZDA ATENZA SPORTSHATCH 25S

Tiptronic Auto, Stability Control, ABS Brakes, Multiple Airbags, Dual Climate AirCon, Cruise Control, Keyless Operation With Remote Central Locking, Auto lights, Auto Wipers, Alloy Wheels, Rear Spoiler, Tinted Windows, Stereo inc BOSE BASE AMPLIFIER., 69KMS;

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2008 MAZDA ATENZA SPORTS 2.0i **SOLD** ONLY \$9,995

2005 & 2004 TOYOTA ESTIMA G EDITION 8 SEATERS:

2.4 Automatic, 8 Seater, Power Windows, Remote Central Locking, Air Bags, ABS Brakes, Climate Control Air Con, Electric Opening Side Doors, ABS Brakes, Driving Lights, Alloy Wheels, Cruise Control. Low Kms. 2 to choose

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1 SOLD

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2.0 Tiptronic Auto, Remote Central Locking, Driving Lights, Electronic Stability Control, Rear Spoiler, Tinted Windows.

40KM ONLY \$10,995



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NEW;

POPULAR LOW KM NZ NEW HATCH NZ NEW, Automatic, Power Windows, Remote Central Locking, Air Con, ABS Brakes, Dual Airbags, CD Player with Aux Socket 76km

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2010 SUZUKI SX4 GLX SPORT

LOW KMS NZ NEW

Automatic, Power Steering, Power Windows & Mirrors, Remote Central Locking, ABS Brakes, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, 86km

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07 SX4 GLX 2.0 **SOLD**

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